



June 2025

# YOUR MONTHLY Lamplighter



## ***The One Who Shows Mercy***

**Luke 10:25-37**

The story of the Good Samaritan is well known, even by people who have little or no knowledge of the Bible. Many countries have Good Samaritan laws, so-named to provide legal protections for those who act as “good Samaritans” to help others. The Good Samaritan story has become the model for going above and beyond expectations to care for others.

When we hear the parable, we often focus on who we are in the story. Or, we focus on who we want to be. Yet, the witness of the gospel is always to tell us about Jesus and his love for you and for the world. The witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ is not about what I have done, or you have done to inherit the treasures of heaven—forgiveness, salvation, eternal life. Rather, the witness of the gospel is always about what God in Christ has done in graciously and lovingly gifting us these treasures of the kingdom.

And so, I invite you to consider – before we ask who we are in the story, let us ask first who Jesus is in the story? How does the story of the Good Samaritan witness to him and his love for you, for others, for the world?

I believe the story ultimately speaks to who Jesus is and what Jesus does in our lives. For the one despised, rejected, publicly hung on the cross, and raised from the grave, is the Good Samaritan who reaches down and raises us up from the pits of life, when we are wounded and hurt, forgotten, overlooked, avoided or passed by.

If we are honest, we have all been there, laid low in the pits of life by the forces of sin, death and evil pressing in on us. The forces of sin, death and evil rob us of our identity as children of God. The forces of sin, death and evil wound us and many people, leaving us stranded and isolated, lost and forsaken. But there is good news, when we see who Jesus is in this story! For if we are the ones lying in the ditches of life, passed by and avoided, then Jesus is our Good Samaritan!

Jesus, the crucified and risen one, is the Good Samaritan in our lives. The one who with his life given and shed reaches down and raises us up from the pits, anoints our hurting places with the soothing balm of his love, binds up our wounds, carries us in the sanctuary of his spirit and provides a place in him of belonging and healing.

Dear people, I invite you to read the story of the Good Samaritan again this month and see Jesus, our Good Samaritan, – who promises to reach out and touch your wounded places, to relieve your hurts, and to restore to you to life, now and always. And then, as the saved and healed people of Jesus, *then* hear Jesus inviting you to go and do likewise.

With you in Christ,  
Pastor Kara

On **Sunday, June 1, 2025**, please plan to attend **“A Gathering of Salem People.”** This will be a conversational time for the members of Salem to check in with the Council about how we are doing in ministry, mission and stewardship. We will again address the present and future vitality of our congregation. We also have some news to share, and the Council is eager to hear from you! The schedule for the day is as follows:

<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>9:30am</b>
<b>Potluck Brunch/Lunch</b>	<b>10:05am</b>
<b>Conversation with the Council</b>	<b>11am</b>

Everything will take place in **Newhouse Hall**. Please bring a brunch/lunch dish to share. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,  
The Council of Salem Lutheran Church

**WE ARE GATHERED** into the joy of community!



**June 8 – September 7**  
**9:30am on the Patio**  
**45 minute worship**

Join us for outdoor summer worship as we hear the good news of Jesus' love and celebrate Holy Communion! Bring your camp chair!



### **Celebrating Salem Graduates**

We will celebrate our Young Adults graduating from High School, College, Trade School etc on **June 8th, Pentecost Sunday**. Reception immediately following Worship

If you have a graduate, please contact **Pastor Kara ASAP** so that she can include them in the worship!!

### **Hope for Ghana**

Dr. Green will join us after Worship **Sunday June 8th**. He will share the villages that will have our water bore holes and to offer his gratitude.

*"The gift of water equals the gift of life". Dr. Green*



**CHANGING &  
UNCHANGING**  
GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS

2025 SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

**June 12-14 @ La Roche University**

To watch the live stream go to the synod website and click on more information.

## **Youth Sunday Hike** **June 22 @ 10:30 am** **All are Welcome**



**THE YOUTH OF SALEM  
ARE INVITED FOR A  
SPRING HIKE AT THE  
WESTMORELAND  
HERITAGE TRIAL!  
WE WILL MEET IN THE  
SOCIAL HALL AFTER  
WORSHIP TO ENJOY  
NATURE TOGETHER.**

Contact Cassidy Ayers or Pastor Kara with any questions

### April 2025 Budget Report

	April	Actual YTD	2025 Budget
Tithes @ Contributions	\$15,078.30	\$ 51,101.61	\$175,950.00
Other Income (includes Use of Building, Headstart Rent, Hags Endow)	<u>\$ 2,678.81</u>	<u>\$49,647.13</u>	<u>\$ 73,207.00</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$17,757.11	\$100,748.74	\$249,157.00
Administration	\$ 507.34	\$ 3,036.73	\$ 11,650.00
Christian Education	\$ 00.00	\$ 57.24	\$ 2,400.00
Facilities	\$ 3,281.73	\$ 16,681.84	\$ 39,654.00
Personnel	\$13,346.11	\$ 53,291.97	\$163,883.70
Property	\$ 2,295.00	\$ 10,529.19	\$ 24,000.00
Social Ministry	\$ 79.03	\$ 654.43	\$ 3,000.00
Stewardship/Evangelism	\$ 00.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 200.00
Worship & Music	\$ 00.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 2,950.00
Pilgrimage	\$ 00.00	\$ 54.97	\$ 2,500.00
Synod Mission	\$ 00.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 8,000.00
Hags Distribution	<u>\$ 00.00</u>	<u>\$ 00.00</u>	<u>\$ 9,675.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$19,509.21	\$ 85,931.37	\$267,912.70
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>(\$ 1,752.10) \$14,817.37</b>		

### Council Highlights

May 2025

Considerable time was spent discussing our last meeting with Pastor Peter Asplin.

On June 1st we will have abbreviated Worship in Newhouse Hall with Pot Luck dinner and discussion.

Finance committee recommended that we distribute \$2000 from the Hags Endowment to Synod Mission Support.

Dr. Green will join us on Sunday June 8th after Worship to thank Salem for raising enough money for 2 boreholes for Ghana.

175th Anniversary Subcommittee will host informal gatherings on May 13 & May 27 to hear the congregation to share their Salem memories & history.

***We pray, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.***

*Please keep these people in prayer and send them a card to let them know their church family is thinking of them.*

#### Continued Care:

Susan Franke  
Mae Jobe  
Cheryl Whitling  
Joe Shaffer  
Ed Mikesell  
Gloria Wellhofer  
Bob Thompson  
RR Schmitt  
George Jobe  
Helen Sparkenbaugh  
Charlotte Bush

Susan Baker  
Cathy Piper  
Ronna Yeager  
Terry Zeek  
Rick Cipullo  
Nate Doty  
McKenzie Wildery  
Lois Grudowski  
Dennis Doran  
Mike Hoch  
Local Cancer Patient  
Donna Carney  
Amanda Floy  
Suzanne Zeek  
Jack Susick  
Sherry McQuaide  
Lilly  
Anthony Sciotti

Sharon Thompson  
Carol Hartman  
Carol Logan  
Linda DelBaggio  
Sophia Pleseamts  
Scott Rushbrok  
Tom  
Bill  
Kristin Buckwalter  
Martha Koval  
Dolly  
Lisa Barker  
Colleen  
Pastor Brian Chaffee  
Deacon Amy Santoriello  
Cheryl Adamik  
Bill Kline  
Jesse

Kenny Garriss  
Bev  
Matt Hohman

#### Sympathy to the family of:

Joe Sesti  
Ed Wilson

#### Military or Foreign Service:

Michael & Chris Broker  
Dr. Paul Oliver

**\*\* Please Note!** Privacy laws prevent hospitals from automatically notifying churches of member's admissions. Please notify Pastor Kara at 304-668-9890 of hospitalizations or call the church office.

#### Healing & Recovery:

Addison Altman  
Dani Herman  
Mark Piper  
Jim McPeake

**We Celebrate!**

## Happy Birthday

2 Desiree Wilson  
2 Virginia Deaunovich  
2 Rodger Durstine  
2 Joseph Piper  
4 Beth Lawrence  
4 Ronald Wallace  
7 Brittany Setaro  
8 Angelina Reinhardt  
8 Harper Shannon  
10 Sandy Blazek  
10 Clay McNerney  
13 Lisa McGill

17 Zoey Brown  
17 David Piper  
18 Ruth Ann Bartos  
22 Sandra Feather  
25 Susan Franke  
25 Colton McQuaide

## Happy Anniversary

4 Richard & Melissa (Logan) Gonder  
5 Frank & Jennifer (Feather)  
Naccarato  
16 Doug & Lori Harr  
18 Ronald & Rebecca Wallace  
22 Michael & Melissa Tomcyk  
23 Joseph & Janine (Feather)  
Howcroft

Salem Lutheran Church  
301 E Pittsburgh Street  
Delmont, PA 15626  
[www.salemdelmont.org](http://www.salemdelmont.org)  
724-468-4189  
[office@salemdelmont.org](mailto:office@salemdelmont.org)

Address Service Requested

Non Profit Organization  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Delmont, PA

