

St. Paul's Letter



November 2024



St. Paul Lutheran Church

222 North George Street Millersville, Pennsylvania 17551

CHURCH COUNCIL 2023-2024

Committee Liaison

Rev. Mark Kopp, Pastor

—

—

Dave Ellenberg, Pres.

Mutual Ministry

Sylvia Lashley

Fellowship

David Sykes

?

Tim Brooks

?

Dee Perry

Worship & Music

Michele Carpenter*

Finance

Bruce Hampton

Property

Sue Swartz

Children's Ministry

Linda Hiney

Finance

Polly Irwin, Treasurer
(non-voting)

Finance

*Recording Secretary

Other Contacts

Church office

717-872-7392

Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org

Website: www.stpaulmlutheranmillersville.org

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.-Worship & Holy Communion

Our Staff

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Rev. Mark Kopp
pastorkopp@stpaulmillersville.org
Pastor David Fisher: Pastor Emeritus
Dave Ellenberg: Church Council President
Lucy Esbenshade: Choir Director
Cathy Regitz: Sexton
Bill Napier: Secretary, Organist
Church Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.
Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org

Quotable Quotes

All sermons, regardless of length or content, have a happy ending. When it's over, everyone's happy.

~Anonymous



If you have a November birthday and are not listed, let the office know. If you feel you have been born in November by mistake, you may be assigned a different birth month, however, birth YEARS cannot be reassigned.

Focus on Our Family



A deep dive into the secret lives of those who make us who we are!

PUTTIN' ON THE FRITZ

By Cy Fritz

Mary and Cy met in 1953, their senior year of high school when Mary's high school (Mohnton High School) combined with Cy's high school (Shillington High School) to form the Governor Mifflin High School. We had one class together and she sat in the next row and two seats in front of me. She was cute and always well dressed, we knew each other, but did not travel in the same groups. I was looking for a date for the Christmas Dance and I asked her if she would like to go to the Dance and she said yes. Our first date was to the movies a few days prior to the dance. What started off as just a date to the dance has been 70 and half years of togetherness.

After graduation from high school Mary went on to Kutztown State College (University) to become an elementary teacher and I went to work to earn money to go to college. The next year I went to Albright College in the science area, even though I wanted to be a Physical Education Teacher and coach. My father didn't want me to be a teacher because they didn't make much money. (He was the treasurer of our school board.) After the first semester I told my parents, I did what you wanted me to do and now I am transferring to East Stroudsburg State College (University) to do what I want to do.

After Mary graduated from Kutztown we got married in Mary's Church, St John's Lutheran Church in Mohnton.PA. (The good thing was we were both of Lutheran Faith.)

We then moved to East Stroudsburg where Mary got a job in the East Stroudsburg School District, teaching 1st grade while I finished my degree. We were so lucky to get an apartment a half block from the campus.



After my graduation we moved to Riverview Park in the Reading area as I took a job teaching Health and Physical Education, General Science and started my coaching career in the Schuylkill Valley School District in Leesport, PA.

Our son, Jeff was born in 1960 and our daughter, Jean was born in 1963.

Mary did substitute teaching in the Governor Mifflin School District where her mother could baby sit the children. Cy soon became a successful coach in track and field and wrestling, winning the Berks County Championship four years after starting the program.

In January of 1968, Cy joined the faculty at Millersville State College (now University) teaching Health and Physical Education and coaching Track and Cross Country. We bought a home in Manor Township and moved into our home in July. In the fall of 1968, we became members of St Paul Lutheran Church. We became active in the Church, Mary teaching Sunday School and singing in the Church Choir and Cy was elected to the Church Council two different times and Mary also was a member of the sewing group. Cy became very successful in coaching Track and Cross Country, winning' a PSAC Championship in track and cross country, two IC4A Cross Country Championships and in 1981 his team won the Division II National Cross-Country Championship for which he was named the National Coach of the Year. Cy was asked by the Department Chairperson to take over the Intramural Program for both the men and women where he built that program to be one of the better programs in the State System of Higher Education. In 1985 he asked to be relieved of his coaching duties and was immediately appointed to become the Associate Director of Men's Athletics. Cy has been elected into three Athletic Halls of Fame; The Millersville University Hall of Fame, The Schuylkill Valley Wall of Fame and The Susquehanna Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvania Athletic Hall of Fame. During this time Mary was Director of Arts and Crafts at the Millersville Senior Citizens Center here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. She also helped start a Nursery School at the Zion Church of Christ here in Millersville.

When both our children were in school, she began to do substitute teaching in the Penn Manor School District, doing some long term and in 1978

Turn to page 8 to read the exciting conclusion

Front cover has Nothing to do with Corn!

The word "cornucopia" comes from the Late Latin phrase cornu copiae, which translates to "horn of abundance". The word has multiple possible origins in Greek mythology, including the story of Zeus and the goat Amalthea:

In the story, Zeus accidentally breaks off one of Amalthea's horns while playing with her. (oops) As a token of gratitude, Zeus blesses the horn so that it can provide the owner with whatever they desire. The horn became known as the Horn of Amalthea or the Cornucopia, and has been a symbol of abundance ever since.

The cornucopia has been used in art, literature, and advertising, and is often associated with Thanksgiving because of its connection to a plentiful harvest. Today, the image of a cornucopia is used on the state flag of Idaho and the coats of arms of Panama, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela to symbolize prosperity. Sorry Iowa, it has nothing to do with corn.

Another Horn 'o' Plenty

The **serpent** is a European bass brasswind instrument (horn) that was a predecessor of the tuba. Its snake-like form helps to position the finger holes within reach of the player's hands. The serpent has a long association with church music. In France it was used to bolster and accompany plainsong from the late sixteenth century onwards. Its warm, resonant sound complemented male voices, and it found favor in English church bands during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. (early praise bands?) It played alongside the cello and the bassoon, and it provided vital accompaniment in churches that could not afford organs.



This serpent is currently on display at:

**The Met
Fifth Avenue
in Gallery 684**

C. Baudouin French ca. 1820

Helping Hands

Nov	3	10	17	24	
Bulletins	Carol Heintzelman	Sandy Miller	NONE	Linda Hiney	
Sunday School	Holly Freas-Webster	Michele Carpenter	Holly Freas-Webster	Michele Carpenter	
Flowers Vase 1	Marty & Bill Kahler	NONE	Cathy Regitz	Karen & Bill Napier	
Flowers Vase 2	Sherry Symonds	NONE	Cathy Regitz	Peggy Bruce	
Usher 1	Sylvia Lashley	Dee Perry	Tim Brooks	Dave Ellenberg	
Usher 2	Greg Lashley	Karen Napier	Betty Bringman	Sue Ellenberg	
Usher 3	Bruce Hampton	Jan Sylte	Denny Herr	Dick Shipman	
Usher 4	Linda Hampton	Ray Sylte	Suzanne Herr	Frank Witmer	
Altar Guild 1	?	?	?	?	
Altar Guild 2	?	?	?	?	
Lay Reader	Frank Witmer	Holly Freas-Webster	Greg Lashley	Carol Heintzelman	
Lay Assistant	Lauren Buchmann	Holly Freas-Webster	Ray Sylte	Jim Dierolf	

Finance, Finance, Finance

September Finance Update:

Giving Income	\$ 15,606.00
Other Income	\$ 4,315.88
Expenses	\$ 15,948.82
Net Income	\$ 3,976.06



Fritzes continued

and 1979 taught full time covering a maternity leave. In 1981 she began substituting in the School District of Lancaster. In the fall of 1982, she covered a Maternity leave at King Elementary School and in the Spring of 1983, she was hired full time and, in the Fall, she began teaching first grade at Price Elementary School and in 1984 she started an all-day Kindergarten Program at Price Elementary School. In 1997 we decided to retire. We were fortunate to be invited to join a group of people to travel to Europe. In 10 years, we made eight trips and visited 20 different countries. We also started to spend two months in Venice, Florida also with a group of friends. We also spend time at our cottage at Paradise Falls Lutheran Association in the Poconos.

In retirement Mary began to quilt making many beautiful quilts and wall hangings, reading, and working in her flower garden. Cy liked to hunt, fish, and work in his vegetable garden. He also became very active raising field trial beagles competing with his dogs all over the Eastern part of the country. In addition to running his dogs he also judged many field trials from Rhode Island to North Carolina and has judged most of the major field trials in the country.

Our son Jeff lives in Lancaster with his companion, Kim. He works at Central Market for Barr's Produce Stand. Our daughter, Jean lives in Tuscaloosa, AL where she is the Executive Director of the West Alabama Food Bank, covering eight counties in West Alabama. Our granddaughter, Megan, is married to Dr. Sri Das, a Pediatric Cardiologist. We have two great-granddaughters, Libby, two years old and Milly, three months old. They live in Austin, TX. Jean's son, Craig, passed away in 2013 and her husband passed away in 2022. (Puttin' On the Fritz title by: Bill)

Thy Rod and Thy Staff



The annual collection for the staff Christmas gift is underway. If you would like to contribute, mark "Staff Gift" on the memo line of your check. Gifts will be distributed the 4th Sunday of Advent. (December 22)

A funeral service was being held in a church for a woman who had just passed away. At the end of the service, the pallbearers carrying the casket accidentally bumped into a wall thus jarring the casket. They heard a faint moan. They opened the casket and found that the woman was actually alive. She lived for 10 more years and then died. A ceremony was again held at the same church. At the end of the service, as the pallbearers carried her casket, the husband called out, "Please, watch out for the wall!" *Bill* 😂

Hidden in every thrill packed edition is our old friend Waldo. Can you find him?

(and NO, the one to the right doesn't count)



A Touch of Class

Last October 22nd, the bulletin featured information about hymn 841, “Lift Every Voice and Sing” and its creators James and John Johnson. Polly took notice of their names and dug through her own hand-written archives and produced a poem written by James Johnson. So, to dispel the vicious rumors that this publication ain’t go not class or culture...here is some class “A” poetry.

The Creation

By James Weldon Johnson

*And God stepped out on space,
And he looked around and said:
I'm lonely—
I'll make me a world.*

*And far as the eye of God could see
Darkness covered everything,
Blacker than a hundred midnights
Down in a cypress swamp.*

*Then God smiled,
And the light broke,
And the darkness rolled up on one side,
And the light stood shining on the other,
And God said: That's good!*

*Then God reached out and took the light in his hands,
And God rolled the light around in his hands
Until he made the sun;
And he set that sun a-blazing in the heavens.
And the light that was left from making the sun
God gathered it up in a shining ball
And flung it against the darkness,
Spangling the night with the moon and stars.*

*Then down between
The darkness and the light
He hurled the world;
And God said: That's good!*

*Then God himself stepped down—
And the sun was on his right hand,
And the moon was on his left;
The stars were clustered about his head,
And the earth was under his feet.
And God walked, and where he trod
His footsteps hollowed the valleys out
And bulged the mountains up.*

*Then he stopped and looked and saw
That the earth was hot and barren.
So God stepped over to the edge of the world
And he spat out the seven seas—
He batted his eyes, and the lightnings flashed—
He clapped his hands, and the thunders rolled—
And the waters above the earth came down,
The cooling waters came down.*

*Then the green grass sprouted,
And the little red flowers blossomed,
The pine tree pointed his finger to the sky,
And the oak spread out his arms,
The lakes cuddled down in the hollows of the ground,
And the rivers ran down to the sea;
And God smiled again,
And the rainbow appeared,
And curled itself around his shoulder.*

Then God raised his arm and he waved his hand

*Over the sea and over the land,
And he said: Bring forth! Bring forth!
And quicker than God could drop his hand,
Fishes and fowls
And beasts and birds
Swam the rivers and the seas,
Roamed the forests and the woods,
And split the air with their wings.
And God said: That's good!*

*Then God walked around,
And God looked around
On all that he had made.
He looked at his sun,
And he looked at his moon,
And he looked at his little stars;
He looked on his world
With all its living things,
And God said: I'm lonely still.*

*Then God sat down—
On the side of a hill where he could think;
By a deep, wide river he sat down;
With his head in his hands,
God thought and thought,
Till he thought: I'll make me a man!*

*Up from the bed of the river
God scooped the clay;
And by the bank of the river
He kneeled him down;
And there the great God Almighty
Who lit the sun and fixed it in the sky,
Who flung the stars to the most far corner of the night,*

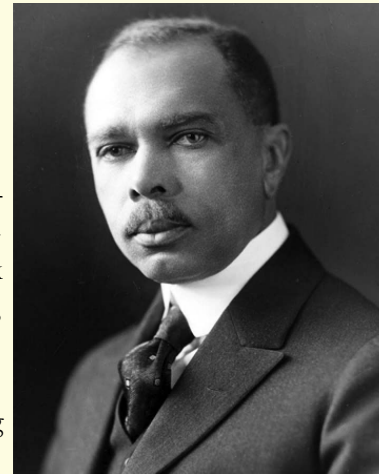
*Who rounded the earth in the middle of his hand;
This great God,
Like a mammy bending over her baby,
Kneeled down in the dust
Toiling over a lump of clay
Till he shaped it in is his own image;*

*Then into it he blew the breath of life,
And man became a living soul.
Amen. Amen.*

From God's Trombones by James Weldon Johnson

Thank you Polly for sharing this wonderful poem. Oftentimes, we sing hymns or read poetry without really examining the words closely; we simply read it or sing it and move on. The composers of these words frequently struggle to craft the words in a fashion that fits the meter, that is not awkward with how the accented and unaccented syllables fall within the melody and rhythm, and effectively communicate the message desired. Their goal is ultimately to inspire, motivate, uplift, move emotionally, or cause one contemplate a concept or concern.

Johnson (1871-1938) wrote and edited numerous historically significant books of poetry, particularly *The Book of American Negro Poetry* (Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1922), a major contribution to the history of African American literature; *The Book of American Negro Spirituals* (Viking Press, 1925), followed a year later by *The Second Book of American Negro Spirituals* (Viking Press, 1926); and *God's Trombones* (Viking Press, 1927), winner of the William E. Harmon Foundation Award. The latter was influenced by his impressions of the rural South, drawn from a trip that he took to Georgia while a freshman in college. It was this trip that ignited his interest in the African American folk tradition. In 1900, he wrote the song "Lift Every Voice and Sing" on the occasion of Abraham Lincoln's birthday.



Are We There Yet?

A rare opportunity to travel the world with internationally celebrated French teacher Maureen Klingaman is upon us. You know you've wanted to do this for a very long time. An exciting trip to Portugal is planned for June 16th—June 27th, 2025. Bring your binoculars and maybe see Spain!



This trip is in conjunction with the Penn Manor School District. For more information contact Maureen. There will be copies of the itinerary available in the narthex at SSC.

DON'T MISS IT!

(Flight path assumes pilot misses the turn and doesn't radio to ask for directions)

Intellect's Corner



Questioning concepts we often take for granted that surely merit hours of contemplation:

- What Happens if you get scared half to death twice?
- If you were a genie and you were granting a wish, and their wish was, "I wish you would not grant me this wish", what would you do?
- Why does your nose run and your feet smell?
- You're singing the first verse of a hymn, then comes the refrain, at what point did you sing the refrain?
- Why does the old adage about teaching a man to fish not mention anything about where you're getting fishing poles and bait. What if you are nowhere near water...then what do you teach him?
- Don't count your chickens before they hatch...well, aren't they just eggs before they hatch? Who would call an egg a chicken?

A Great Closing Hymn

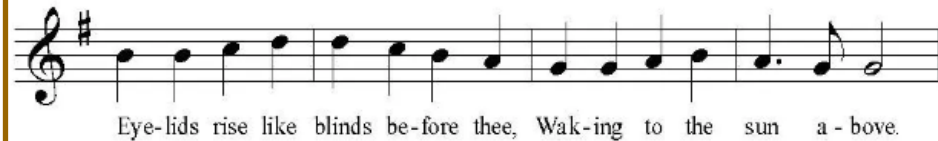
A hymn suggestion from Linda Hiney:

Coffee, Coffee, We Adore Thee

Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain. Rev. 3:2a

The Church Curmudgeon

L. van Beethoven



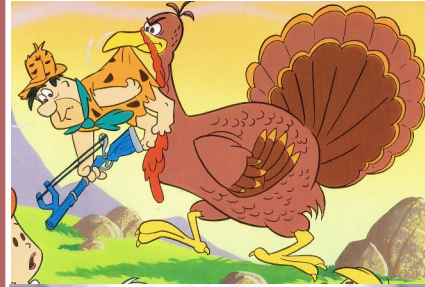
HYMN TO JOY
8.7.8.7.D

© 2021 by The Church Curmudgeon

We would probably sing it several times getting faster
each time we sing it!

Annual Homage to Thanksgiving

As your grandparents tell their life stories, they tend to exaggerate. Did they really walk five miles to and from school, in three feet of snow, year 'round. where it was uphill both ways? Did their grandparents have hundred-plus pound thanksgiving turkeys? Art often imitates life, and there may be some



truth to that: Fred's hunting (left) venture takes an unexpected turn, but as you can see in the picture below, there must have been some shrinkage during cooking.



In this artwork, (left) we can see that even amongst vastly diverse groups of friends, or even super friends, differences can be put aside and everyone can gather to share the Thanksgiving meal. In this scene you can see that even Aquaman was invited (the blonde guy behind the Flash) ...and no one likes Aquaman.



The name pumpkin originated from "pepon," the Greek word for "large melon." In early colonial times, pumpkins were used as part of the pie *crust*, not the filling. Native Americans used pumpkin seeds for food and medicine. Pumpkins were once recommended for removing freckles and curing snake bites.

In Memoriam



Carlo "Carl" C. Bruce, 91, passed away at Homestead Village on Saturday, October 5, 2024. He shared 43 years of marriage with his wife Margaret "Peggy" (Boyer) Bruce.

A future celebration of Carl's life here at St. Paul's will be announced. Interment will take place in the church memorial garden.

In lieu of flowers, kindly consider a contribution in Carl's memory to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 222 N. George St, Millersville, PA 17551.



A Note Of Thanks

Dear St. Paul Church,

We wanted to deeply thank you for a beautiful church service for our mother Mary (Peanut) Lambert. As you know, her faith and love of family is her legacy and we are thankful to God for His blessing to our lives. She so loved St. Paul, her friends, choir, Pastor, and bible study. Thank you for loving both our parents and supporting and ministering to them. May Jesus Christ be Praised!

Danny Jr., Sherry, & Darren Lambert (children)

And...the Winner Is:



Quilt #11! After countless, endless hours of cutting material into squares, then countless, endless hours stitching them back together again, members of our quilting ministry team are proud to announce the winner of this year's congregational voting.



Quilts number 13 and number 1 tied for second place.

Thank you all for your participation in voting on these wonderful quilts.

Funds that were collected will be donated to LWR for world-wide shipping of quilts. In previous years our quilts have been shipped to Angola, Armenia, Chile, India, Iraq and Zambia.

Hidden Gems

Some of our new members may not be aware of the resources in our narthex. Although the sign says “Visitors Center” there are things that might be of interest to members as well. On that table is information about the orphanage in Haiti, there are church bulletins from the last four weeks, and there are devotionals.

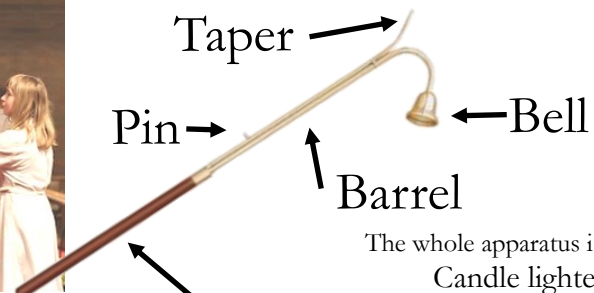


These daily devotionals are issued quarterly. We recently lowered our order of these devotionals due to the number that were left over at the end of a quarter. These devotionals are an excellent resource for your daily devotions and/or prayers. Please stop by and check out the visitor’s table. Also on that table are printed

copies of the newsletter for visitors and/or members who cannot deal well with reading it on the computer, and also for the two members without email. (you know who you are!)

While not so hidden, Pastor Kopp’s sermons, the calendar, and the newsletters are available on St. Paul’s Website. On the wall, outside the office, are previous worship folders for reference and previous sermons and lessons. (There have been no sermons available while Pastor Kopp recuperates.) There are also building use forms for when a member may wish to reserve a particular room for an event.

Some Anatomy, For Those Too Shy to Ask



Actual dueling acolytes

Although not approved by any ecumenical body, this is unofficially “the handle”.

The whole apparatus is called:
Candle lighter

One would think there is a classy Latin for it. How about:
candela flamma?

It's Purely Organic

Looking over past newsletter publications, which have sold out almost immediately if not sooner, there is one “organ” area that has not been covered: the console. Many people call that piece of furniture, with all the keys, where the organist sits, the “organ”...it is not. The part with all the pipes is the organ, the part with the keys, is called the console. Consoles may have anywhere from one to seven sets of keys, called manuals. While seven is the exception on the Atlantic City organ, six is also rare. The Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia has six. There may be only six or seven other examples of six manual consoles remaining in the world. Once you go down to five or less manuals, the number of consoles increases dramatically.

Why so many manuals? Well, each one represents a division, which is a section of the organ that has a cohesive, tonal design. Some divisions are full of string pipes, some contain a lot of very high pitched ranks. All the ranks of pipes are designed (voiced) to work with the other ranks in that division. Typically, each division is often considered an organ unto itself. On some consoles, the top manual controls the Echo or Antiphonal organ which may be located in the rear of the church (assuming the main organ is in the front of the church.) St. James Episcopal in Lancaster (before the organ was destroyed) had a tower division in the rear of the sanctuary, in the bell tower. With the congregation between the tower or-



gan and the main organ, the spatial effect was amazing. Some manuals serve several divisions and may be assigned to a division. So what do we have at St. Paul? Here, we have only two manuals (and technically the pedals are keys

too). When describing our console, it would be said that it is a two manual and pedal console. The upper manual, called the Swell, controls the Swell division, and the bottom manual, called the Great, controls the Great divi-



sion. In our organ, all the pipes that are in the big grey box comprise the Swell division and the exposed pipes comprise the pedal Division and the Great. All in all, we have around 1700 pipes. On the left you can see one of the stop jams. This is where you select the sounds or ranks of pipes you want to play on the Swell and Pedals divisions. Some of the sounds in the Pedal division are “borrowed” from the Great and Swell. Some of the ranks in the Pedal are extensions of other ranks...meaning 12 extra bass pipes are added to provide for the bottom 12 pedals.



Here is the right jamb with the Great stops. Each of these knobs is called a drawknob. These are used to draw on stops (turn on stops) You’ve heard of “pulling out all the stops”? Well, here ya go.



You will also find these switches on our console that control the bell in the tower. Ever wonder how that bell is activated during the Lord’s Prayer? It’s the swing switch! The Toll switch is almost never used, it provides one bong, and that’s it.

This controls the biggest pipes in the façade. This is also borrowed by the Pedal division. (Go to Pg. 24)

Designated Driver List

Need a ride to or from a church event, doctor's office, rehab clinic, grocery store, state store, shooting range, pharmacy, haberdasher, probation check-in, cobbler, seamstress, crematory, dairy, milliner, chandler, soap maker, baker, numismatist, phlebotomist, broom-squire, butcher, mortician, cord-wainer, farrier, loriner, calligrapher, poulter, or even the post office if you want to kill an afternoon waiting in line as the 3rd person? Then check out the list of volunteers who have volunteered to help you get around.



- Denny Herr
- Carol Heintzeman
- Mike Althouse
- Michele Carpenter

- Gaynel Daugherty
- Bill Napier
- Gail Miller*

*for those who are able bodied but cannot drive in the dark. Her car is tricky to get into. Also, this means you no longer have a valid excuse for not coming to church or an event...just saying.

Harvest Home Nov. 17th

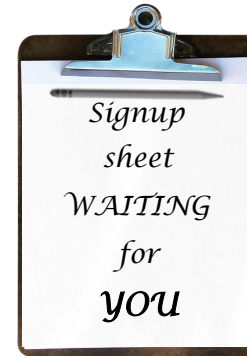
In ancient times, we collected canned goods for the local food bank. However, somewhere along the way, lugging cases of #10 cans of lasagna to church became too cumbersome for many. So we shifted to peas briefly, but to no avail. So, we changed to collecting money for the Loft food pantry. This year, we will be collecting for the Faith Friendship Ministry, in Mountville. This is a faith based facility that cares for those with low income, mental illness, and other special needs. It is a 73-bed personal care home designed to help meet all the



Harvest Home Nov. 17th

needs of its residents by providing meals, laundry, medicine management, recreation, housekeeping, daily living needs, friendship, psychiatric and nursing support, case management, and community. They recently lost a LOT of funding and Pastor Kopp brought this to our attention. Previously, we had a noisy collection, but this one should be more quiet!. **There will be a speaker** from the facility at the FORUM adult Sunday school class **November 10th** to present information about the facility. You should definitely be there. Grab a cookie from Bev and run to Luther Hall.

YES, there's more to Harvest Home Sunday, and it fortunately involves a signup sheet! Another sheet will be at SSC to sign up to decorate one of the seven sanctuary window sills for the fall season. These will stay decorated through the Thanksgiving Eve service. You, or your decorating team (no more than 20 on a team), can bring warm & fuzzy fall feelings and foliage faithfully into our fellowship space for the low, low, price of \$0.00. We ask that there be no plug in or battery operated lights, no mechanized features, gobbling turkeys, singing pilgrims, or cornucopias with real food in them. (they bring fruit flies) (the fruit, not the pilgrims) Thank you.



Thanksgiving Eve Service 7pm

This year's Thanksgiving Eve service will be held on Wednesday, November 27th, which, this year, is conveniently the day before Thanksgiving. Please take time out of coleslaw, stuffing, and apple pie preparations to come to the service. Last year there were 12 in the sanctuary, which included Pastor K. and Bill.

Go To Church



Don't Wait for others to bring you

*Can't drive?
Consider a
designated
driver!*

A LUTHERAN SWEAR WORD?



CHANGE! CHANGE? Nooooooo.
Please don't change anything. Why?
We've always did it the other way
and this change will be scary..

Brace yourself. When Advent begins, we will be changing to a different liturgy setting. All the same words, but different music. Don't worry too much, the notes aren't any higher and there is no coloratura. (look it up) It may be scary, you might find it to be more difficult than singing an unknown Wagner opera, but mastering it is the sort of thing that separates us ELCA Lutherans from "those other Lutherans". You know the ones... You Can Do It!



It's Purely Organic (cont'd)



The final piece of the console overview is called the coupler rail. This essentially connects the divisions together. If you want to have some of the Swell sounds added to the Great manual, you would engage one or more of the Swell to Great couplers. Then you may play the Great keyboard and include Swell sounds. There will be more on the console next month as there are several amazing features not yet covered. If you are really curious about the 16, 8, and 4 notations, ask Bill. You may even get a demo!

The Pastor Never Visited Me!

One of those odd Lutheranisms is a firmly held belief that, although you never informed the church you were ill or in a body cast, the pastor would visit you anyway. As insightful and amazing as Pastor Kopp is, his clairvoyant skills are diminishing with age. Keeping that in mind, please call the church if you are ill or admitted to the hospital. If you are unconscious, in a coma, or handcuffed to the bed, please, have someone else call for you.



Who ever Heard of a Knitting Semi-circle?

Perhaps news of this event has escaped your consciousness? Our esteemed quilters have resurrected an old tradition. Knitters have now rejoined the quilting crew and have been, well, knitting their little hearts out. However, a knitting circle is the tradition shape, and more knitters are needed and invited to make this new-old tradition a geometric success. Did you know Julia Roberts is an avid knitter? That's good right?

A older woman was knitting as she drove.

A police officer pulled beside her, saw her, and yelled, "Pull over".

The woman yelled back, "No, they're mittens".

Bill 😂

Coming Soon to a Narthex Near You

As soon as we get the remainder of 2024 flowers and bulletins sponsored, the exciting, new, 2025 sheets will be available featuring all of your favorite dates and liturgical highlights.

And Now, a Word From Our Sponsor

Dear Church:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

It seems to me that we have become a people within a culture who live by slogans and assume knowledge can be distilled into a bumper sticker, leaving us intellectually incurious. I say this because some have shoe-horned The Proverbs of Solomon into this modern mentality. While the Proverbs found in the Old Testament consist of sayings that are usually two lines in parallel thought, characteristic of Hebrew poetry, these Proverbs are also commands and admonitions and even in some cases, poems that are to be considered, in my mind, more than clever slogans to be placed on a bumper sticker. These Proverbs of Solomon are included into the Canon because they give us insight into the wisdom of the Old Testament that enables us to cope with life when we reflect and discern these various proverbs. In other words, they are before us in the Bible to help us become intellectually curious, to cause us to reflect, not just on the words but on how these words within these proverbs reveal and deepen our faith in a loving God. As we look deeper into the wisdom conveyed through these proverbs, we see how God's steadfast love works in our everyday lives as we are confronted with rash words or hollow empty slogans that pull us away from the deeper truth of God's love for us made manifest in Jesus Christ.

And so it is in this context that I turn to the words within the Book of Proverbs:

Rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
(Proverbs 12:8)

Amidst the rash words that are nothing but sword thrusts intent on cutting down an opponent and swirl about us within any form of communication within our culture today, your words, dear church, have brought me much healing. I am truly humbled by your many cards, well wishes,

and prayers for my recovery from back surgery. And yes, your words have brought much healing to a soul beat down in pain and an inability to simply do ordinary-everyday bodily tasks that one never considered to be challenging.

This surgery has been the first time in my life that I have been confronted with such physical disability. On one hand, I know that this is not permanent and that I will eventually be able to return to some form of normalcy...and yes, I know this normalcy is very arbitrary in my case. On the other hand, this time of healing has afforded me the opportunity to consider and to reflect on what I consider a disability is merely a temporary inconvenience, but for some it is their way of life. And in my time of discernment, I begin to disregard the term disability and see the ability that moves one past the challenges and enables one to go about living life despite the challenges.

This journey to recovery has also afforded me the opportunity to learn to be a gracious receiver of the care and compassion of those who were and continue to take care of my personal needs during this time. From the many skilled doctors and compassionate nurses at Hershey Medical Center along with the nurses and physical therapists of Bayada Home Health Care, and the pure love and care of my dear family, all putting up with me and taking such care of me truly undergirded the kind words and prayers that all contribute and continue to heal me both physically and spiritually.

I will forever be grateful for the blessing you all have been during this time and I continue to give thanks to God for the many blessings that have been given to me, especially your gracious words that have brought me such support and healing. May the Lord continue to bless us and keep us in His steadfast love and care.

Looking forward to our time together,

Pastor Kopp

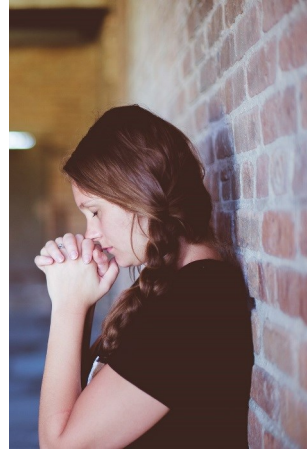


Remember Family Members in Your Prayers

Bruce Thens
Gail Gilday
Marilyn Homsher
Ann Nagle
Mary Ann Oren
Marion Trimble
Peggy Bruce
Bruce & Kay Cherry
Patty & Barry Leed
Eleanor Ottolini
Charles Scharnberger
Nancy Eberle
Peg Siglin
Pr. Mark Kopp
Isabel Schwebel

Shirley & Howard Shuffelbottom
Ruth Derby
Katie Martin
Wanda & David Rockstroh
AnnMarie Dumm+
Rita Sellers+
+Extended Family (Non-member)

*Please contact the
office if you would
like to add some-
one to this list.*



One More for the Road?

A young preacher was contacted by the local funeral director to hold a grave-side service at a small cemetery for someone with no family or friends. The preacher left early but got himself lost, making several wrong turns along the way.

He arrived a half-an-hour late. The hearse was nowhere in sight and the workman were eating lunch. The preacher went to the graveside and saw the vault already in place. Taking out his Bible he conducted the service. As he was returning to his car, he overheard one of the workmen say; "Do you think we should tell him it's a septic tank?"