



# Ascension Lutheran Church

Experiencing God's Grace ~ Sharing God's Gifts

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April 2018



## **Our Easter Greeting: Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!**

This is our greeting in worship during the Easter season because it is the MOST IMPORTANT fact of our faith. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, conquering (as Luther would say) sin, death and the devil, we can live victoriously over them as well. And with that victory comes freedom to live real lives of faith - lives that make a difference in the lives of others, lives that matter, lives that amount to something other than just a waste of time, space and energy. What are you doing with your freedom? What difference are you making to someone? How are you being a light?

*"With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all."*  
Acts 4:33

We were recently given the green light by our Synod for the pastoral call committee to convene. Per our congregation's constitution, the 6 person call committee was chosen by the church council to represent a broad cross section of our community. The call committee includes: John Carducci, Luke Gallant, Linda Iacono, Dana Leeds, Clark Shuster and Jim Vaughn. The committee will meet to elect a chairperson and identify dates to meet with our representative to the Synod—Dean Paul Sorcek.

Dean Sorcek will advise the committee on its governance protocols. Confidentiality is a core principle of the call process. Please respect that the committee will not be able to share any specifics about the search until they have discerned that a candidate is qualified to be brought to our congregation for consideration. The Synod continues to want to assist us in expediting the call process. The Synod has identified a candidate who they believe may be a good fit for our congregation and they will share that candidate's information with our call committee. The feedback from the annual meeting on what you are looking for in a new pastor will be shared with the call committee.

You can support the call committee in several ways...

- 1) Pray for the call committee, our future pastor, and our congregation.
- 2) Allow the call committee the grace to serve our community to the best of their abilities.
- 3) Above all, exercise patience and thank the call committee for their service.

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# Calendar



April 1: Easter Sunday (10:00 am Worship Service)

~Egg hunt for children following the service

April 7:

~ Men's Breakfast at Ascension (8:00 am)

~ Women's Breakfast at Corner Bakery (8:00 am)

April 28: "Images in Nature" Photography Presentation

(Doors open at 6:00 pm; presentation at 7:00 pm)

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## Installation of Congregation Council



Pastor Marcia Bell presided over the installation of the 2018 Congregation Council at the March 11th service. From left: Allison Adamousky, Dave Chmielewski, Randy Ingbritsen (Secretary), Fred Leeds (Treasurer), Jane Shuster (Vice President) and Kirsten Braley (President). Leslie Gallant and Bill Rumpa are missing from the photo. Please thank the Council members for their faithful service to our church!

Anna Hobbs leads the ALC Bell Choir in joyous music as Acolyte Gavin Leeds looks on!



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# Mission Ministry



## AID FOR FRIENDS

FOOD AND FRIENDSHIP FOR THE HOMEBOUND

We will be preparing the bags again with your help throughout the year, so your continued donations are appreciated! We also collect frozen meals for Aid for Friends and there is a great need for dinners and soups. The trays and containers are in boxes in the Narthex so please fill and freeze at home and bring in to church for our freezer. The food we prepare for the homebound clients of this organization is greatly needed and appreciated. Please take a look at the latest newsletter from Aid for Friends which is on the bulletin board. We are always looking for donations of:

### Meals for the Homebound



- One-gallon plastic storage bags
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Individual boxes of raisins
- Wrapped tea bags and individual servings of instant coffee (regular and decaf)
- Individual packages of peanut butter or cheese crackers
- 100% juice boxes
- Or cash and we will be happy to do the shopping for you

If you are a Thrivent member, please consider sponsoring a Thrivent Action Team. Sheryl will be happy to help with the forms and even do the shopping. The extra funds from Thrivent have enabled us to prepare many more breakfast bags than we could with just our donations. Thanks!

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## Lambertville Food Pantry

### Feeding the Hungry



Please remember to donate to our weekly collections for the Lambertville Food Pantry.

Below is a revised list of items currently needed:

- |                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Canned fruit               | Pancake mix         |
| Canned corn                | Mayonnaise          |
| Cereal                     | Ketchup             |
| Fruit juices               | Diapers (all sizes) |
| Canned chicken             | Adult diapers       |
| Toothpaste                 | Crackers            |
| Deodorant                  | Canned tuna         |
| Pinto Beans (dry)          |                     |
| Black beans (canned & dry) |                     |
| Pasta (not penne or ziti)  |                     |
| Feminine sanitary products |                     |

Thank you for your continuous support of the food pantry.

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# Mission Ministry

## The Rescue Mission of Trenton

The Rescue Mission of Trenton is the agency in the city of Trenton that serves the truly needy men and women who have no place to turn for shelter, food and clothing. The Mission provides a safe, clean, warm refuge for the homeless, the hungry, the transient and the addicted. We are sponsoring a collection of gently used clothing, shoes (tie together), belts, accessories (hats, scarves, neck ties), hand bags and wallets, and linens (sheets, blankets, pillows and towels). All men's clothing, especially work clothing is urgently needed.

Please visit the mission website at [www.rescuemissionoftrenton.org](http://www.rescuemissionoftrenton.org) for a list of other donations accepted such as usable furniture and household electronics. They will even come to your home for pick-up of these items. Thank you for your support.



A safe and warm refuge  
for those in need

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## Special Event

### Nature Photography Presentation - "Images in Nature" - Saturday, April 28



Kevin Loughlin will be presenting "Images in Nature" at Ascension on Saturday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. As president of Wildside Nature Tours, Kevin has been sharing his passion for birds and photography for over 20 years. His presentation will feature all new images of birds and wildlife taken from his travels around the world during the past year.

This presentation at ALC has become an annual tradition eagerly anticipated by all. Admission is free with a canned food donation to benefit the Lambertville Food Pantry. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m., and the presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Light refreshments will be served.

**For additional information, call Kevin at 610-564-0941.**

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# Notes from a Member...

## *The Slow Lane*

It is probably accurate to say I have never been happy about any new laws that abound out there. It is probably accurate to say also I do not even know what any of them are...with one outstanding exception.

Not long ago I traveled to my hometown in the Alleghenies, a good six-hour trip through little farms, little towns, Happy Valley, and lots of forest. I use the turnpike and Route 80 to DuBois where the woods and ferns accompany you all the way up to Kane.



That was the year when the new speed limits came into effect on the turnpike and Route 80, much to my delight and advantage. Cruise control is always set at 60 miles per hour, no matter what the speed limits are on those highways.

And here is the remarkable result of that new speed-limit law: The Slow Lane Is All Mine. All Mine. I never had to pass anyone during that whole trip. I felt free and privileged and calm. Everyone passing me, I am certain, could not imagine what this turtle could possibly be thinking, to be creeping along at sixty.

And another thing...about slow:

*Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteousness that God desires. James 1: 19-20*

My love to you all,

Sam (Sylvia) Lynde <><