



**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRINDSTONE HILL**

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May 2024

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Solomon's Says

A Newsletter from the Faith Community of Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

Pastoral Letter – Pastor Michael Allwein

Dear Members and friends of Solomon's faith community,

"We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains . . . and not only creation, but we ourselves . . ." [Rom. 8:22]

A few years ago, I heard a sermon entitled, *Jesus Visits the Zoo*. I forget if it was meant to be a children's sermon, but it did not need to be. Its message was for all of us. In the sermon, Jesus begins his day by visiting a zoo. He gets there early so some of the animals were only slowly waking up. As Jesus stirs the animals awake, He invites them to walk together. And before you know it, Jesus had the peacocks, zebras and lions walking with him. Even a snake crawls along with the entire troupe dancing through the zoo! The gorillas then join in with their gorilla dance! Together they then hatch a plan to escape, until one peacock wonders if the children will all be sad when they come to the zoo and there are no animals there. The sermon ends without us knowing if they follow through their plan of escape.

In a wispy, yet candid way, this sermon extended the invitation to make us wonder how we humans might live humbly, justly and responsibly in relationship with all of God's creation.

On April 22, we celebrated Earth Day. This year the theme, "Planet vs. Plastics" offered us the mandate: "make new the earth in which we live!

In the scripture text from Romans, although St. Paul was not writing an "Earth Day" sermon, the image is a powerful one of the whole earth groaning in labor pains, struggling to give birth to new life. It is we, who are the midwives, encouraging and enabling such new life to take place. It is up to each one of us to be mid-wives in the process of birthing our fragile world to new life.

So, I am left wondering exactly what will happen to the earth in the years to come? Especially in an area of rich farming in Franklin County, I know we know the precious value of the earth. So, how will each of us respond to God's claim on each one of us? To me, it seems not an accident that Earth Day always falls within the season of Easter, the season of new life and life renewed. It is always the perfect perspective when we think of our relationship with the earth, with all creation. Easter life is the gift. Witnessing to it, however bold or subtle, is the bequest we offer in return. Let's visit a zoo and talk to the animals! Let's visit the earth around us! Let's take our part seriously in birthing new life to all creation!

Blessings during this season of life renewed!

~pastor mike



Gospel Readings for May:

- Sunday, May 5 - John 15:9-17
- Sunday, May 12 - John 17:6-19
- Sunday, May 19 - John 15:26-17;16:4b-15
- Sunday, May 26 - John 3:1-17

Solomon's Serving Schedule - May

	5/5/24	5/12/24	5/19/24	5/26/24
Head Usher	Frances Reichard			
Lector	Rich McEntire	Patricia Yetter	Kathy Bowen	Wayne Dale
Acolyte	Norm Kuykendall	Aaron Shreiner	Sam Mull	Wayne Dale
Communion Set-Up	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull
Communion Clean-Up	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull
Communion Assists	Ron Coldsmith & Martie Veilleux	Martie Veilleux	Becky Mull & Martie Veilleux	Marjorie Dale & Martie Veilleux
Communion Bread	Frances Reichard			
Securing Offering	Wayne Dale & Don Wildeson			
Coffee Fellowship	Colleen Johnson			

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)



On May 19, during our 10:15 worship service we will confirm **Sarah Aldrich**, daughter of Barbara and Chris Aldrich and sister of Rebekah. *Affirmation of Baptism* is part of one's process of formation in faith at a time of renewed and increased participation in a community of faith. Sarah has been faithful in her worship attendance as well as involved in many activities of this church. Sarah is an acolyte, helps with Vacation Bible School, Kids' Church, the Thanksgiving Dinner, as well as plays volleyball for Waynesboro Middle School, and active in 4-H—and there is much more! Sarah brings a broad smile with her on Sunday mornings. We welcome Sarah into full voting membership of Solomons Lutheran Church! *Congratulation Sarah!*



On Sunday, April 28, 2024, we celebrated the baptism of **Austin Scott Pincin**, son of Joy (Gayman) Pincin and Brandon Pincin. Welcome, Austin, to your new life in Christ surrounded by a community of faith!



Passages



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of *Rosemary Wishard, and Linda Russ*. May God comfort them with the hopes of a blessed reunion in heaven.

News from Social Ministry



POWER PACK MEALS: Power Pack Meals and donations will be collected until the end of May for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. THANK YOU to everyone who participated this past school year. Solomon's members have been very generous.

SUPER FUN fundraiser sponsored by Solomon's U. C. C!



The event will raise money for the power pack program that we support. It's a Harrisburg Senator's game at FNB Field in Harrisburg. The game is on Friday, June 21 at 7pm. Tickets are \$15 each (\$4 from every ticket sold will go toward our power pack program). Sign-up sheet is on the board in the Sunday School room. It's also a great opportunity to meet some neighbors and talk about our church. Any questions see Linda Berberich.

Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church



What are the characteristics of a vibrant church?

Starting in April, Pastor Mike has started to name the gifts that Solomon's Lutheran shares with the surrounding community. First, it was the gift of the fellowship center. The second week it was our handicap accessibility for both of our buildings. I am looking forward, as he names other gifts to see the glimpses of vibrancy that make Solomon's a vibrant church. Just like people, each church has characteristics. There are many qualities that make up a congregation, such as church leadership, inspiring worship, loving relationships, and many more. Let us look at church leadership; does it empower other Christians? For ministry, to equip, support, motivate and mentor individuals. Inspiring worship, is the Holy Spirit truly at work, is God truly worshipped? A loving relationship, do people want to hear about God's love and how Christian love really works? I, myself, have witnessed this here at Solomons. There is so much more that makes Solomon's Lutheran Church a vibrant church. I personally would like to see a little more vibrancy in evangelism. Christ said, "Go into all nations, make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, of the Son and of The Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you, and behold I am with you always to the end of the ages." (Matthew 28:12-20)

Garge Weaver

Friendly Reminders

If you would like to sign up for **altar flowers** the following Sundays in June are still available: 6/9, 6/23, 6/30.

Have an item for the summer newsletter?! Deadline is May **17th**. Email Kimberly at office@solomonslutheran.org.

Community Garden

WOULD YOU LIKE A PLACE TO GARDEN?

SOLOMON'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE OPENING OF OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN.

WE WILL HAVE PLOTS AVAILABLE FOR FREE OR DONATION ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.

Solomon's UCC initiated a Community Garden. Plots are available on a first come first serve basis. If interested there are forms located in the Sunday School Room to obtain a plot.

Solomon's United Church of Christ

1594 Swamp Fox Road Chambersburg, PA 17202

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ATTN: CANCER SURVIVORS
We want to celebrate YOU!



On behalf of the Relay volunteers in your communities, we would like to invite you to register for the Relay For Life of Franklin & Fulton Counties.

After registering, you will receive an email to redeem your complimentary survivor t shirt, which will be shipped directly to your home.

The Relay For Life of Franklin & Fulton Counties will be held from 4-10PM on Friday May 17, 2024 at Greencastle Antrim High School, 300 S. Ridge Avenue, Greencastle, PA. Please SAVE THE DATE and plan to JOIN US as we celebrate and honor the cancer survivors in our communities.

Registration is FREE and EASY

You pick the registration option that is best for you!

1) Log on to the website at:
www.relayforlife.org/pafranklinfulton

2) OR Scan the QR Code below:



Then watch for an Email From:

Relay For Life <News@message.cancer.org>
with the subject line:

If you are cancer survivor, claim your shirt!

From this email - you can request your complimentary shirt which will be shipped, at no cost, directly to you!

Don't have email? No problem!

Just call 800-227-2345 to register and the folks taking your information can order your shirt for you!



2024 Event
Schedule Highlights

Relay Opens - 4 pm

Opening ceremony - 4:30 pm

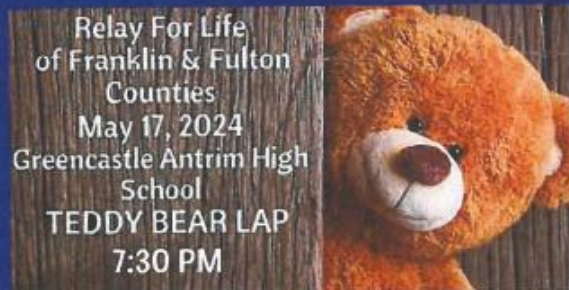
Survivor/caregiver recognition
and lap to reception - 6 pm
Reception - 6:30 pm

Teddy Bear lap - 7:30 pm

Luminaria ceremony - 9:30 pm

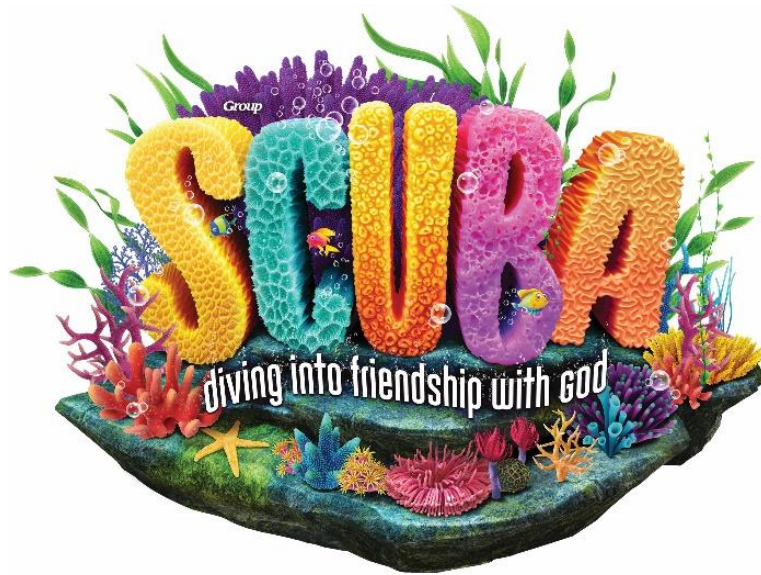
Final lap - 10 pm

Basket Alley runs from 4-8 pm



Bring 1 NEW teddy bear to walk with during the Teddy Bear Lap. At the end of the lap, the bears will be collected by our volunteers. The bears are then tagged with a note letting the recipient know this bear walked in honor of them at the Relay For Life. Bears are distributed through local cancer centers to folks going through treatment -MUST BE NEW! Please JOIN US for this heartwarming outreach as we support our community's cancer warriors!

Solomon's Lutheran Church VBS 2024



VBS – June 17 – 21, 2024

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Ages: 3 yrs. – 6th grade

CELEBRATION SUNDAY: JUNE 23 @ 10:15 am

**Please fill out the attached
Registration Form and Photo Agreement Form
Bring along the first night of VBS**

Happy Birthday



Celebrating a Birthday in May...

5/1	Robin Mull	5/15	Daniel Crouch
5/7	Judy Johnson	5/18	Carole Rau
5/11	Ron Coldsmith	5/18	Nancy Marshall
5/12	Kathy Bowen	5/23	Marjorie Dale
5/13	Nancy Kuykendall	5/23	Jerry Laney
5/13	Carolyn Clouser	5/25	Sam Mull



Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in May...

5/3	Mark & Sally Gayman
5/14	Jerry & Ilona Laney
5/21	Sean & Chelsea Kindall
5/26	Dan & Roxy Bothe

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Join us Sunday mornings!

10:15 a.m. Worship Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

OR check us out on *YouTube!*

Links are listed on our website.

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Pastor Michael Allwein

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.."

Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)