

# the Messenger



June 2023

Holy Trinity Sunday • Evangelism Weekend



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**THIS SUNDAY, June 4**, we welcome **Reverend Erich Kussman** to the pulpit as the culmination of our weekend focus on Evangelism. Pastor Kussman comes to us from *St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church* in Trenton, NJ (where Pastor Dan is preaching in a “pulpit exchange”).

His personal story and Christian witness serve as a powerful illustration of the Gospel message and God’s radical love through Jesus Christ.

**Welcome, Pastor Kussman.**



Beginning **JULY 2** through **SEPTEMBER 3**, we will have one combined worship service at 9:30am.

## Women’s Retreat:

*“For everything there is a Season”*

**Saturday, June 10 • 10am – 3pm • God’s Love**

The seasons of creation reflect the spiritual seasons of our lives—each one filled with the promise of transformation.

Women of the congregation are invited to this one-day retreat at God’s Love, led by **Pastor Dale Selover** of *The House Next Door*, a spiritual direction and retreat ministry in New Jersey.

**A few spots remain to register for the Women’s Retreat.**

The cost is **\$25 per person** which includes a continental breakfast and box lunch. [REGISTER HERE](#), visit the [SignUp Hub](#), or call the church office. Deadline extended to **June 6**. **Questions?** Contact **Pastor Brandi**.



**Good News!** The Sunday School children raised **\$805** with their offering collection throughout the school year in support of the ELCA’s Global Barnyard. This amount was subsequently matched by Congregation Council, for a total of **\$1,610!** With the matching donation, we can donate two “Family Farms” which consist of a cow, two goats, a dozen chicks, two pigs, farming tools and agricultural training. And with the additional \$68 collected at the Sunday School Finale we can donate honeybees for the farms.



**Thank you** to the parents of our Sunday School children and Congregation Council for making this possible.

*The Children’s Education Team*

## June’s Highlighted Collection: Tents and Tarps (T&T)

Finding and maintaining shelter is one of the biggest struggles for those facing homelessness. During the month of June, we will collect tents and tarps that will be distributed to those in need by *AHTN* and *Bucks County Mutual Aid*. There are several ways to help:

- purchase a tent or tarp at a store of your choice,
- donate a gently-used tent or tarp in good condition,
- or [CLICK HERE](#) to purchase an item from the God’s Love Tents and Tarps gift registry on Amazon.



Online purchases can be *shipped directly to the church* if you prefer. Any size tent or tarp is fine (when in doubt bigger is better).

**Questions?** Contact **Sandy Anthony**.



## God’s Caring Stitchers

**Friday, June 16**  
**1:00pm – 3:00pm**  
**Room A1/A2**

We continue to make items for our blanket blessing and donation in November.

**All are welcome!**

**Questions?** Contact **Cindy Sundstrom**.

**NOTE:** During the summer, we will meet *once a month* on Fridays, July 7 and August 4.

Scripture Readings  
for June 11

Hosea 5:15--6:6  
*God desires steadfast love*

Romans 4:13-25  
*The promise to those  
of Abraham’s faith*

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26  
*Christ raises a woman  
from the dead*

# Church COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Congregation Council was held on May 18. The regular monthly financial and Staff reports were reviewed, as well as the Pastors' monthly reports, the latter highlighting special upcoming events, including the Evangelism workshop on June 3 and the women's retreat on June 10. Status reports were provided and next steps discussed with respect to upgrades to the sanctuary Audio-Video system and the ongoing exploration of options for the Fellowship Hall air conditioning.

The Council approved the creation of Nursery Attendant as a new staff position, as well as a Job Description for that position. In addition, a proposal to allocate \$805 to the Sunday School as matching funds for the amount raised through Sunday School offerings for ELCA Good Gifts was also approved.

The next regular business meeting of the Congregation Council will be held on **Thursday, June 15 at 7:00pm in Room A1/A2. These meetings are open to the congregation.**

Barbara Steen, *Council President*

## Supporting Those in Need

For many of us summer is a time for vacation and relaxing. That is not the case for people who are in need. Many times it is more difficult to find food because volunteers are away. God's Love provides lunches to the *Reach Out Foundation* drop-in center in Penn del.



**If you feel called to help, [SIGN UP HERE FOR JULY](#) or visit the [SignUp Hub](#).**

Donations due in the **Lobby of Love** by **10:30am on Tuesdays**.

## Ways you can SERVE

**Ushers, Readers, Communion Assistants, Altar Guild, Acolytes...** there are many opportunities for members of the congregation

(adults and youth!) to assist during our worship services.

[SIGN UP HERE FOR JUNE/JULY/AUGUST](#) or visit the [SignUp Hub](#) to choose a week(s) most convenient for you. New volunteers are encouraged! Instructions will be provided.

The resource table in the Commons is there to provide meaningful and timely ministry tools that help connect faith with our daily lives.



"On-loan" resources for June are manageable collections of writings from a variety of Christian spiritual thinkers. No problem if you would like to take them to the pool or beach. Sand within the pages is to be expected! **Welcome!**

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles. —Anne Frank, *Diary of a Young Girl*



## Gardening is God's Work, Our Hands

The spring days are warming and the vegetables in the Good Neighbor Garden are just about ready to spring forth—and so are the weeds. If you're looking for an opportunity to serve outdoors in God's beautiful creation to help our garden grow, please consider signing up to pull weeds.

[CLICK HERE](#) to choose a week (Sunday – Saturday). Come at your own convenience during that week. Gardening supplies, if needed, are stored in the shed.

This year we are growing only root vegetables to make harvesting and distributing more efficient. A single harvest in the fall will be donated to local food pantries.



The 2022 – 2023 school year ended with all the usual activities we love—class trips, Mother's Day Teas, Field Day, and releasing butterflies. This year, our butterflies took longer to go through metamorphosis, so we had a special release party next to the Good Neighbor Garden a few days after school ended. We sang our favorite

butterfly song, watching the butterflies fly away. It was a lovely day to send them off. Thank you, Pastor Dan, for joining us!

For some, it is not quite time to say good-bye. We look forward to lots more fun and adventures at Summer Fun Camp, the weeks of June 5 & 12.

All of us at the preschool wish you and your family a restful, safe, happy summer!



# JUNE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Property Team 11a	2 Knit & Crochet 1p	3 <b>Evangelism Event</b> 9am – Noon
4 Worship 8:45a & 11a	5 Counters 9:30a	6 Staff Mtg 11:15a Rejoice! 7:30p	7 Vocal Choir 7p	8 Exec Comm 7:30p	9	10 Fellowship Dine 6p Quilters 10a – 4p Women's Retreat 10a – 3p
11 Worship 8:45a & 11a	12 Counters 9:30a Men's Bible Study 7p	13 Staff Mtg 11:15a Rejoice! 7:30p	14 <b>Flag Day</b>  Vocal Choir 7p	15	16 Knit & Crochet 1p	17
18 Worship 8:45a & 11a <b>Father's Day</b> 	19 Counters 9:30a	20 Staff Mtg 11:15a Rejoice! 7:30p	21	22	23	24
25 Worship 8:45a & 11a Stewardship Mtg Noon	26 Counters 9:30a	27 Staff Mtg 11:15a Rejoice! 7:30p	28	29 Book Club 7p	30	



## Congratulations to Our Class of 2023 *High School Graduates*



**Grace Kantra** The Pennington School, June 3. Grace will attend Villanova University to study education and psychology.



**Ruby Parker** Homeschool, June 2. Ruby will attend Bucks County Community College.



**Kolby Ranniello** Pennsbury High School, June 8. Kolby will attend Florida Atlantic University to study Business/Finance.



**Ava Rarick** Villa Joseph Marie High School, June 3. Ava will attend TCNJ to study Speech Pathology/Audiology.



**Kassidy Shaw** Council Rock High School North, June 8. Kassidy will attend Monmouth University to study Criminal Justice and Psychology.



**Macey Webber** Pennsbury High School, June 8. Macey will attend Bucknell University to study Markets, Innovation and Design; Vocal Performance; Dance.



**Peyton Young** Council Rock High School North, June 8. Peyton will attend TCNJ to study Mechanical Engineering.



## Congratulations to Our Class of 2023

### *College/Graduate School Graduates*



**Damon Carr** Elizabethtown College, December 2022. BA in Japanese Language and a BA in Asian Studies. Damon plans to move to Japan in August to teach English to Japanese students.



**Kaitlyn Eastburn** University of Pittsburgh, April 28. BS in Nursing. Kaitlyn will work as a Registered Nurse at Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania (CHOP).



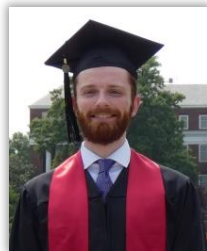
**Nathan Carr** Penn State University, May 6. BS in Information Science and Technology, Human Center Design and Development and a minor in Music Performance, summa cum laude. Nathan will be working for General Electric in the Renewable Energy Department.



**James Elwell** Tufts University, May 21. BS in Biomedical Engineering and a minor in Dance, summa cum laude.



**Andrea Bauer** Temple University, May 10. MS in Statistics and Data Science. Andrea is employed by Amtrak.



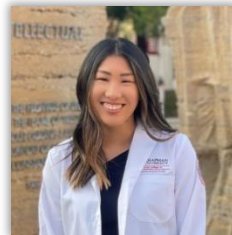
**Paul McDonnell** University of Maryland, May 22. BS in Computer Science and a minor in Physics.



**Madison Webber** Elizabethtown College, May 13. BS in Mathematics Secondary Education. She is applying for a teaching position.



**Morgan Young** Rutgers University, New Brunswick, May, 2022. BA in Political Science and a minor in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, magna cum laude. Morgan recently finished her first year at Temple.



**Melissa Pepper** (granddaughter of Joanne and the late Bill Bahmiller) Chapman University's Master of Medical Sciences Physician Assistant Program in Irvine, CA, December, 2022. Melissa earned national certification and is practicing in Adult Internal Medicine.



**Brooke Young** Rutgers University, New Brunswick, May 14. BA in Cell Biology and Neuroscience and a minor in Spanish. Brooke plans to work as an EMT, study for MCATs and go to medical school.



**Meredith Webber** Temple University's Fox School of Business, May 10. Master of Business Administration (MBA). Meredith will be working in Corporate Accounts at Solenis in Wilmington, DE.

*Do you have a graduate that's not listed?  
Contact the church office so we can include the news in a future Messenger.*



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