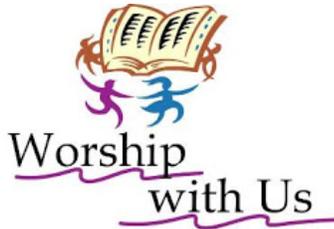


Sharon Lutheran Church

Monthly News Update: September 2014



Fall Worship Returns

September 7

8:00am and 10:30am

Something New!

WEE Worship

For children ages 1-5 Begins Sept 14

Take a peek at the "Ministries for
Children and Youth"
page for more info.

*Rally Day, Kick-Off Sunday, "God's Work. Our Hands."
Whatever you call it, we are celebrating it on September 7*

We will worship at 8 and 10:30 am

and gather downstairs in Fellowship hall at 9.

The Welcoming Team cordially invites you to breakfast where there will be time for fellowship and food between 8:30 am to 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Breakfast casseroles, fruit, and an assortment of breads and pastries, coffee, tea and juices will be available.

On September 7, the ELCA is celebrating our second annual "God's Work. Our Hands" Day of Service across the nation. We plan on marking the day with service projects. During the education hour at 9 am, the elementary children will be packing weekend bags for Meals for Seals, Sharon members, Confirmation and Senior High will help design and sew pillow case dresses for DressAGirl.org, and we will be collecting items for Haven Ministry. They are currently extremely low in lunch items for children, such as peanut butter, jelly, marshmallow, macaroni and cheese dinners, microwave ravioli & spaghetti meals and bread. You can drop them off at Haven Ministry in Sunbury. Haven also invites adults to sign up to stay overnight at Haven from meal time at 6pm to 8am the next morning. They have beds and a private bath and shower for your convenience. If you are interested, please call Christy Zeigler at 570 286 1672.

Join us on September 7 for a morning of celebration.



As I start the month, I find myself wrestling with the calendar as I try to get back into some routine for school and activities, and accomplish the tasks at hand. This happens for me at home in our personal family schedule as well as in the life of the congregation as plans take shape and changes happen that require adaptation and adjustments. There is much to organize and keep on top of in order to be prepared and be at the right places at the right times. Of course, there is supposed to be self-care in the mix as well. Good eating habits, good sleep, exercise and down time or relaxing activities, hobbies, and time with friends are all to be included in self-care. With all of this, I can spend most of my time thinking about my own world and the joys, stresses, and challenges of each day.

We are, though, part of a larger world that is right now struggling with some very difficult things. There are questions raised by the Ebola outbreak about disease, inequities of care given and received, and access to medical care. There is the violence of war and bloodshed all across the Middle East, that pits religion, beliefs and ideologies against one another in ways that demonize and objectify our humanity to the point that life carries no value. There are struggles over power and control that put whole countries in the balance as pawns in some kind of world game. There are real questions about race, prejudice, and inequalities still way too prevalent in our own society, towns and country. There continue to be questions about energy, environment, and education that also raise serious issues to consider.

The world matters to God, my world, your world, and the whole scope of the world in which we dwell. I have not felt called to drop everything and run somewhere else in the country or world, but I do feel challenged to not ignore but to keep the whole world in mind even as I wrestle with my own little spot. I invite you to do the same. We can do this in our prayers, both individual and corporate, by naming the struggles around us. We can share moments of confession individually and corporately for ways that we participate in contributing to or ignoring the inequities and injustices around us. We can read an article or a book from another point of view or from another racial perspective and confront our own ignorance of situations or seek broader understanding. Certainly, we share in ministries that put hands to work with issues of hunger, poverty, education, environment, injustice, and broader racial and ethnic understanding. Of course, I am thankful to all who make blankets, dresses, and health care kits; prepare and donate food; and to all who donate financially to the broad range of ministries of the Lutheran Church. The challenge for us, I think, is not disconnecting the rest of the world from our personal “worlds” or seeing “others” versus seeing “us,” brothers and sisters.

In her book, *Reclaiming the “E” Word*, Kelly Fryer writes “God is on a loving mission to bless, save, reconcile, heal, and set free the whole world. We are called to participate in that mission everywhere we go, in everything we do. This is the evangelical purpose of the Christian life. We are saved and set free from every single thing that would kill us if it could, so that we can follow Jesus to the crossroads of our daily lives. At the crossroads, we are called to heal the sick, feed the hungry, stand with the marginalized, raise the dead, speak truth to power, break down the barriers that divide us from each other and from God, welcome the stranger, and tell everyone we meet about what God is up to in Jesus. Jesus is calling us to be his witnesses, in word and in deed—in places where we live and work, in our neighborhoods and in our classrooms, in the voting booth, in the blogosphere, and in the way we use our bank accounts.”

So, challenge yourself this month, to keep the world in mind. For God so loved the world—yours, mine, and the whole world.

Pastor Doll



Ministries for Children, Youth, and Teens

Director Family & Youth Ministry: Robin Kunkel 374-8444 robinkunkel@gmail.com

Visit our website at sharonlc.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CONSIDER GIVING OF YOURSELF THIS FALL

One Sunday morning an adult leader was sharing the story about discipleship to the class. She asked the elementary students, "So, what can you do at school to help others?" Some children replied, "Pick up a person's books if they have fallen. Share a smile with someone who is sad. Eat lunch with someone by themselves." After class a young girl went up to the leader and said, "I'm going to do that at school this week." Without knowing, the child lifted up the adult by taking the Good News and wanting to 'pass it on' in their daily lives. So you see, leading a class isn't all about getting the names and places right. It's about sharing God's stories and ideas of how to live amongst others by sharing His love.

The above story is just one of many that emerges from volunteering with children and youth at Sharon. The Christian Education team has begun recruiting volunteers for the Fall Sunday school season. Adults are needed during the 9am Sunday school hour for elementary, middle school and senior high. We are looking for a flexible commitment of one to two times a month for elementary, and co-leading for middle school and senior high. Leaders will be able to choose the dates they are available to lead, and curriculum will be provided. Please prayerfully consider helping our children in their faith formation. Contact Robin Kunkel if you are interested in team teaching with our other volunteers.

For the Confirmands....-Sept. 7 at 4pm



After our morning of service with "God's Work. Our Hands." we will meet at 4pm as a group for a confirmation family picnic at the Kunkel's house. Pastor Doll, Tina Kalcich and I would like to

update you on our plans for confirmation for the 2014/2015 year. We are looking forward to our time together to catch up from the summer and hear your thoughts and ideas for enhancing our confirmation program. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. We ask that families bring a side dish. Contact Robin Kunkel or Pastor Doll about attending.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 14

YOUNG: Sunday school begins on September 14 at 9am throughout Sharon's building. Ages five through sixth grades will meet as a group in the Story Room to hear the lesson for the day. Then the children will split into age groups and do an activity that connects with the story.

- The fifth and sixth graders will branch off for part of the time to "Dig Deeper" into the story. Please bring your friends to share in the activities and stories.

YOUTH/TEENS: Confirmation's theme for the year is Relationship. They will explore the meaning of their relationship with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit in the Apostle's Creed for September and October.

- Senior high will delve into the book of James and explore the meaning of 'good deeds'.

ADULT: Adults continue to meet Tuesday mornings at 10:30am. We are always looking for leaders to share stories and topics they are passionate about as well as guide an adult group for a brief time period, such as two, four or six week time frames.

SEPTEMBER = MISSION INTERPRETERS

OCTOBER = PRAYER led by Pastor Doll

WEE WORSHIP

Begins September 14 during 10:30am worship! On September 14 we will kick off our Wee Worship series with children ages 1 through 5 in the church nursery. The wee ones are welcome to join worship with their parent(s), wait for Pastor Doll to Gather & Bless them and then go to the nursery with the Sunday leaders. Topics will be chosen for each month, such as 'I See God's Love at Church, Jesus Loves Children, God Gives Me Food, Jesus Was a Baby, People at Church Help Me' and many more. We are seeking adult and student volunteers to partner and play with the children on a topic for the month. All aspects of Wee Worship will be provided. We also encourage at least one adult to stay with the younger children to help with their needs. Contact Susie Weller or Robin Kunkel to help enrich Sharon's children's worship time.

Cookies for College Kids October 5th



Cookies for College Kids is an event that sends cookies and well wishes to our college bound community. We will send cookies to our Sharon members attending college, university, enrolled in the military or a trade school. Youth 7th through 12th grade are encouraged to help prepare tins and boxes for our annual event.

Please bring a bag lunch to the Senior High Youth Room after 10:30am worship. Sign up on the Youth Bulletin board or contact Robin Kunkel to participate.

DONATIONS & ADDRESSES: To prepare to send cookies, please give your student's current or updated address to Carrie Dunn or Robin Kunkel. We also welcome batches of cookies, medium sized-round tins and money to offset the postage for the boxes. Thank you!

HAUNTED HOUSE

OCTOBER 31

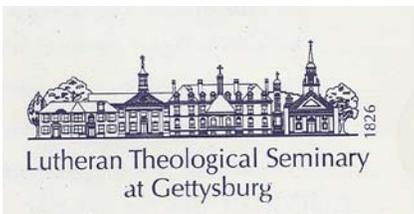
BOO! How many people like to be scared on Halloween? Well, to tell you the truth, I'm a little scared about being scared ☹, but many others enjoy the thrill and fun of being scared or scaring others for a good cause. The youth going to Detroit next summer are planning a fundraiser that offers an alternative to 'Tricking' on All Hallows Eve. Bring your friends and family to Sharon on October 31 and join in the fun of our Haunted House Event. For now, our details are a mystery, but they will become clearer as the weeks progress.



We are currently in conversations with area musicians as we seek a piano accompanist for the New Gen. choir. Dr. Susan Hegberg has asked for a reduction in duties beginning in September which has been granted. The reduction in duties is the elimination of her role as choir accompanist. A salary reduction has been made to accommodate the hiring of a new accompanist. Susan will continue her regular duties on Sunday mornings and special occasions. The choir will begin rehearsals on

September 3 and Sherry Barben will be contacting the group regarding the rehearsal schedule. If you are interested in singing in the choir, please speak with Sherry and give her your contact information. We hope to continue to have small groups and individuals provide special music throughout the year in addition to the whole choir. Thanks to all who shared musical gifts throughout this past summer.

September 2014 *The Ridge*: Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, C. Black ALWL



Off again and running is the Seminary.

Summer Greek has been underway since August 14, and surely, some real frustration as well as awesome joy arises as the driving preliminary work begins in trying to learn to study and read the beautiful but challenging language in which our New Testament was written. By September 2, summer introduction to Greek will have ended, the intense groundwork stage laid and all will feel shaky, but ready to be challenged by the full Greek

language experience. I loved Greek, and I still always read the Gospel lesson in Greek first when studying to prepare a sermon for preaching.

All the Seminary community on the hill will be in full pre-session mode by September 2 morning with orientation, lunch, with info sessions, chapel, covenant group gatherings and worship followed by a major community meal in the refectory. One very busy Tuesday kick-off day it will be.

August 24 Summer Sundaes Concert at Trinity Church by the praise band there complete with lots of ice cream for all gave the seminary folks a summer end treat.

Announcement has been made of a fall icon class beginning August 25, 1:30-4:30pm and continuing in September, October and November. Artist Celeste Lauritsen will teach the class. Information can be received from the artist at 717-334-2818.

Sharon's Teams Updates

Mission Endowment Fund Committee

At our June 2 meeting, the amount in the ELCA trust and checking account was \$55,216. Since then, we received a gift from the Gertrude Gano Estate in the amount of \$5,000. For a total of \$60,216.

At the time of the June 2 meeting, it was felt we would be able to distribute as outlined in the MEF bylaws-from \$1500 to \$2000 to worthy charitable causes, the amount could be greater than this by the time of the November 24 Committee meeting.

On the evening of August 11, a subcommittee consisting of Jim App, Jeff Sassaman, Bob Soper and Pastor Doll met to develop an application to request funding from MEF. The plan is to have this reviewed and approved at the quarterly meeting on August 25. If the application is approved, it would be announced that the applications were available in the church office on September 1. These applications should be returned to the office by October 31 at the very latest.

At the committee's November 24 meeting, the committee would select 2 or 3 finalists with payment being made before the end of the year.

Social Ministry Team

Blanket Sunday October 5 This is an Upper Susquehanna annual event. Women's groups at churches throughout the synod have been preparing for this since last October. The Stitches here at Sharon are no exception. You will be able to see their amazing efforts on October 5. The Stitches have also been making backpacks to fill with school supplies. Perhaps they could use your help with supplies; just ask.

Even if you are not making quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), you can help by making a donation. Any money collected will go toward purchasing cotton and wool blankets or assisting in the cost of shipping the quilts and blankets to those in need. For \$7.00 the synod can purchase a sturdy wool blanket; for \$2.25 LWR can ship the blanket to a destination where it is most needed. Look for the special Love Offering envelope marked for Blanket Sunday in your offering envelope packet.

"Christmas- at -Sea" Gift Sacks In mid-October look for special sacks to fill with needed items for seafarers. A service project for USS congregations, these gift sacks are gathered by the synod and taken to Seafarers International House Ministry (SIH) in New York City. A ministry to seafarers, SIH serves the needs of the crew members that deliver many of our products that we use every day from overseas. In existence since 1873, SIH is a Lutheran church related port mission that began as a service to Swedish ship crews and, later on, to Swedish immigrants passing through New York City and their westward journey. SIH maintains a small hotel in Lower Manhattan that serves seafarers, refugees and immigrants, but the mission is noted primarily for its ministry to the needs of seafarers. "Christmas-At-Sea" gift sacks is our way of thinking of and reaching out to these crew members who spend 98% of their working careers on the lonely, cold and dangerous oceans of the world.

Child Protection Policy

Within the past year, the Child Protection Policy Adhoc team has been meeting to formulate a policy for Sharon Lutheran Church. Members Rachel Dagle, Jenny Ruth Partica, Don Weirick, Pastor Doll and Robin Kunkel have been researching other policies as well as taking recommendations from Sharon's insurance company. The Adhoc Team and members of the Personnel Team would like to be prepared; it is in good form for Sharon to join many other organizations in adopting a formal policy to ensure the protection of children and youth against child abuse while in our care. We are pleased to say we are near the final draft. Once the final draft is approved by the Personnel Team and legal counsel we will be able to put that into effect for Sharon in the Fall. In the future, there will be an opportunity for the adhoc team to present the details to the congregation as well as offering training sessions for adult leaders.

Will You Pray for Me?

Exodus 17

Douglas App, Rose Aucker,
Betty Aungst,
Brian Baldwin,
Terry Beaver, Pat Bertinet,
Barb Blakley, Don Boehme,
Amy Bush, Arline Callahan,
Mike Carrol,
Mary Jane Cross, Eleanor
Dinius, Megan Durant,
Charles Engelbrecht,
Betty Ettinger, Jayme
Fedder, Jim Gautsch Jr.,
Grace Greiner, Suah Harris,
Jennifer Harrison,
Jeremy Hoffman,
Karen Hoke,
Grace Hollenbach,
David Holmes, Jr.,
Valerie Holmes,
Pat Hower, Martha
Hummel, John Jensen,
Michael Kepner Jr., Harvey
Kreamer, Jr., Keith Landis,
James Leitzel, Doris Mull,
Susan Mull, Kay Musser,
Alyssa Oxenford, Elwood
Partica, Maryanne Pinand,
Rita Regel, Tina
Reichenbach,
Darlene Ritter, Karen Ritter,
Collette Riggs, Rev. Hugo
Schroeder, Janet Skotedis,
Tucker Small, Robert
Stetler, William Turbitt,
Molly Walker,
David Weimer,
Ken and Chris Whitebread,
Jeremy Wolfe, Gary Wydell,
Curtis Zellers



Soper, Jeremy	9/1
Thomas, Marian	9/1
Kerstetter, Nelson	9/3
Kerstetter, Sue	9/3
Richmond, Cindy	9/3
Rowe, Alice	9/4
Pennay, R. Alex	9/5
Stetler, Robert	9/6
Aucker, Sara	9/7
Loudenberg, Jack	9/7
Starr, Sue	9/7
Pendley, John	9/8
Pennay, Sue	9/8
Schroeder, Evelyn	9/8
Weller, Audrey	9/8
Kunkel, Isaac	9/11
Shoemaker, Zoey	9/11
Gilson, Robert	9/13
Winger, Beth	9/13
Piermattei, Nancy	9/14
Winger, Laura	9/14
Bickhart, Sara	9/15
Piermattei, Hayley	9/15
Doll, Victoria	9/16
Kunkel, Jeffrey	9/16
Mangels, Shari	9/17
Aungst, Todd	9/18
Aungst, Gregory	9/20
Bohm, Neil	9/20
Winey, Kyle	9/20
Dillman, David	9/24
Herman, Zachary	9/24
Miller, Aspen	9/24
Fladmark, Irene	9/26
Stetler, Rose Ann	9/26
Shadle, Judy	9/27
Barben, Edward	9/28
Beaver, Tyler	9/28
Fedder, Robin	9/28
Bohm, Linda	9/29
Fedder, Sarah	9/30

COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

1. Approved the reduction of responsibilities for Susan Hegberg and a commensurate reduction of \$4,000.00.

2. Approved an accompanist for the Choir for the upcoming season; cost not to exceed \$4,000.00

3. Approved the Council Secretary as an additional signatory for checks in an emergency situation.

Thank You!

Dear Sharon Family and friends,
Thank you for the altar flowers, many cards of sympathy and prayers following our loss of our son in law, Fed, Dianne's husband.
Sincerely,
Jim and Carole App and family

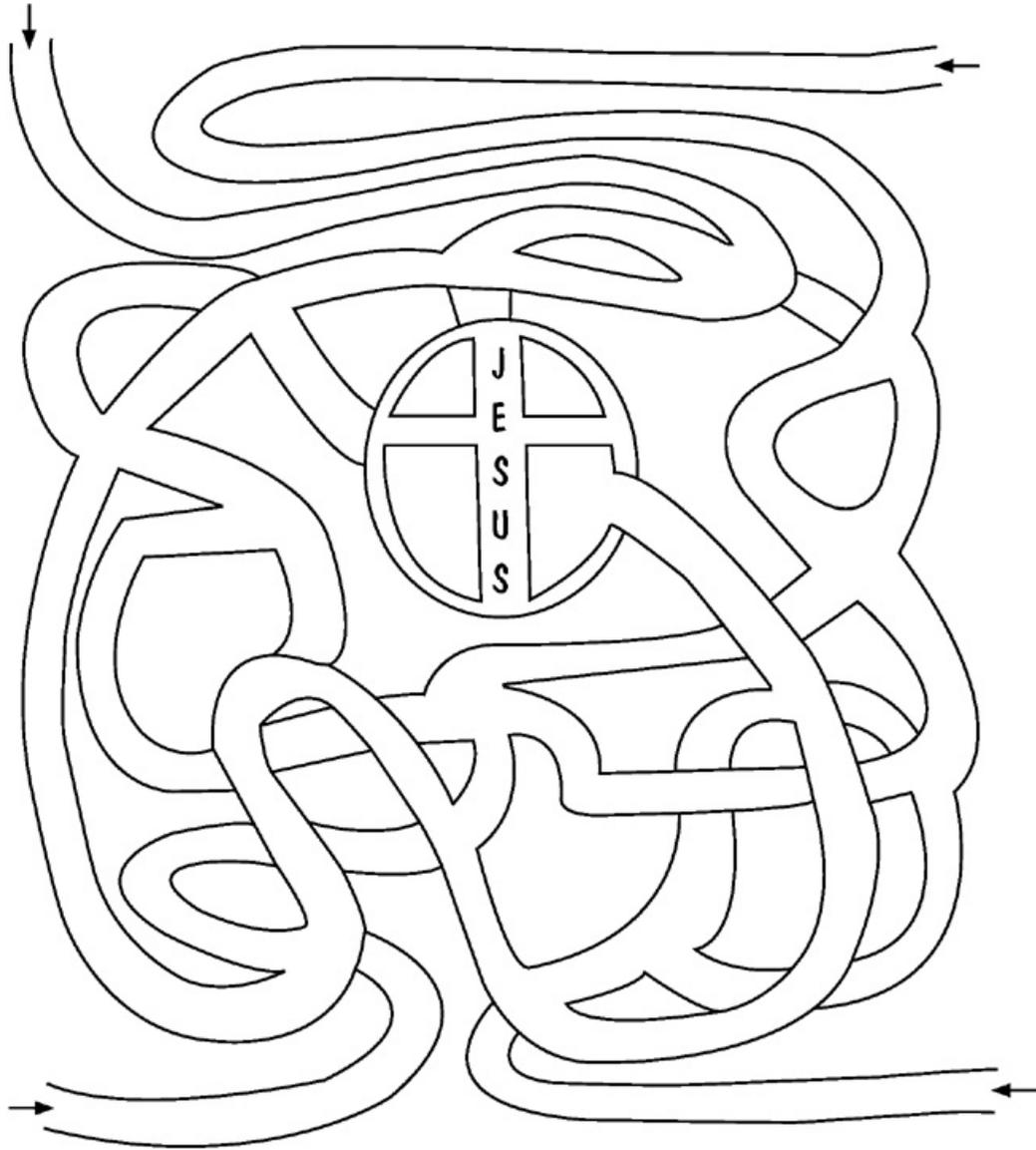


Meet at the church on Tues. Sept. 9 at 1 pm
Vi Soper and Maureen Ries are looking for help to fix-up, and make new Chrismons for the church.

For the Kids

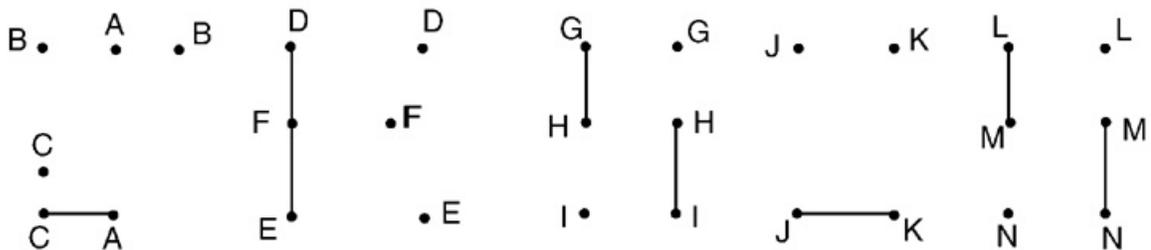
Jesus Is the Way

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). Find the path that leads to Jesus.



Hidden Word

Draw a line between the letters that are the same to reveal a hidden word.



September Worship Volunteer Schedule

	Greeters	Acolytes	Readers	Ushers	Cantor/CA	Altar Guild
Sept 7	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Don Bottiger Gary Aucker	Wyatt Metzger	Kay Spigelmyer	John + Roseann Stetler	Lowell Leitzel	Roseann Stetler (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Bob + Vi Soper	Olivia Dunkle Madison Snyder	Tina Kalcich	Jacob + Stacy Koch	Kathy Reiland Sue Starr Teresa Berger	Audrey Deckard
Sept 14	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Donna + Donovan Goundie	Aaron Weirick	Roseann Stetler	Paul Culbertson Brian Pauling	Maureen Ries	Maureen Ries (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Paul + Judy Spiegel	Sarah Pennay Hannah Doll	Kermit Ritter	Bill + Barb Remaley	Jeff Whitman Art Bowen Dave Deckard	Shirley Walter Jenny Ruth Partica
Sept 21	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Michael + Kathy Keeney	Elise Keeney	Paul Culbertson	Craig Hoke Don Bottiger	Chris Lupolt	Linda McMillin (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
			Eric Rowe	Bill + Pat Pinkowski	Theresa Kuster Doug Hassinger Philip Riggs	Mary Seiler Marian Thomas
Sept 28	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Don + Dana Kemberling	Courtney Kemberling	Harold Dunkelberger	Jim Black Terry Kissinger	Carol Black	Jackie Winey (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Greg + Teresa Beaver	Sean Dagle Jessica Beaver	Kay Hooper	Keith Kunkel Kermit Ritter	Sue Pennay Eric Rowe Maureen Ries	Vi Soper Shirley Rowe



Encouraging spiritual inclusion for people with intellectual & developmental disabilities

Be a part of an exciting new ministry. The Selinsgrove Area Ministerium, along with community members are planning a new outreach ministry called *Rejoicing Spirits*. The Rejoicing Spirits ministry reaches out to enrich the spiritual lives of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities along with their families, friends and other supportive community members. This is done by offering a meaningful, inclusive worship and fellowship community which shares God's Word and delivers His message of love. Services will be offered in the evening on the 4th Sunday of each month starting in November. Services will be held at the Nazarene Church in Selinsgrove. There are many ways to help; consider helping with a worship service, provide a simple, short message, help with the music, provide a snack and help serve or be a peer buddy with an attendee to help them acclimate and socialize within the group. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Susan Bolig: slb725@hotmail.com or 570-374-2587. Here is a link to a Rejoicing Spirits promo: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGkjTFjAoS4>