

HOLY TRINITY NEWS



SEPTEMBER 2026

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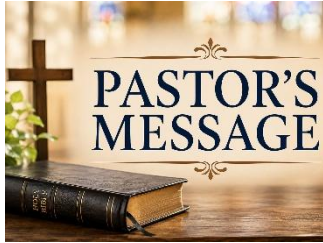
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SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm	2 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm	3	4	5
6 WORSHIP SERVICE 9am Girl Scouts 1:30pm	7 LABOR DAY FESTIVAL BAKING Boy Scouts 7pm	8 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm FESTIVAL BAKING Thrift Shop 9-12:30	9 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm FESTIVAL BAKING	10 FESTIVAL BAKING	11 PALMERTON FESTIVAL FESTIVAL BAKING	12 PALMERTON FESTIVAL
13 WORSHIP SERVICE 9am PALMERTON FESTIVAL Girl Scouts 1:30pm	14 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm Boy Scouts 7pm	15 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm Thrift Shop 9-12:30	16 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm	17	18	19
20 WORSHIP SERVICE 9am Girl Scouts 1:30	21 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm Boy Scouts 7pm	22 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm Thrift Shop 9-12:30	23 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm	24 CAMERA CLUB 6:30	25	26
27 WORSHIP SERVICE 9am Girl Scouts 1:30pm	28 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm Boy Scouts 7pm	29 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm Thrift Shop 9-12:30	30 OFFICE HOURS 8am-1pm			



If you've come to know me, you have come to know that there are a lot of eccentric and odd things that my brain has decided to find fascinating.

One of these things is a phenomenon that the internet has latched onto for the last several years—liminal spaces. The word “liminal” means to be on a boundary or a threshold. There are whole groups dedicated to photography of liminal spaces—spaces that are in between two realities. This week, I saw a posting of the South Mall in Allentown. Chairs and tables sit in the food court in the photos. The stores that are left, mostly beauty salons, have their lights on. However, there are empty hallways. There is nobody in the mall. It is in the liminal space between being a bustling shopping center and being abandoned.

There are all kinds of liminal spaces in the Bible. In the Exodus, the Israelites were in a liminal space for forty years as they traveled the desert. They weren't in Egypt any longer, but they weren't yet in the promised land.

In my roles in the Synod, I get to visit a lot of churches. In many of those churches, you can see the liminal spaces. Nurseries that are set up, stocked with toys from the 1990s that I remember as a kid, left open and ready even though there are no kids. Sunday School wings that are completely empty. Some even have 2018 calendars on the walls, giving the eerie sense of when that space was last loved. Sunday School classrooms turned into storage closets.

It is no secret that we live in a liminal time as the church. In a broad sense that's true. We're in the in-between of birth and going to heaven to be with God. That's not the liminal space that gives anyone too much anxiety. The one that does is coming to grips with the reality that we are not the same congregation we were 40, 60, even 20 years ago. But I would argue that lamenting does us no good, either. For what blessings can be found in the liminal space? Liminal spaces can be spaces of opportunity and new life. They can be a time of reflection, refining, rededicating. Liminal spaces need not be the cause for frustration and anxiety. If anything, they may be the best opportunities for growth.

Blessings,
Pastor Ken

THE BLESSINGS THRIFT SHOP:

Tuesday 9am-12:30pm



Stock Up on Fall Finds!

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY 8AM-1PM

September Anniversaries

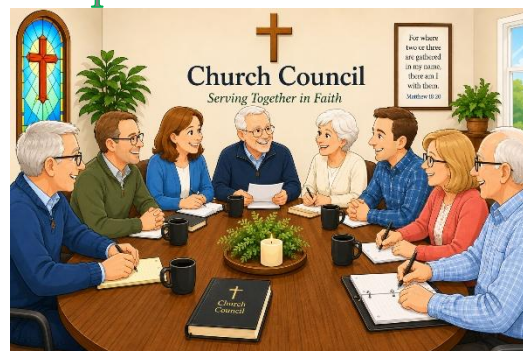
September 11	James & Lisa Engle	44 years
September 13	Nicole & Christopher Jahelka	18 years
September 15	Larry & Susan Arner	47 years
September 25	Eugene & Lynn Perone	16 years
September 29	Gordon & Mary Walls	42 years

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

September 06	Lee Arner
September 06	Terry Holland
September 15	David Blocker
September 18	Joseph Herman
September 18	Jesse Ruch
September 19	Dr. Robert Reinhart
September 19	Jan Sosik
September 26	Robert Treskot
September 28	Jereme Barkanic
September 29	Frederick Young, Jr.

COUNCIL MEETING

September 20 6:00PM



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jon Kistler	President
Steve Berger	Vice-President
Rich Hyer	Secretary
Jim Miller	Asst. Treasurer
Krissy Keblish	
Ron Keblish	
Gerry Dorshimer	
Scott Heinrich	
Eric Reif	
Gordon Walls	
Deb Hansut	
Don Delich	

FINANCIAL PERSONNEL

Larry Arner	Treasurer
Jessica Hansen	Financial Sec.

FINANCES & ATTENDANCE

July - Envelope Offering:	\$4576
July – Additional Income:	\$5873
July – Expenses:	\$8865
Attendance:	
July 05	30
July 12	33
July 19	30
July 26	45

SUNDAY WORSHIP – 9:00 AM



SEPTEMBER 6

Assisting Minister: Rich Hyer

Ushers: Kelly & Scott Heinrich

Altar Guild: **NEEDED**

Flowers: Jim & Diane Miller –

IHO Jim & Diane's Anniversary

Bulletins: Barb & Joe Herman: IMO Larry Walck

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

SEPTEMBER 13

Assisting Minister: Krissy Keblish

Ushers: Ron Keblish & Terry Holland

Altar Guild: **NEEDED**

Flowers, Bulletins & Communion Bread:

Hart & Suarez Families, Betsy & Dale Hart, Emil & Kathy Suarez, Robin & Shirley Suarez, Brian & DeNeil Suarez, Todd & Sandy Suarez – IMO Jean & Emil Suarez

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

SEPTEMBER 20

Assisting Minister: Deb Hansut

Ushers: Valerie Kleppinger & Loren LaRose

Altar Guild: **NEEDED**

Flowers: The Sosik Family – IHO Jan's Birthday

Bulletins: Barb & Joe Herman – Joe's Birthday

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

SEPTEMBER 27

Assisting Minister: Lynn Perone

Ushers: Rich & Jeanette Hyer

Altar Guild: **NEEDED**

Flowers: Jim & Diane – IHO Jessica's Birthday

Bulletins: **NEEDED**

Times News / Website: Fred & Betsy Masenheimer

HOME VISITS

Home & shut-in visits are being planned. If anyone would like to receive communion, please contact Pastor Ken or the office.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held at Holy Trinity on Wednesdays, 10:30am-12:00pm

SPONSORS NEEDED!

We have many openings on the sponsor board. Please help us offset our costs by generously sponsoring flowers or bulletins. Thank You!

CHOIR & BELLS

* **Choir practices are held after Sunday worship, beginning on September 13.**

* **Handbell Choir practices are held before Sunday worship, beginning on September 27.**

* **Please talk to the organist if you are interested in joining us.**

No musical experience required!



PALMERTON COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 11, 12 & 13



THIS YEAR WE WILL BE SELLING:

- *Sticky Buns*
- *Molasses Tongue Cookies*
- *Cheesecakes*
- *Mint Iced Tea*

BAKERS & FESTIVAL STAND HELP NEEDED!

There are baking signup sheets as well as a stand shift signup sheet in the narthex.

***COME OUT TO THE FESTIVAL TO SUPPORT HOLY TRINITY &
ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS AT THIS GREAT EVENT!***



NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Connections That Go Beyond Camp

Submitted by Stacey Burke, NEPA Synod Director of Communications and Bear Creek Camp Board Member

For generations, Bear Creek Camp has been a place where young people experience faith through community, creation, worship, play, and relationships. As a ministry supported by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod through Mission Support, the connection between Bear Creek Camp and the synod extends far beyond financial gifts.

Each summer, pastors and deacons from across the Northeastern & Southeastern Pennsylvania Synods are among those who become part of the camp community by serving as volunteer chaplains. This summer, the Rev. Liz Koerner from St. John Lutheran Church in Stroudsburg, PA and Bishop-Elect the Rev. Jennifer Dee each spent a week at Bear Creek Camp, offering support to campers and staff while experiencing the ministry of camp firsthand.

For Pastor Koerner, who has served as a Bear Creek chaplain three times, camp has long held a special place in her heart. "Through my years as a chaperone for Confirmation Camp at Calumet in New Hampshire, to working at a United Methodist camp during my summers in college, I have seen how an immersive experience in God's creation

with loving counselors and inclusive environments can change the mind and heart of a child," she shared.

The role of a chaplain can look different each week. Chaplains may lead Bible studies, accompany campers on activities, provide pastoral care, support counselors, or simply offer another trusted presence within the camp community.

Bear Creek Camp Executive Director Collin Grooms sees that flexibility as one of the strengths of the program. "Every chaplain brings themselves to the role, which, like our summer staff and campers, is different for everyone," Collin said. "Each person adds to the overall tapestry of our camp community for the week by sharing their unique gifts, interests, and passions."

For Bishop-Elect Dee, serving as a chaplain offered the opportunity to return to a ministry that has been part of her own faith journey. She grew up attending camp and later served on summer staff at Camp Calumet in New England. "A chaplain spends a week at camp getting to know campers and staff and being a support to them both," she



explained. "They are an additional trusted adult to listen, laugh, learn, and connect."

Sometimes those connections happen in unexpected places. Bishop-Elect Dee recalled leading a Bible study from hammocks with a group of younger campers. As they ended their time together in prayer, voices began popping up from different hammocks as campers shared the things for which they were thankful.

Pastor Koerner experienced a similar moment during Family Camp while talking with a parent and their sons about trusting God, trusting themselves, and leaning on community during difficult times.



Camp ministry also has an impact on the clergy who serve. Pastor Koerner described a sense of God's presence at camp. "The Spirit is always moving, and God is always at work in ways we can't always know right away," she said. "But at camp it feels all encompassing and that at any moment joy and love and growth in faith can happen."

The relationship between Bear Creek Camp and the synod reaches beyond the camp property as well. During session five this summer, three Bear Creek Camp staff members traveled to Reading to serve alongside ministries including Café Esperanza, Refresh Berks, and Adventure Day Camp at Zion Spies Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Collin spent time at Café Esperanza, where he connected with the Rev. Rashon "Woody" Santiago and learned more about how another ministry supported by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod navigates that relationship. Bear Creek staff also brought camp into the community in a tangible way, taking archery equipment to Adventure Day Camp so its campers and staff could experience an activity normally associated with a week at Bear Creek.

These connections demonstrate how Mission Support can bring ministries together, allowing them to share resources, learn from one another, and discover new opportunities to serve. The chaplain program creates another bridge between Bear Creek Camp and congregations throughout the region. "Having chaplains from different churches across our two synods is impactful because they can provide a direct perspective of our shared ministry back to their community and congregation," Collin shared.

For families, seeing a familiar pastor or deacon at camp can provide an additional sense of connection and trust. The chaplain program also helps connect congregations more closely with the ministry they support. "It's an opportunity for first-hand connection with ministry realities and a chance to connect to where congregational donations are supporting ongoing ministry through gifts that support facilities projects and year-round operational needs," Collin said.

Through Mission Support, volunteer chaplains, shared resources, and relationships across ministries, Bear Creek Camp and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod continue to strengthen one another. What happens during a week at camp does not stay at camp. It travels home through campers, clergy, staff, families, and congregations, creating connections that continue long after summer ends.



Help Make Ministry Possible

Mission Support strengthens congregations, supports leaders, and helps new ministries take root across our synod and the wider church. Thank you for being part of this shared ministry. Learn more about Mission Support and how your congregation can support at godslove.org/missionsupport.