

THE ECHO
OF
ST. JOSEPH'S HILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Kim Truebenbach

OCTOBER 2021

From the Pastor...

“The sin underneath all our sins is to trust the lie of the serpent that we cannot trust the love and grace of Christ and must take matters into our own hands”
— **Martin Luther**

This month we celebrate 504th Anniversary of the Reformation. I thought it appropriate to reflect on some of Martin Luther’s insights in living out our faith. In our culture we celebrate those who take matters into their own hands. We celebrate the take charge people who are seemingly able to get things done. When it comes to salvation though, Luther reminds us that all we need to do is already done for us in Christ. We cannot by our own strength or power of will save ourselves, instead we must learn to rely on God who has done it all for us through Christ’s death and resurrection. If all is done for us why then do we ask who is our neighbor and how can we serve him or her?

Well mainly because, as Luther writes, “God doesn’t need your good works, but your neighbor does.” It can be challenging in our society to realize that we can help someone in need, and also be helped when we are in need. We are not conditioned to ask for help or show “weakness” by admitting we need help. But it is precisely in “weakness” that God’s love is shown, that God’s word is lived out, and we realize again and again how dependent we are upon God and one another. Christian life is life lived together, interdependent on one another.

Christian life is not “me and Jesus against the world”, it is all of us standing in the light of God’s love and forgiveness, in the reality of grace to be authentically loved, flaws and all. Christian life is resisting the forces that make us doubt God’s love for us, doubt our abilities, and doubt that love is more powerful than hate. And the hardest thing is *“To be convinced in our hearts that we have forgiveness of sins and peace with God by grace alone.”*

Peace,

Pastor Kim



OCTOBER WORSHIP **OPPORTUNITIES**

- October 3 19th Sunday in Pentecost – Worldwide Communion
10:30 AM at Friedens Lutheran Church in Oley
1076 Memorial Hwy, Oley, PA
- October 10 20th Sunday in Pentecost
8:00 AM Outside Worship service
9:00 AM Sunday School via zoom age 3 through grade 6
10:00 AM Inside Worship Service & Zoom
- October 17 21st Sunday in Pentecost
8:00 AM Outside Worship Service & Holy Communion
9:00 AM Sundy School via zoom age 3 through grade 6
10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service & Zoom
- October 24 8:00 AM Outside Worship Service
9:00 AM Sunday School via zoom age 3 through grade 6
10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service & Zoom.
- October 31 Reformation Sunday & Holy Communion
8:00 AM Outside Worship Service
9:00 AM Sunday School via zoom
10:00 AM Indoor Worship Service & Zoom.

Beginning November 7th, All Saints Day Celebration,

the 8 AM & 10 AM Worship Services will be inside the church.



For our “Gods Work, Our Hands” Rally Day project, eleven Blessing Bags were made by Crystal Schwenk, Joanne Bieber, Lucy Hartman, and Kate Schnaath. Atville Hawk and Claudia Sova joined in making cards. Kathie Gilbert set up. Joanne Bieber and Linda Harpel made lap afghans and tissue box covers. Blessing bags were delivered by Sunday School members.

We are inviting all children of the congregation from age 3 through grade 6 to join us on Zoom every Sunday morning from 9am-9:30am. We will be having a virtual one room Sunday school. If you have not received an email with the learning resources and would like to join us, Lucy Hartman email her at luc19009@windstream.net.

We are looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School via Zoom. We could use two more teachers. Email her at luc19009@windstream.net if you are interested in teaching.

Giving Bibles Several young people will be receiving Bibles on Reformation Sunday 10/31/2021. Before then we will have the Bibles set out for you to highlight your favorite verses and leave notes of encouragement in their Bibles. Come out 10/10, 10/17, 10/24 and leave your mark!

Oct 3rd is **World Wide Communion** and there is no service at St. Joe's. You are invited to Friedens Lutheran Church (1076 Memorial Hwy, Oley) for an outdoor service held by Bishop Christopher deForest. All the local church's are invited for worship, food and fellowship. Bring your own chair and a picnic lunch. Tents will be set up. An instrumental ensemble (guitar or bass, drummers, electric violin, keyboard and singers) with 2 cantors will lead worship.

Whatever Wednesdays and Youth Group are cancelled. Please join me in wishing Kate, Youth Leader, well as she moves on to other endeavors. Kate, you will be missed. Your enthusiasm and wonderful ideas were a blessing to the church.



A huge thank you to Linda Kowalski, Crystal Schwenk, Ben Reichert, Keith Christy, Mark Robertson, Alan Wood, Vicki Bentz, Linda Harpel, Dennis Weller and Chris Kline, your council team, for your time, talents, and dedication to your church. There will be openings for Council come January as some of the team have fulfilled their term. A special thank you to Anita Hoffman, Polly Sharp and Carol Barton for attending September's meeting. Your input is valued. Please email Jill at http://secretary.stjosephshill@gmail.com if you're interested in serving in 2022.



Much appreciation to those volunteers who came out on various days to cut down the tree's and bushes that needed to be removed. Many thanks to Deb & Rick Geesey, Diane & Bud Heller, Marcia Kurtz, Linda Kowalski, Carl & Joanne Bieber and anyone who has inadvertently not been mentioned. Your help to beautify our church property is witness to your dedication & devotion to our church. God Bless you!

Perkiomen Trail Get Together Join us on Sunday, Oct 10th to ride your bike or walk the trail. We will start at 1:30 PM from the Plank Road parking lot on Rt. 29 across the street from Ott's Greenhouse. The rain date is October 17th at 1:30 PM.

The church office will be closed on October 4th through October 8th. I will be back from vacation on October 11. You may call the church office and leave a message and I will get back to you upon return. You can certainly call Pastor Kim. Or email her at <http://www.kymi94@comcast.net>.

Gift Card Update Cards are available every Sunday for Weis, Redner, Giant, and Walmart. Use them to buy your groceries, gas and pharmacy items. Your support of this program paid off the mortgage for our addition and continues to raise funds for St. Joseph.

On the first Sunday of every month, you can order gift cards from the Great Lakes Scrip list. Remember to order Boscov cards to shop with on Wednesday, Oct 20th, along with your WELCA pass during Friends Helping Friends day. The next order dates for G.L. Scrip cards are Oct. 3rd, Nov. 7th, and December 5th. (Think about your Christmas needs). You'll receive the cards the following Sunday.

If you shop on Amazon, you can direct a donation to St. Joseph through <http://www.amazon.smile> Many thanks to those of you participating in these fundraisers. A total of \$83,192.86 has been raised since Dec. of 2007.

Fellowship Times Celebrate Marimba! Sunday, Nov. 7th at 4 PM. The Center for Mallet Percussion Research at Kutztown University will present a forty-piece marimba orchestra concert consisting of 20 invited professionals and 20 advanced marimbists selected from rigorous auditions. Tickets are \$15. Sign up at church on the bulletin board or call Esther Hendricks for tickets.

Please join **WELCA on Tuesday, October 5th at 7 PM** for a re-organization as they plan the candy making for December, determine the Thankoffering Service this year and all the other wonderful things they do for the church and the community. BE A PART OF, all women are welcome!

Thrivent Choice Dollars It's that time of year again. Please take a look at your choice dollars and allocate the funds to an organization of your choice. And please consider allocating the funds to church. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Robb.

Fundraiser One of our families has been affected by Hurricane Ida. If you would like to help please send a check payable to St Joseph's Hill Church with Ida on the memo line. Your donation is tax deductible and will show your offering statement.



A huge thank you to Linda Kowalski, Crystal Schwenk, Ben Reichert, Keith Christy, Mark Robertson, Alan Wood, Vicki Bentz, Linda Harpel, Dennis Weller and Chris Kline, the council team, for your time, talents, and dedication to your church. There will be openings for Council come January as some of the team have fulfilled their term. A special thank you to Anita Hoffman, Polly Sharp and Carol Barton for attending September's meeting. Your input is valued. Please email Jill at <http://secretary.stjosephshill@gmail.com> if you're interested in serving in 2022.

2021-2022 Confirmation Class Schedule We will begin the year online via ZOOM. If you need to make up a class, please contact Pastor Kim, (kymi94@comcast.net) and I will send you the link for the class once it is posted in Google Drive. Confirmation class begins on October 3rd at 6 PM.

10/3 – 10/24 Cat 4 Sacraments
4 weeks (formerly ½ of Cat 1)

2/6 Break No class

10/31 Halloween no class

2/13-3/6 Bible 1 Old Testament
4 weeks (formerly 1/3 of Bible)

11/7-11/21 Cat 3 Lord's Prayer
3 weeks (formerly ½ of Cat 1)

3/13 Break No class

11/28 Thanksgiving weekend
No Class

3/20-4/3 Cat 2 Creed
3 weeks (formerly ½ of Cat 2)

12/5-12/19 Bible 2 Gospels
3 weeks (formerly 1/3 of Bible)

4/10-4/17 Easter break no class

Christmas break 12/26-1/2

4/24-5/15 Cat 1 Ten Commandments
4 weeks (formerly ½ of Cat 2)

1/9—1/30 Bible 3 New Testament
4 weeks (formerly 1/3 of Bible)

Retreat Martin Luther TBD

Please have your ECHO articles in for the November issue by Oct. 17th. If you wish to place information, joys and/or concerns in the ECHO, please email me at Secretary.stjosephshill@gmail.com.



October Anniversaries

Doreen & Keith Hahn	39 years	Barbara & Ernest Hilbert	62 years
Jennifer & Joby Williamson	29 years	Michelle & Richard Gill, Jr.	29 years
Phyllis & John Cotellese	38 years	Joleen & Richard Szilli	55 years
Bonnie & Calvin Snyder	51 years		



October Birthdays

Paula Sharp	Matthew Neumaier
Tiffany Hahn	Grant Moyer
Piper Schwenk	Delores Weiss
Hunter Benfield	Mary Gehris
Dale Hartman	Michele Greer
Brenda Mull	Kevin Hoffman
Meghan Wensel	Benjamin Reichert
Diane Rose	Marianne van der Veld
Thomas Szilli	Michael Billera-Smith
Amie Schwenk	Lauren Wensel
Makenzie Kuser	Marguerite Hobert
Johann Foisel, Jr.	Joseph Oppelt
Joleen Szilli	Calvin Beekman
Joanna Borders	Dalton Kazmierczak
Ron Seasholtz	Emma Blair
John Graef	Patricia Christy-Shaner
Pat Bullard	Todd Lorah
Claudia Sova	Linda Harpel
Michele Beekman	Debbie Fox
Ryan Krall	Diane Brown
Rachael Moyer	Kayde Clouser
Alixandra Kleinschmidt	Bonnie Eisenhart
Benjamin Odgren	
Kathleen Youse	
Derrick Carl	

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Office Hours: Mon through Fri., 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Pastor Availability: Sunday-Thursday & Saturday Morning

The Rev. Kim Truebenbach

Mrs. Linda Kowalski, Council President

Mrs. Jill Savory, Parish Secretary 610-369-0990

Mrs. Susy Yerger, Volunteer Coordinator

Mr. Charles Anhalt, Sexton

Ms. Jen Wood, Grounds Keeper

Mrs. Carol Barton, Organist

Mrs. Marcia Kurtz, Music Director

Mrs. Robin Schmale, Daycare Director 610-367-1980

Monday – Friday 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM

Time Value: 9/26/2021

NO ENDORSEMENT

St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran Church

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

