

HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 53, Issue 3

March 2023

²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47

Dear Grace and Emmanuel, et al.,

It seems I am writing this newsletter to a lot of congregations right now, and I would like to invite the Grace/Emmanuel parish to hold St. Johns, Hebron, and St. Paul's in your prayers and they discern the next steps of their interim transition. The three of them are the et al. in the salutation. May they be guided by the Holy Spirit in accordance with God's word.

Let me tell all of you that Lent is unquestionably my favorite season of the Church year. I mean that in all sincerity. Lent is the one season outside of "ordinary time" that Madison Avenue hasn't figured out how to co-opt, and I don't think they will. The central practices of the season are prayer, fasting, and giving of alms. None of these are easily marketable. The world often looks at them as trials to be endured. The 40 days of the liturgical season itself are modeled on the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness.

I thought of putting that passage at the top of this page and pointing out that Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit during that time, but being "filled with the Spirit" is an abstract phrase for many of us in mainline Christianity. Instead, I chose to include a passage describing a community that dedicated themselves to these practices. That passage doesn't sound like much of a trial, does it? It actually sounds rather wonderful, and yet they were devoted to prayer, alms and fasting.

They were devoted to daily prayer. They gave alms to the point that they held no possessions, and they fasted from all the world's greed, subsisting only on what they held in common. They did all of this that seems so austere and arrived at glad and generous hearts. They even maintained the goodwill of all the people, not just the other disciples. That's the way I like to view Lent.

These forty days are an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the practices and spiritual experiences that drew many of us to the Church in the first place. It's a time to reconnect with the Holy Spirit. It is also a great time to find the Holy Spirit in the first place. Dedicated to communal prayer, alms, and fasting we can find ourselves filled with glad and generous hearts. I can't promise that the Lord will add to the numbers of those with membership in our institution, but day by day the Lord will add to the number of those being saved.

I invite the et al. contingent to look through your newsletters and see the opportunities your community is offering you to experience the practices of Lent. At Grace/Emmanuel we will be having a Wednesday Lent Luncheon with prayer service focused around the five senses. The doors of the Church hosting that Wednesday's will be opened from Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 AM as I will lead the daily Matins (morning prayer). Our loose offerings continue to put your Alms into the community, and your presence is a blessing to all. Let us make our way towards Holy Week breaking bread together with glad and generous hearts.

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

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 2022 Annual Report. Copies of the Annual Report are available upon request.



THE LEECHBURG ROTARY would like to thank all who donated to our Christmas Pajama, and Children's book Project. We received over 200 pairs of pajamas and 40 children's books. These were donated to Children, Youth and Families Services, Haven, The Salvation Army, Life Choices and the Veteran Center. They were all most grateful for these donations along with \$120.00 worth of food certificates for needy families. Bless you all for your generosity. ~Pat Gerheim, Leechburg Rotary

THANK YOU for the Christmas Goody Bag and for thinking of me during the holiday. Thank you also to Sandy Grantz and Velma Knell for organizing this every year. ~ Theresa Brechbill

THANK YOU for your participation in the Glade Run Lutheran Services Christmas Angel Program. Your support and generosity has made a difference in the lives of so many individuals. Many thanks for your continued prayers and contributions. We're grateful! ~Steven Green, President/CEO of Glade Run



PASTOR ERIC DAMON will be the local interim for Hebron and St. Paul's Highfield 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.



REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER CAMP 2023 IS OPEN! Please visit www.lutherlyn.com for dates, prices, details and registration. For additional information please contact the camp office at 724-865-2161. Please talk to a council member if your child is interested in attending Lutherlyn this summer! There are funds available to pay for this wonderful opportunity.



GILPIN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT will be holding a Blood Drive on *Friday, March 10, 2023, from 12PM – 5PM*. If you are able, please consider donating as there is currently a nation-wide blood shortage. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: GTVFD.



SAVE YOUR COINS!! The Outreach Committee is beginning the "Coins for Cancer" Project. This project was started last year in order to boost our donation to "Pink Day." Please save your change and drop it in the kettle placed in the back of the church! If you have any questions, please see Barb Talmadge.



Celebrating Birthdays in March!

- 1 Carol Smail
- 2 Scott Compton
- 2 Paul Sober
- 8 Molly Scitticatt
- 8 Kalin Wilson
- 9 Mary Gene Shaner
- 14 Paula Henry
- 20 Mark Baudino
- 20 Andy Smietana
- 24 Joshua Roofner
- 28 Charles A. Stull
- 30 Trisha Smail
- 31 Debra Smith



Celebrating Anniversaries in March!

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|
| 2 | Scott & Heather Compton | 32 nd |
| 4 | Emilio & Judy Perez | 62 nd |
| 6 | John & Beverly King | 69 th |



THE MARCH COUNCIL MEETING will be held on *Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6PM* in the Berean Room.

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A NEWSLETTER? The cost to sponsor a newsletter is \$65.00, which helps cover the cost of postage. If you have any questions, please call the church office.



THE LENTEN SEASON HAS BEGUN! Hebron has been invited to join Forks-Zion Lutheran Church for mid-week Wednesday evening soup suppers and worship. Beginning *Wednesday, March 1, 2023*, and continuing until *Wednesday, March 29*, Forks-Zion will be hosting a soup supper followed by worship service. The soup supper will begin at 6PM, with six different soups to choose from; Worship will immediately follow, and begin at 7PM. All services will be led by Forks-Zion’s lay leader, Brad Ferko. If you have any questions, please contact Glenna Stitt at 724-448-1766.

FRIDAY LENTEN LUNCHESES ARE BACK! The Leechburg Ministerial will again be sponsoring *Friday Lenten Lunches*. The lunches will begin at 11:45AM and will be held in the fellowship hall of Cross Roads Church – 271 Main Street, Leechburg. The lunch will be a ‘sit-down’ meal, followed by devotions from local clergy. A freewill offering will be accepted.

The clergy schedule is as follows:

- March 2 – Pastor Sara Wrona
- March 10 – Pastor Jim Arter
- March 17 – Father James Loew
- March 24 – Pastor Charles Harvey
- March 31 – Pastor Lynette Moran

Hebron has also been asked to organize the ‘sit-down’ meal for *Wednesday, March 31, 2023*. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Marty Bash.



PALM/PASSION SUNDAY – SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2023 – Worship beginning at 10:30AM at Hebron. Bishop Kurt Kusserow is scheduled to lead worship this Sunday.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023 – Worship beginning at 7PM and will be held at Hebron.

GOOD FRIDAY – FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2023 – Worship beginning at 7PM and will be held at St. Paul’s Highfield.

EASTER VIGIL – SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2023 – Worship beginning at 8PM and will be held at Hebron.



HEBRON'S EASTER MORNING SERVICE will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2023. Worship will begin at 10:30AM. Updates regarding a pulpit supply for this service will be published as they are made available.



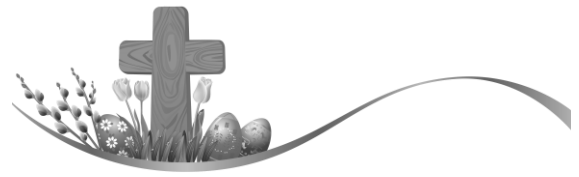
OUR NEWSLETTERS are now available electronically via Hebron's website! Just visit www.hebronlutheranleechburg.org and click the "NEWSLETTER" tab at the top of the page. You can also receive the newsletters via email! If you would like to receive the newsletter in PDF format, please call the church office or email: luther201@windstream.net.

HEBRON IS SAD TO REPORT that our organist, Gregg LeMay, has resigned from his position. His last Sunday at Hebron will be on February 26, 2023. Many, many thanks to Gregg for filling the sanctuary with beautiful music every Sunday morning!



THE SHAMROCK SHUFFLE 5K & FUN WALK will be held Saturday, March 18, 2023, at the West Leechburg Fire Department Social Hall – 1116 Gosser Street. Registration will begin at 9AM, and the race will begin at 10AM. The 5K run is for serious or casual runners of all ages and will be digitally timed by GCXC Race Timing & Management. If you want to participate but aren't a 'runner,' there will also be a 1-mile Family Fun Walk beginning at the same time. Costumes are highly encouraged and leashed furry-friends are welcome! Ribbons will be awarded for age-specific categories. Visit www.sempergratuspgh.org for more information and/or to register for the shuffle!

THE FIRST DAY OF SPRING is on Monday, March 20, 2023!



ORDER FORMS FOR 2023 EASTER FLOWERS will be sent out by mail at a later date. Information regarding pricing, due dates, and delivery times had not yet been made available at the time of publishing this newsletter. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

EASTER ABIDING MEMORIALS are due to the church office no later than Friday, March 31, 2023.



PLEASE REMEMBER THAT HEBRON'S WORSHIP SERVICE TIME WILL CHANGE TO 10:30AM, BEGINNING SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023.



THE LEECHBURG MINISTERIAL will be sponsoring a Cross Walk on Good Friday (April 7, 2023), beginning at 2PM. A short walk through Leechburg will consist of worship and prayer in remembrance of Jesus' journey to the cross. The walk will begin and conclude at First United Methodist Church – 251 Main Street, Leechburg.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS Sunday, March 12, 2023. Remember to turn your clocks ahead!



MARCH 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Lenten Lunch 11:45AM Cross Roads	4
5 WORSHIP 10:30AM	6	7	8 Mid-Week Soup Supper & Worship 6PM/7PM Forks-Zion	9	10 Lenten Lunch 11:45AM Cross Roads	11
12 WORSHIP 10:30AM	13	14 COUNCIL MEETING 6PM	15 Mid-Week Soup Supper & Worship 6PM/7PM Forks-Zion	16	17 Lenten Lunch 11:45AM Cross Roads	18 5K Shamrock Shuffle & Fun Walk
19 WORSHIP 10:30AM	20	21	22 Mid-Week Soup Supper & Worship 6PM/7PM Forks-Zion	23	24 Lenten Lunch 11:45AM Cross Roads	25
26 WORSHIP 10:30AM	27	28	29 Mid-Week Soup Supper & Worship 6PM/7PM Forks-Zion	30	31 Lenten Lunch 11:45AM Cross Roads	



MARCH 2023

DATE/DAY/COLOR	USHERS	ALTAR FLOWERS	BULLETINS
<p>March 5 Second Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Purple</p>	<p>Carolyn Smith- Hickman & Tiffany Smietana- Lysell</p>	<p>In memory of the February 22 birthday of my grandfather, PAUL SLONAKER, and the March 21 birthdays of my dad, BILL KLINGENSMITH, and my grandfather, 'AB' KLINGENSMITH. By: Nancy Fondrk</p>	<p>In honor of MY CHILDREN and My Dear Friend, JUDY PEREZ. By: Barb Manifest</p>
<p>March 12 Third Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Purple</p>	<p>Charles Klingensmith & Jean Stull</p>	<p>In memory of grandfather, great-grandfather and great- great-grandfather, SILAS W. SMELTZER, and father, grandfather, and great- grandfather, DALE R. SMITH. By: Lloyd, Carolyn & Chelsae Hickman and Charlie, Ashley, Kenley & Karsyn Rogers</p>	<p>By: Marty Bash</p>
<p>March 19 Fourth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Purple</p>	<p>Barb Talmadge & Nathan Boarts</p>	<p>In memory of the March Birthdays of Our Parents, HUGH & BETTY STEVENSON. By: Tom & Dan Stevenson</p>	<p>In memory of the March birthdays of Our Parents, HUGH & BETTY STEVENSON. By: Tom and Dan Stevenson</p>
<p>March 26 Fifth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Purple</p>	<p>Carolyn Smith- Hickman & Nancy Fondrk</p>	<p>In memory of ROBERT & CLAIRE HILEMAN, ISABEL MCKALLIP, and DON, NELLIE, WILBERT & ROSE ANNA HILEMAN. By: Their Family</p>	<p>In honor of My Great- Granddaughter's, AVA JANE DILICK, 2nd birthday. By: Barb Manifest</p>



CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet on alternating Sundays, from 1PM to 3PM. Five congregations will be making this confirmation journey together – First, Hebron, and Forks-Zion in Leechburg; Bethesda in Lower Burrell; and St. Paul’s Highfield in Vandergrift. Three to four consecutive classes will be held at each church during the year. Snacks are provided by the host church, and parents are invited to attend classes as often as possible. The most basic requirement is to attend classes and Sunday worship. Classes will NOT be on Zoom this year. As weather permits, some classes may be outdoors. The confirmation journey is two years, beginning at 7th grade. Pastor Jim, from First, will continue and complete the confirmation year for Hebron’s students. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jim at 724-845-7518.

March 5, 2023 – Connecting with God through Prayer and Forgiveness

Readings: Psalm 23, 51, 150; Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:9-15, 18:3-35; Mark 11:25; Luke 23:34a; Colossians 3:13

March 19, 2023 – The Sacrament of Baptism: Word and Water

Readings: Matthew 3:1-17; Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 26:19-23; Colossians 3:1-14; Matthew 28:16-20; Genesis 6-9; 2 Kings 5:1-14; Romans 6:3-11

March classes will be held at: **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH** – 358 Main Street, Leechburg, PA 15656; Phone number: 724-845-7518

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES FOR APRIL AND MAY 2023: April 9 & April 23; May 7, May 21 & May 28

OPEN BULLETIN DATES FOR APRIL AND MAY 2023: April 9 and May 28

If you are interested in one of the “open” dates listed above, please contact the church office by phone or email. Bulletins are \$5.00/per Sunday. Checks can be made payable to: Hebron Lutheran Church.

THE MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY BILL AND VELMA KNELL.
Hebron appreciates your donation!



THE LEECHBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY will be hosting a Fish Fry from 3PM – 7PM, every Friday during Lent. Options include eat-in, curbside/pick-up or local delivery. To order, please call 724-842-3141 or 724-845-1684. For more information, a complete menu and price list, visit the LVFC Facebook page.



CONGRATUALTIONS to Barb Manifest who became a great-grandmother again! Barb’s great-granddaughter, Harper Catherine, was born on January 30, 2023, weighing 8 pounds 11 ounces, and measuring 19 ½ inches. Many blessings to Barb and her family!



Remember in your prayers: Jeff Brown, Brian Codisport, Denise Fulton, Lori Hileman, Shawn and Robert Jewett, Larry Jordan, Keith Kepple, Ted Klingensmith, Sarah Krouse, Brandi McCracken and family, Dave McCracken, Bob McDermott, Walter McGuire, Victoria Roberts and family, Lisa Sanchez & Lindsey Simon

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

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.

FEBRUARY 2023 COUNCIL MEETING NOTES...

GENERAL ITEMS:

- Sean McCracken and Violet Stivason resigned from council/committees
- Gregg LeMay submitted his letter of resignation; His last Sunday at Hebron will be February 26, 2023
 - Job will be posted to Hebron's Facebook page and information will be sent to SWPA Synod for advertisement
- Discussion of reviewing the Mutual Ministry Agreement; ultimate decision regarding agreement can only be made by the congregation

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP:

- Marty volunteered to chair the committee; Carolyn, Nathan Boarts & Jean Stull will also be on committee
- Mission Support Intent Form needs submitted to SWPA Synod; Chelsae will submit report with our pledge of \$8,000 – as voted on in the 2023 budget

WORSHIP & MUSIC:

- Carolyn volunteered to chair the committee
- A Zoom line for Hebron would cost \$149.90/year; this would permit us to stream worship services on Zoom ONLY; There were volunteers who stated they would pay for Hebron's Zoom subscription – Barb will reach out and see if that offer is still available; Would like to start streaming services ASAP
 - Pastor Damon explained that services cannot be streamed or posted on Facebook because Hebron does not have the proper licensing; licensing for this would be a minimum of \$700
 - Chelsae added that Hebron has all equipment on hand to immediately start streaming services once the subscription is purchased; Nathan Boarts volunteered to set up equipment and help with testing
- Looking for volunteers for Altar Guild
- Pastor Jim sent information regarding Friday Lenten Lunches – will be each Friday during Lent; Lunches will be sit-down and will be held in the social hall at Cross Roads Presbyterian Church – start time of 11:45AM
 - Pastor Jim previously contacted Barb to see if Hebron would prepare the lunch for Friday, March 31, 2023; Meals will be sit-down; Marty will reach out to Pastor Jim regarding what type of meal we need to provide and will coordinate lunch for 3/31
- Worship service time will be changing to 10:30AM on Sunday, March 5, 2023
- Pastor Peter Asplin is scheduled to lead Ash Wednesday service at SPH
- Bishop Kurt is scheduled to lead worship at SPH & Hebron on Palm Sunday (April 2, 2023)
- A postcard was submitted to synod requesting pulpit coverage for all Holy Week Services

PROPERTY:

- Lloyd Hickman will start the work to obtain bids for updating the church electrical system
- Barb & Chelsae will handle getting the boilers inspected – due by April 2023
- Walkthrough completed of the parsonage; Small repairs will need to be made; Parsonage will require periodic checks – flush toilets, run water, etc.
- Handicapped access throughout the building needs updated; Carolyn will begin collecting information

OUTREACH:

- Barb volunteered to chair the committee
- Kettle for “Coins for Cancer” fundraiser will be placed in the back of the church; this will begin/continue our fundraising for Pink Day
- Chelsae and Barb will work to create an updated “Emergency Contact” Sheet that will be sent out to the congregation; these were last sent out in 2020

JOINT COUNCIL:

- Need a member from council to serve on Joint Council
 - Pastor Damon stated that it does not have to be a member of council; can be a member of the congregation who is willing to attend Joint Council meetings and then report that information back to Hebron's council

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

- All Ushers must learn how to use the iPads
- Key Usage Policy will be created regarding who is given keys to the building and the responsibilities of the key holder

Please pray for Hebron 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.

I WISH TO SERVE HEBRON!

There are lots of ways for our children, youth, families, and members to become involved with our congregation. Please take this opportunity to look over the many areas where you may put your gifts to use at Hebron. Please circle as many areas as you wish, and put this form in the offering or drop it off at the church. If you have any questions, please see a council member. **Many hands make light work!**

I WOULD LIKE TO SERVE AS:

- Worship Assistant
- Acolyte
- Usher
- Lesson Reader
- Sunday School Teacher
- Joint Council Member
- Council Member

OTHER AREAS THAT INTEREST ME:

- Altar Guild
- Home visitation
- Synod Delegate

I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN A COMMITTEE:

- Finance
- Property
- Worship & Music
- Outreach
- Christian Education

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Ms. Chelsae A. Hickman, Church Secretary
Office Hours: Monday, Thursday & Friday 9A-1P
Mrs. Kasey Boarts, Church Sexton

HEBRON'S 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS:

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

2023 COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Barb Talmadge	Carolyn Smith-Hickman
Charles Klingensmith	Marty Bash

HEBRON'S MINISTRY COMMITTEES:

Outreach: Barb Talmadge

Finance/Stewardship: Marty Bash
Carolyn Smith-Hickman
Nathan Boarts
Jean Stull

Worship & Music: Carolyn Smith-Hickman

Personnel/Mutual Ministry: Carolyn Smith-Hickman
Barb Talmadge

Joint Council: Velma Knell
Nancy Fondrk

If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact a Council member today!

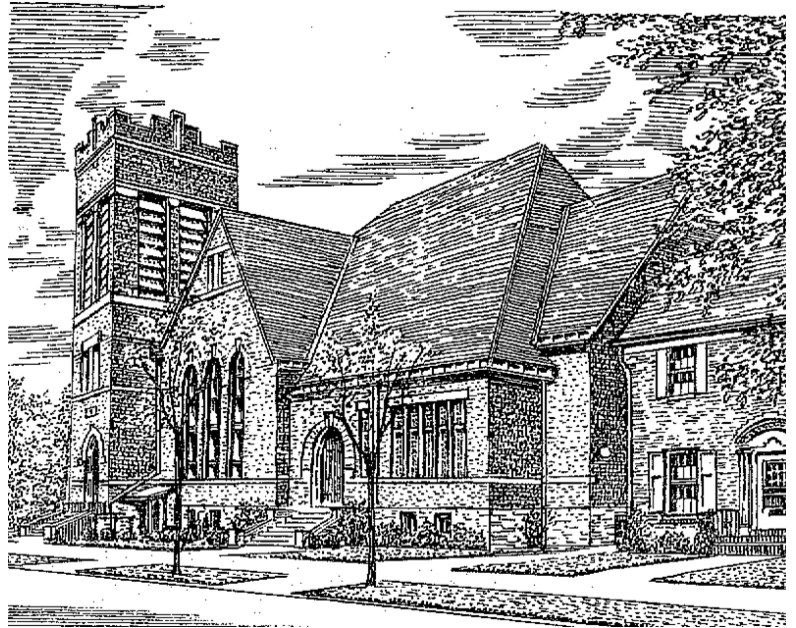


HEBRON EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER: MARCH 2023

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

