

the Messenger



November 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost



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Interfaith Service of Giving Thanks

hosted by the Newtown Yardley Ministerium

Sunday, November 19 • 3:00pm

Newtown Friends Meeting 219 Court St, Newtown

Additional parking 1 block away at 317 S. State St.

Non-perishable food, children's clothing, and monetary donations will be collected to support the ministries of Mercer Street Friends.

"Let's Talk Turkey" Collection

LAST Sunday to donate, November 19

Donations benefit *Manor Elementary Food Pantry*, providing for families in need in the Pennsbury School District.

Place donations on the "turkey cart" in the **Lobby of Love** ♥ or place it *anytime* in the main kitchen freezer.

Questions? Contact **Sandy Anthony**.



"SOCK"-tober Collection Success

The collection results are in!
We collected **544 pairs of socks!**

These generous donations will be distributed to local agencies serving lower income and homeless clients. **Thank you to everyone who contributed!** —Janet and Sandy



Stewardship Emphasis: "ONE" Campaign Challenge

"The Lord our God, the Lord is One; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your minds, and with all your strength."

On November 12, Consecration Sunday, we began to collect the congregation's 2024 *Intent for Financial Giving* cards. **Approximately 50 cards were collected**, which is just under halfway to our goal. Remember the "ONE" Campaign Challenge as an act of faith and stewardship, and a response to the call to put God first in our lives.

If you haven't had a chance to return your Intent Card, please do so this Sunday, or mail or deliver your card to the church office. If needed, extra cards are available in the "ONE" baskets in the Commons or office entryway.

Questions about your 2024 Intent? Contact **John Tidd**, Financial Secretary at LCGLFinance@gmail.com



Discipleship in a Democracy
Sunday, November 19
10:00am
Fellowship Hall

Join this discussion on the connection between faith-based living and civic engagement as we explore the following questions: *What's faith got to do with civic life? How do we as Lutherans address controversial civic issues? What about 'separation of church and state'? How do we 'go in peace to serve the Lord' in civic life?*

This session includes a brief video, scripture study, discussion, and practical resources from the ELCA Task Force on Civic Life and Faith.

NOTE: There will be **NO CLASS** on November 26.

Up Next in Adult Faith & Life

"The Advents of Our Lord" Sundays, December 3 and 10

An exploration of the Lutheran understanding of the three comings of Christ: Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, Christ's presence in Holy Communion, and Christ's triumphant return.

Scripture Readings for
November 26
Christ the King Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
God will shepherd Israel

Ephesians 1:15-23
The reign of Christ

Matthew 25:31-46
Son of Man separating sheep and goats

November Highlighted Collection

St. Nicholas Day • Sunday, December 3

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Our annual collection of holiday gift donations is ON! Donations will support these local agencies: Bucks County Housing Group, Woods Services, Bethanna, Family Services, and Interfaith Food Alliance.

Monetary donations are also welcome. Add "St. Nicholas Day" in the memo section of your check or envelope; place in the offering plate.

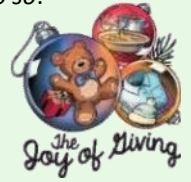
Questions? Contact **Karen Hoch**

Two Ways to Participate:

1. **Tear-off tags** with gift ideas are posted in the **Lobby of Love** ♥. Select a tag, go shopping, wrap the gift, *if directed to do so*. Return the item, **WITH TAG ATTACHED**.

All tear-off tag gifts are due back at the Church **on/before, Sunday, December 3**. During worship St. Nicholas will be here to welcome your gifts.

2. **ONLINE:** If you prefer to shop *online*, purchase items for *Family Service Association* from their wish list online at blueprintregistry.com/registry/FamilyServiceHolidayGiftDrive
Gifts purchased *online* will ship directly to Family Service.



Midweek Advent Bible Study: Praying Isaiah

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 20 • 12:00pm • Commons



In the prophet Isaiah's voice, we hear God's people lament and cry for justice amid their sin and pain. But Isaiah also reminds us that God's comforting promises of liberation will be fulfilled.

Join Pastor Brandi Wednesdays during Advent at noon for a 30-minute *lectio divina* on our Advent texts from Isaiah. Pause during this busy time of year to breathe in God's word of comfort and hope. There will be coffee, refreshments and fellowship following the meditation. Meet in the Commons, and depending on the number of participants we will gather in the sanctuary or the Café.

Youth Ministry

Our youth in grades 7 – 12 have been gathering in the Loft during the Sunday School hour for faith and fellowship. On November 12 they met in the kitchen instead and assembled **54 meals** for *Caring for Friends!* **Newcomers are always welcome.**

Questions? Contact **Julie Eastburn** or **Robin Pecuch**.



Usher, Reader, Acolyte,
Basket Bearer, Altar
Guild, Communion
Assistant, Nursery Assistant...

Ways you can SERVE

There are many opportunities for adults and youth to assist during worship services. Any of these roles are wonderful opportunities to engage in service, meet new people, and deepen your own worship experience.

[SIGN UP FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER](#), or visit the **SignUp Hub** to choose weeks and roles convenient for you.

HOPE Supporting Those in Need

God's Love provides bagged lunches every week to the *Reach Out Foundation* in Pennel.

[SIGNUP FOR DECEMBER](#), or visit the **SignUp Hub**. Donations are due in the **Lobby of Love** ♥ on **Tuesdays by 10:30am**.

Questions? Contact **Sandy Anthony**.



Transition Update from Council

On November 16, Council met with Rev. Nathan Krause, Dean of our synod's Lower Bucks Conference, to reflect on Pr. Dan's ministry and where we are headed from here. Rest assured of Pr. Brandi's continued leadership at God's Love and the synod's support in our transition process. More details will be communicated as they become available in the weeks ahead.



Two different Advent Devotional booklets are now available on the **Ministry Resource Table** in the Commons. Feel free to take one of each per household. Advent begins on December 3.



Red Cross Blood Drive
Tuesday, December 5
2pm – 7pm • Fellowship Hall

Appointments available at
RedCrossBlood.org

Gals' Book Club
Thursday, December 7
7:00pm • Lounge

"The Night Watchman"
by Louise Erdrich



Lutheran Church of God's Love
791 Newtown Yardley Road
Newtown, PA 18940
215.968.4335 • godslovenewtown.org

Pastor Brandi Hebert
prbrandi@godslovenewtown.org

Kay Rozolis
admin@godslovenewtown.org

Susan McDonnell
info@godslovenewtown.org