

APRIL 25, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
467 MAIN ST., P. O. BOX 494
CONYNGHAM, PA 18219



REV. DEBORAH TAYLOR - PASTOR

Patterson Derr - Minister of Music

Cynthia Derr – Church Secretary/Congregation Council Secretary

Sexton – Margie Yost

Congregation Council – Helen Badamo, Joyce Bradbury, Donna Broadt, Louis DeAngelo, Tom DeRemer (vice-president), Jean Frye (treasurer), Dave Getz, Deb Jones, Marty Kellow, Jessica Thorne, Ken Welsh (president), Mike Ziegler

Church Office - 788-1572

Fax – 570-788-2686 email - clccony@ptd.net

web site - clcconyngam.org

Facebook - Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Conyngham

NEPA Synod web page - nepasynod.org

Weekly Worship: Sunday @ 9:30am

Sunday School: 10:45am on Zoom

Welcome in the name of Christ, whose church this is! If you are seeking a church home, please notify the church office. Contact information is on the front of the bulletin.

To contact Pastor Deb, please call or text her cell @ 570-350-5115.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: Hearing Assistive Devices are located on the table at the entrance to the worship space. An ADA Compliant restroom and changing station are located in the entrance hallway. A first aid kit, water, juice and snacks are in the kitchenette adjacent to the Parlor (main entrance room).

ABOUT COMMUNION: We are observing pew communion. Please pick-up a pre-filled communion set when you enter church. During worship you will be instructed when to partake of the elements.

FOR SECURITY: During worship, only the upper level main entrance doors are open- all other doors are locked.

Have any questions? An usher will be glad to help you!

In accordance to the Executive Order of the Commonwealth of PA, CDC and ELCA guidelines of 25%, indoor capacity of 50 people will be seated in the sanctuary, 50 people seated in Roth Hall and 25 people in the parlor where you can see and hear the service. Masks must be worn and social distancing observed. NO SINGING!

**CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 APRIL 25, 2021
 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 9:30am Worship Service**

PRELUDE **“Children of the Heavenly Father”** **arr. Sanborn**

GREETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK – Lee Brocious of Gideons International

GATHERING

PLEASE STAND

GATHERING HYMN **“Good Christians Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”** **ELW #385**

*Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king!
 To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*The Lord of life is risen this day; death’s mighty stone is rolled away;
 let all the earth rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise we in songs of victory that love, that life which cannot die,
 and sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Your name we bless, O risen Lord, and sing today with one accord,
 the life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A Dear God,

C We deeply apologize for not dedicating ourselves to you fully. We know we could've done better and focused on you more. Forgive us for not always following in your footsteps and help us to spread your word more often. We would like to be free of guilt, have peace, and be restored to you fully. Please continue to guide us in the right path towards Heaven with you.
Amen.

P Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

C Amen.

PLEASE STAND

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.
 Cleanse our hearts.
 Shower us with life.
 To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God, now and forever.

C Amen.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving us this day to be together in worship. Be present in our hearts each and every day and protect us from harm. Lead us and help us to be wise in times when we do not know. Be our strength and our light so that we may do for other as you have done for us.

C Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

WORD

A READING FROM ACTS

Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

⁵The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?"

” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

¹¹This Jesus is
 ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
 it has become the cornerstone.’

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

L Please join in reading the Psalm - Congregation responses are in **bold** type

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
 I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
 and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
 and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
 for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
 you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

A READING FROM 1st JOHN

1 John 3:16-24

Jesus’ death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God’s commandments.

¹⁶We know love by this, that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

PLEASE BE SEATED

TEMPLE TALK – Bear Creek Camp Executive Director Collin Grooms

PLEASE STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

A Alleluia.

C **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN THE 10th CHAPTER

C **Glory to you, O Lord**

John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

Jesus said: ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.

And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

SERMON

Pastor Taylor

PLEASE STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

ELW #778

*The Lord’s my shepherd; I’ll not want. He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet waters by.*

*My souls he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, e’en for his own name’s sake;
within the paths of righteousness, e’en for his own name’s sake.*

*Yea, through I walk in death’s dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still;
for thou art with me and thy rod and staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou hast richly spread in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
My heads thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
and in God’s house forevermore my dwelling place shall be;
and in Gods house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.*

APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us join in confessing our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen

THE PRAYERS

A Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

A Lord, we pray for the church and the world. We pray that you help the church and its members. We pray you help the sick or feeling down. Lord, we pray that you help world leaders make right decisions and heal those who are sick and can't get help. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Oh God, you show the whole world your love. Help every part of our world be safe and healthy. Watch over all creatures in the oceans and on land so they can continue to be strong and flourish. Help the lands suffering from wildfires, droughts, and floods. Guide those who care for our amazing world. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness may abound with life. Hear us O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Dear Lord, please heal people who are facing illnesses. Please give them courage and hope that they need today and everyday. Please comfort their pain and surround them with your peace. Especially we pray for Betty Lou, Jack, Shirley, Jean, Wilma, Emily, Dawn, Mark, Bob, Theresa, Betsy, George, Barbara, Dina, Joanne, Elizabeth, Kay, Rich, Jack, Karen, Deanna, Clyde, Carol, Rodney, Bonnie, Pauline, Jean, Carl, Neal, Larry, Patt, Denise, Viola, Janice, Ken, Gail, Tony and John.. Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A By God's grace we are granted eternal life. Bless this congregation with this grace and allow us to forgive others. Bless the ministries, who are helping the less fortunate, to provide them with food and shelter. Allow us to persevere through trials when situations become difficult. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Eternal Shepherd, guide us so that we can do right by you. In the promise of resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who have died in you. Bring us, with them, to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please wave to each other or share the peace sign

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A* God of Love, we pray that this offering honors you. We thank you Lord for the gifts you have given us, the fruits of our labor, and the skills you have given us. Help us use our gifts wisely. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world. blessed be God forever.
- C Amen**

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P* The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.**
- P* Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.**
- P* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
- P* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
- C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy, living, and loving God,
 we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
 We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
 for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
 and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
 We give you thanks for Jesus
 who, living among us,
 healed the sick,
 fed the hungry,
 and with a love stronger than death,
 gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
 his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
 we await your promised life for all this dying world.
 Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
 carry us in your arms from death to life,
 that we may live as your chosen ones,
 clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
 Through him all glory and honor is yours,
 Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
 in your holy Church,
 both now and forever.

C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever.
 Amen.

COMMUNION

P Lamb of God,

C you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

P Lamb of God,

C you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ invites us to this table.
 Come, eat and be satisfied.

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in His grace.
C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Wellspring of joy,
You have invested gladness in our hearts with your bread and wine. Please help to diminish the hunger that is still around us, and let us go forth as witnesses, that your love and joy fill the hearts of our people, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

A Let us ask God to bless all of us and our families and friends.
We thank the Lord for this Spring Season and the positivity that sunlight and longer days will bring to our hearts and minds. Help us all to use this renewed energy to care for one another and uplift one another. Please watch over us and keep us safe as we begin to connect once again with our friends and loved ones. We are ever thankful for the protection and love you give to us all. We thank you Lord for all our blessings.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN**“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”****ELW #789**

*Savior like a shepherd lead us: much we need your tender care.
 In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.*

*We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
 Keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.*

*You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
 You have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.*

*Early let us seek your favor, early let us do your will;
 blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.*

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE**“Jubilate”****Young**

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #44030.
 New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

OneLicense A721789: Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service.

Worship Helpers – Members of the Confirmation Class

Erica Boyle, Julia Bobrowski, Lainie Cabell, Andy Cwierniewicz, Levi Kurtz, Maizie Kurtz, Jack Mariano, Richie Rossi, Erica Salko, and Evan Veet

The class wrote the liturgy and prayers for today's worship service.

The flowers are offered to the glory of God by Donna Papincak in memory of loved ones.

The bulletins are offered to the glory of God by Donna Papincak in memory of loved ones.

NEXT SUNDAY

May 2, 2021

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worship Service 9:30am

Sunday school 10:45am on Zoom

RED IS THE COLOR...GERANIUMS ARE THE FLOWERS

Geraniums are needed to decorate our church for **Pentecost Sunday May 23rd** and then planted outside to beautify our church grounds. *Cost is \$4.00 per plant.* Please use the envelope in the basket in the narthex to order and pay for your flowers. Place in the offering plate or call the church office. To sponsor. Please make sure all information is written clearly on the envelope. **Deadline to order is Sunday May 16. We need 120 geraniums so please consider sponsoring a few plants!**

GERANIUM PLANTING

Help is needed **Monday May 24th** (weather permitting) at **6:30pm** to plant the geraniums from Pentecost around our church grounds. We need many hands to plant 120 geraniums. Please mark your calendar, bring a small shovel, and come out to join in the fun!!!!

CURRENT EVENTS BIBLE STUDY

We will re-start our every other Wednesday evening Bible study on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month using *The Wired Word* material. We will meet here at the church at 6:30pm. **May meetings are May 5th and 19th.** If you are not yet comfortable coming to the church , please let Pastor Deb or Cindy know and we will provide a Zoom connection. Masks will be worn and social distancing observed.

BEAR CREEK CAMP INFO

Registration is now open for summer camp at Bear Creek Camp. Information is on the bulletin board in the parlor or go to bearcreekcamp.org for all the information about dates, COVID policy, etc. Financial help is available for cost of camp. Contact the church office. Summer camp positions are also open.

NEPA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Our Synod will hold their annual assembly on Friday June 4th from 1:30pm-9:00pm & Saturday June 5 from 8:30am-12:15pm. The assembly is virtual again this year so those attending will be participating from home. Our congregation is represented by 1 male and 1 female delegate and we are looking for interested member to attend the assembly. Please see Pastor Deb or Cindy if you are interested or have any questions. We need to know by May 9th for registration.

2021 FLOWERS AND BULLETIN SPONSOR CHARTS

Now that the church is open weekday mornings and Sunday, the flower and bulletin charts are posted o the bulletin board to sign-up. You can still call the church office (570-788-1572) to sponsor flowers or bulletins for the coming year. There are **MANY** openings!!

PLEASE JOIN US!

“Growing Young” Reading Group
studying the six essential strategies that have helped congregations to “Grow Young”. Books are available in the church office.

2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm
Beginning 5/13/2021

PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY ITEMS FOR THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER!

PEANUT BUTTER PIE SALE

Yes, those wonderful peanut butter pies are back! **An order form is on the table in the back of the church and order deadline is April 30th (NO orders or changes to orders after that date) or call 570-926-7176 to order (leave a message if no answer).**

Drive-thru pick-up dates are Saturdays May 15th, 22nd & 29th from 11am-1pm. *You will need to specify which date you want to pick-up your order.*

MAY LUNCHEON
SATURDAY MAY 15TH – 12PM LOOKOUT HOUSE
COST \$10 – PAY DAY OF EVENT

Moms, grandmothers, sisters, daughters, aunts, all ladies of the church are invited. Meal includes sandwich, soup, salad, beverage and dessert. For reservations call 570-788-1572 by **Sunday May 9th**.

APPLE PICKIN' TIME?

It is hard to believe that it is time to plan our annual Apple Fest for October 16, 2021. Our committee's first meeting will be **Thursday May 13th at 10am**. Anyone interested in planning or volunteering for the event is welcome to attend. We will meet in Roth Hall and hope to see some new faces.

Hopefully, we will be able to have our Fest indoors with all the activities, but of course, can switch gears and do a food drive-thru that was well supported by our congregation and community.

Call or e-mail Barb Gaval at 570-788-4219 or barb123@ptd.net for more info.

ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER ARE DUE MAY 16TH

VALLEY FOOD PANTRY SAYS THANKS!!

Thanks to everyone who fills our grocery cart in the foyer, not only when holiday requests come, but all through the year. *A request is to please take note of the expiration date on the items you donate, as we have been receiving outdated goods which cannot be used and require more sorting time.* Again, thanks for all the support of the food pantry.

LWR Quilting

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) will begin on **Thursday, May 6**. We will meet at **9:00am and continue until 3 pm with a break for lunch**. Please bring your own lunch. If you cannot come for the entire day, you may come for however long you can stay. We will be meeting on the basement level in the first Sunday School room on the right side of the hall. The quilts will be tied and knotted so all you need to know is how to tie a knot. This is an important ministry and these quilts provide comfort and shelter to those who are suffering.

Many supplies are needed for this ministry—fabric, batting, sheets for backing, and embroidery floss for tying, among other things. We have a good supply of fabric to start, but donations of cotton or cotton blend fabrics will be accepted as well as sheets for backings. Twin flat sheets are ideal, but any size will be accepted. Used sheets may be donated as long as they are not stained or threadbare. We are purchasing the batting in bulk, but this will be our biggest expense, so monetary donations will be welcome.

If you feel you cannot participate in the making of the quilts, please consider making a monetary donation to offset the cost of supplies. Just put your donation in any envelope you have, mark it “LWR Quilts” and put it in the offering plate.

Please prayerfully consider joining in this ministry. If you intend to participate or have any questions, please contact Jean Frye at 570-788-5700 or Marian Jaxheimer at 570-788-6098. We look forward to seeing you on May 6.

VALOR STAND DOWN EVENT

The Next Valor Stand down event in Hazleton is Sunday morning June 6th. This event is staged to find and assist homeless veterans and provide clothing and food to other homeless and those who need help. Br. Fred Jaxheimer is inviting our congregation and the other VIC congregations to collect some items for Valor's core mission effort. He will deliver all the collected items when he goes to volunteer at the Stand down event on *June 6th*.

The items needed/requested are as follows:

Much needed: Pull top cans of fruit.

Always needed: Jars of peanut butter.

Used but with remaining wear - blue jeans and hoodies.

Used but with remaining wear - Boots and sneakers

New underwear, mens and womens

NOTE: Surprisingly, at this time they do **not** need or want any socks.

Please drop off your donations on the tables to the left inside the parlor (see sign) by June 4th at noon. All donated items will be used for future 2021 stand down events in Northeast PA or be provided to Veterans in interim housing at The Major Paul Syverson Veterans Sanctuary (commonly referred to as Paul's House) in Polk Township.

PLEASE NOTE:

Individual communion cups are ready for pick up for you to use at home. They are inside the front door of the parlor and may be picked up during office hours. Please help yourself. If you cannot come to the church during the hours posted, please call the church office (570-788-1572) to make other arrangements. You may also commune with what you have handy at home; bread, crackers, juice, wine, etc.

YOU MAY COME AND WORSHIP FROM THE PARKING LOT IN YOUR CAR -If listening in the parking lot, please tune radio to 90.1FM

WE ARE LIVE!

FaceBook Live that is. Our Sunday morning 9:30am service is on our FaceBook page “Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregation’ or catch the service on the website video tab using ‘clconyngham.org’. The bulletin is on the web site using the bulletin tab.

Stephen Ministry

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ
(Galatians 6:2, NRSV)

The congregation is planning on starting a new outreach program called Stephen Ministry. This ministry offers an effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members called *Stephen Ministers*—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties. These can include, but are not limited to, death, divorce/separation, job loss, relocation, life threatening illness, loss of property, etc.

Stephen Ministers are trained by *Stephen Leaders*, all being from the congregation. *Stephen Leaders* and the church pastor match *Stephen Ministers* with people in need of care. The *Stephen Minister* meets with his or her *Care Receiver* for about an hour a week to provide one-to-one Christ-centered care. This relationship lasts as long as needed. It is important to remember that this ministry IS NOT counseling. *Stephen Ministers* gather together twice monthly to receive the guidance, support, and encouragement they need to provide high-quality care. They also participate in continuing education to enhance their skills.

This ministry was started in 1975 by Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D., a pastor and clinical psychologist, to help him provide Christian care and support to people in his congregation and community who were experiencing life difficulties. It is based in St. Louis, MO. Stephen Ministry is in more than 13,000 congregations from more than 180 Christian denominations, in all 50 states in the US, 10 Canadian provinces, and 30 other countries.

For more information on Stephen Ministry, contact Deb Jones at 570-233-7675 or msjonesncc@gmail.com or Pastor Deb.

