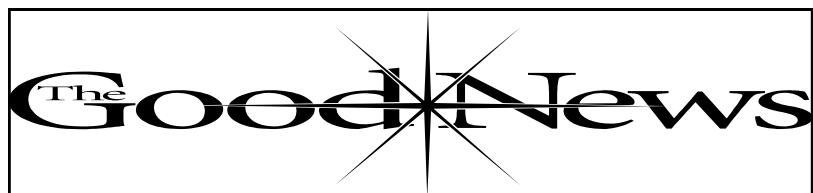


Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
311 Second Street
Schwenksville, PA 19473



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

SOW: The Gospel of Jesus the Christ to all generations

GROW: His followers into spiritually mature disciples

GO: Back into the world to serve others in His name

December 2023

Looking Ahead

- ◆ Monday, December 4th - 6:30 PM: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00 PM: JLNSDC Board Meeting (Social Hall)
- ◆ Tuesday, December 5th - 7:00 PM: Council Meeting
- ◆ Wednesday, December 6th - 1:00 PM: Worship & Music Meeting (Office Parlor)
- ◆ Monday, December 11th - 6:30 PM: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- ◆ Tuesday, December 12th - Care Team Sight and Sound Trip
7:30 PM: Finance Committee Virtual Meeting
- ◆ Saturday, December 16th - 9:00 AM: Chrismon Tree Decorating (Sanctuary)
10:00 AM-12:00 PM: Cookies with Santa (Social Hall)
- ◆ Sunday, December 17th: ***Poinsettias Orders Due & January Good News Deadline***
12:00 PM: Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- ◆ Monday, December 18th - 6:30 PM: Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (TBD)
- ◆ Sunday, December 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve
10:00 AM: Regular Sunday Single Worship Service
Christmas Eve Services:
4 PM Children's Christmas Pageant
7 & 10 PM Candlelight Communion Worship Services
- ◆ Monday, December 25th - Merry Christmas
- ◆ Sunday, December 31st - New Year's Eve: 10:00 AM: Regular Sunday Single Worship Service



The DiDomenico Family suffered a house fire on November 16th. The fire along with smoke and water destroyed not only their home but their clothing, furniture, furnishings etc. We are asking members to contribute funds or gift cards to help Mike, Maija, Nico and Nina. If you chose to contribute funds you should make the check out to Michael DiDomenico. If donating cash please place in a sealed envelope with "*DiDomenico Family*" written on the outside. You can then place this in the offering plate or drop off at the church office. The church will have your donation delivered to the DiDomenico Family. If you would choose to donate a gift card, we request gift cards from Target or Amazon and follow the above directions. We are called to help our neighbor when in need so thank you for helping these neighbors as they rebuild their home in the next year.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

It is once again time to start planning for our Annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant.

Pageant will take place during our Christmas Eve 4PM service.

Rehearsals will be held **Monday nights:** 12/11, 12/18
from 6:30 - 8:00 PM.

Dress rehearsal will be held on Sunday, December 17th at 12 PM

We would love for everyone to participate. Please let your Sunday School teacher know if your child would be interested in participating this year. Please email the church office with any question or to confirm you will be participating.

Good News Deadline

GOOD NEWS DEADLINE For the **JANUARY** Edition is
Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Please send all submissions to secretary@jelc.org or drop off at the Church office.



**Sunday, December 24, 2023
4th Sunday of Advent**

Single Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 AM.



Christmas Eve Services: December 24, 2023

4:00 PM: Children's Annual Christmas Pageant

7:00 PM: Candlelight Communion Service

10:00 PM: Candlelight Communion Service

We want to thank all volunteers who will be decorating our Church for Advent and Christmas. The window sills will be trimmed with globes, candles and bows, wreaths will be hung on the doors and the Manger Scene will be set up in the Narthex. We will have a smaller, but beautiful version of the Chrismon Tree trimmed with lights and adorned with as many Chrismons as will fit!



**New Year's Eve Worship Schedule:
Sunday, December 31, 2023: One service at 10:00 AM**



Please check appropriate box:

I wish to order _____ red poinsettia(s) for decorating the chancel on Christmas Eve. The price of the poinsettias is **\$11.00 each**.

_____ I wish to make a donation to World Hunger. (Please check here)

Please fill out form below and give with check or exact change to:

Jerusalem Lutheran Church
311 Second Street Schwenksville, PA 19473
ATTN: POINSETTIA/DONATIONS

You must notify the Church Office by Sunday, December 17, 2023

In memory of _____

or

In honor of _____

Presented by _____

**Poinsettias may be picked up after the last Christmas Eve service, or after the following service on Sunday, December 31, 2023 after single service at 10:00 AM.
Any flowers left will be distributed to our shut-ins.**

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Abby King
07 Pam Moser
08 Idalis Lopez
11 Julie Erb
13 Ethan Lonesky, Tucker Gilbert,
Sean Ortiz
16 Kenneth Hamilton
17 Jordan Pfister
18 Zaidy Ortiz



20 Michael Kehs
21 Dustin Keyser, Kelly Szczesny
25 Tricia Hawks, Lisa Pfister
28 Matthew Connolly
29 Artie Heimbach, Nicholas Rittich
30 Marlene Heimbach, Helen Wells
31 Norma Grosick



Chrismon Tree

The Chrismon Tree is a great tradition in our church.
Every year the Chrismon Tree adorns our sanctuary
and brings a piece of history to the holidays.

We need help again this year decorating for the Christmas season.

"Many hands make light work."

We know everyone is busy this time of year, but any assistance would be appreciated!!!

Saturday, December 16th, 2023- 9:00 AM Decorate Chrismon tree
Please stay tuned for information in regards to taking down the tree in January.

Jerusalem Lutheran Church Congregational & Community Event

Cookies with Santa

Saturday, December 16th from 10 AM-12 PM
in the Social Hall

All are invited! Please invite your family, friends and
neighbors for a time of jolly and cheer.

Donations for cookies are welcomed and appreciated!
Please reach out to the church office if interested in
donating cookies!



Cookies with Santa

Staff Appreciation Gift: We are now collecting donations for the staff Christmas gift for Pastor Stan, David and Glenda. If you are able and would like to donate toward this gift, please use the **Staff Appreciation Gift** envelope included with your packet of envelopes mailed to you quarterly or use the envelope included with the Bulletin or News letter. You can deliver it at worship on December 3rd, 10th or 17th, or you can mail it in to the office. If you don't have an envelope, you can simply write a check and mark "Staff Christmas Gift" on the memo line. We need to have these donations in hand by December 17th in order to be able to present them by Christmas.

Pastoral Musings...

Christmas is upon us which I am sure is no surprise to you. I have found that my experience of Christmas has changed according to where I am in life. As a child it was magical and exciting, as a young adult working in retail it was a date I wanted to come as soon as possible so my work hours would return to normal, as a young Pastor it was a time of joy and peace and now I experience Christmas more quietly. This year I look forward to seeing my oldest granddaughter experience the joy and magic that comes with her age and hope to regain some of that magic myself. Christmas changes according to our life experiences and age. I still look forward to the Christmas Eve services and celebrations in church. Yet, I feel my feelings have become dulled by life and I wish that was not the case.

This is not to say I don't feel anything. Christmas now is a more reflective and inner experience. What I miss is the sense of delight and excitement as expressed in this statement used in some services: ***"Let us dance with delight in the Lord and let our hearts be filled with rejoicing, for eternal salvation has appeared in the earth, alleluia."***

To 'dance with delight in the Lord' is what I yearn for. How does one find that delight and urge to dance? My Germanic heritage is one of restraint and caution. This Christmas I hope for myself and for you that we all find such delight and joy in the Lord that we have no choice but to dance, to shout alleluias, to sing, to proclaim the truth of Christmas.

As Irenaeus of the third century describes why we need to dance: ***"Because of his boundless love, Jesus became what we are, that he might make us to be what he is."*** This is why we dance! Jesus came into the world as one like us to show us the path of faith to become what he knows us to be. We are the sisters and brothers of Jesus and the children of God! We are baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus! So, yes we need to dance and sing and shout to the world, to those in our world this truth. For when we see that Jesus' birth was a gift for us from God we then feel the joy and hope of this celebration.

I hope and pray we all have a rebirth this Christmas of deeper faith knowing we have the gift of Jesus which transforms us into his likeness. May you find this joy, may you dance and sing and laugh with the spirit of the Christ child within you.

***Christmas Joy and Peace,
Pastor Stan***

Stan Steele



Events Highlights



On November 19th, some of our Sunday School students participated in the ***Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child Project***. Thanks to the great support from our congregation the children were able to fill almost 40 boxes which was dropped off to a distribution site by Gina Weygand. Children learned the magnitude and impact this project provides which helps distribute these boxes to children in over 120 countries. Thank you all for your donations and for helping spread the love of Jesus around the globe.



Congratulations



Our sincere congratulations on the wedding of Madeline & Samuel Conte on November 3rd, 2023.

The Conte wedding was the first wedding officiated by Pastor Stan here at Jerusalem Lutheran Church. Also it was the first wedding we've had since 6yrs.

It was a beautiful moment and we are so happy to have been able to part of it. Maddie's familial roots run deep at Jerusalem Lutheran Church. She was the 5th generation to be married in this church.

Maddie's profession is an elementary school teacher. She wanted to incorporate the love of her students into their wedding bulletins. Below are graphics from a couple of her students drawings the she used as front and back cover of the bulletins.





CARE TEAM

Sunshine Friends Birthdays: Helen Wells—December 30th.

Looking forward - Care Team will be visiting Sight and Sound to see "Miracle of Christmas" on Dec. 12th

Jack Bowman is looking to purchase tickets to see "Daniel" at Sight and Sound theatre on Tues. July 9th, 2024. We need a total of 15 people to get the ticket discount. 12 spots have already been reserved. Price of discounted ticket is \$94. Please see Jack Bowman if you are interested.

The Care Team is starting a Prayer Circle. When someone needs immediate prayers the Prayer Circle will be notified and will pray for your special need. If you have a prayer need, please contact Pastor Stan or Babs deFrenes and they will activate the Prayer Chain. We currently have 10 people who will personally pray for your needs.

"Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people" ~Ephesians 6:18

Bags for our Sunshine Friends will be hung in the Narthex and will be taken down on Dec. 17th after the 11:00am service and distributed. Please remember our Sunshine Friends for Christmas with cards.

Ida Lance

1421 South Collegeville Road
Collegeville, PA 19426

Jeanette Frey

2849 Big Rd. Apt. 1116
Zieglerville, PA 19492

Jean Fulmer

20 Church Road
Schwenksville, PA 19473



John Markley

2802 Paper Mill Road
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Dorie Rahm

815 Maplewood Drive APT 261
Harleysville, PA 19438

Helen Wells

Manatawny Manor,
Room 203-B
Old Schuylkill Road
Route 724
Pottstown, PA 19465

Janice & Ed Witte

Amity Place, Apt 423
139 Old Swede Road
Douglassville, PA 19518

Our next meeting will be on January 18th at 9:30 AM in the Youth Center.



In Remembrance

"For All the Saints Who from Their Labors Rest"

*For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who Thee by faith before
the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Betty Annis
Lori Souder
Paul Lotz
William Cressman
Lizzie Bence
Barnard Slemmer
Brenda Morgan
Karen Bertsch

November 25, 2022
December 1, 2022
December 10, 2022
December 13, 2022
December 23, 2022
January 30, 2023
March 29, 2023
March 25, 2023

Jane Markley
Mark Burton
June Kolb
Marie Kehs
Dr. Lyman Lundeen
George Wisniewski
Betsy South

April 1, 2023
April 27, 2023
May 15, 2023
August 9, 2023
August 10, 2023
September 21, 2023
October 7, 2023

Mark your Calendars



ASP Special Events-Mark your Calendars: 2024 Date: July 20/21-27

Location: TBD (request for Kentucky)

Eligibility: Have completed 8th grade and be 14 years old

Cost: minimum deposit \$75

Fundraiser Dates:

January 12th – Italian Dinner February 11th – Hoagie Sale

May 5th - Taco Lunch March 17th – Breakfast

****Help will be needed for all fundraisers either the day before or early in the morning before church to set up and prep food****

Adult contacts:

Caesar Gorski

Robin Schlichter

Norma Grosick

Jennifer Wolk

Becky Dice

Karen Vossen



Italian Dinner



Date: January 12th

Time: 5:00-7:00

Cost: \$12 for adult meal, \$8 for kids meal, \$45 for family meal (feeds 4)

Eat in or take out. Delivery option available for seniors

Please talk to Becky Dice or Norma Grosick to pre-order your meal.

Spring Mountain Ice Skating Youth Event

Monday, January 15, 2024 2:00 - 4:00 PM

(time may be subject to change, we will update if changes are made)

Tickets are \$16 per person which includes rentals for skates.

This is a family event! All are welcomed!

For more information please contact Norma Grosick at: 610-487-5673





JERUSALEM LUTHERAN NURSERY SCHOOL AND DAY CARE CENTER

There is an extra amount of excitement in the air at JLDC as we prepare to celebrate Christmas, the most joyous of holidays. Along with Santa Claus, stockings, ornaments, candy canes, and reindeer, we will be learning about the true meaning of Christmas. We will be having a party complete with cake and ice cream in honor of Jesus' birthday. In addition, as we read about the first Christmas and discuss the gifts which the wise men brought to Jesus, the children will be encouraged to think about what gifts they would give to baby Jesus. We feel it is important for the children to learn about giving and not just receiving presents. Furthermore, we are looking forward to viewing the Chrismon tree in the church sanctuary and hearing a special presentation from Pastor Stan as he explains the meaning of the ornaments on the tree. Also, we will be spreading Christmas cheer throughout the holiday season. To begin with, we will be visiting the Greenfield Senior Living Community for a morning of caroling, love, and laughter. Next, we will be displaying some of our festive artwork at the Perkiomen Valley Library for the enjoyment of the patrons. We will also be making cheerful Christmas cards for our Sunshine Friends. Finally, we wish everyone at JELC a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year!

Reminder: Please check our Facebook page at Jerusalem Lutheran Nursery School and Day Care later in the month to view the children performing a variety of Christmas songs and finger plays.

*Prayer Request: Please join us in praying that God will provide the staff that is needed at JLNS&DC. Our dedicated staff has been working longer hours to maintain a safe learning environment for all the children enrolled in our programs. Your prayers are greatly appreciated!

We would like to offer special thanks to the following JELC members:

Gene and Pat Miesse for donating delicious snacks.

Paul Ensminger for removing the office air conditioner for the winter.

Jen Wolk for providing the delicious Thanksgiving desserts to the staff.

We are grateful for their faithful support!

Finance Committee

FINANCE UPDATE –NOVEMBER 2023

The Finance Committee continues to monitor Jerusalem's financial situation and giving as reflected in our monthly reports.

Current Income for the month of October was \$17,823 and Current Expenses were \$26,486 which was a shortfall of **\$8,663**.

Current Income for the year to date was \$179,030 and Current Expenses were 255,202 for a shortfall of **\$76,172**.

Total Income for the month of October was \$18,574 and Total Expenses were \$26,486 for a shortfall of **\$7,912**.

Total Income for the year to date was \$200,367 and Total Expenses were \$318,314 for a shortfall of **\$117,947**.

Attendance for the month of October was 365 an increase of 105 from October 2022. Year to date attendance was 3,497, an increase of 732 from the total of 2,765 in 2022.

We have liquidated \$76,000 from the Foundation Fund, with more anticipated, and \$43,000 from the Building Fund. It is important to note that the more that is liquidated from the reserve accounts, the less income that these reserves will generate!

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

Please give prayerful consideration to how you may be able to serve the Lord at Jerusalem, whether it be financially or with your time and talents!

Thank You.

The Finance Committee

TREASURER EXPENSE REPORT OCTOBER 2023

	October-23	YTD 2023	YTD BUDGET	YTD 2022	YTD 2021
Total Current Expenses	\$26,486	\$255,202	\$269,170	\$251,705	\$211,356
Benevolence Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$17,520	\$0	\$11,336
Capital Expenses	\$0	\$63,112	\$0	\$13,175	\$2,559
Total Expenses	\$26,486	\$318,314	\$286,690	\$264,880	\$225,251

Expenses for non-budgeted programs YTD through 10/31/23 were as follows:

Food Pantry
World Hunger
Lutheran World Relief

ASP \$5,124
MAJC

Memorials \$0
Puppet Ministry
World Vision
Flowers
Ensminger Scholarship
Confirmation
Puppet Ministry

Local Benevolence \$560
Disaster Response \$3,866
Total for non-budgeted programs \$9,550

Online Offering

If you would like to place your offerings online we now have the option of a QR code which will direct you to our online offering page via our JELC website. Please scan the attached QR code for online giving or to set-up automatic recurring payments if desired.



MONTHLY ATTENDANCE COMPARISONS							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022 SUM	2023 SUM
January	403	469	99	244	342	244	342
February	461	509	40	315	412	559	754
March	546	0	118	312	280	871	1034
April	871	0	280	488	659	1369	1693
May	357	0	251	250	289	1609	1982
June	405	0	147	268	328	1877	2310
July	368	56	145	217	278	2094	2588
August	305	126	215	166	225	2260	2813
September	493	101	257	245	319	2505	3132
October	423	110	258	260	365	2765	3497
November	455	117	257	274		3039	
December	924	UNKNOWN	392	451		3490	
Yearly Totals:	6011	1488	2459	3490		3490	

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT OCTOBER 2023

	Oct-23	YTD	YTD BUDGET	YTD 2022	YTD 2021
Current Giving	\$14,776	\$138,170	\$166,667	\$131,406	\$128,788
Other Current Income	\$3,047	\$40,860	\$40,208	\$33,904	\$33,997
Total Current Income	\$17,823	\$179,030	\$206,875	\$165,310	\$162,785
Benevolence Giving	\$476	\$3,567	\$2,500	\$804	\$1,037
Other Benevolence	\$0	\$15,159	\$21,667	\$19,899	\$13,854
Total Benevolence Income	\$476	\$18,726	\$24,167	\$20,703	\$14,891
Building Income	\$275	\$2,611	\$833	\$3,051	\$3,282
Bequest Building			\$5,833		
Total Building Income	\$275	\$2,611	\$6,666	\$3,051	\$3,282
Total Income	\$18,574	\$200,367	\$237,708	\$189,064	\$180,958

• Income for non-budgeted programs YTD through 10/31/23 was as follows

Music Ministry	
ASP	\$4,897
Food Pantry	
MAJC	\$480
Puppets	\$0
Ensminger Scholarship	\$440
Bequest Foundation Fund	\$241,107
Bequest Benevolence Fund	\$7,500
VBS	
World Hunger	\$300
Memorials	\$1,680
Staff Appreciation	
TOTAL	<u>\$256,404</u>

Financial Secretary's Report 10/31/2023
Budgeted Current Offering,
Year-to-Date: \$ 166,667
Actual Current Offering,
Year-to-Date: \$ 138,170
\$ (28,497)

ACTUAL MONTHLY CURRENT OFFERING							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022 SUM	2023 SUM
January	12,726	13,124	10,921	12,881	14,002	12,881	14,002
February	11,939	14,430	9,359	13,971	12,501	26,853	26,503
March	15,819	12,223	11,912	15,093	14,326	41,945	40,829
April	16,724	11,495	15,454	16,568	19,359	58,513	60,188
May	11,919	9,246	12,924	12,494	10,124	71,007	70,312
June	15,474	14,104	13,644	11,978	14,082	82,985	84,394
July	11,745	17,264	8,727	13,476	13,510	96,461	97,904
August	11,299	13,541	15,092	11,763	12,388	108,224	110,292
September	16,013	13,190	18,064	11,541	13,102	119,765	123,394
October	14,806	14,187	12,691	11,641	14,776	131,406	138,170
November	16,084	14,624	17,268	17,179		148,585	
December	33,711	28,383	34,085	31,729		180,314	
Yearly Totals:	187,808	175,811	180,141	180,314		180,314	



December Worship Volunteers



DATE	December 3		December 10		December 17		December 24	December 31
Ushers	1st Sunday of Advent		2nd Sunday of Advent		3rd Sunday of Advent		4th Sunday of Advent	New Year's Eve
	8:30 AM	11:00 AM	8:30 AM	11:00 AM	8:30 AM	11:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Paul Ensminger & Joan Connolly	Linda & Mike Kehs	Paul Ensminger & Joan Connolly	Matthew & Garvey Wolk	Bill & Janet Luyben	Tricia Hawks & Robin Schlichter	Gina & Chas Weygand	Paul Ensminger & Joan Connolly	
Stream Team 8:30 AM Tech Team 11:00 AM	N/A		N/A	Fred Poust	N/A	John Fry	N/A	N/A
Acolytes	Justin Minkon & Ryan Englehart	Megan Kulp & Sean Ortiz	Claire ' Jonassen	Peyton Schaffer & Brett Poust	Brianna Minkon	Megan Kulp & Nina DiDomenico	Nico & Nina DiDomenico	Abby King
Counters	Tony & Anna Marie Damiani		Bruce & Sue Fulmer Diane Martin		Linda Kehs Mary Jane Kehs Ardie Musselman		Tim & Nancy Arnold	Jack Bowman & Babs deFrenes
Altar Guild: Renee Bartlett, Janet Luyben & Diane Martin Banners: Louise Hunsicker, Carol & John Souder								

Please note:

"If anyone is interested in ushering during please contact the church office at: 610-287-7104 or email: secretary@jelc.org. If you have never ushered before but would like to try it, training can be provided. It is a great way to help out with the church service."



December 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3 1st Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Traditional worship service with live streaming 9:45 AM Christian Education Adult Forum (SH) 11 AM Contemporary worship service live streaming</p> <p>Parameters: BLUE</p> <p>Comunion</p>	<p>4 6-7:00 PM Yoga (YC) 7:00 PM JLNSDC Board Meeting (SH) 6:30 PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 7 PM Council Meeting (SH)</p>	<p>6 1:00 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting (OP) 6:30 PM Chancel Choir 7:30 PM Adoration 8:00 PM AA Meeting (YC)</p>	<p>7 6:30 PM Steepleclingers</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 7 AM AA Meeting (YC)</p>
<p>10 2nd Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Traditional worship service with live streaming 9:45 AM Christian Education Adult Forum (SH) 11 AM Contemporary worship service live streaming</p> <p>Parameters: BLUE</p>	<p>11 6-7:00 PM Yoga (YC) 6:30 PM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 7:30 PM Finance Virtual Committee Mtg</p>	<p>13 6:30 PM Chancel Choir 7:30 PM Adoration 8:00 PM AA Meeting (YC)</p>	<p>14 6:30 PM Steepleclingers</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 7 AM AA Meeting (YC) 9 AM Chrismon Tree Decorating 10 AM –12 PM Cookies with Santa</p>
<p>17 3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Traditional worship service with live streaming 9:45 AM Christian Education Adult Forum (SH) 11 AM Contemporary worship service live streaming 12 PM Pageant Dress Rehearsal</p> <p>Parameters: BLUE</p> <p>January Good News Deadline Poinsettias Orders Due</p> <p>Comunion</p>	<p>18 6-7:00 PM Yoga (YC) 6:30 PM Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (TBD)</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 6:30 PM Chancel Choir 7:30 PM Adoration 8:00 PM AA Meeting (YC)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 7 AM AA Meeting (YC)</p>
<p>24 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve 10 AM Regular Sunday Single Worship Service 4:00 PM Children's Annual Pageant 7:00 PM Candlelight Communion Service 10:00 PM Candlelight Communion Service</p> <p>Parameters: BLUE</p> <p>Comunion</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas</p> <p>MERRY CHRISTMAS</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 No Rehearsals</p>	<p>28 No Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 7 AM AA Meeting (YC)</p>
<p>31 New Year's Eve 10:00 AM Single worship service with live streaming</p> <p>Parameters: WHITE</p>						

***Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
Annual Congregation Meeting Minutes
Sunday November 12th, 2023***

The meeting was called to order at 10:28 AM by President Tony Damiani. Pastor Stan gave the opening prayer. The Annual Report was handed out and members were asked to sign in. President Tony Damiani reported that there were 49 eligible voters present which constituted a quorum.

Tony expressed his appreciation for all those (too many to list) who helped keep Jerusalem going during the past year.

The President thanked the outgoing members of Council- Janet Luyben and Renee Bartlett, Tony Damini's term is also expired. Chris Freer, Paul Ensminger, and Michael DiDomenico have agreed to run for Council. Since there were no nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed, and the President asked the acting Secretary to cast the ballot for the 3 persons listed above. All nominees were elected with a majority vote.

Green Team - Paul Ensminger thanked Tim Arnold, they are looking for additional help for the upkeep of our property. Contact Tim Arnold or Paul Ensminger even if you can only help with one time.

Property Committee - Tony thanked everyone for their continued support. The property committee is looking for additional help.

Bruce Fulmer, chair of the Finance Committee, gave a special thanks to Tony for all his work and efforts over the last 3 years. There was a brief review of the proposed 2024 budget. The budget projects a \$76,330 shortfall. We have currently liquidated \$76,100 of the Foundation Fund for current expenses.

A motion was made by Jack Bowman, seconded by Jennifer Wolk that after the Endowment Committee meets to discuss findings of the committee on how JELC can use monies in other funds to cover shortfalls other than the Foundation Fund there be a special congregation meeting to discuss and review their findings.

There was a second motion by Bill Luyben to table the above motion until the Endowment Committee meets, seconded by Caesar Gorski, 23 votes to table this motion 16 votes to not table. Motion to table was approved. Discussion followed on the use of \$80,000 from the Foundation fund (Currently worth about \$585,000) and \$40,000 the Building Fund (currently worth about \$600,000) to cover any shortfall in 2024. After more discussion, the budget and use of funds was approved.

Christian Education - Norma reported on Praising Hands, next performance is Palm Sunday, ASP breakfast today after the meeting, Italian night is January 12th and presales will be offered. Ice Skating Monday, January 15th at Spring Mountain.

Endowment Committee – Tim Arnold, complements to Finance. General update on amount in the funds, committee will meet to decide where JELC's Endowment Funds will be disbursed for benevolence. Funds are restricted for use, we may want to consider review and update of our Constitution.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM on a motion by Renee Bartlett and seconded by Robin Schlichter.

Pastor Stan offered a prayer and blessing for the meal being served in the Social Hall.

Submitted by Rebecca Dice
November 12, 2023

Church Council Members for 2023

Tony Damiani	President
Andy Englehart	Vice President
	Secretary
Caesar Gorski, Jr.	Treasurer
Renee Bartlett	Financial Secretary

Becky Dice
Norma Grosick
Janet Luyben
Robin Schlichter
Jennifer Wolk

PASTOR'S **SCHEDULE**

Office Hours for Pastor Stan

Monday- Day Off
Tuesday- 10am till 3pm
Wednesday - 10am till 3pm
Thursday- 10 am till 3 pm
Friday will remain flexible

Pastor may be out of the office for visits or meetings. You are always invited to call his cell as well.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 AM Traditional Service with live streaming

9:45 AM Sunday School
Confirmation
Adult Forum

11:00 AM Contemporary Service with
live streaming



The People of Jerusalem Congregation, Ministers **Reverend Stanley Steele, Pastor**

David A. Crist, Director of Music Glenda Ortiz, Secretary

311 Second Street Schwenksville, PA 19473

Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Phone: 610-287-7104

Email - secretary@jelc.org Website: www.jelc.org Facebook: facebook.com/jelcville/

Pastor Stan's Cell Phone: 240-707-1969 Email: gstan.steele@gmail.com or pastorstan@jelc.org

David Crist: 610 489-3320 Email: dalcrist@protonmail.com

Jerusalem Lutheran Nursery School and Day Care 610-287-6360