

Happy Birthday to our Seniors!



WISHING YOU
A HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!

BIRTHDAYS:

FEBRUARY:

02—Jeanene Hill
20—Ron Ludwig
22—Jerry Ludwig
27—Barbara Harding

Looking ahead to March:

Russell McVaugh—March 3
Louise Styer—March 13
Bud Bowman—March 18
Art Gordon—March 19
Joe Smith—March 19
Lois Beam—March 20
Mim Spence—March 30

Did we miss anyone? If you are a “Senior” Member over age 55 and wish to be included on the birthday list, please call the church office at 610-856-7242.

PARISH REGISTER:

FUNERAL:

1/20/17—Wayne Schlouch, 78. Interment in Allegheny Cemetery

Do we have your **EMAIL ADDRESS**? If not, please send it to ddemarco@dejazzd.com with your name in the subject.

Vol. XXXXVI
No. 2

FEBRUARY 2017

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The Parish Digest

From the Pastor:

²³Then he said to them all, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. ²⁴For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. (Luke 9:23-24)



The Disappointing Effect of Consumer Christianity.

Or

Why Christianity Works Better as a Servant Industry than a Service Industry.

If there is one thing that we in America understand, it is this; how to be a consumer. In fact, if you think about it, a lot of our time throughout the week is spent in doing basic consumer activities like; going shopping for food and supplies, eating at restaurants, purchasing tickets for shows and entertainment, paying utility bills (phone, internet, electric, heat, etc...), and doing basic upkeep on ourselves and our possessions (haircuts, doctor visits, auto-service, dental care, etc...).

As consumers, and as good stewards, it certainly makes sense to focus in on our personal needs and/or the needs of our family, and so it becomes natural that we develop a model of life by which we seek after the things that work best for us.

And so it is that we learn to seek out and find the best deals or bargains available to us; embracing the free market by switching utility providers to cut costs, (cont. on p. 4)

A mailbox is located outside the church office for anyone who has written information for staff, chairpersons, preschool, or other leaders.

Rev. Michael Ware, Pastor

Home: 610-875-0015 Office: 610-856-7242

Office hours: Wednesday 9-12 and 1:30-3:00; Thurs. 9-12;

Day off: Monday;

Email address: revmikeware@gmail.com

Susan J. Creed, Minister of Christian Ed. —Home 610-779-0179

Office Hours: M-TH 1:00-4:00 610-856-7242

Email address: screed@dejazzd.com

Tyler Werner, Youth Ministry Leader—610-781-4004

Office Hours: TH 10:00-1:00 610-856-7242

Email address: twern9@gmail.com

Louise Wilson, Minister of Music—Phone: 610-273-3911

Email address: weeziecow2@yahoo.com

Debbie DeMarco, Parish Secretary

Home: 610-856-7386 Office: 610-856-7242

Office Hours: M-TH 9-4; Friday 9-12:00

Email address: ddemarco@dejazzd.com

Linell McCormick, Office Assistant, T & Th, 12-4

Home: 610-775-2571 Email: lmr52@aol.com

Dale Creed, Maintenance Supervisor—M-Th mornings

Robin Werner, Sexton—Phone: 610-698-0688

Email: robinbaskets@aol.com

Christine Raines, Preschool Director— Phone: 610-856-7613;

Email: preschool610@dejazzd.com

Council Officers:

Chris Gerace, President

Rex Miller, Vice President

Julia Bond, Secretary

Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

Kay Good, Treasurer Special Funds

Lori Sifford, Financial Secretary

Other Council Members:

Joy O'Donnell

Mike Wisniewski

Abby Moore (youth)

Ed Haag

Karen Kercher

FEBRUARY SERVICES & EVENTS

FEBRUARY 5—**SOUPER BOWL & SCOUT SUNDAY**

7:45 & 10:15 **Holy Communion**; 9:00 SCS

Our Youth Group, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts will be holding soup kettles to collect money for the hungry in our community following the worship service on this day. They will also hold a soup lunch fundraiser following the 10:15 service. You will receive soup, bread, dessert and a drink for \$7. All proceeds will go to the local food banks. Please plan to attend. This event is being sponsored by a Thrivent Action Team.

FEBRUARY 12—7:45 & 10:15 **Holy Communion**; 9:00 SCS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held following the 10:15 a.m. service. Please plan to attend. Annual reports will be ready for pick-up by Sunday, February 5th in preparation for the meeting. Thank you!

FEBRUARY 19—7:45 & 10:15 Worship; 9:00 SCS

FEBRUARY 26— 7:45 & 10:15 **Transfiguration of Our Lord**; **Holy Communion**; **Praise Service** with Laudate Praise Team; 9:00 SCS; Joyful Noise Offering for Still Waters Counseling.



VALENTINE'S AND FAMILY DANCE IN HOEFFER HALL

on Saturday, February 11th from 6-9pm: "DJ" Tyler Werner will provide a blend of upbeat and mellow dance favorites spanning several decades of popular music. We will have a pasta dinner provided along with drinks, desserts, and other food trays. Cost for adults is a \$15 donation to the Youth of Robeson Lutheran Church, children 12 and under is \$7 (3 and under are free). We welcome all to attend, members and non-members of the church. This will be one of the big fundraisers for the 2018 national youth event in Houston, Texas and the youth will greatly appreciate your support. Please RSVP by Sunday, February 5th to Tyler at twern9@gmail.com or call the church office at 610-856-7242.

changing brands for a different experience, or going to a newer company in the hopes of getting improved service.

In a similar way, we use this same model as a means of showing our displeasure; no longer going to a certain restaurant chain because of a bad experience we had, or threatening to, “take our business elsewhere” when a certain product disappoints us, or repeating the mantra that, “the customer is always right!” when dealing with a cashier or clerk who isn’t giving us what we want.

In the secular world, this consumer model may work well for us, but when we live out this same consumer model in regards to our spiritual life, the end result tends to be a very shallow and easily disappointed faith.

Unfortunately, for a lot of people out there, they live as Consumer Christians, that is to say, they treat their interaction with the church in the same way as they would with any secular business.

Thus Consumer Christians will tend to focus on questions regarding products and services. “What does your church have to offer me and my family?” “Is there an active youth group?” “Do you do contemporary worship?” “How much involvement do I need to have?” “What do I get in return for my offering support?”

And while on the surface such an attitude may seem harmless, because Consumer Christianity is ultimately self-focused, (i.e. what do you have to offer me) the deeper message and content of the Gospel tends to be overlooked, and one’s personal faith growth is severely limited.

To be fair, and to be clear, we have probably all (to some extent or another) done a bit of church shopping in our lives. And there is nothing inherently wrong with wanting to be part of a church that is active and exciting and providing a sense of community and support.

Where the trouble lies is in the consumer attitude that only asks, “What’s in it for me?”

With such an attitude we miss out on the reality that

FROM OUR MAILBOX:



WE ARE INVITED:

St. Benedict’s Prime Timers invite all parishioners and friends to join them April 27-30, 2017 for a trip to the Azalea Festival in Virginia. Trip includes, Lodging, Transportation, 3 Breakfasts,

3 Dinners including the Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise, Naval Base, MacArthur Memorial, Chrysler Museum, NATO Festival and reserved seats for 64th Annual Parade of Nations. Taxes and Gratuities included. Cost is \$529.00 per person (\$719.00 singles). Call Marie Blimline for more information 484-332-3241.



NOLDE FOREST COMMUNITY PROGRAMS:

Winter/Spring 2017

Programs are available for families, adults—all ages! All programs are free and held in the C.H. McConnell Hall, unless otherwise noted. Nolde

Mansion Open House—first Sunday of the month through May, 1-4 p.m. No registration required for Open House. All other events require registration. For a complete list of state park programs, including those at Nolde Forest EE Center: <http://events.dcnr.pa.gov>

Check out the Nolde Forest Facebook page. Like and follow them to keep up with news and program offerings.

www.facebook.com/NoldeForestEEC

Hopewell Christian Fellowship invites the members of Robeson Lutheran to their COFFEE HOUSE on Friday, Feb. 3, at 7 p.m. Specialty beverages and treats available for purchase. \$5 cover charge; All proceeds go to help the Syrian refugees.



DAFFODIL DAYS—Hope By the Bunch

This year Relay for Life will be participating in Daffodil Days and one of our members, Amy Kunkel, will be taking orders as part of her Relay for Life Team “TeAmy” from the Daniel Boone Relay for Life. If you would like to support Amy please fill out the form below and make your check payable to American Cancer Society and Amy will make sure your daffodils are delivered here to the church for easy pick-up the week of March 13. All orders are due by February 5. Amy appreciates your support!

DAFFODIL ORDER FORM

(Please order through the church office by Feb. 5)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to order:

_____ Bunch of 10 daffodils @ \$10.00 a bunch

_____ Pot of Daffodils @ \$12.00 a pot

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____ payable
to American Cancer Society

Christians are called to serve others, to follow the Christ in denying themselves, recognizing that faith is less about us and our personal needs, and more about God and what God has already done for us all.

In the end, Consumer Christianity may offer a small taste of the gospel, but only as we seek to turn the question around from, “What does the church have to offer me?” to “What do I have to offer to others through the church?” will we grow in a spirituality that meets our deepest needs and truly reflects the life of the Christ whom we are called to follow.

Your brother in Christ,

PASTOR MICHAEL

IT'S NOT TOO LATE to order LUMINARA REAL-LIFE CANDLES to help make our Christmas Eve Services safer while keeping the appearance of the beautiful candle light services. These candles were used in the candle standards at the end of the pews during our Christmas Eve Services this year, however we would like to order enough to replace all the real candles at the windows and on all the candle standards as funds are available. We are inviting you to sponsor candles for \$25 each in memory or in honor of a loved one or as a gift from your family. All sponsorships will be listed in next year's Christmas Eve bulletins. Please use the form below or call the church office (610-856-7242) if you are interested. Thank you.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

I/We would like to sponsor _____ candle(s)

In memory of In honor of As a gift by
(please circle one)

By _____

Please put payment in an envelope and mark “Candles”
Thanks to all who have already sponsored candles!



LENT begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1 with Holy Communion and Distribution of Ashes at 3:00 & 7:00 p.m. Watch for the special Lenten mailing containing specific information about our weekly services and more!

40 DAYS OF GIVING- LENT 2017

Adult Sunday School Study

March 5 – April 2, 2017

The adult Sunday School class, as part of its study of Luther and the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, will use a new five-week study connected to Martin Luther and his concern for the poor and his rebuke of economic injustice as we go through the five Sunday's of Lent. Participants will come to see the many ways our faith calls us to strive for justice in our world. Included with the economic justice and faith themes will be ties to Scripture and our Lutheran heritage. Chapters are titled as follows: 1. A Household Economy 2. An Economy of Grace 3. Livelihood and Vocation 4. A Just World (Where All Are Fed) 5. A Sustainable Future. Plan to join friends and family as we "journey through Lent" reflecting on where we "hear" God in our daily lives and many of the struggles that are present on the world scene today. So take a closer look focusing on our Lutheran perspective on the economy and how we strive to affirm our baptismal vocation "to strive for justice and peace in all the earth." This class meets in the upper hallway of the Christian Education wing the last room on the right. Time of the class is 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. (There is Sunday School for children Kindergarten and older.)



RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES:

HELP YOUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY:

Please bring in your used **ink cartridges** (any kind) and we will recycle them at Staples earning \$2 each for the church.

Cell phones, eyeglasses, and hearing aid batteries also continue to be collected for local ministries.

Paper Recycling Bins are located at the rear of Hoeffler Hall to accept your **newspaper, magazines, office paper, "junk" mail, and now phonebooks and cardboard (must be smashed flat)**. Please no plastic; take your paper out of the plastic bags before you throw it in the bin. Thanks for your help!

Please note, we no longer are collecting clothing for Steeple to People. We encourage you to continue to donate your good, used clothing to Steeple to People in Honey Brook or the Reusit Shop or Goodwill in Morgantown. Thank you!

OUR ONGOING FUNDRAISER:

REDNER'S RECEIPTS. We continue to collect Redner's receipts as an ongoing fundraiser. Marion would like to thank everyone who participates and remind you to always use your gas card when making a purchase at Redners. **Receipts without the gas card number printed on them are invalid and will not be accepted by the store.**

UPDATE ON CARDS: As most of you probably know, Redner's has changed their cards, so it is very important that you get your new one immediately, You will need to show them your old card to get the new one; or if you don't yet have one just ask for a card—it's free!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

BREAKFASTS: Geigertown Fire Company—First Sunday; Brecknock Fire Company—Second Sunday; Joanna Furnace—Third Saturday, 7-11 a.m.

ministering TO Seniors

MINISTRIES AVAILABLE TO OUR SENIORS, SHUT-INS, SICK, ETC.:

CD Ministry—CD's of the weekly services are being mailed out to all those senior, sick or and shut-in members who cannot attend church services.

Large Print Devotionals—these are the same as our small, daily devotionals but have larger print for those needing it.

Prayer Shawls—These are available for sick, hospitalized, shut-in or senior members who would like one. They are very comforting to those who have received them. Recipients do not need to be a member of Robeson so please take them for others who would like them.

Robeson Hammers—Helping members in need with minor repairs at home, mainly small projects that would make their homes safer or more comfortable.

Home Visits—Our visitation team now trained to bring Holy Communion is visiting a number of our seniors and shut-ins and would be more than happy to visit others if invited. It is our hope to visit with and bring Holy Communion to each shut-in and homebound member of Robeson up to 6 times a year. If you would like a visit, and have not yet been visited by a member of our team, please feel free to contact Pastor Michael or call the church office 610-856-7242.)

If you have a need or request for any of the above ministries, please call the church office and we will be happy to help you.

The **Berks County Area Agency on Aging** is available to help you over the phone. Please call their office at 610-478-6500 and a staff member will be able to explain available services, answer questions and provide information on programs and community resources for you, family members or anyone you know who is 60 years of age and older. Please don't hesitate to give them a call.



VALENTINE & FAMILY DANCE

All are invited!

Saturday, February 11th

6-9 p.m.

This event is intended for all ages, singles, couples, families.

The evening will begin with a pasta dinner (prepared by Greg Gehman and his Thrivent Action Team), drinks, desserts and other food trays..

Following dinner "DJ" Tyler Werner will provide a blend of upbeat and mellow dance favorites spanning several decades of popular music. Cost for adults is a \$15 donation to the Youth of Robeson Lutheran Church, children 12 and under is \$7 (3 and under are free). We welcome all to attend, members and non-members of the church. We are hoping this will be one of the big fundraisers for the 2018 national youth event in Houston, Texas and one of our great fellowship events of the year. The youth greatly appreciate your support so please invite your friends and neighbors to join them for an evening of good food, great music, and the best party in Plowville!



TICKETS ARE
AVAILABLE NOW

Donation:

Adults \$15.00

Children \$7.00

Under 3 are free

Please see Tyler, a member of the youth group, or stop by the church office for tickets.

RESERVATION FORM (Deadline February 5)

Name: _____ Phone or email: _____

Adults attending: _____ Children 12 and under: _____
3 and under (free) _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ OR
Amount due \$ _____ (I'll pay at the door)



FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Christmas Cantata practice started in October, meeting every Sunday after church. Then in December, a few Thursday evenings. It was worth all the many practices as the performance on December 18 went really well. I want to thank each of the choir members for attending every practice so faithfully. It was nice to have Barbara Strough's daughter, Sherry Harsh, sing with us.

The Praise Team "Laudate" is doing very well, singing on the fourth Sunday of every month. We continue to do new music each month.

I'm thinking about doing something with the choir for Easter this year. A possibility might be "The Holy City." We'll see.

Sing from your heart and worship the Lord,
Louise Wilson, Minister of Music



We would like to thank everyone who responded to our recent theft with donations of monetary gifts to replace the stolen projector and laptop, and to those who have donated a personal projector or laptop. The generosity of this congregation is amazing. We will not only be able to eventually replace the items, but we will also have spare equipment to be used at various functions. Thank you!!!

Men's Group



The men of Robeson Lutheran Church continue to meet for breakfast and fellowship on the second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m. here in our own Hoeffer Hall. This is a great opportunity to get to know your brothers in Christ and learn more about your faith through brief bible study and mutual conversation. Come and see how the men of Robeson live out their discipleship. The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for **February 11 at 7:30 a.m. in Hoeffer Hall.**

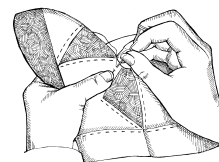
Robeson Robins Senior Group

The Robeson Robins will be meeting on February 14 at noon for lunch followed by Valentine Bingo with Berkshire Commons. Please bring a covered dish to share and plan to stay for some bingo fun following lunch. All are welcome!



If you are 55 or over and able to attend Tuesday meetings/trips once a month please consider joining the group. Lots of effort goes into planning events and the Robins would love to have more people participate. Please call Billie at 610-401-8496 if you would like more information about the Robeson Robins.

QUILT TILL YOU WILT every first Saturday of the month from 9-2. If you like to "quilt" which includes cutting, sewing, and knotting, (no experience necessary) then maybe Quilt Till You Wilt is for you. More sewers, quilters, knotters are needed. If you would like to try this art, please feel free to join the group on the first Saturday or call Cindy Stewart for more information (610-856-7041).



QUILTING GROUP

DID YOU KNOW? We have wheelchairs, potty chairs, shower chairs, canes, crutches, and walkers to loan out to anyone who might need one for a time.

THIS AND THAT AT ROBESON LUTHERAN:



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! We have posted volunteer sheets on the bulletin board in the new foyer. If you are willing to help during any of the worship services please sign up on this board. There are lists for acolytes, lectors, ushers, greeters, sound technicians, worship assistants, and communion servers. We appreciate and need our volunteers!

ALTAR GUILD: Altar care volunteers are still needed for 2017. If you are willing to serve on altar care for a month with at least one other volunteer please call Marion Kachel (610-856-1683) or the church office.

REMINDERS:

Committee reports are due in the church office on the first Thursday of the month for the council meeting which will be held on the 2nd Thursday.

All Property concerns and requests should be brought to the attention of Dale Creed or the church office. Please do not take concerns directly to the Property Committee. Thanks for your help with this.

PARISH DIGEST DEADLINE: Articles for the March newsletter are due in the office by February 15.

ALTAR FLOWERS and BULLETIN SPONSORS: Please check with Linell in the church office for any openings. Reminder: Altar flowers cost is \$33 and bulletins are \$25.

IMPORTANT:

- Any group or individual sponsoring special projects, collections, etc. please contact Bill Haney (Social Ministry) for coordination purposes and Debbie at the church office for advertising these events and projects.
- Any committee or group that has events etc. to advertise in the area papers should please copy to Linell at lmrm52@aol.com.



Soup Sale 2017

The Outreach Committee is holding its Annual Soup Sale on March 19, from 9 to 1. We are asking help from the congregation in making the soups.

We are looking for the following soups: Chili, Chicken Noodle, Chicken Rice, Beef Vegetable, Vegetarian Vegetable, Turkey Vegetable Chowder, Bean, Ham & Bean and Tortellini. We are also looking for whatever your favorite soup is. The greater the variety the better. We are asking for 6 quarts of soup minimum.

Please notify Judy Mountz at 717-445-6130 or Marion Kachel at 610-856-1683 by March 11th if you are interested in making a soup for the sale. We have the quart containers and will be handing them out after church on March 12th, the Sunday before the sale, or you can pick them up in the church office that week. We ask that the soup be delivered to the church on Saturday morning before 12 noon on March 18th. We will have coolers to keep them in until Sunday.

We are also asking for baked goods to sell along with the soup. Anyone willing to provide baked goods would be greatly appreciated. We also ask that they be delivered on Saturday before the sale.

We will accept orders for the soup. Please use the enclosed order form and include payment with your order. The price is \$7.00 per quart. Order ahead to ensure that you get the soup of your choice.

SOUP ORDER FORM

(pick up **Sunday, March 19**, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.)

\$7.00 per quart

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to order the following soup(s):

_____ Bean soup

_____ Ham and Bean

_____ Tortellini

_____ Chili

_____ Chicken Noodle

_____ Chicken Rice

_____ Vegetarian Vegetable

_____ Vegetable Beef

_____ Turkey Vegetable Chowder

Total number of quarts ordered: _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____ (\$7 each)

Come prepared to purchase some delicious desserts as well.
Your order is greatly appreciated! See you on the 19th of
March!

BAD WEATHER INFORMATION

We have an agreement with WFMZ-TV (channel 69) and WGAL (channel 8) to publicize information about the Sunday schedule when the weather is not favorable. The list of changes and closings usually streams across the bottom of the screen. Please watch channel 69 or 8 if you have questions about our schedule when the weather is questionable. If roads in your area are hazardous please use your own judgment and do not risk your life trying to get to church. Thank you.

THANK YOU!

Bill Moore and his family would like to thank everyone who attended his party on Dec. 18th to celebrate his 100th birthday. It was a very special day!!

Also thank you to everyone who sent Bill cards and gifts and special thanks to those who donated items for the veterans. The donations were delivered to the Birdsboro VFW on Dec. 27th and were turned over to the people who distribute the items on the following day. We were told the need, especially in the winter months, is great and they were very thankful for the items. Money donations were deposited in the VFW's Veterans Fund which is used to purchase additional things that are needed. The wonderful response to Bill's request to help veterans was very much appreciated!!

THANK YOU: Your generosity during the Christmas season was very much appreciated! We received Christmas cards and thank yous from friends and members, the organizations that we helped such as Trucks for Maddox, St. Vincent DePaul Society (Thanksgiving offering), St. Benedict's Food Pantry, Safe Berks, angel tree recipients, and Christmas stockings. One of our own members received a small gift card from an anonymous donor and expressed thanks for the friends here at Robeson and the appreciation of receiving this gift after a hard year and limited income, stating that they are very grateful and that God does provide.

You shared the real meaning of Christmas with those in need. Thank you all.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Income for December:	\$ 20,907.60
Other Income:	\$ 793.8613(in/out)
Checks issued for December:	\$ 22,906.35
Checking balance brought forth:	\$ 1,204.89
Checking balance as of 11/30/16	\$ 143.18

Unpaid Bills: None

I/O (\$300.00)

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

SPECIAL FUNDS REPORT:

Special funds received in December \$ 750.00

OUTFLOW:

Community Activity Funds \$ 100.98

Electric Candles \$ 399.92

Charitable Outreach \$ 200.00

Checking Account balance 12/31/16 \$15,795.68

-Kay Good, Treas. Spec. Funds

An important announcement about E-giving!



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SIGNED UP FOR

E-GIVING. We would like to remind those who are using E-giving to please go to the site and check your number of donations. Some members have noticed that their giving had stopped due to their number of donations having been reached. You now have the option to enter 999 to keep your giving going indefinitely until you choose to stop giving. E-giving is an ongoing service offered here at Robeson Lutheran. You can sign up on our church website at **www.robesonlutheranchurch.org** and look for the **"Donate Now" button.**

Thank you for considering this giving opportunity that allows you to be good stewards of God's gifts even when you are unable to attend services.



THE SENIOR YOUTH GROUP is holding the following fundraisers to help cover their costs to attend the 2018 national youth event in Houston, Texas. Contact Tyler at twern9@gmail.com to support fundraisers or with any questions.

- **Sandwich Tickets:** The youth have restocked sandwich tickets and are ready for new and old customers to purchase some to be used for the delicious hoagies at Weaver's Orchard. Cost is \$5 and they never expire! See Tyler Werner or stop by the church office during the Week to purchase tickets.
- **Sheetz coupon books**, \$10 each. These are good for 3 years. They are available from Tyler. They make nice gifts for graduates, dance teachers, music teachers, traveling friends, etc. Please check out the books and support the youth. Coupons for a fancy coffee and an M-T-O sandwich pay for the book; the rest of the coupons provide the bonus.
- **Giant gift cards**—Do you do your grocery shopping at Giant or would you like to start doing so? If your answer to this question is yes then this is the fundraiser for you! The youth group is selling Giant gift cards that you can use to buy your groceries (or give as gifts to others) and they will receive 5%. If only 10 members purchased \$100 worth of gift cards each week, we would receive \$50 a week or \$2,500 each year—free and clear profit! There is no extra money from your pocket. Please sign up with Tyler or call the church office to purchase cards. Thanks to those who purchased cards and already raised \$150 for the youth group. Contact Tyler at twern9@gmail.com for more information. Thank you!



ROBESON FAMILY AND FRIENDS GAME NIGHT: Our next game night will be held on Friday, February 10 from 6-8 p.m. These evenings of fun and games have been enjoyed by those who have been coming and new people are always appreciated! Everyone

is welcome however, an adult must accompany children under age 12. Bring your family, bring a guest, bring a snack to share, bring your favorite game to play, or just bring yourself!

Robeson Preschool



2017-2018 Preschool Registration

February 7-9, 9 a.m. -12 noon—

Current students

Week of February 13th—Church members; families of former students

Week of February 21st—open to the public

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FOR FEBRUARY:

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY—February 5

Tyler and the youth will coordinate this event; John Lauer's Thrivent Action Team, the youth, scouts and staff will volunteer in various ways.

VALENTINE & FAMILY PASTA DINNER & DANCE—February 11. Sponsored by the youth, this event will benefit those attending the 2018 Youth Gathering in Texas. Youth will serve as volunteers and attendees; invite your friends!!!

LASER TAG on the 11th at 3-4:30 before the dance

Youth Committee Meeting—February 19

X-TREME AIR in Wyomissing the 20th (President's Day), time TBD

LEAVING A LEGACY THAT GOES BEYOND DEATH

When we recall the names of the faithful who have died, our minds are often filled with precious memories. In our thoughts we are reminded that we are their legacy, that is to say, much of what we have – in both material and non-material things – has been handed down to us from them. But what will we hand down to those who follow? How will we be remembered by those who come after us? Will we leave more than an empty spot in a pew?

As you plan for the distribution of your assets at your death, please consider a charitable bequest to Robeson Lutheran Church. This is one way your faith can be transferred to the next generation. This, and other types of planned gifts, can undergird our congregation's ministry in perpetuity, providing resources that will allow future generations of Christians to worship, serve others, and continue the vital ministries of this church.

If you have questions about planned giving, you can talk to your personal financial advisor or speak to our congregational Thrivent representative John Lauer at his Morgantown office (610)-286-5986.



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: Our thanks to those members/friends of the congregation who have designated Robeson Lutheran Church as the charity of choice for their Thrivent Choice Dollars. If you have received a letter from Thrivent indicating that you are eligible for this plan, please consider our congregation as you help direct Thrivent Financial's charitable funds. Our last contribution was in early November, but with your help we will be looking for future funds.