

# HOLY TRINITY NEWS

AUGUST 2023

VOLUME 58 NO. 08



# AUGUST

**CHURCH SERVICE 10:15 AM**

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH      610-826-2524  
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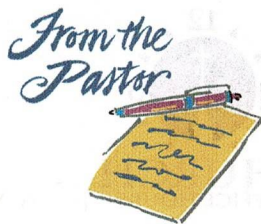
# August 2023

August 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 30	31	Aug 1 9:00am Thrift Shop	2	3 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	4	5
6 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	7	8 9:00am Thrift Shop	9	10 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	11	12
13 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	14	15 9:00am Thrift Shop	16	17 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	18	19
20 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	21	22 9:00am Thrift Shop	23	24 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	25	26
27 10:15am Worship Service in Church and Facebook Live	28	29 9:00am Thrift Shop	30	31 10:30am Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	Sep 1	2





## From the Pastor's Desk – August 2023

### “The Fear of the Lord”

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;*

*fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

Proverbs 1:7 (NRSVUE)

*He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name.*

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.*

Psalms 111:9-10 (NRSVUE)

In one of my previous calls, I had a church member who had grown up in a very traditional Roman Catholic parish in Philadelphia. She and her husband had become members of our Lutheran Church but, in many ways, she had never lost that strict Catholic view of things. One aspect of her upbringing, expressed both in her parents and her priests, was an understanding of “the FEAR of the Lord.” For her it meant that she believed God was to be feared. She had grown up afraid of God. Even as we talked about the mercy and grace of God, his forgiving love in Jesus Christ, there was in her a fear – a fear of judgment and condemnation – should she fall short of the holiness God required.

Martin Luther was raised in a very similar fashion. It was a monumental breakthrough, a truly transformational experience for him to understand that God had, in love, given us salvation in Jesus Christ apart from our proper religious behavior, apart from works of the law. It was that experience, first realized as he read Paul’s letter to the Church in Rome, that motivated his desire to reform the Church on the basis of the gospel of God’s saving grace in Jesus Christ,

through faith alone.

This month our Gospel readings from Matthew describe a number of miracles performed by Jesus – the feeding of the multitude, his walking on the sea and calming the storm, and the exorcism of a demon from the daughter of the Canaanite woman. What would you come to believe if you had personally witnessed such mighty acts? In response to seeing Jesus walking on the sea and calming the storm the disciples **“worshiped him, saying, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’”**

While the Old Testament often uses the expression, “the Fear of the LORD”, I believe we need to consider what that means for us. Is it right that we should be afraid of God? As we read so many stories in the Old Testament in which God strikes down those who are faithless, disobedient, and unbelieving; we can easily come to believe that we could rightly be afraid of this God. We are not worthy. We are everything those Israelites were and more. We are sinners and we deserve nothing but judgment from the holy and righteous God. Nevertheless, in Jesus Christ, we see the covenant love and grace of God, the One who keeps his promises to his people in spite of their (our) sin.

In these miracle stories we see the power of God in Jesus Christ – power over the things of this earth and over the power of the devil. In Jesus we see the awesome power of God. If we were unaware of God’s love for sinners, it would be right for us to fear that power. Even knowing that we are loved, it is right for us to be in awe of the transcendent power of God. God, in his pure Divine power, is beyond our ability to comprehend. The One who created all that exists by the power of his Word, is not to be trifled with.

I believe the right word in all of this is awe. A proper awe and respect for who God is keeps all things in proper perspective. God



is God and we are not. We dare not domesticate God. We dare not believe that we are capable of understanding all that God is. The British writer J B Philipps wrote a book back in the day entitled, "Your God is Too Small." He wrote about our trying to keep God in a box, bound up by our own understanding. God is so much more – more powerful and more holy, more loving and more gracious than we can wrap our heads around. Those who personally witnessed his miraculous power were amazed and, in response, they worshiped God.

As we hear these stories this month, may we be moved to a proper respect and awe, to a true fear of the Lord, which is the beginning both of knowledge and wisdom. May we be moved to worship him for all that he has done for us in Jesus Christ.

Blessings and Peace,  
Pastor Mike



**HOURS**

9:00am – 1:00pm

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Worship Service 10:15 AM**

**August 6, 2023 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Rich Hyer  
**Ushers:** Kelly & Scott Heinrich  
**Altar Guild:** June Andreas & Lizzie Reif  
**Web Site:** Carol Borger  
**Times News Ad:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**August 13, 2023 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Krissy Keblish  
**Ushers:** Ron Keblish w/Taylor, Terry Holland  
**Altar Guild:** June Andreas & Lizzie Reif  
**Web Site:** Marlene Bollinger  
**Times News Ad:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**August 20, 2023 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Lynn Perone  
**Ushers:** Loren LaRose & Carol Heffelfinger  
**Altar Guild:** June Andreas & Lizzie Reif  
**Web Site:** Carol Borger  
**Times News Ad:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**August 27, 2023 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Larry Arner  
**Ushers:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer  
**Altar Guild:** June Andreas & Lizzie Reif  
**Web Site:** Carol Borger  
**Times News Ad:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

**ALTAR GUILD**

We are in need of volunteers for Altar Guild for October, November and December. Please pick a friend or two to help you and sign up. If you would like to help, but need some instruction feel free to call the office 610-826-2524.

**HOLY TRINITY ACTION MINISTRIES**

Tues. 9-12:30



**Meet the New Secretary**  
Say Hello to Eileen Davall she is in the office M-F 9-1.



**REDNER'S SAVE A TAPE**

This is a reminder that we do collect Redner's register tapes.

There is a box in the Narthex for the Redner's register tapes.

**HOME VISITS**

Home visits and shut-in visits are being planned for August. If anyone would like to receive communion from Pastor Mike, please call the office @ 610-826-2524.

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Children's special involvement in worship is on hold until it safe for the children to gather at the front of the church.



Children's Sermon





**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

- August 01 Sean & Kelly Sosik-Hamor 25 years
- August 02 Kim & Jessica Merkel 20 years
- August 05 Eric & Tara Berger 12 years
- August 14 Shaun & Nicole Winger 13 years
- August 14 Frederick & Nancy Young, Jr. 52 years
- August 15 Jan & Karen Sosik 53 years
- August 25 Robert & Nancy Treskot 50 years
- August 26 Victor & Kathy Jahelka 46 years

**WE WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

- August 07 Dustin Allen
- August 07 Gail Hoffert
- August 07 Gale Husack
- August 13 Ashley Kraftician
- August 14 Michael Bowman
- August 16 Eleanor Scheirer
- August 17 Cassidy Merkel
- August 24 Stephen Hansut
- August 25 Willow Brown
- August 26 Shane Allen
- August 27 Opal Snyder
- August 29 Amanda Ruch
- August 31 Patrick Walck



[NOTE: If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary, please let us know.]

**2023 SPONSOR SHEETS**

Please sign up!

2023 sponsor sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office: Altar Flowers \$25.00 10/29 Bulletins \$10 per week 9/3, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19 & 11/26 and Altar Guild August, October, November & December.



**SNAPPLE FACTS**



The mouth of the Statue of Liberty is three feet wide.  
Atlantic salmon are capable of leaping 15 feet high.

Sip on some knowledge. Most of these are the Real Facts!

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- Aug. 02 4:15 p.m. Worship & Music Committee
- Aug. 20 11:30 a.m. Council Meeting

**You can join us on Facebook Live**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- Rich Hyer President
- Don Delich Vice-President
- Karen Talamantes Secretary
- Larry Arner Treasurer
- Teri Delich
- Scott Heinrich
- Terry Holland
- Krissy Keblish
- Ron Keblish
- Jim Miller
- Eric Reif
- Ray Talamantes

**FINANCIAL PERSONNEL**

- Larry Arner Treasurer
- Carol Heffelfinger Financial Secretary

<b>Jun. Monthly Envelope Offering:</b>	\$ 5,925
<b>Jun. St. Matthews Pastoral Service</b>	\$ 3,308
<b>Jun. Additional Income</b>	\$ 1,669
<b>Jun. Monthly Expenses:</b>	\$ 15,263
<b>Attendance:</b>	
June 4, 2023	52
June 11, 2023 Knoebels	34
June 18, 2023	45
June 25, 2023	35

**Palmerton Festival**



**The Festival is September 8, 9, & 10. This year we are selling Molasses Tongue Cookies, Mini Cheesecakes and Mint Tea.**

**There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex for baking and working the stand. Many hands make for light work.**

# AUGUST SPONSORS



## Altar Flowers

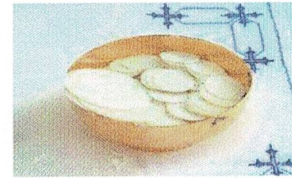
Ministry Opportunity

Flowers:  
August 6 Debbie & Steve Hansut  
August 13 Barb & Joe Herman  
August 20 Ron Keblish  
August 27 Sosik Family



# Sunday Bulletins

Bulletins:  
August 6 Sponsor Needed  
August 13 Sponsor Needed  
August 20 Sponsor Needed  
August 27 Barb & Joe Herman



Communion Bread:  
August 6 Sponsor Needed  
August 13 Sponsor Needed  
August 20 Sponsor Needed  
August 27 Sponsor Needed

**PALMERTON FESTIVAL - 2023**

**I NOMINATE:**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
{INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION}

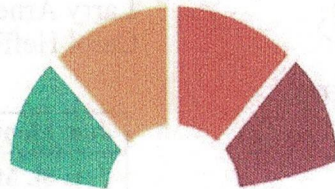
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
{IF YOU KNOW IT}

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
{IF YOU KNOW IT}

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
{Your name}



# Let's celebrate **PALMERTON'S** 125th anniversary



with the Allentown Symphony  
**Palmerton High School**  
**Auditorium**

**2PM on Sunday, August 27th 2023**

**Adult tickets-\$20 pp**

**Student (18 and under) tickets-\$10pp**

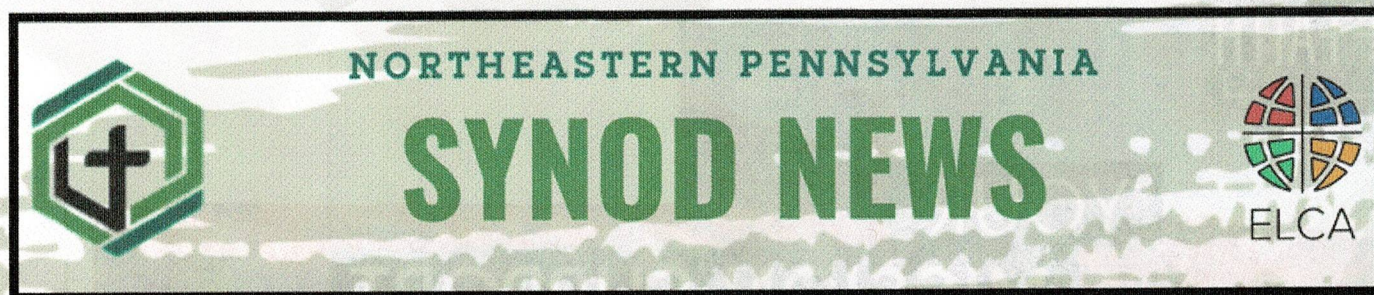
To order tickets either scan code or type



**Scan this code with your  
phone to get to the website.**

**<https://palmertonhistoricalsociety.ludus.com>**





**OCT 3&4**

*Parish Secretary*

**SEMINAR**

**Caring for You & Me in 2023**

*Heritage Hotel,  
Lancaster, PA.*

<https://nepasynod.org/parish-secretary-seminar/>



**RACIAL JUSTICE TRAINING FOR ROSTERED LEADERS**

As per "Resolution: Anti-Racism Education Emphasis" submitted to the 2022 Synod Assembly and passed at the July 2022 meeting of the Synod Council, all NEPA Synod rostered leaders (pastors and deacons) and synodically authorized lay leaders are required to have Anti-Racism Training at least every 3 years, at the same cost as Boundary Training. To help meet this requirement, the Synod Racial Justice Team has scheduled two training events for Fall 2023, for those who were not able to attend one of the Winter 2023 sessions. \*\*Lay Leaders are also welcome to attend.\*\*

**Tuesday October 17, 2023**

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Office  
2354 Grove Rd, Allentown, PA 18109

**Saturday October 21, 2023**

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church  
527 Washington St, Reading, PA 19601



GROWING YOUNG



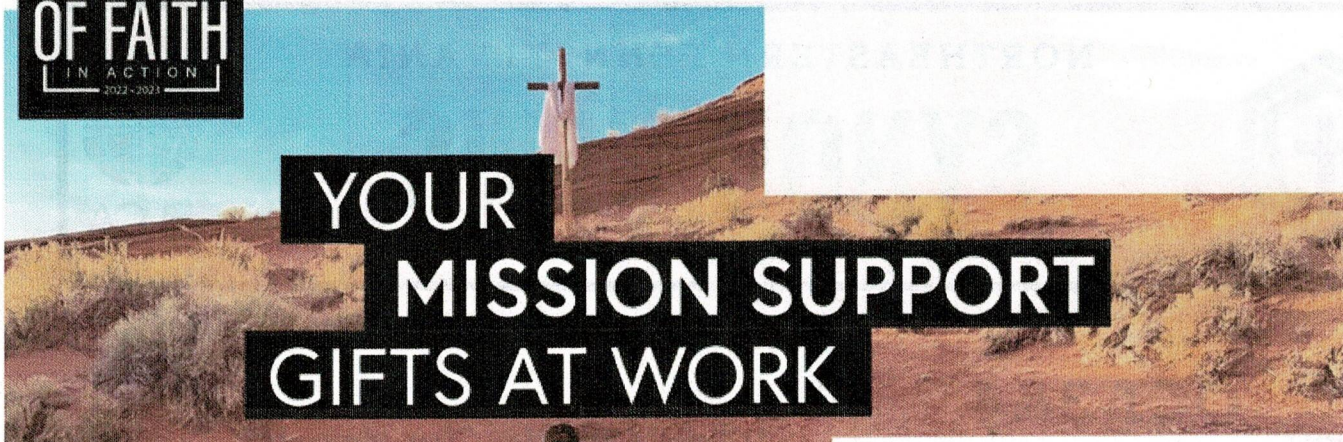
GAINING STRENGTH



BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE

For more information visit the Synod website and click "events"





# YOUR MISSION SUPPORT GIFTS AT WORK

## STORYTELLING ENGAGEMENT

### 2023 Mission Support Memo

#### The eHarmony of Prison Reentry

*As you read this story, what questions arise?  
How might you share this story with others in your  
ministry setting?*

*A story from our Grand Canyon Synod*

Over 600,000 people are released from prison every year, and as they struggle to rejoin society, they face barriers to connecting with reentry service providers. We are honored that so many of our synods and congregations are active in prison ministry; yet they know the challenge of finding reliable and effective resources to support folks once they've been released.

Our synods are supporting reentry ministry: the Metropolitan Chicago Synod helped start the work and the Grand Canyon Synod has launched the innovative online resource the Inside Out Network (ION), a one-of-a-kind platform that helps returning citizens connect with the support they need for a successful reentry. The Grand Canyon Synod has made a strong commitment, awarding ION an "Adapting, Connecting, Transforming and Sustaining" grant so it can help people access ministries and service providers.

ION is a bit like eHarmony: returning citizens and service providers can find each other and exchange messages, even before release, to make sure returning citizens get the support they need as soon after release as possible. What started as a prison ministry from an ELCA church in the Chicago area is now operating in Illinois and Arizona and launching soon in Oregon, with 6,400 returning citizens and 443 service providers and ministries enrolled. ION is always free to returning citizens, and service providers participate free of charge for a year before paying a modest annual fee.

With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, ION has gone into Arizona prisons to train staff on using the platform. This has led to inmates enrolling before their release; reports indicate that as release approaches, they are less anxious, seeing ahead of time what help will be available.

ION values its partnerships with ministry and is currently developing a Reentry Congregational Initiative, gathering insights from faith communities that intentionally minister to returning citizens. Many ELCA congregations work in this area, and we welcome any insights they might provide by completing this survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLFWMLS>). ION intends to develop a guidebook called "Effective Reentry Ministry for Ordinary Congregations"; its valuable "Spiritual Survival Guide for Prison and Beyond" can be read or downloaded free of charge from the ION website at [insideoutnetwork.net/resources](https://insideoutnetwork.net/resources).