



Living God Newsletter

Sunday Worship
9:30 AM

3200 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, PA 19344
Phone: 610-273-9383
www.livinggodchurch.org
April, May, June 2013

Volume 24, Number 2

Go forth with the gospel! †Loving God †Growing with Christ †Welcoming All

☪ 20th Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 19th at 11am ☪

LGLC Council Members

President- Mary Wallett
Vice President Jay Arndt
Secretary-Janet Krackov
Luther Gates, Chris Mauchline, Chris Wagner
Bob Williams, Lin Williams, and Lana Wolfe

Church Staff

Pastor Richard Moore
Office Manager Donna Lewis
Music Director Angela Zoltek

Treasurer- Patty DeLong
Contribution Recorder- Linda Hume
Nursery Room Attendant-Sharon Pierce

NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

Thank You For Bringing In Your Ink Cartridges

Our savings for the 2012 Ink Recycling Program through Staples has saved LGLC \$480 in office supplies. Please keep the cartridges coming!!!!

SUPPORT TEAM NEWS cont..on page 4

Building and Grounds Meetings The B&G Team will hold their next monthly meetings on **Tues, Apr. 16th, May 21st, and June 18th at 7:30pm.** All are welcome to attend the meeting. If you have any questions about the team please contact Barry at 610-273-2371.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA), is having the Spring Luncheon at Messiah Lutheran Church in Downingtown on Sunday, April 7th. Susan Spahr, the Director of Development for the Lebanon Rescue Mission, will be the speaker and she will share an uplifting story. Registration is from 1 to 1:30pm, with lunch and presentation after. Cost is \$10 and due by Mar. 24 but can be extended to Mar. 31st. Please pre-pay and register as soon as possible to Lin Williams, 610 857 3247. Car pooling can be arranged.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS cont.. on page 4

Camp Noah Quilts Bring Smiles to Children

Among those whose lives have been affected by natural disasters are many school-age children who have witnessed the loss and destruction of their home and favorite possessions; a challenge at any age.

This year, Liberty's Lutheran Disaster Response- Eastern Pennsylvania, (LDR) has played a significant role in the recovery of areas throughout Pennsylvania that were devastated by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Many dedicated volunteers rolled up their sleeves to clean out mud and debris, run electrical wires and hang dry wall for more than 85 families.

Camp Noah, a "traveling" day camp, a ministry designed by Lutheran Social Services Minnesota, has been offered to children who have experienced a disaster in eastern Pennsylvania. Its purpose is to put smiles back on the faces of these young survivors.

The camp days are full of activities, play, discussions and fun in the hopes that each camper will feel less isolated and have the opportunity to share their feelings.

This summer, volunteer Diane Allen- Harkins, brought Camp Noah to the Athens/Sayre area in Bradford County where more than 800 families continue to recover from the 2011 flooding. Diane, the volunteer site coordinator of the 45 campers says, "Every parent told me they loved what Camp Noah was giving to their children, especially the quilts."

Since 2006, Lutheran Congregational Services has collected 1,700 quilts for Camp Noah, including 268 in the past year. At an average of five feet per quilt that adds up to 1.6 miles! A great accomplishment, but even greater are the smiles on the faces of the children who received them, and the volunteers who made them.

Gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response-Eastern Pennsylvania will support recovery efforts for Hurricane Sandy along with our ongoing efforts in the 19 counties of Eastern Pennsylvania that are still recovering from last year's flooding.

267-464-7700 or email
dmerrick@libertylutheran.org

EDUCATION TEAM NEWS

Youth Group Information The LGLC youth group (called JAM) meets every other Sunday 11-12:30pm for those in grades 5-12. A special event is usually scheduled once a month. For Confirmation information for your child please contact Pastor Moore, revrichm@gmail.com New friends are always welcome. For more information about the program go to lgcyouth.blogspot.com

Children's Ministry Children ages 3-4th grade are welcome to join us for Sunday school every Sunday at 11am. For more information about the program go to lgckids.blogspot.com

Bible Study at Tel Hai All are welcome to attend the weekly bible study group held every Thursday's at Tel Hai beginning at 10am in the Tel Haven Social Room. We are continuing the study of the New Testament book of Acts. Thank you, Anne Yontz

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Save the Date for this summer's Vacation Bible School! Come learn and celebrate as we splash down into God's word.

VBS will be Monday- Thursday, June 24th-28th.
Join us for dinner at 5pm and/or VBS from 5:30-8pm
Children ages 3 through 5th grade are welcome to attend. Contact Kayley Gates at 814-571-1912 or keg240@gmail.com for more information. (or to volunteer!)

OUTREACH TEAM NEWS

Save the Date! Spring Fling - Set for April 27, 2013
rain or shine, 9am – 2pm Join us for a little more than a yard sale! • Duckie swim* – game for children and family for prizes • "Fling-shot" game* for kids of all ages • Baked goods, Food and Beverages for sale • And MORE

DONATIONS, DONATIONS REQUESTED!

Bring your gently used books and magazines and deposit in the vestibule. Gather your yard sale items to be donated Sunday, April 21st and that week during church office hours Tues-Thurs, 9 to 4pm. PLEASE PRICE ALL YARD SALE ITEMS. Items can also be brought to church between 8 and 9:30am on 4/27. *Tickets will be on sale that day to enjoy the fun! Proceeds will benefit Living God's youth ministry and the church property



View information and upcoming events at LGLC.

STEWARDSHIP TEAM NEWS

Mother Nature is Calling....for a Highway Clean Up Team Leader! LGLC adopts a 2-mile section of highway right outside our doors on 322. PennDOT asks us to clean it 4 times a year. In return, we're able to keep clean-up signs along our route telling the community who we are. **We're currently seeking a team leader or co-leaders** to set the clean up dates and recruit volunteers. Supplies and training provided! If you interested in leading this team or helping with clean ups, please contact Lana Wolfe at lane.wolfe@qvc.com or the church office.

HEALTH & WELLNESS TEAM NEWS

Get Moving for Spring!

How many steps do you walk each day? Is it enough? Unfortunately our modern world gives us more opportunities to sit than to move. This can result in weight gain and a general lack of fitness and good health.

The easiest way to find out how many steps you walk each day is to walk with a pedometer. The goal is 10,000 steps a day. How far is that? Using an average stride length of 2.5 feet, it takes just over 2,000 steps to walk one mile, and 10,000 steps is close to 5 miles. That might sound unrealistic at first, but realize it doesn't mean taking off on a five mile walk. It means just being more active throughout the day in general and trying to get at least 30 minutes a day of intentional walking.

The idea is only to find ways to add steps to your baseline number of steps with a goal of eventually achieving 10,000 steps each day. A reasonable goal for most people is to increase average daily steps each week by 500 per day until you can easily average 10,000 per day. If you are in very poor physical condition, or feel you are tiring too quickly, just slow down a bit and try smaller increases. If you have any health concerns seek your physician's advice prior to starting or changing your exercise routine.

Wearing a pedometer is an easy way to track your steps each day. Start by wearing the pedometer every day for one week. Put it on when you get up in the morning and wear it until bed time. Record your daily steps in a log or notebook. By the end of the week you will know your average daily steps. You might be surprised how many (or how few) steps you get in each day.

There are many ways to increase your daily steps such as walking your dog more often, planning a walk with neighbors, parking a little further away, using steps instead of an elevator etc. The best idea of all is to use our beautiful walking trail! This can be a wonderful walk with God, while also adding to your fitness. You'll be surprised how refreshed and energized you can feel.

You can find pedometers at all sporting goods stores, or on line. Especially reliable ones to consider include the Omron HJ-113 or Omron HJ 720ITC.



The Cheerful Giver

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

[6] The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. [7] Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. [8] And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

Did you know that churches haven't always "passed the plate" as an act of worship?

It's true. As a matter of fact, until the early 19th century church finances were sustained by a religious tax on citizens. Imagine looking at your pay stub and seeing a box alongside local, state and federal taxes labeled "Religious Tax" and finding 10% of your gross income taken out in order to fund your church. Well, that's how it was done. During colonization of America the colonists brought with them new ideas about freedom and government, but new ideas take time to grow. In the mean time the church's were established and maintained according to the same systems of organization and funding that were used back in Europe. Even after the colonies broke free from England in the late 18th century, it still took decades of preaching and teaching to get the church to break free from the European process of taxing citizens to fund the church.

Somewhere around the 1830s churches began the practice of voluntary tithing as we know it today. But, early on they still didn't "pass the plates". One of the early ways in which churches attempted to secure voluntary funds for their ministry was to charge a fee for the use of pews. Believe it or not, the front pews were the most expensive back then. Just like the sale of tickets to an event, the churches began charging a price for seating. If you did not have enough money for a seat you were permitted to stand in the back or, in some churches, in the balcony. In some churches people were permitted to actually buy the physical pew. These were always in the front and when this happened the owners would install a section of seating that would be cordoned off from the others with wooden railing and panels. Ever wonder where the idea of "box seats" came from? Well, now you know.

As time went on, and as pastors continued to teach and preach about good stewardship and tithing, the practice of selling seats began to lose favor. Into its place came the practice of passing the plates. The late 19th and early 20th century saw the church form a more sound theology of the practice of receiving an offering as an act of worship. Bolstered by Scripture like that which is quoted above, Christians began to realize the gift of grace in their free will offerings to the church.

I think its important to remember this history of voluntary giving to fund the church's mission and existence. Often parishioners complain that the church is talking about money too often. Well...consider the alternative. Remember, there was a time in the not-so-distant past when parishioners never heard about the church's need to pay the bills. That's because they were being taxed.

Today, we are free to provide for our church's ministry as much or as little as we are inspired to do so. But this should not make us want to avoid discussion about money in church. No, this should make us want to talk about money all the more, because the financial management of the church is no longer in the hands of the state or higher church authority, it has been entrusted to us. Imagine what your household finances would be like if you ignored them. Disaster, right?! For the first time in history, relatively speaking, we have been given the freedom to fund our church without reluctance or compulsion, just as St. Paul taught the church in Corinth. This is indeed cause for cheerful giving. What joy, pride, and cheer there is in being able to step back from our church and its ministry and know that together we answered God's call and funded it fully and completely---with a surplus to be used for developing new ministry ideas for the future.

For years Living God Lutheran has been operating with a deficit...year after year of coming up short. With this year's campaign to Bridge the Gap, I am committed to putting those days behind us, and so far 25% of our congregation has committed themselves to this goal along with me. Join us! If you haven't filled out a "Bridge the Gap" pledge card yet, please do so.

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Living God Lutheran Church

3200 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, Pennsylvania 19344

Office Hours

Tues., Wed., Thu.,
9AM to 4PM

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Coatesville, PA
Permit #444

Or current resident

Up Coming Dates to Remember

Sat. April 6, 10am Health & Wellness Meeting
Sun. April 7 Holy Humor Sunday
Sat. April 27, 9am Spring Fling
Sun. May 12, Mother's Day
Sun. May 19, 11am Congregational Meeting
Sun. May 19, 2pm Women's Tea
Sun. June 9, 11pm Church Pot-Luck Lunch
Sun. June 16, Father's Day
Mon. June 24, 5pm Vacation Bible School

SUPPORT TEAM NEWS cont.. from page 1

Pavilion News Thanks to a recent donation there is now enough finances given specifically to the Pavilion Project. The Support Team will be applying for permits and drawings to begin building. Hopefully, with good weather construction will begin in May.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS cont... From page 1

2013 Quarterly Pot Luck Lunch

LGLC will host a quarterly pot luck lunch on **Sun. June 9th** following church service. A sign up sheet will be posted for those who wish to attend.

REMINDER– Newsletter articles are due by the **6th of June** for the Jul., Aug., and Sept. newsletter. Please email your article to living_god@verizon.net

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In Luke 12:48 Jesus says, "To those whom much has been given, much will be expected." We have been given the freedom to fund our church and mission without being compelled by taxation from the state or church authorities. We have been entrusted with this relatively young idea of funding our ministry completely on voluntary funding. There has never been a better opportunity for us to embrace St. Paul's notion of cheerful giving than this. We are free to provide a church for ourselves and for the world around us. What a gift we have been given. What a gift, which God has entrusted to us.

Yours in ministry,



The Rev. Richard Moore, pastor
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