

May, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"What now?" I can imagine once the fear, grief and disappointment wore off after the disciples found that Jesus' tomb was empty that those same words may have been spoken. "What now?" What do we do now that Jesus is gone, unknown to the disciples until Jesus later showed up in the room where they gathered behind locked doors?

We too might be asking ourselves the same thing, "What now?" as more people are being vaccinated, as deaths begin to decline, and as life in our world begins to open yet once again. What now? Where do we go from here knowing this past year has been a year of challenges and transformation; some of those transformations have even occurred in positive ways.

Gathering once again in person for worship in the family center was a delight to see those who felt comfortable to attend in person and to also see those who continue to join us on livestream (including a man from Urk, Netherlands that has joined us faithfully!) !

As we continue to move forward to open up our building at Jordan, I have found myself asking, "What now?" What is it that we now need to be doing? While many needs of the community have remained the same, there are others I am certain have changed.

Are you as a member willing to continue serving in the manner you have? Are you willing to step up to the plate to fill in for those who have carried us through this past year and now are fatigued, needing a much-deserved break? How is it that as the doors open more and the space in our building can be utilized more, do you see that space being filled with ministry?

We still have a way to go, but as we begin to see some light at the end of the tunnel, what are your dreams and aspirations for Jordan? How can you be a part to make them happen? How we begin to return to a more active schedule will depend on you as well, your continued commitment (both financially and your personal involvement) will help to guide us forward.

Towards the end of this month, May 23rd, we will celebrate Pentecost, the day Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to those who gathered, providing hope, in a world that was not sure what would come next after Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension.

As we find ourselves perhaps asking "What's now?", may we continue to trust in the Lord who sends us the Holy Spirit filling us with hope and promise to be rejoined together as we are able in person and to continue to share the love of Christ with one another and those we encounter, always knowing that the Holy Spirit will lead us in the direction where we are to go, do and be next!

Trusting in the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives,

Pastor Dody

CHURCH COUNCIL

2021 Members

Doug Clark, *President*
Julie Williams, *Vice Pres.*
Ingrid Martz, *Secretary*
Karen Boardman
Andrew Grim
Ken Gross
Dan Heckman
Erin Klotz (youth rep)
Donna Stark
Jeff Steiner
John Weremedic

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship is currently being held in person in the Family Center

Fifth Sunday of Easter (5/2)*

9:15 am – Worship Service w/Communion & Baptism
10:30 – 11:00 – Drive-thru Communion

Sixth Sunday of Easter (5/9)*

9:15 am – Worship Service
Rogation Sunday

Seventh Sunday of Easter (5/16)*

9:15 am – Worship Service

Pentecost/Confirmation (5/23)*

9:15 am – Worship Service w/Communion
10:30 – 11:00 – Drive-thru Communion

The Holy Trinity (5/30)*

9:15 am – Worship Service

**Live-Streaming of Worship Services and Drive-thru Communion will continue for those who feel more comfortable remaining at home.*

Jordan Lutheran Church

Office Hrs. M-F, 9:00-4:00

CONTACT INFO

5103 Snowdrift Road
Orefield PA 18069
Phone: 610-395-5912
Fax: 610-395-2423
jordanlutheran@ptd.net
pastorjordanlutheran@ptd.net
www.jordanlutheran.org

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Dody S. Siegfried
Administrator: Monica Unangst
Christian Ed.: Jamie Edelman
Organist: Susan Hartney
Asst Organist: Janice Kistler
Inc/Exp Coord: Barbara Carinci
Bell Choirs: Susan Hartney
Canon Choir: Janice Kistler
Cherub Choir: Marlene Peters
Sexton: Ann Kline

DEADLINES

Newsletter – 15th of the month
prior to publication
Bulletin – 10 a.m. Thursdays

HOSPITAL CODE

256



Pastor Dody will be out of the office for Continuing Education May 16th – 22nd. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pr. Martha Sipe, St John's, Fullerton at 610-216-4142.

2021 SPONSORSHIPS

Altar Flowers: May 16, 23, 30; June 6, 13, 27; July 4, 11, 18, 25

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-395-0613 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). **Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the 9:15 service or want them taken to shut-ins.** If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Altar flowers are \$40. Bulletins are \$20. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

Please note the new, later time for this event!!



The 4 F Celebration is BAAAACK!

Mark your calendars: On June 13th, 10:30 AM, at the Lone Lane Park Pavilion, we will again celebrate Faith, Family, Fun and Food! Rain or shine, we come together with a little twist as we continue to embrace the current recommended CDC guidelines in place on June 13th. Our celebration ends with an intense game of BINGO complete with prizes for all age groups! Please note the pavilion is ADA compliant and rest rooms are available. See details below!

- Who:** Jordan Lutheran Church Family & Friends
- What:** 4 F Celebration
- Where:** Lone Lane Park Pavilion
- When:** June 13, 2021 at 10:30 AM
- Luncheon:** BYOB & F (Bring Your Own Beverage & Food)
- Questions:** Kay Mancke (484.358.7411)



Congratulations to Megan & Randy Belnoski on the birth of their son

WAYLON BELNOSKI
on April 22, 2021

Waylon has a big sister, Sadie,
and is the great-grandson
of Judy Grim.



These students have completed their confirmation studies and will affirm their baptismal vows on May 23rd:

Mia Kerschner
Grace Martz-Shelton

These young people have fulfilled the requirements for worship and class participation, service to the church and community and attendance at retreats and special events. Their parents and Jordan family warmly congratulate them!

Council Highlights - April 8, 2021

Approved March 11, 2021 minutes and April 8, 2021 meeting agenda.

Correspondence - None

ReLaunch - guest Tom Daniels gave report on findings from HBN Engineers regarding sanctuary ventilation. Long Term - council approved a task force to be formed to evaluate and recommend to council next steps. Short term - council approved up to \$2,000 for purchase and installation of two whole house fans in sanctuary.

Technology - approved entering new agreement with Dergham IT support on trial bases, covering service as needed.

Staff Reports:

Pastor's Report - (written)

- Holy Week services went well and appreciation to all involved.

CE & Youth Dir. - (written)

- Sunday School to resume weekly in person April 11th at 10:15 a.m.
- Submitted letter of resignation last working day May 23rd; official end date May 30th. (council accepted with well wishes)

The following additional committees provided reports:

Worship & Music - will meet April 27th.

Property - Council approved bids from Stirling: 1) \$10,060 brick coating bricks and steeple. Funds from Steeple Fund. 2) \$2,658 to paint Social Hall and Pantry area.

Outreach - 4F Picnic planned for June 13th @ Lone Lane Park. More info to come.

Christian Education - Meets April 27th. VBS in planning stages.

Treasurer - Ken Gross presented March surplus of \$54,012 and YTD surplus \$40,088. This includes the \$47,400 PPP Loan which was forgiven and included in operating income.

Finance - Recommended \$50,000 - \$100,000 be transferred from checking account to Mission Investment Fund for higher interest rates with on demand access. Council approved \$100,000 be transferred.

For the Good of the Body/Comments/Concerns:

- Following up on Liability Insurance as policy expired May 1, 2021.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next regular council meeting will be **Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom (possibly in person)**. All council meetings are an open meeting and members are invited to attend. Full written reports/minutes available upon request in church office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1 style="color: green;">May 2021</h1> 						1
2 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream <i>Communion, Baptism</i> (in the Family Center) 6:30-New Beginnings	3 7:00-Boy Scouts <i>Pantry 9-10 am</i>	4 6:00-Stewardship	5 9:30am-Staff Mtg. 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers <i>Pantry 6-7 pm</i>	6 6:00-Exec. Com.	7	8
9 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 6:30-New Beginnings	10 7:00-Boy Scouts	11 6:00-ReLaunch mtg. (Memory Rm.)	12 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	13 7:00-Church Council (<i>virtual</i>)	14	15
16 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 6:30-New Beginnings	17 7:00-Boy Scouts <i>Pantry 9-10 am</i>	18	19 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	20	21	22
23 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream <i>Pentecost/Confirmation /Communion</i> (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 6:30-New Beginnings	24 7:00-Boy Scouts	25 7:00pm-4-F Mtg. (in person)	26 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	27	28	29
30 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 6:30-New Beginnings						

Worship Services will take place in person at 9:15 a.m. in the Family Center. We will continue to livestream and drive-thru communion will be available on communion Sundays.

Christian Education & Youth News

Jamie Edelman ~ christianedu.jordanlutheran@verizon.net ~ 610-395-5912

- **Sunday School is back to in-person classes at 10:15 a.m.**
 - Social distancing is maintained per CDC guidelines in all classrooms. Each student has their own set of supplies.
 - The last day of Sunday School for the 2020-21 year will be **Sunday, May 23rd**. We will have an end of year celebration that morning.
- **Confirmation**
 - The last mini-retreat of the 2020-21 year will take place on Sunday, May 2nd from 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Regular classes will be held on Sundays, May 9th & 23rd at 10:15 a.m. in classroom 8.
 - **Confirmation Day** – Confirmation will take place on Sunday, May 23rd during regular worship at 9:15 a.m. More details will be sent out via email to students being confirmed.
- **VBS**
 - We are excited to announce that **VBS will be in person this year!** Adjustments will be made to maintain CDC guidelines, and whenever possible, stations will be held outside. Please note we are holding VBS a little earlier this year and using a shorter time schedule.
 - **VBS Dates & Time: June 28th – July 2nd, from 9 am – 11 am.**
 - **Theme: Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through**
 - Registration will open on May 15th, and be limited to 25 students. Watch the bulletin and the website in the coming weeks for the link to registration.
 - Registration is open to students age 3 yrs – 5th grade (completed).



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

Our Synod is trying something new – and we need you! As many of you will know, our 2021 Synod Assembly (SA21) was scheduled to be at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. COVID canceled that plan. Our Synod Assembly for this year is to be virtual once again and is scheduled for June 4 & 5.



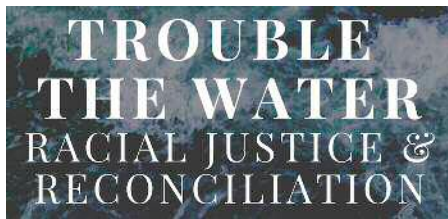
Our theme for SA21 is “Growing Young and Vital.

It will showcase our commitment to the nation-wide church renewal program called “Growing Young”. It will also introduce our three-pronged Synod-wide emphasis on the “Vital Signs,” signs of life and thriving among us. These Vital Signs are: **Loving the Land, Healing the Hurt, and Engaging the Stranger**. Our goal was to invite many churches and ministries in the Synod to participate by bringing your ministries in the three areas to display at the Kalahari Resort. **So, what to do, now that SA21 is virtual?**

Introducing NEPA Ministry Lab 2021! (MinLab for short.) MinLab is your opportunity to spotlight how your churches or organization’s ministries are already showing evidence of these Vital Signs. Where is your congregation shining as a “Jesus-Centered Community” (Growing Young)? Think of this day exactly as the name implies: *a ministry laboratory*. 1.) we give you a display area. You showcase your ministry in that space exactly how you choose. It is up to your creativity. 2.) this is your opportunity to mingle with others doing ministries like yours. And, 3.) perhaps most importantly, be inspired by others doing ministry around one of the other vital signs.

We will hold the event mainly outdoors at the Lutheran Center in Allentown – our Synod headquarters – on August 14, 2021 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. More details about exactly when and how to participate will be coming soon. **This is where you come in!** How can your churches or organization’s ministries help all of us in our synod to see the signs of life among us?

This is your opportunity to proclaim to all the signs of life that are active in your local community. To inspire others to partner with you, or to start a ministry of their own. To show the rest of us how it works, right where you are planted. There will be lots of fun and excitement on full display. We will use as much of the Lutheran Center’s parking lot and property as we can to accommodate all who



Registration is now open for the Trouble the Water:

Racial Justice & Reconciliation event on

Saturday, May 22. This is a completely virtual

conference with our keynote speaker, the Rev. Cecee

Mills, and featured

speakers the Rev. Marsha Williams, Dr. Helen Davis,

the Rev. Melissa Pohlman,

and as both a workshop

leader and preacher for the

event we have the Rev. James

Thomas. This is a day of

worship and workshops to

better grow in our

understanding of racial

justice and reconciliation

that is open to all people:

Pastors, Deacons, staff, lay

member, non-church people,

etc. Some of the topics of

the workshops are a biblical

view against racism, white

privilege, how congregations

can support communities

during social unrest, & what

is implicit bias is all about.

Register from the synod's

website. Please register and

join us for this important and

timely event. A suggested

donation for the event is \$25

per person.

want to participate. There will be music – with an emphasis on Growing Young and Vital. Does your church have a ministry in music that reached out to others? Please bring that gift to share with us. There will be food – with an emphasis on food insecurity – an excellent example of all three of our vital signs. Loving the Land by using locally sourced ingredients; Healing the Hurt by sharing generously with those in need; Engaging the Stranger by showing love and compassion to “the least of these”. Join us!!

-Dan Raudenbush, Trinity Lutheran Church, Kutztown

Meet the Staff: Rev. Lauren Wolfe Blatt

I joined the synod staff in January as the **Director of Communication and Events**. I also serve full-time at St. John's, Mahoning, which is a small rural congregation nestled in the Mahoning Valley farmlands. I received my undergraduate degree in Philosophy from Alvernia University, my Mdiv from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and I am currently working on my DMin from United Lutheran Seminary. I was ordained in 2017 as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, and I love pastoring God's people.



I enjoy spending time at home with my wife, Hannah, our dogs (Riley & Sirius), and our cats (Finnegan & Tank). In my leisure time, I enjoy anything related to Pokemon, reading, video games, and completing projects around the house!