



Summer is coming to an end, and the cool nights of fall will be upon us. I generally like the season of fall, especially at church, as we get back into a schedule of routine and planning. But this year is different. Not that I am not looking forward to the fall, I very much am. However, this past year has brought about enough ups and downs in all of our lives. You know the list. I don't need to put them out here. This past year the pandemic has put us in a year of definite uncertainty.

There are always uncertainties in our life. Some greater than others. Several people have shared with me, "How do we plan?" "How do we know if we will be able to do x, y or z?" "How do we know that we will not be shut down again (I pray not!)" The truth of the matter is that we do not know. We never know what the rest of today or even tomorrow will bring, let alone several weeks or months down the road.

The one thing though that I think we need to keep in mind is that while life brings a bucket of uncertainties, God remains certain and constant in our life. When the Israelites left Egypt, they hoped for a better future. But even in the midst of their travels they were uncertain. When God called Jonah to go to Nineveh, Jonah wanted to go to Tarshish where Jonah was certain life would be good. When the angel appeared to Joseph, he was bit uncertain of the outcome of his life with Mary.

In each of these biblical stories, uncertainty existed, just as it does in our life today, especially with variants of Covid-19 lingering, even perhaps increasing. However, we are people of God. We are people of the resurrected Christ. We are indwelled with the Holy Spirit that continues to guide us, watch over us, provide us with certainty that no matter what the rest of today or tomorrow or next week or month comes our way, we are certain without a doubt that God is with us. God loves us! God will show us the way!

And yes, when those days of uncertainty creep in on us...we need to seek one another out in the name of Christ, supporting one another as our ancestors have done during their challenging times of uncertainty and as we have done over this past year and a half. Let us not be weary but rejoice in the Lord! Let us move forward in confidence that God goes with us! Jesus says, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of time." (Matthew 28:20b)

May you enjoy the remaining days of summer and be filled with confidence through the Holy Spirit for the future!

**Celebrating
God
Connecting
People**

God's Grace, peace and love!
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
September 2020**

All worship services are at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Live streamed on the website and Facebook.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (9/5)
with communion

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (9/12)
Teacher Installation, Rally Day

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost (9/19)
with communion, 1st Day of Sunday School Classes

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (9/26)
Harvest Home Sunday, Bible Presentation to Students

SEPTEMBER

Welcome back to



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

STAFF
Pastor: Rev. Dody S. Siegfried
Administrator: Monica Unangst
Organist: Susan Hartney
Bell Choirs Dir.: Susan Hartney
Asst Organist: Janice Kistler
Inc/Exp Coord: Barbara Carinci
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

**Treasurer's Report
for July 2021**

	Month	YTD	Budget Amounts	
			Month	YTD
Income:				
Operating Income	\$ 25,548.00	\$ 220,183.00	\$ 29,261.00	\$ 204,827.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,151.00	\$ 8,340.00	\$ 1,333.00	\$ 9,331.00
Property	\$ 1,870.00	\$ 12,904.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 17,500.00
Deficit Reduction	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,790.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 28,819.00	\$ 243,217.00	\$ 33,094.00	\$ 231,658.00
Expenses:				
Administration	\$ 1,128.00	\$ 8,445.00	\$ 1,690.00	\$ 11,830.00
Ministries	\$ 661.00	\$ 4,060.00	\$ 906.00	\$ 6,342.00
Payroll	\$ 18,420.00	\$ 142,677.00	\$ 21,657.00	\$ 151,599.00
Property-Utilities, grounds, etc	\$ 7,875.00	\$ 49,269.00	\$ 7,567.00	\$ 52,969.00
Benevolence	\$ 1,667.00	\$ 12,230.00	\$ 1,825.00	\$ 12,775.00
Total Expenses	\$ 29,751.00	\$ 216,681.00	\$ 33,645.00	\$ 235,515.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (932.00)	\$ 26,536.00	\$ (551.00)	\$ (3,857.00)
*Operating income includes proceeds from PPP Loan \$47,400.00				

Council Highlights July 8, 2021

Approval of June 10, 2021 minutes and agenda.

Correspondence - thank you received from Camp Noah for donation of \$1,416 as a result of the Clothing Drive.

Staff Reports:

Pastor (written) -

- VBS wrapped up with 19 children in attendance.
- Planning on attending 2nd week of continuing education - synod required "Boundary Training."

Chris Ed Dir - N/A vacant

Committee Reports

Worship & Music - N/A - next meeting Aug 3rd.

Technology - seeking quotes for phone system that will no longer be supported by Diefenderfer.

Property - (written) list of projects working on incl retrieving bids for new snow removal company, steeple inspection/painting, social hall tile restoration. Tom D. and et al continue to work on ventilation system proposal for sanctuary.

Outreach - Planning cleaning project July 17th or Allentown Rescue Mission Picnic went well.

Family Center - (written) Updated approval of age classification for youth soccer as well as rent increase. MSP

Safety Awareness Team - N/A

Christian Education - N/A

Finance - (written) approval to secure audit committee for 2021 yr.

- 2022 offering envelopes will be annual box set. MSP; eliminate envelopes for those who request no envelopes due to using online donations. MSP.

Treasurer - (written) -presented by Ken G. - June 2021 balance was surplus of \$ 923. And YTD balance was a surplus of \$27,468, keeping in mind this includes the \$47,400 from the PPP Loan.

ReLaunch - Continue to evaluate Covid situation and CDC guidelines. Recommends we continue to wear masks during worship with respect to younger children not able to be vaccinated. MSP.

Stewardship - N/A

For the Good of the Body/Comments/Concerns:

-**Fall Worship Services** - will remain at one service at 9:15 a.m. Will re-evaluate at Oct council meeting.

-Exploring **home schooling program** rental of rooms beginning Jan 2022.

August 12, 2021 Council Highlights

Approval of July 8, 2021 minutes and agenda.

Correspondence - none

Staff Reports:

Pastor (written) - Parent/student confirmation meeting set for Thurs Aug 26th @ 6:30 p.m

Chris Ed Dir - N/A vacant

Committee Reports

Worship & Music (written) - flower sponsors changed - no longer need to sponsor both sets.

Technology - presented upgrade of phone system (support system ends Oct) \$784.MSP

Property (written)- Contracts for removal of tiles/asbestos remediation in social hall by HCM \$4,800. MSP; Snow removal contract awarded to Ice B'Gone Magic with costs per event. MSP

Outreach (written) - cont sending cards to members. GWOH 11/7; Tracy Heberling collecting boxes Holiday Hope Chest

Family Center (written) - 2 volleyball teams currently returning.

Safety Awareness Team - in need of volunteers.

Christian Education - Rally Day begins Sept 12th with Carnival Theme. Sunday School in person at 10:30 a.m.

Finance - (written) Recommend transition from Vanco egiving to MYEOFFERING (MEO) through Church Budget to reduce costs incurred by church. MSP. Money counter guidelines approved.

Treasurer - (written) -presented by Ken G. July 2021 balance was a deficit of \$932. And YTD balance was a surplus of \$26,536, keeping in mind this includes the \$47,400 from the PPP Loan which has been forgiven, thus w/o forgiven loan YTD deficit \$20,864)

ReLaunch - Recommended update on mask wearing: Council approved - "For Jordan to follow CDC guidelines, which is the recommendation for people to wear masks in the building when two or more people are gathering together." MSP

Stewardship - Exploring financial educational opportunities for members.

For the Good of the Body/Comments/Concerns:

-Audit contract from Hutchinson, Gillahan & Freeh, PC @\$3,500. MSP

- Cont conversation with Home School Co-op as potential renters beginning 2022.

-Congregational Meeting dates set: Dec 12th, 2021 and February 27th. MSP

Next regular council meeting is September 9, 2021 at 7 p.m. **in person**. All council meetings are an open meeting and members are invited to attend.

Memorial Fund Donations

In memory of Joyce Nonnemaker

David & Kay Mancke

In memory of George E. Hein

Lee & Barbara Kreidler

Carol A. Kuhns

In memory of Dorothy Diehl

Joe & Carolyn Flemish

Lee & Barbara Kreidler

Bruce Stettler

Scott & Robin Jensen

Tom & Lynn Daniels

Christiane Heilman

In memory of Cathie Morgan

Sandra Sponsler

In memory of Jim Miller

Richard & Kathleen Bacak

Robert T. Leshko

Tom & Lynn Daniels

Chris & Julie Boscia

Shirley Schleicher

David & Monica Unangst

Bill & Linda Hendricks

Alan & Elizabeth Cherry

Carol A. Kuhns

Scott & Robin Jensen

Herbert & Anna Bieber

Douglas Mcdounough

Nancy C. Lerner

Dave & Carol Ludwig

Jeannette & Thomas Leshko

John & Rolene Jo Kern

Dave & Kay Mancke

Adele Frances

D. L. Mikuta & Elizabeth Mikuta

Sue & Bill Weber

In Loving Memory

♡ *Those we love don't go away* ♡
They walk beside us everyday
Unseen, unheard, but always near
Still loved, still missed and very dear



MAKE A CALL ~ PAY A VISIT ~ SEND A CARD ~ SAY A PRAYER

Fellowship Mnr: Florence Roth, Lillian Semmel

Lehigh Commons: Barbara Diehl, Howard & Janet Stettler

The Palmerton: Ferne Rock

Aria Senior Living: Betty Gockley

Parkland Manor: Herb Bieber, Anna Bieber

Home: Margaret Smith, Olive Wood, Warren Gressley, Loretta Hein

Reed Klotz, Clint Trumbauer, Jean Wisler, Ron Andersch, Julie Boyer, Stanley Buz, Lois Heisler, Clark Snyder, Carol, Burdick family, Carol Keene, Ted DuBois, Louise Quaintance

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & FAITH NEWS



Rally Day

We are kicking off the start to the new school year with our annual Rally Day event! This year our Rally Day event will be held on **Sunday, September 12 from 10:30am – 11:30am**. Jordan will be holding a carnival style event that is open to all in the congregation. Come check out the games and activities that are sure to bring out the kid in everyone! More details to follow so keep your eyes open!

Installation of Sunday School teachers

Please join us at service on **Sunday, September 12, at 9:15 a.m.** as our volunteer teaching staff is installed for the 2021-2022 teaching year. Having the support of the congregation behind the teaching staff is an integral part to the success of our year teaching our children.

Interested in teaching?

Our Sunday School and Confirmation programs are always looking for more volunteer help. We often hear “I don’t have a teaching background.” Or “I wouldn’t know where to start.” Guess what? You don’t need a teaching background – just that little spark inside of you to give “it” a try. What is “it”? “It” is spending time on Sunday morning with the wonderful children of Jordan and letting them pour their happiness and joy into your lives – and you sharing your joy back to them. All the lesson plans are already set up for you and you work from them. Not sure about it? How about staying for a lesson one day and seeing what it’s all about? Hang out and “shadow” a few times and see if it’s a fit for you ☺.



Sunday School and Confirmation

Our first “official” day of Sunday School and Confirmation will be on **September 19**. Sunday School will run in-person at Jordan from 10:30am – 11:15am. Confirmation will run in-person from 10:30am – 11:30am. Your volunteer teachers are very much looking forward to spending this time with Jordan’s youth as we all grow together in Christ. We have an open-door policy to other children joining us and look forward to welcoming new friends to Jordan.



Youth Activities

Keep your eyes open for information about upcoming Youth Activities! If there is something that your kiddos would like to be involved with here, get together and do with friends, or just try something new to you...please let us know! Reach out to Ingrid Martz at livelaughlove823@yahoo.com subject line “YOUTH ACTIVITES”.

P/T Director of Congregational Faith Formation

at Jordan Lutheran Church, Orefield. The Director will actively nurture the spiritual formation of the congregation across all age groups and in a variety of settings. Bachelor’s degree plus 2 years of experience (or equivalent experience) is desired. Complete job description can be found on the church website at jordanlutheran.org. Send a letter of interest/resume by 8/22/21 to Jordan Lutheran Church, 5103 Snowdrift Rd., Orefield PA 18069 or email to jordanlutheran@ptd.net

New Members

Anyone looking to become a member of Jordan or reinstate their membership should contact Pastor Dody as soon as possible to set up a meeting with her. New members will be received on **Sunday October 10th during the 9:15 a.m. worship service.**



Game Day returns!

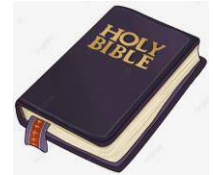
Plans are to start Tuesday, **September 21**. Join us to enjoy an afternoon of fun by reacquainting with one another and competition in Mexican Train, Pinochle, or any game of choice. Of course, bring a snack along to share. All are welcome who will comply with the guidelines of the CDC. We will meet in M6/8. For further information, contact Jean and Dave Adam via phone 610-395-4282.

Adult Bible Study on the Book of Revelation

will be held on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** at the church led by Pastor Dody. **A minimum of eight people is needed in order to hold the class.** We will use a study guide "Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today." The cost of the book is \$8.00. You will also need to bring your Bible.

The first class will be October 5 with the second class moved to the fourth week Oct 26th (due to Pastor's vacation on Oct 19th). The duration of the class will extend into the spring.

Please inform Pastor Dody or Monica of your commitment to attend class NO LATER than Monday September 13th.



WITH SINCERE THANKS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I want to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you for all the cards and messages of sympathy, love and concern received during the passing of my dad on June 28th. Thank you to Doug Clark for leading worship for me in order that Jim and I could be with dad during his last days with us and to all who pitched in to allow us the time needed to grieve. Jim and I are truly blessed to be a part of such a loving, caring body of Christ. May God bless each of you!

Love,
Pastor Dody & Jim

We are sending heartfelt love and thank you to the many members of Jordan Lutheran for all the cards and beautiful notes we received on the death of our mother, Olga Herb. She had turned 98 on July 10th, and we had a family birthday celebration for her on the 11th. She started getting sick a week later. She passed away on July 28th. Thank you for all the prayers. She was ready to be with her Lord God.

Louise Herb Stettler and Michael B. Herb

*God saw that she was getting tired
And a cure was not to be.
So he put his arms around her
And whispered, "Come with me."
With tearful eyes we saw her suffer
And saw her fade away,
Although we loved her dearly,
We couldn't make her stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.
Author Unknown*

Pastoral Acts July/August 2020

May our Lord bless and comfort the families of our recently deceased members.

Mary Anne Rau, d. 8/4/21

May this child be filled with the Holy Spirit and received into the family of the Church.

Baptized:

William Joseph Lutterschmidt

on 7/11/2021

son of William & Megan (Fake) Lutterschmidt



New Option for Altar Flower Sponsorships

With all the changes from normal routine this past year and a half, we've experienced a decline in the number of altar flower sponsorships and the church has been absorbing those costs. In an effort to increase these sponsorships, we are offering a NEW OPTION for sponsors. As previously, you may sponsor both bouquets for a given Sunday for a donation of \$40. The new option is to sponsor only one bouquet for a donation of \$20. When you contact Donna Hahn, please indicate whether you want to sponsor one or two bouquets and whether you plan to take the bouquet(s) or wish to donate them to shut-ins.



The 29th **Annual Women's 5K Classic Walk** is happening again this year on 10/2/2021. Tracy Heberling and Jan Kistler will be participating. This local event will continue to bring support, assistance, and research to Women of the Lehigh Valley.

If you would like to make a monetary donation you can go to directly to the website <https://womens5kclassic.org/> and donate there, or write a check, payable to Women's 5K Classic and mail or drop off your donation either to Tracy Heberling or to the church, and we will see that it gets to the event. Please contact Tracy before 9/26/2021.

The **SOS group (Shout Out for Shut-Ins)** is in need of **postage stamps** and **anniversary cards**. Please drop off at the church office or on any Sunday you are here.



5 bowlers needed to join our **Jordaniers Bowling League** (Monday nights at Rosebowl). Contact Scott Moyer at 610-573-4012.



SAVE THE DATE: November 7th, 2021. On this Sunday our congregation will enthusiastically celebrate God's Work, Our Hands and once again demonstrate to our community that Jordan Lutheran Church has no walls. Through various safe based projects, The Outreach Committee will be offering a variety of activities intended to provide assistance to those who have so little yet are equally deserving. Stay tuned for more exciting details.

We also encourage any suggestions and ideas you have for GWOH activities that would benefit our community and/or our members. Simply reach out to Kay or Dave Mancke with your suggestions: 484.358.7411, 484.866.6620 or mancke@rcn.com.

Jordan Hosting Dates

Family Promise helps families that are in need. Jordan is one of 14 host congregations who provide overnight lodging, meals, and other care services. Family Promise continued hosting families at a local hotel through last year. Starting August 1, Family Promise restarted hosting at local congregations. We are going to host three families at Jordan the weeks of September 12 and 19th. We need volunteers the week of September 12 to fill three time slots each day:

1. to make and deliver dinners at 5:30 for four adults and six children under 8 years old
2. to arrive at 5:15 to host our guests during dinner
3. to arrive at 7pm to sleep over

St. Joseph the Worker Church will be providing volunteers at Jordan for the week of September 19.

We will use signupgenius.com again for you to reserve a time slot for the week of September 12. Check it out here: [Ingrid: Family Promise 9/12 - 9/18 \(signupgenius.com\)](#) If you have trouble with SignUpGenius, you can reach out to one of us directly. We encourage all volunteers to attend a refresher training class in the Memory Room on Sunday August 29 immediately following worship. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. We can schedule additional training classes. If you have volunteered, your Background clearances are valid for five years. We can assist you to apply for a background clearance check – which is required to host dinner or to sleep over.

We have another way for you to help. There will be a board in the Memory Room, starting August 29, where you can find items needed for the hosting weeks, (fruit, milk, snacks, etc). There will be slips of paper, taped to the board, with items that are needed. Please write on the tablet which item is on the slip of paper that you take. Instructions for when items are needed will be on the board.

In 2020 Family Promise of Lehigh Valley served 35 individuals including 19 children. Through your generous donations we provided 4,428 bed nights and provided 13,284 meals. Please help to provide a safe a welcoming temporary home for these families.

Dean Wagaman – 484-241-6992 – wagamand@ptd.net
Ingrid Martz – 610-739-1026 – liveloughlove823@yahoo.com

Part-time Development Director

Family Promise of Lehigh Valley (FPLV) is seeking a part-time Development Director for its family shelter program that assists families experiencing homelessness. The 30 hours per week are flexible and will involve working some weekends and evening hours as needed.

Major responsibilities are:

- Create and implement development plan
- Discover cultivate and maintain new and potentially lucrative revenue streams (grants, sponsorships, major donations, corporate gifts).
- Plan, implement and direct fundraising events

Qualifications: Must be 21 years of age; have a valid driver’s license and a vehicle; must be able to obtain three background clearances. Experience in fundraising and grant writing required.

Please submit cover letter, resume and referrals as soon as possible to:

Roslyn Kuba, Executive Director of FPLV
1346 West Hamilton St.
Allentown, Pa. 18102
E.O.E (Equal Opportunity Employer)



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- 1: Rose Laudenslager
- 2: Ava Collins, Robert Heilman, Lola Safadi
- 3: Nathaniel Heckman
- 4: Joy Laudenslager, Marguerite Reinhard
- 5: Jason Grim, Carol Hoffman, Lindsay Turkos
- 6: Carl Benner
- 7: Dave Figner, Anna Horn, Nancy Warrington
- 9: Rachel Heilman, Nathanael Rakos
- 10: Jean Adam, Gary Schneck
- 11: Jackson Haught, Thomas Roth, Donald Schey
- 12: Durward Hamil, Tammy Klotz, Kenneth Ryder
- 14: Larry Hahn
- 15: Anthony Fay
- 16: Jeffrey Berdahl
- 17: Lynn McDevitt, Carolyn Mikols
- 18: Oliver Fox, Kim Roth
- 19: Ben Albright, Jerome Philips, Renae Shuey
- 20: Cassidy Stout
- 21: Diane Beitler, Evan Miller, Franklin Rabert
- 22: Jane Suhocki
- 23: Radelle Psarsky
- 24: Patricia Budlong, Elizabeth Schofield
- 25: Kristie Beitler
- 26: Matthew Tom, Kassandra Ward
- 27: Mark Miller
- 28: Ashleigh Budlong
- 29: Kathryn Leonard, Kimberly Ream
- 30: Ron Crane

*these folks are shut-ins and a card or note from you would surely brighten their day



*God Bless You
and
Happy Anniversary!*

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

- Sept. 16, 1961: Donald & Elsie Schey
- Sept. 23, 1961: Keith & Judith Young
- Sept. 28, 1963: Carl & Carol Hoffman
- Sept. 7, 1974: Dale & Jessie Greenawald
- Sept. 7, 1975: Doug & Marge Clark
- Sept. 24, 1977: Sharon & Roland Harrier
- Sept. 9, 1978: James & Mary Ann Sandrock
- Sept. 5, 1980: Elaine & Jeffrey Toth
- Sept. 20, 1980: Robert & Janet Branch
- Sept. 28, 1985: Kathleen & William Lutterschmidt
- Sept. 15, 1990: Cynthia & Steven Gingras
- Sept. 23, 1995: Chris & Julie Boscia
- Sept. 23, 1995: Cedella & Paul Schenck
- Sept. 6, 1997: Kim & Thomas Roth
- Sept. 26, 1998: Carolyn & Dale Stettler
- Sept. 27, 2002: Leroy & Mary Ann Dollak
- Sept. 13, 2003: Michael & Nicole Brennan
- Sept. 20, 2003: Stacy & Andrew Grim
- Sept. 24, 2005: Brian & Renae Shuey
- Sept. 22, 2006: Stephany & Daniel Heckman
- Sept. 20, 2008: Paul & Kimberly Demarest

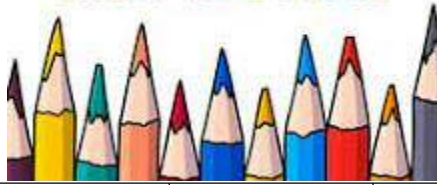
*“I commend the enjoyment of life
because there is nothing better
for a person under the sun than to
eat and drink and be glad.”
- Ecclesiastes 8*

Each new day the Lord provides us with should be celebrated because God put breath in our lungs and gifted us the ability to participate in life. The Bible doesn't command us to celebrate yearly the day of our birth, but it does say that we are to give thanks to God.

Whatever the wedding anniversary year it is for you, it is an important celebration. We celebrate together with you all the energy and effort it takes to live life together as lifelong companions committed to the love and glory of God.



BACK TO SCHOOL

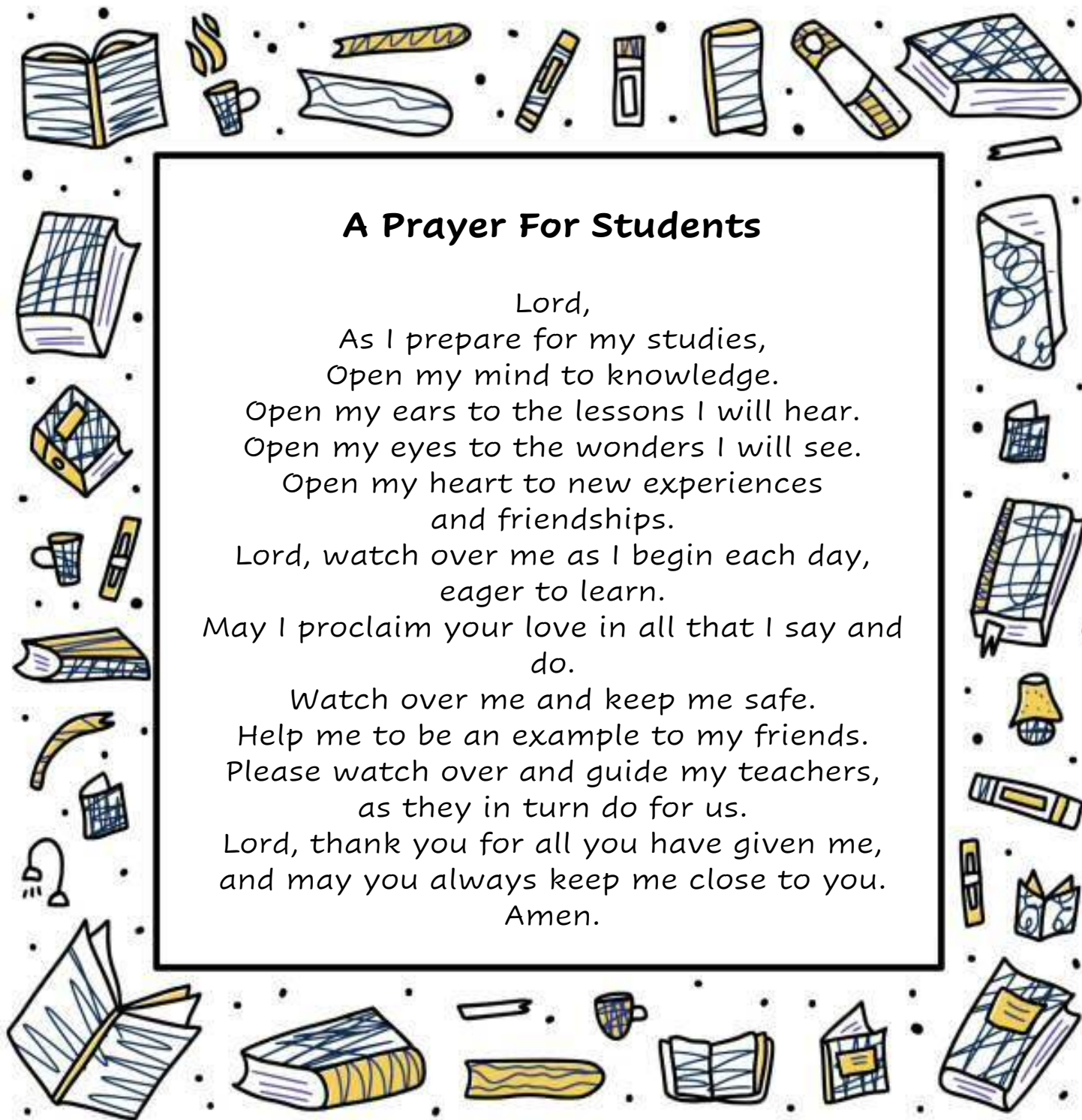


September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Pantry 6-7 pm</i> 5:30-Chris. Ed.	2 6:00-Exec. Com. 7:00-OE Anon.	3 4:30-Wedding Rehearsal 7:30-AA Meeting 7:00-Volleyball-FC 9:30-Volleyball-FC	4 1:00-Wedding of Samantha Bissey & Jake Moyer
5 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream w/communion 6:30-AA Meeting	6 <i>Pantry 9-10 am</i> 	7 9:00am-Staff mtg 6:00-Relaunch 7:00-Finance 7:15-Personnel	8	9 7:00-Church Council 7:00-OE Anon. 7:00-PA Dutch Class	10 7:30-AA Meeting 7:00-Volleyball-FC 9:30-Volleyball-FC	11 
12 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream SS Teachers Installed 10:30-RALLY DAY 6:30-AA Meeting	13 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts 7:00-Garden Club	14	15 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:00-Cherub Choir 6:15-Ringers	16 7:00-OE Anon. 7:00-PA Dutch Class	17 7:30-AA Meeting 7:00-Volleyball-FC 9:30-Volleyball-FC	18
Hosting Family Promise at Jordan						
19 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream w/communion 10:30-Sunday School 6:30-AA Meeting	20 <i>Pantry 9-10 am</i> 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts	21 1:30-Game Day	22 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:00-Cherub Choir 6:15-Ringers	23 7:00-OE Anon. 7:00-PA Dutch Class	24 7:30-AA Meeting 7:00-Volleyball-FC 9:30-Volleyball-FC	25
Hosting Family Promise at Jordan						
26 9:15 WORSHIP In Person & Livestream Youth Bible Presentation Harvest Home Sunday 10:30-Sunday School 6:30-AA Meeting	27 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts	28	29 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:00-Cherub Choir 6:15-Ringers	30 7:00-OE Anon. 7:00-PA Dutch Class		

Welcome back to all our Sunday School students!!

One service at 9:15 a.m. until further notice.



A Prayer For Students

Lord,
As I prepare for my studies,
Open my mind to knowledge.
Open my ears to the lessons I will hear.
Open my eyes to the wonders I will see.
Open my heart to new experiences
and friendships.
Lord, watch over me as I begin each day,
eager to learn.
May I proclaim your love in all that I say and
do.
Watch over me and keep me safe.
Help me to be an example to my friends.
Please watch over and guide my teachers,
as they in turn do for us.
Lord, thank you for all you have given me,
and may you always keep me close to you.
Amen.



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

SEPTEMBER 2021 • ISSUE 9 • VOLUME 29

AN INCREDIBLE RETURN TO THE WOODS AT THE END OF THE RED DIRT ROAD

BY COLLIN GROOMS

No one would have asked to have a summer of youth camp canceled because of COVID, but certainly, as with any challenge, it is good when the positives of a situation can be found. Having a summer away from the routines of camp as it has “always been” gave Bear Creek Camp an opportunity to truly look at creating the camp experiences that campers and staff need right now.

In a world where we’ve been separated from our friends and families, taking the time to build a small, intentional community was most essential. This summer, each quest group crafted their own experience as they creatively planned their week’s activities. For some that meant nature hikes into the depths of our woods or discovering every swimming location. For others that meant time on the high ropes course or writing new songs to be sung at bonfires.



*Continuing
Promises*

For every group that meant finding unique ways to explore their faith through daily bible study and worship experiences. Camp has an enduring quality of being the place where campers can find whatever they are needing in the moment. Faith can be discovered and strengthened. Lifelong friends can be made. Personal discovery happens constantly as we're taken away from our comfort zones and shown a newly revealed world.

Summer 2021 was an incredible return to the woods at the end of the red dirt road. We are so deeply grateful for our entire community that supported us in reaching this new beginning.



GROWING TOGETHER IN NEPSYNOD: MINLAB

On August 14, 2021 people from all over the NEPSynod gathered at the Lutheran Center to share ministry, ideas, and God's love with one another. Individuals who participated in MinLab were able to work together to build relationships with one another and the ministries of the other through authentic engagement, conversation, and questions. *The relationships we build at synod assemblies, special events, and through mutual collaboration are paramount to our work as Church.*

At MinLab, participants learned more about Growing Young and elements that are present in ministries that are actively "growing young." Participants also learned that congregational and organizational ministry is at the center of our work as a synod. *The synod is not a top-down organization, but instead, a collaboration of people working together to serve God's people.* Leaders in our synod, both lay and ordained, can't wait to see where the Spirit will lead us next.