

## Happy Birthday to our Seniors!

### July:

Elsie Evans—July 4  
 Louise Wilson—July 12  
 Glenn Beam—July 17  
 Grace Rhoads—July 18  
 Mildred Buss—July 20  
 Mary McVaugh—July 30



### August:

Mildred Ludwig—August 2  
 Janet Haney—August 15  
 Bill Wilson—August 15  
 Evelyn Hoffert—August 24

### Coming up in September:

Bill Haney—Sept. 14  
 Ada Peters—Sept. 18  
 Henry Eyrich—Sept. 22  
 Betty Zellner—Sept. 25

Did we miss anyone? If you are a “Senior” Member over age 55 and wish to be included on the birthday list, please call the church office at 610-856-7242.

## PARISH REGISTER

### Membership Loss:

5/15/14—Rosemary Schrock, transfer to Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading

### Baptisms:

6/8/14—Lilly Caroline Carr, daughter of Bree Cassel and Samuel Carr.

6/21/14—Genie and William Beam—adult baptisms

### Wedding:

6/21/14—Genie K. McHugh and William C. Bean

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JULY/AUGUST 2014

## The Parish Digest



### From the Pastor:

“A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.”

-Martin Luther

“<sup>8</sup>Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, ‘How are we robbing you?’ In your tithes and offerings! <sup>9</sup>You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me—the whole nation of you! <sup>10</sup>Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.”

Malachi 3:8-10

## CHURCH GIVING – Part I

Or

## A confession of a pastor’s financial stewardship.

Knowing that I will be asking members of this congregation to put together a brief “temple talk” or “stewardship article” for the fall, I thought it only fair to take some time and share a bit about my own journey in learning about financial stewardship.

One thing that I want to be clear about as I begin is that for the purpose of this article, I will be focusing primarily on the financial end of stewardship; the Treasure as it is sometimes called. The reality of Christians stewardship is that it involves (cont. page 4)

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A mailbox is located outside the church office for anyone who has written information for staff, chairpersons, preschool, or other leaders.

**Rev. Michael Ware, Pastor**

Home: 610-875-0015 Office: 610-856-7242

**Office hours:** Wednesday 9-12 and 1:30-3:00; Thurs. 9-12;

Day off: Monday;

Email address: revmikeware@gmail.com

**Susan J. Creed**, Minister of Christian Ed. —Home 610-779-0179

Office Hours: M-TH 1:00-4:00 610-856-7242

Email address: screed@dejazzd.com

**Mark Lauer**, Youth Ministry Leader—Home 610-286-0800

Office Hours: T & TH 10:00-1:00 610-856-7242

Email address: Mark.Lauer12@Houghton.edu

**Louise Wilson**, Minister of Music—Phone: 610-273-3911

Email address: weeziecow2@yahoo.com

**Debbie DeMarco**, Parish Secretary

Home: 610-856-7386 Office: 610-856-7242

Office Hours: M-TH 9-4; Friday 9-12:00

Email address: ddemarco@dejazzd.com

**Linell McCormick**, Office Assistant, T & Th, 12-4

Home: 610-775-2571 Email: lmm52@aol.com

**Dale Creed**, Maintenance Supervisor—M-Th mornings

**Robin Werner, Sexton**—Phone: 610-698-0688

Email: robinbaskets@aol.com

**Kristen Davis**, Preschool Director— Phone: 610-856-7613

Council Officers:

Chris Gerace, President

Bill Haney, Vice President

Craig Eppright, Secretary

Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

Kay Good, Treasurer Special Funds

Lori Sifford, Financial Secretary

Other Council Members:

Maggie Lauer (youth)

Jane Meyers

Sue Besecker

Joy O'Donnell



## SERVICES & SPECIAL EVENTS

**JULY 5—5:30 p.m. Saturday Evening Communion**

**Rev. Harry Bohn, guest pastor**

**JULY 6—9:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION**

**Rev. Harry Bohn, guest pastor**

**JULY 13—9:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION**

**JULY 20—9:00 a.m. HYMN SING**

Usher, Greeter, and Worship Assistant training following the service

**JULY 27—9:00 a.m. Worship**

**Rev. Wayne Heintzelman, guest pastor**

Worship Assistant training following the service

**SERMON DISCUSSION SERIES** on the subject of “Practical Christianity” will be held during the month of August. Please feel free to participate as you feel comfortable.

**AUGUST 2—5:30 Saturday Evening Communion**

**AUGUST 3—9:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION**

**Installation of VBS Staff**

**AUGUST 10—9:00 a.m. COMMUNION**

**AUGUST 17—9:00 a.m. Worship**

**AUGUST 24—9:00 a.m. Worship; Volunteer Recognition Sunday; Installation of SCS Teachers and Preschool Staff; Brunch for everyone following the service.**

**AUGUST 31—9:00 a.m. Worship**

4 everything in our lives including our Time (and how we spend it) and our Talents (the gifts and skills we have been blessed with) as well as our Treasure (finances). But for now, I am going to focus on my stewardship story as it relates to money.

That said, I was not what you might call a very good financial steward in my early years. As a child I would quickly spend every cent I was given almost as soon as I got it; whether at an arcade dumping quarters into video games, or putting coins into the vending machines to get a gumball or some little trinket as we left the supermarket, I spent like a madman. My parents used to tease both me and my brother about this, saying that we acted as if the money was burning a hole in our pockets.

While growing up in church, I can remember that mom and dad would give my brother and I a few dollars each to put into the offering plates, and as I look back on that time, I think this was their way of trying to teach us early on about stewardship, but I can honestly say for myself that it didn't really take. (To be fair, my parents did an excellent job of setting an example, I was simply young and hard-headed)

Fast forward to my early teens, the days of me getting an allowance, and once again, I often spent it all as quickly as possible on toys and games, food and hanging out with friends; seldom did I consider taking from these resources and giving it to the church.

Fast forward again to me and my first job in my late teens, and much the same, I spent primarily for myself. Sure, once in a while in church I might drop a couple of bucks in the plates (the tiny paycheck leftovers that somehow remained in my wallet till Sunday morning) but I didn't really think about what I was doing; rather I saw it (cont. page 5)

## FROM OUR MAILBOX:

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continued support and the recent donation of 15 hand soaps for Mother's Day. The beginning of this year has seen a whirlwind of activity at all three of our buildings. Exciting new events like the Parrot Head Club event and the WEEU live radio broadcast, launching baby bottle campaigns, and coordinating speaking engagements all while preparing for our Annual Bowl-a-thon and Gala. And most importantly, caring for the mothers and babies in our programs. Meeting new people and speaking to groups allows us to share the courageous stories of the young mothers and the mission of Mary's Shelter.

So with renewed focus and true appreciation, let me say thank you on behalf of all the mothers. Your support is the energizing reminder that keeps us motivated. Motherhood is amazing, joyful, and sometimes exhausting, but always a blessing.

Sincerely,

Laura Murga, Development Coordinator  
Mary's Shelter

Robeson Lutheran Church,

As a result of the Thrivent Choice® [Direct Now . . . Add \\$20](#) campaign, a deposit in the amount of \$180.00 will be made in your organization's bank account by the end of June.

This represents the one-time additional amount of grant dollars Thrivent Financial is providing to your organization through the campaign. We are excited to share this good news with you and hope this grant helps further your important work!

(Thanks to the nine individuals who qualified and designated Robeson Lutheran for this grant!)



#### RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES:

##### **HELP YOUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY:**

Please bring in your used **ink cartridges** (any kind) and we will recycle them at Staples earning \$2 each for the church.

**Cell phones, eyeglasses, good used clothing** also continue to be collected for local ministries.

**Paper Recycling Bins** are located at the rear of

Hoeffler Hall to accept your **newspaper, magazines, office paper, “junk” mail**, etc. Please no phone books, “trash” or cardboard. And please no plastic; take your paper out of the plastic bags before you throw it in the bin. Thanks for your help!

##### **REDNER’S TAPES FUNDRAISER:**

We continue to collect Redner’s receipts as an ongoing fundraiser and we are waiting for our next check. Thank you Marion Kachel for coordinating this effort and handling all the paperwork. Marion would like to thank everyone who participates and remind you to always use your gas card when making a purchase at Redners. **Receipts without the gas card number printed on them are invalid and will not be accepted by the store.** Please continue to save your Redner’s receipts and bring them to the church at your convenience. Boxes are located in the narthex and foyer. Again we remind you to make sure you use your Redner’s gas card when you make your purchase and then bring in your receipt—it’s that easy! And you’ll be helping your church.

(If you shop at Redners but don’t have a gas card, just ask for one. It’s free!)

Seniors and shut-ins: just send your receipts with any member of the visitation team or mail to the church office. Thank you!!!

##### **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

**BREAKFASTS:** Geigertown Fire Company—First Sunday; Brecknock Fire Company—Second Sunday; St. Benedict R.C.Church—Third Sunday; Joanna Furnace—Third Saturday, 7-11 a.m.; Union Lodge in Birdsboro Third Sunday, 7:30–11.

more or less as an expectation. Giving some money at church was just something that you were supposed to do.

This “careless (or perhaps thoughtless) giving” behavior would continue with me through college and would not begin to shift until in Seminary as I began to study the concepts of Biblical stewardship and became more interested in issues of social justice, poverty, and the proper use of wealth.

The changes came slowly, but by the time I began my internship in Rhode Island I was zealously keeping track of my own personal budget, and seeking to be more thoughtful about why and how I gave to the church.

By the time I started my first call, I was looking to find ways to be supportive of the larger mission of the church and started giving directly to the Synod (Upper Susquehanna at the time) and ELCA (Lutheran World Relief, Disaster Relief, and other ministries).

Today, together with my wife Sonja, we continue to do our regular giving through Synodical and ELCA ministries, and naturally we also give to our own congregations to support various local ministries as well.

In the end, it has been quite a journey to get to this point of personal stewardship, and I often feel that I still have much more to learn and more room to grow. Even so, I continue to thank God daily for so many blessings, and I look to continue joyfully returning a portion of those blessings so that others too may thrive in this life through the various ministries of the church.

Having said all this, I would love to hear YOUR personal stewardship story, and better yet I would love it if YOU might write a brief article or be willing to share what stewardship means to you as a brief temple talk to the congregation.

(continued page 6)

In order to get you started, here are some questions you might find helpful in putting together a stewardship article:

What does the word stewardship mean to you?

Why is being a good steward important to you?

Why should good stewardship be important to others?

What blessings have you received that inspire your stewardship?

How has being a good steward been a blessing to you?

Please prayerfully consider sharing your own story of stewardship, because you never know who you might inspire.

Until next time!

Your brother in Christ,  
PASTOR MICHAEL



**VOLUNTEER BRUNCH:**  
Everyone is invited to stay after the service on August 24 for a volunteer brunch in honor of all our volunteers. Without you our church would not be able to survive. We look forward to this day to say "thank you" and celebrate YOU! If you are interested in serving on the fellowship committee and helping with the brunch, please call the church office.

APPRECIATION  
*Brunch*

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Income for May:	\$14,480.18
Other Income:	\$ 1,185.14 (in/out)
Transfer from Gifts & Bequests	\$10,000.00
Checks issued for May:	\$26,502.66
Checking balance brought forth:	\$ 837.34
Checking balance as of 5/31/14	\$ 98.70
Unpaid Bills: *Synod Benevolence	\$ 500.00
*World Hunger	\$ 472.02
*to be paid on June 2	

In/Out accounts: \$ 952.02

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Martin, Treasurer

## SPECIAL FUNDS REPORT:

TOTAL ASSETS: 4/30/14	\$ 28,109.90
Special funds received in May:	108.00
BALANCES:	
Checking Account balance 5/31/14	\$ 22,479.71
National Penn Money Market Fund	\$ 5,736.19
TOTAL ASSETS: 5/31/14	\$ 28,215.90

-Kay Good, Treas. Spec. Funds

The Joyful Noise offering of \$ 168.49 received in May was designated for our quilters for their LWR ministry.



The **Berks County Area Agency on Aging** will no longer have a staff member at Robeson Lutheran Church. You are encouraged to call their office at 610-478-6500 and a staff member will be able to explain available services, answer questions and provide information on programs and community resources for you, family members or anyone you know who is 60 years of age and older. A lot of work can be handled through them over the phone so please don't hesitate to give them a call.

MINISTRIES AVAILABLE TO OUR SENIORS, SHUT-INS, SICK, ETC.:

**CD Ministry**—CD's of the weekly services are being mailed out to all those senior, sick or and shut-in members who cannot attend church services.

**Large Print Devotionals**—these are the same as our small, daily devotionals but have larger print for those needing it.

**Prayer Shawls**—These are available for sick, hospitalized, shut-in or senior members who would like one. They are very comforting to those who have received them. Recipients do not need to be a member of Robeson so please take them for others who would like them.

**Robeson Hammers**—Helping members in need with minor repairs at home, mainly small projects that would make their homes more safe or comfortable.

**Home Visits**—Our visitation team is visiting a number of our seniors and would be more than happy to visit others if invited. If you would appreciate a visit please call the church office. If you have a need or request for any of the above ministries, please call the church office and we will be happy to help you.



**TUESDAY MOVIE  
DISCUSSIONS  
MONTH OF JULY**

Many times during the month of July the days are hot and humid and many people are not in the mood to do too much strenuous work. So in order for you to have something productive, entertaining and stimulating to do in a cool environment the Christian Ed. committee would like to have a movie followed by discussion on Tuesday mornings during the month of July. The first week would be July 1 at 10:00. Light snacks and drinks will be provided.

The age group for this project would be 14 year olds through senior citizens. The movies will be a one session event, unless a topic would necessitate a second week. The list of movies that are currently under consideration are:

- “Remember the Titans” - deals with how hostility can be overcome
- “Veil of Tears” - tells the plight of women in India, simply because they are women
- “Misa’s Fugue” - true story of a Czech boy during the time of Nazi oppression
- “Blue Like Jazz” – movie set at Reed College in Oregon, shows how young people are confronted with situations when going away to college
- “We Shall Not Be Moved” – untold chapter in the struggle for American civit rights
- “The Bucket List” - two roommates come up with a list of things to do before kicking the bucket
- “Bonhoeffer- Agent of Grace” – story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the last few years of his life in Nazi Germany

Most of these movies are one and a half hours long. That should allow for viewing and discussion. This list will be in the weekly bulletin, please choose those that interest you and put it in Sue Creed’s mailbox.

## More Ramblings from the Council President

By Chris Gerace

Throughout our journeys in life, we sometimes learn from the most unlikely sources. For example, take the 1986 film, "Highlander." Today the film has one of those cult followings, but appeals more to fans of the fantasy film genre. The plot involved a group of "immortals" – master swordsmen who fought to survive throughout centuries of history to modern times. The film featured elaborate historical settings. Also, the subject of sword-making was discussed. One metallurgist mentioned the practice of "folding metal" as part of sword making. An unlikely source, indeed; the film sparked my curiosity so I briefly researched sword making.

To describe the process of folding metal in layman's terms, the sword maker will heat the metal until almost molten, and then hammer it until it becomes thin enough to fold. After being folded, the metal is then cooled. When this process is repeated hundreds of times, the impurities in the metal are removed, the different types of metal elements become evenly distributed and the sword becomes strengthened until it is almost indestructible. Since I am a fan of the film and I had researched this bit of trivia, I have retained the concept of folding metal. But I actually wanted to write about Holy Communion.

I have said it enough to my children over the years, that (to me) one of the most sacred parts of the church service is Communion. I taught them early on to pay attention to the rite of the bread and wine being transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. I told them that each time, a miracle was happening before their very eyes. Then we would go up and humbly receive this most holy gift from God. To me, it's almost overwhelming. (continued on page 9)

## Men's Group



The men of Robeson Lutheran Church continue to meet for breakfast and fellowship on the second Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m. here in our own Hoeffler Hall. This is a great opportunity to get to know your brothers in Christ and learn more about your faith through brief bible study and mutual conversation. Come and see how the men of Robeson live out their discipleship. The next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for **July 12th and August 9th** in Hoeffler Hall.

## Robeson Robins Senior Group

The Robins are off in July but will resume their meetings with Everybody's Birthday Picnic on August 19. Entertainment will be provided by Louise Wilson. For more information contact Billie Bannon at 610-401-8496.



## YOUR HELP IS NEEDED:

As the weather warms, we might be tempted to prop doors open when we are in the church. Please be reminded to keep all fire doors closed when not in use, or before you or your meeting group leave the church. If you are in the church for any event, please take note. If you see a door propped open, please close it. Spread the word (and nothing else!). And please, make sure the outside doors are locked after your meeting/activity. Thank you.

- Church Council and the Property Committee



20 THIS AND THAT AT ROBESON LUTHERAN:  
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! We have posted volunteer sheets on the white board in the new foyer. If you are willing to help during any of the services please sign up on this board. There are lists for acolytes, lectors, ushers, greeters, sound technicians, nursery attendants, worship assistants, and communion servers. We appreciate and need our volunteers!

ALTAR GUILD: Altar care volunteers are still needed for 2014 and 2015. If you are willing to serve on altar care for a month with at least one other volunteer please call Marion Kachel (610-856-1683) or the church office.

REMINDERS:

Committee reports are due in the church office on the first Thursday of the month for the council meeting which will be held on the 2nd Thursday.

All Property concerns and requests should be brought to the attention of Dale Creed or the church office. Please do not take concerns directly to the Property Committee. Thanks for your help with this.

PARISH DIGEST DEADLINE: Articles for the next newsletter are due in the office by August 18 for the September Digest.

ALTAR FLOWERS and BULLETIN SPONSOR openings this year so if you are interested please call the church office. Reminder: Altar flowers cost is \$33 and bulletins are \$25.

IMPORTANT:

- Any group or individual sponsoring special projects, collections, etc. please contact Bill Haney (Social Ministry) for coordination purposes and especially Debbie at the church office for advertising these events and projects.
- Any committee or group that has events etc. to advertise in the area papers should please copy to Linell at [lmrm52@aol.com](mailto:lmrm52@aol.com).

I had heard that in the early days of the church in America, Communion was not a frequent event at church services. Before the Industrial Revolution, it took much longer for people to travel, and many only made it to church once per month. Communion was on the schedule less frequently so that it could be served when those travelers could get to church and then more parishioners would be able to receive the gift. But times have long since changed.

Today, some churches elect to serve Communion every week, some serve only during high holy days or once per month and some churches (like ours) fall somewhere in between those two examples. But one thing is clear to me; the frequency of Communion could never diminish the sacredness of this most divine gift from our Lord, hence the term "Sacrament."

Every time I receive Communion, (naturally) I feel unworthy, but I will not turn away this gift to renew my personal covenant with God. To me, every time I receive Communion, it's like folding metal for the sword. Communion strengthens me in my faith, it puts me on a more even keel in dealing with the physical world, and hopefully, it helps to drive out the impurities of sin in my life. And like the sword, the more my "mettle" is folded, the stronger I become in my faith. That is why Communion is so important to me.

Adding to my conviction, only last week a fellow churchgoer who shall remain nameless (but it was Rex Miller) said to me, "I can understand Communion by Intinction for certain times when we have a large attendance, but don't ever take away the traditional Communion. I need to have that moment when I get down on my knees before the altar, before God, and thank Him for all He has given me and for taking away my sins." I was glad to hear someone else's thoughts regarding Holy Communion. So impressed was I with Rex's testimony of faith, that I will be nominating him in December for 2015 Church Council. (continued on page 10)

10 Sorry for the rambling, but I did want to share my analogy and thoughts. I would be eager to hear your thoughts on Communion some time. I would say, as Christians, we should never pass up the chance to take Communion. No matter how unworthy we might feel sometimes, this is a powerful gift to aid us in our walk with Christ.

Keep folding *your* “mettle.” Strengthen your Faith often. God bless!

### July and August Youth Activities

July:

Reading Fightin Phils Game: 7/10 7:05 PM

(Free Tickets courtesy of Joan Florence and RE/MAX of Reading. For more info or to get tickets for the family, contact Mark Lauer)

Penguin Plastering Party: 7/13

WBMD Summer Camp at Allegheny Lutheran Church: 7/14 – 7/18 Mark will be helping with this camp and would love to have our youth join him for a week of fun activities. Cost is \$30 per child.

August:

Senior Youth VBS Service Week: 8/4 – 8/8

Activities Camp: 8/4 – 8/8—This camp will be held in the afternoon following VBS (12:30-2:00 p.m.) for all children K-6th grade. Please bring a lunch and a drink. Activities will vary but all are guaranteed to be lots of fun! Please use the enclosed registration form.

Summer Lock-In: 8/15

### **RALLY DAY** SEPTEMBER 14 - 9:00a.m.

Our Rally Day program for this year will be a “foretaste of things to come”. In an effort to make our Sunday School lessons easier for the children to connect to the worship for the day, we are changing our curriculum to a new venture titled “**WHIRL**”. Each week’s lesson will be based on the lessons that will be read in worship for that day, commonly known as the lectionary series.

The focus text for September 14 is Matthew 18:21- 35; “the unforgiving servant”, and so our Rally Day program will have children and their parents experience a morning of what the WHIRL material model will be each week. The structure will be similar to Vacation Bible School, where kids experience a large group game, followed by individual classes meeting for a lesson and following that will be a craft or other hands on experience and finally there will be a musical/prayer dismissal featuring the Twin Valley Middle School Fiddlers. The time for each segment will be approximately 15 minutes.

Rally Day for jr./sr. high (includes confirmed and unconfirmed youth) will be a morning to meet and greet returning and new students. Pastor Michael, Mark Lauer and Tyler Werner will return to lead this group in their preparation for a life in the Christian “mode” with confirmation materials included in the curriculum.

The adult Bible Study group will begin with Linell McCormick this day. This will be a foretaste of what is to come in “The Acts of The Apostle’s: Post-Resurrection”. This group is always open to new students, who enjoy delving into the details of what is and is not said in the Bible (a.k.a. - interpretation). It is hoped that a second group for adults can be formed through the completion of a “survey monkey” which will be put together by the Christian Ed. committee and sent out for completion and return. More information will follow on this idea in the weekly bulletins.

Fundraisers:

**BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS:**

October 21, 2014

The Outreach Committee is selling 25% off coupons for \$5. All \$5 goes to the ministries of our church. Plan now to shop at Boscovs on this date! You could save lots of money and help our church at the same time. See any Outreach Committee member or the church office staff to purchase a coupon up to 10/21.

**REDNERS TAPES update**

Thanks to all of you who bring your Redner tapes to the church. So far this year we have made \$364.35 so please continue the good work. We still receive many, about \$1200 worth of receipts, that cannot be used because the Redner's gas card was not used at check-out. If you don't have one, go to the courtesy desk and they will give you one. They are free and it is that easy.

It may not look like a lot of money, but every bit helps. So please keep up the good work. For the sick and shut-ins, give them to the visitation team or Pastor Michael when they visit.

**YOUTH SANDWICH SALE:**

The youth will again be selling hoagies (Italian, ham, roast beef, and turkey) for \$5 each. They can be ordered by calling the church office or filling out an order form at the church. They will be available for pick up on July 27 following the 9:00 service. As always, the youth appreciate your support which will enable them to participate in the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering.



**Wednesday Church Night Planning**

The planning for another year of Wednesday Church Night programs has begun. A small group met on June 22 and the following ideas were discussed: Teen Challenge Choir will be here October 1 since this was canceled last year due to snow. Other ideas that are in the works are Wendy and Don Yost doing a presentation on the American Revolution. The group is also checking how to get the wife of the shooter, Charles Roberts, at Nickle Mines as a speaker. She has written a book and also presents a voice of hope to church and other groups following this tragedy in her life. Other possibilities are an Advent workshop for December's event. Also, the youth presenting a program on "Compassion Child", since they have been involved in sponsoring a child. The movie "Heaven Is For Real" is also being considered for an evening, that would appeal to children, youth and adults.

If you have any comments on these ideas please forward the input to Sue Creed at [screed@dejazzd.ocm](mailto:screed@dejazzd.ocm) or talk to Cookie Onushko, Karen Kercher or Carol Gerace.

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ACTIVITIES CAMP  
August 4-8, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend:  
Mon \_\_\_\_\_ Tues \_\_\_\_\_ Wed \_\_\_\_\_ Thur \_\_\_\_\_ Fri \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or health concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

*(please return this slip to the church office. Thank you)*



## Weird Animals VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUGUST 4 – 8, 2014

At Weird Animals VBS, kids discover that Jesus' love is one-of-a-kind. Weird Animals is a habitat filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch and even taste. The children will hear a Bible story each day in the Bible Adventures center. Other centers through which kids will move include recreation, Bible story, Kidvid cinema, crafts and snack.

Our Bible School needs many helpers to make this successful. There is a need for people who can serve as group leaders, craft helpers, preschool helpers, snack assistants and floating helpers (your job is different from day to day). To volunteer please contact Sue Creed (610-856-7242) or [screed@dejazzd.com](mailto:screed@dejazzd.com) and indicate where you'd like to help.

Again this year the preschool group 3 year olds through pre-Kindergarten will be kept in their own area of the building. It has be found that the children are much more comfortable if they have familiar surroundings each day and do not have to move too far from "base". Their day is structured similar to the older kids with centers, but they only rotate within a three room area in the upstairs education wing of our building.

The dates are **August 4 -8 and the time is 9:00a.m. – Noon.** All children need to be registered so that we have contact information and emergency information for each child. Please fill out a registration form by the middle of July if possible. Two forms are in this Digest, additional forms can be obtained from the church office or call Sue Creed and some will be sent to you.

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER. SEE YOU AUGUST 4.  
Sue Creed

Robeson Preschool



Robeson Lutheran Preschool

has a few openings in all classes for the 2014-2015 school year:

Toddler, 3's, 4's, & Pre-K (4-day & 5-day).

Please call the preschool office for a registration form or more information ( 610-856-

7613), or email [Preschool610@dejazzd.com](mailto:Preschool610@dejazzd.com)

Please check out our website at

[www.robesonlutheranpreschool.org](http://www.robesonlutheranpreschool.org)

## CONGRATULATIONS to our Graduates!

We are aware of the following youth who have recently graduated from area high schools. We congratulate them and wish them well in their future endeavors!

Governor Mifflin:  
Craig Schlouch

Twin Valley:  
Keith Gehman  
Anastasia Konopka  
Denver Newbaker  
James Valihura



Community Home Schoolers:  
Lana Gerace

Please contact the church office if we have missed anyone. We would also like to hear about future plans and have your future address.

College or higher school of learning graduates? Please contact us.

## “WHEN GOD LEFT THE BUILDING”

A group of eight people from Robeson Lutheran went to see the documentary “When God Left The Building” at the Google Works on June 14. All who attended felt this was a very worthwhile experience and it is hoped that the “message” can be used to further the work of the church at Robeson.

What was the message? The idea was expressed that God is not confined to a building and also that just having a building does not insure the work of the Lord is being done. A church from the Reading area was highlighted. A young policeman from the church thought it might be a good idea to meet people on “their turf” and so he started a group meeting at the Canal Street Pub. The focus of the evening is a speaker followed by discussion.

Perhaps we can get the documentary here at Robeson or it may be shown at another local church and we could get a second group to attend. Watch the Sunday bulletins for further announcements.

## **Family Night at the Reading Fightin Phils!**

July 10, 7:05 p.m.—Mark Lauer and the senior youth are organizing a night out at the Reading Fightin Phils and would like to invite everyone to join them. It’s always a night of fun at the stadium and the tickets are free thanks to Joan Florence and RE/MAX of Reading! For more information or to get your tickets, contact Mark Lauer. This event is for all ages!



## MUSIC NOTES:



Coming up in July there will be a hymn sing on Sunday, July 20. If you haven’t submitted your favorite hymns, please list 5 or 6 of them on the form in the Sunday bulletin or on a piece of paper and put it in the basket outside the office door or in Louise’s mailbox. There will also be another hymn sing on August 10. We will try to use most of the favorites, if not on those Sundays, we will try our best to sing them on one of the remaining Sundays this summer.

Also this summer, we are having special music while the choir is off, using the talents of our congregation. If there is anyone who might like to give of their talent, please let me know—610-273-3911 or let Debbie know in the office. If you need help choosing music, I would be happy to help you choose something.

Sometime in August there will be a choir “kick-off” picnic, date to be announced. This will be our first gathering to organize again and to welcome new members. If you like to sing and would like to join our choir, please feel welcome to come to this picnic and get to know the members. Please consider joining and using your talent to “the glory of God”.

Thanks to everyone who has welcomed me back. I appreciate it so much and am so happy to be here.

Sing from your heart,

Louise Wilson, Minister of Music

14 We will be having a ‘HYMN SING’ during worship on Sunday, July 20th. Please pick out 4 or 5 of your favorite hymns and write down the names and hymn numbers below and place it in the offering plate or Louise Wilson’s mail slot outside the church office. Please choose hymns from either the red ELW or blue Voices hymnal.

**Hymn Sing  
July 20th**

**My favorite hymns are:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
From # \_\_\_\_\_ Red ELW # \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Voices Hymnal

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
From # \_\_\_\_\_ Red ELW # \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Voices Hymnal

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
From # \_\_\_\_\_ Red ELW # \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Voices Hymnal

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
From # \_\_\_\_\_ Red ELW # \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Voices Hymnal

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
From # \_\_\_\_\_ Red ELW # \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Voices Hymnal

Name: (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

LEAVING A LEGACY THAT GOES BEYOND DEATH

When we recall the names of the faithful who have died, our minds are often filled with precious memories. In our thoughts we are reminded that we are their legacy, that is to say, much of what we have – in both material and non-material things – has been handed down to us from them. But what will we hand down to those who follow? How will we be remembered by those who come after us? Will we leave more than an empty spot in a pew?

As you plan for the distribution of your assets at your death, please consider a charitable bequest to Robeson Lutheran Church. This is one way your faith can be transferred to the next generation. This, and other types of planned gifts, can undergird our congregation’s ministry in perpetuity, providing resources that will allow future generations of Christians to worship, serve others, and continue the vital ministries of this church.

If you have questions about planned giving, you can talk to your personal financial advisor or speak to our congregational Thrivent representative John Lauer at his Morgantown office (610)-286-5986.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: Our thanks to those members/friends of the congregation who have designated Robeson Lutheran Church as the charity of choice for their Thrivent Choice Dollars. If you have received a letter from Thrivent indicating that you are eligible for this plan, please consider our congregation as you help direct Thrivent Financial’s charitable funds. Contributions from the Thrivent Choice dollars for the month of April in the amount of \$146 were from:

- |                |               |           |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| Marie Brooks   | Betty Zellner |           |
| Evelyn Hoffert | Marion Kachel | Anonymous |

THANK YOU!!!