

*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

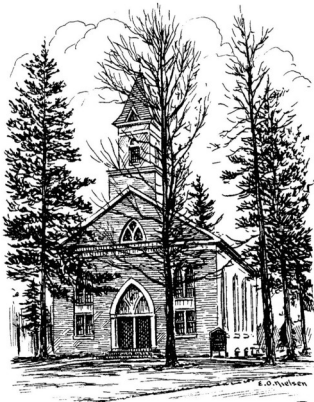
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EVANGEL



2024



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Church of Durham**

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PO Box 100  
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[www.durhamlutheran.org](http://www.durhamlutheran.org)

Reverend James Heckman,  
Pastor

267-664-3160

[pastor@durhamlutheran.org](mailto:pastor@durhamlutheran.org)

Pastor's Office Hours:

**Wednesday:**

**11:00 AM-2:00 PM**

**Thursday**

**11:00 AM -1:00 PM**

Ken Anderson, Secretary

610-346-8500

[Evangel@durhamlutheran.org](mailto:Evangel@durhamlutheran.org)

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**Pastor's Message:**

Dear Evangel Family,

Last Sunday two things happened which made me think. The first was part of the Gospel reading from John 12, verse 20 "Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks." The second thing happened at Confirmation Class that evening. I asked the youth how they would feel about planning and leading a Sunday morning worship service (call it a youth Sunday if we must). Their response was less than enthusiastic. So I modified my question: "What would you change about our worship if you could?" Their responses were more energetic. They wanted to make the service at 11:00 or later. They wanted to get rid of the hymns and to no one's surprise, they wanted to do away with the sermon (my feelings were only slightly hurt). That verse from the morning and the confirmands response to my question about worship style led me to think about our worship structure and format.

Now before I go any further, let me be perfectly clear. I am not going to suggest we totally throw out our current worship liturgy. While I remember feeling just like the confirmands when I was their age, I have grown to love and appreciate the Lutheran Liturgical format. Yet at the same time, I also know the some of my most memorable worship experiences were not in structured churches on Sunday mornings. I think about the worship services around the campfire at summer camp, or the wonderful worship opportunities I have experienced at worship conferences or at Synod gatherings. But I do also know that I look forward to our regular Sunday worship each week as a way of gathering with God and family; as a time of confession, absolution, being feed with both word and meal which offers me renewal and strength for the week ahead.

So what's the issue? While I love worship, I was reminded this past week that not everyone feels about worship as I do. While I hold it as a deep responsibility to help grow the church's understanding, appreciation, and participation in worship, I also recognize that we don't all share the same sense of taste. In particular, I was made to think about how visitors to our worship (or modern day "Greeks") might respond as they came to our worship. This is an even broader issue when you consider that most people today who are church shopping, do so online. How does our worship translate online? Add to these our young confirmands' thoughts about worship, we are forced to acknowledge that our worship, as it is currently practiced, isn't reaching them. So what are we to do?

You already know that I am not one to do the same thing over and over every week. You have already discovered my pattern of changing the liturgical setting with the change in season as a means to remind us about the different emphasis each season.

(Continued on Page 3)

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

And you also saw me change the creed in Epiphany season to use the one the confirmands wrote. I can let you know that I will continue to make similar changes. For example, in Easter Season we will be using the alternate translation of the Lord's Prayer. Now I know this might be a touchy one for some, but it is also a recognition that the language of faith in the Lutheran tradition has always been to worship in the language of the people, and that is no longer the King's English. This does not mean that we will never use the old version again, but it is to keep us mindful of the different tastes of different generations. I will also take this opportunity to warn you that I will continue to make adjustments to our worship. In fact, if you have ideas or a suggestion about a change, my door is always open (my phone and email are always available).

Please keep in mind that our worship life is not just for those who are already here, it is also to be an open welcoming place offering invitation for all those "Greeks" both young and old, to come to know Jesus and feel welcome to our family gathering. As always, I look forward to sharing worship with you each and every week.

Your servant in Christ.

Pastor Jim Heckman  
Pastor of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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## MARCH 2024 Worship Assistants

Altar Guild			Suzanne Maurer & Barbara Naska		
Communion / Counting Team			Becky Praster & Pat Zion		
Date	Service	Greeter(s)	Lector	Head Usher	Acolyte
7	Second Sunday of Easter	Josephine Williams	Scott Gaun	Cathrine Mueller	Landon Helfrich
14	Third Sunday of		Pat Zion	Kathryn Wagner	Ben Williams
21	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Leo Grzelkowski	Tucker Wagner	Cathrine Mueller	Colton Wagner
28	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Kathryn Wagner	Kathryn Wagner	Cathrine Mueller	Landon Helfrich

## ***(No)Fun Page***

**SINCE NO ONE LAUGHED AT ANY OF THE JOKES IN LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER,  
THE FUN PAGE IS CANCELLED THIS MONTH.**

# PRAYER



## For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Frank Erceg; Joe Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Dot Peterman; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

## For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Stephen Bizon; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith;

Andrew Hales; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Tim Koplín; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Connie Rugen; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Laurel Sheetz; Shawn Stadt; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Annette von Watzdorf; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Regina Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Henry Wong; Rostam Wong Chaffin and Scotty Yurconis.

## For those who are Homebound:

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

## For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Ronald Fox, Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Jean Pratt, Charles Reiman (Brittany Froelich and Dane Reiman's father)

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: [joanmammana@icloud.com](mailto:joanmammana@icloud.com)



Care-A-Lot

*Wishing everyone a blessed Easter from the families of Care-A-Lot.*

*Care-A-Lot is enrolling for the 24-25 school year. Spread the word!*



*Care-a-lot is 40 years old! We will have a big party to celebrate on Sunday, June 30, 2024 after worship. Scan the QR Code to the left or use the URL below to make your reservation.*

<https://durhamlutheran.org/care-a-lot-fortieth-anniversary/>

*Also: Our Outreach envelopes for April have been designated for Care-a-lot!*



# APRIL EVENTS

Tuesday, April 2	10:00 PM	Prime Timers @ Trinity, Pleasant Valley
Wednesday, April 3	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM 12:00 PM	Choir Practice Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Thursday, April 4	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
<b>Sunday, April 7</b> Second Sunday of Easter	<b>10:00 AM</b> After worship 5:00 PM	<b>Communion Worship</b> Worship & Music Committee Confirmation @ St. Luke's
Monday, April 8	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 10	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM 12:00 PM	NO Choir practice Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Thursday, April 11	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
<b>Sunday, April 14</b> Third Sunday of Easter	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Communion Worship</b> Guest Pianist Gianna Nastasi
Wednesday, April 17	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM 12:00 PM	NO Choir practice Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim Newsletter Article Deadline
Thursday, April 18	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
Saturday April 20	9:30 - ???  5:00 PM	UPPER BUCKS WELCA CONFERENCE GATH- ERING @ Durham Saturday Service @ St. Peter's
<b>Sunday, April 21</b> Fourth Sunday of Easter	<b>10:00 AM</b>  5:00 PM	<b>Communion Worship</b>  Confirmation @ Trinity
Tuesday, April 23	7:30 PM	Finance Committee
Wednesday, April 24	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM 12:00 PM	Choir Practice Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
Thursday, April 25	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
April 25 - May 3		Pr. Jim Vacation
April 26-27 & May 3 & 4		Christ Pipersville Book & Rummage Sale
April 26-27		St Luke's Rummage sale
<b>Sunday, April 28</b> Fifth Sunday of Easter	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Communion Worship with Linda Sauter</b> Due date for Health Kits

# Give Thanks!

I just want to thank everyone for their generous donations for the Easter egg hunt. The children will all be happy with the offerings. We had so much candy that I was able to make up small gift bags for each child in preschool with candy and bubbles. Thanks for being such a giving congregation. Love Always, Lynn Gaun

The Lord's Pantry gives thanks for the 344.6 pounds of food and \$350 donated to help them serve over 500 families, Emmanuel Lutheran Church Thanks us for our donation of \$595 to support their "Let's Build a School" project.

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A decorative border with a wavy top and bottom edge, featuring stylized floral motifs in each corner and along the curves. The border is black and white.

## Council Commentary

By Kathryn Wagner

Hello Durham Family! I would like to reiterate my appreciation for being elected to the Church Council. It is such an honor, and I am extremely grateful and excited to become even more deeply involved in the church! I have so much to learn about the position but in the short time that I have been participating I already have some great things to share with all of you. First, I am thrilled to report that I have been entrusted to liaison with the Christian Education Committee. I have so many ideas for furthering Durham's Christian Education programs, and I cannot wait to work with some of you to bring them to light. Currently, progressive meetings have been held regarding the Vacation Bible school this summer. This will be hosted by Trinity in Pleasant Valley the week of July 15-19<sup>th</sup> from 9am-Noon with a closing cookout the evening of July 19<sup>th</sup>. **SAVE THE DATE!** And be on the lookout for more information and flyers coming soon. It looks like it will be a really fun camp for the kids with some great lessons. Stay tuned to the Christian Education ministry, after I speak to some of the other Board members we will be sharing some more ideas to bring youth into church! Second, I am also liaison to the Care-a-lot Trustees. Meetings are upcoming for updates in this ministry. In conclusion, I'm looking forward to applying my skills in these committees and welcome any support or discussion you might have in their regards. Happy Spring and God Bless.



**SOUP:** Thanks to all who helped. We had originally planned on only making Cream of Broccoli soup, but had so many orders for chicken noodle, that Kathy Hlavaty and Oluchi Ngoka made some soup to meet the demand. Another big thanks to Miriam Anderson who was the chief organizer for this project, and who along with Kathy and Joe Hlavaty made the Cream of Broccoli soup.

Thanks to Val McGinn, Bonnie Pyne de Portillo, Ken Anderson, Oluchi Ngoka and Pat Zion who cleaned onions, jarred soup, did dishes and whatever else that was required, and to Barb Naska for collecting the money and keeping statistics. Thanks to Mark Harwick who did some of the shopping for supplies. Another big thanks to Trauger's for donating the broccoli and onions. Finally, thanks to Thrivent for giving us \$250.00 to help with expenses. We sold 101 quarts of cream of broccoli and 55 quarts of chicken noodle. There were no leftovers! We did have milk left over which we donated to the Lord's Pantry. We also received \$48.00 in donations. Total \$1,280.

**THE UPPER BUCKS WELCA CONFERENCE GATHERING** will be hosted by Durham on Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Registration begins at 9:00 with breakfast following at 9:30. Our topic is human trafficking and our speaker, Tina Tranauskas, is from Worthwhile Wear, a local organization established to help victims of sexual trafficking. Our offerings will be divided between Worthwhile Wear and our Synodical Women of the ELCA; we will also be collecting used clothing, shoes or books to contribute to the Worthwhile Thrift Store in Plumsteadville. This store raises funds to help support Worthwhile Wear's programs for survivors of human trafficking and supply vocational training and employment for some of these survivors.,

Women of the ELCA has been actively working to end Human Trafficking since 2005. Efforts include education about and raising awareness of human trafficking as well as supporting agencies which are working to help victims. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. This is not a fun topic, but it is an important one.



The Adult Bible study meets on **Thursdays** from **1:00-3:00** at the home of **Kathy & Joe Hlavaty**. We are studying the Book of Genesis. We are continuing our study of the Book of Genesis. Our discussions tend to compare then and now – *we haven't changed*. We invite you to join and learn with us

**HEALTH KITS:** WELCA will be collecting **health kits** to donate to Lutheran Disaster Relief. For the first time since 2019, a truck will be available at the Synod Assembly in Franconia on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> to collect donations. Bring your completed kits to Church by Sunday, April 28th so we can deliver them on Friday. See the Flyer on the last page for information on how to make a health kit:

- Helen Dungan

## Outreach

**Food banks:** Thanks to all who contributed to our March food collections. We had two food baskets donated: One on March 3, 2024 in honor of Gladys Nicholas' 90<sup>th</sup> birthday; and one on March 10, 2024 in honor of Pat Zion's birthday.

We will collect coffee (they always run out), detergent, soap/body wash and shampoo for the Upper Bucks food bank. Project Easton again requested jelly preferably in plastic jars, and canned corn as they always run low on both of these items, and they also can use detergent, soap/body wash and shampoo and other personal care items.

**Please all who come to worship in person, bring something to share.** You can also sign up to donate a food basket in memory or honor of a loved one.

Helen Dungan

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## Palisades Area Lutheran Ministries

- April 2 Prime Timers group meets at Noon on the first Tuesday each month at Trinity.
- April 20 Saturday 5:00 PM service at St. Peter's.
- April 26-27 St Luke's Rummage sale.
- April 26-27 & May 3 & 4 Christ Pipersville & Library Book, Bake, & Rummage Sale.
- May "Blessings by the Box" Christ, Pipersville is collecting funds to provide blessing boxes for needy families of Palisades children over the summer.
- May 6 PALM activities planning meeting
- May 18 Cluster Church Council joint retreat to explore cooperative ministry and shared leadership from 9 am- 12 pm lead by Rev. Penman.
- June 30 Care-A-Lot Sunday & 40th anniversary celebration.

## Upper Bucks Conference

**Saturday April 20 9:00 AM UPPER BUCKS WELCA CONFERENCE GATHERING @ Durham**

**Iron Pigs:** Save the date for the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs game on Sunday, June 23 at 1:35 PM! Tickets are just \$30. per person. We reserved the Picnic Patio, with an unlimited buffet for 2.5 hours and unlimited soft drinks until the middle of the 8th inning (see flyer on Page 9). There is a signup sheet in the Narthex. There may be additional seats available, stay tuned! Final Payment is due before May 1.

## SEPA Synod

The Annual Assembly is May 3-4. Please pray for the assembly as they elect a new Bishop.

Penn Live Arts invites churches in Philadelphia — particularly Center City, West Philadelphia and North Philadelphia — to join in the "Toll the Bell" project to collectively ring their bells or other sonic devices at noon on Friday, June 7 for 10.6 minutes to represent 106 people killed by a firearm in the U.S. every day.

June 1, 9 am - 1 pm Women Of The ELCA Synodical Convention - Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansdale "Love One Another with the Promise of God's Justice"



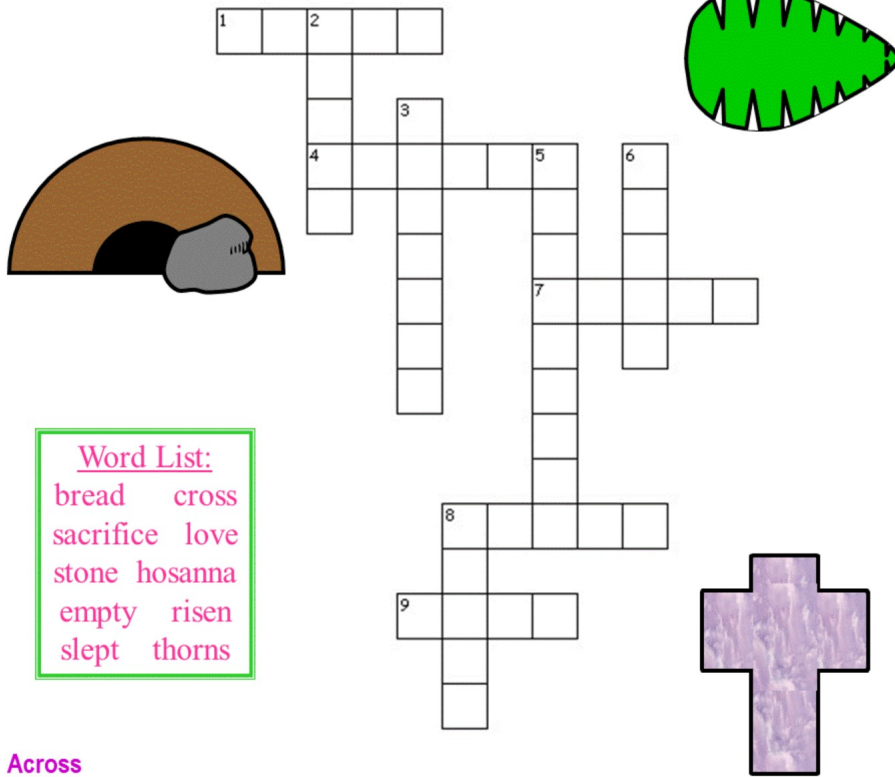
## Something to Celebrate!

April	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
3			Rachel McCallister, Sam Rhine
4			Dave Helfrich
6			Chris Fox, Ben J. Naska
7	Becky Praster		
8			Samantha Mueller
9			Diane De Walt
12		Barbara & Mike Al- temus (38)	
13	Phyllis Lanshe, Ben Naska, Sr.		
14	Joshua Roney		
16	John Wagner	Joan & Frank Mammana (58)	
18			Laura Helfrich
19	Matthew Crouse		Cleo Eck
20	Karen Rilling		
21	Jayne Miller		
22			Landon Helfrich
26	Robert Ziegenfuss		
27	Nancy Moskella		Clayton Helfrich, Landon Frey
28	Frank Mammana (87), Tim Gadwell		
30	Alison and Emerson Rhine		Ella Rose Michl

# Fun Page

## APRIL FOOLS!

### Easter Crossword



**Word List:**  
 bread cross  
 sacrifice love  
 stone hosanna  
 empty risen  
 slept thorns

**Across**

- 1. Taking this during the last supper symbolized Jesus' body.
- 4. Jesus was forced to wear a crown made of these instead of a crown meant for a real king.
- 7. The angel told the women, "Don't be afraid, Jesus isn't here; He has \_\_\_\_!"
- 8. Instead of praying the disciples did this when Jesus went off to pray by himself.
- 9. The main reason that God gave His only son, Jesus to die for each of us.

**Down**

- 2. On Sunday the two Mary's didn't find Jesus but a tomb that was \_\_\_\_.
- 3. The word people shouted to Jesus that means blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord
- 5. Jesus became the \_\_\_\_ for us, so we could be forgiven for our sins.
- 6. Jesus was meant to die on this.
- 8. This was put in front of the tomb so nobody could steal Jesus' body.

**I lost all my winter weight.**  
 Now I just have spring rolls.



**How do you keep a fool in suspense?**  
 I'll tell you the answer tomorrow.




Chicken pranks



©King Features Syndicate.

What do you call a sunny day that follows two rainy April days?  
 Monday.



## PERSONAL CARE KITS

### **SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER**

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

### **INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT**

- ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE** adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*
- ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

\* *Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*

### **HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS**

- Fold the towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in **LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS** on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents