



[Bulletin  
Server Schedule](#)

[Online Service](#)

[Online Giving](#)

# Trinity Messenger

September 2023 Issue 2

---

*Alleluia. In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Alleluia. 2 Cor. 5:19*

---

## **September Stewardship: Excentia (S. June Smith Center) EXCENTIA HUMAN SERVICES: A LIFESPAN OF SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS**

Excentia Human Services has a long history of almost 60 years in Lancaster County, providing a lifespan of services and supports to children and adults with developmental disabilities. Pronounced “x-cen-cha,” our name is a composite of the words “essence” and “excellence.” Excentia represents the unique element that defines an individual’s core, or their “essence,” and the honoring of each person’s essence, and circumstances, as they strive to excel as their best selves. This philosophy fuels everything we do for the people we support and our team of dedicated employees who make our mission possible.

I want to take a minute to tell you a story about one of the children we support.

As the youngest of five siblings, Bennett always loves tagging along for family activities. In his early years, nothing seemed concerning with Bennett’s development. As his mom, Amy, noted, he was a tad bit delayed, but it was something she thought he would catch up with easily as time went on. However, as he got older, Bennett struggled with mobility and speech delays. At this point, Bennett qualified for Early Intervention Services due to his diagnosis. Ultimately, he found himself at Excentia Human Services.

Since starting preschool, Bennett has outgrown the need for speech intervention, is holding his own with his peers and is learning to be more independent with his mobility. “We love his education program!” says Amy, Bennett’s mom. “He looks forward to his preschool days and comes home full of stories.”

These stories and Bennett’s eagerness to entertain and connect to people have been the most surprising result of his education. “He has great manners and expresses himself extremely well. I know that’s largely due to what they do at school with the kids!”

And it is also the reason why Bennett is so eager to do “school” activities at home while his mom homeschools his siblings. With the help of his occupational and speech therapists and the support he has at home, Bennett’s future is optimistic and promising. For now, though, he’s right where he needs to be, enjoying school and being a kid, and tagging along with his brothers and sister.

Successes like Bennett’s are possible because of the supports provided by Excentia Human Services. Please consider making a donation that will impact more children like Bennett.

---



## Praying for Our Neighbor is Loving Our Neighbor

*When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."*

--Matthew 22:34-40

At a recent meeting of area pastors, I was introduced to a wonderful app that I have been using daily, which can be downloaded to a smart phone or computer, called *Bless Every Home*. This app will email you the names and addresses of five of your neighbors (determined by the address one provides) whom you are invited to pray for that day. If you are at a loss and not sure what to pray the site also offers a suggested prayer and a Bible verse on which to reflect and guide you in this daily activity.

For some people, physically being able to assist our neighbors might be challenging because of health concerns or other restrictive situations. This app provides those persons, who wish to care for their neighbor as Jesus commands, with an alternative means of showing love toward our others in an accessible manner. Obviously, this site can be used by anyone interested in lifting others in prayer. Personally, I find it also has the added bonus of reminding me daily that each of us has a far broader group of neighbors than we may have imagined and that we are called by God through Jesus Christ to care for them as we are able. I use the address of Holy Trinity (167 E. Main St., Ephrata, PA) to pray for our neighbors, but you can use whatever group of neighbors for whom the Spirit is leading you to pray.

If you are interested expanding your prayer life by praying on behalf of your neighbors, I encourage you to ask yourself "who is my neighbor," and go to **blesseveryhome.com** site, register, and begin prayerfully loving your many neighbors.

Prayerfully,

**Pastor Mark**

---

**On September 19, Grace Long will celebrate her 102nd birthday! Please help celebrate this special day by sending her a birthday card!**

**Grace Long  
Ephrata Manor Skilled Care Room 210  
99 Bethany Rd.  
Ephrata, PA 17522**



---

## Lutheran World Relief Ingathering Appeal

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering appeal is Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup>. This year the Social Ministry Committee is looking for new blankets (60" x 80", non-fleece) and monetary donations to purchase items for personal kits. Each kit is \$5.00. See the poster in the Gathering Area. Volunteers will be needed to help assemble the kits. The time and date will be announced later. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Gilbert at 721-3822.

---

## **Assisting Maui Fire Victims**

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. Together they are addressing the immediate needs and recovery amid the widespread destruction. LDR and the Pacifica Synod are committed to accompanying recovering communities now and in the years ahead.

Gifts given specifically to "U.S. Wildfires" will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by wildfires. You may donate by following the link:

**[community.elca.org/uswildfires?\\_ga](https://community.elca.org/uswildfires?_ga)** to donate electronically or by mail at the address below. Make checks payable to "Lutheran Disaster Response." Write "U.S. Wildfires" on your check's memo line. You may also donate by calling 800-638-3522 (Monday through Friday) 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. central time.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

## **Assist Fire Victims | EPHRATA AREA SOCIAL SERVICES**

EASS's Community Support department is reaching out to local fire victims in Ephrata in order to provide assistances. Any money donated through this page ([www.mygiving.net/campaign/Assist-Fire-Victims](https://www.mygiving.net/campaign/Assist-Fire-Victims)) will go to direct aide. If donating on a different platform (check, cash, Paypal) please note this is for "fire victim assistances." Checks can be sent to Ephrata Area Social Services, 227 N. State St., Ephrata, PA 17522. **Gift cards** for Walmart and Ephrata area grocery stores would be eagerly welcomed by these families as they attempt, with the help of EASS and the generosity of the community, to put their lives back together. If you bring gift cards to the church, we, with the guidance of EASS, will make sure they go where they are needed. **There is a local need for hygiene products for children going back to school.**



## SEPTEMBER IS HERE!

Join in these opportunities to grow in faith and fellowship:

### BELL CHOIR

\***Rehearsals** resume Tuesday, September 5 at 7:00 pm for our existing bell choir.

\*Please consider joining in the fun of ringing! We need ringers to continue the handbell ensemble. Please talk with Donna or call her at 717-669-783

---



### Calling all Singers!!

There are so many good singers in this congregation, so we are going to try something new. We will be forming a Celebration Choir (in addition to Senior Choir) here at Holy Trinity that will sing approximately once a month! The music will be easy to learn and the time commitment will be minimal.

**Please consider joining us 😊**

#### Celebration Choir Schedule for September and October

\***Wednesday, Sept. 6** – Celebration Choir rehearsal at 7:15 PM in the church sanctuary

\*Sunday, Sept. 10 – Celebration Choir – 8:15 AM rehearsal - *Seek Ye First*

\***Wednesday, Oct. 4** – Celebration Choir rehearsal at 7:15 PM in the church sanctuary

\*Sunday, Oct. 8 – Celebration Choir – 8:15 AM rehearsal - *Jesus Loves Me/Oh How He Loves You and Me*

\***Wednesday, Oct. 25** – Celebration Choir rehearsal at 7:15 PM in the church sanctuary

\*Sun, Oct. 29 – Reformation – Celebration Choir – 8:15 AM rehearsal - *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

**Senior Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:45 PM! All are welcome!!!**

### RALLY DAY: Sunday, September 10

#### God's Faithful Gift of Liturgy

You are invited and strongly encouraged to participate in a multi-session study, led by Donna Nace, during which we will be exploring our liturgy and why its importance and impact on our faith lives and relationship with God go far beyond our time together on Sunday mornings.

Plan to join us downstairs immediately after worship! Enjoy coffee and treats in the cafe and gather in the social hall for our first session as we explore the depth and richness of our Lutheran liturgy.



## September 10-16 Calendar

<b>Sunday, September 10</b>	
RALLY DAY	
8:15am	Celebration Choir
9:00am	Worship
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
10:15am	SCS
11:00am	Lunch Bunch
<b>Monday, September 11</b>	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
<b>Tuesday, September 12</b>	
7:00pm	Bell Choir
<b>Wednesday, September 13</b>	
6:45pm	Senior Choir
<b>Thursday, September 14</b>	
6:00pm	Community meal
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
7:30pm	Council Meeting
<b>Saturday, September 16</b>	
7:30am	Walking Group

[View This Month's Interactive Calendar Here](#)

### September 10th Servers

**Council:** Lisa Garrett, Ed Quirke

**Assisting Minister:** John Weiss

**Lector:** Dan Doremus

**Acolyte:** Natalie Mull

**Ushers:** Curtis & Christy Boos,  
Bill & Lori Spitzer

**Altar Guild:** Brenda Wangman,  
Heather Zimmerman, Lisa Garrett

**Linen:** Brenda Wangman

**Deliver Flower:** Winnie Gaerlach



## Office Hours: September 11-15

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

**Office Phone: 717-733-4134 Pastor's Cell: 315-317-8517 Donna's Cell: 717-669-7831**

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Thursday	OFF	9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 12	OFF



*Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!*

