

HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 53, Issue 7

July 2023

⁷Again, I saw vanity under the sun: ⁸the case of solitary individuals, without sons or brothers; yet there is no end to all their toil, and their eyes are never satisfied with riches. “For whom am I toiling,” they ask, “and depriving myself of pleasure?” This also is vanity and an unhappy business. ⁹Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. ¹⁰For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. ¹¹Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? ¹²And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

~~Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

Dear Friends,

Keeping a congregation running is hard work, and I'm not talking about my job. All of you do keep me busy, but no pastor can keep a congregation on its feet. It's the volunteers who sing in the choir, lead bible study, or show up to fix a doorknob that someone had trouble with last Sunday that are the backbone of any congregation. It's the tap on my shoulder or the hand raised in council followed by the phrase "Pastor, I was thinking maybe we could..." that keeps us moving forward.

I get giddy when I hear that phrase, because I know we're about to hear some Holy Spirit Stuff. Sometimes it's a cleaning of the basement that really has been put off far too long, and we do need to make it more welcoming for when guests arrive. Other times we're about to get all hands-on deck for some absolute craziness that we probably shouldn't attempt. When the dust settles, we will find ourselves exhausted and knowing only one thing. God was involved.

Every time the work will be hard. Volunteers will arrive to spend hours of their day that needed to be carved from some other priority. Sometimes it will be easy to ask why we are doing it. Divided into our individual congregational bubbles, we will look around at the same crew that always shows up and wonder "for whom are we toiling." Sometimes that is a legitimate question. If we are toiling only to serve ourselves, we should probably rethink it. Sometimes it is because of how solitary we are in our congregational lives, each little community trying to do things alone.

The wisdom of Ecclesiastes, written above, tells us that two are better than one, and that a threefold cord is not quickly broken. As individuals we need the congregation to help us strengthen our spiritual resolve. Our congregations need the larger church for the same reason.

On July 16th we have an opportunity to gather together in worship as, at least, a sevenfold cord (that has to be a hard one to break). We will gather at 10:00 am at the Constitution Pavilion in Crooked Creek for a joint worship with many of our ELCA churches. There will be a joint choir with rehearsal on July 15 at 10:00 am at Grace in Manorville. We'll have fun. It's become one of my favorite parts of the summer.

A joint service won't make the work easy. It won't even get it done, but the Holy Spirit will show up. You may find yourself inspired to whisper those beautiful little words to you congregation's leadership, "I've been thinking maybe we could" Maybe that basement will finally get cleaned. It does need it. (So does my office, but that's probably one I should deal with on my own) Maybe, if we're lucky, some absolute craziness will ensue and we'll end up on a ride that arrives at the church of the future. No matter what, we'll sing songs, read scriptures, and pray for church, world, and all those in need. Oh, and we'll have a fun picnic too. Hope to see you there.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Eric

HEBRON'S 2023 FINANCE REPORT

MONTH	CURRENT GIVING	INCOME	NEEDED GIVING	OVER/(SHORT) MONTH TO DATE	OVER/(SHORT) YEAR TO DATE	ATTENDANCE
JANUARY	\$4,021.00	\$5,663.58	\$9,185.58	\$499.00	\$499.00	109
FEBUARY	\$1,984.00	\$512.71	\$9,185.58	\$(6,688.87)	\$(6,189.87)	55
MARCH	\$3,211.00	\$1,499.27	\$9,185.58	\$(4,475.31)	\$(10,665.18)	77
APRIL	\$5,695.25	\$1,513.65	\$9,185.58	\$(1,976.68)	\$(12,641.86)	151
MAY	\$1,843.00	\$168.00	\$9,185.58	\$(7,174.58)	\$(19,816.44)	67

It is noted that the income column includes monies the church receives from endowments, gas well royalties, etc. If you have any questions, please see any member of the finance team. A complete financial report was included in the 2022 Annual Report. Copies of the Annual Report are available upon request.



OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES FOR JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER: July 2, 16 & 23; August 13 & 27; September 3

If you would like to sponsor the Altar flowers for one of these dates, please call the church office or email: luther201@windstream.net. If you send an email, please include the desired date and the description you would like included in the bulletin.

THANK YOU to the congregation members who have sponsored bulletins for the 2023 year! All Sundays have been covered until the end of the year.



THE JULY COUNCIL MEETING will be held on **Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 6PM** in the Berean Room. There are still seats available if you are interested in serving on council. If you have any questions, please contact a member of council!

PLEASE NOTE that the church office will be **CLOSED** on **Thursday, July 20 and Friday, July 21**. The office will open on Monday, July 24 at 9AM.



PASTOR ERIC DAMON will continue to be the local interim for Hebron during this time. He will be available for pastoral care emergencies. If you would like to contact Pastor Eric, his phone number is 724-708-4142.

If you or a loved one is sick and/or in the hospital and would like Pastor Damon to know, please call the church office: 724-842-0801.

As the process to find a new Pastor continues, please pray for Hebron's council, future call committee, and the congregation during this time of change and transition. The power of prayer is strong.

A PRAYER FOR HEBRON –

Let us pray,

Lord, we know that change is a part of life, and the only constant is you. We pray that you will be with us through this change and transition. Send your Holy Spirit upon us to strengthen and guide our church council and members as we discern the future of our church. Provide effective, thoughtful members for our call committee, and send us a pastor you have chosen who will lead us to grow and further the ministry of Hebron Lutheran Church.

This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.



Celebrating Birthdays in July!

8	Dillion Serena
11	Jared Kepple
13	Marissa Smail
20	Logan Toy
21	Carolyn Smith-Hickman
25	Cindy Smietana



Celebrating Anniversaries in July!

16	George & Penny Klingensmith	57 th
20	Mark & Aimee Baudino	21 st
25	John & Monica Smith	45 th
25	Matt & Jill Sorisio	28 th



Remember in your prayers: Jeff Brown, Loreana Cochran, Brian Codispot, Denise Fulton, Rhiley Gasper, Lori Hileman, Shawn and Robert Jewett, Larry Jordan, Meghan Key, Ted Klingensmith, Sarah Krouse, Brandi McCracken and family, Dave McCracken, Bob McDermott, Walter McGuire, Ida Mohr, Victoria Roberts and family, Lisa Sanchez, Anna Shaffer, Allison Smith & Lindsey Vettorel

Homebound/Personal Care: Marjorie Henry, Laura Ludwigsen, Emilio & Judy Perez, Helen Shaffer, Virginia Shaner, Lyda Jane Shuster & Sandy Silliman

First Responders and those serving in the Military:
Grant Imbarlina, Audra Sensor & Jeff Toy

If you would like a loved one added to the prayer list, please contact the church office.

HEBRON'S ONECALL SYSTEM WILL NOT BE RENEWED. Beginning *August 1, 2023*, Hebron will no longer be using the OneCall Phone System to send out announcements. If you would like to be added to Hebron's email list, please email the church office at luther201@windstream.net.

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE is looking for volunteers to cut the grass at the church and parsonage. There is a push lawn mower, weed eater, leaf blower, etc. available on the property for your convenience. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the volunteer list, please call Chelsae Hickman at the church office, or email: luther201@windstream.net.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO PLAYS PIANO? Hebron is currently looking for a full-time organist. Until one is hired, we are looking for individuals to fill-in on Sundays. If you know someone, please pass along Hebron's information, and ask them to call the church office or email: luther201@windstream.net.

HEBRON HAS GONE THROUGH MANY CHANGES these past months. Because we are no longer in a mutual ministry agreement, subscriptions and products that were once shared between the two churches has now become a full cost to Hebron. Some of the costs include: a yearly subscription for Sundays & Seasons, an essential tool for weekly worship and a copyright license (yearly subscription), a required tool for publishing/streaming. Most of these will be a reoccurring charge each year. To help Hebron cover these initial costs and begin saving for the yearly charges, a fund will be set up to be used specifically for these expenses. If you would like to donate, please label your donation "WORSHIP NEEDS" and place it in the weekly offering or send it to the church office. Checks can be made payable to Hebron Lutheran Church; please include "WORSHIP NEEDS" on the memo line. If you have any questions, please see a member of council.



THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE is planning an outside workday for the end of August/beginning of September. The parsonage yard needs the most work. Barb Talmadge and Velma Knell have developed a plan to improve the yard and help with landscaping. Please consider joining us! The date of the event will be made available as soon as it is scheduled. If you have any questions or ideas, please see Barb or Velma.

THE JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER IS
GIVEN IN HONOR OF CAROLYN
SMITH-HICKMAN'S 70TH
BIRTHDAY.

By: Chelsae Hickman & Charlie, Ashley,
Kenley and Karsyn Rogers

Hebron appreciates your donation!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A NEWSLETTER? The cost to sponsor is \$65.00, which helps cover the cost of postage. The available months to sponsor are: *August, September, October, November and December.* Please call the church office with any questions.



CONGRATULATIONS TO JEFF & DEB SMITH who became grandparents to a beautiful baby girl. **JOSIE ELLA FORD** was born on *June 6, 2023*, weighing 5lbs. 5oz., and 19in. Josie is the first child of *Cori and Catie Ford*, who reside in Pittsburgh; She is the second grandchild for Jeff and Deb. Many blessings to the Ford & Smith families!

CONGRATULATIONS to LUCAS VACANTI who was confirmed at Hebron on *June 25, 2023*. A wonderful service was held followed by a reception with many good treats, cake and lots of fellowship!

MANY THANKS to Pastor James Arter who assisted with the confirmation of Lucas during worship. Pastor Jim also helped Lucas complete the confirmation program. His help and assistance are very much appreciated.

**HEBRON EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH'S STAFF:**

Chelsae A. Hickman, Church Secretary
Office Hours: Monday, Thursday, Friday 9A – 1P
Kasey Boarts, Church Sexton
Lori Hileman, Financial Secretary
Jean Stull, Treasurer



THE P.A.T.H. PROGRAM NEEDS HELP! The program is once again reaching out to the community asking for help with the purchasing of food for the weekend bags distributed by Leechburg Area School District. Below is a list of items they are requesting:

- Individual Cereal Servings – 1oz.
 - Apple Cinnamon Cheerios
 - Cinnamon Toast Crunch
 - Cocoa Puffs
 - Other brands
- Mixed Fruit Cups – 4 oz.
- Beef Sticks – Minimum size: .05oz.
- 100% Juice Boxes – Minimum 4.23oz.; No sugar added
 - Juicy Juice
 - Ocean Spray
 - CapriSun
- Cereal Bars
- Pop Tarts
- Snack Bags of chips or pretzels -- .5 – 1oz.


If you would like to donate, a collection box has been placed in the back of the church. Please drop your donations in the box on Sundays before/after worship or during church office hours. Please call the church office before bringing in your donations. Barb Talmadge will then take the donations to the Food Bank where they will be appropriately distributed.



IT IS WITH DEEP SORROW that we mourn the passing of **RICHARD L. SMITH**. Richard passed into the hands of God on *June 12, 2023*.

WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to the family and friends of **CATHERINE MCINTIRE**. Catherine passed into the hands of God on *June 26, 2023*.

JULY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 WORSHIP 10:30AM	3	4 	5	6	7	8 GTVFD CHICKEN DINNER SALE
9 WORSHIP 10:30AM	10	11 COUNCIL MEETING 6PM	12	13 MINGLE ON MARKET & FARMERS MARKET	14 GTVFD BLOOD DRIVE 12PM-5PM	15 NOTES FOR HOPE: PINK DAY EVENT 1PM-9PM
16 WORSHIP 10:30AM	17	18	19	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 WORSHIP 10:30AM	24	25	26	27 FARMERS MARKET	28	29
30 WORSHIP 10:30AM	31					



DATE/DAY/COLOR	USHERS	ALTAR FLOWERS	BULLETINS
July 2 5 th Sunday after Pentecost Green	Barb Talmadge & Chelsae Hickman	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>OPEN</i></p>	In memory of Our July 2 nd Wedding Anniversary. By: Judy Stull
July 9 6 th Sunday after Pentecost Green	Velma Knell & Barb Talmadge <i>Pianist: Tiffany Smietana-Lysell</i>	In loving memory of Brother and Uncle, RICHARD L. SMITH. By: Lloyd, Carolyn & Chelsae Hickman and Charlie, Ashley, Kenley & Karsyn Rogers	In honor of HEBRON LUTHERAN CHURCH. By: Charles Klingensmith
July 16 7 th Sunday after Pentecost Green	Carolyn Smith- Hickman & Lloyd Hickman	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>OPEN</i></p>	In honor of HEBRON LUTHERAN CHURCH. By: Charles Klingensmith
July 23 8 th Sunday after Pentecost Green	Charles Klingensmith & Jean Stull	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>OPEN</i></p>	In memory of Their Parents, LAWRENCE & MAXINE BRECHBILL, FRANK & NANCY CICOZI, and NANCY JANE BRECHBILL. By: Theresa Brechbill
July 30 9 th Sunday after Pentecost Green	Marty Bash & Charlie Stull <i>Pianist: Tiffany Smietana-Lysell</i>	In memory of Our Parents, Grandparents, Great Grandparents and Great-Great Grandparents, LORL & MILDRED SMELTZER and ROBERT MOHR, SR., and Brother and Uncle, DAN MOHR. By: The Mohr Family	In honor of HEBRON LUTHERAN CHURCH. By: Charles Klingensmith

June 2023 Council Meeting Notes

FINANCE:

- Hebron received a \$75,000 endowment from the estate of Harry F. Johns; Motion made and carried to keep the endowment in the ELCA Federal Credit Union; A portion of the endowment has been designated to the campership fund; Finance Committee has a meeting scheduled with Prudential to discuss current endowments
- All paperwork for the 2020, 2021 & 2022 audit is prepared and ready for the Audit Team

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

- Lucas will be confirmed on June 25; Lay Leader Jennifer Schaefer will begin service and Pastor Jim will assist with the Affirmation of Baptism; Pastor Jim has also volunteered to distribute Holy Communion; A reception will be held in the Social Hall immediately after service; Barb, Marty, Velma volunteered to make food; Carolyn and Chelsae will bring pastries; Planning for around 40-45 people

PROPERTY:

- Planning to hold the Church Work Day in the fall, maybe end of August/beginning of September; Barb would like to update different parts of the parsonage and church property to help make landscaping easier; Motion made and carried for these property updates; Barb and Velma will be donating all materials needed
- Lawn care has been great with volunteers; Will continue this throughout summer

OUTREACH:

- Hebron will be taking part in the Back-to-School Block Party with the Leechburg Ministerium; Main Street will be blocked off on Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 11AM until 2PM; Hebron will be handing out nachos and cheese and rice krispie's; The Ministerium will also be handing out bags of school supplies; Hebron has been designated to purchase the erasers for the supply packages; Chelsae will begin to advertise for the Block Party and ask for volunteer/donations
- The Food Bank is also asking for donations for the PATH program; They are desperately in need of items for the program; Barb would like this to be an outreach project; Chelsae will add it to the newsletter/bulletins
- After much discussion, a motion was made and carried to not have a physical booth at Pink Day this year; There are not enough people to help out with the event; Hebron will still be a platinum sponsor – motion made and carried to donate \$500 to Pink Day for platinum sponsorship; Will continue the “Coins for Cancer” and also donate that at Pink Day in September

HEBRON'S 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL

OFFICERS:

President:	Carolyn Smith-Hickman
Vice President:	Barb Talmadge
Secretary:	Chelsae Hickman
Treasurer:	Jean Stull
Financial Secretary:	Lori Hileman

2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Barb Talmadge	Carolyn Smith-Hickman
Charles Klingensmith	Marty Bash
Velma Knell	



NOTES FOR HOPE: MUSIC AND FOOD FESTIVAL will be held on *Saturday, July 15, 2023, from 1PM to 9PM*. It will be held at the Hyde Park Heritage Pavilion – 291 Railroad Street, Hyde Park 15614. There will be a \$10.00 bracelet fee at the entrance. All proceeds benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation via Leechburg's Pink Day 2023. For more information, visit the Notes for Hope Facebook Page!

Unfortunately, Hebron is unable to have a booth at Pink Day this year. Without enough volunteers, the work is just too much for only a few to handle. This does not mean that we are done with our fundraising! ***Hebron will be listed as a Platinum Sponsor and our name will be printed on the back of the Pink Day shirts!*** There are MANY different options when ordering shirts this year: t-shirts, long sleeved, tank tops, sweatshirts and hoodies! The Pink Day logo is new this year and there is a new tie-dye option. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt for Pink Day, please contact Sherry Price. Sizing, prices and color options are listed on the Pink Day Facebook Page. *For payment:* cash or check. Checks can be made payable to Leechburg's Pink Day. When mailing your payment, please send it to: Sherry Price, 4 Morgan Drive, Leechburg 15656. They also accept payment through Venmo @Leechburg-PinkDay.

The “Coins for Cancer” fundraiser will also continue! This money will be donated to Pink Day closer to the date of the event. We will give an update as to how much we have already collected soon! All of these proceeds will be donated to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation via Leechburg's Pink Day 2023. Thank you to everyone who has been donating their extra change!!

HEBRON'S MINISTRY COMMITTEES:

Outreach: Barb Talmadge

Finance/Stewardship: Marty Bash, Carolyn Smith-Hickman, Barb Talmadge, Jean Stull

Worship & Music: Carolyn Smith-Hickman & Chelsae Hickman

Personnel/Mutual Ministry: Carolyn Smith-Hickman, Barb Talmadge & Marty Bash

Property: Chelsae Hickman, Barb Talmadge, Lloyd Hickman, Marty Bash & Dave Bash

If you are interested in joining a committee or have questions, please see a member of council!



THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE needs your help! This August, the churches of the Leechburg Ministerium will be hosting a “Back to School Block Party.” The event will be held *Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 11AM – 2PM*, located on Main Street. The focus of this event will be the children of the community and helping them prepare for the upcoming school year. Each child who attends the event will be provided with a bag of school supplies. Hebron has been asked to provide the erasers. The Outreach Committee will be accepting monetary donations to help purchase these erasers. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the weekly offering in an envelope labeled “ERASERS”; you can also mail your donation directly to the church office. Checks can be made payable to Hebron Lutheran Church, and remember to note “ERASERS” on the memo line. If you have any questions, please see Barb Talmadge or Chelsae Hickman.

WANT TO VOLUNTEER? Hebron will be handing out Nachos n’ Cheese and some snacks for the kids’ school lunch! If you would like to help, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the back of the church. Or you can email the church office at luther201@windstream.net.

MINGLE ON MARKET & THE FARMERS MARKET IS RETURNING THIS YEAR!

Mingle on Market and the Farmers Market will start at 5PM and will be in the parking lot by Fox’s Pizza. Music will begin at 6PM.

Mingle on Market will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

The Farmers Market will be held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

In addition, the Leechburg Volunteer Fire Company will hold a “Cruise In” on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

These events will continue from June until October.

Mingle on Market will be held on the following dates:

July 13
August 10
September 14
October 12

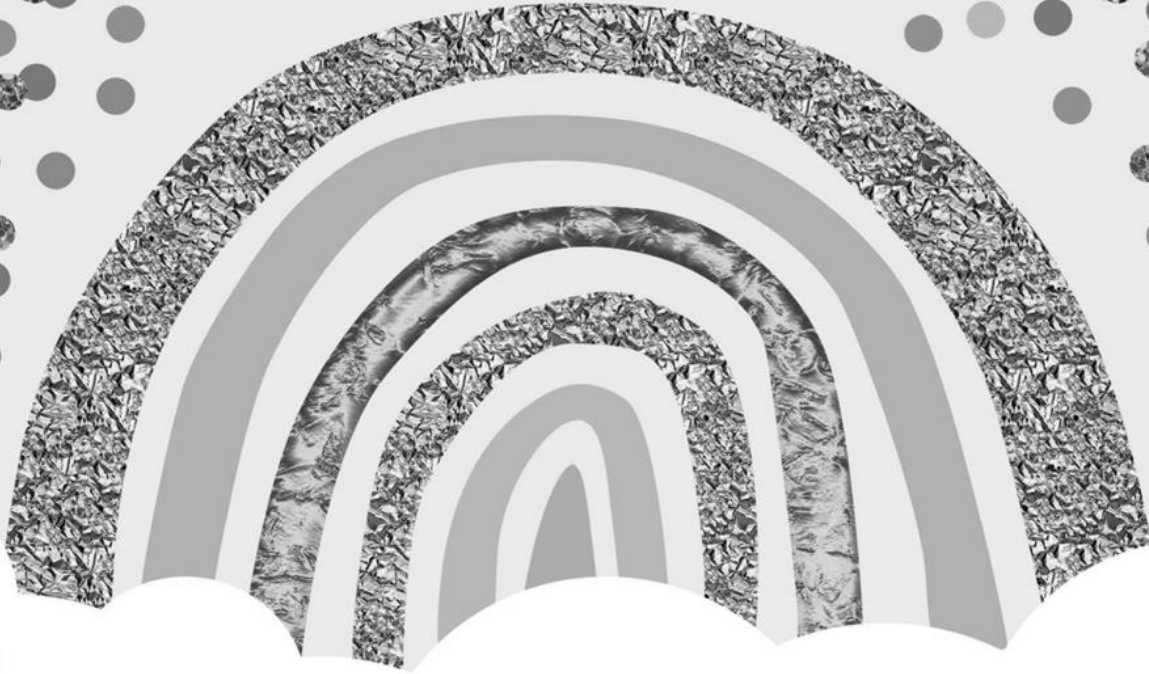
**Please note that Market Street will NOT be closed for Mingle on Market. **

The Farmers Market will be held on these dates:

July 13
July 27
August 10
August 24
September 14
September 28
October 12

THE GILPIN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT will be having a Chicken Dinner Sale! The sale will take place on *Saturday, July 8, 2023*, at the Gilpin Township Fire Hall. The dinner includes baked breaded chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, cole slaw, roll & dessert. The cost is \$11.00/per dinner. **They are accepting preorders only.** Call 724-845-7200 to place your order. If there is no answer, they ask to please leave your name, phone number and the number of dinners you would like. Pick-up will start at 4PM and will be conducted drive-thru style.

DONATE BLOOD! The Gilpin Township Volunteer Fire Department will also be hosting a Blood Drive on *Friday, July 14, 2023*, from *12PM – 5PM*. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: GTVFD to schedule an appointment. The drive will be held in the Social Hall – 113 Fire Hall Road – Leechburg 15656.



Block Party!

BACK 2 SCHOOL

SAT. AUGUST 12

11 AM TO 2 PM

Main Street in Leechburg
Between First and Second Streets
free food, refreshments, games, music, and more!

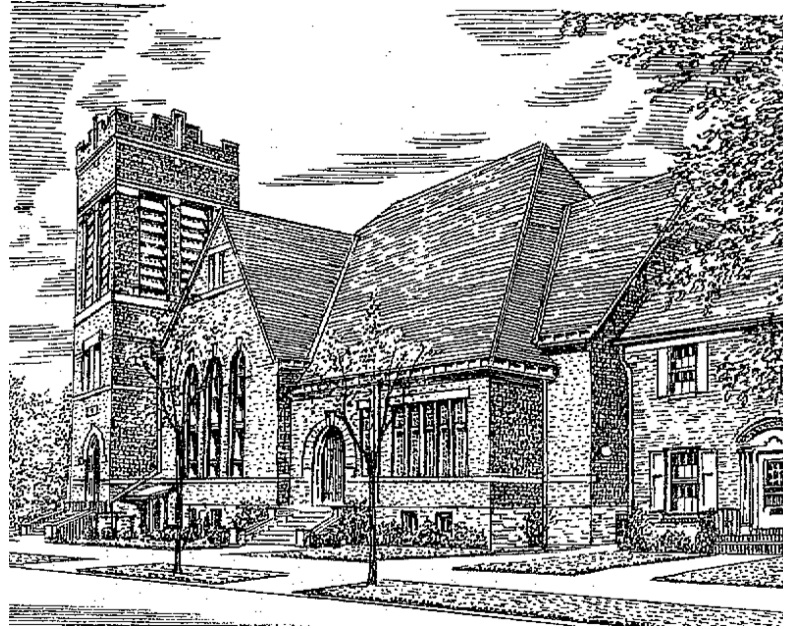
Sponsored by the
Leechburg Ministerial Association

HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER: JULY 2023

201 MAIN STREET
LEECHBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
15656-1604

luther201@windstream.net
724-842-0801

If you would like to be removed from our
mailing list, please call or email the church
office.



Hebron Evangelical Lutheran Church
201 Main Street
Leechburg, PA 15656

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

