

HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

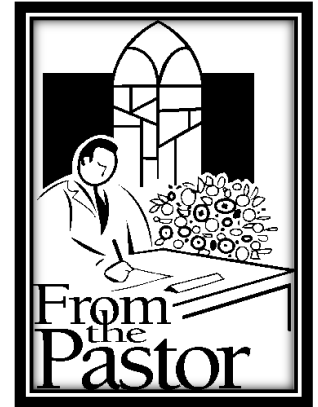
Volume 52, Issue 2

February 2022

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Siblings in Christ,

A blessed Epiphany season to you all. It's been a snowy start to the new year, which makes me feel right at home since it reminds me of living in Minnesota or Wisconsin. To get through the cold winter, we all need a dose of what folks in Denmark call *hygge* (pronounced "hoo-guh"), which refers to a sense of being cozy, content, and comforted. It's related to the origins of our English word "hug." It's something everybody needs in this life, both when we are spending time alone; curled up with a book and a cup of tea or enjoying time with friends. In Denmark, this is often done with mulled wine and a fire. This seems especially important now, during the most recent wave of COVID, when there is so much sickness spreading around. We all need to find space to recharge and know deep down that everything is going to be ok. Just like the earth, the rivers, the lakes covered in ice, in the wintertime, we need peace and quiet to restore ourselves. What is your favorite thing to do in wintertime? Do you do more reading? Do you watch movies that help you get in touch with deeper feelings? Do you have a spiritual practice that helps you get through the winter mornings— reading scripture or following along in a devotional book? Or maybe you like to look through old photographs of family and reminisce about old times.



We're going to be encountering several texts on Sundays over the next month that will be calling us to follow Jesus as his ministry is revealed to the world. Inevitably, the way the Jesus calls us to follow him is a surprise—something we didn't expect, and sometimes it's even something that offends us. As we read about the beginning of Jesus' ministry, we will see some of the surprised reactions of his followers. But Jesus also brings us the good news that God's kingdom is near, and that we are invited to be part of it, right now. In another month, when we begin the season of Lent, we'll also reflect on how following Jesus is often very difficult and how following Him asks us to put everything else aside. But while we know there will be difficult times, what Jesus is really welcoming us to be a part of is God's new family, God's commonwealth— sharing the riches of God's blessings.

So, let's find some simple ways to do that as we endure the harsher climate of February and wait for the coming thaw and eventually, the joy of spring. There is beauty in the natural world that we can connect with if we bring our awareness to it. Bringing awareness to our own bodies and the goodness that God has made us with. Bringing awareness to the gift of our eyes and our ability to appreciate the beautiful white snow covering the fields, or the vivid blueness of the sky on a sunny day. When we are aware of these things, we become part of God's kingdom, and we see how God is working through us, and our neighbors, and the natural world itself. The late Thich Naht Hanh, a Buddhist monk who interwove Buddhist and Christian practices together, would talk about this as the miracle of mindful awareness; that we are part of God's kingdom already. There is nothing we must do to make it happen. Luther wrote this too; God's Kingdom comes because of God, not us. But this is the ultimate invitation to see that Jesus is calling each of us, right now, to belong to him and walk with him through this life.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Reflections	Page	1
Finance Report/News	Page	2
Birthdays/News	Page	3
2021 WELCA Report	Page	4
Council Notes	Page	4 & 5
A Letter From...	Page	6
Monthly Calendar	Page	7
Church Schedule	Page	8
Contact Info/Council Info	Page	9

Amen.

Hebron's 2021 Finance Report

MONTH	CURRENT GIVING	INCOME	NEEDED GIVING	OVER/SHORT MONTH TO DATE	OVER/SHORT YEAR TO DATE	ATTENDANCE
January	\$3,648.35	\$2,548.79	\$8,155.30	\$(1,958.16)	\$(1,958.16)	ONLINE
February	\$4,098.60	\$38.25	\$8,155.20	\$(4,018.35)	\$(5,976.51)	ONLINE
March	\$5,075.25	\$7,368.21	\$8,155.20	\$4,288.26	\$(1,688.25)	47
April	\$3,341.00	\$2,596.91	\$8,155.20	\$(2,217.29)	\$(3,905.54)	NO DATA
May	\$6,034.65	\$2,640.05	\$8,155.20	\$519.50	\$(3,386.04)	89
June	\$4,197.00	\$7,347.57	\$8,155.20	\$3,389.37	\$3.33	111
July	\$3,983.00	\$2,550.17	\$8,155.20	\$(1,622.03)	\$(1,618.70)	106
August	\$4,843.30	\$3,028.92	\$8,155.20	\$(282.98)	\$(1,901.68)	69
September	\$3,278.00	\$7,880.94	\$8,155.20	\$3,003.74	\$1,102.06	91
October	\$5,116.25	\$3,146.96	\$8,155.20	\$(3,038.95)	\$(1,936.89)	112
November	\$3,082.00	\$2,542.87	\$8,155.20	\$(2,530.33)	\$(1,320.26)	85
December	\$7,585.00	\$4,038.25	\$8,155.20	\$3,468.05	\$2,147.79	151

It is noted that the income column includes monies the church receives from endowments, gas well royalties, and the monthly SPH reimbursement check. If you have any questions, please see any member of the finance team. A complete financial report was included in the 2021 Annual Report. If you would like a copy of the report, there are copies placed in the back of the church.



IT IS WITH DEEP SORROW that we mourn the passing of Cody Grantz, grandson of Sam and Sandy Grantz. Cody passed into the hands of God on January 13, 2022.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Rita Burns. Rita passed into the hands of God on January 19, 2022.

WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Lisa Goodwin, daughter of Ted and Kathy Klingensmith (Camp). Lisa passed into the hands of God on January 20, 2022. Lisa was a resident of Charleston, West Virginia.

PASTOR RYAN WILL HOLD OFFICE HOURS every Friday at Hebron from 10AM – 1PM. If you would like to schedule a time to meet with him, please call him directly at 262-707-3038.

HEBRON COUNCIL is looking for people to help out during worship! If you are interested in running the TV screens, reading the lessons, helping usher, or being Worship Assistant, please talk to any council member or Pastor Ryan! Any help would be greatly appreciated.

THE CHURCH COMMITTEES are still looking for volunteers! If you are interested in joining one of Hebron's Committees, please talk to any council member or Pastor Ryan. The committees looking for members are: Finance, Christian Education, Worship & Music, Outreach, or Property. The year ahead looks busy, and we would love for you to join us in making it great!

THE FOLLOWING DATES ARE "OPEN" FOR ALTAR FLOWERS: May 22 – July 10 – August 14 – August 28 – October 30. If you would like to sponsor Altar flowers for one of these dates, please contact Chelsae Hickman as soon as possible. Currently, there are no more "open" dates for bulletins.



Celebrating Birthdays in February!

2	Beverly King
3	Marjorie Sober
5	Amy Baudino
5	Norma Kummick
6	Judy Perez
10	Paul Shaner
11	Pastor Ryan Pusch
12	Virginia Shaner
16	Dolores Freilino
18	Jacob Boarts
19	Amanda (Smith) Favero
24	Judy Defilippi
27	Jill Sorisio
27	Dalton Baudino



Celebrating Anniversaries in February!

4	Robert & Bonnie Mohr	44 th
20	Lloyd & Carolyn Hickman	40 th



THE FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING will be held on February 8, 2022 at 6PM.

CONGRATULATIONS to our newly elected 2022 Hebron Church Council Officers: Nathan Boarts – Council President; Barb Talmadge – Council Vice President; Paula Henry – Council Secretary.

OUTREACH SERVICE PROJECT FOR FEBRUARY!

This February, the Outreach Committee will be focusing on the ELCA World Hunger Fund. Working with and through congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. All loose offering collected in the month of February will be directed to the World Hunger Fund. If you would like to specifically donate to this project, please have your donation in an envelope marked “WORLD HUNGER” and place it in the weekly offering or send it to the church office.

If you have any organizations that would benefit from these collections or ideas for the Outreach Committee’s monthly service projects, please contact Outreach Committee Chair, Barb Talmadge or Co-Chair, Paula Henry.



Mark Your Calendar

PLEASE REMEMBER that Hebron’s Worship Service time will be changing to 8:30AM beginning **March 6, 2022**. It is also noted that Pastor Ryan will be on vacation during this time, and worship will be led by Pastor Katie McCollough.

THE LENTEN SEASON WILL BE HERE SOON – beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 2, 2022. The Ash Wednesday service will be held at Hebron at 7PM. The Maundy Thursday service will be held at SPH at 7PM on Thursday, April 14, 2022. Service will return to Hebron for Good Friday on April 15, 2022 at 7PM. The Easter Vigil will then be held at SPH on Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 7PM. Hebron’s Easter Service will be held Sunday, April 17, 2022 at 8:30AM. All dates will also be published in the weekly bulletins. Weekly Wednesday services will also take place. A complete schedule will be published at a later date.

2021 WELCA ANNUAL REPORT

SOCIAL MINISTRY FOR HEBRON WELCA—Due to the current and continuing Covid-19 Pandemic our WELCA meetings and sewing get togethers were cancelled again for all of 2021. We are blessed to have members and women supportive of our ministries that did crocheting at home, and we were able to donate 30 crocheted baby blankets that were donated to our Designated Outreach Blessed Bundles. Through this congregation's generous donations, we were able to provide 16 goodie bags at Christmas time for our church member shut ins. Also, through generous donations of this congregation and others supporting our Designated Outreach program, we participated in two Synod wide collections and donated diapers and baby supplies to Blessed Bundles. This organization provides a much-needed service to children and families who cannot afford to buy diapers and necessary baby products that other organizations or other programs do not meet. As president, I was blessed and honored to be part of the planning committee of the SWPA ELCA in planning the Spring Cluster Zoom Meeting. The planning committee worked hard to try to keep our members connected with one another in faith and prayer, whether they joined virtually or in spirit during the meetings. The meeting was successful and received a lot of positive feedback from the women who participated throughout the South Western PA Synod of ELCA. In closing, I would like to thank our supportive congregation in always participating by way of donations to the ministry of our WELCA. In addition, a special thank you to Betty Danka who crocheted throughout the year to make beautiful blankets that were donated to Blessed Bundles. A big shout out to our faithful members who are always ready to help and participate in anything that is asked of them and that I am blessed to know; Delores Freilino, our Vice President, Theresa Brechbill, Barb Manifest, Carol Smail, Velma Knell and Nancy Fondrk, our Treasurer and church secretary Chelsea Hickman for all the ways you help us. This organization could not be as active or successful without you! Also, in closing, I would like to recognize, in memory, our beloved sister in Christ, Sue Brown, who went to be with the Lord, March 17th of this year. Sue was an amazing person, who worked tirelessly for our Church, including WELCA. She was always willing to serve and do whatever she could to spread God's goodness and love. I always knew if I needed anything, Sue would be willing to lend a helping hand and always with a smile. There are special people in our lives, who never leave us, even after they are gone...Sue Brown was one of those people. Thank you and God Bless you.

-Respectfully Submitted, Sandy Grantz

COUNCIL NOTES FROM JANUARY 2022 MEETING...

Pastor Ryan began the meeting by installing the newly elected council members. The election of 2022 Council Officers was held. Results of election: President—Nathan Boarts, Vice President—Barbara Talmadge, Secretary—Paula Henry.

Appointments for Church Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Endowment Secretary were also discussed. Jean Stull was appointed Church Treasurer, Lori Hileman was appointed Financial Secretary, and Marty Bash was appointed Endowment Secretary.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

- Education committee is considering holding an in-person Sunday School; starting out with one Sunday a month. Other Sundays throughout the month – possible lesson posted on-line.

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP:

- Nathan discussed the use of a check reader from First Commonwealth Bank that would scan checks and deposit them directly into the general account. Chelsae would be made authorized user to scan checks Mondays and any other time one was received by mail. Cash would be deposited on a continuing basis.
- Bank signature cards need to be updated with Jean, Nathan, and Barb's signatures

COUNCIL NOTES FROM JANUARY 2022 MEETING... (continued)

OUTREACH:

- Annual Meeting Luncheon is scheduled for January 23, 2022, with sandwiches and individual chip bags
- Fifth Sunday Luncheon with SPH is on January 30, 2022, at Hebron; Soup and salad will be provided by Hebron, SPH bringing desserts—Also during luncheon, a special collection for the ELCA World Hunger will take place
- A \$250 donation towards the ELCA Wildfire Relief Fund and a \$250 donation towards the ELCA Tornado Relief Fund was approved

PERSONNEL/MUTUAL MINISTRY:

- Will review Conflict of Interest Policy at the January 20th meeting

PROPERTY:

- Two toilets were replaced in the Social Hall Bathrooms—One in the men's room and one in the women's room
- A sump pump was also replaced
- Two faucets in the parsonage need replaced
- No Parking signs on the garage need replaced
- Josh Woods will continue snow removal

WORSHIP & MUSIC:

- Going to continue using white tree and ornaments in the back of the church throughout the year
- Possible Ash Wednesday Project including all of the congregation

JOINT COUNCIL:

- Meeting January 25, 2022
- Will discuss possible AED Training with SPH/HEB and splitting cost

NEW BUSINESS:

- Nathan has been looking at a new computer for the office—Found a Dell Laptop, 2 Computer Screens, Keyboard, Mouse, and Docking Station for \$1,800. Motion made and approved to purchase new computer and accessories for church

The
Season
of
Lent



FRIDAY LENTEN LUNCHESES ARE BACK!

The Leechburg Ministerium is excited to welcome back the Friday Lenten Lunches with some changes made to keep us all safe and healthy. Each Friday during Lent, beginning at NOON at Crossroads Community Presbyterian Church, there will be a small worship service/devotional time. Immediately following the service, a to-go bagged lunch will be provided to everyone.

The Rose

In 1979, Bette Midler who was a popular singer/artist made famous a song entitled, “The Rose”. It was also the name of a movie she starred in that same year. I never saw the movie, but the song has been a favorite of mine for years; the words are beautiful. When I hear them, I think about the life that God gives us and the love we have in it because of Him. God IS love, at the beginning of our lives, during our lives, and at the end of our lives. This song depicts love in a very poetic way and encourages us to live boldly in the life that we’ve been given; for me, it’s spiritual. Here are the lyrics:

*Some say love it is a river, that drowns the tender reed.
Some say love, it is a razor, that leaves the soul to bleed.
Some say love, it is a hunger, an endless aching need.
I say love, it is a flower, and you its only seed.
It’s the heart afraid of breaking that never learns to dance,
it’s the dream afraid of waking that never takes a chance.
It’s the one who won’t be taken, who cannot seem to give.
And the soul afraid of dying that never learns to live.
When the night has been too lonely, and the road has been too long.
When you think that love is only for the lucky and the strong.
Just remember in the winter, far beneath the bitter snow, lies the seed that with
the sun’s love, in the spring becomes The Rose.*

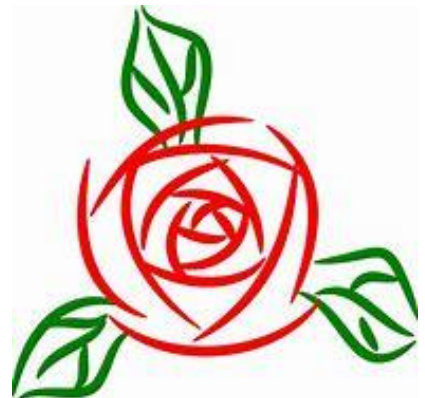
As we all know, love in all its forms is difficult to explain, because it’s a feeling, a choice, and it can be shown in an action. Maybe love can’t be defined because God is so great, and His gifts are too awesome that they allude definition. It’s a challenge to really embrace that God’s love is unconditional; even in our sinful nature, His love is unending. I think of the many relationships that I have with others, and even though it’s my desire to always show unconditional love, I know that I fall short.

With Valentine’s Day approaching on February 14, I challenge you to think about how God has loved you and how you may be able to show that same love to someone else. I challenge you to make a difference in the lives of three people on Valentine’s Day in some way and pass on the love of God that he has given you. It’s my hope that this small act on your behalf may become a more routine habit throughout your life. GOD is LOVE – let’s introduce others to Him.

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!
May His love live in your heart each and every day!

Serving with you,

Barb Talmadge





FEBRUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 	3	4 OFFICE HOURS 10A-1P	5
6 WORSHIP 10:30AM	7	8 COUNCIL MEETING 6PM	9	10	11 OFFICE HOURS 10A-1P	12 FIRST COMMUNION CLASS 1PM-4PM
13 WORSHIP 10:30AM	14 Happy Valentines Day 	15	16	17	18 OFFICE HOURS 10A-1P	19
20 WORSHIP 10:30AM	21 	22	23	24	25 OFFICE HOURS 10A-1P	26
27 WORSHIP 10:30AM	28	<p>THE FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY LLOYD AND CAROLYN HICKMAN in honor of their 40th Wedding Anniversary on February 20, 2022.</p> <p>If you are interested in sponsoring a monthly newsletter, please call the church office. The cost to sponsor a monthly newsletter is \$65.00, which helps cover the cost of postage.</p>				



FEBRUARY 2022

<i>Date/Day/Color</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>	<i>Bulletins</i>
<p>February 6 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</p> <p>Green</p>	<p>Charles Klingensmith & Charlie Stull</p>	<p>In memory of the Wedding Anniversary of BILL & KATHY SWEITZER. By: Bill Sweitzer</p> <p><u>PIANO FLOWERS</u> In memory of MARSHA W. DANKA. By: Bob, Chad and Bobby Danka</p>	<p>In memory of the birthday of My Husband, FREDERICK STULL. By: Judy Stull</p>
<p>February 13 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</p> <p>Green</p>	<p>Barb Talmadge & Chelsae Hickman</p>	<p>In honor of the baptisms of Their Granddaughters, KENLEY IONA & KARSYN AMELIA. By: Lloyd and Carolyn Hickman</p>	<p>In honor of my brother, PAUL SHANER'S birthday. By: Violet Stivason</p>
<p>February 20 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany</p> <p>Green</p>	<p>Marty Bash & Charlie Stull</p>	<p>In honor of the 40th Wedding Anniversary of Our Parents, LLOYD & CAROLYN HICKMAN. By: Chelsae Hickman & Charlie, Ashley, Kenley and Karsyn Rogers</p>	<p>In memory of the February 24th Wedding Anniversary of Her Parents, BLAIR & DOROTHY SCHALL. By: Penny Klingensmith</p>
<p>February 27 Transfiguration of our Lord</p> <p>White</p>	<p>Nathan Boarts & Sean McCracken</p>	<p>In memory of the February 22nd birthday of My Grandfather, PAUL SLONAKER, the March 21st birthday of My Grandfather, “AB” KLINGENSMITH, and My Dad, BILL KLINGENSMITH. By: Nancy Fondrk</p>	<p>In memory of the February 22nd birthday of My Grandfather, PAUL SLONAKER, the March 21st birthday of My Grandfather, “AB” KLINGENSMITH, and My Dad, BILL KLINGENSMITH. By: Nancy Fondrk</p>



DEAR PASTOR RYAN AND HEBRON FAMILY—Dave and I have so many things to thank you for! There are no words! Most of all we thank Pastor Ryan for his hospital visits and all of you who have kept Dave, myself, and our family in your prayers! Without the “Power of Prayer,” our faith and hope and GOD leading the way, I don’t know where we would be! Thank you also for remembering Dave with the goody-bag and the many cards we received. PLEASE KEEP PRAYING AND LET’S PRAY DAVE HOME!

~With peace, love, faith & hope – Dave and Marty Bash

DEAR HEBRON CHURCH FAMILY – Thank you so much for the Christmas gift! It is greatly appreciated and I look forward to an exciting church year ahead! ~Chelsae A. Hickman



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL SOON BEGIN TO UPDATE the Birthday and Anniversary lists for Hebron. Keep a look out in next months newsletter.

**HEBRON EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Leechburg, PA 15656
724-842-0801
luther201@windstream.net

Pastor Ryan Pusch: PH: 262-707-3038

Office Hours: Fridays 10A-1P

Ms. Chelsae A. Hickman, Church Secretary

Office Hours: Monday, Thursday & Friday 9A-1P

Mrs. Kasey Boarts, Church Sexton

OUR CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS:

President:	Nathan Boarts
Vice President:	Barb Talmadge
Secretary:	Paula Henry
Treasurer:	Jean Camp Stull
Financial Secretary:	Lori Hileman
Endowment Fund:	Marty Bash

2022 COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Nathan Boarts	Barb Talmadge
Paula Henry	Charles Klingensmith
Nancy Fondrk	Marty Bash
Sean McCracken	

HEBRON’S MINISTRY COMMITTEES:

Christian Education: Nancy Fondrk
Charles Klingensmith

Outreach: Barb Talmadge
Paula Henry

Finance/Stewardship: Martha Bash
Nathan Boarts

Property: Sean McCracken
Martha Bash

Worship & Music: Paula Henry
Barb Talmadge

Personnel/Mutual Ministry: Nathan Boarts
Barb Talmadge

Joint Council: Nancy Fondrk, Joint Council President
Velma Knell
Pauline Bish

HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022

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Hebron Evangelical Lutheran Church
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

