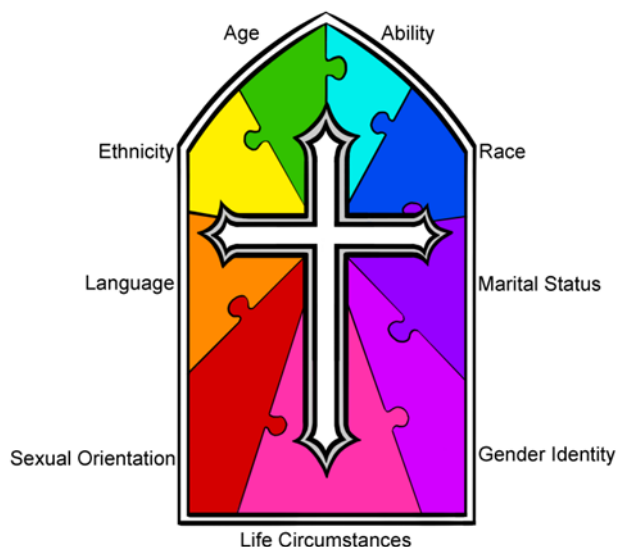


## Robeson Evangelical Lutheran Church

"The Light on the Hill"

Embracing Diversity. Celebrating Unity. Welcoming All.



**Our Reconciled in Christ Logo:** (this is the excellent work of Lana Gerace—Thank You Lana!!)

Now that we are a Reconciled in Christ congregation, it was agreed to create a logo that will visually express our radical hospitality and gracious welcome to all people who, for various reasons, have not always felt so welcome or appreciated in the body of Christ.

### **What is the meaning of the image?**

The rainbow of colors is a reminder of God's love for all people. Each colored section represents a life situation that sometimes presents a challenge for individuals and communities. Even so, the pieces are interlocked as a reminder of our need for one another. The pieces join together to reveal a completed image of a stained glass window in which the cross of Jesus Christ is the center; touching upon the lives of all!

Vol. XXXXVII  
No. 8

### **HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:**

Page 2—Office & Leadership Info.  
Page 3—Sept. Services  
Page 4-5—Pastor's Letter  
Page 6—SCS  
Page 7—WCN, Youth  
Page 8—Outreach  
Page 9-10—Volunteers  
Page 10—Little Library  
Page 11—National Night out thank you  
Page 12—Coming up in October  
Page 13-14—Finances  
Page 15—This & That  
Page 16—Men's Group; Robeson Robins; Quilting  
Page 17—Senior Ministries  
Page 18—Recycling; Redners  
Page 19—Birthdays; & Parish Register  
Page 20—New logo

### **SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

To be held on Sunday, September 16 following the 10:15 a.m. service for the purpose of approving the purchase and installation of a window to be placed over the existing cracked window which protects the stained glass window at the front of the church.

September 2018

## The Parish Digest

### **From the Pastor:**



*<sup>25</sup>But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.'<sup>26</sup>It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant,<sup>27</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave;<sup>28</sup> just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

(Matthew 20:25-28)

### **Literalism, Nationalism, and Politicism: The struggle of Christianity in the United States.**

Or

Did Christendom make Christians dumb?  
Part 3 - Politicism

Politicism – the grouping of individuals by their politics or political affiliations and using this group identification to disparage all members of the group.

Christian religion as an aspect of American politics goes back a long way in our history. That is to say, depending on one's particular religious views, it could significantly effect whether or not you advanced in political office.

Case in point, consider that our third president; Thomas Jefferson who, due to his unorthodox beliefs (rejecting the divinity of Christ, the triune nature of God, and the miracles of Jesus) during his 1800 presidential campaign, struggled (continued 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 1:30-4:00 610-856-7242

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

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

Email: robinbaskets@aol.com

**Julia Bond**, Preschool Manager— Phone: 610-856-7613;

Email: preschool610@dejazzd.com

Council Officers: Chris Gerace, President

Julia Bond, Vice President

Jessica Shepherd, Secretary

Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

Kay Good, Treasurer Special Funds

Lori Sifford, Financial Secretary

Other Council Members:

Amanda Baylor

Ed Haag

Wayne Kercher

Walt Hamilton

Mike Wisniewski

Karen Kercher

Ava Gerace (youth)

## Happy Birthday to our Seniors!

SEPT:

Hazel Griffith—September 2

Bill Haney—Sept. 14—Bill's

new address is:

269 Hanover Road

Phoenixville PA 19460

Ada Peters—Sept. 18—Ada will be 94 this year and would love to receive a card from you. Her address is:

Berkshire Commons Apt 137

5485 Perkiomen Ave

Reading PA 19606

Betty Zellner—Sept. 25



Coming up in October:

Annabelle Fancher—Oct. 3

Barbara Rivers—Oct. 14

Marion Kachel—Oct. 17

Mary Muhlenberg—Oct. 17—91st

Elsie Trout—Oct. 19—96th!

Mike Wisniewski—Oct. 27

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:

### MEMBERSHIP LOSSES:

Death: 8/20/18—Robert Johnson. A graveside service was held at Robeson Cemetery on 8/25.

7/7/18—William Person—removed at own request

Do we have your **EMAIL ADDRESS**? If not, please send it to ddemarco@dejazzd.com with your name in the subject. We are presently updating our email list in order to notify our members of any cancelations, send out reminders, and alert you of changes. Your help will be appreciated!



### 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.

**PLEASE NOTE: The Paper Recycling Bins** located at the rear of Hoeffler Hall have been emptied. We will continue to accept your **newspaper, magazines, office paper, “junk” mail, and cereal type boxes 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:

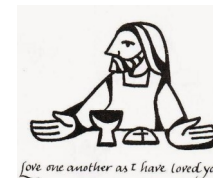
**REDNER'S RECEIPTS.** We continue to collect Redner's receipts as an ongoing fundraiser. The latest check was for \$199.12! Keep up the good work and keep saving those tapes; it's a big help for our church!

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!

**A big thank you to Marion for adding up all those tapes and sending them in on a regular basis!**



## SEPTEMBER SERVICES



**Every Sunday:** Children's SCS is held during the worship services.

SEPTEMBER 2—9:00 a.m.—**Holy Communion**

10:30 a.m.—**Church Picnic** (Post picnic thanks to all who made this a successful day!)

SEPTEMBER 9—**8:00 a.m.—Worship at Joanna Furnace** (Pastor Michael and Robeson Lutheran will be hosting the service there; free admission and parking on the premises for those attending the service only. Please join us there and bring a chair!)

**10:15 a.m.—Holy Communion** (at Robeson Lutheran)

SEPTEMBER 16—7:45 & 10:15 a.m. **Worship**  
9:00 SCS for teens and adults

SEPTEMBER 23—7:45 & 10:15 a.m. **Praise Service**

**Harvest Home Sunday**—*please bring a non-perishable food item for our local food pantry*

**Back to Church Sunday**— This nationally celebrated day is a perfect time to get active again after a relaxing summer. Light refreshments will be available after the services to welcome everyone back. Bring a friend!

9:00 a.m. SCS for teens and adults

SEPTEMBER 30—7:45 & 10:15 a.m. **Worship;**

**Youth Sunday;** Display of Quilts at the services

Joyful Noise offering for our Quilt Till You Wilt Group  
9:00 a.m. SCS for teens and adults

### COMING UP IN OCTOBER:

Kickoff for our 2-year Capital Campaign in honor of our 250th Anniversary Celebration in 2020!  
Stay tuned for more information.

to contend with those who said he was spiritually unfit for office.

There were critics who called Jefferson a “howling atheist” (even though Jefferson was in fact a deist) and an article written about Jefferson in the *New England Palladium* warned the American people that, “Should the infidel Jefferson be elected to the Presidency, the seal of death is that moment set on our holy religion, our churches will be prostrated, and some infamous 'prostitute', under the title of goddess of reason, will preside in the sanctuaries now devoted to the worship of the most High.”

This concern over the religious (assumedly Christian) views and spiritual personality of a candidate for national office only continued to grow over time. Spiritual character was a typical part of conversation around the likes of Abraham Lincoln and William Howard Taft, and consider how it almost cost John F. Kennedy the election due to his being Roman Catholic (the only Catholic president so far – the rest were Protestant) as some feared he would be beholden to the Pope in Rome.

However, it really wasn't until the 1970's when political candidates, who tended to keep their personal faith private, began to more publicly proclaim their (primarily Christian) religious affiliation for the sake of votes. In turn this helped to inspire certain church leaders, who were all too happy to exploit that affiliation in the hopes of putting a preferred candidate in office in order to gain legislation favorable to their own cause, to become even more politically vocal.

Now, this is not to say that the mix of religion and politics is always a bad thing, after all, the Civil Rights movement couldn't have happened without it; but it is to say that there are certain pitfalls that can come when that which is an inherently secular office, seeks to be of its own accord, or is charged by others to be a voice for particularly religious values.

A perfect case in point for this is the rise of the religious right as Christian Evangelicals began to market certain politicians as being more inherently Christian than others due to their views of specific hot-button issues such as



### 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.

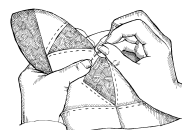
## Men's Group



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 Hoeffler 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 **September 8 at 8:00 a.m. at Joanna Furnace.**

## Robeson Robins Senior Group

The Robeson Robins Seniors Group is taking a hiatus during the months of September and October. **If there is enough interest and volunteers**, the group will resume meeting in November when Comedian and Pastor Nancy Clark will be here to present her program "Humor for the Health of It." Please RSVP to Billie Bannon at 610-401-8496 if you are able to attend since this program requires a certain number of attendees. For more information or to express your interest in the Robeson Robins please speak to Billie.



QUILTING GROUP

**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 always welcome. If you would like to try this art, please feel free to join the group on the first Saturday in Hoeffler Hall, or call Cindy Stewart for more information (610-856-7041).

Abortion, Gay Marriage, or Immigration.

An unfortunate end result of this relentless spiritualization of politics is an extremely divided electorate, a growing willingness among Christians to ignore moral corruption for the sake of end results, and a larger society disenfranchised with a Christian religion that appears more interested in political power than divine service to neighbor.

Perhaps what we Christians need is a solid reminder that there are faithful Christians (and non-Christians) on all sides of the political spectrum; no political party has the market cornered on Christianity.

In fact, the truth is that political parties will always fall short when it comes to the grace of Jesus Christ and the central message of the Christian Faith, no matter what their religious rhetoric may be to sway Christian voters. This is because a political party's primary job is running the country, not carrying out the Gospel.

In the end, Christians must remember that the Kingdom of Heaven will never be fully realized through worldly governments or politics, but rather only through the grace and love of God.

Still, this is not to say we should be careless in our civic responsibilities. Indeed, we have a moral responsibility to seek what is best for our neighbors and to live out the gospel, and one of the ways we can do that is by voting in those who we feel will serve the best interests of the nation, and holding accountable those who betray the public trust.

Therefore may we Christians work together to be careful of the many pitfalls of spiritualizing politics, so that we:

Do not allow our faith to be co-opted by those who would seek political power.

Do not disparage or dismiss our neighbor on grounds of their party affiliation.

Do not put our political party before our moral responsibilities or our deeper fellowship and connection in the body of Christ.

Your brother in Christ,  
**PASTOR MICHAEL**





## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Begins September 16, 2018

The time is here for another year of Sunday Church School for our youth and teens at 9:00 a.m. Last year's participants wanted to discuss bible study type material, rather than discussing the issues of the day. So, with that in mind the material to begin this year's class will be Daily Discipleship, which is a bible study on one of the weekly scripture readings. This is produced by the ELCA and so we can trust that it was written from a Lutheran perspective.

The other option that will be made available to the class for the near future is a 5 session DVD study by Andy Stanley, pastor and founder of North Point Ministries. The title of this course is Guardrails: Avoiding Regret in your Life.

The book focuses on your friendships, finances, marriage and how regret could have been avoided if you had established "guardrails". Should the group decide to pursue this topic it will be noted in the Sunday bulletin and a future DIGEST.

The adult class is intended for an intergenerational group. Having a mixture of perspectives makes for interesting discussions and helps everyone to learn from a younger or older generation. Please join the class which meets in the last room on the right in the upper hallway of the education building. Any questions please call the church or email Sue Creed, screed@dejazzd.com.

## 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 the church office.

**PARISH DIGEST DEADLINE:** Articles for the October newsletter are due in the office by September 17.

**ALTAR FLOWERS and BULLETIN SPONSORS:** Please check with Linell in the church office for any openings. Reminder: **Altar flowers cost is now \$38** and bulletins are \$25.

## **IMPORTANT:**

- Any group or individual sponsoring special projects, collections, etc. please contact the church office for coordination purposes and 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.



### 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. This month we have received \$60.00 thanks to John Lauer.

## WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY NIGHT

### Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018

***Reading Samba School*** - does that title bring some wonder and interest to your mind? The Samba School is non-profit with the goal of providing cultural music education to the community. The Brazilian instruments used by the group include surdos, caixa, repinique, chocalhos and more. The group performs music inspired by rhythms from all around the world to create a unique experience. Come out and enjoy the samba music and perhaps learn some new information from a cultural standpoint. We will begin with a free-will offering meal at 6:00 followed by the entertainment at 6:40. The evening concludes by 7:30 so that children can be home for bedtime. There will be more information in upcoming Sunday bulletins. Please Google [www.readingsambaschool.org](http://www.readingsambaschool.org) for more information and pictures of the group in action.



### **LASER TAG**

Laser Tag will be held in Hoefler Hall on Friday, September 21, from 7:00-8:45 p.m. All youth in 1st grade and older are invited to come out for an evening of fun. Please RSVP by emailing Tyler at [twern9@gmail.com](mailto:twern9@gmail.com) or by calling the church office 610-856-7242. by September 16 if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there and bring a friend!

**Youth Fundraisers:** In order to raise funds for youth activities, our senior youth continue to sell:

- **Sandwich Tickets:** \$5 each for a sub of your choice at Weaver's Orchard. Stock up now and use whenever you are hungry for a good hoagie. They never expire!
- **Giant gift cards**—use to buy your groceries at any Giant store. Available in \$25, \$50, or \$100 amounts. Please see Tyler or drop by the church office for purchase.

## A WORD OR TWO FROM OUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

YOU ARE INVITED! Our committee would like to invite everyone to join us at “**BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY**” on September 23 at the 7:45 & 10:15 a.m. worship services. If you have been busy, as most members have, you have probably missed some Sundays in church this summer. This day is celebrated nationally and is the perfect time to get active again and recommit to your financial stewardship. Laudate, our Praise Team, will be providing special music which is always enjoyable. Light snacks will be provided after each service. We hope you will make an effort to come to the service on that day. We look forward to seeing you, please bring a friend along, or a fellow member.

### CHICKEN BARBECUE CANCELLED.

The Chicken Barbecue scheduled for September has been canceled due to the illness of our regular provider and the lack of response from other businesses. Please support the Outreach Committee with their other fundraisers this fall including the sale of Friends Helping Friends passes and the November Bazaar. Thank you.

**FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS:** October 16—8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. \$5.00 shopping passes available now from any Outreach committee member or the church office. Passes entitle bearer to 25% off most everything (some are 15% and 10% with a few exclusions) all day at any Boscov’s store! All \$5.00 goes to our church so please pick up your pass at your convenience in the church office.

**Mark your calendar: BAZAAR,** Nov. 3, 7:30 a.m.—2 p.m. Please contact Debbie if you would like to rent a table (610-856-7242; ddemarco@dejazzd.com) Don’t forget to drop off your gently used white elephant items at your convenience. No clothing please.

## TREASURER’S REPORT:

Balance Forward:	\$ 591.73
July Income:	\$17,167.56
Transfer from Thrivent	\$10,000.00
July Expenses:	\$19,207.18
Reimbursement to Special Funds:	\$3,000.00
Balance 7/31/18	\$5,552.11

Unpaid Bills: None

-Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SIGNED UP FOR E-GIVING. E-giving is an ongoing service offered here at Robeson Lutheran but regrettably the site had been down for most of the summer months. It is now up and running but you will have to sign-up again. You should have received information directly from our envelope company explaining the new process. You can continue to access the new site through our website, **[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.

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).

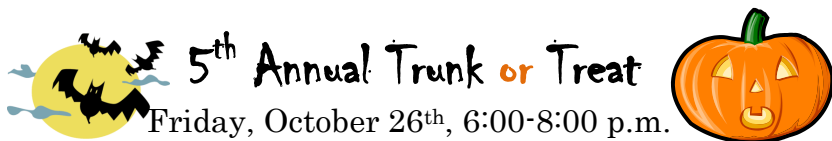
### COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS:

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



## COMING UP NEXT MONTH:

October 21—**Bingo fundraiser for the Shepherd Family.** Jessica Shepherd, one of our young members, was diagnosed this year with Hodgkins Lymphoma. She has gone through chemotherapy and is now having radiation treatments. We are currently providing some meals for her and her husband Andrew and two young preschool age boys. We would also like to hold a bingo to help the family cover some unpaid medical costs etc. while Jessica is unable to work. We are looking for some volunteers to serve on a committee to plan and carry out the bingo. We especially need people to coordinate the kitchen, raffle, and publicity areas. Please call Debbie at the church office if you are willing to volunteer. Thanks to all who have signed up to make meals for the family as well. Your help is very much appreciated. If you did not get the email invitation to make a meal and would like to do so please contact Debbie in the church office. Thank you!



**Trunk or Treat** is an annual community event providing a safe family environment for trick or treaters. If you are willing to bring your car, open your trunk, or the back of your vehicle, and decorate it, please reserve your space by calling the church office. Then you will pass out candy or other treats from your trunk. Each individual/family/group brings their own treats but we will also have some treats to refill vehicles as they run out. If you can't bring your car, maybe you are able to donate treats or other refreshments such as cupcakes, cookies, brownie, salty snacks, or money to buy what is needed. Donated items can be dropped off at the church office. There will also be games and crafts for the children, and prizes for the Best Decorated Cars! This event is free and we hope to see you there! If you'd like to decorate your car please call 610-856-7242 or email [ddemarco@dejazzd.com](mailto:ddemarco@dejazzd.com) to reserve a space. Thank you!!

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS – BE STEWARDS OF THE LORD'S WORK

Philippians 2:4

“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.”

Can you spare an hour a month on a flexible schedule you create to visit, on the phone or in person, one or more members of our congregation who are unable to come to church? This is what the Visitation Team does, and we NEED more volunteers to meet the growing number of people who request our visits. Our mission is friendship. We are not there to convince people to become Christians; they already are! They are our friends or they become our friends. I didn't know any of the people I visited in the beginning; prior knowledge is not a prerequisite. Being friendly is all that is required. You can initially go with other teammates, and if you feel comfortable, you can go alone to visit. We talk, share stories of our lives, and laugh. Pastor Michael instructed us how to give communion to those who want it. Our friends appreciate the trust and bonds we have created. I have developed many friendships with many interesting people. As Paul wrote to the Philippians in the above citation, I ask you, my friends at Robeson Lutheran Church, to look “to the interests of others” and join the Visitation Team. Write your name & visitation team volunteer on a paper and place it in the collection plate or call the church office at 610-856-7242.

1 Peter 4: 10

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

In that spirit of giving, please consider a gift of your time to join any of the Church committees. All are seeking volunteers. If you do not have the time during (continued on p. 10)

the day, evening, or weekend, please consider serving during the worship hour as a greeter, usher, or lector. If you are interested, place a paper in the collection plate with your name and committee or contact the church office at 610-856-7242. With apologies if I miss a committee, the following list indicates a variety of groups at the church: Altar Care, Christian Education, Church Council, Finance, Gifts & Bequests, Outreach, Property, Quilting, Social Ministry, Visitation Team, Worship & Music, and Youth.

Thank you for considering how you can share your talents to make our mission at Robeson Lutheran Church more fruitful.  
Linell McCormick



**LITTLE LIBRARY GRAND OPENING!**  
In spite of the rain, the little library held its grand opening at the National Night Out on August 7. Since then readers have enjoyed picking up new books to read while dropping off some of their favorites as well. We hope that you will stop by and take advantage of this neighborhood library sometime in the near future. If you have a quantity of books to donate, please drop them off in the foyer near the church office and Bonnie will include them in the library when room is available. Thanks for your support of this project!

Thank you to Bonnie Lauer, whose dream was to provide this small library, Greg Gehman who built the library, Thrivent Financial who provided the funds through the Lauer's Action Team, and Ben McCormick who helped Greg install the library and then landscaped the area.

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT A HUGE SUCCESS!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our first National Night Out a huge success. Even the thunderstorms and rain couldn't dampen the evening. As Sue Creed said "Everyone packed up their "gear" and moved indoors and found a space and reset and we moved on for a great finish to the evening. This says something about the community and the people and their ability to work together no matter the circumstances. The Geigertown Fire company stayed for the entire event even though the children could not "visit" the engines. This was also the case with the Robeson Police and the Southern Berks EMS. First responders are **WONDERFUL!**

Our sincere appreciation to those who provided the entertainment for the event.

Our Boy Scouts deserve a big thank you for all that they did to help move people indoors and help with the taking down of outdoor tents, even in the rain and dangers of thunderstorms. Thankfully, all went well and no one was any worse off than when we started.

Thanks again for everyone's co-operation and good humor on a less than perfect summer evening weather wise. By the way – there was a rainbow thus the sign that God was casting a colorful glow on our event."

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Sue Creed who coordinated this event and spent many, many hours contacting businesses and organizations and then planning and setting up the entire event and greeting everyone as they arrived and making sure all went well.

We received this kind note from one of the groups providing music at the event:

Thank you so much for inviting us to sing—we are honored to sing God's praises. Let us know if we can be helpful to you. Thank you!

In His Service, Threefold Blessing Praise Team  
Richie, Jen, Carole and Pam