

Heaven's Herald Newsletter

March 12, 2023

Our Mission: Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving and fellowship.

Our Vision: New Jerusalem Lutheran Church is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone and expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and all creation.



LECTIONARY READINGS: March 12

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95;
Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

LECTIONARY READINGS: March 19

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23;
Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41



PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

***new names added this week (NJLC connection)*

Prayer Requests: **Family of Isabella Fletcher (*Mark Fletcher*); **Bill Donahew (*Robin Betz*); Spiker & Conchilla families (*Linda Heffern*); Pastor Lee & Cindy Crosby (*Judy King*); Al Vingelis (*Pastor Krista Vingelis*); Family of Don Garrett; Larson family; Pat Solano (*Lynn & John Solano*); Darlene & John Hove (*Michelle Bloom*); Dean Fox (*Judy Fox*); Roger Schlichting (*Lisa Loeffler*); Greg Keister (*Helen Keister*); Marilyn Larson (*Jinann Larson*); Ann Shomaker; Gary Lowry; Rick & Renee Carmody (*Lisa Loeffler*); Peggy Glascock (*Judy Fox*); Randy Horst (*Diana Zapf*); Bob Martin (*Barbara Vilpors*); Joyce Norris Miller (*Barbara Tritapoe*); Charlotte Clatterback; Chuck Dieter; Barbara Lamm; Lori Legard; Janice Windsor

Prayers For Those Serving Our Nation: LTC Andrew Zapf; LTC Mack Brownell; All of our troops serving overseas; Seaman Matthew J. Betz; PFC Nicholas Wagoner; Lt Kawika Chang; Major Gretchen Day; Christopher Lentz

FAREWELL FROM RACHEL LESINK

It is after much consideration and a heavy heart that I share with you that I have stepped down as your Church Office Administrative Assistant. I am very saddened to be leaving, but I am also excited for the new opportunity which I will be pursuing. I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve alongside such a wonderful group of individuals. I feel honored to have served you and the ministries of New Jerusalem throughout these last couple years. I am grateful for all of you who made me feel like part of your family and I will truly treasure your kindnesses. I hope that you and the church will continue to grow and know that New Jerusalem holds a special place in my heart.



May peace and blessings be with you always!
~ Rachel Lesink ~

FINAL NEWSLETTER

This will be the final Heaven's Herald Newsletter until further notice. At this time, the decision has been made to pause some of the projects/tasks normally handled by the church office until a new Administrative Assistant is able to be brought on staff. Resuming the newsletter on a weekly or monthly basis will be revisited once a new Administrative Assistant has been hired.

CONTACTING THE CHURCH OFFICE

We respectfully ask for your patience, understanding and grace during this period of transitioning. The best way to contact the church office will be to call 540-822-5576 and speak with an office volunteer, Pastor Phil or leave a message. Voicemails will be checked frequently and we will respond to all messages in a timely manner. You may also reach Pastor Phil directly at pastor.njlc@gmail.com. His personal phone number is available to members of the congregation upon request.



THANK YOU

We offer a huge thank you to Sarah Stillman! She has volunteered to temporarily handle the worship bulletin editing and post them to our website along with updating the current needs list on the food pantry page. All other website updates are temporarily paused.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are interested in volunteering on a weekday to help answer the phones and assist those who may come by the church office, please call the church office (and leave a voicemail if it picks up) or contact Pastor Phil.

EASTER FLOWER CROSS

Here at NJLC, a flowered cross symbolizes the Resurrection and new life and we are happy to announce that we will once again be including a flowered cross in our Easter festival celebration. Bring your fresh-cut flowers (stems no longer than 4-6"), to church at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 9. We will decorate the cross with the flowers and then process into the sanctuary for worship.



THE PRAYGROUND SCHEDULE

The Prayground will be available on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month. After the children's message on those Sundays, kids will be invited to The Prayground for Bible lessons, crafts and other activities. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Jennifer Barlow.



QUILT TYING PROJECT

Would you like to help with tying quilts for Lutheran World Relief? Quilts are in the fellowship hall and may be worked on at the church or at home. Contact Soledad Lemp for details or if you have any questions.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Please let the church office know of your group or ministry's meeting and any event plans at least a month ahead of time whenever possible so that they may be added to the church calendar to minimize scheduling conflicts while ensuring the support of all our ministries providing learning, serving and fellowship opportunities.



*Please note that there may be activities scheduled that are not reflected on the online calendar.

WORSHIP LIFTERS NEEDED

Are you looking for a way to get more involved on Sundays? We are always looking for Worship Lifters! If you are interested in being a reader or greeter on either an occasional or on-going basis, please contact Sherry Whipple or the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

To provide the altar flowers for a special up-coming Sunday, sign-up today on the new Flower Chart in the church hallway or contact the church office.

FOOD PANTRY CURRENT NEEDS

Visit the NJLC website for details about the food pantry and how to donate. If you have questions or need to make an appointment to receive food assistance, contact the church office (540-822-5576).



FOOD PANTRY OPEN HOURS

The Food Pantry is open from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday for anyone in need of food assistance to come without an appointment. If assistance is needed outside of these times, you may contact the church office to schedule an appointment.

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

If you knit or crochet and would like to make prayer shawls for folks in need of love and comfort, come join us on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the parlor of the education building!

WELCA: March Meeting

WELCA meetings are typically held at 10:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month in the parlor of the education building. All women are welcome to come!

2022 TAX STATEMENTS

Thank you for your generosity and giving over this past year! If you find any discrepancies between your records and your 2022 NJLC End-of-Year Contribution Statement, please reach out to the church office. We will make every effort to work with you to correct our records and get you a new statement as quickly as possible.

*If you do not currently have an envelope number (physical or electronic) and would prefer to receive one combined itemized contribution statement at the end of each year vs a letter each time a contribution is made, please contact the church office.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Please stay safe and advised on how the winter weather effects NJLC office closings and church activity cancellations. During the week, we observe the Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) inclement weather-related closures, cancellations and delays. If LCPS closes schools, the church office will be closed and all activities cancelled. If LCPS remains open but cancels evening activities, then all evening church activities will also be cancelled. Unless otherwise alerted, weekend activities will also follow LCPS closures and cancellations.



REFLECTIONS FROM THE HOLY LAND

Bishop Leila is doing a Lenten Reflection series on her recent trip to the Holy Land. Read the first reflection now on our Synod's blog HERE.

LIVING LUTHERAN IS GOING DIGITAL

Living Lutheran magazine will print its final issue in December 2023. Also, the magazine will print six issues in this final year. This focus on online content and new channels of distribution will provide more flexibility and options for how the stories of the ELCA are told. Click HERE to sign-up for Living Lutheran's e-digest, a weekly email that highlights the top five most-read stories on LivingLutheran.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MAR-LU-RIDGE

Mountain Topics (March 21 @ 9:00 a.m.): Hear Pastor Annabelle Markey in the Potomac Lodge share her experience walking the Camino de Santiago, lunch included. Register HERE.

Work Day (April 1 @ 8:00 a.m.): Meet at Agape Hall for breakfast and help us get the grounds ready for spring and summer! We have chores for all ages and abilities. Lunch served at noon. All are welcome!

Easter Sunrise Service (April 9 @ 6:00 a.m.): Salem on the Mountain Chapel and breakfast in Agape Hall.

Camp Day (April 16): This FREE event is for anyone who wants to visit the camp. All are welcome!

Summer Camp: Welcome all families and youth ages 6-17 to a fun-filled week of camp! Check out the 2023 Summer Camp programs and click HERE to register. Camperships are available for anyone in need of assistance. We never turn a camper away.

VISIT NJLC ONLINE:

NJLC Website
Online Giving Page
Worship Sermons & Resources
Heaven's Herald Newsletters
Worship Lifters & Altar Flowers
Monthly Birthdays & Anniversaries



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