



**Allegheny Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

1327 Alleghenyville Rd.  
Mohnton, PA 19540  
610-777-2520  
[www.aelc.org](http://www.aelc.org)

**Church Staff**

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610-777-2520

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**Pastor Emeritus**

The Rev. Charles Charles

# AELC News

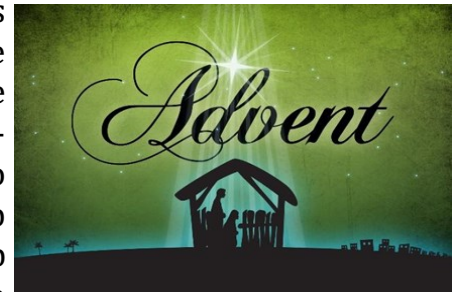


News from and around  
Allegheny Evangelical  
Lutheran Church



## DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

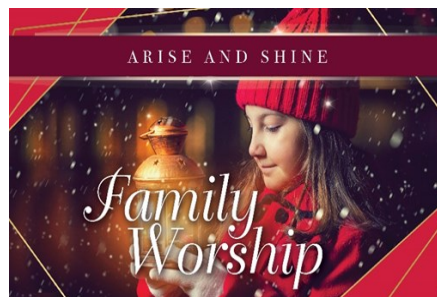
Perhaps this Advent helps us realize how different the first advent was? Picture this: Mary and Joseph, unsure of what was about to happen. Their relationship rocky, but with God's help brought together with a promise, a son to be born, who would change the world. They lived in anxiety and fear of what that pronouncement meant for them, and for their new son. They still prepared. They waited for the birth of this chosen one, the Messiah, God's Word made flesh, that comes to dwell among us.



And now here we are, at the Advent of the birth again. In a year that has been difficult, to say the least. At times divisive and full of anxiety. Yet here we are again. The message perhaps clearer than ever before. God's promise to be with the world. God's promise to be with all in need. God's call for us to seek out a different and new way for God to be at work in the world. As we begin a new church year in this season of hopeful anticipation, we seek Good News. This Advent we gather virtually throughout the week to

share in worship and activities. Our theme "Arise and Shine" a family worship of all ages. This month we will also celebrate the election and installation of our new bishop, Rev. Chris deForest. In times of transition, in

times of hope, in times of celebration and uncertainty we seek to prepare the way, to welcome the Christ child again.



I remember my old boss from college who shared with me that “there’s no perfect time to have children.” How true this is, and yet in what could seem the harshest time, the most imperfect time, God sent Jesus to the world, specifically because it wasn’t a good time. As we move through Advent, and weigh the options of gathering with family or being “virtual” we hear the words of God again, seeking to prepare our hearts for Christ to enter in. “For nothing will be impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)”

Nothing is impossible with God’s guidance and promise and hope. As we prepare ourselves this Advent may we hear God’s promise to be with the least of these, anew. May we be with those who struggle with all that is going on, and trust in God who calls us to act and to give thanks for God’s work through us.

Peace to you as you prepare the Way,

*Pastor Zach*

### **Brecknock Christmas Tree!**

Join us in our continued partnership with Brecknock Elementary school to help to provide Christmas magic for their students! Just like everything else, our Christmas Tree is going to look a little different this year. Our Christmas Tree will be offered virtually this year with lists on Amazon:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/8dC2Iop?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/8dC2Iop?ref=wl_share)

And on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?vanity=matthew44&set=a.3465347200207858>

If you are interested in donating any of these gifts, please comment on the gift(s) you would like to provide so we can remove them from the list. Please return your gifts to AELC by **December 13**. When you return your gifts please include a slip of paper with the family number, gender, and age of the child so we can ensure the right gifts go to the right families. If you have any questions, please reach out to Kristen Kelly at [youthd@aelc.org](mailto:youthd@aelc.org)

Thank you all for your continued support and generosity!

Kristen Kelly

Director of Youth and Missions



# Faith FORMATION

## IN-PERSON LEARNERS

Faith Formation occurs on Sundays when we have in-person worship, from 9:00a.m to 9:45a.m. If you are interested in joining us in person, please email Beth at [chrised@aelc.org](mailto:chrised@aelc.org) to register. Please be aware, due to our current health safety plan, we cannot accept new students on a walk-in basis. All students must pre-register.

We are working our way through the Old Testament and the kids are having great time!

## 1ST AND 2ND GRADE CLASS SPOTLIGHT

Teachers: Jill M. and Roxanne L.

Students: Rylee M., Harrison M., Alexis T., Jaxon T., Alexis C., Norah F., Wyatt N., Lily V., Cassidy W., Kurtis Z.[virtual]





**AT-HOME LEARNERS**

Our At-Home Learners are following the same lesson plan as our in-person children. Each child is provided with learning materials, activities, and bible stories each week. They receive a recorded lesson or children's message from Beth or Pastor Zach on a weekly basis. Here are some of our at-home learners and the activities they have done at home.

If you feel as though you would be interested in participating in our At-Home program, please contact Beth at [chrised@aelc.org](mailto:chrised@aelc.org).



**ALL FAITH FORMATION CLASSES ARE CANCELLED FOR  
DECEMBER 27 or JANUARY 3**

**BOO BAGS**

While we couldn't hold our Trunk or Treat event like we have in years past, we were able to surprise our Faith Formation students with a special Halloween treat. Halloween "Boo" bags were delivered to the homes of all of our Faith Formation students as a surprise treat on their doorstep. Thank you to those who donated candy and to those that helped deliver the treat!



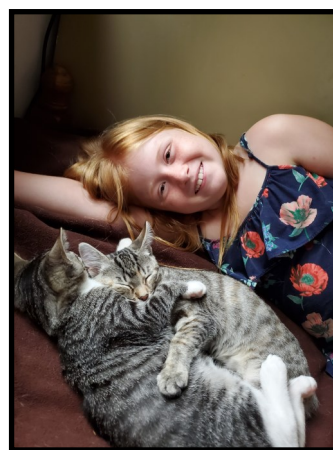
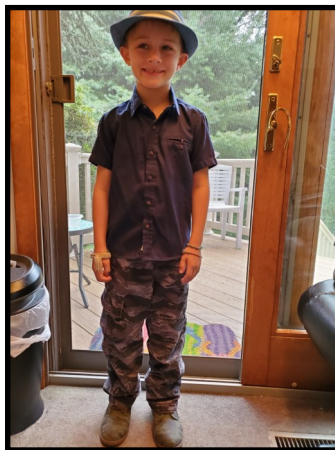
**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

At this time we are unable to have our Children's Message as part of our regular worship service inside the church. We will offer a Children's Message biweekly on our Facebook page and website.

Tune in: **December 13**



First communion education was offered to all the 2nd graders of AELC in a virtual format. They participated in discussion with Pastor Zach, communion related activities, and discussions at home. Congratulations to the following children that completed their first communion education!

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

Due to current lack of interest shown in attending Adult Faith Formation classes, all class have been postponed until a future date. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

**Adult**  
Faith formation



## Advent Family Devotions

Each Faith Formation family has been given a Sticker/Poster activity kit to help them celebrate the season of Advent. Throughout Advent, families can sing the words of the beloved Christmas song “Away in the Manger” as they add stickers to the poster map to Bethlehem. There, in his hay-filled bed, children will discover the Little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay. With scripture and a thoughtful, reflective prayer for each day of advent, this little booklet offers many features, all designed to lead little hearts and minds to Bethlehem and the sweet, joyous celebration birth of our Savior.



## HOLIDAY ART SHOW

Do you like art? Are you creative? Then we are looking for you! We are inviting **EVERYONE**; young and old to share their creative gifts with us.

Please share a piece of original artwork with us and we will post a slideshow on our website and Facebook pages. You may either drop it off at the church in the bin in the vestibule or send a picture to [office@aelc.org](mailto:office@aelc.org) by **December 9**. ALL art is welcome; whether you draw, paint, sculpt, quilt, knit, build, dance or play music (send a video), etc.! We want to see the many gifts and



talents of AELC!



## ONE TO SHOW & ONE TO SHARE

This year with your help we would like to send a personal card to our homebound members. Due to COVID-19, our homebound members have been especially isolated. We have members that have not been able to access our virtual services or our in-person services. We would like to connect with them this holiday season through our art and letters. While making a piece of art for the show, please consider making an additional piece to share with a member who cannot be with us. We will send these items via mail to our homebound members.



*If you are not an artist but would like to share some Christmas cheer with our homebound members, please send cards or letters to the church office by **December 9** so that we may distribute them to homebound members.*

# Youth & Mission

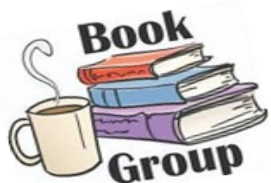
## Virtual Youth Group

Join AELC and St. John's on Sunday **December 20** for Virtual Youth Group. Youth Group will start at 6pm and is open to all youth 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. We ask all participants access our group from individual devices to allow us to utilize small groups and break out rooms for deeper conversations. Contact Kristen at [youthd@aelc.org](mailto:youthd@aelc.org) for your Zoom invite! We can't wait to see you!



**INTERWOVEN**

Interwoven is going back to virtual! Join us on **December 13** for our next meeting. We will gather on Zoom at 5:30 for a refresher on how to continue our mats, or how to start one if you're just joining us, and to answer any questions about your weaving project! Contact Kristen by Friday, December 11, to receive your Interwoven care package and the Zoom invite!



## AELC Book Club

AELC will be finishing up our discussion of "American Dirt" virtually on **December 3** at 6:30pm. Even if you haven't made our other discussions, please feel free to join us for the final discussion on this eye-opening story!

We will take a holiday break for the remainder of December. We will resume meeting in January to read and discuss "The Book of Two Ways" by Jodi Picoult:

Thursday, **Jan. 7** at 6:30pm: Pgs. 3-150

Thursday, **Jan. 21** at 6:30pm: Pgs. 151-277

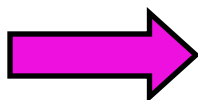
Thursday, **Feb. 4** at 6:30pm: Pgs. 278-406

We are still collecting plastic bags for this project. If you have bags you would like to provide, please drop them in the vestibule for Kristen to collect.

## World Hunger Auction

Ready for a Challenge? Just like so many things, our World Hunger Auction will look a little different this year. Stay tuned and get ready for our World Hunger Challenge, kicking off on **January 3!**

**Save  
the  
Date**





### **Report from the Virtual Synod Assembly 2020**

Mark Smith and Lisa Peterson

We are grateful to have had the privilege to serve as Allegheny's representatives to the Northeast PA Synod Assembly. We also were the representatives at the 2018 Assembly and the two could not have been more different in form. While the 2018 Assembly was held inside a hockey arena in Wilkes-Barre, as you might guess this year's event was virtual, courtesy of Zoom and some special software from Lumi for online voting and assembly documents.

It was a difficult year to attempt the first virtual synod assembly because the election of a new bishop for a 6-year term was a main agenda topic. However, the online technology worked quite well, with only minor glitches - we all have quite a bit of experience with that this year. The online voting process also proceeded quite well and perhaps even better than the 2018 in person event, when there was hand tabulating, yellow, blue and green paper for ballots to keep straight, etc. It was a very manual and time-consuming process and may all future assemblies use some form of online voting and document distribution.

As well as the 2020 assembly went, it was still missing the opportunity to meet others from around the synod and have conversations. That is something truly special about the live gatherings, as all who have attended them will tell you. Those interactions are quite difficult to duplicate online.

Throughout the four days, time was taken for worship and for one ministry sharing video each session from across the synod. One of the four videos this year highlighted Allegheny's own Interwoven ministry and it was a great overview of the goals and structure of that ministry. It made us proud to be from Allegheny. A touching moment from the 2018 Assembly was watching many representatives from the Hmong congregation up on the podium, being welcomed officially into the Northeast PA synod, and getting a chance to tell their story. Allegheny continues to be a vital part of this synod.

The election of the bishop was quite a process, but through it, the voting members at the assembly got a chance to see videos of the final candidates answering questions put together by a synod committee. The questions and the candidate's thoughtful answers made it possible to discern what their goals for the synod would be and what their strengths are. Each of the final 7 candidates brought something different to the table, so the process succeeded in providing diversity of choices. Broadly you could identify candidates that were "stay the course" and those who were ready to lead the synod through significant revitalization. If you are interested, much of proceedings including these candidate videos are on the synod website.

*Continued on page 9*



As the ballot process continued and the number of candidates was reduced, it was clear that the assembly voting members were very closely split between “stay the course” and “revitalization”. In the end, Pastor Christopher deForest was selected as the next bishop. It is up to all congregations in the synod to help Bishop-elect deForest find the path to revitalize the synod where it is necessary and stay the course where that is the appropriate choice. As a sidenote, one of the first jobs as a voting member was to attend a training class to help members get used to the technology to be used for this assembly. It was Pastor deForest who led the training, in his capacity of a member of the assembly planning team. You could tell that he is a caring and patient person, wanting to make sure that all were comfortable with the new technology so that they could fully participate, even when the fourth person in a row asked for an explanation of how to connect up the audio. When he addressed the assembly after the election was finalized, he seemed genuinely excited to get going with business of the synod.

Finally, the end of the assembly belonged to Bishop Zeiser. He has served two terms, plus a few extra months in this unusual year. He was overcome with emotion in his final address to the assembly, especially when it came to thanking his family for being supportive of him while he was busy tending to synod business. He seemed to be happy, sad, anxious, grateful and exhausted all at the same time as he could finally see the next part of his journey - retirement.



### Fair Trade

Need a tasty Christmas gift for a favorite teacher? A yummy item from the Fair-Trade stand may be the item you are looking for, and delicious all organic chocolate bars make great stocking stuffers! Ready to bake some Christmas cookies? Don't forget about our chocolate chips, and baking cocoa!

Tis the season for a warm cup of Hot Chocolate, coffee, or tea. To purchase products email us at [fairtrade@aelc.org](mailto:fairtrade@aelc.org) and we will have it bagged and ready for pick-up. As always, Thank You For Your Support!

Connie and Janine



### The Joy of Music

Do you sing or play an instrument? If so, consider sharing your gifts as part of our Sunday morning service. Due to restrictions on singing, vocalists would record their song prior to the 10:15 am service. Instrumentalists could either record their song or play live during the service.

If you're interested or have questions, contact Bill Moczydlowski at [wsmoczy@hotmail.com](mailto:wsmoczy@hotmail.com)



# Financial Info

## Treasurer's General Fund Report

GENERAL FUND UPDATE			
	Total	General Fund	Weekly
	Attendance	Income	Budgetary Need
Oct. 15, 2020	50 + online	\$2,277	\$5763
Oct. 25, 2020	34 + online	\$3,404	\$5763
Nov. 1, 2020	47 + online	\$11,436	\$5763
Nov. 8, 2020	37 + online	\$6,280	\$5763
Nov. 15, 2020	48 + online	\$4,096	\$5763
<b>Total</b>	<b>216 + online</b>	<b>\$27,493</b>	<b>\$28,815</b>

In October, expenses exceeded income by \$8500. Giving again was considerably lower than pre-pandemic. Expenses were higher than expected. The good news is that November began with one family's annual gift of \$7000 as you can see above.

The General Fund checking account balance stands at \$16,600 compared to \$4300 at this time in 2019. In order to maintain this lead, we will need a big December like we enjoyed in "normal" years.

For the first ten months of 2020, income is still ahead of expenses by \$4600, but at the end of August it was ahead by \$24,000.

Here is an HVAC loan update. We have a 36 month loan of \$20,000 at a 2% rate on which in February we started paying \$572.85 per month. These figures are not included in the General Fund figures above. As of the date of this report, we have made November's payment and the HVAC Fund has enough money to make payments for the next four months. However, giving to the HVAC Fund has practically dried up since May. The principle balance stands at approximately \$14,500.

Landon Coleman and Danny Newman working on their craft today.

They understand sibling rivalry all too well, and today accepted the challenge to forgive and love unconditionally.

Submitted by Judy  
(Grandma) Newman



### Christmas Poinsettias

This year we have ordered some red poinsettias to decorate the altar for Christmas services. If anyone is interested in taking one home after 12/27, please contact Sandy at 610-334-3175, and then please donate \$10 to AELC. Thanks so much!!



#### **Contributions to the Memorial Fund In Memory of Ellen Kern**

James & Susan Messner

#### **Contributions to the Memorial Fund In Memory of Beverly Breniser**

James & Susan Messner

#### **Contributions to the Memorial Fund In Memory of Tom Oeffinger**

Dennis & Shirley Eskey  
David Henry  
James & Susan Messner  
Linda Oeffinger  
Nancy Trievel  
David & Jo Verrill



**SERRV & EARN**  
DO A WORLD OF GOOD



**Serrv & Earn is back for the holidays! When you shop through this link, [serrv.org?a=aelc-bcc](https://serrv.org?a=aelc-bcc), 20% of the proceeds will be donated back to AELC, now through December 31.**

When you shop using our unique [link](#) not only will you be helping support and empower small-scale artisans and farmers to earn a fair living for their work, you will also be supporting the various ministries of AELC, including World Hunger, Helping Harvest, Family Promise, Opportunity House, Mission Trippers and more! When using the link, be sure to look for the **orange** banner at the top of the Serrv webpage letting you know you are supporting AELC.

In addition, here is an exciting promotion:

**12/5-12/6** FREE Ground Shipping over \$50; *Promo Code: SESNOWMAN20*

Use this [link](#) and the promo codes for all of your holiday shopping! Thank you for supporting artisans and farmers as well as AELC.

If you have any questions contact Janine or Connie at [fairtrade@aelc.org](mailto:fairtrade@aelc.org)

**\*\*Feel free to pass the unique code and information along to others as well.**

### **Socks, Hats, and Gloves**

This year AELC is collecting socks, hats, and gloves to donate to Opportunity House and Mary's Shelter. We are asking families to bring socks, hats, or gloves to Christmas Eve Service this year, to place in our manager. If you don't plan on attending service in person, but would still like to donate, there will be a bin in the vestibule for donations to be placed in.



**AELC Home Worshippers**

Please keep these Home Worship members in your thoughts and prayers:

Molly Althouse, Jean Epler,  
Pat Hiester, Arlene Hoster,  
John Messner, Janet Orth, Paul Pray,  
Malcolm Reider, and Colleen Williamson

**Looking Ahead...**

Our next newsletter is the **JANUARY** issue. If you have content for the newsletter, please submit your articles by **December 15** to the church office via email at [office@aelc.org](mailto:office@aelc.org) or in Dee Constable's mailbox.

**Newsletter**



*Do your pets participate in worship?  
Berf with Lynne and Craig Scheetz*

**AELC Prayer Ministry**

Recognizing the importance of prayer for our congregation and the world, AELC has a prayer ministry that communicates needs in various ways. We primarily communicate through a weekly email and listing prayers in the Sunday bulletin. We also have a closed Facebook group to share emergency requests and praises.

To receive the weekly email, send requests, updates or praises - please email Roxanne Loose at [reign0827@hotmail.com](mailto:reign0827@hotmail.com) or the church office at [office@aelc.org](mailto:office@aelc.org). You may also call the church office to leave a request. If you would like to be a part of the Facebook group, please let Roxanne know so you can be added.

There is a Prayer Request box and slips in the lobby. Feel free to add requests this way; it will be checked weekly. When adding someone to the list, please make sure you have their permission.

Additionally, if you do not use email or social media and would like to be a part of this ministry, please leave your name and phone number with Roxanne or the office and we will communicate with you in a way that works for you!

**BULLETIN SPONSORS NEEDED!**

Anyone wishing to sponsor a bulletin in December, please contact Jo Verrill at [jodaverrill@gmail.com](mailto:jodaverrill@gmail.com)

Thank you!



Bulletins



## Family Advent Worship Series

Celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the world, with this Arise and Shine Family Advent Worship Series. Each week individuals and families, children and adults, will come together to worship in an informal setting. We will learn that Jesus came to be our Light in this dark and sin-filled world. Healed by his forgiveness, we reflect the light of his love. When Jesus returns, we will live forever with him, shining like stars in his presence. The order of service each week includes the lighting of the Advent wreath, hymns, special responses for children, prayers, a message for children and adults, a family craft project and discussion questions for a family conversation.

**Week 1: Rising Light** (Isaiah 60:1-2): Living in the light of Jesus, we prepare to celebrate his birth. We repent of our sins and put away the works of darkness as we walk in Jesus' light. Those attending the service will make wooden spoon Christmas light magnets.

**Week 2: Reflected Light** (Zechariah 9:14, 16): During Advent, and throughout the year, we reflect the light of Jesus so that others will see his love in our words and actions. Filled with Jesus' love and light, we shine like jewels in a crown! Those attending the service will create jeweled paper crowns.

**Week 3: Healing Light** (Malachi 4:2): With repentant joy we anticipate the birth of our Savior, the Sun of Righteousness. Jesus healed many people during his earthly ministry. When he died and rose from the dead, he brought us peace and healing through the forgiveness of sins. Those attending the service will make a mini-first-aid kit.

**Week 4: Eternal Light** (Daniel 12:1-3): We will soon celebrate Jesus' birth and we also look forward to his Second Advent when he returns on the Last Day. On that great day we will be raised in glory to live with him forever. We will shine like stars in the light of his presence! Those attending the service will create craft stick star ornaments.





## WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT

### Newsletter - December 2020

The West Berks Mission District is a coalition of area Lutheran churches working together to do effective, cooperative ministry. YOU are a member of the West Berks Mission District! The WBMD office is located in St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1015 Windsor Street, Reading PA 19604.

*WBMD Director* – Dawn Baxter      Dawn@westberksmissiondistrict.org  
*Office Staff/ Bookkeeper* - Jane McClellan Renner      Jane@westberksmissiondistrict.org  
 Office Phone – 610-375-8303      Website: www.westberksmissiondistrict.org

### The WBMD Assembly on September 17, 2020 was held via Zoom.

The pandemic has taught us how to be creative and try new ways of being the church together. We gathered for our Assembly via Zoom and not only accomplished our normal reports and business, we even discovered a way to elect a new Dean! With sincere thanks to Rev. Ken Melber and George Freestone for facilitating our process, we elected the Rev. Rachael Dietz as our next Dean. With thanks to Sally Sassaman and the Rev. Katie Lyon for completing their terms of service on our WBMD Council, we elected two new members to the Council. We welcome Rev. Wayne Heintzelman and Rev. Aaron Decker and appreciate their willingness to serve in this way.

The meeting included a brief devotional time and reports from our WBMD treasurer, Jane McClellan Renner; our Associate to the Bishop, Rev. John Richter; and a Director's report from Dawn Baxter. The Assembly also approved the proposed budget for 2021 which remained the same as the 2020 budget. We also heard a report from Pastor Melber regarding the October virtual Synod Assembly and the process that would be used to elect a new Bishop. (This resulted in Rev. Christopher de Forest being elected the new Bishop of the NE Pennsylvania Synod)

Thanks to all the rostered ministers and congregational representatives who participated in our Zoom Assembly!



*Thanks to you...*  
**Our Virtual CROP  
 Walk on October 11<sup>th</sup>  
 was a SUCCESS!!!**

Thanks to everyone who participated in any way for this year's virtual CROP Hunger Walk. The planning team was uncertain about how we could organize an event for this year due to the pandemic, but the increased need both locally and globally spurred us on. We knew it was more important than ever to raise money to feed our hungry neighbors both near and far. And you were all **FABULOUS** in helping to find ways to make the Walk happen with 25 congregations participating!

**Our Walk has now collected over \$23,000 for Church World Service and Helping Harvest.**  
 What a great response!

Check out this link to view our Thank You video!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_jWQutMlfuM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_jWQutMlfuM)

### *Ministry during a pandemic....*

Doing ministry this year has been difficult. It seems that everything has changed. People of faith are used to gathering for worship; sharing in joyful events; offering sympathy during times of sorrow with hugs, and meals and "just being there". We can't "be there" for each other right now, and that's hard. Especially for your pastors.

Congregations are not all doing the same things. Some have returned to their buildings to worship but without singing or any personal contact and with limited numbers of folks allowed to come together. Most continue to find other ways to gather as the body of Christ. Some are meeting outside, many are meeting virtually, some reaching out through phone calls and/or mailings. We continue to worship and serve in Jesus' name by whatever means we feel are safe and meaningful for people. We are reminded daily that we are called to love our neighbor every time we put on a mask for the protection of others.

Most of our WBMD events have been cancelled but we are still doing ministry together. Please continue to lift up our pastors, ministry leaders and congregations of the WBMD in prayer. ***Be well... Be safe... Be blessed.***

## Important Update on Worship Services Beginning November 29

Greetings to all. We pray that this message finds you well.

Last week we notified you of a revised worship schedule beginning November 29, 2020. This decision was made due to the rise in COVID-19 cases in our county and state. We also shared with you council's decision to follow the lead of the Governor Mifflin School District (GMSD) on any potential closure of the building.

As you may know, the school district has announced that they will not return to in-person classes until December 7, 2020. With cases rising exponentially in the county and state, the district is giving everyone a chance to step back, particularly following the Thanksgiving holiday, to try and slow the spread and allow folks to quarantine after any potential exposure over the holiday.

Based on these new developments, we are still moving forward with the times of our revised schedule; however, **ALL WORSHIP SERVICES WILL BE ON-LINE ONLY FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS.** If the Governor Mifflin School District reopens as planned on December 7, AELC will also resume on-site worship at our 8:15 service beginning December 13. **All small group activities in the church building will also be suspended for the same period of time.**

As a reminder, the revised worship service schedule is as follows:

**8:15 On-line worship (Traditional) for November 29 and December 6.** After that, pending the reopening of GMSD as planned, on-site worship will resume with all existing restrictions. Physical distancing, masks, no singing or corporate response.

**9:00 Faith Formation** (on site when building reopens)

**10:15 On-line worship (Praise)** . The online worship service will include singing, giving everyone an opportunity to sing at home.

This isn't a step that we take lightly. We all wish that we could gather together to celebrate and worship as usual. But with levels in Berks and the surrounding counties greatly exceeding that described as "substantial community spread", we feel that we are called by Christ to protect our fellow citizens both within AELC and our community, especially the "least of those" who may be more susceptible to severe illness.

**NOTICE**

Please help our Safety and Property Committee by making sure **all** doors are **closed** and **locked** when you leave the building. Your continued help with this matter makes us and the church a safer place.

If there are any issues with the church property that need to be addressed contact Rod High first at 610-856-1386 or if no reply then contact Jim Spangler at 717-445-6537.

Thank you!



**AELC  
Church  
Council**

Ex-Officio	Pastor Zach Labagh
President	Lynne Scheetz
Vice President	Melissa Forrer
Secretary	Tammy Taylor
Council Members	Steven Davis
	Greg Horton
	Kimberley Peiffer
	John Thomas
	Andrew Zirkel
	Ellie Loose
Council Treasurer	Bill Baxter
Council Financial Secretary	Colette Price

**Women's Group**

Our Women's Group will take a break for the month of December due to the holidays. If you are interested in planning a Women's Group, please contact Kristen at [youthd@aelc.org](mailto:youthd@aelc.org)

**Men's Group—Bible & Brew**

Nothing scheduled at this time.



**\*Worship Schedule—December**  
**Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27**

**8:15 am—Trad. Worship (online Dec 6th)**  
**9:00 am—Faith Formation Class/CAT Class**  
**(virtual for the week of Dec 6th)**  
**10:15 am—Praise Worship—online**

**December 24**

**4:30 pm—Music—Outdoors**  
**5:00 pm—Christmas Eve Family Service -**  
**Outdoors**  
**8:00 pm—Christmas Eve Traditional**  
**Service—online**

**December 27th**

**Lessons and Carols will be Virtual**

**\* All Services are subject to change**



**December Birthdays**

- 3 Heidi Ramsbottom
- 5 Olivia Yoder  
Lea Keith
- 8 Mary Messner  
Tammy Taylor  
Clara Zirkel
- 9 Sandy Dake  
Brandon Carl
- 10 Michael Grim
- 11 Beth Thomas
- 13 Craig Scheetz
- 14 Gary Coffey  
Ava Albera
- 15 Ray Hill  
Nathaniel Klein
- 16 Linda Oeffinger  
Tara Cylcewski  
Michael Prince
- 17 Darryl Breniser  
Alissa Albera
- 19 Brenda Baur  
Jacquelyn Hirneisen
- 21 David Beyer
- 23 Courtney Kerschner
- 24 Holly James
- 25 Russ Relkin
- 26 Norma Jean Rogers  
Robin Ream
- 27 Meg Relkin
- 28 Dennis Kintzer
- 29 Gail Schrantz
- 30 Audrey Rogers
- 31 Jennifer Pacharis



Celebrate  
Your  
Day!!

**December Anniversaries**

- 1 Maxine and Bob Seidel (1962)
- 17 Jill & Alan Fay (1988)

**GROUPS CLEAN-UP  
MAINTENANCE BOOK**

The Property Committee has created a book for you to sign-up to clean a specific grounds area and to maintain on an on-going basis. Please look through the book on the table in the lobby and if you have an interest in keeping the grounds in good shape or just enjoy working outside, pick an area and sign your name. When you and your group want to do the clean-up/maintenance is whatever works best for you and your time schedule. If you have questions or concerns, please contact a member of the property committee.

