

❖ West Berks Mission District ❖ OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

The West Berks Mission District is a coalition of area Lutheran churches working together to do effective, cooperative ministry. YOU are a member of the West Berks Mission District!

WBMD Director – Dawn Baxter Dawn@westberksmissiondistrict.org
Office Staff/ Bookkeeper - Jane McClellan Renner Jane@westberksmissiondistrict.org

Office Phone – 610-375-8303 Website: www.westberksmissiondistrict.org



Reading-Berks 41st Annual CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, October 9, 2022 at Gring's Mill Recreation Area

We are excited to hold this year's CROP Walk at Gring's Mill but as we did last year, rather than congregating as a large group at the bridge before the Walk, **registration will be from 12:30-2:00 PM** and your group can begin walking whenever you are ready. But, with COVID still around, we are also offering the virtual Walk option again as well. So, if you and/or your group would rather Walk in a small group around your church neighborhood that would be awesome as well! Walk on October 9th or any time before then.

It is urgent that we find ways to engage our community to continue raising funds to fight hunger as the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and many natural disasters have created increased need for food. We are encouraging groups or individuals to WALK for this important cause. Walk at Gring's Mill! Walk in your neighborhood! Walk around your church! Walk in your home! We strongly encourage you to register online for our Reading-Berks Walk by going to www.crophungerwalk.org/readingpa and following the instructions. Encourage your sponsors to donate online as well. Please feel free to contact us if you need help!

AGAIN... We strongly encourage walkers to register online and direct their supporters to make donations online as well but if **you prefer having the printed materials and envelopes for walkers**, they are available. Please call Dawn at 610-223-2305 to arrange drop-off of materials. Please share information with your walkers and church members and encourage them to raise funds!

As always, 75% of the money raised at our Hunger Walk goes to support Church World Service's mission to feed hungry people around the world by helping them develop self-sustaining methods of growing crops and raising livestock. 25% of the money raised will go to Helping Harvest, our local food bank, which provides food for those in need living in Berks and Schuylkill Counties.

PLEASE...

- Share information about the Walk with your Facebook friends and share the link for them to donate online
- If you have questions or need more information, call Dawn at 610-223-2305

OR go to www.crophungerwalk.org/readingpa

OR check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Reading-Berks-CROP-Hunger-Walk-332030921042472/>

Thank you for your generous support!

SAVE THE DATE! WBMD Fall Assembly

Thursday, November 10th at 7:00 PM

At their August meeting, the WBMD Council received retirement/resignations letters from both Jane and Dawn, the WBMD staff, as of the end of 2022. Please see a portion of Dawn's letter below...

This letter is to formally announce my intention to retire from my position as Director of the West Berk Mission District, effective December 31, 2022. Since beginning my work as the Mission Associate in August of 2004 and then transitioning to the Director position in 2007, it has been my honor and privilege to work beside the rostered ministers and lay leaders in our WBMD ministry partnerships.

As the re-visioning process for the WBMD continues, I pray that an obvious direction might emerge to encourage meaningful ministry going forward.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve in this position. I have greatly enjoyed my work and the relationships I've formed and celebrate the important ministries we have accomplished together over the years. To God be the Glory...

Sincerely, your Sister in Christ,
Dawn M. Baxter

From the WBMD Council...

Join our Table Talks!

While we celebrate the wonderful leadership our Mission District has had under Dawn Baxter, we are working on re-envisioning what our next steps are after her retirement in December.

West Berks Mission District recognizes the need and passion we have for continuing our ministries and missions focusing on our food ministries and our youth! This is where you come in!

We will be hosting two table talks to help build a group of people to focus on our food ministry and our work with our youth throughout our mission district.

On Wednesday, October 19th Amy Mietelski will be hosting a table talk via Zoom at 7pm to discuss the future of our food ministries in the West Berks Mission District. If you are interested in being a part of this discussion, please contact Amy at 610-451-1562 or at abmietel@gmail.com.

On Wednesday, October 26th , Kristen Kelly will be hosting a table talk via Zoom at 7pm to discuss the future of our youth ministries in the West Berks Mission District. If you are interested in being a part of this discussion, please contact Kristen at 717-333-2855 or at youthd@aelc.org

We are excited to come together and continue to work on our vision and future here in West Berks Mission District! We can't wait to have you join us in that visioning.



Sun. Oct 28



Dianne Ostrich, Christopher and Julianna Link, Trevor and Hannah Clark, Grayson and Emily Hager, Todd and Annmarie Pietrobono, Kyle and Kaitlyn Zimmerman

Not pictured—Sarah Colamarino

Planting Day!



A special **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who came out to help with planting the new bushes & shrubs on the property...these will be enjoyed in the many years to come!



October Anniversaries

- 4 Emilie & Bob Carl (2003)
- 10 Helen & Brian Heath (1992)
- 14 Beth & John Thomas (2006)
- 15 Kate & Steve Rohlf (2011)
- 18 Janice & Garry Forrer (1975)
- 20 Gayle & Stephen Tomasko (1984)
- 22 Cheryl & Pat Klein (1983)
- 25 Dawn & Bill Baxter (1975)
- 26 Jennifer & Gary Pacharis (2001)



alzheimer's  association

UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA

Presented at Adult Faith Formation
Class on Sun. **Oct. 9** from 9:30 am
until 10 am.

Q & A to follow presentation by
Brad Trout, Volunteer Community
Educator

October Birthdays

- 1 Ruth Sneeringer
- 2 Betsy Diebolt
- 3 Michael Vitulli
- 3 Derek Kintzer
- 4 Nora Frantz
- 5 Marsha Yadlosky
- 6 Cassandra Price
- 6 Paul Brockman
- 8 Autumn Albera
- 10 John Eshleman
- 11 Kim Updegraff
- 11 Sedona Loose
- 11 Patricia Scheipe
- 15 Cheryl Klein
- 17 John Updegraff
- 18 Ruth Malone
- 19 Shirley Eskey
- 19 Annie Herman
- 19 Ellie Grieb
- 20 Emma Labagh
- 21 Joan Knickerbocker
- 21 Layla Sheppard
- 22 Sandra Fluck
- 22 Beth Angstadt
- 24 Peter Diebolt
- 24 Jarret Kaufman
- 25 Barbara Murphy
- 25 Kelly Kline
- 26 Sarah Pacharis
- 27 Kayla Yoder
- 28 Karl Peterson



**OCT. 2
1PM
AT
AELC**



AELC Church Council



Sr High Faith Formation has begun meeting again! Please join Allison Eshleman and Janine Labagh as we discuss current issues that are of interest to you. We would love to have all Sr High Youth join us on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month! If you have any questions please contact Janine, Allison or Kristen.

Ex-Officio	Pastor Zach Labagh
President	Joe Hickson
Vice President	Gayle Tomasko
Secretary	Allison Eshleman
Council Members	
	Ellie Loose
	Laraine Montgomery
	Andrew Zirkel
Youth Member	Emelia Haupert
Youth Member	Jacob Labagh
Council Treasurer	Bill Baxter
Council Financial Secretary	Colette Price



Installation of the AELC Council and Executive committee was held on Sun. Aug. 21. Pictured with Gayle Tomasko (Vice President) Laraine Montgomery(new member), Joe Hickson (President) and Allison Eshleman. (Secretary and new member). Thank you All for your service to God through lead-



OCTOBER

Oct. 2

- 9 am Breakfast & Discussion(also includes Adult Faith Formation class, CAT class & older Faith Formation students)
- 9:00 am Faith Formation
- 10:30 am Combined Worship

Oct. 9

- 8:30 am Early Worship-HC
- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes/CAT Class
- 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation Class
- 10:30 am Late Worship-HC

Oct. 16

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes/CAT Class
- 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation Class
- 10:30 am Late Worship-HC

Oct. 23

- 8:30 am Early Worship-HC
- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes/CAT Class
- 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation Class
- 10:30 am Late Worship-HC

Oct. 30

- 9:00 am Faith Formation Classes/CAT Class
- 9:30 am Adult Faith Formation Class
- 10:30 am Combined Worship-HC/Confirmation

NOTICE

Please help our Safety and Property Committee by making sure **all** doors are **closed** and **locked** when you leave the building. Your continued help with this matter makes us and the church a safer place.

If there are any issues with the church property that need to be addressed contact Rod High first at 484-755-4364 or if no reply then contact Jim Spangler at 717-445-6537.

Thank you!



Men's Group

**Next meeting will be held on
October 19
7 pm at
The Village Haus**

**All services
on
Facebook
can be
found:**



on the church
page <https://www.facebook.com/matthew44>