



# THE LAMPSTAND

**Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**80 Gockley Road ☩☩ Stevens, PA 17578**

*Pastor's Meditation*

**Volume 19 Number 07**

**August 2025**

## **The Day of the Lord**

Amos 5:18-24

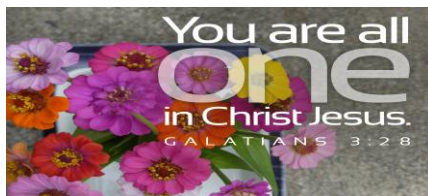
<sup>18</sup> Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, <sup>19</sup> and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, <sup>20</sup> and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, <sup>21</sup> and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, <sup>22</sup> I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; <sup>23</sup> I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, <sup>24</sup> and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

“Let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an  
ever-flowing stream.”



A common theme in the Old Testament finds prophets warning kings to stop worshiping idols and treating people unjustly. Corruption and idolatry abounded in ancient Israel as they have done throughout the world throughout history and continue to do so today.

The oppression of people for personal gain, lying, corruption, greed, murder, the cruel inhumanity of people towards other people is alive and well today in our world and in our country.



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## **NEWSLETTER**

### **ARTICLES**

**September's newsletter  
article deadlines will be  
Thursday August 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Your articles can be emailed in  
the formats of Word or PDF to:  
mellingerslutheran@gmail.com**

This does not make God happy. Throughout history God has punished people's sinfulness and disobedience.

God, however, can forgive as we repent. As Christians we need to constantly stand for the truth and to help those in need as commanded by Jesus in Matthew 25. In accordance with the punishment of God, Christ Himself says that people who do not help "the least of these", will be cast into the fiery pit.

We cannot proclaim the liberating freedom of God while, at the same time, ignoring injustice in the world. We are called to be unafraid and to be bearers of the truth of God for all people who, as the Apostle Paul says in Galatians 3: 26-29, are equal in Christ.

<sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Nobody is better than anyone else.

The Day of the Lord is going to be a big surprise for many who think they are righteous but are treating their sisters and brothers inhumanely.

We need to always remember that our calls, our Baptisms, are Holy Spirit driven.....not driven by ideology, culture or philosophy.

This is true not just for Popes, Bishops and Pastors but for ALL Disciples...all followers of Christ. Our journey in Christ is often one in which we are unclear about many things....but we should always be clear that God is with us and guiding us.

"The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

- Jesus in John 3: 8

In Christ,  
-Pastor Tim



# *Hymn of the Month for August*

## *“Blessed Assurance” by Fanny Crosby*

Fanny Crosby, America’s most prolific hymn writer, wrote 8,000 Gospel songs and hymns during a lifetime, which spanned nearly a century. She passed away in her 95th year. All of her days, except the first six weeks, were spent in blindness. However, not even the loss of eyesight could render defeat to this astoundingly courageous soul. Aunt Fanny, as she later was affectionately called, also wrote 1,000+ nonreligious songs, and had four books of poetry and two best-selling autobiographies published.

Frances Jane Crosby was born in Putnam County, New York, on March 24, 1820. A poorly trained doctor applied a mustard plaster poultice to her eyes when she was only six weeks old, rendering her totally blind. Even in her childhood, she realized she had a special gift.

During her 15th year, she entered the New York Institute for the Blind. Her record there was such that after graduation, she was asked to teach at the institute. She remained on the faculty for 11 years.

She told S. Trevena Jackson her little “love story,” which he recorded in his book, “Fanny Crosby’s Story of Ninety-Four Years,” She said...

“Some people seem to forget that blind girls have just as great a faculty for loving, and do love just as much and just as truly as those who have their sight. When I was about 20, a gifted young man by the name of Alexander Van Alstyne came to our institute. He was also blind and a musician. We soon became very much concerned for each other...I placed my right hand on his left and called him ‘Van.’ From that hour, two lives looked on a new universe, for love met love, and all the world was changed. On March 5 in the year 1858, we were united in marriage.”

“I became a mother and knew a mother’s love, but the angels came down and took our infant up to God.”

One day in 1873, Aunt Fanny was visiting with a friend, Mrs. Joseph Knapp, a musician of sorts and wife of the founder of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. During their visit Mrs. Knapp played a tune on her piano, which she had recently written. She then asked Fanny, “What does this tune say?” After kneeling in prayer for a few moments, she rose and declared, “It says, ‘Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!’”

*Submitted by Vickie Kissinger*



## ***PRAYER CORNER***

### **Please pray for the following people:**

Vic Richard, Nevin McQuate, Jay Weaver, Polly Gunzenhauser, Dave Haldeman, Ben Gunzenhauser, Vivian Gehr, Tom Parrish Sr, Jerry Petery, Ethel Sensenig, Pat McQuate, Elaine Haldeman, Amy Weik, Clair Miller (with family in NJ), Mike Leed, Shirley Sweigart, Skip Hutchinson, Jane Goshert (Home Hospice), Jay Stoltzfus (with family in FL), Theda Raffauf, Mary Weidman, Sam Soto, Roy Latshaw, Amanda Benton, Marty Leed & Family, Fay Weitzel, Barb Moyer and Judy Meckley.

Artman Lutheran Home, Ambler: Sally Wealand

Bretheran Village: Beverly Sweigart

Phoebe Berks: Nick Rampolla

Ephrata Manor: Iris Weaver, Dorothy Hutchinson, Vesta Reber, Shirl Tobias, Pauline Sawyer, Joan Wentzel(Hospice Care) and Bob Weaver

Keystone Villa: Betty Firestine & Janet Hirneisen

Neffsville Rehab & Nursing: Pauline Martin

Univ. of Penn Hospital: Richard Sockriter      Leb. Veterans Hosp.: Carl Mohler Jr.

Barbera Mertz, Rev. Penrose Hoover, John and Yvette Hoffman, Keith Freeman, Paul Reefer, Helen Blank, William Sockriter, Dave Bentz, Natalie Redcay, Ruth Mae Grace, Doug Cody, Fred Leathery, Mark Wojcicki, Karen Velez, Ron Neidigh, Kara Trowbridge, Randy Vollmer, Polly Stendl, Mary Morton, Brenda Sweigart, Nancy Good, Nancy Bolotine, Bea Hassler, Kelly Root, Karen Leonhard, Sue Kreitz, Dale Firestone, Mary Sanger, Andy & Brenda Gabig, Brian Fetter, Pastor Karen Larson, Brian Kerns, Mary Lou Crum, Bob Bos, Curtis Townsley, Robyn Redcay, Corrina Bender, Margaret Weller, Bud Bender, and Cynthia Peters.

### **Pray also for the grieving families of:**

Jeff Moyer, Melissa and Mark Hortman, Anna Weinhold, Kenton Shaffer, Dennis Betz, Betty Zimmerman, April Wefler, Pope Francis, John Gross, Dick Reed, Paul Sweigart, Dave Wilhide, Evelyn Shade, Dick Mountford, Russell Petticoffer, Ella Felker, Tony Frey, Brittany Merklinger, Chris Miller, Richard Keller, Susie Wentzel, Matt Thorn, Nicholas Bolotine and John Hutchinson.

## Bible Readings for the month of August

**August 3 – Pentecost 8:** Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23, Psalm 49:1-12, Colossians 3:1-11 & Luke 12:13-21

**August 10 – Pentecost 9:** Genesis 15:1-6, Psalm 33:12-22, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 & Luke 12:32-40

**August 17 – Pentecost 10:** Jeremiah 23:23-29, Psalm 82, Hebrews 11:29-12:2 & Luke 12:49-56

**August 24 - Pentecost 11:** Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 103:1-8, Hebrews 12:18-29 & Luke 13:10-17

**August 31 - Pentecost 12:** Proverbs 25:6-7, Psalm 112, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 & Luke 14:1, 7-14



*On Sunday July 2, 2025*

*Melissa and Jay Weber joined our congregation*



## COUNCIL JUNE 11, 2025

Lowell Yost called the June meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mike Haller read a passage from “Facing the Light” and Psalm 127:1-6.

Pastor Tim reviewed his report with talking about the election of the new Bishop in York, other schedule events and vacation. He asked if he could schedule a 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday vacation day this year, the request was approved.

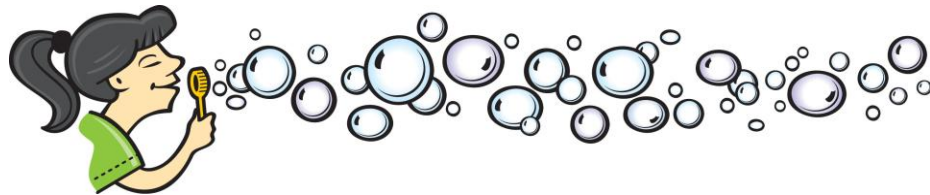
Andy Leonhard reviewed quotes obtained for repairs/repaving the parking lot and window sash replacements. The parking lot information will continue to be discussed over the next few months. It was motioned and approved to replace 11 window sashes and the large window at the coat rack area.

Social Ministry prepared 160 lunches and helped to distribute them to parks in our areas for the Acts of Love program. They continue to work on school kits, personal care kits and quilts for the LWR Ingathering in October.

Kristi Leonhard reported the garden was started and reviewed items/plants that were donated and purchased.

The Communion Flagon should be replaced due to the lid mechanism breaking a few months ago. Ashley Weinhold will look into options for August’s meeting.

Next Meeting is Thursday August 14th at 6:30 pm. We adjourned the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.



### Ushers for August

August 3 Head: Shawn Jeffers, Nancy Eberly Alternate: Dave Weidman

August 10 Head: Mike Haller, Piper Leonhard Alternate: Kristi Leonhard

August 17 Head: Lowell Yost, Linda Weaver Alternate: Jill Showalter

August 24 Head: Randy Brubaker, Shawn Jeffers Alternate: Nancy Eberly

August 31 Head: Mike Haller, Vic Richard Alternate: Piper Leonhard





## Sunday

**August 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31**

9:00 am Church Services

**August 10<sup>th</sup>** Pastor Glenn Beard will preside for Worship

**August 17<sup>th</sup>** 2:00 pm Pastor Tim will be preaching at Keystone Villa in Ephrata

**August 24<sup>th</sup>** Ahava is playing

## Tuesday

**August 5, 12, 19 & 26**

6:30 - 8:00 pm Pastor Tim Zoom Bible Study  
Topic: The Gospel of Luke

## Wednesday

**August 13<sup>th</sup>** 2:30 pm Pastor Tim will be preaching at Ephrata Manor

**August 6 & 13:** Mellingers Social Ministry Summer Lunch distribution for Cocalico Area Summer Lunch Program

## Thursday

**August 14<sup>th</sup>** 6:30 pm Council Meeting

## Saturday

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>** Pastor Tim & Kim are away at a music event in Ocean Grove, NJ



## Special Flowers

Harvest Home Sunday will be on Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup>. More details will be announced later in the month of August and the September Newsletter.



Cocalico School District starts:  
Monday August 25th

Ephrata School District starts:  
Monday August 25th



Pray for Our Students

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT CHURCH

We are a blessed congregation to have hard working individuals involved in our volunteer opportunities. If you ever feel like lending an extra hand, here are the areas:

- During Sunday Services: Communion Assistant, Scripture Reader, Soundboard & Video operator
- Worship & Music: Choir, Handbell Choir & Special music
- Coffee Time: Servers, Donations of Baked Goods or Monetary Contributions
- Discipleship Committee: Help maintain the garden for EASS donations, help with fund raisers like the Goat Program and Great Eight Lenten giving.
- Social Ministry Committee: Help serve at social functions and memorial service luncheons. Help with Lutheran World Relief collections.

## Builders of Hope Update

Ministry Outreach by Area Churches



## Funding Report- Gifts thru EASS

1. Gifts by Participating Congregations
2. Cheese Steak Sandwiches Annual event by St. John UCC in Denver  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November All profit
3. Strawberries / Short Cake / Ice Cream (by Boehringer's) sold at  
Adamstown Community Days Annual Event (was the last week in May)







**WHO:** ALL God's Children of every age!

**WHAT:** SUNDAY SCHOOL

**WHERE:** Right here at Mellinger's Church.  
There are classes for all ages.

**WHEN:** Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 11:00 beginning  
September 7<sup>th</sup>, following Worship & Coffee Time.  
(you may even bring you snacks to class)

**WHY:** You are never too Young or Old to explore God's word.  
Give it a try. You truly will have a great time!



\*When we meditate on God's word, we are transformed by its Power\* (Romans 12:2)



Left to right:  
Lucas Hartlove & Noah Hogan



Left to right:  
Elijah Hogan & Ben Hartlove

CONCERT BENEFITTING EASS PRESENTED BY:



# AHAVA

## 7/27/2025

**Social Ministry's July food drive culminated on Sunday with a concert by Ahava.**



*The Ahava concert raised \$650.00*



**Donations totaling 290 pounds were contributed to EASS. They were extremely grateful Monday morning as they do not get as many donations in the summer.**

*Thank you Randy & Martha Brubaker for delivering the donations on Monday Morning.*



*To the band Ahava and Ephrata Area Social Services for putting the concert together.*

*To Mellingers Faithful for their donations and support.*

*To our Social Ministry team for the Picnic Supper in the Fellowship Hall.*



Thank you for  
your prayers,  
words of encouragement  
and cards.  
Polly and I are  
so happy to be  
members of Mellingers.

YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS  
WAS APPRECIATED  
MORE THAN YOU KNOW.

Because of your  
prayer and thought  
I was able to enjoy  
a calmness and a  
confidence on my day  
of surgery.

Ben Gunzenhauser

Hello to everyone at Mellingers' Evangelical  
Lutheran Church!

I hope you are doing well and  
enjoying warmer weather! My name  
is Kirstin, and I am a donor  
representative with Bethany. I want  
to write to say hello and to thank  
you for your past support. Your  
generosity has made a huge impact.

We are so grateful for you! Blessings,

Kirstin Perry



Bethany Christian Services





## 2025 Acts of Love Summer Lunch Program

August 6, 13  
11:30 am-12:30 pm

Meals will be available at the 4 parks listed.

Meals will vary each week depending on the group providing the food. If you have any questions, please reach out to Real Life Community Services at 717-336-7797 option 1.

Adamstown Grove  
Reamstown Park

Denver Park  
Reinholds Park

*Come and get a Wednesday Welcome  
and a delicious meal this summer!*

*Feeding our Children in The Cocalico Community !!*

**Brought to you by area churches and community organizations!**

If you are in need of additional food help this summer, please reach out to Real Life Community Services in Denver at 717-336-7797 or Ephrata Area Social Services in Ephrata at 717-733-0345



Social Ministry is active all year collecting for LWR and serving meals at funerals. We recently held our Spring Fling with Faith United to raise funds for Peter's Porch and we will be involved with Acts of Love, which is a summer food program held in conjunction with Ephrata Area Social Services.

The sites are Adamstown, Denver, Reamstown and Reinholds.

The goal is to provide 160 meals at each site on Wednesdays.

If you are interested in helping, please contact a Social Ministry member. Our members are Shirley Sweigart, President; Martha Brubaker, Secretary; Betty Cordes, Anita Soto, Nancy Heiser, Joan Moore, Johan Spotts, Jerilyn Yost, Lisa Reed, Fay Weitzel, Vicky Meckley, Nancy Eberly and Pastor Tim Craven.

Thank you and God Bless,  
~ Social Ministry.

*On Wednesday June 11,  
Social Ministry members did assemble 160  
lunches for the EASS summer lunch  
program.*

*Social Ministry members packing lunches  
in June. Vicky Meckley,  
Johan Spotts, Joan Moore, Anita Soto,  
Jeri Yost, Carol Jeffer, Nancy Heiser  
and Martha Brubaker.*



## CONTRIBUTION OPPORTUNITIES AT MELLINGERS

Contributions may be made to the following funds at any time and may also be used to aid people in designating monies for memorials. Should you wish to donate to any of these funds, please place funds in an envelope and provide the name of the fund in which you would like your donation placed, your name and envelope number.

† Maintenance and Building Fund  
† Needy Fund

† Builders of Hope  
† Lutheran World Relief



**SERVE THE LORD BY GIVING YOUR TIME AND TALENTS!**

## Great 8 Appeal Totals

Builders of Hope \$2,283

Ephrata Area Social Services \$1,958

ELCA Hunger Appeal \$1448

ELCA Mission Support \$428

Peter's Porch \$573

Lutheran Camping Appeal \$438

Needy Fund \$1813

Seminarian Fund \$268

**Totaling**  
**\$9,209.00**



*August 1*

Michael Haller, Katie Stahl

*August 2*

Zachary Cruz

*August 3*

Olivia Butler

*August 4*

Judy Meckley, Michael Weitzel

*August 7*

Elaine Haldeman, Ethel Sensenig

*August 9*

Rick Dillon

*August 13*

Angelina Weachter, Joan Wentzel

*August 14*

Larry Meckley

*August 17*

Lisa Reed

*August 18*

Jameson Walters

*August 19*

Sean Moyer

*August 20*

Dawn Henry, Emma Herr

*August 21*

David Weidman



*August 22*

Tess Freeman, Sonya Leisey

*August 23*

Jane Goshert

*August 25*

Donald Stafford

*August 28*

Brandon Jeffers

*August 29*

Roy Latshaw

*August 31*

David Haldeman



*August 12*

Jean Townsley





**August 2, 2019**

John & Erin Biles

**August 7, 1999**

Benjamin & Christine Herr

**August 19, 1967**

Ron & Bonnie Weinhold

**August 27, 1967**

Randy & Vicky Meckley

**August 30, 1984**

Daniel & Sally Stahl



**August 10, 1985**

Randy & Tina Zerbe



**August 16, 1975**

Tom & Trish Fassnacht



**August 14, 1965**

Jerry & Martha Petery

**August 21, 1965**

Denton & Karen Borry



**August 20, 1955**

Roger & Dolly Gehman



*Kim and I thank you for the thoughtful cards you sent us recently upon the 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our marriage. Also this Summer I reached the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination into the ministry of Word and Sacrament and the 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary as your pastor.*

*Kim, the boys and I have been truly blessed through the years by the love Almighty God has shown to us through your gracious and kind presence. We have all worked together joyfully to serve the Lord and Kim, I, Oliver, Spencer and Connor are very thankful. God bless you all. We love you.*

*-Pastor Tim*

## Important contact information

### MINISTERS: The people of Mellingers

#### STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Timothy Craven (717) 738-3838 Cell: (717) 468-9049

**Director of Christian Education:** Diane Adair (717) 715-3124

**Director of Music:** Vickie Kissinger (717) 354-6575 vickiekissinger@gmail.com

**Secretary:** Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800 mellingerslutheran@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Jon Hogan (814) 289-1646

**Peace be with you!**

#### SERVICE TIMES

**Sunday**

**Worship Service**

**9 am**

#### CHURCH COUNCIL

**President:** Lowell Yost (717) 471-7758

**Vice-President:** Troy Adair (717) 715-3126

Randy Brubaker (717) 314-3449

Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895

Mike Haller (717) 368-1572

Shawn Jeffers (717) 278-5000

Vic Richard (717) 951-8977

Kristi Leonhard (717) 940-7535

Piper Leonhard (717) 419-5691

Jill Showalter (717) 336-2839

Linda Weaver (717) 587-1319

Recording Secretary: Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800

#### LEADERS

**Altar Guild:** Kimberley Craven - Chair: (717) 519-9882

**Blood Pressure Check Coordinator:** Susan Specht (717) 336-4601

**Camp Person:** Kimberley Craven (717) 738-3838

**Coffee Social:** Kristi Leonhard (717) 940-7535

**Communion Assistant Coordinator:** Ashley Weinhold (717) 336-8800

**Finance Committee:** Vic Richard (717) 951-8977, Pat Haller (717) 368-4975, Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895

**Financial Secretary:** Jill Showalter (717) 336-2839 **Assistant Financial Secretary:** Dawn Henry (610) 914-3218

**Greeter Coordinator:** Fay Weitzel (717) 336-2124

**Lawn Care:** Pat Jeffers (717) 336-8170

**Newsletter Editor:** Office Staff (717) 336-8800

**Offering Counters:** Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895

**Scout Liaison:** David Haldeman (717) 733-8551

**Scripture Reader Coordinator:** Anita Soto (717) 419-5520

**Snow Removal:** Andy Leonhard (717) 336-8800

**Special Flowers:** Pat Haller (717) 368-4975

**Treasurer:** Jon Hogan (814) 289-1646 **Assistant Treasurer:** Skip Hutchinson (717) 733-5029

**Web Site Editor:** Office Staff (717) 336-8800

**Wedding Coordinator:** Brittany Hartlove (717) 715-3

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Discipleship In Life:** Robert H. Getz, Jr. (717) 925-4938

**Endowment/Memorial:** Randy Brubaker (717) 733-9222

**Personnel:** Nancy Eberly (717) 945-2895

**Property:** Andy Leonhard (717) 336-8800

**Social Ministry:** Shirley Sweigart (717) 538-1946

**Worship and Music:** Nancy Hain (717) 336-6270

**Youth Group Advisors:** Kristi & Paul Leonhard (717) 733-1260 Cell: (717) 940-7535 Pastor Tim (717) 738 3838

#### SCOUT LEADERS

**Troop 115:** Sheldon Brubaker (717) 468-5333 [smb115@ptd.net](mailto:smb115@ptd.net)

**Pack 115:** Daniel Marszalek. (717)-405-9724 [scoutleaderdan115@yahoo.co](mailto:scoutleaderdan115@yahoo.co)

#### SOCIAL MEDIA RESOURCES

**WEBSITE:** [www.mellingers.org](http://www.mellingers.org)

**FACEBOOK:** Check us out on Facebook. We are listed under Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church.