

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
 "The church on the hill, lighting the way to God's love"
 821 Durham Road - P.O. Box 100 - Durham, PA 18039-0100
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EVANGEL



**October
2020**

"Communion and the Community of Faith"

On Sunday October 4, ELC of Durham gathered to receive Holy Communion in person, inside our sanctuary, for the first time in 7 months. It was different, it was wonderful, it was encouraging! Sadly, not everyone was able together with us at the church building. And yet, those who watched us virtually were part of this "Communion" as well.

The living word of God repeatedly describes our relationship to God as that of "Community" (from which the word, "Communion" is derived). We are part of a "Community" that stretches back to Abraham and the People of Israel, forward to Jesus and his disciples at the Last Supper, and into our present and future as God's "Community" in the 21st century.

Whether joined by worship, prayer, cards, calls, sacrament, texts, Emails or acts of kindness for one another, we are still God's "Holy Communion". We've been learning to express "Community" in new ways. God's Holy Spirit has and always will knit us together.

~ *Pastor David Deal*

In October ...

- **Sunday, October 4** - Holy Communion
- **Sunday, October 11** - Sunday Worship
- **Sunday, October 18** - Sunday Worship
- **Monday October 19** - Council Meeting 7pm
- **Tuesday October 20** - Finance Meeting 7:30pm
- **Sunday October 25** - Sunday Worship

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EVANGEL



2020

Looking Ahead.....

What does the rest of the year offer us as a ways to be the church, to worship, in this crazy 2020? Well, Pastor, Council and other congregational leaders are still trying to figure that out as we move ahead week by week and month by month. We're trying to be flexible. We're trying to think outside the box. The way we've ALWAYS done things.

- **Thanksgiving:** In past years, one of five congregations (either Lutheran, Methodist or UCC) has hosted a joint service of Thanksgiving. This year, early plans are underway to broadcast a virtual service to members of all our congregations. Watch for final details soon!
- **Christmas:** This we'll be a real challenge but here are some possibilities, nothing is final, we'll let you know final details as soon as possible.
 - New Christmas trees put up early in sanctuary
 - Christmas hymns/carols used every Sunday in December
 - Request for each person/family to provide their own ornament for the tree
 - Christmas Caroling in the church parking lot, using radio frequency
 - Christmas Eve service live streamed from our sanctuary
- Our Facebook Live Broadcasts of the 10:30 AM worship service will continue from inside the church sanctuary for those who do not feel comfortable coming to worship in person.

A Word of Thanks:

Don Seipt would like to thank the congregation for the many birthday cards and well wishes. He cherishes your friendship and kindness!



We will not meet in October. We miss having personal contact with one another, but concern over the Corona Virus has made us decide not to meet in person. We are however challenging each of you to contact someone you haven't seen since our last meeting in February 2020 and catch up with them.

WELCA's Triennial Gathering in Phoenix has been postponed until next year. However, the churchwide organization hosted a webinar on Saturday, September 12 called Just Love: A Virtual Preview. They tried to give a taste of a 3 day gathering in 2 hours! A video of the webinar is now available, press the **control** key as you click the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg7o3Q1Yk4&feature=youtu.be>

I admit my ignorance here; I thought the JUST in Just Love was Only – it turns out to be Just as in JUSTICE. The Women of the ELCA have a commitment to working for racial unity, and this commitment predates COVID, deaths, demonstrations and all that is going on in our world today. So, the theme of the gathering is very relevant to what is going on in right now.

Helen Dungan



Outreach

SE Pennsylvania Synod: "Outreach Offering" (special envelope) for October will be designated to our SE Pennsylvania Synod. The Synod includes 143 congregations and some congregations are struggling to function, especially financially. Our Synod is trying to respond and help in whatever ways it can. But our Bishop Patricia Davenport reported to us recently that the Synod is more than \$100,000 behind what is expected to receive by the end of the summer. This means the Synod is restricted in assisting congregations and ministries that need help.

Please include an extra gift in your October "Outreach" envelope. This is a way we can be the Church together with the Synod and all the communities of faith.

FLU SHOT CLINIC -- MARK YOUR CALENDAR - a Flu shot clinic for our greater community will be held at **Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasant Valley on Sunday October 11, from 10:30 AM until noon** . All are welcome; social distancing protocols will be observed, please wear a mask!

	October BIRTHDAYS		October ANNIVERSARIES		October BAPTISMS
1	Ed Haney, Jessica Lehr Scott Lehr, Jeremy Roney			1	Barbara Naska
2	Justin Apgar				
5	Pastor David Deal, Connor Aquino, Silas Rodenbach (89)			4	Alison & Emerson Rhine
6	Virginia Hager			6	Joan Mammana
7	Lois Altemose	13	Lisa & Bruce Crouse (30)		
		15	Val & Paul McGinn (26)	15	Sharon Streletz
18	Karen Bolesta				
19	Joanne Antoni				
20	Lee Ann Kressman	20	Linda & David Sauter (39)	23	Pastor David Deal
21	Ed Xander	22	Diane & Steve DeWalt (37)	25	Jim Nicholas, Silas Rodenbach
25	Cheryl Mesko				
30	Benjamin J. Naska			30	Jessica (Fisher) Johnson
31	Nicole Crouse			31	Adam Mesko

Council Corner

Hello everyone from all on council! If you didn't know this already, council has taken over the secretary duties for now until we can find a replacement for Ann Wong (not an easy task). We have fliers out for the position but no takers yet, so if you know someone who is interested please contact the Pastor or the Church office.

The council would like to keep you up to date on the inner happenings of the church so this will become a regular spot in the newsletter. Here are a couple of things council is working on or has completed.

- The furnace has been serviced and is ready for winter.
- Mark Harwick is working on quotes for the steeple and window projects as they are in desperate need of repair.

PRAYER

Please lift up in prayer the following ...

For Healing of those in our Congregation: Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Norma Fox; Faye Gadwell; Virginia Hager; Betty & George Kreitz; Silas Rodenbach; Hal Taylor; and Carolyn Williams.

For Healing of Friends and Family: Phyllis Allebach; Brian Ashmore, Jr.; Lynn Bailey; Reta Bieber; Jason Bigley; Julia Bizon; Marci Boettger; Karen Bolesta; Kelly Bordelon; Phyllis Boyer; Frannie Brooks; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Gregory Chubrik; Josie Crawn; Esther Crouse; Chris Fear; Fred Foerster; Ken Garey; Candie Gimbar; Florence Gonzalez; Douglas Harris; Bob Helm; Kathy J.; Paige Jipner; Virginia Johnson; Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Jean Kaki; Jane Kemmerer; Martine King; Priscilla Kinter; Kara Kline; Aleena Lang; Joanne Dehel Lavin; Macey Litz; Barbara Lynch; Mike Manfra; Chelsea Marley; Warren & Pat Merkhams; Andrea Miller; Janet Murray; Jeff Musnung; Steven Neff; Kyle Newman; David Parker; Jeff Petrino; Lisa Pezzino; Les Pross; Donnie Pyne; Sarah Rhine; Jill Roland; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Dave Sauter; David Sebring; Laurel Sheetz; Gary Shollenberger; Donna Storm; Alex Ulrey; Michelle Woodruff. ALSO, Laura, Kelly, Charlie D., Charlie L., and Jane.

For those who are Homebound: Cleo and Ken Eck; and Elfriede Marschewski.

For the Grieving: The families of Lea Kneebone; Gerry Seipt; Manfred Marschewski; Helen Ballek; Rudolf von Watzdorf.

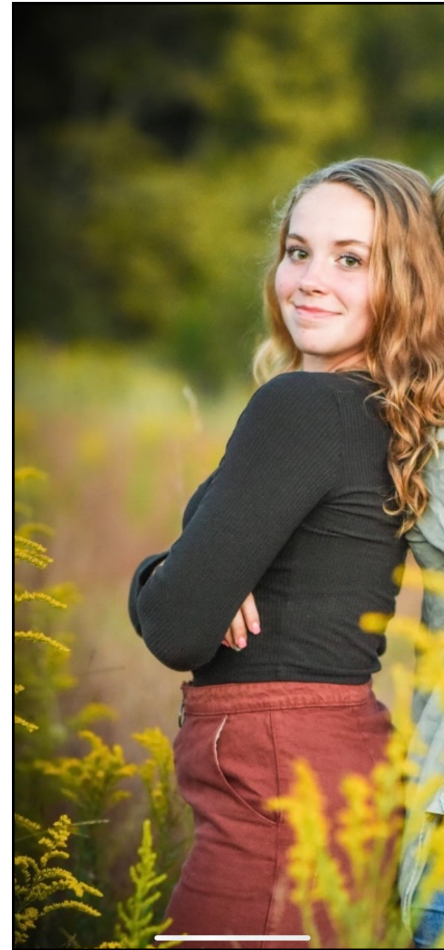
For those in Health Care: Including Sara Aquino, Debbie Angstadt; Kendell Beerer, Mary Crouse, Sarah Deal Den Herder, Mary Erceg; Faye Gadwell; Morgan Litz; Tanya Naska; Kristi Lee Reiman; Linda Sauter, and Sharron Streletz.

Essential Food Workers: Bethany Michl, Trauger's Farm

Essential Postal Workers: Andrea Fox & Dawn Margeson

Samantha Jean Mueller
(13) / 8th Grade
Wilson Area Intermediate School

**Samantha is being confirmed
on October 25, 2020**



Samantha (Sammy) is an active 8th grader at the Wilson Area Intermediate School where is a straight A student, member of Student Council and the Jr. National Honor Society (currently secretary). She also enjoys playing on the Middle School Field Hockey team, High School Freshman basketball team as well as running for the MS track team. During her 4 years at WAIS, she has been or currently is, a member of the school concert band (playing the saxophone), Buddy-up club (kids helping kids program), the Scribe (school newspaper), WAIS School TV news team, and Chess club. Outside of school, Samantha is a Phoenix club Field Hockey member where she plays in various indoor and outdoor Field Hockey tournaments year round.

Samantha is the daughter of Cathy and Chris Mueller and sister of Matthew. She enjoys spending time with her friends and pets (dog— Jack, cats - Lucky and Luke, and bunny—thumper.) Here at ELCD, Sammy has helped with Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and soup suppers. She also is a regular reader and acolyte.

Some other words about the new worship service

We expect that we will be able to seat up to 60 worshipers following strict social distance guidelines. You will be seated with your entire immediate family, with a distance of 6 feet between your family and other worshipers.

There will be online sign-up for weekly worship attendance to ensure that we don't exceed 60 worshipers. An email from the Church Council will explain the sign-up procedure. If you don't have or use the Internet, please notify the church office or a friend who can sign you up online of your intent to attend worship each week.

We will be keeping track of who attends worship each week for contact tracing purposes should we need it.

Our custodian will be cleaning and disinfecting our worship space every week.

If infection statistics spike in Pennsylvania, especially in Bucks County, we will have to return to online Facebook Live worship only.

For eight months now the Church of Jesus Christ has been challenged by the coronavirus pandemic. We have been slowly living into a new normal - continuing to be a faithful church, but in new ways. It will be good to be with each other inside our beautiful church building, even if in a different way.

Everybody please stay safe!!!

Change of Address ...

Rhine Family's New Address:

**24 Longview Dr.
Peterborough, NH 03458**

Ann Wong's California Address: (from October 5)

**42 Via San Marco
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270**

