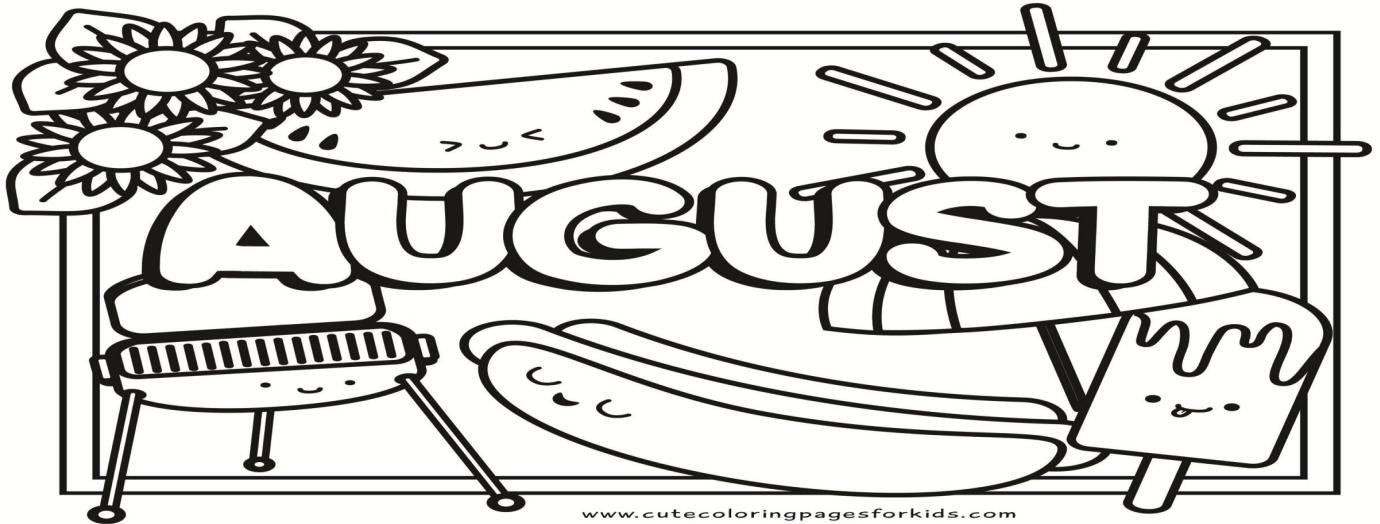


# AUGUST 2025



**The Rev. June E. Wann**  
**Pastor**

**Robert Billig**  
**President, Church Council**

**Zach Keenan**  
**Vice President, Church Council**

**Secretary**  
**Judy Ehret**

**Margy Muthard**  
**Treasurer**

**Jordan Bucks**  
**Organist**

**Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki**  
**Financial Secretary**

**Jennifer Kishbaugh**  
**Director Of Music**

**Claudette Nia**  
**Office Administrator**

**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**3355 MACARTHUR ROAD**  
**WHITEHALL, PA 18052**

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**August 1**, traditionally known as **Lammas Day**, was an old festival to mark the mid-point between the summer solstice and autumn equinox.

**August 10** is **St. Lawrence's Day**. "Fair weather on St. Lawrence's Day presages a fair autumn."

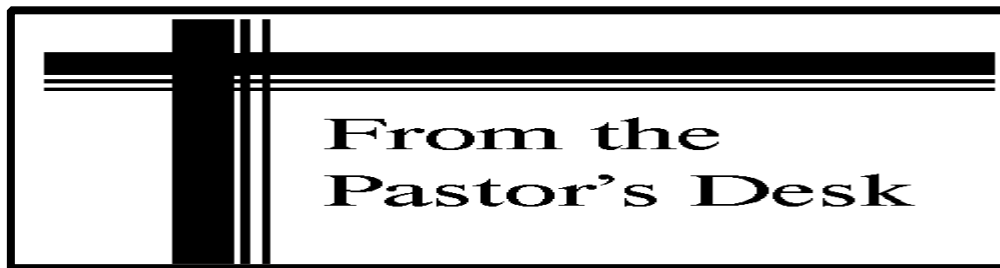
**August 11** marks the end of the Dog Days of Summer, which began on July 3.

**August 17** is when the **Cat Nights** begin, harking back to a rather obscure Irish legend concerning witches; this bit of folklore also led to the idea that a cat has nine lives.

**August 19** brings **National Aviation Day**, chosen for the birthday of Orville Wright, who piloted the first recorded flight of a powered heavier-than-air machine in 1903.

**August 24** is **St. Bartholomew Day**. "At St. Bartholomew, there comes cold dew."

**August 26** is **Women's Equality Day**, which celebrates the 1920 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment and, with it, women's right to vote in the United States.



Like many of you, I am addicted to Tik Tok. How many of us got concerned when we heard it was going to be shut down? One of the downsides of technology is how we become immersed in apps that help us escape. I have noticed that often I will start to watch a few videos only to find I have wasted an hour watching Tik-Tok. What is the allure of apps like this? I believe it is more than mindless scrolling. In some way we are seeking connection with others and also, to understand how others are dealing with life as we are. It is fascinating to hear the way others are facing challenges and yet are finding strength in unique ways.

In a way, Tik-Tok teaches all of us a truth. Each of us is a story and how we learn to deal with life says much about who we are and how we grow and develop. In the Christian faith we have always respected this truth. It is called spiritual growth or sanctification. Both of these words are hard to define and seem a little outdated. So, let's try another expression - "growth in our Christian story". The theme of growth in the New Testament is a bit tricky. It isn't quite obvious, but it is a theme of our faith. Paul hints at it in I Corinthians 13:13.

"And now faith, hope, and love abide these three; and the greatest of these is love."

What he is saying is that sanctifying grace is synonymous with God's love. The more we practice God's love the more we grow in our Christian identity. Our personal story is a story of how we express, witness, and grow in love for ourselves and one another.

Sadly, many folks never find this truth. Many folks want to spew hatred, bigotry, ignorance, etc. And, this is their story. But is this our story. Let us be the ones called to love God and neighbor and may we see each new day as an opportunity to craft a beautiful story of growth in God's love.

In love,

Pastor June Wann



**Worship Service at 10:00 AM**

**Communion—The first Tuesday of each month,  
Join us for a light lunch at noon  
followed by communion at 1:00.**

*We hope to encourage our members who are uncomfortable driving at night, to use this time for fellowship that is and has been enjoyed at our Wednesday night Hotdogs and Hymns.*

**All are welcome!**

***Bring a friend.***

**Altar Communion—The first Sunday of each month  
celebrate Communion around the Altar. Please join us!**



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Rev. June Wann, Pastor  
3355 MacArthur Road | Whitehall, PA 18052 610-435-0451

\*\*\*\*\*

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is pleased to provide a “shopping day” to the first 100 students of Whitehall Area School District who would benefit from assistance in obtaining school supplies.

Students in grades K-12  
3355 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA  
Saturday August 9, 2025, 10 a.m.—noon  
Proof of residency for the Whitehall School District is required

**ITEMS NEEDED**

- BACK PACKS: K-12
- REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLES
- SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
- FOLDERS
- CRAYONS
- COLORED PENCILS
- PENCILS
- GLUE STICKS
- SAFETY SCISSORS
- PENCIL BOXES
- TOOTHPASTE
- TOOTHBRUSHES
- DEODORANT
- SHAMPOO
- BODY WASH





A decorative border of watercolor-style flowers and leaves in various colors (red, orange, yellow, green, purple, blue) surrounds the text.

Faith Lutheran Church  
invites you to  
**Our Over 80s Birthday Party !**  
Wear something bright and colorful !  
**We're having a Hawaiian Luau**  
**Wednesday August 13th**  
**New time 4:00pm**

RSVP by August 6th  
610-435-0451

Exciting Entertainment will be  
provided by Terry Harris  
A tribute to Roy Orbison/Johnny Cash

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**3355 MacArthur Road**  
**Whitehall, PA 18052**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**OVER 80S BIRTHDAY**  
**CONCERT/ENTERTAINMENT**

Mr. Terry Harris will be performing his solo Roy Orbison tribute show after our dinner which mirrors the image, look, and sound of the legendary Roy Orbison.

He'll bring back those glory days featuring live vocals and guitar, with professional backing tracks and equipment.

Featured on Fox 45 News for Roy's Birthday in 2013, Terry was also 2013 Inductee to the "Maryland Entertainment Hall of Fame

**You won't want to miss it !**

## *Women Connecting:*

### *A gathering for Peer Spiritual Direction*

*The intent of this program is to offer participants a safe and hospitable place to accompany each other on the inner path towards self-discovery, healing, and wholeness through storytelling and listening. Sharing our stories connects us to our common ground and frees us to become who we truly are and who we are called to be. Participants offer each other a listening presence at the same time cultivate an awareness of the spiritual journey.*

*COME WITH AN OPEN MIND AND AN OPEN HEART*

*Saturday, August 16, 2025, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM*

*Brown Bag Lunch*

*Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*3355 McArthur Road, Whitehall, PA*

*RSVP AND FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Rev. Harriet Kollin at [harrietskollin@msn.com](mailto:harrietskollin@msn.com), Judy Ehret at [judyae@ptd.com](mailto:judyae@ptd.com), or Rev. June Wann [June@faithon145.org](mailto:June@faithon145.org)*

# **CALLING ALL UNITS ... SOUND THE ALARM!**



***Please join us for a***

## **FIRST RESPONDERS BREAKFAST!**

**Enjoy a hearty breakfast prepared by the people of Faith Lutheran Church, Whitehall.**

**This is our way to say **THANK YOU** for all that you do to keep our community safe!**

**This invitation is for all First Responders and their families.**

**Saturday, September 6, 2025 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.**

**Faith Lutheran Church, Whitehall/3355 MacArthur Road**

**RSVP by September 1, 2025**

**to 610-435-0451**

**or**

**Email [june@faithon145.org](mailto:june@faithon145.org)**



# Music in Ministry

***“O come and let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!”***

***-Psalm 95: 1-2***

Worship and music are inseparable. The arts are a powerful medium for ministry, providing a vehicle for personal and corporate praise, prayer, and thanksgiving to God. Music speaks what cannot be expressed in words, thus soothing the mind, healing the heart, calming and uplifting the spirit. Music is a gift from God that flows from heaven to the soul. **However great or small your talents, there is a place for you in our music ministry.** I hope that this helps you to find a way to come out this fall to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.”

## **Musical opportunities include:**

### **Bell Choir:** (7th grade and up)

I look forward to **NEW** members joining us this year. Having the ability to read music is an advantage but if you are unable to read music and have an interest in playing, please do not be discouraged; come to a rehearsal and see what it is all about. If you were part of the bell choir last year you need not contact me, as I will count on you continuing playing with us, but if you are a potential new member that would be interested in playing please contact me **BEFORE** the first rehearsal for the purpose of assigning bells and ordering music.

***Rehearsals***-one night a week (Thursdays 6:15-7:15)

***Location***-Rhoads Room/Sanctuary

***Ministry***-rings once a month during the worship service and special events of the church season

### **Senior Choir:** (9th grade and up)

Calling all who are interested in praising God in song! If you have not been in the choir before and are interested in joining us, please contact me **BEFORE** the first rehearsal, so that a folder is prepared for you.

***Rehearsals***-one night a week (Thursdays 7:30-8:30)

***Location***-Rhoads Room/Sanctuary

***Ministry***-weekly ministry for Sunday service and special events of the church season

## **Special Music:**

Vocalists and instrumentalists for special musical offerings are welcomed. Solos, duets, trios, and small ensembles are valued anytime, but especially during the summer months. Please let me know if you are interested in sharing your special talent.

## **Instrumentalists:**

There are Senior Choir anthems that sometimes have an accompaniment part that require various instrumentation (violin, trumpet, flute, drum, clarinet, etc.); if you would be interested in accompanying the Senior Choir on a particular instrument—please let me know what instrument it is that you play and what level you play at (beginner, intermediate, advanced).

**\*\*\*Rehearsals for ensembles occur on Thursday evenings-the FIRST rehearsal will take place on *Thursday, September 4th*.** If you took a break from music and are ready to come back, if you have never rung a bell or sung in a choir before, or if you have been part of the music ministry here for years; I look forward to glorifying God's name with you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at home: [jenniferkishbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferkishbaugh@gmail.com) (subject heading: FELC Music) or at 610-451-8660 (cell/text).

Jennifer Kishbaugh, Director of Music

## FAITH FACTS AND FYI TIDBITS

### MISSION STATEMENT

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is an open and caring community of Christ's disciples, ministering through worship, education, fellowship, stewardship, and evangelism.

We are called to be the Church. Let us Serve as we are able!

### ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

We are continuing our Social Ministry outreach to Whitehall-Coplay School District Collection of School Supplies is ongoing throughout the Summer preparing for Our School Supply Event August 9th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
August 8, 2025 set up 6:00 PM

### SOCIAL MINISTRY DATES TO REMEMBER

August 3rd Hunger Initiative community Meal 4:30 PM  
August 9th Back to School Event for Whitehall-Coplay School District 10 AM—Noon  
September 6 Breakfast for first responders and their families

Dear friends of the Food Pantry,  
It is becoming more difficult to find the food that we need for our patrons through Second Harvest, our food supplier. We would be grateful for help with the following foods or money to purchase the foods that we need:

Cereal  
Juice (non-refrigerated if possible due to limited refrigeration)  
Coffee  
Pastas (penne, rigatoni, soup noodles, etc.)  
Soups  
Canned fruits  
Canned vegetables

We are extremely grateful for your support to help those experiencing difficult times.  
Judy and Shel Ehret

**Craft Fair preparations calling**

**Get involved in helping with this important fund raiser—lots of opportunities  
Join the fund raising committee, the Craft Fair committee, the Fellowship committee  
Soothe the soul with food, fun, service to others, and fellowship with our Faith family**

**Dear “Faithful” members and friends,**

**The Pieceworkers of Faith invite you to join our sewing group. We meet most Monday’s from 1-3 p.m. in Parker Hall (during the school year) and in the Gathering Place during summer months due to Petit Scholars meeting downstairs.**

**Our group works on projects for our baptized babies, quilts for shut ins, items to sell at the craft fair as well as small items for hospital distribution.**

**No quilting knowledge is needed, but sewing skills are helpful.**

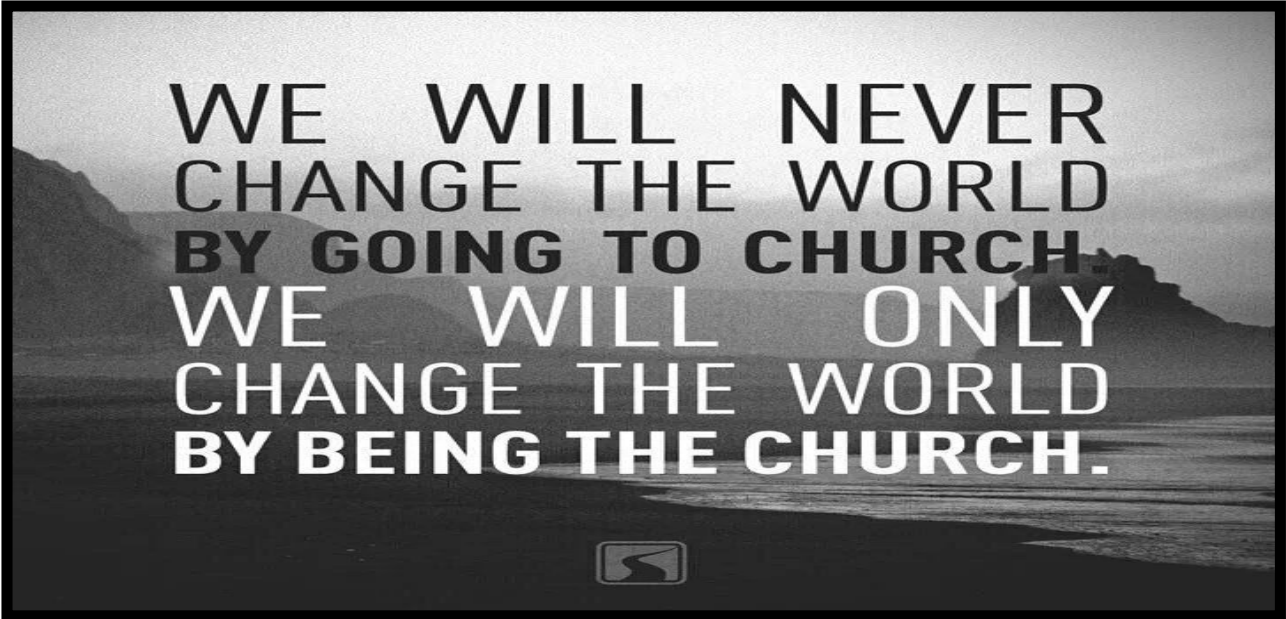
**We enjoy the camaraderie and friendship that we have established and would love for you and your friends/neighbors to join us.**

**For more information, contact Diane Finley at 610.264.1718 or 610.597.3933 (cell).**

**Looking for opportunities to give back? Volunteer!**

**Always welcoming committee participants, volunteering in the kitchen for special events, learning the process of preparation for Sundays and special events, choir, bell choir, Lectors, Greeters**

**See anyone on Council, Pastor or stop by Church office!**



**WE WILL NEVER  
CHANGE THE WORLD  
BY GOING TO CHURCH.  
WE WILL ONLY  
CHANGE THE WORLD  
BY BEING THE CHURCH.**

Dear Scholarship Committee & FELC Family,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for being one of the selected recipients of the Robert L. George Scholarship. I am thankful to have been chosen, and want you to know that I appreciate your generous support. This scholarship will assist me as I continue my education at West Chester University, majoring in Music Therapy.

Thank you again for your kindness, generosity, and support.

Aurora Kishbaugh



My name is Devin Silva , and I was a recipient of the Faith Lutheran Church's kind scholarship program. I wanted to say how grateful I am to have been selected for this program, and I also want to thank you and everyone at the church for your support. I hope you all have a blessed day, and I look forward to helping out in the future.

# GRATITUDE

— Quotes Bible

EPHESIANS 5:20

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;



**FAITH FAMILY IRON PIGS EVENT**

**COCA COLA PARK**

**JUNE 2025**





**WORSHIP TEAMS FOR AUGUST**

**AUG 3**

**AUG 10**

**AUG 17**

**AUG 24**

**AUG 31**

<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Cathy Haller	Shel And Judy Ehret	Linda Johnston And Barb Yurasits	Charlene Frack And Gloria Senchak	Cathy Haller and Pat Masonheimer
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Karen Blayle	Howard Schaffer	Bob Brandt	Robert Billig	
<b>LECTOR</b>	Jennifer Reiner	Bob Billig	Jennifer Reiner	Kindall Wann	Jennifer Reiner
<b>GREETER</b>	Dan Herzog	Charlene Frack	Dan Herzog	April Spaits	Charlene Frack
<b>FLOWER SPONSOR</b>	Judy And Shel Ehret	Roger And Lucille Reichard	Claudette Nia		
<b>BULLETIN SPONSOR</b>	Judy And Shel Ehret	Roger And Lucille Reichard			

# AUGUST 2025 CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Worship Service 10:00 AM  <u>Lehigh Valley Hunger Initiative Meal 4:30 pm</u>  AA 7:00 PM	4 6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	5 10:00 AM Prayer Group  6:45 PM Boy Scouts	6 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  <u>6:00 PM Hot dogs and Hymns</u>	7 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	<u>8</u> <u>Set up for back to school event 6 pm</u>	<u>9</u> <u>Back to School Event 10am to 1:00 pm</u>
10 Worship Service 10:00 AM  7:00 PM AA	11 6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	12 10:00 AM Prayer Group <u>Light lunch noon Communion 1 pm</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts	13 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  <u>OVER 80'S BIRTHDAY BASH 4:00 PM</u>	14 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	15	16
17 Worship Service 10:00 AM  AA 7:00 PM	18 6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	19 10:00 AM Prayer Group  6:45 PM Boy Scouts	20 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  <u>6:00 PM Hot dogs and Hymns</u>	21 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	22	23
24 Worship Service 10:00 AM  7:00 PM AA (PH)	25 6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	26 10:00 AM Prayer Group  6:45 PM Boy Scouts	27 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  <u>6:00 PM Hot dogs and Hymns</u>	28 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	29	30
31 Worship Service 10:00 AM  AA 7:00 PM						



### ANNIVERSARIES

TROTTER, JR, BRUCE & ALICIA 08/01

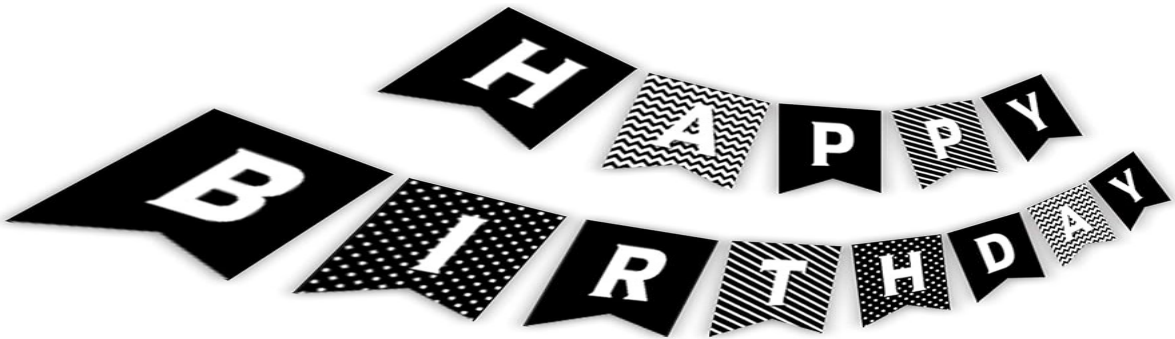
BASHORE, AMANDA 08/08

REICHARD, ROGER & LUCILLE 08/09

MOHR, DALE & CHERYL 08/25

HOLOBUSKY, JEFF 08/26

BATZA, DIANE 08/30



### Birthdays

MICKEY, CAROL 08/01

MILLER, DOREEN 08/02

SPERLBAUM, JERRY 08/05

ARMSTRONG SR, PHILLIPS 08/10

JOHNSTON, LINDA 08/16

KNECHEL, LUCAS 08/19

MUTHARD, MARGARET 08/22

HERZOG, DANIEL 08/23

MORGAN, FRANCES 08/23

RIVERA, HEATHER 08/24

BODNYK, SANDRA 08/29

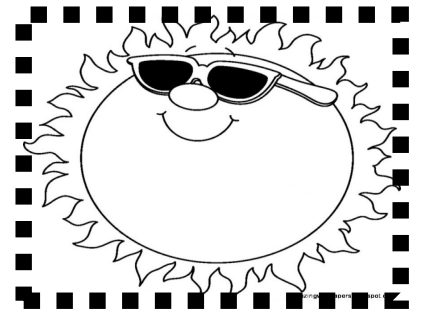
WEHR, LINDA 08/29

BLAYLE, WILLIAM 08/3

## AUGUST'S FUN FACTS



Lazy  
DAYS OF  
Summer



August is the time to reap what you've sown, quite literally even, as most summer vegetables are ready to be harvested. It goes without saying, that August then is a time to celebrate a good harvest and a good summer!

In 8 BC the month was named Augustus, in honor of the Roman emperor Augustus.

In the northern hemisphere, August is considered to be the last month of summer. Back in the days of the Anglo-Saxons, the month was called Weod Monath. Its translation of "weed month" is quite literal – in this month weeds and other plants grow the fastest in the northern hemisphere.

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, Lammas day is celebrated as the first day of harvest. Traditionally it was the day in which harvested wheat would be baked into bread and given to the church. The bread was used as the Communion bread for a special mass to celebrate the beginning of the harvest. This tradition ended when Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church.

On August 6, 1762, the first-ever sandwich was created, at least with such a name. It was named after the Earl of Sandwich when he requested a dish involving meat between two pieces of bread. As the story goes, he requested it as he was in the middle of a gambling game and didn't want to interrupt it.

Those born in August are brought into this world under one of two star signs. If you were born before August 22<sup>nd</sup>, you're considered to be a Leo. If you're born on the 23<sup>rd</sup> or later, you're a Virgo. Leos are said to be very proud people who display great leadership. Virgos, on the other hand, are analytical and hardworking people, while still being kind and loyal.

August was a big month for the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. It was on August 28, 1963, that Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous "I have a dream" speech to 250,000 people on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. Considered to be one of the most iconic speeches in the history of the US, King's speech called for the end of racial discrimination and for equal rights to all.

August also has two birth flowers – the vibrant multicolored gladiolus and the deep crimson poppy. The gladiolus flower is said to represent generosity, strength of character, and deep sincerity. The poppy flower couldn't be more different though, as it is a sign of imagination, eternal sleep, and oblivion!

August has three birthstones: sardonyx, spinel, and peridot. It is claimed that peridots have healing powers and can protect the bearer from evil.

August was a fateful month for the ancient Roman city of Pompeii. On August 24, 79AD, Mount Vesuvius erupted near the city. The mountain spewed out great clouds of ash, smoke, and pumice, which rained down on Pompeii's citizens



## ELCA ADVOCACY

**We therefore ground our advocacy in our shared foundations: Scripture, the Lutheran theological tradition and, above all, our baptismal identity as belonging to God in the love of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. As we work to make a difference in the shared life of our communities and our country, these values guide our witness in society.**

**A Shared Foundation** As the largest Lutheran denomination in the United States, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) encompasses major geographical, cultural, ideological and generational differences.

Following are policy priorities discerned for ELCA federal advocacy during the 119th Congress, which convened in Washington, D.C., in January 2025 and will end in January 2027.

### Civic Engagement

- Facilitate depolarizing conversations and relationships.
- Foster cultural and political pluralism.
- Support Lutheran participation in civic life and public witness
- Honor and pray for our elected officials and public servants

### Economic Policy

- Support poor and working families.
- Expand the supply of affordable housing.
- Advance a just and sustainable tax code.
- Reduce bureaucratic and administrative burden.
- Care for farmers, hungry neighbors, and creation.

### Migration Policy

- Ensure stable families and communities.
- Maintain a safe and orderly border.
- Oppose mass deportation.
- Respect human dignity in immigration enforcement.
- Protect vulnerable women, children, refugees and asylum seekers.

### Civil Rights Policy

- Prevent discrimination.
- Protect religious liberty for all
- Improve outcomes for disadvantaged groups.
- Recognize and address historical injustices.
- Support mental health of high-risk groups.
- Uphold constitutional rights and promote good governance.



### International Policy

- Restore and support humanitarian aid.
- Defend human rights and religious freedom.
- Advance women and girls' rights and equality.
- Help prevent conflicts and build peace.
- Model moral consistency in foreign policy.

### Environment & Energy Policy

- Pursue pragmatic climate solutions.
- Support impacted communities.
- Promote community health.
- ◆ Prepare for and respond to natural disasters.
- ◆

### Middle East & North Africa Policy

- Insist on equal rights and safety for all in the Holy Land.
- Stabilize the Middle East and North Africa region.
- Protect civilian life.
- Defend freedom of religion and religious minorities.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ELCA FEDERAL POLICY PRIORITIES FOR THE 119TH CONGRESS**

Find the full ELCA Federal Policy Priorities for the 119th Congress with theological foundations and policy priority details through the ELCA Resource Center or by contacting the ELCA Witness in Society staff at [washingtonoffice@elca.org](mailto:washingtonoffice@elca.org). More about ELCA Witness in Society is available from [ELCA.org/advocacy](http://ELCA.org/advocacy)



## Prayer Ventures for August 2025

**1 We are church for the sake of the world, celebrating the abundant life that has been promised by God and fulfilled in Christ's life, death and resurrection. Pray for the Spirit to guide and inspire the discussions, decisions and work of the 2025 Churchwide Assembly, that our church will proclaim and exemplify the grace we have in Jesus.**

**2 Give thanks for those who participated in the Churchwide Assembly and ask God to protect them as they return to their faith communities.**

**3 Pray that when our interest is drawn to specific issues in our communities and the world, we will not lose sight of other issues that persist but have slipped away from public awareness.**

**4 Pray for worship leaders and musicians gathering for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., that their passion, creativity and skills for leading music will grow as a means of expressing faith and sharing the gospel.**

**5 Give thanks and praise to God for the joy, freedom and new life we have in Jesus Christ and for the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God. Hallelujah!**

**6 Pray for lasting and resilient peace where there is conflict and war in the world, especially in Ukraine, Russia and the Middle East. Pray that we will not grow weary in supporting and caring for those who continue to live in uncertainty and suffering amid violence, injustice and displacement from their homes and communities.**

**7 Praise God that our new life in Christ empowers us to renew ourselves in the image of the Creator and to oppose and cleanse ourselves of anger, hate, slander, abusive language, racism, dishonesty, self-centeredness and greed.**

**8 Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the Moravian Church in America, a full communion partner since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.**

**9 Pray for local, state and national leaders, that they will respect and respond to our neighbors on the fringes of society, including people who suffer poverty and hunger, who need shelter, who live with illnesses and conditions requiring constant care, and whose rights and protections have diminished. Pray for compassion, strength and persistent courage to advocate and care for our neighbors in need.**

**10 Pray for the Spirit's guidance and wisdom in understanding the parables Jesus shared over two thousand years ago, and for insight into the admonitions and wisdom they offer us today.**

**11 Pray for our missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission who accompany global partners in 10 European countries, serving in ministries that provide education, pastoral leadership, social services and care for vulnerable populations.**

**12 International Youth Day Half the people on our planet are age 30 or younger. Pray for every nation to honor the gifts of young people, address the challenges they face and provide easy access to resources that contribute to their physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and economic well-being.**

**13 Ask God to bless those who have chosen to use their gifts, faith and time in long-term volunteer service with Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Urban Servant Corps, Holden Village or other domestic ministries.**

**14 Open our hearts and minds to see problems in the world as opportunities to encourage and care for one another, to seek new paths toward justice and peace, and to share the good news of God's mercy and love for humanity.**

**15 "Go my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever" (WOV 721). Praise God for being ever present in our lives and the world — in times of turmoil, peace, fear, joy, failure and achievement.**

**16 Pray for students attending ELCA colleges, universities and seminaries, and other institutions of higher education, that they will grow in faith, knowledge, wisdom and commitment to serve others.**

**17 Ask the Spirit how we might align ourselves with the commandments, desires and priorities of God, the very things Jesus made clear to us through his life, suffering, death and resurrection.**

**18 Pray for the church leaders gathering for the Ecumenical School on Governance, Economics, and Management for an Economy of Life in Seoul, South Korea. Organized by the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Federation and other ecumenical organizations, the school helps leaders to bridge theology and economics and to advocate for a global economic system that meets the needs of humanity and responds to the crises we face today.**

**19 Give thanks to God that, through our collective generosity, our church provides grants and scholarships to support the ministries of individuals, communities, congregations, synods, and ELCA partners and companion churches.**

**20 "Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord" (Jeremiah 23:23-24). Give thanks that God sees all evil and deception in the world, and promise to be vigilant and discerning so that we might uplift our neighbors and please God.**

**21 Pray for the work of Sumud, an initiative of our church that works for justice in Palestine and Israel, proclaiming that all humans are beloved children of God who deserve safety, security and dignity.**

**22 Give thanks for the ELCA New Congregations ministry and for the 340 new-start congregations and ministries under development in the United States and the Caribbean, supported by local leaders and their synods' bishops and directors for evangelical mission.**

**23 Pray for congregational leaders and volunteers who are preparing fall programs and community ministries to share the gospel, nurture faith, serve neighbors in need and equip people of all ages and abilities to do God's work in the world.**

**24 There is no convenient or more suitable time to respond to the suffering of our neighbors. Pray that we will be mindful of those around us — near and far — and promptly respond with respect, kindness, generosity, sustainable solutions and concern for their short- and long-term needs.**

**25 Pray for teachers, student teachers, administrators and other school staff, that their strength, knowledge, creativity and commitment to students will be nourished throughout the school year. Ask the Spirit to help us express our thanks and support them in tangible ways.**

**26 "Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free" (ACS 1087). Lift up praise and thanks to God!**

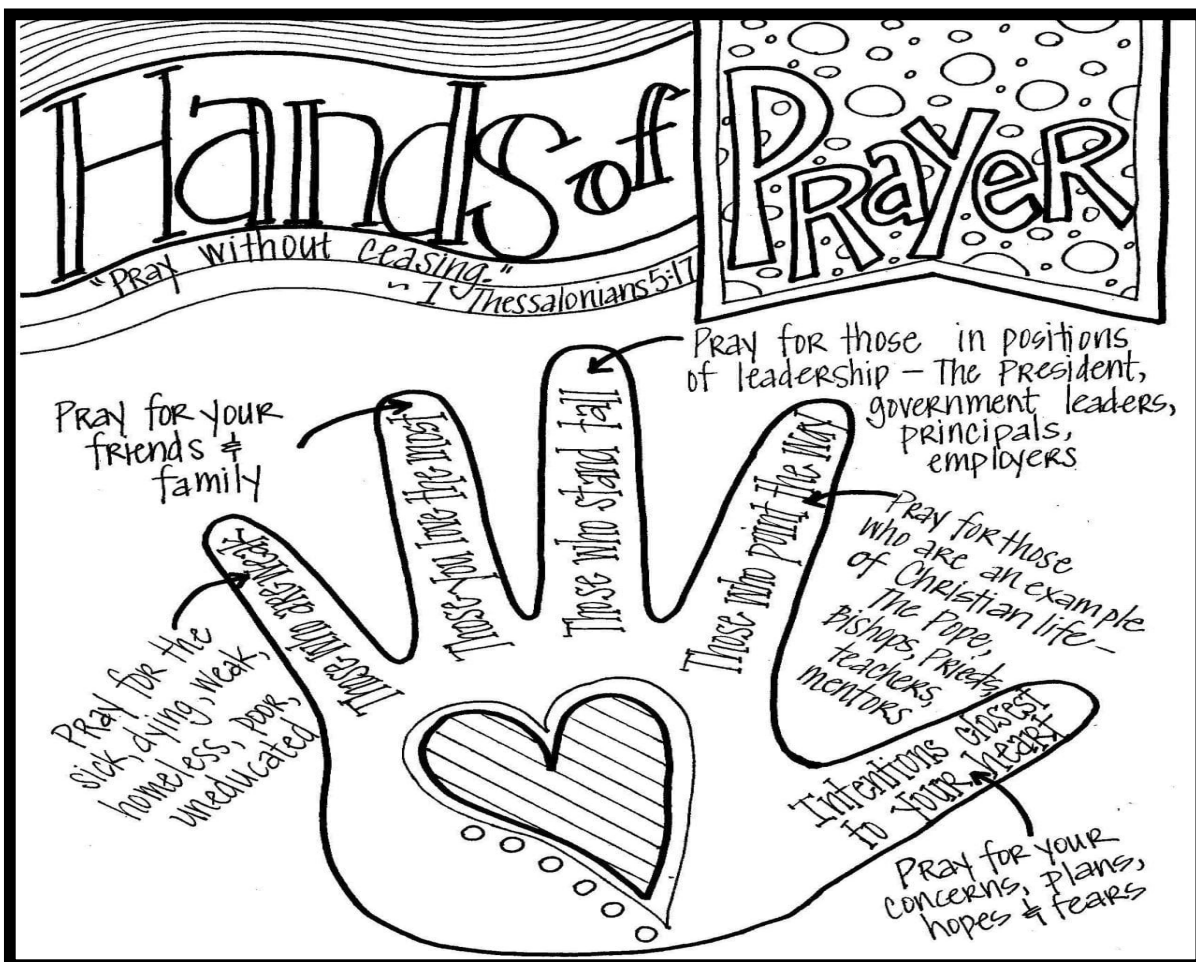
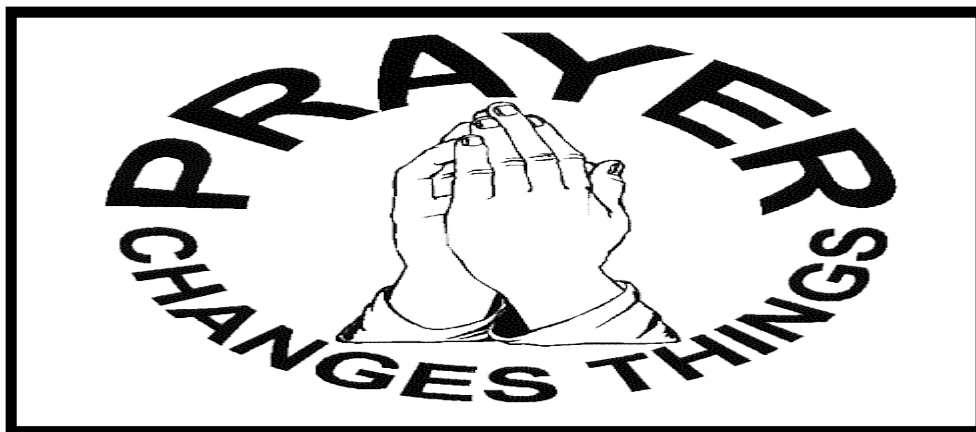
**27 Give thanks for people who play a significant role in your life, including those who inspire your faith, teach you life skills, influence your values, treat you with love and respect, and show up when you need someone to lean on.**

28 Remember in prayer children, youth and adults whose lives have been touched and inspired by outdoor ministry experiences this summer. Pray that they will bring back to their home congregations their rekindled faith, enthusiasm, confidence and commitment to love their neighbors.

29 Rejoice in the daily care, support and sustenance we receive from God and our siblings in Christ. Pray that we, in turn, will freely share the same with our neighbors.

30 Each of us has a unique faith story to tell. Ask the Spirit to help us find our own way of describing our faith journey — how God works through us and how Jesus Christ defines our lives.

31 Ask the Spirit for the faith needed to be both confident and humble. Promise to focus on neighbors in need and to resist personal desires for reward, status or advantage.



## BRAIN TEASERS

### CAN YOU SORT IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER?

1. The American Civil War begins.
2. The Berlin Wall comes down.
3. Archduke Ferdinand is assassinated.
4. Don Larsen pitches a perfect game in the World Series for the Yankees.
5. Alexander Graham Bell makes the first phone call.
6. Queen Victoria begins her reign.
7. John Glenn orbits the Earth three times.
8. Charlotte Brontë publishes Jane Eyre under the name Currer Bell.
9. The Hindenburg blimp catches fire and crashes.
10. Quarterback Joe Namath predicts a victory in Super Bowl III.
11. U.S. President Nixon resigns.
12. Charles Lindbergh flies solo across the Atlantic.
13. Princess Diana dies in car crash.
14. Napoleon is exiled on Elba.
15. Composer Beethoven dies at the age of 56.

### SPELLING ALERT: Vowels Missing from Bible Verse!

Please look at the Scripture verses below and replace the missing vowels to reveal the verses.

Th\_r\_f\_r\_, \_s G\_d's ch\_s\_n p\_\_pl\_, h\_ly \_nd d\_\_rly l\_v\_d, cl\_th\_y\_\_rs lv\_s w\_th  
c\_mp\_ss\_\_n, k\_ndn\_ss, h\_m\_l\_ty, g\_ntl\_n\_ss \_nd p\_t\_\_nc\_. —C\_l\_ss\_\_ns 3:12

F\_r by gr\_c\_y\_\_h\_v\_b\_\_n s\_v\_d thr\_\_gh f\_\_th, \_nd th\_s\_s n\_t y\_\_r \_wn d\_\_ng; \_t  
\_s th\_g\_ft\_f G\_d — n\_t th\_r\_s lt\_fw\_rks, s\_th\_t n\_\_n\_m\_y b\_\_st.

—\_ph\_s\_\_ns 2:8-9

**ANSWERS:** 14. 1814; 15. March 26, 1827; 6. June 20, 1837; 8. October 19, 1847; 1. April 12, 1861; 5. March 10, 1876; 3. June 28, 1914; 12. May 21, 1927; 9. May 6, 1937; 4. October 8, 1956; 7. February 20, 1962; 10. January 9, 1969; 11. August 8, 1974; 2. November 9, 1989; 13. August 31, 1997.

**MISSING VOWELS:** Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. —Colossians 3:12; For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works,



