

Happy Birthday to:

Mae Habecker - May 8
 Ed Haag—June 14
 Dawn Witycyak—June 14
 July Birthdays:
 Elsie Evans—July 4
 Jan Westendorf—July 7
 Louise Wilson—July 12

**PARISH REGISTER:****Funerals/ Deaths:**

3/30/21—Mary Jane Schlouch, 93. Graveside service at Pleasant View Cemetery, Pastor Michael officiating.

4/19/21—Janice Roulston, 96.

Pastor George F. Spieker who served Robeson from 1959-1972 passed away on April 10 at the age of 90.

Membership Loss: 4/08/21—Judy Mountz—transfer to St. John's Lutheran, Gibraltar

GALA PHOTO WINNERS:

John and Bonnie Lauer, Karen and Tim Kercher
 Ben and Linell McCormick, Pastors Michael and Sonja,
 Lucille and Don Freeman
 Erin DeMarco, Evelyn and Jerry Hoffert

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: In February and March we have received **\$3,397.00** in Thrivent Choice Dollars thanks to the following: Marie Brooks, Craig and Leslie Collier, Susan Creed, Greg and Charlotte Gehman, Bill Haney, Evelyn Hoffert, Jerry Ludwig, Harvey Martin, Roger Mauchline, Nevin Moore, Dawn Onushko, Denise Schartel, Deb DeMarco, Don and Lucille Freeman, John Jarmoski, Ruth and Bill Kennedy, Julia Kennedy-Bond, Joyce Mauchline, Ben and Linell McCormick, Carl and Josephine Moore, Claire Sniegowski, Mim Spence, Jeffrey Vollenweider, and Betty Zellner.

Our sincere 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.

FROM THE PASTORS:

Matthew 7- ²⁴ Jesus said, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.

²⁵ The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

How many of us have ever messed up on a construction project of any sort? Did you cut the board too short or not let the paint dry long enough? Did you mix up the baking soda and baking powder, or the teaspoon and the table-spoon? Did you manage to glue something together you shouldn't have, or break something even more that you were trying to fix? Did you ever have to go back to the store because you ran out of supplies due to your own bad judgement, or clumsiness, or failure to read the directions correctly? Did you ever use the pry bar in anger and manage to wound yourself? Oh wait...that last one was Pastor Rob and the famous bathroom vanity incident.

One of the wonderful perks of being the Church is that we get to build things. We get to help God with projects like building faith, building relationships, and building ministry. The challenge is to build things according to God's plan. The temptation is to try to build things according to our own plan.

For over a year now we have been out of our church buildings, but we have still been building the Church. We have learned new ways to do worship, to have fellowship, to be family. It has not always been easy, (continued on page 4)

During Covid19 please call or email staff members.

Rev. Michael Ware, Pastor

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

Email address: revmikeware@gmail.com

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

Email address: weeziecow2@yahoo.com

Becka Malanios, DCE

Phone- 610- 507- 3657 Email: becka.malanios@gmail.com

Debbie DeMarco, Parish Secretary

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

Email address: ddemarco@dejazzd.com

Linell McCormick, Office Assistant

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

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

Email: preschool610@dejazzd.com

Don Freeman, Maintenance and Sexton—Phone: 610-856-7349

Jennifer Breneman, Sexton—Phone: 610-301-6226

Council Officers:

Mike Wisniewski, President

Wayne Kercher, Vice President

Jessica Shepherd, Secretary

*Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

*Kay Good, Treasurer Special Funds

*Lori Sifford, Financial Secretary

*do not actually serve on council

Other Council Members:

Bill Beam

Julia Bond

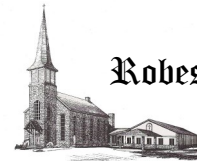
Mary Karpa

Emelia Hauptert (youth)

Walt Hamilton

Rex Miller

Robeson Lutheran Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year. Class sizes will be reduced so please do not hesitate to enroll today by calling 610-856-7613.



Robeson Evangelical Lutheran Church

1770-2020

Celebrating 250 Years!

“Keep the Light Shining”

Capital Campaign & Anniversary Celebration
Update



Since Covid-19 has turned our lives and plans upside down, we at Robeson have decided to postpone our Official 250th Anniversary Celebration until **2022** so that we can plan events and celebrations throughout the year. Our two-year Campaign is now a four-year Campaign. That said, I encourage you to join together with me in extending your special endowment offering through E-giving or mail in/drop off offerings as you are able through **October 2022**, when we will hold our big celebration on Reformation Sunday.

This will also provide more time to allow our members to participate in the anniversary book. Lucille Freeman, who works with Reick’s printing, is in charge of this project. She is still working with members who would like to purchase and create their own page / advertisement with pictures or a caption for the anniversary book. Please contact Lucille if interested: **610-856-7349 or 484-219-0596; Email: lfreeman@riecksprinting.com**



NEW AMERICAN FLAG! A big thank you to Bob Rivers who again replaced our worn America flag with a brand new one.

THE LITTLE LIBRARY located next to the church and parsonage, continues to provide books for young and old. We are happy to continue to provide reading material during the pandemic. **Right now we are especially in need of some good novels and other books that you think others would enjoy. Please consider donating your favorites when you are finished reading them.** Thank you in advance for your generosity!

THE NO-SHOW GALA HAS ENDED and we thank all those who have generously given to the air conditioning through this fundraiser! For those still wishing to do so, it's not too late to make a contribution. Please send your check to the church and be sure to mark it Air Conditioning. CONGRATULATIONS to those submitting photos for the contest! Everyone was a winner and thanks to our Thrivent Action Team they received a small gift card to one of their favorite restaurants. Here are the photos, do you recognize everyone? A list of winners can be found on page 12.



Connect with Us in July via Zoom

Sunday Worship, 10:30 am

Wednesday Evening Bible Study, 7:30 pm

By Phone (Landline or Cell), please dial:

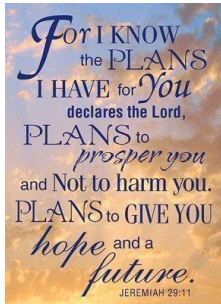
1. +1 (929)-436-2866 This is a long distance call to New York
U.S. Toll-free: (877) 853-5247 or (888) 788-0099 reserved for people who do not have a phone plan that covers the cost of long distance calls
2. When prompted, dial Meeting ID[®]: 593 216 546#
3. When prompted, enter meeting password[®]: 1224#
4. You now have joined the meeting.
5. You will be automatically muted. *Please remain muted, unless you want to speak.*
To unmute, dial *6. To mute again, dial *6.
6. To leave the call, simply hang up.

Video Conference:

Download Zoom App

Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID[®]: 593 216 546

Password: 1224



and we have not always been in agreement with each other, but when we take a breath and remember to listen for and pray about God's words given to us, we have discovered that incredible things can happen.

Let us keep building together and with God giving us the blueprints.

— Pastors Bill, Burl, Michael, Sonja, and Rob

Worship Update

The Joint Discernment Team – in accordance with recommendations from the CDC, ELCA Churchwide Office, and NEPA Synod Office, and in keeping current with the latest statistical information provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, has offered the following recommendations to each of the five church councils with specific regards to indoor in-person worship gatherings:

- ◆ It is recommended that we continue to participate in online Zoom worship services through the end of August and avoid any indoor worship gatherings until such time as infection and vaccination rates are improved.

This recommendation will be revisited by the Discernment Team in May to see where things stand regarding infection and vaccination rates. Please note that the above recommendations will be modified accordingly if infection rates decline significantly and vaccination rates increase significantly by the time of the May meeting.

- ◆ It is recommended that as infection and vaccination rates allow, the five churches hold three joint outdoor Saturday evening worship services with Communion at Robeson Lutheran Church, 3520 Plow Road, Mohnton, PA 19540. These will be in addition to our weekly Sunday worship on Zoom.

Family Faith Time for children age 3 through Grade 5 *



**Sunday, May 16
9:30-10:00 am on
Zoom**

**Join us as we explore
Jonah and the Big Fish
through story, song/game,
and craft**

Register by
Monday, May 10,
by calling or texting
Kathy Yenser at
610-301-2191 so
we can get a craft
kit to you ahead of
time.

Please provide
children's names
and ages along with
contact information.

Are you grieving the loss of someone close to you?

**Pastor Sonja warmly invites you
to a new ZOOM Grief Support Group
that is just forming.**



**Initial Meeting:
Tuesday, May 4, 2021**

The intention for this group is to bridge feelings of isolation, connect travel companions with similar paths, and journey through grief intentionally and creatively with each other. For further information and to sign up, please contact Pastor Sonja directly, either by phone 610-875-0015 (landline) or via email pastorsonjaware@gmail.com.

Thank You to everyone who contributed stuffed animals for the Adoptathon at Hickory House in Honey Brook. The staff and residents were very excited for this event which included making collars for their pets, pictures with their pets, and adoption certificates. We also thank everyone who donated cat and dog food for the no-kill shelter. Arrangements are being made to drop this off in the near future.



Let's celebrate!!!

Join Us on Sunday, May 30, 2021

during our 10:30 am Worship Service on Zoom

**As we give thanks for
Pastor Bill Fryer's 60 Years of Ordination
and his wife Joanna and all her commitment
to the ministry of Christ**

We plan to have celebratory cupcakes on Saturday, June 12, after our Outdoor Worship Service at 5:30 pm.



**Join Us for Zoom Bingo!
Wednesday, May 12, 10:30 am**

Join us for an enjoyable morning while playing a few games of Bingo! Our Zoom Bingo was started during the pandemic as an enjoyable activity for the Rowdy Seniors group, since we could not meet in person. Now the monthly Bingo has grown to be an event for people of all ages. To play, simply contact Robin Heckman 610-375-9216 at St. Luke's Church to receive 2 cards. Then on May 12, using your computer, tablet, or phone, connect via Zoom the same way you do for Sunday worship. You don't need a fancy phone to connect — any home phone or cell phone will do.

SUMMER SATURDAY SERVICES

- ◆ Saturday, June 12, 5:30 pm (*Raindate: June 19*)
- ◆ Saturday, July 10, 5:30 pm (*Raindate: July 17*)
- ◆ Saturday, August 14, 5:30 pm (*Raindate: August 21*)

To be part of in-person outdoor worship, please sign up ahead of time by contacting the church office.

Please bring your own Communion supplies and lawn chair. Also, bring supper with you if, after worship, you would like to eat and enjoy fellowship together while social distancing. Please bring food that can easily be eaten at your seat without a table. Masks must be worn throughout our time together.

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

We would like to welcome Jennifer Breneman and Don Freeman to our church staff.

Jen and Don are both practically life-time members of Robeson. Jen is married and has two young daughters. She will be our upstairs sexton and so far is doing an excellent job in getting the church ready to reopen. It looks like it will be sparkling clean when that joyful time arrives.

Don is married to lifetime member Lucille Freeman who has been helping him with the cleaning until he retires in May. (when we get back, you'll want to check out the kitchens and other areas that have received a deep cleaning!) Don is serving as downstairs sexton and also as our maintenance person. He comes with lots of experience and is currently employed as custodian in the Daniel Boone School District. He's already fixed numerous leaks and clogs, and replaced batteries and bulbs among other tasks which have saved us from having to call in plumbers and electricians etc.

We welcome you to our staff, Jen and Don!!! We also want to thank Dale Creed, Robin Werner, and Barbara Strough for their good work here at Robeson and wish them well in their future endeavors.



**Wear RED for Our Zoom
Worship
Sunday, May 23
Pentecost Sunday
or add red to your Zoom picture
to note the presence of the Holy Spirit among us.**

(As of Monday, May 3; a complete list will be included in the next newsletter.)

GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST:

In Loving Memory of...

A plant in memory of Billie Bannon by loving husband Buddie Bannon

A plant in memory of my wife, Joyce, by Roger Mauchline

Three plants in memory of parents Walter and Mildred Ludwig, and husband Ibra Fancher, by Annabelle Ludwig Fancher.

A plant in memory of loved ones by Gregg, Stephanie and Emelia

Two plants in memory of the people who we have lost to Covid-19 by the Lauers

Two plants in memory of Bill and Grace Moore by their family

A plant in memory of loved ones by Barbara and Bob Rivers

Three plants in memory of Bill Wilson Sr. and Bill Wilson Jr. by Louise Wilson

A plant in memory of my father Bill Wilson Sr. by Shari A. Wilson

A plant in memory of Alfred and Esther Carpenter by son Norman

Three plants in memory of loved ones by Russ and Jan Westendorf

A plant in memory of our parents by Tim Antosy and Debbie DeMarco

Three plants in memory of family and friends by Lori Sifford

A plant in memory of Marion Kachel by her dear friend Marie

A plant in memory of Marion Kachel by her sister Evelyn and niece Denise

A plant in memory of my grandparents Hazel and Arthur Moyer by Karen Kercher

Two plants in memory of our parents by Dale and Sue Creed

Other plants:

A plant by the Higgins Family

A plant in honor of parents Roger and Joyce by Joyce Mauchline

A plant in honor of Emelia by Gregg and Stephanie Hauptert

A plant in honor of Lloyd and Marie Huyett by daughter Marie

A plant in honor of children and grandchildren by Norm and Marie Carpenter

A plant in honor of Aunt Elsie Trout by Debbie DeMarco

A plant in honor of Our Lord and Savior by Tim and Karen Kercher

Plants can be picked up at the church on May 21 between 10 a.m.-noon or by other arrangements (call Debbie at the church office or home 610.856.7386.)

Check In and Adult Bible Study Wednesdays, 7:30 pm on Zoom

On Wednesday evenings in the month of May, Pastor Michael invites you to join with him as he leads a study / discussion time focused on the topic of **Growing Faith**.

The themes for the four weeks are:

- ◆ May 5th - Asking the Right Questions
- ◆ May 12th - Going Deeper
- ◆ May 19th - The Jesus of Faith
- ◆ May 26th - Faith in Action

Youth and Young Adults Zoom Bible Study For 6th grade through College Level

Second and Fourth Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

May 11 — We will conclude Mark's Gospel, Chapter 16

May 25 — We will begin the book of Genesis, Chapter 1

If you are interested in being part of this group, please email revmikeware@gmail.com for the Zoom meeting information. You are welcome to join at any time!