

**FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PORTAGE, PA**

**NEWSLETTER**

**April, May, & June 2024**



**906 Caldwell Avenue, Portage PA**

**Phone: 814-736-3662**

**Website: [FElcportage.com](http://FElcportage.com)**

James 5:7- "Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains."

## Monthly Happenings

April:      1      Easter Monday / Council Meeting 6:30 PM  
                7      Sunday Worship 9 AM  
                14     Sunday Worship 9 AM  
                15     Tax Day  
                16     Spring Conference Meeting Johnstown Synod Assembly  
                21     Sunday Worship 9 AM  
                28     Sunday Worship 9 AM

May:        5      Sunday Worship 9 AM / Cinco de Mayo  
                6      Council Meeting 6:30 PM  
                9      The Ascension of Our Lord  
                12     Sunday Worship 9 AM / Happy Mother's Day!  
                19     Sunday Pentecost Worship 9 AM  
                26     Sunday The Holy Trinity Worship 9 AM  
                27     Memorial Day

June:       2      *Sunday Worship 9 AM*  
                3      *Council Meeting 6:30 PM*  
                9      *Sunday Worship 9 AM*  
                14     *Synod Assembly worship @ Zion Lutheran Hollidaysburg/Flag Day*  
                15     *Synod Assembly @ Blair County Convention Center Altoona*  
                16     *Sunday Worship 9 AM / Happy Father's Day!*  
                23     *Sunday Worship 9 AM*  
                30     *Sunday Worship 9 AM*

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### Bible Verses:

**1 Corinthians 15:58** – Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord our labor is not in vain.

**Proverbs 3:5-6** – Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**1 Corinthians 16:13-14** – Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

**Matthew 17:20** – Our faith can move mountains.



Please keep the following in your prayers:

Ava Stancovich	Carson Berkheimer	Carolyn Pinos	Walter Maul
Ida Kerch	Pastor Kaltenbaugh	Elzy Pauley	Dave Lamar
Carolyn Pinos	Kay Pohopin		

**Prayer:** Dear Lord Jesus, when you walked upon this earth, you healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, and raised the dead. Now we come to you on behalf of those who are suffering today and pray that you send them your healing power. Amen.

*Please keep in your prayers the sick, lonely, and forgotten.*

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### **Lutheran Book of Prayer:**

**Ascension:** Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise you that you raised your Son from the dead, seated him at Your right hand, and placed all things under his feet that he might rule in majesty. You have crowned him with glory as our king of kings and Lord of lords. Amen.

**Pentecost:** Lord God, we praise you for the gift of your Spirit, whom you poured upon fearful men to make them bold witnesses of the mighty acts You accomplished through Your Holy Son Jesus, the Christ. By your gracious gift of faith enable us to walk in the Spirit and to live in hope. Amen.

**Trinity:** Holy God, triune God, the true and living God, the one and only Lord of all, accept our worship and adoration. Amen.

**Reformation:** Heavenly Father, we heartily thank you for your gift of Martin Luther to your church. Make us true children of the Reformation through repentance, faith, loyalty, and diligence. Help us to be faithful people and cause us to stand in faith of Jesus Christ as our Savior and our Lord, the true Rock of the church. Amen.

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We apologize if anyone was missed on the birthday and anniversary list. If a correction is needed or if you would like to see something else in the newsletter, please leave the information in Becky or Sharon's mailboxes, located at the back of the church.



# Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Office hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Our mission: Inviting people to love one another.

Our vision: All creation living in harmony with Christ.

If you need pastoral assistance from the Allegheny Synod, contact information provided.

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## **Lutheran Small Catechism 1979: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

**What is Baptism?** Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God's Word and by his command.

**What is this Word?** In Matthew 28 our Lord Jesus Christ says: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

**What benefits does God give in Baptism?** In Baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised.

**What is God's promise?** In Mark 16 our Lord Jesus Christ says: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

**How can water do such great things?** It is not water that does these things, but God's Word with the water and our trust in this word. Water by itself is only water, but with the Word of God it is a life-giving water which by grace gives the new birth through the Holy Spirit. St. Paul writes in Titus 3: "He saved us...in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life. The saying is sure."

**What does Baptism mean for daily living?** It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance; and that day after day a new self should arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever.

## KITCHEN KORNER:

If you have a recipe that you would like to share, please place a copy in Becky or Sharon's mailboxes at church. Enjoy!

### **Banana Nut Bread**

1/2 cup oleo	2cups flour
1 cup sugar	1 tsp. baking soda
2 eggs	1/4 cup chopped nuts
3 medium bananas mashed	

Cream oleo and sugar together. Blend eggs and beat until light and fluffy. Add mashed bananas and nuts. Add flour and baking soda. Bake at 350' until done in the center

Nettie Rush

### **Pizza Casserole**

1 lb twister or wheels	pepperoni
2 cans pizza sauce	green peppers
1 lb mozzarella cheese grated	mushrooms

Layer sauce first, then macaroni, sauce, cheese, pepperoni, green peppers, and mushrooms. Bake at 350' for 45 minutes

Jennie Kuntz

### **Shrimp Ball**

2 (8oz.) cream cheese	2 tsp chopped onion
2 cans shrimp drained	2 tsp horseradish
completely and crumbled	cocktail sauce

Shirley Hazlett

<b>Bible Study:</b>	Zechariah 10:1 Psalm 85:11-13	Deuteronomy 31:6 Lamentations 3:22-23	James 5:7 Genesis 1:14
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## Bible Humor:

What kind of man was Boaz before he met Ruth? Ruthless!

Where is the first tennis match mentioned in the Bible? Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.

Why didn't Noah go fishing? He only has two worms.

What evidence is there in the Bible that Adam and Eve were noisy? They raised Cain!

Why was Adam a famous runner? He was first in the human race!

## Bible Trivia: Old or New- test(ament) your knowledge

Deuteronomy      Judges      1 Samuel      Ruth      Nahum      Malachi      Ezra

1 Timothy                    Philemon    Hebrews    Jude                    Romans    1 Peter    Amos

## Church Humor: The Three Hymns

One Sunday a pastor told his congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns. After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 in the offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he would like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate. A very quiet, elderly, saintly lady all the way in the back shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three handsomest men in the building and said, "I'll take him, him, and him." *Author Unknown*

*Author Unknown*

**The Lord's Prayer:** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be they name, they kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## May 19 The Day of Pentecost

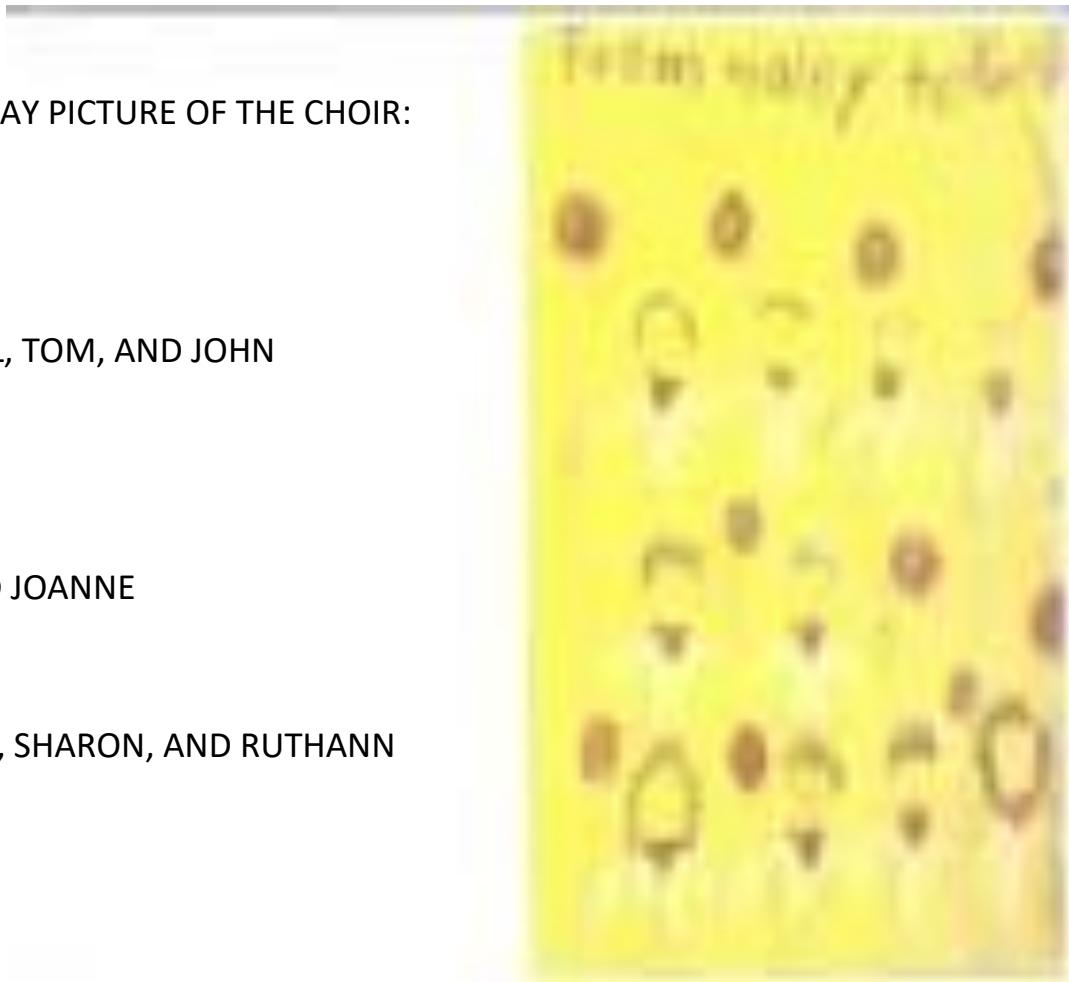
## PENTECOST SUNDAY PICTURE OF THE CHOIR:

BY HALEY PINOS

ROW: WALTER, AL, TOM, AND JOHN

ROW: KAREN AND JOANNE

ROW: KATIE, GAIL, SHARON, AND RUTHANN



## ELCA Daily Discipleship:

**Matthew 28:16-20      Go, Baptize, and Teach**

What opportunities did you have this week to teach someone about Jesus?

What worries could you have entrusted to God this week?

Matthew 10:24-39 Be not afraid

## When do you need courage from God?

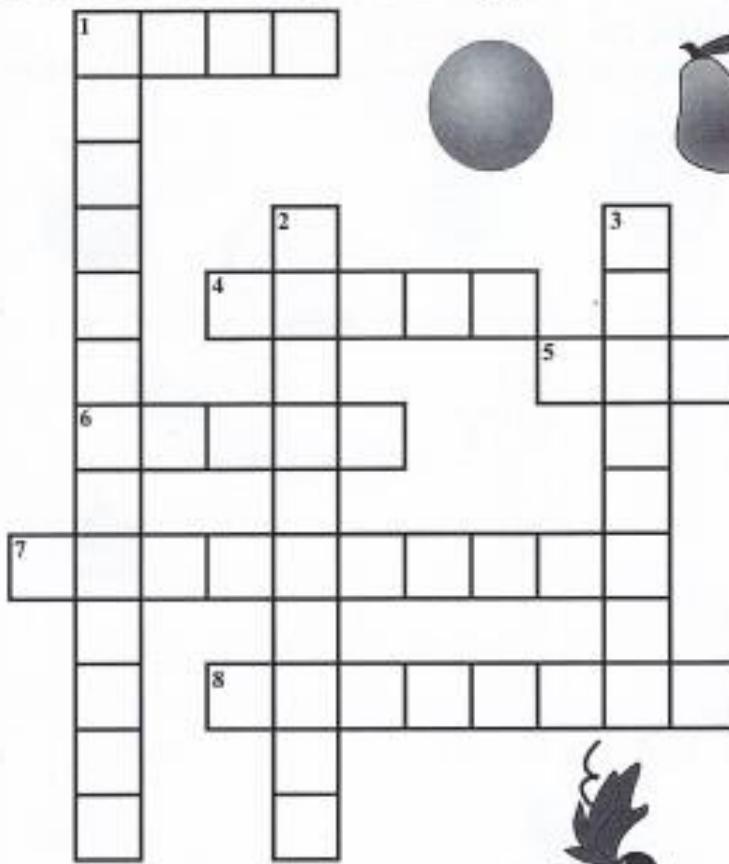
## People in the New Testament

Q  
R S C  
S I L A S  
T A B I T H A  
Z A C C H A E U S  
B A R T H O L O M E W  
M A T T H I A S P E T E R  
Z E B E D E E U T A Q U I L A  
S J M A R T H A G I J T H O M A S  
C M A R K I O O M Z M O L P H I L I P  
M U V Z G C W E B W Q O H B A R N A B A S  
I A N J K L X Y X F Q M T N C O R N E L I U S  
V H E K X L A Z A R U S A H T T H A D D A E U S J  
I J J T A Q J J U D A S J T Y H Q S T E P H E N U M C  
J E S U S J T I P K P A T D E J O S E P H J O H N  
M A R Y X F X O M A M H O B B A R S A B A S A  
N P R J O L L J U E E P A M L Y D I A X H  
S X R L V Z S L S W R P S I M O N R Z  
E L I Z A B E T H I T L U K E X W  
B A Z W B A C S S I A I G W K  
Z C A R N T E C S Y C P F  
M A J D K F I T X C E  
A D R D H L Q O L  
F E W P L N R  
W P C A R  
R J M  
U

Andrew	Lazarus	Simon
Aquila	Luke	Stephen
Barnabas	Lydia	Tabitha
Barsabas	Mark	Thaddaeus
Bartholomew	Martha	Thomas
Cornelius	Mary	Timothy
Elizabeth	Matthew	Zacchaeus
James	Matthias	Zebedee
Jesus	Paul	
John	Peter	
John the Baptist	Philip	
Joseph	Priscilla	
Judas	Silas	

## Fruit of the Spirit

For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; ~Eph 5:9



### ACROSS

- 1 Defined in I Corinthians 13
- 4 Rest, quietness
- 5 Delight, cheerfulness
- 6 The substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.  
~Heb 11:1
- 7 Self control
- 8 Humility

### DOWN

- 1 Patient
- 2 Moral excellence of character; kindness
- 3 The quality of being beneficial; kindness

## April Birthday & Anniversary

1 Kay Pohopin

27 Tyler Lysinger

1 Kayla Asfar

28 Jill Maul

2 Amber Noel

28 Jarrett Werner

2 Traci Cook

3 Joe Selepack



6 Jamie Miller

7 Jacob Warner

8 Eric Sherbine

10 Colton Palesch

11 Susan Kerch

14 Avery Marie Krise

14 Jim Hale

16 Kim Fox

16 Joe Stancovich Jr

4 George & Rose Ernest

18 Lilyann Coleman

12 Keith & Megan Maul

20 Dave Lamar

20 Tony & Linda Girard

21 Amanda Hershberger

28 Jeff & Wendy Kerch

23 Mark Stancovich

23 Jaemy Smithtro

25 Ashley Coleman

Happy Anniversary!

26 Todd Feathers

27 Cindy Maul

27 Paul Smith

## May Birthday & Anniversary

5 Judy Miller

28 Marty Kerch

6 Makennah Gray

28 Tim Popish

7 Zack Hershberger

29 Jon Lamar

7 Sasha Yetsko

29 Dave Kleman

8 Laura Maul



10 Jeff Kerch

10 Scott Yetsko

11 Linsey Donoughe

12 Mandy Troxell

1 James & Joanne DeMatteis

12 Gavin Troxell

2 Mark & Kirstin MacLaughlin

12 Jack Kittell

7 Tom & Becky Canavan

13 Evie Leman

9 Matt & Mary Boland

20 Zach Lamar

12 Dann & Terri Crum

20 Jennifer Brant

24 Ken & Susan Schaffranek

20 Kaitlyn Yetsko

24 Gerald & Linsey Donoughe

24 Cathy Franey

27 Jim & Mimi Cole

25 James Schmidt

27 Jim & Alex Hale

26 Robert Maul Sr

26 Wade Maul

*Congratulations*

27 Greg Cordwell

on your

27 Tom Cordwell

*7*  
*Wedding*

27 Lacey Kittel

*Anniversary!*

27 Haley Pinos

## June Birthday & Anniversary

2 Brian Hershberger

28 Robert Crum Jr

3 Rick Hazlett

30 Nathaniel Salovich

4 Ashley McKrush



4 Brandon Rietscha

5 Bailey Kerch

7 Debra Cooper

9 Jack Coleman

11 Emily McKrush

11 Connor Palesch

12 Paul Maul

12 Nicholas DeMatteis

3 Dave & Kathy Kleman

12 Adyson Lloyd

3 James & Lori Pohopin

13 Bill Labar

5 Jim & Becky Mulato

13 Brandt Troxell

10 Todd & Melissa Feathers

14 Sondra Kerch

17 Ron & Sherry Cadwallader

15 Ruthann Enderlein

20 Allen & Susan McQuillen

18 Philip Krisko

23 Tony & Kelly DeMatteis

21 Patty Crum

23 Casey & Krista Leman

21 Carter Maul

21 Locklyn Robine

Happy Anniversary!

24 Matthew Riley

28 Michele Hartline



## First Lutheran Church of Portage Newsletter

**CH CH What's missing?? U R!!** Our pews are empty and we are missing you. Our church family seems smaller and we miss seeing you in the congregation. If you have not been coming, please consider coming back, our family is not complete without you. See you on Sunday, all are welcome at the Lord's table.

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### Devotions by Sarah Young 2004: Jesus Calling

Trust Me and do not be afraid. Many things feel out of control. Your routines are not running smoothly. You tend to feel more secure when your life is predictable. Let Me lead you to the rock that is higher than you and your circumstances. Take refuge in the shelter of My wings, where you are secure. When you are shaken out of your comfortable routines, grip My hand tightly and look for growth opportunities. Instead of bemoaning the loss of your comfort, accept the challenge of something new. I lead you on from Glory to Glory, making you fit for My Kingdom. Say yes to the ways I work in your life. Trust Me and do not be afraid. *Isaiah 12:2, Psalm 61:2-4 & 2 Corinthians 3:28*

Come to Me for all that you need. Come into My presence with thanksgiving, for thankfulness opens the door to My treasures. When you are thankful, you affirm the central truth that I am Good. I am Light, in whom there is no darkness at all. The assurance that I am entirely Good meets your basic need for security. Your life is not subject to the whims of a sin-stained deity. Relax in the knowledge that the one who controls your life is totally trustworthy and come to Me with confident expectations. There is nothing you need that I cannot provide. *Psalm 95:2 & John 1:5*

Rest in Me, my child, give your mind a break from planning and trying to anticipate what will happen. Pray continually, asking My Spirit to take charge of the details of this day. Remember that you are on a journey with Me. When you try to peer into the future and plan for every possibility, you ignore your constant Companion who sustains you moment by moment. As you gaze anxiously into the distance, you do not even feel the strong grip of My hand holding yours. How foolish you are, my child! Remembrance of Me is a daily discipline. Never lose sight of My presence with you. This will keep you resting in Me all day, every day. *1 Thessalonians 5:17 & Psalm 62:5*

## FYI SECTION

The information in this section is taken from THE ALTAR GUILD; A GUIDE FOR THE MINISTRY OF LITURGICAL PREPARATIONS: S. Anita Stauffer

### Setting the Table of the Lord

Last newsletter we looked at the different vessels used for communion. This issue we will see how to set them on the Lord's table and the linens that are used on the altar and their significance.

Preparation of the altar for communion should be done ahead of the service. First the chancel and its furnishings should be clean, and the correct seasonal paraments are in place, and that all linens are freshly laundered and ironed, and that all the sacramental vessels are polished, and that there are enough elements ready. This work always should be done with reverence and good order that befit Christ's presence. Acceptable ways of arranging the vessels on the altar and credence are determined by the available chancel furnishings, linens, and vessels; and by the historical practices and preferences of the Pastor.

1. A purificator folded in thirds lengthwise is placed over the mouth of the empty chalice, so that the right and left side hang down over the edges.
2. The paten is placed on top of the purificator. If desired by the presiding minister, a large host may be placed on the paten.
3. The paten is covered with the pall.
4. The silk chalice veil in the proper color of the day is placed over the pall and arranged so that a trapezoid is seen when viewed from the front. The corporal and additional purificators are placed in the burse, which is laid on top of the vested chalice. When the credence is not used the corporal is laid on the altar and the vessels are placed on the corporal prior to the service. If a flagon is used, the vessels are arranged in the following manner; the chalice, paten, and pall are placed near the front in the center of the corporal. The flagon is behind and to the right of the chalice, and the ciborium or host box is behind and to the left of the chalice. The purificators and lavabo are laid off to the side of the corporal. A credence is a small side table which is used in the celebration of the Eucharist. It is usually placed on the wall on the epistle (south) side of the sanctuary and may be covered with a fine linen cloth. When the vessels are placed on both the altar and the credence prior to the service, the corporal is laid on the altar and the credence linen is laid on the credence. Only the vested chalice and paten are placed on the altar, on top of the corporal, and the burse holds the purificators. The flagon and ciborium or host box sit side by side on the credence with the flagon on the right. In many congregations, the host box and the flagon are carried forward in the offertory procession. If this is done, they should be filled and placed on a table near the entrance to the nave. The vested chalice and paten are placed either on the credence or on the altar. After the service altar guild members shall remove all the Eucharistic vessels and linens from the chancel and taken to the sacristy for cleaning.

We hope that this information clarifies how our communion table is set up and how important the vessels, linens, and the position of the vessels are. The altar guild members are a very important part of our church and their duties for preparing the Lord's table are very important. Please if anyone is interested in becoming an Altar Guild member see any council member and we will direct you to the correct person to sign up.

## Pews News

AED update: Jeanie Kinley has ordered the AED and we should have it by Easter. As noted in the last newsletter the money collected for the sewer project will now be used to subsidize the purchase of the AED. Thanks again to Ken Zimmerman and Zimmerman Excavating for his donation of materials and labor for the sewer project. The cost of the AED is \$1034.00 so the \$1,635.00 collected for the sewer project will cover it.

The congregation honored Walter Maul for his service as organist on Palm Sunday March 24, 2024. A donation was collected and was presented to him and there were refreshments served in the social room after church service.

Congratulations to Dan and Sonny Kerch on the arrival of their first grandchild Liam Bailey. Liam arrived on February 8, 2024 weighing in at 6lb 4oz 19 inches to the proud parents of Bailey and Savannah Kerch who reside in Cresson.

Fish Frys were held on March 1, and March 15, 2024

Thank you to all who helped in any way, whether you donated time, food, material or monetary donation we appreciate you and could not have done it without you.



# Animals in the Bible

Unscramble the words. Take the letters in the squares and unscramble them to find the phrase.

LWSEAE

WISEN

ERТАДГРИП

SGRPSAOHREP  

NWSA

*Isaiah 40:31*

*They that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with these.*



# “How many points to get into Heaven?”

A man dies and goes to heaven. St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates and says, "Here is how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you have done, and I will give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in." "Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same women for 50 years and never cheated on her, and loved her deep in my heart." "That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth two points!" "Only two points?" the man says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithes and service." "Terrific!" says St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point." "One point!???" "I started a soup kitchen in my city and also worked in a shelter for homeless veterans." "Fantastic, that's good for two points," St Peter says. "Two points!???" Exasperated, the man cries, "At this rate, the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God." "BINGO! 100 POINTS! Come on it!"

*Author Unknown*