



Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish
Peace Lutheran & Nelsonville Ev. Lutheran



"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It always bears fruit."
Jeremiah 17:7-8

We are two congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America serving the Villages of Amherst, Amherst Junction and Nelsonville, the Townships of Amherst, Lanark, New Hope and beyond.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

November Bible Study & Fellowship Opportunities

- ◆ **Nelsonville LWR Quilters, Tuesday Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 9:00am**, the dining room.
- ◆ **Do Group Quilting, Wednesday Nov 2, 9, 16, 23 12:30pm & Nov 30, 9:30am at Peace.**
- ◆ **Nelsonville Evening Bible Study, Tuesday Nov 1, 7:00pm at Nola Knight's**
- ◆ **Joint Council meeting, Tuesday Nov 8 at 6:30pm at Peace**
- ◆ **Committee meetings, Tuesday Nov 8 at 8:00pm (or as scheduled) at Peace**
- ◆ **Mary Circle will meet on Thursday, Nov 10, 12:30pm at Peace.**
- ◆ **Nelsonville Social Sunday is Nov 13**, hostesses are Ramona Romundson and Kim Becken
- ◆ **Scripture Sisters Bible Study, Monday, Nov 21, 6:30 pm at Peace.**
- ◆ **Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision meets on Monday, Nov 14 & 28, 6:30pm at Peace**
- ◆ **Mid-week worship services, Wednesday, Nov 2, 9, 16, 30, 6:30pm at Peace**
- ◆ **Thanksgiving Day worship service, Thursday, Nov 24, 9:00am at Nelsonville**

E-mail address: trchurch@gmail.com

Office Phone: **715-824-5615**

Website: www.trchurch.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 2:00pm

Pastor Gretchen Anderson & Pastor Dwight Anderson

Home Phone: 715-824-2710

Young Blessings Preschool Director: Barb Ramlow

Parish Family Ministry Coordinator: Leah Maves

Organist: Ruth Gordon

Custodians: Chuck & Gretchen Diver (AM),
Linda Packer (NV)

Treasurers: Barb Ramlow (AM), Judy Konkol (NV)

Parish Office Manager, Dale Schneider

— **NEWSLETTER** —

November 2011

A huge thank you to all the chili makers, bakers, kitchen help, waitresses, Pat, Judy, Ann, and all the volunteers who helped clean up, and everyone who made the wonderful baskets, and contributed in any way. You made October 2nd a huge success.
God's Blessings, Ramona

Women from Nelsonville church contribute to
Social Sunday
Sunday, Nov 13 at Nelsonville,
before and after worship service
Hostesses are:
Ramona Romundson and Kim Becken

Join us in this opportunity for fellowship and refreshments within our congregation.

Nelsonville Lutheran World Relief QUILTING
Tuesdays, 9:00am in the dining room. ALL ARE WELCOME & NEEDED. Come join us if you can cut with a scissor, tie a knot or poke a pin in fabric. We "train" on the job- sewers or not. Come when it fits or come weekly. We are not professional quilters- we make a quality product for world relief efforts, but have great fun in the process. Questions: Elaine Anderson 715-824-2509 or Pat Onan 715-824-2527.

Operation Christmas Child

The Sixth Grade Youth Group is participating in Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child is an organization that sends gift-filled shoe boxes to children all over the world, who have never received a gift and don't know about Jesus. The Sixth Graders challenge you to fill a shoebox for kids in need. Here's what you do:

1. Pick up a shoebox from the display.
2. Follow the directions in the pamphlet.
3. Fill with gifts.
4. Return to church with the \$7 donation by November 13, 2011

Friends of the Festival of Trees, celebrating 15 years of making Christmas dreams come true! All proceeds from the Festival benefit Aspirus Comfort Care and Hospice Services. Visit us online at www.wausaufestivaloftrees.org or call 715.847.2470 for a complete listing of general admission times and for more information about our special events.

ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Help your family in need throughout the world! The members of God's family live in North America, Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East and South America...

God has made us brothers and sisters to people all over the world.

New Member meetings 2011:
November 3, 6:00pm, with dinner, at Nelsonville please contact the parish office at least one week prior to the date you plan to attend.

Pre-Baptism Meetings:

Saturday, December 3, 2011, 1-3pm at Peace. Parents interested in having their child baptized should plan on attending. Attendance is required for parents and sponsors prior to baptism. To register, please contact the parish office one week prior to the date you plan to attend.

The 41st annual **COMMUNITY ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 7pm at Peace Lutheran Church, 293 S. Main Street, Amherst United Methodist, St. Paul's Lutheran, St. James, St. Olaf's and the

Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish are involved.

A worship service will be followed by fellowship and refreshments.

The offering will be non-perishable items for the Tomorrow River Area Community Kitchen, or a check may be made out directly to T.R.A.C.K. (Items in need are applesauce, Peanut butter and spaghetti sauce).

"Thank You", to those of you that contributed cookies to the Empty Bowls fund raiser, a community project to raise money for local hunger prevention efforts.

First Communion Classes 2012

Students in 5th grade and above, who are not communing, are invited to attend First Communion Classes. Participating students and an adult sponsor are required to attend three First communion classes; one of the Session 1 classes, one of the Session 2 classes, and one of the Session 3 classes. There are two classes available for each session:

Session 1 dates: Wednesday, January 18, 3:30-5:30pm or Saturday January 21, 9:00-11:00am

Session 2 dates: Wednesday, January 25, 3:30-5:30pm or Saturday January 28, 9:00-11:00am

Session 3 dates: Wednesday, February 1, 3:30-5:30pm or Saturday February 4, 9:00-11:00am

First communion will take place on Sunday, February 5. Please contact the parish office by January 9, 2012 to register your child/children for the sessions they will be attending.

Thank you for praying for:

Earl Nettekoven, Gerald Barden, Barb Pearson, Beverly Diver-Leo, Harvey Olson, Kendra Miller, Kim Becken, Karen Kress, Jill Dombrowski, Bob Pacocha, Niki & Grant Weir, Phil Gormley, Lois Shanklin, Our companion congregation, Mara Stange, Joe Diver, Holly Hobson, Diane Hartleb, Nathan, John Caves, 61 year old man, Judy Kenowski & family, Hazel Hansen, Bob Olsen, Ron Carlson, Scott James, Don Shatters, Wanita, Harold Cousineau, Johnson family, Scott, A woman, Peg Penney, Bill Parker, Flora Schacht, Pastor Mark Moldenhauer, Chris Leidski, Ethan Kumm, Tom Thielke, Nancy Plamann, Jackie Frola, Angie Morgan, Rev. John Poffinbarger, Virgie, Father Dan Farley, Karen & Gary Schindler, Earl & Lucy Frederickson, Jim, Jim Garavet, Marcia Hurst, Carrie Walter & Hope Mills, Russ Hoefft, Three Sisters, John Hulstraud, Lori, Betty Harris, Carol, Pastor Jeff Giles & family, Mitch, Bill Romundson, Ruby Shanklin, Bob Rausch, Tommy Pritzlaff, Jim Engebretson, Hermsen Family, Noah, Bonnie Shanklin, and those with limited mobility;

for: Armed Service Personnel, those in need of a Stephen Minister, Stephen Ministry care receivers, Stephen Ministers, & Stephen Leaders.

for: Any members, friends or family who have recently been hospitalized, undergone surgery, are recovering from illness, in need of rest, or have recently lost a loved one.

PRAYER LIST UPDATES—*In an effort to keep our prayer list up-to-date, we are asking that persons who are on the prayer list, or those who have added someone to the prayer list, please contact the parish office with an update; let us know how you/the person is doing and if you/they would like to continue to be on the prayer list.*

HOSPITALIZED?

If you are hospitalized, or know of anyone that is, please call the pastors as soon as possible. Upon admission, please ask that your church affiliation be documented.

THOSE ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 24	Nov 27
<u>Peace</u>					
Acolyte	Haley Woyak	Dustin Borgen	Dustin Borgen	—	Noah Cycosz
Greeter	K&D Johnson	S Borgen & S,R Stuebs	Wojtalewicz's	—	S Brochardt
Communion Assist.	S Schmutzler	—	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	—	—
Lector	M. Schmutzler	M. Schmutzler	M. Jones	—	J. Jones
Usher	Schmutzlers	Schmutzlers	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	—	Jan Bormann
<u>Nelsonville</u>					
Acolyte	Kayla Toelle	—	Mindy Wierzba	Mindy Wierzba	—
Greeter	S Danzinger	A&E Peterson	J Wierzba	M&G Huglen	Nola Knight
Communion Assist.	Mark Huglen	—	Paul Onan	G Huglen	—
Lector	Paul Onan	A Peterson	P Shatters	Mark Huglen	Terry Anderson
Usher	Tom & Wendy Kumm				

Happy Birthday to
Senior members of the
Tomorrow River
Lutheran parish:

Anita Peterson 11/10
Donna Trzebiatowski
11/15
Wilma Chapin 11/26

ALTAR GUILD:

(NV) Ann Marie Dombrowski
(AM): Marlene Sannes,
Nicole Chantelois, Diane
Jovanovich, Suzanne Borgen

OFFERING COUNTER

(AM) Kelly Loken, Jennifer
Johnson

From the Desk of Leah Maves...

November News

Sunday School Scoop:

- November 13- ALL students sing at the 9:00am worship service "He Knows My Name"
- November 27- NO Sunday School
- **Mission Project:** Collecting Items for Post Grad Care Packages
 - Food Items: Gum, hard candy, microwave popcorn, cookies, hot chocolate mix, powdered drink mixes, & snack items
 - Clothing items: hats, mittens, & scarves
 - EXTRAS... gift cards for school supplies or toiletry needs

LAST DAY FOR CARE PACKAGE COLLECTIONS: NOVEMBER 20

6th grade Youth Group Challenge: Operation Christmas Child...

Want to give a child their 1st Christmas gift and share the of message of Jesus? The 6th grade youth group is giving you the chance!

1. Pick up a plastic box from the Mission Cart display area
2. Read the pamphlet inside
3. Fill gift box with gifts
4. Return to display area with the \$7 donation by Sunday, November 13.

Here's the challenge: If **30** gift boxes are returned at **Peace** and **15** are returned at **Nelsonville**... the **6th graders** will each fill a gift box and we will have a total of **55 gift boxes!**

55 children across the world will receive their first Christmas gift and hear about JESUS! AWESOME!!!!

Confirmation Christmas Gift Mission Project:

The confirmation class is having a friendly gift giving contest and need your help! We are using the ELCA's Good Gift Catalogue to assist us in this contest. Here's how the contest works: November 20-December 10

1. Each group of students will pick a project from the catalogue...
for example... Baby Chicks... Goats... Seeds... Clean water... Micro-Loan
2. Students will collect money from as many people as possible.
Church members may also place money in containers on the display.
3. On November 30, the students will tally their collections to get a mid-point total. They will add this information to the display and have 10 more days to collect additional donation.
4. On December 14th, the students will tally their final donations and the group that has collected the most MONEY will be declared the **WINNERS!**

PLEASE help these students learn a lesson about giving to others in need!

My prayer is that these children will see that Christmas is about love and giving!

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son..." John 3:16a

7-12 Grade Youth Group- Witness In Action...

November 12- SPAM "Soul Surfer" 6-8pm at Peace

Bring a frozen pizza, donation for the post grad care packages, and a friend!

Parish Family Opportunities...

- ✓ 6th grade Operation Christmas Child - deadline November 13
- ✓ Confirmation Good Gift Contest- starts November 20
- ✓ Social Sunday November 20 @ Peace "Cranberries"
- ✓ Ecumenical Thanksgiving service @ Peace- November 22- 7:00pm
- ✓ Featured Ministry Wall... WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America)

Looking Ahead to a few December Opportunities:

December 7- Family Advent Night (packing care packages for post grads and other activities)

December 10- Live Nativity

December 17- Parish Christmas Program Practice @ Jensen Center, 1-3pm

December 18- Parish Christmas Program @ Jensen Center @6:30pm

TOMORROW RIVER LUTHERAN PARISH LEADERSHIP

Peace Lutheran

President: Ted Melby
Vice President: Tony Betley
Treasurer: Barb Ramlow
Secretary: Sarah Beversdorf

Council Liaison & (Committee Chairperson):

Education: Barb Ramlow – contact: Ila Sanders

Evangelism:

Fellowship: Kelly & Chris Loken

Lay Ministry: Tony & Stefanie Betley

Long Range Planning: Ted Melby

Property: Jon Maves

Stewardship: Todd Wideman

Youth: Todd Peterson

Social Concerns: Sarah Beversdorf

Sunday School: Leah Maves

WELCA President: Delores Solverud

Nelsonville Evangelical Lutheran

President: Mark Huglen
Vice President: Paul Onan
Treasurer: Judy Konkol
Secretary: Gayle Huglen

Council Liason & (Committee Chairperson):

Education: Sarah Danzinger – contact: Ann Cragg

Evangelism: Mark Huglen

Fellowship: Ramona Romundson (Peggy Henke)

Lay Ministry: Ramona Romundson

Long Range Planning: Mark & Gayle Huglen

Property: Duane Wolding

Stewardship: Paul Onan

Youth: Sarah Danzinger & Gayle Huglen

Audit: Duane Wolding

Sunday School: Sarah Danzinger

WELCA President: Anita Peterson

Women's Connection - Our services, room and support will be open to community women during the week on an on-call basis by calling 715-824-5615. The Women's Connection room remains available for the use of women's groups. Contact the church office 715-323-7723(c) to schedule your group. Also, please remember whenever the church is open for a funeral or a wedding, the room is available to women and their families.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH...

T.R.A.C.K. (*Tomorrow River Area Community Kitchen*)

Providing emergency assistance of food for families with

need in the Tomorrow River area. **Mon., 8:00-10:00 am,**

Thurs., 5:00-7:00 pm (*Housed at: Peace Lutheran Church*)

Alcoholic Anonymous (*Closed meeting...limited to persons who have a desire to stop drinking.*) Meeting held weekly at Peace Lutheran in the multipurpose room. (entry at north door by parking lot) **Tuesday mornings, 10:30 am**

Gratitude.

No spiritual gift well used engenders more of itself than the gift of gratitude. When we are practicing the gift of gratitude, blessings seem to pop up wherever the Spirit is residing. Why? To practice gratitude is to anticipate blessings and to walk with awareness.

A little child walking in the field on a fall afternoon begins to tug at his mother's arm. "Mom. Mom. Look at the butterflies!" The mother is distracted ... not by the beauty, but by the many troubles she carries that morning. Losses and lists. "Mom. Mom! Can't you see them?" By the time she is pulled out of her preoccupations, the butterflies are no longer visible. "Oh mom. You missed them! But don't worry. I think they are everywhere." She looks down and sees the bright light of her son's eyes pulling her into the moment HE is living in. The rest of the walk, mom and son, hand in hand, count the butterflies they find ... and all manner of bugs. Her darling son was right. Once they begin to look together they find butterflies and dragonflies and beetles and bees ... everywhere! She begins to feel the warmth of her son's hand and finds gratitude. The sounds of chirps in nearby bushes reminds her to look for now visible nests. Gratitude. Together they find remnants of a bear visit, sparking the imagination and eliciting a joy-filled childhood memory ... more gratitude. (continued)

The circling buzzards of to-dos and disappointments that were in her head disappear, or at least rest in the outfield. In their place many, many points of gratitude flit in and out of her consciousness. Peace. Joy. Love. Gifts from and to a grateful heart.

Jesus has not left us to lurch into depths without some kind of cushion. No hurt or struggle is without a blessing given to assist in bearing that burden. If the journey of pain were a treacherous ride in the car, gratitude could be seen as the air bag ready in wait to prevent the deepest of injuries. Yes. Our spirits can feel crushed. We can feel disheartened, even confused or anxious; but, God has surrounded us with reminders of his presence and provision. We hardly have to look up. When we are in our darkest of hours ... and we cannot find our way to a blessing, we call upon the blessings found in the Body of Christ: others who can journey alongside us, their figurative and even literal hand in ours. We may be in a "fall" season of our life without the accompanying joyful anticipation of the next season, but in a relationship with another the God gift of a friend might be able to point out the visible signs around previously invisible (the little empty "nest in the field") as a reminder that "migrating birds" will return. New life is on its way after a season of rest and reflection.

We are moving into the season where we anticipate the celebration of Thanksgiving ... all its joys and memories. May you find the path of gratitude to be well worn in your life. And if not, may you find someone to walk with you until you can see a blessing overlooked or newly placed.

You are loved beyond measure. Life is good. Blessings abound.

Peace,
Pastor Gretchen