



**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**548 OLD SWEDE ROAD**  
**DOUGLASSVILLE PA 19518**  
Telephone (610) 385-6616  
Fax (610) 385-6690  
www.stpaulsdouglassville.com  
info@stpaulsdouglassville.com  
The Rev. Gregory W. Frey, Pastor

**MAY, 2019**

Why was Easter so late this year? Well, it's like this. The date for the celebration of Easter was established by the same church council that gave us the Nicene Creed. In 325 CE the council of Nicaea established that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox.

This is hard to remember I know. I would bet ancient peoples also had a hard time remembering. We have computers to help us calculate things like the positions of the moon and sun so we can accurately date the occurrence of Easter well into the future. Too bad people in Jesus' time didn't have computers to help them solve these kinds of problems.

Actually...they did.

Yeah, that's what I said, ancient people had computers! Not everybody of course. In fact, almost no one. But at least one people did because an ancient computer was discovered at the bottom of the sea off the Greek Island of Antikythera. A 2006 Guardian article describes the discovery...

*A 2,000-year-old mechanical computer salvaged from a Roman shipwreck has astounded scientists who have finally unraveled the secrets of how the sophisticated device works. The machine was lost among cargo in 65 BC when the ship carrying it sank in 42m of water off the coast of the Greek island of Antikythera. By chance, in 1900, a sponge diver called Elias Stadiatos discovered the wreck and recovered statues and other artifacts from the site.*

*The machine first came to light when an archaeologist working on the recovered objects noticed that a lump of rock had a gear wheel embedded in it. Closer inspection of material brought up from the stricken ship subsequently revealed 80 pieces of gear wheels, dials, clock-like hands and a wooden and bronze casing bearing ancient Greek inscriptions.*

This seems like some kind of steampunk invention, but it's apparently real. I wonder what other mechanical wonders might have been available to Jesus and his disciples? What other assumptions about the first century are wholly wrong? Sometimes we forget that things come and go in the ebb and flow of history. Take, for example, the technology in this machine.

*Remarkably, scans showed the device uses a differential gear, which was previously believed to have been invented in the 16th century. The level of miniaturization and complexity of its parts is comparable to that of 18th century clocks. Some researchers believe the machine, known as the Antikythera Mechanism, may have been among other treasure looted from Rhodes that was en route to Rome for a celebration staged by Julius Caesar.*

*One of the remaining mysteries is why the Greek technology invented for the machine seemed to disappear. No other civilization is believed to have created anything as complex for another 1,000 years. One explanation could be that bronze was often recycled in the period the device was made, so many artifacts from that time have long ago been melted down and erased from the archaeological record.*

Just when we think we knew everything about Jesus (and by "we" I mean certain blogospheric colleagues), there's a new thing. That there were devices in the first century world inhabited by Jesus that were essentially mini-computers blows my mind.

I share this for two reasons. First, I think the Antikythera Mechanism is super cool and I want you to look it up and read about it. Secondly, we may imagine first century people to be much more primitive than they actually were. Obviously, their technology and knowledge base was not nearly what we have today, yet they possessed a capacity for complexity of thought and understanding equal to us today.

Some people attribute the experience of Jesus' resurrection to a kind of primitive mass hysteria. But I believe first century people were sophisticated enough in their mental capacity to know if a dead man had come to life and that that signaled something extraordinary.

The Antikythera Mechanism is cool but even it could not have predicted God's decisive act in raising Jesus from the dead and joining believers to Jesus' eternal life. First century people may have witnessed some things more amazing than we once knew, but nothing compares to the absolutely mind blowing news that Jesus Christ raised from the dead.

I hope this Easter season provides opportunities for your "mind to be blown" as we consider God's unfathomable love shared with us through the resurrected Christ. The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed!

**HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!**

**--WORSHIP IN MAY--**

May 4	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
May 5	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School
May 11	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
May 12	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Worship 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School
May 18	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
May 19	8:00 & 10:30 AM. – Holy Communion 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School
May 25	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
May 26	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Worship 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School

**FROM THE PARISH RECORDS.....**

**Baptism:** March 31 – **Myro Alexander Roman**, son of Shamyro Roman & Stephanie Szajek.

April 6 – **Annalee Rose Catarious**, daughter of Megan Elizabeth Catarious

**Funeral:** April 11 – **Pauline Lutz**

**THOUGHTS ON EASTER BY JOY GERHART .....**

Happy Easter! Have you stopped saying Happy Easter? You know the Easter season lasts until Pentecost which is June 9. Do you remember the old Avery and Marsh song, "Every Sunday Is Easter Sunday From Now On"? I remember the tune but didn't remember the words, so I LOOKED THEM UP!

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!  
Ev'ry day's resurrection day, the past is over and gone!

Good-bye guilt, good-bye fear, good riddance! Hello, Lord, Hello, sun!  
I am one of the Easter People! My new life has begun!

Daily news is so bad it seems the Good News seldom gets heard.  
Get it straight from the Easter People! God's in charge spread the word!

Yesterday I was bored and lonely; But today look and see!  
I belong to the Easter People! Life's exciting to me!

Ev'ry morning is Easter morning from now on!

What does Easter mean to you? New clothes, Easter egg hunts, cooking dinner for family? Does it shout out resurrection, Jesus is Risen!, the world has changed? We can choose to take Easter as just another church holiday or make it change us and our perspective.

Long ago at my parents' church they would celebrate "New Life Sunday" on the Sunday after Easter. They celebrated peoples' creative expressions and had art displays. More importantly, though, (aside from trying to draw people to church on a traditionally low-attendance Sunday) it made us think about new life. What is new life? What is the new birth we talk about in baptism? What is "walking in newness of life" that we talk about in our confessions as forgiven people? Is it life with new purpose? Life with new hope? Life with less guilt and more energy?

I am going to ponder what new life means for me. I think part of it is reconciliation with God. We talked about that a bit at our women's retreat. We looked at 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (which was one of our lessons on March 31). We talked about building bridges and healing

relationships. We talked about how each day is a new day that God has made. We talked also about being blessed.

Think about what it might mean for you to be an Easter person, to say good-bye to guilt and fear, to spread Good News instead of bad news, to live life the way God intended. Happy Easter!

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS.....**

#### **Sunday School resumes May 5...**

We have had so many special celebrations over the last 3 weeks during Sunday School, but now it's time to come back and learn more about the Bible through reading and all sorts of activities. Sunday school starts at 9:15 am, and we have classes for all ages from Age 2 through adult! Sunday school will be offered throughout the Easter season and up through Pentecost on June 9. Come and join us on Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15 am!

#### **Adult Sunday School...**

Adults have been enjoying the film series "A History of Christianity: The First Thousand Years" presented by Diarmaid MacCulloch who is a leading historian of the Christian Church. On May 5 we will learn about Orthodoxy: From Empire to Empire, on May 12-- Reformation: The Individual Before God, May 19-- Protestantism: The Evangelical Explosion, and June 2-- God in the Dock. You are welcome to join us even if you haven't attended the classes with the first videos. Grab some coffee in the Fellowship Hall and join us in the Library.

### **WOMEN'S GROUP IN MAY.....**

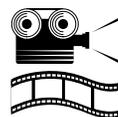
We had planned to do a service project at Mary's Shelter in May, however, since they do not have any pressing projects for us to do, we are planning to have a "Movie meeting" on Tuesday night May 28 to see the Rob Bell video called "Corner." The DVD itself is only about 12 minutes long but there are many things to discuss. One of the quotes from the film is "We leave a corner because in helping save someone else from suffering, we may in the process find ourselves being saved."

There are a lot of sewing images (visual images) in the film which many will like. It's FREE, FREE, FREE, and we will be sure to have lots of popcorn and (non-alcoholic) drinks. Invite a friend, sign up, and plan to come on May 28 at 7:00 pm for fun and fellowship.

### **YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS.....**

First, thank you to all of our fine teens and tweens who helped us experience the events of Jesus' life during Holy Week. Pictures are posted on the Youth Board outside Joy's office.

**SPLAT (youth in grades 7-12)** will have a movie party on Sunday, May 19. Mrs. Matosky (Mrs. M) has invited us to her home to watch Jesus Christ Superstar, starring John Legend. This was broadcast live last Easter (2018). We will have pizza for lunch and enjoy the musical together. (Viewing time is 1 hour and 40 minutes.) Please sign up on the youth board so we know how many to feed. Friends are invited!



#### **SPYY -- Movie Night May 17**

We are planning on having a movie night on Friday, May 17 for all SPYY Youth (Grades 1-6) and friends starting at 6:30 p.m. We will be watching *Space Camp* in preparation for our VBS travels to Mars and Beyond. *Space Camp* has some fantastic messages about working together as a team and even has some important Christian implications! Please mark your calendars and sign up on the Youth Board. Of course, there will be popcorn and drinks. Parents are welcome to join us. We will end at 9:00 pm.

#### **VBS-- June 23-27**

Mark your calendars if you haven't already—Vacation Bible School starts June 23 and lasts till June 27. We are going "To Mars and Beyond!" We will meet each evening from 6 – 8 pm with dinner preceding each evening's activities at 5:30 pm. Start getting in shape now for the space journey! Invite your friends and plan to register this month. Our registration fee is \$15 which includes a t-shirt, a CD, and all the wonderful crafts, games, stories, science projects and activities we have to offer. The music is out of this world! The Bible stories are great too! You may know about Daniel in the Lion's Den, but do you know

about Esther? She has her own book in the Bible! We will also learn about the Good Samaritan, the healing of 10 Lepers, and The Walk to Emmaus. We'll see you soon! (Registration forms are available online and also from Joy Gerhart. Please return registrations and registration fees to Joy.)

**The Social Ministry Committee** would like to thank everyone who donated food for the food pantry. Also, thanks to Rick Centrella for delivering approximately 20 boxes of food to the food pantry at St. Paul's UCC in Amityville.

**WE'RE DECORATING WITH RED GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST.....**

On Pentecost, June 9, we will be decorating the sanctuary with red geraniums. An order form is printed below if you care to place an order. Cost is \$5.00 per plant. You may take the geraniums along with you following the 10:30 service or leave them to be planted around the church building.



**NO GERANIUMS MAY BE TAKEN BEFORE THE 10:30 SERVICE.**

Yes, I/We would like to order \_\_\_\_red geraniums @ \$5.00 per plant.  
Amount Due\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_I/We will be taking the geraniums **following the 10:30 service.**  
\_\_\_\_I/We will be leaving the geraniums to be planted in the church beds.

Information for the bulletin: Given to the glory of God—

\_\_\_\_In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_As a gift by \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline to order is Sunday, June 2.



**MOTHER'S DAY COFFEE HOUR**

**A morning of mothers, muffins and memories**

Is there a recipe from your Mother that is special to you?

Did she bake something that was a family favorite?

Everyone is welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall

for a special Mother's Day coffee hour

between Worship Services Sunday, May 12.

In addition to baking the special recipe,

please create a note card with your Mother's name, your name,

and any additional information you'd like to include.

You may also bring copies of the recipe to share.

**RELAY FOR LIFE.....**



*"A HERO is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles."*

— Christopher Reeve

We welcome the entire congregation to join us at the 2019 Relay for Life on Saturday, June 1. We'll be walking around the Daniel Boone High School track from 1 – 8 pm.

**Superhero Support:**

You are welcome to walk laps any time, but you can join:

- 1 – 3 pm: Members of the Fellowship Committee and CDC staff
- 3 – 4 pm: Members of the Worship & Music Committee and the Choir
- 4 – 5 pm: Members of the Property and Outreach committees
- 5 – 6 pm: Members of the Finance, T3 and Technology committees
- 6 – 7 pm: Members of the Women's Group, Crafters and Quilters
- 7 – 8 pm: Members of the Social Ministry and Christian Education committees

**Superhero Generosity:** Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society on behalf of our St. Paul's team at [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org). Our team name: The Holy Walkamolies.

**Superhero Prayers:** Luminaria bags of remembrance and honor are available for \$10. Order forms are on the Narthex table. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

**Superhero Hope:** Enter to win one of our seven Superhero gift baskets! We'll be selling raffle tickets before and after Worship Services throughout May. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.



**BASKET SOCIAL--** Friday May 3<sup>th</sup>

Doors open at 6:15

Ticket drawing begins at 7:15

Tickets: 25 for \$7

*Tickets may be purchased in advance before and after services or at the door*

Donations of baskets (min value \$20) and/or baked goods are appreciated!

See sign-up sheets in the narthex

This event is being sponsored by the Child Development Committee and the Women's Group. We're looking forward to an evening of fun, fellowship and food!  
Please join us and bring a friend!

**MISSION WORK CLOSE TO HOME.....**

Do you need help with home repairs? Know a neighbor in need? Mission Trip Birdsboro will be performing work July 17 - 20 and are now accepting applications for assistance. Help is provided with Landscaping, Fence Work, Painting, Light Roof Repair, Gardening, Clean up, Light Cement Work, and Plumbing. Application deadline is May 15, 2019 and can be found at [www.stpaulsbirdsboro.org](http://www.stpaulsbirdsboro.org). Learn more by calling St. Paul's UCC Birdsboro office at 610.582.8461 or speak with Ann Myers, Dave Renninger or Pastor Frey.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER NEWS.....**

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost over. The last day of school for the children enrolled in the Daniel Boone School District will be on Friday, June 7, 2019. Our summer program will begin on Monday, June 10, 2019 when we blast off to a new dimension of fun!

This year our St. Paul's Summer Theme will be "To Mars and Beyond". We will begin our program by encountering many exciting Out Of This World Experiences. Each week we will experience a new Mission to learn and explore that includes hands-on interactions, music and movement, STEM and Art projects. In addition, there will be weekly Pizza Parties, Splash Days, Movie Days, and Painting with a St. Paul's Twist Days just to name a few.

Registration for this program is now open. If anyone would like information about this program, you may stop by the CDC office for an application. There are also openings in the Kindergarten Enrichment Program and the Pre-School program.

As always, we appreciate your continued support and thank you for the recent donation of towels and toys. Have a wonderful summer!



Thank you,  
Sherry Gardner, Director

**Please note.....**

**The CDC is currently hiring** Assistant Teachers to work with Infant and Preschool children in a safe and nurturing learning environment. Applicants must be at least 18 years old with a high school diploma or equivalent. A CDA or Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education is preferred. This position also requires two years of experience.

**Weekly Prayer Service -- Wednesdays--9:00 AM**

We pray for every member of the congregation on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. If you see your name here it is not because we think you have a specific need for prayer, but to let you know you are in our prayers whatever your need may be. On Wednesday mornings we also pray for churches around the world, leaders in the ELCA, our staff and council members, our political leaders, those in the military, special requests, and many more. If you are free a Wednesday morning, stop in and join us. We are always finished before 9:30 AM. Included this month in our prayers will be: Jay McClafferty, Pat McClafferty, John Meade, Cheryl Meade, John Meehan, Kathy Meehan, Donna Meloy, Cynthia Meng, Ann Mengel, Bradley Mengel, Matthew Mengel, JoAnne Merkel, Karen Merkel, Charles Merkle. If you have anyone to add to the prayer list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card found in the pew racks or call the church office. Please pray for those with special concerns: Delphine Altland, Charles Brown, Karin DiSanto, Ron Glaser, Frank Jablonski, Nancy Jackle, Janice Jancovic, Gerald Levengood, Gary Leister, Aggie McCombs, Kasey O'Neill-Bowers, George Rhoades, Henry Rhoads, Ron Rosenace, John Serrian, Sr., John Shaner, Crystal Tufts, Millard Watson, Al Wrigley, and all others listed below or those we name in our hearts; Allison, Rich Bell, Bill, Diane Cataldi, Courtney, Charles "Skip" Davidheiser, Elena Demos, Terry Eberly, Linda Epler, Carl Fetterman, Arline Goodall, Verna Habecker, Marie Hafer, Bev Hasson, Adrienne Heisey, Rich Jacobs, Jenny, Ruby Lewis, Charles Marquette, Ronnie McCarragher, Gina Meloy, Charles Merkle, Jr., Nancy Osterman, June Rhoads, Gabriel Schulze, Marge Sloan, Kelly Stoltzfus, Sue Strain, Dale Szajek, Kimberly Szajek, Lynwood Weil, Terry Weiler, Tom Yetto; homebound— Peggy Burns, Jennie Clouser, Carol DeLong, Jan Haas, Jeane Rohrbach, Laura Schmale, Alma Shirey, Patsy Smale, Ralph Trainer, Pauline Trout, Richard Wise.



5/1	Brittany Cloutier Calla Eisenhard Sherry Rhoads Jim Trout	5/15	Katherine Trout Carl Yerger
5/2	Brian Hicks Janet Musselman	5/17	Rich Bowersox Drew Musselman
5/3	Tiffany Cappellano Alexander Crichton Darlene Light	5/19	Marianne Grarefe Zachary Hasara Linda Heisey Howard Hunter Ashley Kutz Tim Simmons
5/4	Lily Dougherty Kayleigh Johnson Anne Trout	5/20	Betty Brumbach Mya Saylor
5/5	Diane Davis Delaney McCleary Tatum Poole	5/21	Seth Szajek
5/6	Katlyn Hilbert	5/22	Russell Burns Nathaniel Crichton Riley Krichten
5/7	Lucas Gross Claudia McCalicher Ron Rhoads Judy Weiler	5/23	Susan Eisenhuth Ruth Krouse Apryll Ware
5/8	Bailey Heisey Jack Prizer Darrell Reitmeyer Ryan Yetter	5/24	John Bologa Jennifer Matosky
5/9	Reese Mushick	5/25	Collin Hicks Carter Longstaff
5/10	Riley Yetter	5/26	Jan Bause Suzanne Lander
5/11	Linda Kiak Andrew Weiler	5/28	Baylee Dominick Sieglinde Fretz Laine Kasdras Rachel Weiler
5/12	Richard Adams William Gleeson Danica Hershey	5/29	Matthew Mengel
5/15	Joshua Secord	5/30	Dale Szajek
		5/31	Harlan Swavely

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ---**

Tim & Bonnie Simmons	5/3	39 yrs.
Ray & Pat Oxenford	5/5	57 yrs.

**--YTD Giving thru March, 2019--**

	<b>Jan-Mar-2018</b>	<b>Jan-Mar 2019</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>% chg.</b>
Offerings	\$ 89,993	\$ 91,889	1,895	2.11
Renovation Contr.	18,262	14,652	-3,609	-19.77
Total Giving	\$ 108,255	\$ 106,541	-\$1,714	-1.58

Rick & Judy Weiler	5/7	1 yr.
Charles & Anne Weiser	5/9	49 yrs.
Fred & Mary Ellen Hoffert	5/11	51 yrs.
Larry & Eileen Swavely	5/14	64 yrs.
Russ & Suzanne Lander	5/16	10 yrs.
James & Renee Waring	5/16	12 yrs.
Ralph & Robin Rohrbach	5/19	35 yrs.
Richard & Debbie Konarski	5/21	25 yrs.
Jim & Kim Sarro	5/21	25 yrs.
Barry & Carol Gross	5/22	48 yrs.
Jim & Judy Trout	5/22	50 yrs.
Nathan & Elizabeth Haring	5/24	15 yrs.
Keith & April Royer	5/24	33 yrs.
Charles & Joyce Drey	5/27	58 yrs.

**OPEN SUNDAY TO SPONSOR THE BULLETINS—June 9.** Cost is \$25. Call the church office if interested.

### PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 11 (Mother's Day weekend)



8 am – 10 am

All-you-can-eat!

\$8 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under.

Applebee's in Exeter, Rt. 422

Your meal will be prepared and served by members of the Amity Township Lions Club and profits benefit their many local efforts.

**Union Township Family Event:** On Saturday, May 18th, Union Township will be hosting Ecofest from 9 am until 2 pm at the Union Meadows Park, Birdsboro (Behind Fork and Ale on route 724). This free community event will include activities and events for people of all ages as we celebrate local leaders in environmental stewardship. If you have any questions contact Jim Sarro at [jsarro27@gmail.com](mailto:jsarro27@gmail.com) or 610-310-6150.

# SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



**Synod Assembly 2019**  
**Saturday, June 1st**  
**9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Genetti Ballrooms Inn**  
**and Suites, Hazleton**

Even if you are not a delegate, plan to join us in celebrating our past and looking to our future, as we strive to make this day and each day a new opportunity to give thanks, to worship, to pray, to dialogue, and to seek the good of our neighbors - all by the power of the Holy Spirit and the unconditional love of our great God, all because of what Christ has done for us.

For more information, visit the synod website at [godslove.org](http://godslove.org).

## Ministry Fair

**Saturday, May 4**  
**9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**  
**The Lutheran Center**

Learn about ministries of the Northeastern PA Synod, share resources offered by synod teams, and attend mini-sessions (like Learning Ministries Day).

For more information and to register, visit the synod website at [godslove.org](http://godslove.org).

## No More Sunday School?



At Holy Trinity Memorial in Catasauqua, the Christian Education Team decided to try something new. This decision was reached because the church noticed a declining trend in Sunday School attendance. With this trend, the question was asked, "What's more important: Worship or Education?" The team decided that worship is more important and that education can happen inside of a worship service if time is allowed.

If the congregation were going to worship with a group of young people, then it needed talk about what might attract them. The team made sure that parents, educators, theologians, and lay people were present in these talks. In the end, they determined that they would begin a family service during the normal Sunday School times. September would kick off this new worship format.

To be completely honest, the leaders of this new worship service were ready to revert to the traditional Sunday School programming within three months. They just did not see this service taking hold in the community. Wrong these leaders were.

Since the start, the service has grown in attendance, averaging thirty people each week. While the service is not perfect, it is filled with joy by a loving and accepting multi-generational group of people.

This was one church's answer to this question. It's not a solution for everyone. It was a discovery process. The team strongly suggests that all groups talk. Don't try just anything, which may turn out to nothing more than a gimmick. Try to discover a new way of being.

## Changes in Synod Staff

Pr. Mary Gade and Pr. Carl Shankweiler Retire

Pr. Kathleen Ash-Flashner and Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller Join the Staff



Pr. Mary Gade

Pastor Mary Gade, Associate of the Bishop since 2009, has been responsible for the Rostered Ministers and Congregations of the East Berks Mission District, Candidacy, Boundary/Misconduct matters, and other duties.

Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller joins the staff as Associate of the Bishop for the East Berks Mission District (part time). She will relinquish her seat on Synod Council.

Associate of the Bishop Pastor Peggy Wuertele will add Candidacy to her current staff role, and Associate of the Bishop Pastor Jean Huber will add Boundary/Misconduct matters to hers.



Deacon Marlane Druckenmiller



Pr. Carl Shankweiler

Pastor Carl Shankweiler, Associate of the Bishop since 2009, has been responsible for Rostered Ministers and Congregations of the Schuylkill Mission District, and he has assisted congregations preparing for closure and the sale of a building.

Pastor Kathleen Ash-Flashner (St. Paul, Summer Hill) will become Associate of the Bishop for the Schuylkill Mission District (part time). She will step down as dean.



Pr. Kathleen Ash-Flashner

The departure of Mary and Carl from the staff will bring a significant change to the life of this synod. They are cherished, respected, and trusted colleagues who have contributed significantly to the work we do together. We are indebted to them for the faith, insight, discipline, and much-needed wit they brought to their ministry with us.

## Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA



Since the launch of the campaign, ELCA members, including those in our Northeastern PA Synod, have contributed \$181 million in current gifts, as well as an additional \$45 million in planned gifts, to support campaign ministries. You are making a difference in this church and around the world - thank you! With just three months to go, please prayerfully discern whether you can make another "first fruits" gift to the campaign.

Give now by visiting [elca.org](http://elca.org) and clicking on the "Campaign for the ELCA" button.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA  
 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. [nepsinfo1988@gmail.com](mailto:nepsinfo1988@gmail.com).

View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org>.

