# 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 Phone: 610-346-8500 email: evangel@durhamlutheran.org Web site: www.durhamlutheran.org

# EVANGEL



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~The church on the hill, lighting the way to God's love.~

821 Durham Road PO Box 100 Durham, PA 18039-0100 610-346-8500

www.durhamlutheran.org

Reverend James Heckman, Bridge Pastor 267-664-3160 bridgepastor.ELD@gmail.com

Pastor's Office Hours: Wednesday: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Thursday 12:00-3:00 PM

Ken Anderson, Secretary 610-346-8500

Evangel@durhamlutheran.org

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# **EVANGEL**



SEPTEMBER 2023

### Pastor's Message:

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

At the end of last week (August 10-11), an editorial written by Rev. Russell Moore, the editor in chief of "Christianity Today" entitled "Jesus is too Liberal - Jesus is 'woke'" appeared, and as you might imagine, caught my attention. Pastor Moore, a self-described conservative evangelical Christian who resigned from the Southern Baptist Convention in 2021, over several disagreements with a number of the church's recent political stands, was interviewed about his editorial on NPR and CNN. He indicated in these interviews, that the reason behind his editorial was predicated by conversations he had with other frustrated Evangelical Pastors who reported preaching on passages like the Beatitudes where Jesus says things like "turn the other cheek", or talking about mercy, forgiveness and other Jesus' teaching, only to hear comments at the door like, "Jesus is too weak." "Jesus is obviously "woke". We can't live by Jesus' rules today because things are getting out of our control."

Moore went on to say he believes a large part of the issue is how divisive US politics are, which is now spilling over into the church. He pointed to the belief among may, not just evangelical Christians, that "desperate times call for desperate measurers" including throwing Jesus under the bus as being too liberal, too forgiving, too excepting of others, too out of touch with the realities of today and what we need to do to set things right.

Then this past week, a survey was taken among Iowa republicans most likely to vote for Trump in the upcoming primary. They were asked who they trusted more, Donald Trump or their local pastor. The results - a slim majority said they trusted Mr. Trump more.

As you might guess, I found Pastor Moore's comments and the results of such a poll both troubling and compelling. First let me be clear: I am not surprised that some people don't trust their local pastor. After all, all pastors are human and not perfect and sadly not always trustworthy. Yet, I find it deeply concerning when anyone says they trust any politician over a local pastor.

(Continued on Page 3)



### Pastor's Message (Continued from page 2):

What has become of our society and our beliefs as Christians, when we say that Jesus is too "liberal" or "woke" because he preaches forgiveness, mercy, acceptance of all people as children of God deserving love and respect? I don't know about you, but I have never found it "easy" to live up to those standards of Christ. How hard it is to forgive someone whom we feel has wronged us? I even struggled at times with such things with my children, especially when they were younger. I would say to them, I will always love you but right now I don't like you. I would say that as much to remind myself of the need to always love them and forgive them as it was for them to hear.

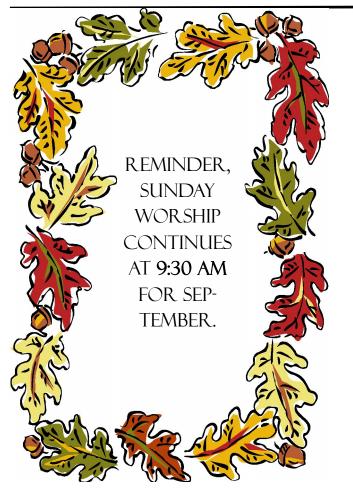
It seems to me that much of the situation we now find ourselves facing in our society is that we have fallen into the age-old trap of sin, particularly the sin of thinking we know better than God. I believe that what we desperately need to do is to fall on our knees and ask God for his merciful grace and forgive us for thinking we are smarter than God. We need to embrace Christ's teaching of forgiveness and mercy toward others. If we endeavor to do so, we will find that it is not at all easy, rather it is the most challenging thing we are called to do as Christians, and consequently as citizens of US and the world.

As just one example; if there are any of you who are reading this letter and feeling that I am totally off base and feeling upset or angry with me for once again inserting myself into "political" issues; then I ask you to please forgive me as I have asked Christ to do. You tell me how hard or easy was that?

I am hopeful that once we return to our winter schedule, we might find time to have regular and open conversations about what is happening in our world and how we as Christians can best deal with it. I hope you'll join me.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jim Heckman





Page 3

# Something to Celebrate!

	September			
	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS	
5	Bruce Crouse, Brielle Reiman			
7	Jim Miller			
9	Joanne Ziegenfuss			
10			Ben F. Naska, Annabel Williams	
12	Bob Fox, Barb Naska			
14	Dot Peterman, Bonnie Pyne DePortillo	Karen & Hans Rilling (60)		
17			Hunter Aquino	
20			Michael Altemus	
21		Nancy & Frank Moskella (49)	Makenzie Naska	
24	Katie Aquino	Rachael & Joel Roney (12)		
26		Tanya & Ben Naska (24)		
27	Jack Pyne		Nancy Moskella	
28	Maggie Fischer			
30			Barbara Altemus	









### For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Barbara Altemus; Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Esther Crouse; Helen Dungan; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Frank Mammana; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Barbara Naska; Ben Naska Sr.; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

### For Healing of Friends and Family:

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Anthony Beck; Jason Bigley; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Davis; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Cindy Gilligan; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Josephine Gimelson & family; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Ashton Hales; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jean Pratt; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Pat Stangil; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Kelly Walsh; Henry Wong and Scotty Yurconis.

#### For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

#### For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Stan Aagaard; Michael Barats; Joann Gary; Betty Kreitz; Lani Schlegel; Don Seipt; Marilyn Seipt; Hal Taylor; Ann Valent

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: **PrayerChain@durhamlutheran.org** 

August 2023 Worship Assistants

	•
Head Usher	
Altar Guild	Nancy Moskella & Mark Harwick
Communion / Counting Team	Cathy Mueller & Karen Beerer

Date	Acolyte	Greeter	Lector
9/3			Linda Sauter
9/10			Mary Crouse
9/17			Joe Hlavaty
9/24			Scott Gaun



September Calendar	と自身と自	を自身を自身を
Sunday, September 3 (communion)	<b>9:30 AM</b> After Worship	Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman Lemonade on the Lawn.
Wednesday, September 6	10:00 AM-1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Durham
Thursday, September 7	12:00 PM-3:00 PM 12:30 PM	Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Saturday, September 9	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Betty Krietz memorial Family Visitation Memorial Service
Sunday, September 10	<b>9:30 AM</b> 10:45 – 11:45 AM 12:00 PM	Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman God's Work Our Hands Project PALM Picnic @ Durham
Monday, September 11	7:30 PM	Church Council meeting
Tuesday, September 12	9:00 AM	Care-A-Lot first day of school!
Wednesday, September 13	10:00 AM-1:00 PM 12:20 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Adult Bible Study @ Durham
Thursday, September 14	12:00 PM-3:00 PM	Office hours
Sunday, September 17 (communion)	9:30 AM After Worship	Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman Welcome Back Care-a-lot Lemonade on the Lawn
Wednesday, September 20	10:00 AM-1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Durham
Thursday, September 21	12:00 PM-3:00 PM 12:30 PM	Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Sunday, September 24	9:30 AM	Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman
Wednesday, September 27	10:00 AM-1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Durham
Thursday, September 28	12:00 PM-3:00 PM 12:30 PM	Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim

#### Outreach



Food banks: Both food banks requested personal care items men's women's and children's.

When you come to worship, please, bring something to share. You can also sign up to donate a food basket in memory or honor of a loved one.

Outreach Envelope: The outreach envelope for September will got to Lutheran Disaster Response for relief in Maui.00



WELCA Mark your calendars for October 14, 2023, SEPA WELCA is hosting a retreat at the Philadelphia Seminary. The theme is Gather, Rest, and Renew. See pages 9-10 for more information and a sign up sheet.

Helen Dungan

## Care-A-Lot News:



Care-a-lot Preschool will begin its 40th year on August 30th with a Meet and Greet for students, parents and teachers from 10am to CARE -A-LOT 12pm. The first day of classes is Tuesday, September 12th. There

are 12 students this year. In September our focus will be Getting to Know You and Me. We will learn to follow the rules, establish a routine, and respect one another.

Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> we will welcome this year's Care-a-lot Families after church with Lemonade on the Lawn.

Next spring we will celebrate 40 years of Care-a-lot with a special Church service and a luncheon.

#### **Bible Study**



The Adult Bible study will resume on September on Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00 at the church. We invite you to join us!

# **Partners In Ministry**

**Palisades Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM)** 



Note the updated date!

When: October 29, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Where: Along the Canal, starting from St. Peters in Riegelsville.

Scan the QR code for More information:



We had 25 children attend our Rocky Railway VBS in July! Tanks for helping make this a success!

"God's work, Our hands" day is Sunday, Sept. 10, Save the date, we will Be creating photo cards for writing notes to shut ins and thank you notes ,etc. from 10:345-11:45. St. Peters will be making cleanup buckets for LDR from 11-12. We will have a Cluster Picnic in the horse shed at 12:00 PM.

Monthly free community Soup Suppers at St, Luke's resume monthly on 9/19 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM

# Announcing St. Peter's Famous RUMMAGE, SOUP & COOKIE SALE!

# 305 Delaware Road, Riegelsville PA

Our famous Rummage Sale is just around the corner! It's time to clear out those closets, bake some cookies, make some soup, and volunteer to help with St. Peter's major fundraiser.



# **Donation Drop-Off Days:**

Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> 12-4pm

Sunday October 1st 12-4pm

Monday October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1-4pm

All items must be clean, usable and in working order. Please no damaged, soiled or excessively worn items. NO TVs/computers or accessories, furniture or rugs.

**SALE DAYS:** 

Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>

9am-5pm

Friday October 6th

9am-5pm

Saturday October 7th

9am-12pm \*Bag Day!\*

\*brown bag day - bags furnished by the church

IF YOU CAN HELP WITH SET-UP, DURING SALE DAYS OR CLEAN-UP, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE. ANY AMOUNT OF TIME YOU CAN GIVE WILL BE APPRECIATED!



#### ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

305 Delaware Road, Riegelsville, PA 18077

Office: 610-749-0830

stpetersriegelsville@gmail.com | builtontherock.cc



# Women of the ELCA Day Retreat United Lutheran Seminary Campus Saturday, October 14 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Board of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Women of the ELCA is sponsoring a spiritual retreat at the campus of the United Lutheran Seminary in Mount Airy. Its aim is to give us the opportunity to become more aware of God's presence in our lives and in our world. The Retreat, Gather, Rest and Renew, is open to all women over 15, not just members of WELCA. The Retreat will be held on Saturday October 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

As women we know that everyday life can be overwhelmingly demanding. It is all too easy to run ourselves ragged and become depleted in body, mind, and spirit; or to believe that if we were to stop or slow down, we would no longer have any usefulness. We need that grace which reminds us that our identity is not in what we do, but in who we are. We are Daughters of the King of Kings. We breathe the Breath of God here and now in this life, no matter how full or empty our daily life may seem. The world in which we live is teeming with goodness and the graces of God, whether we realize it or not. The Reverend Leslie Richard will lead us, as we come away for the day and enter a time of sharing, prayer, discussion, and contemplative exercise aimed at renewing our sense of self and our growing recognition of God's Self in our daily life. The Rev. Leslie M. Richard, MA was ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1989. She has served in a variety of pastoral settings. She is a trained Spiritual Director with a Master of Arts in Holistic Spirituality. Direct questions to Linda Garcia, President - email: jaglsg@comcast.net As the retreat is made possible by a Katie's Fund grant, information about the Women of the ELCA will be presented and available. If you are interested in attending, we are requesting a \$20.00 donation to help defray expenses – this includes lunch. The United Lutheran Seminary is located at 7301 Germantown Ave. in Philadelphia and is easily accessible by public transportation. Please complete the registration form on the next page by Friday, October 6th, and mail it along with a check to:

> Carolyn Edwards 35 Bliss BLVD. Shillington, PA 19607

# Southeastern Pennsylvania Synodical Women's Organization Women ELCA

# Women of the ELCA Day Retreat Registration Form

Attendee:
Congregation (optional):
Email address:
Attendee:
Congregation (optional):
Email address:
Attendee:
Congregation(optional):
Email address:
Registration and payment are due by Friday, October 6 <sup>th</sup> . Please mail this form with your check made out to Women of the ELCA – SEPA to:
Carolin Edwards

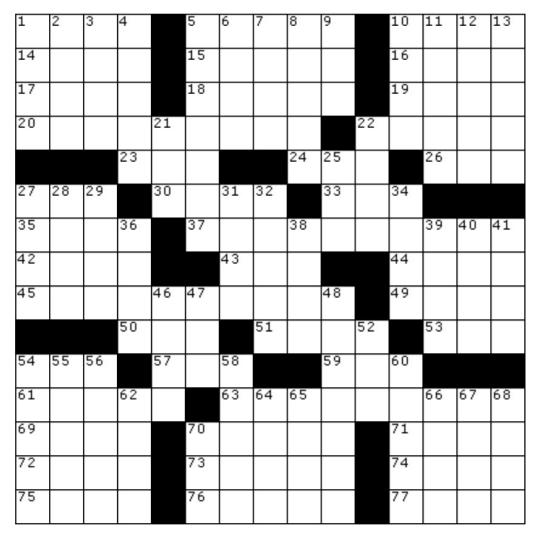
Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod

35 Bliss Blvd

Shillington, PA 19607

# EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF DURHAM CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

Name	Role	Phone	Email	
COUNCIL				
Rev. James Heckman	Bridge Pastor	267-664-3160	bridgepastor.ELD@gmail.com	
Karen Beerer	President	240-893-5162	president@durhamlutheran.org karenbeerer3@gmail.com	
Cathy Mueller	Vice President	732-208-0422	vicepresident@durhamlutheran.org cjsmueller@gmail.com	
	Liaison - Christian Educa- tion / Youth		,	
Ken Anderson	Council Secretary Liaison - Music & Worship	610-349-4391	councilsecretary@durhamlutheran.org kenanderson@ptd.net	
Becky Praster	Congregation Treasurer	610-346-7363	treasurer@durhamlutheran.org	
Kathy Hlavaty	Financial Secretary Liaison - Care-a-Lot	610-360-5756	financialsecretary@durhamlutheran.org	
Barb Naska	Liaison - Altar Guild	610-721-0301	btnbjnaska@epix.net	
Dave Sauter	Liaison - Property	215-512-1851	davlins@epix.net	
Bea von Watzdorf	Liaison - Hospitality	202-309-8929	beavonwatzdorf@mac.com	
Pat Zion	Liaison - Outreach	610-346-8829	pzpatzee@gmail.com	
	MINI	STRY LEAD	OS .	
Cathy Mueller	Christian Education	732-208-0422	cjsmueller@gmail.com	
Lynn Gaun	Hospitality	610-749-0217	lynngaun@msn.com	
Ken Anderson	Music & Worship	610-349-4391	kenanderson@ptd.net	
Helen Dungan	Outreach Chair	610-346-8829	dunganh@lafayette.edu	
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Val McGinn	Preschool Coordinator	610-847-6021	mensans@frontier.com	
Mark Harwick	Property	908-995-7142	mcharwick@gmail.com	
Helen Dungan	WELCA President	610-346-8829	dunganh@lafayette.edu	
		STAFF		
Carolyn Williams	Organist/Choir Director	610-282-2845	Curley130@gmail.com	
Diana Streletz	Custodian	610-248-6904	Psbld1@verizon.net	
Jo Ann Klingbeil	Bookkeeper	484-201-7076	bookkeeper@durhamlutheran.org	
Ken Anderson	Church Administrator	610-346-8500	evangel@durhamlutheran.org	
Lisa Miller	Care-A-Lot Teacher	610-360-5756	Lisa-care-a-lot@durhamlutheran.org Butterfly412cookie@gmail.com	
Samantha O'Brien	Care-A-Lot Teacher	610-360-5756	samantha-care-a-lot@durhamlutheran.org sweth635@yahoo.com	



Down

1 Applaud

2 Air (prefix)

3 Spool

4 Hymn of praise

5 Supernatural event

32 Trash

34 Point

6 City in Yemen

7 Denote

8 Parrot

9 Alternative (abbr.)

10 Boat's wind catcher

11 Length of forearm

12 First husband of Bath-

sheba

13 Father

21 Talk

22 Asian country

25 Fire remains

27 Object of false worship

28 Island nation

29 Son of Seth

31 Retired persons associ-

ation (abbr.)

**Across** 

1 Fish

5 Mother

10 Type of missile

14 Dregs

15 Perfect

16 Halo

17 Domain

18 Respond

19 As previously cited

20 Blindly optimistic person

22 Book by Homer

23 Computer type

24 Battle of nations

26 Scriptural your

27 Frozen water

30 Small ground plot

33 Pouch

35 Asks repeatedly for pay-

ment

37 Event when Jesus was cruci-

fied

42 Double-reed instrument

43 River (Spanish)

44 Transgressions

45 Jesus' last meal

49 Type of plane

50 Biddy

51 Swiss-like cheese

53 Pigpen

54 Liable

57 Constrictor snake

59 A name of God

61 \_\_ goes before destruction

63 Clover

69 Feel sorry for

70 Talked

71 Popular stadium

72 Pine

73 Charlemagne's

father

74 Royalty

75 Look

76 Concerning

77 Skewer