

Lebanon Lutheran Church May 2023 Newsletter

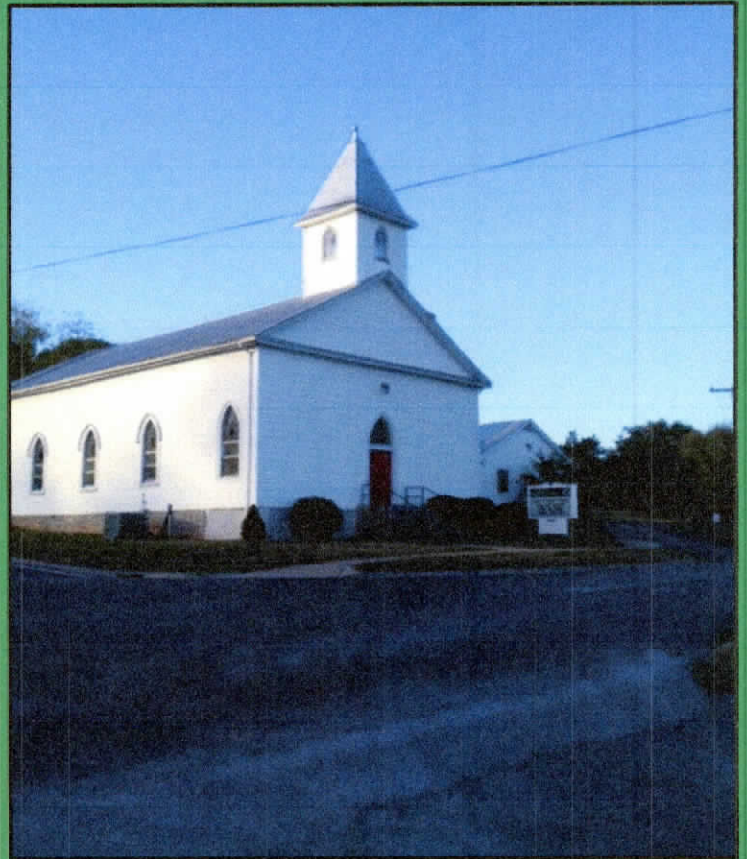
*Sunday School 9:30am.
Worship Service 11:00am.
Phone (540) 465-5456*

*10120 Middle Road
Lebanon Church Va. 22641
Email: pastor.lebanon@gmail.com*

CHRIST IS RISEN!



HE IS RISEN INDEED!



NALC

North American Lutheran Church

A Message From The Pastor

1962 - Virginia Synod	Virginia Synod, 1829-1922.
(Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Virginia.) GS, GSCSA, GSNA, GSS, USS, ULCA	
1793 - (Jan. 6-7, Winchester, VA) Virginia Special Conference of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania organized. It met, more or less regularly up to 1820.	
1820 - (Oct. 11, Winchester, VA) Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Maryland and Virginia organized.	
1820 - (Oct. 22, Hagerstown, MD) Maryland and Virginia Synod helped organize General Synod.	
1829 - (Aug. 10, Woodstock, VA) Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Virginia, 1829-1922, organized eight pastors (six from Maryland and Virginia, and two from North Carolina) and gates. Most of the congregations were in the Shenandoah Valley.	
1831 - (Oct., Zion, Botetourt Co, VA) Virginia Synod voted to withdraw from General Synod. Pastors withdrew and rejoined Maryland Synod.	
1839 - (June 1-5, Chambersburg, PA) Virginia Synod received into General Synod.	
1842 - (May 21, Zion, Floyd Co, VA) Virginia Synod contributed one pastor to the organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Western Virginia and Adjacent Parts, 1842-1863.	
1863 - (May 20-23, Concord, NC) Virginia Synod helped organize General Synod of the Lutheran Church in the Confederate States of America, 1863-1866.	
1866 - Virginia Synod became part of the Evangelical Lutheran General Synod in North America, 1866-1876.	
1876 - Virginia Synod helped organize the Evangelical Lutheran General Synod South of the Potomac, 1876-1888.	
1888 - Virginia Synod helped organize the United Synod of the Ev Luth Church in the South, 1888-1918.	
1918 - Virginia Synod became part of the ULCA.	
1922 - (Mar. 17, Roanoke, VA) Virginia Synod merged with: Southwestern Virginia Synod, 1842-1922; and Holston Synod, 1860-1922, to form Virginia Synod (ULCA), 1922-1962.	

Central Virginia Synod, 1846-1851?	Central Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Virginia
1846 - (Oct. 24, Mallow's Church, (Mt Hope, Upper Tract) Pendleton Co, WV) Preliminary meeting of pastors and congregational representatives who disapproved, in general, of the "New Measures" espoused by the Virginia Synod, and in specific, of the action of the Virginia Synod in sending, uninvited, an English pastor to the congregation at Woodstock, VA, where J. Nicolas Schmucker was serving in German. Pastor Schmucker couldn't attend (his wife was dying), so the meeting was postponed for nine days.	
1846 - Nov. 2-4, Frieden's Church, Shenandoah Co., VA) Central Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Virginia organized. J. Nicolas Schmucker was present (his wife had died in the meantime), and was elected president. Other pastors were his son, George Schmucker, and J. T. Tabler. There were representatives from eleven congregations.	
The synod met again in 1847, and resolved to meet again in May, 1849.	
J. Nicolas Schmucker was a member of the Virginia Synod until he asked to be removed in 1847. He died in 1854. Two of the many churches he served at one time or another in Shenandoah valley area of Virginia are St Stephen's, and Emmanuel (Woodstock), which are listed in the Central VA synod minutes. They are listed as being part of the Tennessee Synod in 1890.	
George Schmucker was a member of the Tennessee Synod when he helped form the Concordia Synod of Virginia in 1867. (see page 29)	
Holston Synod, 1860-1922. GSNA, GSS, GC, USS, ULCA	Evangelical Lutheran Holston Synod, 1860-1922.)
1860 - (Dec. 29, Zion, Sullivan Co, TN) Holston Synod organized by Luth pastors and congregation in the Holston River area of eastern Tennessee, formerly members of the Tennessee Synod	

The 175th Anniversary is getting nearer...

I imagine that most of us don't give too much thought to our "Lutheran Family Tree" – how and from whence our congregation came to be, and then related itself to the rest of the Lutheran congregations in America. We confess that we are "one holy, catholic and apostolic church" every Sunday, and when we confess this, we are saying that we are *more than* one particular congregation – we are a Church that is bigger and older than the fellowship that meets on Middle Road in Lebanon Church. We have a history of faith, and that faith directs us. Sometimes it leads us toward those who clearly share our faith, and sometimes it leads away from others who do not. Because Lutherans have, historically, so highly valued right doctrine and right practice, it has meant that disagreements of this nature had the capacity to bring division. This should not surprise us too much when we consider that we are inheritors of a tradition that attempted to reform the tradition of the Church, an attempt that was welcomed and embraced by many, even as many more did not.

Jumping back into the history books to try to pick up something of the early history of the Synodical membership of our congregation¹, I discovered these two timelines of the development of the Virginia

¹ This time the *Historical Guide to Lutheran Church Bodies of North America*. Ed. Wiederaenders, Robert C. 2nd Ed. 1998.

Synod and the Central Virginia Synod. A few things immediately jump out at me and provoke reflection:

1. Winchester and Woodstock were instrumental in organizing the Virginia Synod some half-a-century before our congregation was founded. Lutherans in Maryland also play a role.
2. There was resistance to the effort to unify the various Lutheran Synods under the leadership of Samuel Simon Schmucker through the formation of a "General Synod".
 - a. This resistance likely had to do with Schmucker's "American Lutheran" theological program which encouraged Lutherans living in America to abandon certain teachings of the Augsburg Confession in favor of a confession of faith more amenable to the other Protestant churches of the day.
 - b. A general tendency to resist large mergers for fear of diluting or compromising what they held to be essential Lutheran convictions about the Gospel.
3. The influence of the Henkel's of Virginia: their stoutly orthodox Lutheranism, and printing press in New Market, VA. The Henkel's are heroes of mine. They formed the Tennessee Synod after being convinced that the other Lutheran Synods were not holding to the Augsburg Confession strongly enough and were adopting heterodox theology.
 - a. Some of the resistance to the formation of a "General Synod" of other smaller Synods was fomented by the Henkel's and their Lutheran publications and many polemical pamphlets.
 - b. I sometimes like to imagine an alternate history where the witness of the Henkel family and the Tennessee Synod made a more lasting impact upon Lutheranism on the East Coast.
 - i. Would there have been an ELCA? If there were, would it have been healthier?
 - ii. If the other Lutheran Synods were more committed to the Confessions of their church, would they have been able to resist the terrible effects of Biblical, doctrinal, and moral indifference (and the eventual repudiation of all classical approaches to these subjects)?
4. The frailty of human life and human efforts: I noticed that one pastor could not make an important Synodical meeting due to his wife's failing health. The sorrows of fallen life spare no Christian absolutely. Travel at this time was far more taxing and dangerous than it generally is for us today, and the medical arts were primitive by our standards. People lived shorter lives. How did this affect the overall ministry of the congregation, of the larger church body?
5. The mention of resistance to the "new measures". These were techniques developed by American revivalists that sought to apply social pressures to believers in order to produce certain results. The "anxious bench" was an infamous form of such a measure. Some Lutherans accepted these new methods, many did not. Some broke fellowship with other Lutheran Synods over these issues.
6. The fact that all of these various Eastern Lutheran bodies eventually disappear or merge into larger Synodical bodies or affiliations. In its final form and iteration, the Virginia Synod joins the

United Lutheran Church in America, which becomes the Lutheran Church in America, which becomes the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1987.

7. And, of course, after being a congregation of the Virginia Synod for over a hundred years, Lebanon Lutheran eventually found that fellowship with the congregations of the Virginia Synod of the ELCA was either greatly impaired or non-existent, and so the congregation formally withdrew from the Virginia Synod and the ELCA in 2010.

While the Church of Jesus Christ is perfect and pure, without blemish, spot, or stain, as it exists in its final form before God the Father in heaven – it is not so now, or if it is, it is only by faith and in hope.

1. The external forms of order within the Church, as well as those between the churches as they relate to one another, have changed through time. The external organization of the visible Church is not something divinely given, and we therefore claim a relative freedom in matters of church polity. It has always been so. Likewise, as Lutheran Christians, we strive for unity in the Gospel ministry, but we believe that this Gospel is so important that it cannot be compromised. This will sometimes mean that the external order, the form of our affiliation with other congregations of the visible Church, will need to be malleable. We may only have complete fellowship in the Gospel with those who agree in essentials concerning that Gospel – and this “Good News” must be the same that was preached by the Apostles and committed to the Holy Scriptures. The Gospel is unchanging, though our precise form of the “Church” in the institutional and broad sense is free.

Let us thank our faithful God for providing the means of salvation in His Holy Church. Let us also be quick to reform our external polity when it no longer serves the truth of the unchanging Gospel of Christ.

Prayerfully,

Pastor Porter

Events at Lebanon

Do you or someone you
know need a ride to
Church?

Please contact Ann Deming
(540)869-5795 Leave Mssg.

Women's Meeting
Thursday, May 25th
@ 7:00 PM

Men's Prayer Breakfast
for May – Please see David
Leathers for meeting date

No church cleaning day in
May due to Mayfest

Sunday School Class led by
Rev. J.D. is at 9:30 Sunday

Christian Education

Children's/Elementary
Sunday School Class led by
Leslie Heird and Dorothy
Harriman is at 9:30 Sunday

Wednesday's

8:15 *AM* *Matins*

10:00 *AM* *Individual*
Confession & Absolution

1:30 *PM* *Communion*

5:30 *PM* *Vespers*

The Church is currently
looking into purchasing the
following items : Chalice and
Altar Linens

The Baptismal Font is also in
need of repair and we are
looking into restoration of the
Baptismal Font

If you would like to make a
donation toward any of the
above items or have any
questions, please see Missy
Hockman or Pastor Porter

Choir Practice

Choir will practice
Thursday, May 4th and
May 18th @ 7:00 PM

**See Evelyn if interested in*
joining the Choir

May Birthday's

10th *Nadine Buckle*

14th *Rachel Porter*

19th *Robbie Parks*

19th *Jonathan Baker*

29th *Tom Schwietz*

Anniversaries

1st *David & Tammy*
Leathers

7th *Jay & Carrie Snow*

10th *Mark & Karen*
Dotson

26th *Mike & Brenda Rose*

31st *Evelyn & Monroe*
Williams

Church Anniversary *Planning Meeting*

Watch announcements for
May meeting date or
check with Brenda Rose

Flowers For Sunday *Morning Worship*

If you would like to provide
flowers, please see Dorothy
Harriman (540)409-6470

Ice Cream Social to Benefit Family Promise & Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center

***Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks
and Homemade Ice Cream***

FREE Will Offering - All donations go to Family Promise &
the Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center

Saturday, June 3, 2023 @ 4:00-8:00

***@ Lebanon Church Community Center
43 Post Office Road, Lebanon Church, VA***



***Live Music
by
Five Of
A Kind***

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

****Bring your family, lawn chairs and enjoy a relaxing evening of fellowship, food & music****

Sponsored by Lebanon Lutheran Church & Thrivent

Strasburg Mayfest Booth

Saturday, May 13th @ 10:00 – 5:00



We need volunteers to help with the church booth @ Strasburg Mayfest on Saturday, May 13th. We have morning shifts and afternoon shifts to help with handouts to children and fill helium balloons. Please see Jeff Hamman if you are available to help.



Church Clean-Up Day.....Thank You to all that helped!



Reaching **OUT** Thru Outreach

Jan.	Bar Bath Soap - Cornbread Mix	July	Bar Soap - Hamburger Helper
Feb.	Hamburger Helper - Dish Detergent	Aug.	Small Laundry Detergent
Mar.	Pancake Syrup - Instant Scalloped Potatoes	Sept.	Pudding Mix - Jello
Apr.	Evaporated Milk - Instant Mashed Potatoes	Oct.	Stuffing Mix - Sauerkraut
May	Canned Pasta (any kind) - Ramen Noodles	Nov.	Instant Mashed Potatoes - Can Meat
June	Dry Drink Mix (lemonade, Tang) - Tea Bags	Dec.	Evaporated Milk - Saltine Crackers

Compassion Cupboard Monthly Needs For 2023

Above is a list of items which are needed each month and distributed to those in need in our community. You can bring them to church and place them in the blue tub. (No glass please - jars, etc.)



Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast

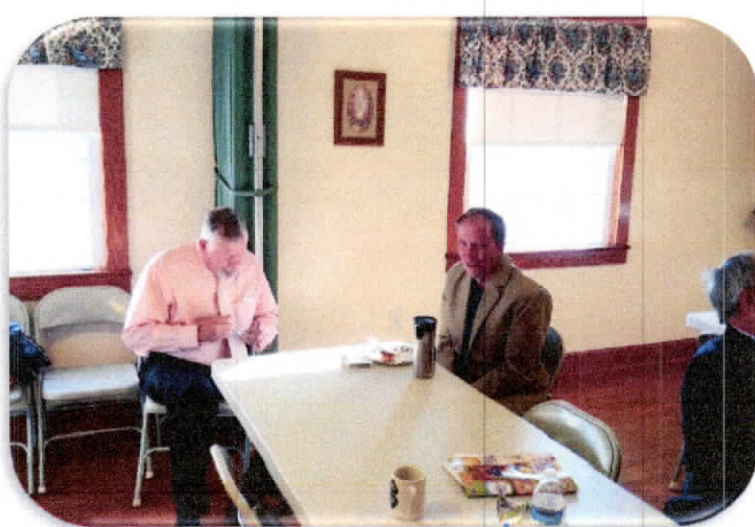


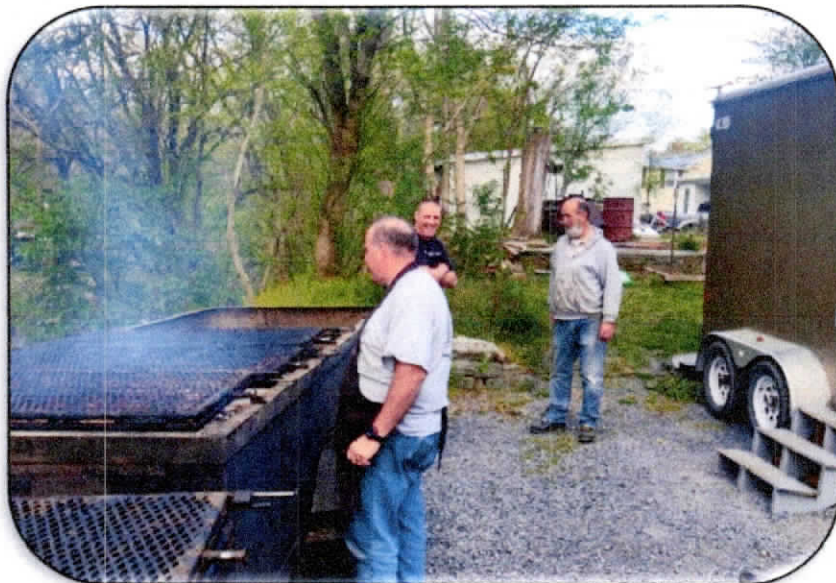
Great time of fellowship!





Easter Sunday Breakfast





Chicken BBQ Fundraiser for 175th Anniversary of the Church



Thank you to all that helped make this a successful event! We raised \$640.00 for the anniversary events. Thanks be to God.



Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center

Spring Support Raising Celebration



Thank you to all that attended the Spring Support Raising Celebration for the Pregnancy Center on April 21st. Guest speaker Star Parker along with past clients and volunteers gave testimonies as to the Pregnancy Center's impact on lives.

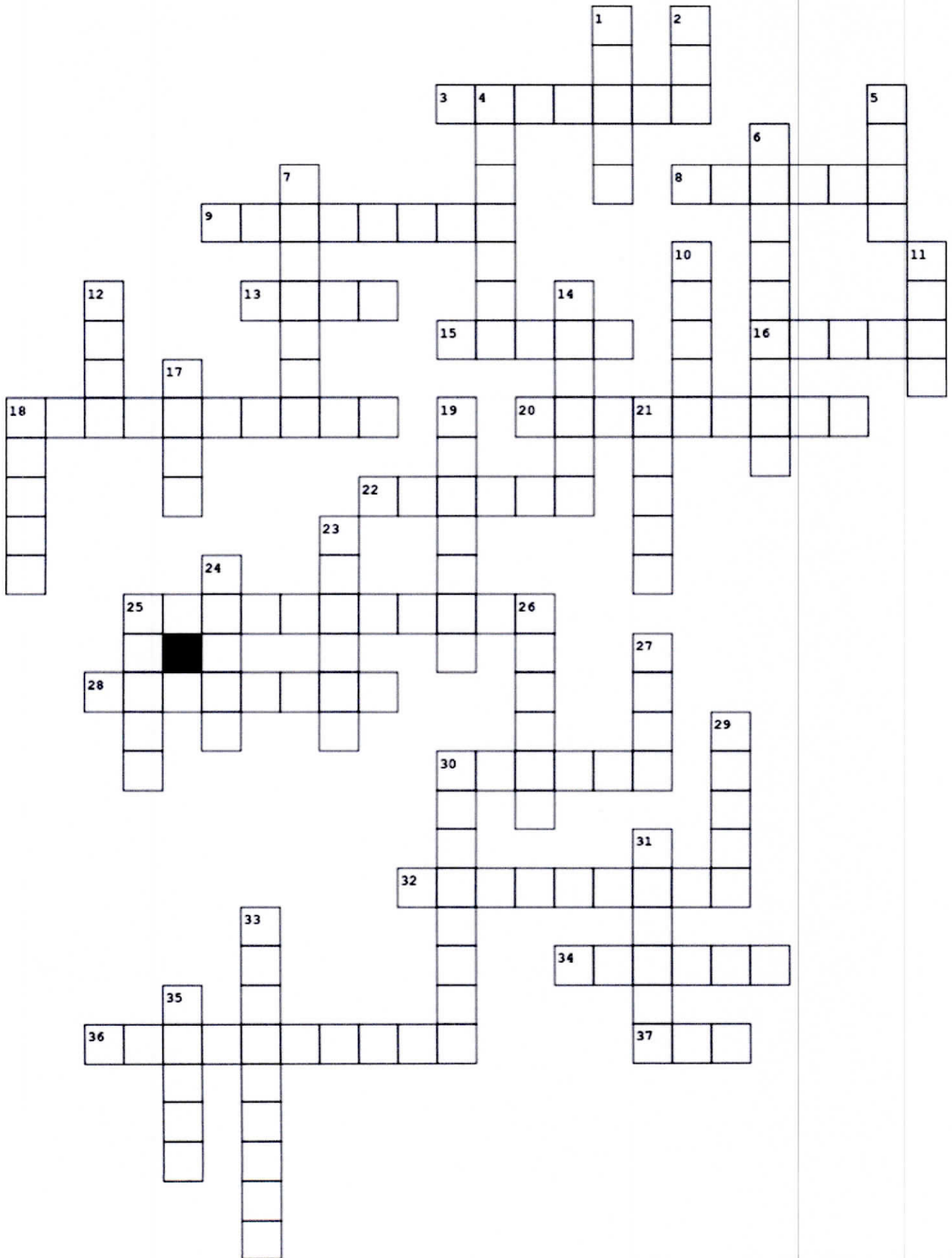


SHENANDOAH COUNTY
PREGNANCY CENTER

Spring Support-Raising Celebration



1 Corinthians Chapters 1-3



1 Corinthians Chapters 1-3

Across

3. Apollos did this with the seed? (3)
8. They seek wisdom? (1)
9. "For who knows a person's _____ except the spirit of that person, which is in him." (2)
13. Paul fed them this? (3)
15. "nor the _____ of man imagined." (2)
16. You are behaving in this way, when there is jealousy and strife among you? (3)
18. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the _____ of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1)
20. Paul baptized his household? (1)
22. Let the one who does this boast in the Lord? (1)
25. This of God's is wiser than men? (1)
28. "Now we have _____ not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God," (2)
30. The Corinthians are called to be this, with all those in every place who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? (1)
32. "For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him _____." (2)
34. The spiritual person does this with all things? (2)
36. God catches the wise in their what? (3)
37. The weakness of God is stronger than who? (1)

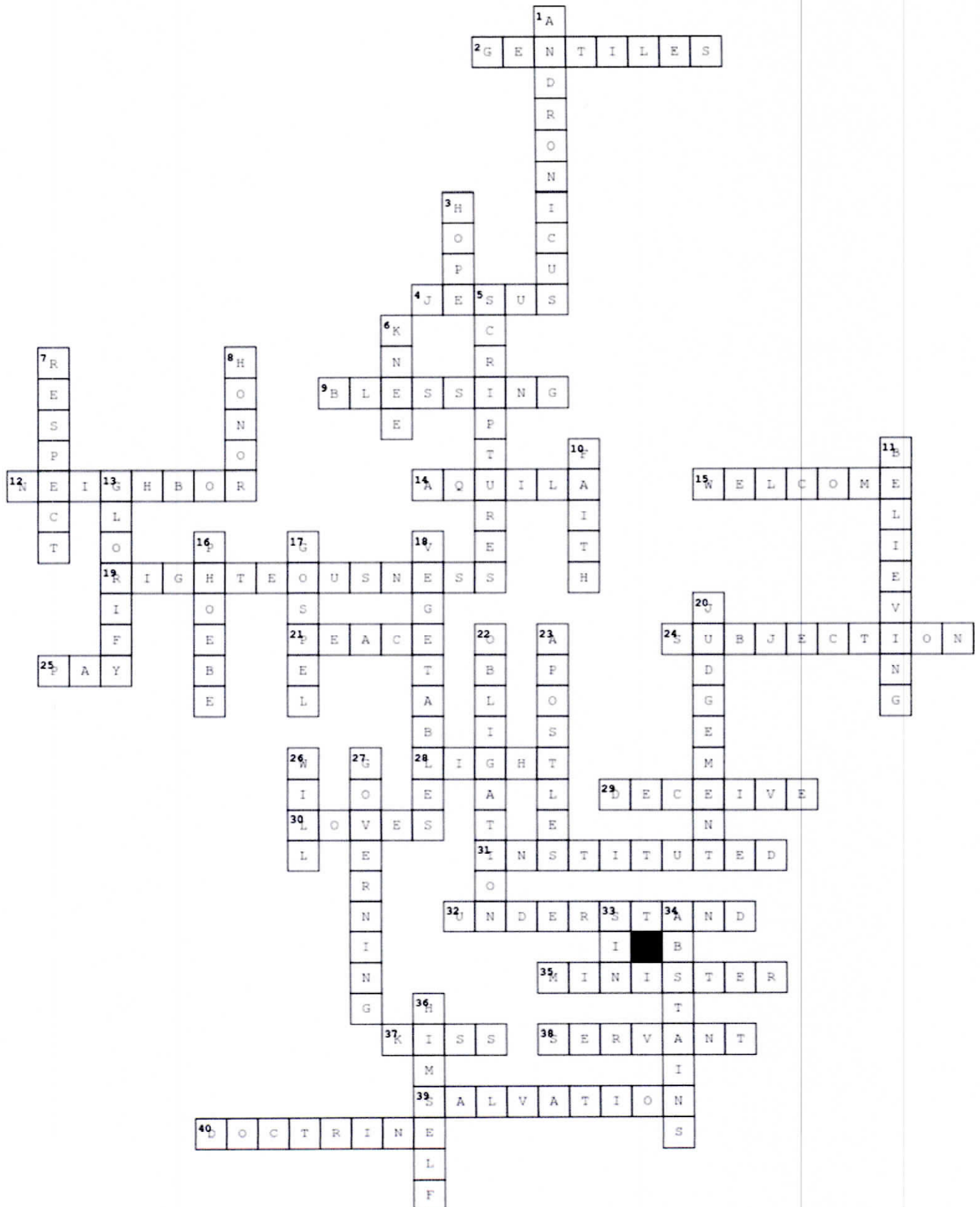
Down

1. "Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the _____?" (1)
2. He gives the growth to the seed? (3)
4. Paul was called to be this of Jesus Christ? (1)
5. "But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the _____;" (1)
6. "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are _____," (1)
7. The Corinthians are from here? (1)
10. "so that your _____ might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God." (2)
11. "But we have the _____ of Christ." (2)
12. He writes the first letter to the Corinthians? (1)
14. "interpreting spiritual _____ to those who are spiritual." (2)
17. God's temple is this? (3)
18. "For the wisdom of this world is _____ with God." (3)
19. Paul did this with seed? (3)
21. "Grace to you and _____ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (1)
23. Paul was sent by Christ to preach this. (1)
24. The word of the cross to those who are being saved is this of God? (1)
25. Paul addresses the people of the _____. (3)
26. "but in demonstration of the _____ and of power," (2)
27. They demand signs? (1)
29. Paul said they are not ready for this type of food? (3)
30. "For the Spirit _____ everything even the depths of God." (2)
31. It is written God will destroy what of the wise? (1)
33. "even as the _____ about Christ was confirmed among you--" (1)
35. According to this you receive your wages? (3)

All Questions are Formed from the ESV Bible.

Chapters are in Parenthesis.

Romans Chapters 13-16





Lebanon Lutheran Church



May 2023						
◀ Apr 2023						Jun 2023 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00 Acts Bible Study	2 10:00 Greenfield Reflections Service 11:00 Greenfield Service	3 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	4 7:00 Choir Practice	5	6
7 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Easter 5	8 10:00 Acts Bible Study	9 10:00 Greenfield Reflections Service 11:00 Greenfield Service	10 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	11 6:00 Outreach Meeting 7:00 Church Council Meeting	12	13 10:00 – 5:00 Mayfest Booth
14 Mother's Day 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Easter 6	15 10:00 Acts Bible Study	16 10:00 Greenfield Reflections Service 11:00 Greenfield Service	17 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service 6:30 Worship/Music Meeting	18 Ascension Day 7:00 Choir Practice	19	20
21 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service *Easter 7	22 10:00 Acts Bible Study	23 10:00 Greenfield Reflections Service 11:00 Greenfield Service 7:00 Neighborhood Watch	24 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	25 7:00 Women's Meeting	26	27
28 Pentecost Day 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	29 Memorial Day	30 10:00 Greenfield Reflections Service 11:00 Greenfield Service	31 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	**Note: Ice Cream Social to benefit Family Promise & the Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center will be on Saturday, June 3, 2023 @ 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Lebanon Church Community Center with music by Five Of A Kind. (*Making ice cream Thursday, June 1)		