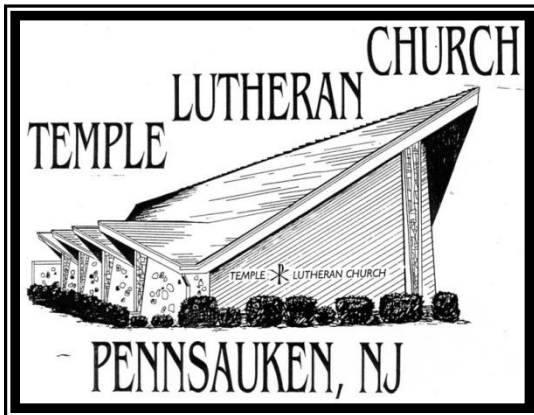


THE TEMPLE TOPICS NOVEMBER, 2011



*Dear Lord, Thank You for this gift of food
You've placed upon our table –
And help us all to do Your work In any way we're able*



GOD'S WORK.

OUR HANDS.

November ponderings from Pastor Marks

Blessings and joy to each of you in this most beautiful season of the year!

We have had a little bit rocky start to our fall this year losing the use of Parish Hall. Please be assured that Matt McDevitt is working tirelessly to work out all of the issues involved with the remediation/repair work involved. Everything always takes longer than we hope!!

But we are a very resilient and thankful congregation!!! Adjustments have been made to the cooking part of SCS for the children as the table in Naus Hall is being used instead—we just can't cook or bake!!! Thank you to all the SCS teachers for being so flexible.

The narthex has now become such an important gathering place as we sip coffee and enjoy some refreshments. Speaking of refreshments—perhaps you would be willing to sign up to provide food for coffee hour on a Sunday soon? Matt Reichert will help with the making of the coffee and it is best to just serve finger foods—no forks or knives!!! Brownies, cookies etc are the easiest thing to serve right now. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside parish hall.

One of our Women's groups is now meeting in the parlor of Naus Hall. The good news is that Naus Hall is being used more now and that is nice. AA, a group for whom meetings are as essential as breathing are now meeting in the Fish Bowl.

Thanksgiving, one of my favorite holidays is just around the corner. We will gather as a family of faith in our Sanctuary to give thanks to God for all of our blessings on Wednesday evening November 23rd at 7:00pm. Invite a friend or neighbor or family member to join you that evening. We are a thankful people!! Our God is good ----all the time---our God is good!

And in the words of St. Paul; "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now>" Phil. 1:3-5

In Christ,
Pastor Margaret M. Marks

Reflections from Marilyn Burgin, Council President

As we enter November, our church attendance and our offerings are dwindling. This is puzzling since we held our own during the summer. It is not a good sign when we just voted to take on the repair of our roof. (Finally!) The decrease in offering cannot be totally due to the missing Sunday during Hurricane Irene since much of the deficit occurred since September 30. I ask that each of us pray for our church and consider our own commitment to keeping our church in existence in the center of Pennsauken. I know it is hard, but we need to think of activities that can draw people to our church. As our congregation ages, we are losing members who have been totally committed to our church, and very few new people are entering our doors. A good way to begin bringing people in is to ask them to our activities or special services. This is really not with a view to asking them to join. It is only to invite them to come and meet us". Many will not stay with us, but some will. No one can get to know us if we do not extend an invitation in the first place. One of the biggest draws in churches is the level of service that is given to the community in the name of Christ. We definitely have that draw which leads me to the "good news" in the next paragraph.

In November, our country sets aside a day to "give thanks" for all of our blessings. Our church has many blessings. I will only list some in the short space I have left. These are really off the top of my head so...**if you would like to add your own blessings to the list, please email me or write them down for me and they will be reported in the next edition of Topics.**

Here are some to start us off (in no particular order):

1. The musicians at our church (instrumental and vocal)
2. The young people taking leadership positions.
3. The Food Pantry.
4. The office staff.
5. Pastor Marks' leadership after our church had a hard time.
6. The commitment of the members of council.
7. The Christian Education staff.
8. Those unknown people who take care of our property.
9. The wisdom of the older folks.
10. WELCA

Here is where you take over!!! Really!!!

Treasurers Report

September 2011

Operating Fund

Balance Sept. 1, 2011	Receipts	Expense	Balance Sept. 30,2011
-\$3923.57	\$12,466.01	\$14,737.94	-\$6195.50

Non-Operating Fund

\$31,831.01	\$ 1,394.00	\$382.50	\$32,842.51
-------------	-------------	----------	-------------

Savings Account

\$59,037.02	\$ 12.88	\$59,049.90
-------------	----------	-------------

Mission Investment Fund

\$5,414.12

Matt McDevitt

Stewardship Notes:

When you recycle you save:

10 cans per week – enough energy for 30 hours of TV watching per week!

4 Sunday papers per month – 4 trees per year

15 plastic bottles per week – enough fiber to make 156 T shirts per year

1 glass bottle – Enough energy to light a 100 watt light bulb for 4 hours

Christian Education - Jan Hanson

The Adult Sunday school class is studying the Apocrypha. These are the books that did not make it into the Bible. Come on out and find out about these stories and their place in our religion.

Next, we will be studying the relationship of the Bible with the philosophy of separation of Church and State. Bear Betz will lead us in a discussion on about what part government should play in our religious beliefs.



Fall Clean-Up

The property committee would like to invite you to help with Temple's Fall Clean-up! Please mark your calendars for Saturday, November 5th , 9 am till noon. Rain or Shine. Both the church building, Naus Hall and surrounding grounds will need some attention. There is something for everyone to do-young and not so young! Hope to see you there.

Oops! A change in Telephone #: - Please change the telephone number in the new directory for Dorothy Simmington . The correct number is 840-4647.

Trivia:

'Stewardesses' is the longest word typed with only the left hand and 'lollipop' is the longest word typed with your right hand. No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple. 'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'. Now you know!

News from our Confirmation Class

The 2011-2012 class consists of 6 wonderful young people:

Allison Fitzgerald

Brian Betz

Allysa Riess

Jacob Manera

Rebecca Martino

Luke Andrzewski

Confirmation class meets every Sunday at 9:45am in the “Yellow Room” in Naus Hall. As you will see from the article from Brian Betz, one of their service projects for this fall is to raise money to buy a Family Farm from Global Barnyard. This is a project from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to help end hunger in our world.

From November 18th-November 20th the class will be attending the New Jersey Synod annual retreat for Junior High Students at Harvey Cedars Bible Camp on Long Beach Island. Jason Martino and Emily Reichert will be the chaperones for the annual “Among the Wolves” retreat. Sleep will not be on their agenda for the weekend but growing in their faith will be!!!

Pastor Marks along with other caring adults in the congregation serve as teachers/leaders for Confirmation.

News from our Confirmation Class (con't)

The Confirmation Class is raising money for families in need all over the world. Our goal is to raise \$715 for a family farm. This farm contains a cow, two goats, ten chicks, two pigs, a duck, farming tool, and training and marketing support. Wit this, the crops will grow stronger, feed the family and give them surplus to sell and will break the cycle of poverty. There will be a coffee hour and bake sale on October 30th and we hope to see you there!



On behalf of the whole class – Brian Betz



Happy Birthday!



November Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2. Alyssa Riess | 20. Eleanor Magee |
| 4. Bob Kerr | 26. Tom Havey |
| Gerald Hague | 27. Mary Banks |
| 11. Janet Morrissey | 29. Luke Andrejewski |
| 16. Marilyn Burgin | Karen Hickey |
| Lauren Riess | 30. Sarah Martino |
| 17. Rebecca Stallard | Helen McKee |

*Happy Birthday, Happy Birthday, we love you!
Happy Birthday, and may all your dreams
come true! When you blow out the candles, one
light stays aglow. It's the love light in your eyes
where'er you go!*

Say a Prayer for our Shut-Ins

Arlene Colander – Lutheran Care
Dorothy Derr – Evergreens
Mildred Hussong - Evergreens
Emma Lang – Cadbury
Ethel Ludwig – at home
Jack Parvin – Cooper River Convalescent Home
Dorothy Simmington –Lutheran Care

A Prayer for our Troops:

*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and
their families for the selfless acts they perform
for us in our time of need. Amen.*

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Pastor Marks

You are invited to come and join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:15am In the Parlor of Naus Hall as we spend time in Bible Study. For the next 3 weeks we will continue to study the Book of Philippians. This is St. Paul's joyful letter to his favorite church!!!

Future studies in November and December include:
“Songs of the Faithful” a look at the Book of Psalms

In Advent we will be engaged in a topic called:
“The Church in Waiting” as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior.

There is always room for one more at the table so come
And join us!!



SAVE THE DATE! Hark the glad sounds of Christmas are beginning to be heard around the halls of Temple!

On **Saturday, December 17th** a most special time is being planned for **everyone** – at 3:00pm the children will present their Christmas pageant directed by Emily Reichert and at 4:00pm our Senior Choir will present: “Tapestry of Light.” This a beautiful Celtic Christmas Celebration with word and song and is directed by Nancy Kahler-Jow.

Refreshments are planned following each presentation – this is a most wonderful opportunity to invite friends to join you in celebrating the birth of our Savior.



WOMEN OF THE ELCA
A Branch of our Ministry Team

*Mission Statement: to mobilize women to act
boldly in their faith in Jesus Christ*

President: Janet Morrissey – 662-1188

Group Meetings

Esther/Lydia Group

Date: Wednesday 11/9

Time: 11:00a

Leader: Evelyn Brandt

Telephone: 665-3049

Anna Group

Date: Monday 11/21 – 7:30p

Hostess: Lida Knaus

Telephone: 663-6862

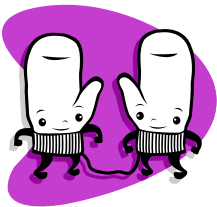
Leader: Janet Morrissey

The “Lutheran Women” magazine is now entitled “Gather”. Please enjoy reading a copy of our magazine available in our library. Learn about our sister Lutherans activities.

The Women of the ELCA give grants to many organizations both within our country and worldwide. All of these grants are helping women with little hope. In 2011, \$72,000 went to 32 projects. Truly we are living our mission statement. Next month we shall collect our Thank offering to show our gratitude for God’s blessings.

On Sunday, November 6 WELCA will be holding a Coffee Hour to help raise money for the Roof Fund.

At a later date we will be holding a coffee hour to raise money for our Heifer Project.



Mitten Tree

The women of the church are planning to have the Mitten Tree in the Fish Bowl by Thanksgiving weekend. Please donate hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens for the tree. They will be given to New Visions.

New and gently used toys are asked for also. Thanks to all!

Changes Coming in January 2012 for the Topics

Fall is the time Council takes a hard look at the Spending plan for the coming year: comparing how we have spent our budgets versus what was budgeted and always looking for means to reduce spending without affecting the quality of our ministry in our world.

One of the areas that will change is how we distribute our monthly newsletter, The Topics. Starting with the January 2012 issue which goes out in December we will be sending it via email. Our shut-ins will continue to receive their copy by first class mail. For those without computer access, we will have copies of the Topics in the Narthex for you to pick up. It is estimated we will save over \$300 in mailing costs alone plus the savings in paper.

Some Really Bad Puns!

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

When 2 egotists meet, it's an I for an I.

Djon vu – The same mustard as before.

Every calendar's day is numbered.

SAINTS IN SERVICE November 2011

Date	Cantor	Communion Assistant
Nov 6	Mullineaux	Kenney (A)/Hickey
Nov 13	Herda	Knaus (A)/Hewitt
Nov 20	Landolt	Southwick(A)/Jensen
Nov 27	K. Toler	K. Toler (A)/Kenney

Date Reader (8:00) Ushers (8:00)

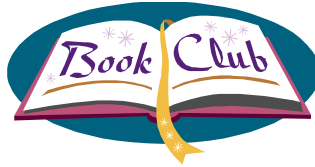
Nov 6	Miriam Burgin	Hewitt/Johnson
Nov 13	Knaus	Kenney/Purves
Nov 20	Hanson	McKee/Saunders
Nov 27	K. Toler	Wilsons

Date Reader/Usher (11:00) Counters

Nov 6	Hickey	Brough/Colander/McDevitt
Nov 13	Martino	Fitzgerald/M. Burgin/K. Hickey
Nov 20	Riess	Hewitt/Purves/McKee
Nov 27	Andrzejewski	M.Hickey/Johnson/Burgin

Date Property Check Altar Guild

Nov 6	J. Martino	Mullineaux/Purves
Nov 13	M. Martino	Brandt/McKee
Nov 20	M.Toler	Southwick/Knaus
Nov 27	Mueller	Reichert/Kenney



TLC Book Club

Unbelievably, we have only one more selection before we pick our 2012 reading selections. Our last remaining book for 2011 is:

Amazing Grace by Eric Metaxas. It sounds dry but it really is an interesting biography about William Wilberforce who was incredibly well-known in his day but he became a forgotten man in the 20th century. He really should be better known for his remarkable life. His triumph was the final passage of the anti-slavery law passed by the English Parliament. This is the basis of the movie Amazing Grace. Wilberforce also worked for the rights of children and animals. **Come join us at 7:00 PM on November 15 in Naus Hall to discuss this book.**

December 6 – Our **Annual Dinner Out** including the picking of new books will take place at **Benihana's**. **Please let Marilyn Burgin know if you are interested by the end of November because reservations need to be made.**

Meanwhile, think of suggestions for our reading selections. We like a variety of books including biography, memoirs, mysteries, historical fiction, romance, classics, etc. You name it, we will take it under consideration!



Temple Lutheran Church Library

The recommendations for November include the winners of the 2011 Christy Awards rewarding the best in Christian literature.

CONTEMPORARY ROMANCE

Sworn to Protect by DiAnn Mills

CONTEMPORARY SERIES, SEQUELS, AND NOVELLAS

The Reluctant Prophet by Nancy Rue

CONTEMPORARY STANDALONE

Almost Heaven by Chris Fabry

FIRST NOVEL

Heartless by Anne Elisabeth Stengl

HISTORICAL ROMANCE

The Girl in the Gatehouse by Julie Klassen

SUSPENSE

The Bishop by Steven James

VISIONARY

To Darkness Fled by Jill Williamson

YOUNG ADULT

Motorcycles, Sushi, and One Strange Book by Nancy Rue

Blessings and good reading!

Mutual Ministry Committee

The Mutual Ministry Committee would like to find ways to enhance our worship services and our church life. Please contact Lida Knaus (chairperson), Pastor Marks, Nancy Kahler-Jow, Patty Andrejewski, Dan Fitzgerald, or Heidi Manera with **any** ideas and/or concerns that you feel should be brought to our attention. Thanks!

Bloopers which actually appeared in church bulletins:

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00PM – prayer and medication to follow.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

Please return borrowed library items so others can enjoy them. We are missing many items, especially DVD's. The missing items include the movie **Amazing Grace**. **Please check your shelves at home for library items! Also, please sign out items when you borrow them.**

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Marilyn Burgin – President	986-4477
Jan Hanson – Vice-President	663-8317
Treasurer – Matt McDevitt	665-6278
Financial Secretary – Ed Davidson	662-8182
Secretary – Helen McKee	662-0508

Council Members

Marilyn Burgin	986-4477
Barbara Mullineaux	665-5830
Jan Hanson	663-8317
Jay Martino	905-8486
Lillie Saunders	419-3413
Linda Jensen	786-2369
Mike Martino	303-1404
Rebecca Fitzgerald	939-8877
Lida Knaus	663-6862
Emily Reichert	662-8769
Lauren Riess	910-8892
Staff: Pastor Margaret M. Marks	428-3533
Nancy Kahler-Jow, Organist	(610)789-1817

Ministry Team

Youth
Worship & Music
Christian Ed
Evangelism
At Large
Social Ministry
Property
Parish Life
Mutual Ministry Team
Youth
Youth Representative

Ministry Co-ordinators

Matt McDevitt, Admin	665-6278
Matt Reichert, Parish Life & Praise Band	662-8769
Barbara Mullineaux, Bells Director	665-5830
D.Reichert/B.Mullineaux, Altar Guild	
Janet Morrissey. Women of the ELCA Pres.	662-1188
Lori Martino, Co-Chairman – Property	303-1404

Volunteer Staff

Eileen Brough, Office Coordinator	663-6862
Barbara Mullineaux, Bulletins	665-5830
Miriam & Marilyn Burgin – Topics - E-Mail: mhb1732@aol	488-9262

Temple Lutheran Church

5600 N. Rte. 130
Pennsauken, NJ 08109-5399
Phone: (856) 663-7783
Email: Templelutheran@comcast.net

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cinnaminson, NJ
Permit No. 230

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Services

- 8:30 - Church Service (Traditional)
- 9:45 – Sunday School (all ages)
- 11:00 – Church Service (Multi-Media)

Website: www.templelutheranchurch.com
Pastor Margaret M. Marks (856) 428-3533