

Parish Parchment



The Mountain Grove Lutheran Parish
The Reverend Christine Kirchner, Pastor
1558 Rock Glen Road
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-9207
September 2022

Return Service Requested



This newsletter is sent with a prayer for...

The Mountain Grove Lutheran Parish Newsletter

News and Information About Emanuel, Saint Peter's,
and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Churches

Rev. Christine Kirchner, Pastor

September 2022

Phone: 570-384-4125

E-mail: mglp@frontier.com or pastorkirchner@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT OF MOUNTAIN GROVE LUTHERAN PARISH

"To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a ministry of worship and outreach"



O Lord, we pray that the visitation of your grace may so cleanse our thoughts and minds that your Son Jesus, when he shall come, may find in us a fit dwelling place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PASTORS PAGE

Dear siblings in Christ,

For our outreach project this summer, we have adopted Camp Mt. Luther counselor, Joey Martin. To help you get to know Joey better, I sat down with him while I was serving as a camp chaplain to see what he likes about camp and why camp is important to him. Joey graduated from Susquehanna University in 2021 and is discerning what his future might hold.

Q What are you doing at Camp Mt. Luther this summer?

A This year I am working directly with the campers either as a cabin counselor or going to different churches throughout the synod and leading their VBS programs. I'm actually leading the VBS program at The Table in Bloomsburg at the end of July.

Q What is your favorite part of camp?

A I really like the all-camp activities that we do. It is a chance for the whole camp to work together and bond. At camp we mostly practice small group camping [spending most of the time as a cabin group] and all-camp activities give the younger and older kids a chance to bond that they wouldn't normally have. I also love being creative in planning the all-camp activities and figuring out what the kids would like to do. They like going all over the camp and traveling to places their counselors don't normally get to take them.

Q Why do you think that camp is important?

A Camp is important because it allows kids to learn about God in ways that are fun. A lot of times kids hear in church that they can't play and need to be quiet, but at camp they can learn about God while running in the field or swimming in the pool or dancing. It is also important for kids to be out in nature and build communities within their groups.

Q How has being a camp counselor influenced your faith?

A It has helped me connect with other Lutherans in ways I hadn't experienced before. As a counselor, I get to have lots of conversations about the bible and faith with a bunch of different people. All those conversations, and the questions from the campers, really helped to solidify my beliefs about Jesus and the bible.

Camp has also made me wonder about pursuing a call to ministry. I majored in music performance at SU, but I realized I don't want to go for a career in that. But working with the camp and participating in the student worship community on campus has made me contemplate going to seminary. It's an intimidating thought and I'm not sure what I am going to do yet, but I never would have considered being a pastor before my summers working as a camp counselor.

Thank you for your support of Joey and Camp Mount Luther. As you can see from Joey's answers, camp is a wonderful way for kids and young adults to learn about and deepen their faith!

In Christ's love,
Pastor Christine

Prayer List

The family & friends of:

Also: Robert Fritz, Norman Fritz, Paul Boudman, Danny Fisher, & Wayne Jr. (Susie Spudes' relatives), **Russ Ebright** (friend of Dale Michael), **Paige Thomas, Tyson Neal** (Emily Sutherland's son), **Sandee Knecht, Patsy Millard, Don Davis, Shirley Omalia** (Mark Hartzell's mother), **Audrey Bronson, young people of our congregation. Please pray for all the people of MGLP**, especially those in need of healing; those suffering from chronic health issues; & members who are confined to their homes or long-term care facilities.

UPDATES: Sharon Hartzell at 384-4107 or shartzell@ptd.net

-----PLEASE REVIEW PRAYER LIST AND UPDATE AS NECESSARY-----

Prayer Ventures for September 2022

- 1** Pray for people, communities & regions of our country & the world suffering drought & persistent extreme heat that threaten lives, agricultural production, availability of water, & the health of communities and nations.
- 2** Pray for peace and healing wherever there is war or conflict in the world, and for the Spirit to further our work toward peace, understanding, respect for one another and unity in our country.
- 3** Pray for leaders, volunteers and teachers in our congregations who help others to deepen their faith, study Scripture, develop skills and confidence for sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, and care for one another as disciples of Christ who never cease to learn or grow.
- 4** Pray that we will have the courage to follow Jesus, reordering our priorities and allegiances, using our wealth and resources to care for our neighbors in need, and resisting things that pull us away from God.
- 5** *Labor Day* On this day we recognize and pray for the work people do to sustain their families and the service they do to benefit their communities and society. Pray that all will receive fair wages, work in safe environments, be renewed through times of sabbath, & experience joy and fulfillment in their labor. Pray for all those who seek employment to find work, and for the well-being, care and support of people unable to work.
- 6** Pray that we will find wisdom, guidance, nourishment & joy in the commands & ways of God, becoming “like trees planted by streams of water, which yield fruit in its season, & [whose] leaves do not wither” (Psalm 1:3).
- 7** Pray for the new volunteers in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program, who depart today to serve with our global companions in Senegal, Jerusalem/West Bank, Argentina, Uruguay & United Kingdom.
- 8** Pray for the Spirit to guide and bless synods as they implement decisions and plans made during their assemblies this year. Pray that they will be guided by the shared wisdom, creativity and gifts of lay and rostered leaders, members of congregations, ministry partners and voices from the communities they serve.
- 9** Pray that children and youth will be surrounded by parents, family, church leaders, teachers, neighbors and role models who are caring, respectful, encouraging and sincere in their faith.
- 10** Ask the Spirit to sustain our commitment to end racism and to address the deforming impact of white supremacy on our social and political endeavors. Pray that we will confront injustice, racism and inequities in our church, society, institutions and laws, and that we will proclaim boldly our conviction that all people are wonderfully created and gifted children of God.
- 11** *“God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday* On our church’s annual day of service, ask God to help us through our baptismal journeys as we strive to bring justice, stir hope, care for creation & strengthen communities through churchwide programs, local churches, global companions, social ministries & community organizations.
- 12** Give thanks and praise to God for seeking us out when we are lost or wander away, and for restoring and affirming our relationship as children of God.
- 13** Pray that the Spirit will inspire people to use their unique gifts and skills abroad, seeking opportunities to serve with the ELCA’s global church companions and international partners.
- 14** Give thanks and pray for confirmation programs and teachers who help young people study the Bible; learn the basics of faith; become familiar with Lutheran theology, confessions and practices; and examine the connection between their faith in Jesus Christ, the world and their daily lives.
- 15** *First Day of Hispanic Heritage Month* Give thanks to God for the gifts, contributions and rich cultural diversity of our Latinx neighbors and siblings in Christ, and pray for the growth and vitality of the 147 Latino ministries of the ELCA as they share the gospel, equip leaders, promote inclusivity and diversity, and serve their neighbors.

16 “The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the foremost” (1 Timothy 1:15). Lift up prayers of repentance and gratitude for God’s gift of undeserved love and forgiveness, made personal through Jesus Christ.

17 Ask God to sustain teachers in schools early childhood education programs. Pray that they’ll create safe & encouraging environments where students can learn skills for living & decision-making, form caring friendships, better understand the world & humanity, & develop concern for their communities and society.

18 Lutheran Disaster Response shares God’s hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters — natural and human-made. Give thanks for what we accomplish together around the world through LDR, and let us promise to be generous in our support and involvement.

19 Remember in prayer the four new country coordinators working with volunteers in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program: Jessica Geroux (Argentina/Uruguay), Jordan and Adam Miller-Stubbendick (Jerusalem and the West Bank) and Mytch Dorvilier (Senegal).

20 Remember in prayer the needs, concerns and challenges of parents who have children in school.

21 *International Day of Peace* Join with our neighbors and siblings in Christ around the world in praying for peace, healing, restoration and unity.

22 *First day of autumn* Give thanks for the changing seasons & the beauty & blessings of autumn, which delight us, inspire us, help us prepare for the winter months & remind us of the cycles of life in God’s creation.

23 Ask God to attend those suffering hunger, poverty, illness & crisis. Pray we’ll always recognize & respond to neighbors in need & that our care & concern will reflect God’s boundless love & mercy for humankind.

24 Remember in prayer young adults who serve in the military. Pray that we will find ways to connect them with military ministries and with faith communities back home, and to support them both during their service and as they transition out of the military.

25 Pray congregations engaged in mission planning & renewal be guided & inspired by the Spirit, listening to God thru Scripture & prayer, to voices in our faith communities & those outside doors of our congregations.

26 Pray that we might grasp the tenacity of God’s concern for those suffering from poverty and hunger, here and around the world. Embrace God’s call to care for our neighbors in need and to end poverty and hunger through our shared compassion, resources, wisdom and resolve.

27 “They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life” (1 Timothy 6:18-19). Pray that we will be kind, generous and attentive to God’s work in the world, trusting God’s favor and the promise of eternal life over wealth, status or accomplishments.

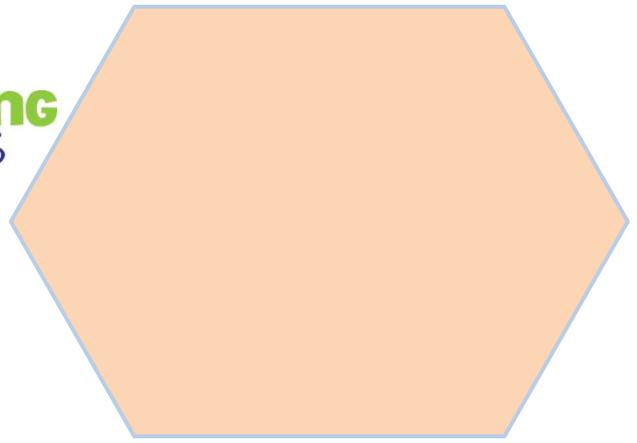
28 Ask God to bless our 65 synod bishops, presiding bishop and secretary as they gather for the Conference of Bishops to support one another, worship, study, conduct church business and help identify, invite, equip and support new leaders in the church.

29 *Michael and All Angels* Praise God for the unfathomable mysteries of creation and all beings that reveal God’s presence, power and will.

30 *Orange Shirt Day: Every Child Matters* This day of observance originated in Canada to raise awareness of the tragic legacy of government-funded Indian boarding schools, many of which were run by Christian churches. These schools forced children to assimilate to white culture by separating them from their parents & stripping them of their Indigenous cultures, languages & spiritual beliefs. The United States & the ELCA share this legacy. Ask for God’s mercy & forgiveness for pain & suffering inflicted on Indigenous peoples throughout the history of our nation. Pray that we’ll view our national history with humility & work to correct the lasting impacts of injustice, for the well-being and wholeness of all people.

Save the Date:

Bishop-elect Miller will be installed on September 17, 2pm at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sunbury. RSVP's are required by September 2 and carpooling is encouraged.

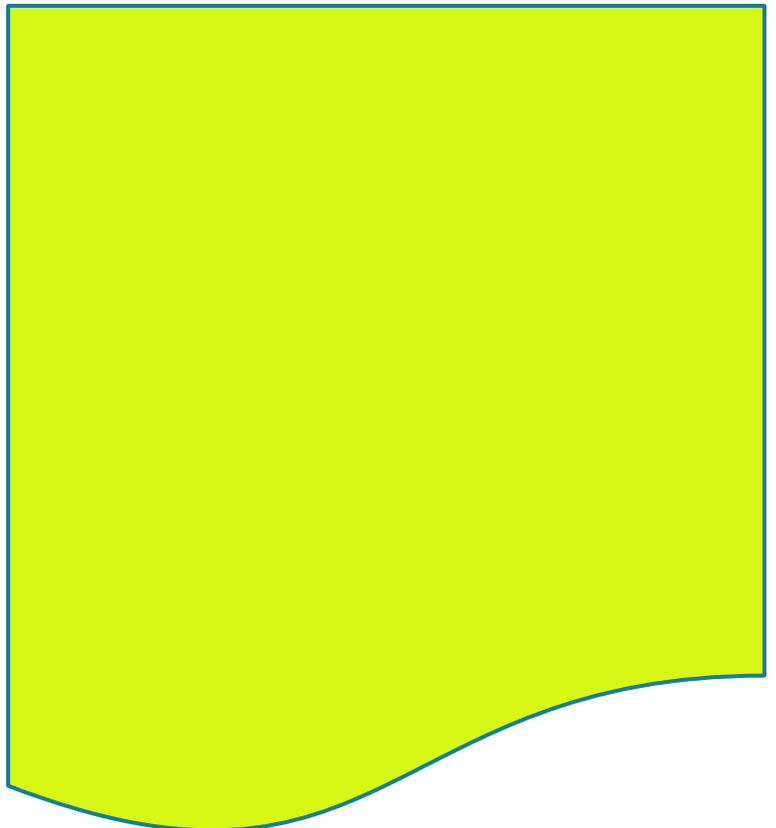


Save the date:

St Peter's Kauffman Chicken Supper ~ October 19 ~ Wednesday

Emanuel's Chicken & Waffle Supper ~ November 5 ~ Saturday

More information and tickets will be available in September.





September Birthdays

- 09/01 Allen Hons
- 09/04 Kaitlyn Henry
- 09/09 Lauren McGinty
- 09/10 Julie Wolhforth
- 09/12 Brent Book
Patsy Millard
- 09/14 Jordan Keller
Tyler Chulock
- 09/15 Elsie Buehler
Paul Boudman
- 09/16 Dan Davis
Robert Thomas
- 09/18 Lisa Book
Garth Book
Dan Pitonyak
- 09/19 Irene Fisher
- 09/20 Kay Rossachacj
- 09/21 David Creasy
- 09/22 Thomas Livziewy, Jr.
Nathan Huff
- 09/23 Bill Brior
- 09/27 Charlotte Thomas
- 09/28 Zoe McKenna Bankes
Tara Bauman-Seely
- 09/29 Robert Fritz
Virginia Rupert

St. Peter Worship Service Schedule for September

8:30 am on September 11 & 25
9:30 am on September 4 & 18

Emanuel Worship Service Schedule for September

10:15 am on September 11 & 25
10:45 am on September 4 & 18

Coffee Klatch will resume at later date.

Pastor contact info:

The Rev. Christine Kirchner
pastorkirchner@gmail.com

808-652-6740 OR 570-384-4125



September Anniversaries

- 09/10 Matt & Lindsay Huff
- 09/23 Amy & Connie Minzola, Jr.

