



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

4856 Wayne Road Phone: 717-267-2266  
Chambersburg, PA 17202-9355 Fax: 717-267-7030  
E-Mail Address: info@solomonslutheran.org

**May 2026**

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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."*

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## Pastoral Letter – Pastor Julia Brown

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I am just returning from a "Congregational Vitality Trek" that was part of my professional development program within the UCC. The purpose of this trek was to spend time among colleagues considering what it means and looks like to have vitality as a congregation.

The role of the church in our society and in our lives is changing. Unfortunately, that has led to a decline in church membership and giving, which in turn leads to a narrative of church death. I spent the weekend with peers pondering this reality and wondering how we might shift that narrative and remain open to the new thing God is doing with the church. Because God is doing a new thing! We may not see it yet. The congregations that raised us may not enter into it as they were or have been. But the global church is God's, and God will not let it fail.

I have much to continue pondering and synthesizing as I come back to this unique context. For now, I encourage YOU to ponder and pray over these questions:

- Where do you see life within the congregation and ministries of Solomon's?
- What in the life of Solomon's today is most meaningful to you?
- How might you share that beyond the walls and social circles of Solomon's?
- What do you need to do to grieve what was, so that you might love what is?

Finally - and this question can be challenging to hear/read - if Solomon's were to close, what would the community miss?

If you would like to have a conversation on any of the above questions, please reach out! See you in church,  
Pastor Julia





## Gospel Readings for May:

- Sunday, May 3 - John 14:1-14
- Sunday, May 10 - John 14:15-21
- Sunday, May 17 - John 17:1-11
- Sunday, May 24 - John 20:19-23
- Sunday, May 31 - Matthew 28:16-20

### Solomon's Serving Schedule - May

	5/3/26	5/10/26	5/17/26	5/24/26	5/31/26
<i>Head Usher</i>	Sarge Weaver				
<i>Lector</i>	Kathy Bowen	Patricia Yetter	Kathy Bowen	Martie Veilleux	Rich McEntire
<i>Acolyte</i>	Wayne Dale	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<i>Communion Set-Up</i>	Becky Pecha	N/A	TBD	TBD	N/A
<i>Communion Clean-Up</i>	Becky Pecha	N/A	TBD	TBD	N/A
<i>Communion Assist</i>	Martie Veilleux	N/A	Martie Veilleux	Martie Veilleux	N/A
<i>Communion Bread</i>	Marjorie Dale	N/A	Marjorie Dale	Marjorie Dale	N/A
<i>Securing Offering</i>	Sarge Weaver & Colleen Johnson				

### Friendly Reminders



If you would like to sign up for **altar flowers** the following Sundays in May and June are still available: 5/10, 6/14.

**Have an item for the summer newsletter?!** Deadline is May 19<sup>th</sup>. Email Kimberly at [office@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:office@solomonslutheran.org).




*To the members of Solomons Lutheran: my family and I would like to thank you for your prayers for Chuck over the past few years. Our thanks also for your expressions of kindness, care, and sympathy as we mourn his recent passing. The journey was a difficult one for him and for us, and your support and love was felt. Again, our thanks.  
Mary-Jo Bedsworth and family*



**AC&T, CO. INC.**, our propane supplier, has made available to members of Solomon's 4 season tickets to the Hagerstown Flying Boxcars Baseball Team, for all home games. Tickets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you are interested, please call Ron Coldsmith.


## Thank you Mary-Jo



***You are greatly appreciated***  
***Mary-Jo***

Once again, thank you for all you have done for Solomon's music program. Your leadership, talent, and professionalism are on display every Sunday. Solomon's choir has continued to be a shining light in our worship service. The "Music Notes-Hymn Notes" in the bulletin and explanations of our hymns prior to our singing, have expanded our music education. But most notably, your performance of the Easter Prelude was a wonderful opening to Easter Day: The Resurrection of Our Lord.

***Thank you, Mary Jo, again for all that you do and are doing to make Solomon's shine!***



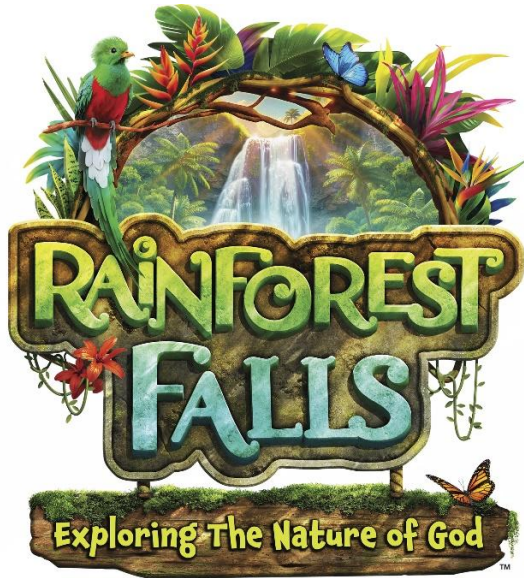
***FROM THE MEMBERS OF SOLOMON'S***

## News from Social Ministry



**The Power Pack Program ends in May.** Social Ministry thanks all who participated in this ministry to help those in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

# Solomon's Lutheran Church VBS 2026



**VBS - June 22 - 26, 2026**

**6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Ages: 3 yrs. - 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**CELEBRATION SUNDAY: JUNE 28 @ 10:45 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	5/13	Carolyn Clouser
5/7	Judy Johnson	5/15	Daniel Crouch
5/11	Ron Coldsmith	5/18	Nancy Marshall
5/12	Kathy Bowen	5/23	Marjorie Dale
5/13	Nancy Kuykendall	5/23	Jerry Laney



## *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!**  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

OR check us out on *YouTube!*  
Links are listed on our website.

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*"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.."*  
Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)