

 **THE MESSENGER**   
Ascension Lutheran Church

**“Belong, Believe and Become all that God Promises”**

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When the church comes together to celebrate and worship, the Holy Spirit is poured out, and the presence of the Lord is felt strongly.

One of the most amazing moments is when the church worships, sings, prays and receives the body and blood of our Lord Jesus. It is the presence of the living God in all of this that feels so real that we get chills on the skin. There is a power when believers come together and join His presence.

Worshipping God is a commandment met on Sundays or any other day to worship God and give Him all honor and glory. We are also strengthened when we are around other believers, see their faith, and hear their experiences of believing in the same Father.

What we learn at church guides us on how to follow God, improves our spiritually, and helps us to live better quality lives. We can be uplifted by others' beliefs and by the opportunity to serve and worship.

There is recent research which suggests that going to church, praying and confessing of sins is indeed good for the soul. Of course, any social interaction is a healthy way to bring on feelings of well-being.

It is possible for people to find happiness attending church, but real happiness is found in Jesus Christ the Lord. Attending church helps create a community; a family who share values and mutual respect.

The power of the Holy Spirit is felt when we worship the Lord together, even more so when we share bread and wine. Body and blood, we become a unity to the person of Christ through his humanity. The Bread of life brings peace and joy to our heart because of the fruits of grace.

Pastor Emilce Erato

# Let's Pray!

## ***The following need your prayers...***

Chuck Albers, Stephanie Baio, Bill Ciampa, Gray Collingwood, Chris Dand, Elsie, Sylvia Erato, Lucille Fritz, Brian and Dylan Gasperetti, Hunter George, Andrea Graham, Kathryn Graven, Jarien Hillock, Virginia Heinsch, Angela Herber, Joanne Kempel, Cynthia Listort, Bill and Fran McGowan, Chuck Miata, Nicki, Schneider family, Moira Sheldon, Donna Slyman, Robert Smith, Peter Stevenson, Miriam Valder, Barbara Walsh, James Wheeler, and Kenneth Wheeler.



## April Birthdays!

Carole Brosnan April 11  
Helmut Prill April 17  
Andrew Gasperetti April 24



Fran and Bill McGowan 4/1  
Carole and Jim Brosnan 4/13

## April EVENTS

### Mondays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA

### Tuesdays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA

Council 10 a.m. 4/9

3:30-5 p.m. Girl Scouts 4/16

6-8:30 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

### Wednesdays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

Road to Recovery 7:15-8:30 p.m.

### Thursdays

6-7:30 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

### Fridays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

### Saturdays

9-11:15 a.m. Road to Recovery-AA

### Sundays

10:30 a.m. Worship Service



Blessings come in many forms, but recently, Ascension received a significant estate bequest to use as the church sees fit. This gift came at a crucial time. Also, many former members have made donations after reading last month's article regarding the church's finances. Their thoughtfulness and support have blessed us as well.



## APRIL OUTREACH

### The Helpers Fund

*Always Ready With A Helping Hand*

A gift has been given in memory of my brother, Robert Rusnak by Virginia Strong.

A gift has been given in memory of Sean McKean by Virginia Strong.

A gift has been given in memory of Edith Benning by Lois Altvater.

A gift has been given in memory of Edith Benning by Grace Kratz and the Stevenson Family.

A gift has been given in memory of Edith Benning by Ginni Hart.



We have received thank you letters from the following outreach recipients:

*Arms Wide Open*

*Tunnel to Towers Foundation*

*PMD Foundation*

*Lutheran Social Services*

The Helpers Fund was started in 1997 to provide financial assistance in the Tri-Lakes area of Warren and southern Essex Counties to individuals and families facing difficult circumstances. Since then, we have been able to lend assistance to more than 200 families and individuals in the area.

The Chestertown/Helpers Fund Food Pantry is now a combined responsibility between the Town of Chester and the Helpers Fund. The Helpers Fund also has a Scholarship Program which began in 2002. At present five students are receiving our scholarships.

Since January 2014, the Fund has had responsibility for funds previously administered by the Chestertown Chapter of the Dollars for Scholars program. The Helpers Fund North Warren Scholarship Program (the group structured to administer these funds) has transferred the responsibility for administration of these funds to a newly formed committee named North Warren Community Scholarship Funds. This was done so the Helpers Fund could dedicate its efforts to its core mission of providing assistance in the Community while allowing the new group to dedicate its efforts to the administration of scholarship funds.

*The Helpers Fund is a 501(c)3 charity certified by the Internal Revenue Service and governed by the IRS Regulations governing charities.*

*The Fund is incorporated under the laws of New York State's Department of State, and is registered with the New York State Bureau of Charities.*



TOWN OF CHESTER

New Life Center of Long Island  
FOOD FOR THE MONTH PROGRAM



April is our month to support the Hunger Prevention Program operated by the New Life Center in Uniondale.

Please leave your donations of non-perishable items in the bin in the narthex.

Your donations will assist the elderly, unemployed and families with children.

Suggestions

White rice, pasta, cake mix, pancake mix, spaghetti sauce, flour, sugar, instant coffee and tea.

Canned goods, peanut butter and jelly, condiments and juices.

Personal items-toothpaste, shampoo, soap, shaving cream, etc.



## ***Volunteers at Work***

The kitchen is almost back to full working order and several people volunteered to organize the inventory that was returned to the new cabinets.

Many thanks to Eleanor and Guenter Betz, Helmut and Caren Prill, Jim and Carole Brosnan, Joyce Becher, Margaret Malloy, Ginny Strong and Lois Altvater.

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## *Easter Moments*



*Dr. Dara Lemite, guest flutist and Pastor Erato*



*Pastor and Patricia Chen-Jones, Music Director*

