

**BETHEL EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**ZION EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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| <b><u>The Pastor's Desk:</u></b> |                 |
| Volume 23                        |                 |
| Issue XI                         | September, 2023 |

Dear Beloved in Christ:

My childhood autumns in Wisconsin hold precious memories—the raking of leaves, unpacking warmer clothing, hot cocoa, harvest moons, fires in the hearth, a well-stocked pantry, and best of all—FOOTBALL! loved playing it and coaching it. There is another autumn, the autumn of life, which is a strange mixture of nostalgia, blessings, and potential. It yields the harvest of seeds we have sown throughout life and braces us for colder days to come. When life's autumn arrives, we look back and better understand the way God led us; but we still have work to do—the best and fullest. It is a good transition time. "Autumn" only occurs once in the Bible. In (Jude 1:12), false teachers are compared to "autumn trees without fruit," implying that autumn should be a fruitful season, the most abundant of the year. How can we take advantage of the "autumn of life"?

**THE UNCHANGING NATURE OF GOD**

The seasons come and go, so focus on the God who remains unchanged and unchanging. "LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God" (Psalm 90:1-2). There's a lot of unwelcome change in our world today. Moral and societal changes bother us most when we turn on our television or glance at the magazines. We are painfully aware our children are growing up in a world far different from the one we knew as children. And personal changes—children leaving home, the passing of dear friends, and the slow, steady decline in our vitality and health. Sometimes we feel outdated at work. But amid all the changes, one thing, one person, never changes—our eternal God. Remember this verse from "Abide with Me"? Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away; Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.--Henry F. Lyte

J. I. Packer points out that God does not change. His life is always the same. His character is always dependable. His truth, ways, and purposes do not change. His Son does not change. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). His children will enjoy His fellowship a million years from now. The world may fade, the stars may fall, the seasons may change, and winter may come. But the God who has been our help in ages past is our hope for years to come. In Him we have permanence, stability, joy unshakable, and life unending. Let us therefore embrace this new fall season, with penitent eyes constantly focused on our never changing God. For we know that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Let us have this fall be the catalyst that propagates a massive harvest of Godly wisdom that will endure and bless us all forever.

God's Blessings Always,

Rev. Donn Woolweber



## 6TH ANNUAL HISTORY EVENT "Artists of Lawrenceville"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church

237 37th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Phone: 412-621-2720

*Free to the public*



Artists of Lawrenceville will be featured.....

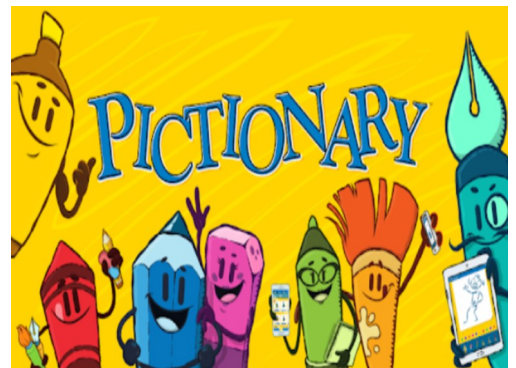
- ✦ Melanie Groves, Pitt lecturer in museum studies will discuss the works of Romae Bearden, African American painter
- ✦ Ron Donoughe, a professional artist will talk about sculpture Henry Bursztynowicz
- ✦ Gary Grimes, local historian will introduce the two leading painters of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Olive Turney and Clarence Johns.

## SEWING GROUP

In the month of the Sewing Group will meet on SATUDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 at 1:00 p.m. Time is different due to the United Prayer at 10:00 a.m. We will continue to make quilts for the homeless but we were designated to make walker bags for LWML In-Gathering at the 2024 Convention in Pittsburgh. In October we will plan to meet on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 at 9:00 p.m. (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

## NIGHT OF PLAYING GAMES

The members of Bethel/Zion chapter of L.W.M.L. will host a monthly game night at Bethel on the third Friday of each month. Please bring a snack to share and BYOB. You can bring your favorite game to play and just show up anytime after 6:30 p.m. and join in on any game that's being played by the people attending. It's a great night of fellowship and fun....bring your family and friends too!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

BETHEL

16—Tim Hornish

ZION

3—Cheri Sieg  
10—Janet Kelly  
12—Hanna Sante  
13—Ava Kelly  
14—Sandy Molnar  
— George Wilhelm  
22—Felicity Agostino  
22—Sandy Owens  
29—Terry Miller



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES**

ZION

12—Lauren and Michael Dull  
18—Fred and Marilyn Johnston



**STAFF — CONTACT PEOPLE at BETHEL and ZION**

**BETHEL**

Minister.....Rev. Donn E. Woolweber  
Organist.....David Forsyth  
Greg Wehner  
Isaac Swanson  
Office Secretary.....Donna Heintz  
Financial Secretary.....Paul Hoffman  
Recording Secretary.....Fred Heintz  
Treasurer.....Dorothy Carlisle  
Altar Guild.....Charlotte Hornish  
Sewing Group .....Donna Heintz  
Front sign manager.....Gary Swanson  
Children’s sermons.....Gary Swanson  
Audio /Visual Tech.....Al Todd III  
Handbell Choir Director...Rev. Woolweber  
Java Jam Director.....Rev. Woolweber  
Environmental Conservation Steward....  
.....Eddie Stabile

**ZION**

Minister.....Rev. Donn E. Woolweber  
Organist.....Ruth Molkenthin Miller  
Director of Music..Ruth Molkenthin Miller  
President.....Terry Miller  
Vice President.....Karin Legato  
Secretary.....Shirley Freyer  
Financial Secretary.....Ruth Miller  
Treasurer.....Sandy Owens  
Head Elder.....Rich Owens  
Stewardship Chair.....Pam Rosko  
Evangelism Chair.....Debbie Woolweber



## OKTOBERFEST EVENTS



**SATURDAY—  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023  
4:00—7:00 p.m.**



**Bethel Lutheran Church  
301 Scott Avenue, Glenshaw**



## PASTOR'S SURGERY

Pastor Woolweber will be having hip surgery on Monday, September 11. If pastoral care is needed please contact the office secretary at 412-486-5777 or 724-996-1207 or his cell phone 747-232-4911. We will be having a guest minister for Sunday's worship services on September 17 and the service on September 24 will be held by parishioners. Please keep our Shepherd in your prayers throughout this medical issue.



## LET US PRAY

The neighboring community churches will join together in prayer on SATURDAY, SEPTMEBER 9 at 10:00 a.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church to pray for the victims, their friends and families of the recent house explosion in Plum Township. There is power in prayer....be part of that power...join us in prayer.