

## Happy Birthday to our Seniors!



### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Elaine Gordon—Nov. 4  
 Buddie Bannon—Nov. 10  
 Mary Muhlenberg—Nov. 17—90th! You can send a card to Mary at:  
 647 Furnace Road,  
 Birdsboro PA 19508  
 Marie Brooks—Nov. 28  
 Peggy Haag—Nov. 30

### Coming up in December:

Bob Rivers—Dec. 1  
 William Moore—Dec. 12—Every birthday is a special one when you're 101! Please send a card to Bill at :  
 Country Meadows  
 1800 Tulpehocken Road  
 Wyomissing PA 19610

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:

### Baptisms:

10/1/17—Harper Mae Smith, daughter of Kyle and Denise Smith.  
 10/8/17—Grayson Paul McIntyre, son of Richard and Jillian McIntyre.

### New Members:

10/29/17—Michael and Amanda Baylor (children Brynn and Braden will be baptized on December 10)  
 Yvone Orender  
 Ann Reganis  
 Kyle and Denise Smith (daughter Harper was baptized 10/1)

Vol. XXXXVI  
 No. 10

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 2—Office & Leadership Info.  
 Page 3—November Services & Events  
 Page 4-5—Pastor's Letter  
 Page 5—Thanksgiving Eve Service; Mailing reminders  
 Page 6-8—"All of Humanity" by Chris Gerace  
 Page 9—Youth Fundraising; Pancake Breakfast  
 Page 10—Wed. Community Night  
 Page 11—New Reformatoin 500 Banner; RIC; Congregational Meeting  
 Page 12—Angel Tree  
 Page 13—Game Night; Thanksgiving Food Collection  
 Page 14-16—Thank Yous! Bazaar results; Preschool Fundraising  
 Page 17—Thank Yous received; Free Throw Basketball  
 Page 18—Adult SCS  
 Page 18-20—Finances  
 Page 21—This & That  
 Page 22—Men's Group; Robeson Robins; Quilting  
 Page 23—Senior Ministries  
 Page 24—Recycling; Redners; Breakfasts  
 Page 25-27—WBMD & Community News  
 Page 28—Birthdays; & Parish Register

NOVEMBER 2017

## The Parish Digest

### From the Pastor:



<sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

(Colossians 1:11-14)

### For All the Saints who from their Labors Rest.

or

### Thanksgiving for the Ever-living!

Just the other day, my father sent me an obituary notice via email. It was the obituary of someone that I am certain that I met at least once, perhaps even several times in my life, but nevertheless it is of one whom I don't have any real memories.

Indeed, my only knowledge of this person is that he was the one to preside over my baptism, way back, when I was just a little baby, in the year of our Lord 1975.

The obituary states, "The Rev. George R. Knarr died on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at SpiriTrust Lutheran at Sprenkle Drive in York....," and from there it proceeds to tell bits and pieces of a life once lived: important relationships, educational and work career, and some habits and hobbies that were of import to the deceased and to his (continued on page 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 1:30-4:00 610-856-7242

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

Preschool Director— Phone: 610-856-7613; Email: preschool610@dejazzd.com

Council Officers:

Chris Gerace, President

Julia Bond, Secretary

Kay Good, Treasurer Special Funds

Lori Sifford, Financial Secretary

Other Council Members:

Joy O'Donnell

Mike Wisniewski

Ed Haag

Rex Miller, Vice President

Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

Abby Moore (youth)

Karen Kercher

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLEASE SUPPORT  
AMY KUNKLE'S RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM!

## Breakfast With Santa!



At Robeson Lutheran Church

Saturday, December 16

8 a.m.—11 a.m.

Adults \$8; Children 10 and under \$5

Under 3—free

All you can eat pancakes, sausage, OJ, milk, tea,  
and coffee. Baked goods for purchase.  
Visit with Santa. Pictures for a donation.

All proceeds benefit Relay for Life of Daniel Boone and the  
American Cancer Society.

## You are invited to participate in the 41st Annual "Sing Messiah"

in the sanctuary of Grace Lutheran Church, Shillington,

Sunday, November 26, at 3 pm.

Conducted by Brian R. Gibson

Accompanied by the Berks Chamber Orchestra

Singers should bring their own score.

There will be seating for non-singers.

\$10 donation requested

## 2017 CROP Hunger Walk a great success!!!

On Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> about 300 people walked at Gring's Mill in the annual Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk. It was another beautiful, sunny day – well, not really... it was cloudy and hot and humid and very buggy but the predicted rain and thunderstorms never came so it was a wonderful day!

This was our 36<sup>th</sup> annual Walk and we have already collected over \$24,000 and donations continue to come in. 75% of money raised goes to Church World Service to help feed people around the world and 25% goes to the Greater Berks Food Bank to help feed our hungry neighbors locally.

**Special thanks to all for helping to fight hunger one step at a time! GREAT JOB!!!**

This year's awards went to:

**Funky Flip Flop Award** for the most youth walking - St. Paul's UCC in Fleetwood

**Golden Sneakers Award** for most walkers - West Lawn United Methodist Church AGAIN!

**Benevolent Bling Award** for most money raised – so far it seems to be West Lawn UMC!

**Looking forward to seeing you next year!  
2018 CROP Walk – Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**

**FREE COMPUTER CLASSES:** Berks Encore  
Beginner class—Friday, Nov. 10 10-11:30 a.m.

How do I turn on the computer? What is Word?  
Intermediate class—Friday, Dec. 1, 10-11:30 a.m.

How do I change font? How do I use a browser?  
Advanced class—Friday, Dec. 15, 10-11:30 a.m.

How do I use social media?  
Classes are held at Grace Lutheran Church, 30 Liberty St., Shillington. 19607 Open to anyone over the age of 50. RSVP to Kate at 610-777-5577 or kswein-hart@berksencore.org

## NOVEMBER SERVICES & EVENTS

**Every Sunday:** 9:00 SCS for 7th grade through Adults  
Children's SCS is held during the worship services.

**NOVEMBER 5—ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: HOLY COMMUNION** 7:45 & 10:15 a.m. Each year the church remembers with thanksgiving the lives and witness of those believers who have gone on ahead of us to be in the Church Triumphant. We especially give thanks for those members who have died since the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, 2016 and will light a candle and mention them in our prayers on this day.

**NOVEMBER 12—HOLY COMMUNION** - 7:45 & 10:15 a.m.  
**Veterans will be recognized at both services;** Those who would like, are encouraged to wear their uniforms to the service.

**NOVEMBER 19 —WORSHIP—**7:45 & 10:15 a.m.  
9:00 a.m. **Youth Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast**—all are invited for delicious pumpkin pancakes (regular pancakes will also be available)

**NOVEMBER 22—THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE, 7:00 p.m.**  
The service will be held here at St. Benedict Roman Catholic Church; Pastor Michael will preach and Father Phil will lead the service. A fellowship hour will follow the service. Please plan to attend and worship with our friends at St. Benedict's.

**NOVEMBER 26—CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**  
**PRAISE SERVICE—**7:45 & 10:15 a.m.  
Joyful Noise offering for Berks Women in Crisis



### **SPECIAL EVENTS LATER THIS MONTH:**

*(please see articles on following pages for more information)*

Nov. 19—Youth Fundraiser Pumpkin Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m.

Nov. 19—Free Throw Basketball Championship 1:00 p.m.

beloved family and friends.

Turns out Pastor Knarr was a man who loved to travel. He enjoyed trips to Hudson Valley, NY, Quebec, Canada, the Bahamas, Bermuda, and Europe. He was a Yankees fan, and a Penn State fan, and a fan of the York Revolution (a baseball team). Pastor Knarr also enjoyed stamp collecting, ballet, opera, and symphonies.

As I said, I didn't really know Pastor Knarr, I only knew of him through a story or two passed down to me from my parents. Even so, I cannot help but feel a connection, small as it may be, to this man.

In the Apostle's and Nicene creeds, we have this particular line where we confess our belief in the "communion of saints." I have always understood that line to mean that we confess and trust that in God's gift of eternal life, we can be assured that there is a place where those who have died in faith are now alive and living in community together, and not only that, but that you and I (living on this side of existence) are part of that fellowship too!

I relish this image of what it means to be God's family; to be saints together in fellowship here on earth and in heaven. And in light of our celebration of All Saints Sunday, each year in November, when we reflect on and celebrate the memory of those who have gone from us to join the "Church Triumphant," I think it gives us much to rejoice over, and it teaches us something about the nature of being God's people.

You and I are connected. We are connected to every saint in every age. We are connected to those saints who prayed for us when we were sick or in the hospital, or who lifted us before God in the aftermath of some personal tragedy. We are connected to the saints who taught us the stories of the Bible in Sunday school and the saints who fought for human dignity in peaceful protests around the world. We are part of this vast and glorious family, saints on earth and saints in heaven, and even though we may never have met many of them, we are nevertheless connected.

In this month of November, as we remember the saints who lived among us as family and friends, we will take some time to acknowledge the ways in which they touched our lives

## WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT NEWS

### My Neighbor is Muslim Exploring the Islam Faith

Our second **TableTalk** event was held at the McGlinn Conference Center on October 11 and was attended by 32 people. We heard from Ms. Tahara Akmal, a member of the Islamic Center of Reading and Director of the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at the Reading Hospital who was our Speaker for the evening. She helped us understand what Muslims and Christians have in common, how we differ and how we can work together for the common good.

"My Neighbor is Muslim" study materials are available electronically by contacting the WBMD office.

**PSST... HEY YOUTH!!!**

Plan to join other youth from the WBMD for an awesome, night-time scavenger hunt at Gring's Mill on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM.

Watch for more information coming soon!!

### **WBMD Calendar of Events**

November 2	Installation of President United Sem.
November 4	Youth Leaders meeting at Grace
November 9	WBMD Fall Assembly
December 3	Youth Scavenger Hunt @ Gring's Mill

#### **Mark your calendars now for these 2018 events!**

Jan. 23	WBMD Council
February 24	WB Annual Youth event at Robeson
March 11	Bowl-a-thon at Berks Lanes
October 7	CROP Hunger Walk



### 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!

**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. Please call the church office (610-856-7242) to make arrangements for pick-up of items.

### OUR ONGOING FUNDRAISER:

**REDNER'S RECEIPTS.** We continue to collect Redner's receipts as an ongoing fundraiser. We have just received another check for \$112.36 bringing the total this year to \$757.13. 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. If you don't yet have a card just ask for one—it's free!**

### COMMUNITY NEWS:

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

and give thanks for their service to the Lord. Yet, may we also take some time to consider those many other saints around us, people who we may never have met, or have only heard of in stories, and give a prayer of thanks for their work as well, for they too are part of our story.

*This article is dedicated in loving memory of Pastor Knarr - Thank you for being there at my baptism, for celebrating my entrance into the family of God, and for encouraging my parents to raise me in the faith of the Church.*

Your brother in Christ,  
**PASTOR MICHAEL**



*Happy Thanksgiving!  
To You And Your Family*

### Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 22, 7:00 p.m.

at St. Benedict R.C.C.

2020 Chestnut Hill Road, Mohnton PA 19540

Pastor Michael will deliver the message; Father Phil will lead the service.



**REMINDER:** The Advent/Christmas Mailing will go out the third week of November. Articles must be received by November 12 in order to be included in this mailing.

**THE DECEMBER/JANUARY DIGEST** will be mailed mid December. Articles for this newsletter are due by December 10. There will be no separate newsletter for January. Thank you!

## “All of Humanity”

A Commentary by Chris Gerace

In June of this year, I attended an LGBT+ “Pride Fest” event in Phoenixville, Montgomery County. I attended partly as a reconnaissance mission for the RIC (Reconciled in Christ) process we have entered here at Robeson Church, but I also attended to test my own mettle as a self-proclaimed “Christian.” My attending this event was not without a small measure of fear. The fear however, was not of who would be coming to this event to support the LGBTQ+ community. With all the craziness and senseless violence going on in America today, any fear I had was that some loony or hate group might show up to deliver hatred or violence to this event. Luckily, nothing like that happened, and that fear did not “win” by preventing me (and many others) from attending this event.

The Pride Fest was held on a beautiful sunny day in an open, level park that was 1x1 residential square block in size. No different than a small town fair, the event consisted mostly of booths lined up in several “avenues,” and a small bandstand with a seating area. A number of food vendors lined one of the street curbs offering all sorts of delicious lunch items, beverages and desserts. Most of the 50+ booths were of various organizations, not unlike one would encounter at a health fair or a police and firemen community event.

Booth occupants ranged from national businesses (Dow Chemical, Wal-Mart, Giant Food Stores, Pfizer) to local banks, Lutheran and UCC churches, real estate agencies, and other businesses. But about one third of the booths were staffed by organizations to provide education, support and assistance to LGBTQ+ persons, their families and friends, and anyone with an interest in helping the LGBT+ community. Represented were hospitals and medical centers, the Kiwanis, support groups, abuse crisis centers, and counselling services.

I visited every booth, gathering information, SWAG (freebies)



### 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.

## 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. (usually here in 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 **November 11 at 7:30 a.m. in Hoeffer Hall.**

## Robeson Robins Senior Group

The Robeson Robins will be traveling to the Rainbow Dinner Theater on November 21 to see "Guess Who's Coming to Christmas." If you plan to attend please let Billie know asap.



The Robins always welcome new members so if you are 50 or over and able to attend Tuesday meetings/trips once a month please consider joining the group. Programs and trips are planned by the Robeson Robins Board. There will be several openings on the board beginning in 2018. Call Billie at 610-401-8496 if you would like more information about serving on the board or joining 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 in Hoeffer Hall, or call Cindy Stewart for more information (610-856-7041).

and some contact information. All along the way, live music was drifting over from the bandstand stage from one of the scheduled musical acts. After visiting all the booths and talking to so many kind souls, I grabbed a bite, sat near the bandstand and listened to a good fusion rock band - with a transgender lead singer/guitarist - belting out some great original music.

Some of the overall observations I made during the event were:

- The event was alcohol free and smoke free (smoking area set-up at the far corner of the square)

- Everyone was polite, supportive, friendly and generous
- I heard no profanity, off-color comments or inappropriate conversations

- Folks of all ages and whole families were present including small children

- There was no parade, and no one was dressed in any shocking or inappropriate attire

- I never - not one second - felt threatened by anyone at this event

- I experienced no hatred or judgement, just a bunch of human beings lifting each other up

Pride Fest was a beautiful experience for me considering my upbringing. I was brought up in a Christian household. Although my parents never harbored any prejudice or judgment toward the LGBTQ+ community, I was also a product of my social surroundings. For me, homosexuals and lesbians were the subject of disdain and ridicule, and trans-gender people were considered all out freaks. All of these projections were made from a safe distance away from "those people." Oh, but how my mind has changed since those days.

I have already told many that I had a complete turn-around in the summer of 2003. At Robeson Lutheran Church, Pastor Sue Fox held a Sunday morning (summer time) Bible study regarding the ELCA's Sexuality Study. In one of those sessions, I realized just how wrong and how judgmental I had been for most of my life. None of that condescending or



judgmental behavior aligned with walking the path of Christ... and if we are Christians, then we are at least supposed to try to walk that walk. We should already know (deep down) when we are not welcoming, accepting, and sharing the Good News. It was like a light went on in my soul.

I am not proud of my past, and I chalk it up to being human. To this day, I catch myself thinking “That’s so gay!” as a derogatory statement. (Bad habits of decades are very hard to shake!) But I would like to think that I have transformed, by the grace of our Lord.

Did you ever wonder why the ELCA Lectionary Calendar repeats the same scriptures every three years? My opinion is that it is supposed to get the message “through to us,” to get the Lord’s message to guide us, and encourage us over time - to continue to transform from beings of the physical world, to spiritual beings in action i.e. true followers of Christ.

We are not put here on Earth to become set in our ways, but to transform. Doing the Lord’s work (giving, welcoming, accepting, and sharing the Good News), transforms us throughout our short time here on Earth.

Please allow me to throw out a movie quote. Some of you might know what film it came from, others might look it up. It goes something like this: “...*you look at someone long enough, you discover their humanity.*” Brothers and sisters in Christ, the LGBT+ community IS made up of humans. I realized that these humans have been part of humanity since the dawn of civilization, and they are no further a threat to humanity than any other demographic that has been sinfully repressed throughout history.

Now is the time to further the Lord’s agenda. We must open our hearts and become beings of the Spirit. Transform. May we walk the walk as best we can, in the name of Jesus Christ - our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### 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 always needed. 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 December/January newsletter are due in the office by November 27 .

**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](mailto:lmrm52@aol.com).





## 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. In October and November we have received \$673 in Choice Dollars thanks to:

William Haney	Gerald Ludwig	John Lauer
Harvey Martin	Roger Mauchline	

## **MUSIC NOTES:**

Cantata practice has started! The cantata is called "Holding On To Christmas." The cantata will be performed on Sunday, December 17th at 9:00 a.m. This will be the only service that day. We welcome anyone who likes to sing and give of their talent.

Sing from your heart,  
Louise Wilson, Minister of Music

## **YOUTH NEWS:**

The Senior Youth continue to hold fundraisers to help cover costs for their 2018 Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. They have Weaver's coupons for sale for \$5 for a small sandwich of your choice, and also GIANT Gift Cards in different amounts. Their next big fundraiser will be a Pancake Breakfast (details below). Contact Tyler at [twern9@gmail.com](mailto:twern9@gmail.com) to support fundraisers or with any questions.

### **PUMPKIN PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Robeson Raptors Youth Fundraiser

**Sunday, November 19, 9 a.m.**

In Hoeffler Hall



There will be all-you-can-eat pumpkin and regular pancakes, sausage, bacon, pumpkin and regular coffee, and more!

**Cost is \$5 at the door**

# WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY NIGHT DECEMBER 6, 6:00-7:30



**Christmas Sing-A-Long  
With Laudate,  
Praise Team**

**Crafts for Children  
Making gifts for Shut-ins**

**Following a  
Family-friendly Meal  
At 6:00 p.m.**

---

## Wednesday Community Night—December 6 RESERVATION FORM

\_\_\_\_ Number Attending \_\_\_\_ adults; \_\_\_\_ children

\_\_\_\_ Will bring a dessert

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to the church office by November 26 if possible.



## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Income for September:	\$ 14,200.83
Other Income:	\$ 869.93 (in/out)
Checks issued for September:	\$ 18,759.44
Checking balance brought forth:	\$ 3,885.84
Checking balance as of 9/30/17	\$ 197.16

Unpaid Bills: None  
I/O Accounts: \$463.66

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

## SPECIAL FUNDS REPORT:

Special funds received in September	\$ 165.00
Boiler donations	\$ 7250.00
Chicken Barbecue	\$ 1319.00
Checking Account balance 9/30/17	\$19,993.11

-Kay Good, Treas. Spec. Funds

**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](http://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.

## FAITHFUL: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph **Adult Sunday School**

Have you ever considered how Joseph processed all that went on when he was told Mary was going to have a child? The adult Sunday School class will be looking into a study by Methodist pastor, Adam Hamilton, from November 26 - December 10. The format includes a DVD presentation followed by discussion. You will discover how Joseph is much like we, in that he encounter events that he was not anticipating. He had the choice to walk away or to follow God's guidance and nurture both Jesus and Mary. The class meets at 9:00 in the last room on the right in the upstairs hallway of the Christian Ed./preschool building. All are welcome. We would appreciate **your** input into the conversation.



### **Fall Furnace Fundraiser Update**

The furnace has been paid in full! Thank you to all who supported this effort, especially the generous member who paid most of it before the thermometer was even hung!

If you were considering a gift and would still like to donate, any funds toward the upcoming heating bills will be greatly appreciated. Thank you

**THINK AHEAD:** How can you help organize a fund-raising event and receive \$250 in start up funds? It's easy if you form a **Thrivent Action Team!** If you would like more information about forming a team for a fundraiser in our church or your community please contact John Lauer (610-286-5986 ) or the church office (610-856-7242).

## **NEW REFORMATION 500 BANNER**



The new banner hanging in the church was made by Dot Gibney in honor of Pastor Michael and in thanks for his inspirational sermon series on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

This beautiful banner was enlarged from an oil painting in 1529 by Lucas Cranach the elder, a German Renaissance painter and printmaker in woodcut and engraving. We will enjoy this beautiful work of art for many years to come. Thank you Dot!!!

### **RIC—The History and the Process**

Anyone interested in the Lutheran “Reconciling in Christ” process that our church is currently going through, is encouraged to attend the adult SCS on Sunday, November 12th at 9:00 a.m. in the old parlor. There will be a brief presentation followed by discussion.



**December 17 (note date change)**  
**following the 9:00 service** to approve the 2018 budget and elect new council members.

A copy of the Budget will be included in the Advent Mailing later this month.



The Angel Tree  
will be set up in the new foyer  
during the month of November.

See the Advent mailing  
for more information.



We received the following thank yous following the delivery of our goodie baskets put together at our annual church picnic for Helping Hands Sunday and in remembrance of 9/11. This was made possible by a Thrivent Action Team.

Dear Robeson Lutheran Congregation:

On behalf of the Robeson Township Police Department, I would like to offer a sincere thank you for the delicious basket of treats you had given our police department. Knowing my officers as I do, I assure you the basket will be empty within a week.

In working for a small municipal police department, police work can be very demanding and wear a man down, although your kind gesture certainly goes a long way in order to restore an officers pride in short order.

Thank you again for your kind generosity and if I can ever be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Mark T. Phillips, Chief of Police

Friendship Fire Company #1 of Geigertown wishes to thank you for the very nice basket of "goodies." It's nice to know that the community appreciates the volunteer services we supply.

**Knight's of Columbus Free Throw Championship** for boys and girls ages 9-14 here at Robeson Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 19, at 1:00 p.m. Champions in all 6 age groups for both girls and boys divisions (12 champions!) Contact John Coccia at 610-404-0712, email johncoc-cia3@gmail.com, or just show up at 1:00 on November 19th. Free hot dogs and soda will be served. All champions move on to the District Shoot-off.

### Bazaar Financial Report:

Table rentals:	\$585.00
White Elephant:	\$1,090.36
Kitchen:	\$976.83
Baked Goods	\$344.80
Raffle	\$1,557.00
Youth	\$14.75
Total:	\$4,568.74

**Thank you!!!**

### PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISING:

Here is an opportunity to participate in and earn CASH for our preschool from the **Giant A+ School Rewards program**. Visit [www.giantfoodstores.com](http://www.giantfoodstores.com) and select Savings and Rewards. Create your online account. You will need your 11 digit BonusCard number and the School ID# 26822. Support our youth by buying gift cards and then designate your school rewards to our preschool! Thank you!!!

**Do It Local**, an online coupon membership, is now available. Purchase your \$25 membership (\$15 goes to our preschool) and complete registration online at [www.doitLOCALapp.com](http://www.doitLOCALapp.com) using fundraiser key 9F598676. Questions? Call 610-856-7613.



### **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Saturday, December 9, 8-11 a.m.  
\$5 per person; \$20 per family maximum  
Pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus  
Craft  
All you can eat pancakes, etc.

Contact the preschool office for more information at 610-856-7613.



### ROBESON FAMILY AND FRIENDS GAME NIGHT:

Our next game night will be held on November 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! Many of our youth have been gathering for an evening of fun and fellowship. 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!

### THANKSGIVING COLLECTION FOR THE FOOD PANTRY:

As you shop for your Thanksgiving turkey and all the trimmings perhaps you would be willing to buy an item or two for our local pantries. The Pantry is in great need of any nonperishable food and any donations will be greatly appreciated. Below is a suggested list of some suggested items.

Thank you for your donations.

Canned meats – tuna, chicken, meatballs  
Beef Stew and chunky soups  
Boxed cereals – low-sugar please such as Cheerios, Chex, Cornflakes, Raisin Bran  
Macaroni & Cheese

Spaghetti Sauce



Peanut butter  
Rice and Pasta  
Apple Juice



Do we have your **EMAIL ADDRESS**?  
If not, please send it to [dde-marco@dejazzd.com](mailto:dde-marco@dejazzd.com) with your name in



## KUDOS!!!

THANK YOU to everyone who attended our recent events:

The **Trunk or Treat** was bigger and better than ever. Everyone seemed to have a great time and we had over 200 people attending the event (we ran out of hot dogs!). Thanks to everyone who set up cars, donated money, food items and candy, volunteered or supported this event in any way.

The **Reformation Brunch** was well attended and enjoyed by all. Thank you to Dave and Mandy Hinkel who catered this event. The food was delicious!

**Wednesday Community Night** was a delightful evening. Dawn White, a local naturalist from Indian Run Environmental Education Center, introduced everyone to her turtle, owl and hawk and taught us about their adaptations for survival. Thank you again, Mandy and Dave, for the delicious meal. The taco bar was fabulous!

**The Holiday Bazaar**, was a big success and we thank everyone who made it so! SPECIAL THANKS to the members of the Outreach Committee who worked many hours getting ready for the bazaar, and also to our coordinators and workers. Thanks to all of you who donated food, baked goods, and white elephant items, and those who attended and shopped! We couldn't do it without you!

There were 26 beautiful raffle baskets, donated by our committees, local businesses and a few of our vendors. Here are the lucky winners of those baskets:

- #1—Wine, cheese and crackers—Darlene Myers
- #2—Game Basket—Andrew Marvel
- #3—Bird Feeder and supplies—Tavyn Klinger
- #4—Movie—Amy Langman
- #5—Wine—Nancy Horton

- #6—Christmas—Joyce Bezler
- #7—Wine & Wine glasses—Amy Hatfield
- #8—Plow Farms purse, jewelry & tree—Lauer family
- #9—Coffee —Nancy Horton
- #10—Beer—Jen Fisher
- #11—Auto Zone—Anne Scheore
- #12—Hair—Donna March
- #13—Italian—K. Overly
- #14—Wine—Karen Kercher
- #15—Snowman—Barbara Rivers
- #16—Gift cards—J. Templin
- #17—Creeside Inn—John Lauer
- #18—Quilt & Rack—Melody Matthews
- #19—Wreath—Lana Martin
- #20—Godiva—R. Goldberg
- #21—Large Wine Basket—Vicki Smith
- #22—Cupcakes & gift card—Diane Morlock
- #23—Weavers fruit—Leah Kocher
- #24—Gourmet Delight—Katie Marvel
- #25—Essential Oils—Julie Alessandrini
- #26—Rustic Fox—Kim Becker

## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS:

- |                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Green Hills Manor at the Heritage | Robeson Quilters     |
| Dairy Queen                       | John Lauer, Thrivent |
| Bonnie Eshleman—ReMax             | JR's Pizza           |
| Flying Hills Pharmacy             | Dan's Restaurant     |
| Giovanni's Pizza & Pasta          | Flying Hills Fitness |
| Green Hills Lumber                | Antonio's Pizza      |
| Paolo's Pizza                     | Walmart              |
| Emily's Restaurant                | Turkey Hill          |
| Shady Maple                       | Redners              |
| Auto Zone                         |                      |
| A.J.'s Pizzeria                   |                      |
| Smart Style Hair Salon            |                      |
| Plow Farms                        |                      |
| BB's Grocery Outlet               |                      |
| Christine's Creekside Inn         |                      |