

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH GRINDSTONE HILL

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September 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,

"For we who are many are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another...." [Romans 12:5]

I am sitting here in my sunroom in the early morning, the day tornado-like winds and flood-like rain are badgering my morning quiet time. A river is already forming in my lower yard. I am mostly drawn to two hummingbirds who have formed a tag team with my feeders outside these windows. Even as the water continues to drench the feeders, leaves and branches are swirling so very close by, these two amazing, determined creatures know what they need and are determined to find their sustenance.

As I watch the unrest of this morning, I feel as if I might be living into a parable, not only of our world around us, but of our faith journey here at Solomons. Some may see ominous grey skies, others, an uncanny magnitude of wind, still others, driving reservoirs of water—what I see, and am more astonished with, is the tenacity of these two resilient birds who will not be deterred of the life-giving sustenance they seek, even as the world churns around them! They dip into the feeders, they fly away, then return, they come close to the window, suspecting I am writing about them. I recognize vulnerability surrounded by grace!

I know there has been much conversation about the future of Solomons (much of it spurred on by me), but I never want our talk of the future to blind us to the gifts of the present. I want to continue to use our "Glimpses of Vibrancy" to tether us in the present. I want us to recognize the solid foundation of faith and action we are living each day. I need us to know that even as we are

immersed in ministry each day, we still have the capacity to grow deeper in all aspects of congregational life.

I felt it was important to have Pastor Jorgensen, assistant to the bishop, worship with us on August 4. Our conversations were needed for him to understand more completely who we are as a congregation. I am most grateful for your openness to continue these conversations as to how together—we best can be the People of God.

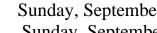
I'm remembering a quote by E.B. White (author of Charlotte's Web), when he said, "I arise in the morning torn between a desire to save/improve the world, and a desire to savor/enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan my day."

Even the greatest pray-ers from our tradition sometimes struggled to believe that God was hearing their prayers, struggling to believe that prayers could even make a difference to oneself and to the world. We are in good company. The phrase "we are members one of another" is employed by Paul when writing to the Christian community at Rome, wherein he elaborates on his strong belief that we all belong to each other, willed by God. I suspect Paul had no illusion about the challenges when working with many different people. Yet, in the matrix of Paul's theology, there is always the prevailing desire of growing together, of finding the common good rather than simply my good. I do know there are many Glimpses of Vibrancy alive here! I continue to watch those hummingbirds in their morning routine of seeking sustenance amidst the whirlwinds. I am sitting here wondering if we really need to make a choice between saving and savoring. Mayber the very beginning of saving is knowing how best to enjoy the gifts of today.

Blessings & love,

~pastor mike

Gospel Readings for SEPTEMBER:



Sunday, September 1 - Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Sunday, September 8 - Mark 7:24-37

Sunday, September 15 - Mark 8:27-38

Sunday, September 22 - Mark 9:30-37

Sunday, September 29 - Mark 9:38-50

Solomon's Serving Schedule - September

	9/1/24	9/8/24	9/15/24	9/22/24	9/29/24	
Head Usher	Phil Johnson					
Lector	Rich McEntire	Patricia Yetter	Kathy Bowen	TBD	TBD	
Acolyte	Aaron Shreiner	TBD	Aaron Shreiner	TBD	TBD	
Communion Set-Up	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	
Communion Clean-Up	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	Jerry & Ilona Laney	
Communion Assists	Ilona Laney	Ilona Laney	TBD	TBD	Marjorie Dale	
Communion Bread	Frances Reichard					
Securing Offering	Phil Johnson & Becky Pecha					
Coffee Fellowship	Kathy Bowen & Linda Berberich					

Special Worship Events



We will have an outdoor worship service in the Woods on October 13 at 10:15 a.m., weather permitting. Following the service, we will gather in the picnic shelter for a potluck lunch. Beverages, plates, napkins, and cutlery will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and a camp chair. If it rains, we will worship in the church and eat in the Fellowship Center.

- Last name beginning with A-H bring a main dish (meatballs, ham, chicken, etc.)
- Last name beginning with J-R bring a salad type dish
- Last name beginning with S-Y bring a dessert type dish



God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is Rally Day September 8



Solomon's is participating with thousands of other congregations across the country to serve our communities on *God's Work Our Hands Sunday*. Join Social Ministry in the Fellowship Center immediately following worship to assemble the world relief personal care kits.

From our Director of Music, Mary-Jo



Choir Practice Resumes - Our adult choir will resume its regular weekly practice sessions beginning on Thursday, Sept. 12th at 7 pm in the Choir Room in the church building. All are welcome!

Social Ministry News

Personal Care Kits: thank you to all who contributed to the kits so far. You still have until 9/1 to donate any of the following:



One light weight dark colored bath-size towel (52" x 27")

Bath-size bars of soap (any brand) in original wrapper

One adult-size single toothbrush in original package

One sturdy comb in original wrapper

One metal nail clipper (attached file optional)

The kits will be assembled during Rally Day in September.

Monetary donations are accepted as well, please write "personal care kits" in the memo of your check.

Power Pack Meals: The need for nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need starting in September. Please consider donating individual serving size fruit and vegetable cups, individual packages of mac-n-cheese, Chef Boyardee, 8 oz bottles of water, juice boxes, and yahoo chocolate drink. Monetary donations are accepted as well, please write "power pack meals" in the memo of your check.

Finance Committee News

Reminder to Committees. Please have your proposed budget for 2025 completed and given to Kimberly no later than September 30, 2024.





Sunday September 8, 2024

NETwork Ministries

Speaker: Benjamin Raber and/or Jen Good **Location:** Solomon's Fellowship Center

Breakfast: 9:00 am

Menu: Sausage Egg Casserole, Bacon Egg Casserole, Sticky Buns, Bacon, Fruit & Drink

Qigong/Tai Chi



Qigong/Tai Chi - Wednesdays at 7:00pm thru October 2nd at Solomon's Church main Sunday school room. This is an open class. If you can walk independently, you will survive the class. All exercises are mild. For more information contact: Colleen Johnson



Thank you, thank you, Heidi! We extend a heap of gratitude and so many wishes of appreciation to Heidi for her faithful commitment to Solomons, these past eight months, as she has served as our music minister and choir director. Hedi has planned the music for each Sunday's bringing clear worship, understanding of liturgical music and her understanding of how to sync liturgical themes and encourage congregational singing! Heidi, we cannot thank you enough for bringing us through these past

eight months, at a time when many of us wondered how our music program would survive! Heidi, you have been a gift to us, and we are glad you will be able to worship, once again, with your family on Sunday mornings. We will continue to be so very grateful for the excitement you have brought to our Sunday morning worship! AND, we know where to turn if we need a person to fill in sometime into the future! **Thank you, Heidi!**



We welcome Mary-Jo Bedsworth, who joins us as our organist and music director. Mary-Jo will also be directing the choir, working with Pastor Mike and the Worship & Music Committee in leading us in our worship services each week! *Welcome*, *Mary-Jo!*

SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary

Discount Card Fundraiser Only \$5.00

Good through August 2025

Cards can be purchased from Bonney Coldsmith, Marjorie Dale, Becky Pecha, and Frances Reichard.





Power Pack Program

New Franklin Power Pack Program Beginning of Year 2024-2025

Hello Power Pack Supporters!

The Chambersburg Area School District's school year began on August 22, 2024. We are starting to prepare by stocking our shelves for our 6th year of providing weekend food to our local elementary school students who deal with food insecurity. Non-Perishable, not expired, individual packaged food items or monetary donations are now being accepted and welcomed.

After school has been in session for a few weeks, we will have more details to provide on the number of students we will be helping. As of now, our packing days remain on Tuesdays and a Chambersburg high school Autistic Support Class is returning to complete our weekly packing. They will begin on August 27th to help us organize and shelve the supplies we have received so far to begin this school year.

Following is a list of suggested healthy and tasty items that are needed:

Breakfast

Individual cereal boxes, bags, cups or bars Individual oatmeal packets Pop tarts, Granola bars, Fruit bars

Lunch or Dinner

> Individual Macaroni and Cheese cups Individual meal cups or trays Ramen noodles Cup of soup

Fruits & Vegetables

Individual servings of greens beans, peas, corn, carrots, peas & carrots Individual fruit cups, jello fruit cups

Snacks

Pretzels

Crackers, Goldfish snacks Peanut butter cracker packs Fruit snacks

Drinks

8oz water bottles

Fruit drinks boxes or pouches

Yoo-Hoo

Non-refrigerated individual milk cartons

Thank you for your continued support of this worthwhile program. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. As always, any questions or concerns, please contact me at the number below.

Blessings to all,

Cindy Holmquist 717-860-1922

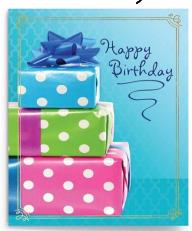
Friendly Reminders

If you would like to sign up for **altar flowers** the following Sundays in September and October are still available: 9/29, 10/6, 10/27. Please email or call Kimberly (office@solomonslutheran.org / 717-267-2266).

Have an item for the October newsletter?! Deadline is **September 16th**. Email Kimberly at office@solomonslutheran.org.

If you would like information included in the bulletin, please submit to the office by Thursday.

Celebrating a Birthday in September....



- 9/13 Aaron Shreiner
- 9/13 Keith Kuykendall
- 9/15 Sean Kindall
- 9/19 Karen Wolfinger
- 9/21 Hattie Mummert
- 9/25 Bill Brindle

Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in September...



9/6 Clif & Carole Rau

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)