

# HOLY TRINITY NEWS

## JUNE 2025

***VOLUME 60 – NO.6***



## ***HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH***

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# June 2025

June 2025							July 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Jun 1</b> 10:15am Worship Service in 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop	<b>2</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 41 (Parish Hall - Scout Room, Larry Arner)	<b>3</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	<b>4</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>5</b> 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	<b>6</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 10:15am Worship Service in Church and 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl Scout Room)	<b>9</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 41 (Parish Hall - Scout Room, Larry Arner)	<b>10</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	<b>11</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>12</b> 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	<b>13</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 7:00pm Iron Pigs Game	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10:15am Worship Service in Church and 6:00pm Girl Scouts Troop 3401 (Girl Scouts Room)	<b>16</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>17</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	<b>18</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>19</b> 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room)	<b>20</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Knoebels Day 10:15am No Service - Knoebels Day 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl Scout Room)	<b>23</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>24</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am Thrift Shop	<b>25</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>26</b> 10:30am Bible Study (Adult SS Room) 7:00pm Camera Club	<b>27</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10:15am Worship Service in Church and 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 348 (New Girl Scout Room)	<b>30</b> Office Hours 9:00am - 1:00pm	<b>Jul 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

## From the Pastor's Desk – June 2025

### ***“Where is Your Faith?”***

***<sup>22</sup> One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they put out, <sup>23</sup> and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. <sup>24</sup> They went to him and woke him up, shouting, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And waking up, he rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. <sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, “Where is your faith?” They were terrified and amazed and said to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water and they obey him?”***

**Luke 8:22-25 (NRSV-UE)**

Who is this Jesus? It seems an odd question. It's not like it was at the very start of their time with Jesus. As Luke tells us the stories, the disciples have already seen a leper cleansed, a paralytic healed, and even a dead man raised to life again; but this was different. This time their lives were on the line. It's very different when it's you and you're not just watching someone else's situation. The Sea of Galilee was a constant in the lives of so many of these disciples. Even those who weren't fishermen knew the sea. Storms blowing down from the mountains to the north were regular occurrences. It's one thing to watch one from the safety of the shore but now they were in the middle of it. ***“Master! Master! We are perishing!”*** These men were not easily frightened but they were now.

Jesus handles it. They wake him up from his nap, he looks around and speaks to the wind and the waves, rebuking them with just a word and there was a dead calm. I imagine him, then, turning to the disciples and saying something like, “You woke me up for this?” although Luke tells us that the question was, ***“Where is your faith?”*** They had seen amazing things, but nothing like this. ***“Terrified and amazed, they said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water and they obey him?’”***

What are the storms blowing up your life? What is it in these days that has you frightened? Stuff happens. Things change and we're really not all that good with change (I include myself in this). We like life to move along at a comfortable pace with little to (preferably) no surprises. We've been walking with Jesus for years and it's nice, right? Day to day, week to week, things happen but it's all pretty manageable. We read and see that troubling things are happening across the country and around the world but, truth be told, most of it really doesn't impact my life . . . until it does. Then there's that . . . whatever it is . . . the storm blows up and our safe and comfortable life is on the edge of what?

Thoughts like this come to my mind as we reach this time of transition in life and ministry. For me, it's this thing called retirement, even though at this point it's just semi-retirement. I'm writing this for both Holy Trinity and St. Matthew's and I know very well that my choices are hitting very differently in each church as I'll be leaving Holy Trinity and staying on at St. Matthew's. I've never chosen to seek a change in call in all of my forty-plus years of ministry without some sense of hesitation because I know the difficulties such changes bring. I am relieved to know that there will be a very smooth transition at Holy Trinity without a difficult vacancy filled with uncertainty and Sunday worship supply pastors (The truth is that there aren't enough of them to cover more than one Sunday a month for open congregations). The conversations are well under way that will, by the work of the Holy Spirit, hopefully lead to Pastor Ken Melber serving as pastor for Holy Trinity, effective July 1, in a Purchase of Services agreement with St. John's, Towamensing, not unlike what we have had between Holy Trinity and St. Matthew's for over eight years now. Simultaneously, I will be entering into a half-time contract with St. Matthew's, also effective July 1. Both congregations have formal decisions to make on these new chapters in life and ministry that will be happening this month based on actions being taken by our church councils.

The good news in all of this is the sovereignty of God over all things. It is well beyond and above our pay grade, as the saying goes, to understand how God is at work in the details of our lives, individually and together; and yet we believe that he most certainly is. Nothing escapes his attention and his grace, mercy, and love are with us always and in all things – especially in those storms that challenge and even threaten us. God is not done with us – not at all. The Church, even our congregations, small as they may seem, still has important and effective ministry to offer for the good of members, our neighbors, and our communities.

Blessings to you and peace in Jesus

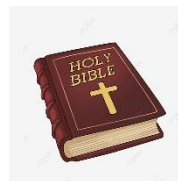
Your Partner in Ministry, Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Mike

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### **Bible Study**

Thursdays 10:30 AM - Noon at Holy Trinity  
No Bible Study at St. Matthew's this Summer



### **HOME VISITS**



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



## **HOLY TRINITY ACTION MINISTRY**

### **THE BLESSING THRIFT SHOP: Tuesday 9am-12:30pm**



## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

June 05	Loren & Lorene LaRose	48 years
June 12	Richard & Jeanette Hyer	15 years
June 15	Morris & Suzanne Bloomfield	51 years
June 17	Christopher & Jessyca Fredericks	25 years
June 30	Jon & Jessica Kistler	07 years

## **WE WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

June 01	Kelly Heinrich
June 02	Wyatt Spalding
June 05	Deb Hansut
June 05	Kathy Jahelka
June 08	Andrew Hollywood
June 14	Benjamin Jahelka
June 16	David Stemler
June 19	Eric Reif
June 24	Gerry Dorshimer
June 25	Nancy Treskot
June 28	George Husack IV
June 28	Janene Smith



**9am – 1pm**

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

*Terry Holland  
Jon Kistler  
Rich Hyer  
Larry Arner  
Jim Miller  
Krissy Keblish  
Ron Keblish  
Steve Berger  
Gerry Dorshimer  
Scott Heinrich  
Eric Reif  
Gordon Walls*

*President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Asst. Treasurer*



## **FINANCIAL PERSONNEL**

*Larry Arner  
Jessica Hansen*

*Treasurer  
Financial Sec.*

## **COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 15 - Following Service**

## **FINANCE & ATTENDANCE**

April- Monthly Envelope Offering:	\$ 6,048
April- St. Matthews Pastoral Service	\$ 3,483
April- Additional Income	\$ 4,012
April- Monthly Expenses:	\$13,500
Attendance:	
April 06, 2025	28
April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday	52
April 17, 2025 Maundy Thursday	31
April 20, 2025 Easter Sunday	61
April 27, 2025	28



### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE 10:15 AM**

#### **JUNE 01, 2025 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Rich Hyer  
**Ushers:** Kelly & Scott Heinrich  
**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer  
**Flowers:** Gerry Dorshimer – Debbie's Birthday  
**Bulletins:** Carol Borger  
**Communion Bread:** Needed  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

#### **JUNE 08, 2025 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Krissy Keblish  
**Ushers:** Ron Keblish, Taylor Keblish & Terry Holland  
**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer  
**Flowers:** Deb Hansut – Gerry's Birthday  
**Bulletins:** Marlene Bollinger  
**Communion Bread:** Needed  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

#### **JUNE 15, 2025 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Deb Hansut  
**Ushers:** Carol Heffelfinger & Loren LaRose  
**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer  
**Flowers:** The Sosik Family – IHO Michael's Birthday  
**Bulletins:** Marlene Bollinger  
**Communion Bread:** Needed  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

#### **JUNE 22, NO SERVICE. KNOEBELS DAY**

#### **JUNE 29, 2025 COMMUNION**

**Assisting Minister:** Deb Hansut  
**Ushers:** Gordon & Mary Walls  
**Altar Guild:** Rich & Jeanette Hyer  
**Flowers:** Gerry Dorshimer – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
**Bulletins:** Marlene Bollinger  
**Communion Bread:** Needed  
**Times News / Website:** Fred & Betsy Masenheimer



### **ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025**

#### **KNOEBEL'S AMUSEMENT PARK**

There is a sign-up sheets in the Narthex for the picnic, carpooling, and food. Please join us for a day of fun food and fellowship.



### **June 15 Service & Congregational Meeting**

Pastor Melber will minister the service on June 15.

A congregational meeting will be held immediately after to approve his appointment.





## ***WE CELEBRATE PASTOR MICHAEL FROST!***

THE CONGREGATION AT HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOULD LIKE TO THANK PASTOR FROST FOR HIS HARD WORK AND DEDICATION IN LEADING OUR PARISH.

WE WISH HIM WELL AS HIS JOURNEY TOWARD RETIREMENT BEGINS.

JUNE 29 WILL BE PASTOR'S LAST SERVICE AT HOLY TRINITY. FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, A SMALL RECEPTION WILL BE HELD IN THE PARISH HALL TO HONOR PASTOR.

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING HIS YEARS OF SERVICE AND WISH HIM WELL IN HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Welcome Summer!

ROLLERCOASTER

SUNGLASSES

HOOLAHOOPS

THEMEPARK

SUNSCREEN

SNOWCONES

SPRINKLER

POPSICLES

FLIPFLOPS

FIREWORKS

FIREFLIES

VACATION

SWIMMING

JUMPROPE

ICECREAM

COOKOUTS

CARNIVAL

SANDALS

PICNICS

PARTIES

PARADES

FISHING

CAMPING

SPLASH

MOVIES

AUGUST

BIKES

BEACH

POOL

JUNE

JULY

FUN



Q W G J U M P R O P E G I N R W I F U M E P P G  
K A H W Q X Y I T S U G U A E X K D Y J V T V Z  
S C I N C I P Z R O Q A C F T E S B S N P X W U  
B A U X G D M T S N R X B Q S H C Q U U U P J X  
A H D B Z Z S H D P H G D G A R Q L N A Y F J D  
Z S I M C F S N K F R P P D O U G U S T L C H G  
R D C F I S H I N G M I O E C G L B C E I W B H  
S W I M M I N G V Y L H N S R S L F R J N U X D  
N S P O L F P I L F I L P K E G B J E V P U H M  
D X S Z Z R V E H C P F H C L S K Y E S O W J F  
Z Y D A D L F A E M B O T E L E D W N A P G H B  
H R I V N R I C C T H T O U O N R K S G S B G G  
J G H B O D R X A A T C O L R H L G U P I O S H  
F S Q M S E A A X L T A A B B L T N N T C Q T S  
H O V M A P X L S T X I X E K A H I G S L Q U A  
A J U M Q E O Y S E F U O F B V E P L K E P O L  
P V H A I Q F O P N N L T N P I M M A R S Q K P  
Z R E A T C R Q H A K O R R Q N E A S O G K O S  
F S E I V O M H N A R N C L G R P C S W Y B O B  
V P A R T I E S F L L A L W N A A U E E Y P C W  
H L N F G H J U L Y L O D R O C R I S R W W Y Y  
J S T G Q F N B S A N N O E G N K A K I D Y I K  
J Y S X B H C N C B W A D H S S S D N F A S S H  
P N K B T J S E I L F E R I F R C N S E K I B Z





## Bishop's Staff Changes for 2025

To view the full "Strategic Intent" document in detail, visit [godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent](https://godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent)

Written by: Bishop Christopher deForest of the Northeastern PA Synod

*"Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2)*



Our gracious God is in our midst, transforming all of us, as St. Paul writes in his epistle to the Romans. In fact, Chapter 12 of that amazing letter has been our guide, not just for this upcoming Synod Assembly, but also for the past year of being church together. As the Holy Spirit does this work of transformation on us – our church, our communities, our very selves – we recognize more than ever our need to live and work together; in fact, to become more connected than ever before.

To this end, in this past year we have been guided by this statement of purpose – Connecting congregations for life-giving mission and ministry: so they can love like Jesus, heal like Jesus, and engage like Jesus – growing young, gaining strength, and going beyond death to life.

### Strategic Goals



1. Ensure and encourage that every congregation can be in partnership with other congregations of their choice, centered around mission and ministry in their communities for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ and grounded in our Lutheran tradition, commonly expressed in our three Values and Lanes.



2. Empower and encourage the roles of all believers in this NEPA Synod, especially lay persons and with particular focus on younger people, to live out their baptismal callings and to love and serve God together in this church and their communities.



3. Make it possible for every congregation in this synod to have a pastor, a deacon, and a licensed lay minister.



4. Strengthen and secure the opportunities for rostered ministers and licensed lay ministers to serve congregations in this synod – faithfully, healthfully, and safely.



5. Reduce the need for congregations to close.



6. Engage and encourage all people – especially those who have been marginalized, harmed, or under-represented – to live and serve and lead well in this synod.



7. Train, inform, onboard, communicate, track and evaluate better, to better achieve these goals.



8. Evaluate and revise our governing documents, structures, and policies to better achieve these goals.



9. Align the roles, responsibilities, goals and evaluation of the bishop and bishop's staff to better achieve these goals and create a more efficient and satisfactory working environment.



10. Engage and encourage individuals, congregations, and partners to deepen their support of these goals – through the sharing of their time, talents, and resources.

## Bishop's Staff – New Roles and Changes

**Lead Servant for Leader Support:** This service area includes support for rostered ministers (pastors and deacons), active and retired; licensed lay ministers (LLMs); candidates discerning calls to lay or rostered ministry; and leaders serving roles as officers and council members in congregations. **Search begins May 16.**

**Lead Servant for Congregation Support:** This service area includes support for our current congregations, especially those in transition (in search of a new rostered leader). We will also conduct a search for this Lead Servant; however, the roles will be transitioned with care over time, as we work with our current seven Associates of the Bishop and our Committee of nine Mission District Deans to maintain strong and ongoing support. **Search begins May 16.**

**Lead Servant for Growing Young and Emerging Ministries:** This service area includes support for ministries to youth, young adults and families; and the new and existing special ministry communities designated as "Synod Authorized Worshipping Communities" (SAWCs) and "Synod Authorized Outreach Communities" (SAOMs). This Lead Servant will help us take our "Growing Young" initiatives into new ministries and new directions. **Search begins May 16.**

**Lead Servant for Gaining Strength and 6261:** This service area includes support for our rostered minister development groups known as "Gaining Strength Cohorts"; and our 6261 Ministry Communities. **This Lead Servant role will be filled by our current Director for Evangelical Mission, Deacon Kat Tigerman.**

Each of these Lead Servants will be the "go-to" person on staff for each service area.  
They will work alongside:

**Director of Operations:** With support from administrative staff, this role will be responsible for human resources, onboarding new staff, evaluation processes, calendar, facility needs, staff meetings, and inner-staff communication. This will include the creation of an electronic planning platform and "dashboard" system for keeping track of key goals and metrics. **Eric Gombert will continue in this role.**

**Director of Communications:** Reporting to the Director of Operations, this role will continue to coordinate all our internal and external communications. **Stacey Burke is continuing in this role.**

**Administrative Coordinators and Contract Support:** Reporting to the Director of Operations, our two Administrative Coordinator positions will continue: **Laurie Christman as Leadership Support Coordinator; and Debbie Skinner as Mission Support Coordinator.** Pastor Jira Albers will continue as our part-time LLM Coordinator. We will be adding a third, part-time administrative support for 6261 and LLM. And we will continue to work with as-needed support from Pastor Doug Hill for our Gaining Strength Cohorts; and Pastor Dave DeRemer as a 6261 Coach.

In depth details are available in the "Strategic Intent" document found at [godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent](https://www.godslove.org/2025-strategic-intent).

If you have additional questions, please call or email Bishop Chris deForest at (610) 266-5101, [bishopd@nepsynod.org](mailto:bishopd@nepsynod.org), or contact our Director of Communication, Stacey Burke, at (610) 266-5101, [stacey@nepsynod.org](mailto:stacey@nepsynod.org).

And stay connected to our monthly SYNOD NEWS or our synod website, [www.godslove.org](https://www.godslove.org)