

# *The Simeon Spirit*

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## SIMEON UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

***May 2022***

*Celebrating Our Faith*

Pastor Gregory Lindsey

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### **Pastor's Message – He is Risen Indeed!**

If you peruse the annuals of world history, you will find few people who became famous just because they died. Of course, all human beings will at some point in their existence eventually die and be buried in some form or fashion.

If you want to make the list of the famed, however, you need look to powerful kings or queens who built cities, great monuments, and won wars. Names like Pharaoh Ramses II of Egypt, Caesar Augustus the first Roman Emperor, the Mongolian conqueror Genghis Khan, Peter the Great of Russia, and Queen Elizabeth I of England all come to mind.

Fame has also been rewarded to several renown adventures like Robert Peary and Matthew Henson who braved some of the worst climates and dangers on earth to reach the north pole. David Livingstone, a Scottish physician, and missionary whose travels into the darkest places of Africa gained him almost mythical status.

Yet the most famous person in history conquered no empires, captured no great stores of wealth, or made no great journeys into the unknown places of the world. He died a shameful death reserved for slaves and traitors. Surely, this carpenter whose life left some interesting stories, nevertheless, would have been quickly forgotten by history but...

### **He did not stay dead!**

Jesus did the one thing that no other human, not even the greatest warrior, wiseman, or ruler, could do. Jesus rose from death and is alive.

I have always been fascinated by the form of our Easter greeting. I am a language guy and I appreciate the subtlety of words. If you were a strict grammarian, you may even be a bit annoyed that we Christians find this greeting acceptable: 'He is Risen'. The reason is that by combining the present tense 'is' with the perfect (past) tense 'risen' we have created a kind of theological paradox. It is like "he rose from the dead, is rising from the dead, continues to rise from the dead, and is alive", and we live in the reality of Easter that just keeps on happening. Death could not get a grip on Jesus, and that is the same for us. Life keeps happening. Easter is now and continues forever.

But that's not all. If Jesus had not been resurrected, would the world even know he existed? Perhaps Jesus would have been a side note in one of the volumes of history for the period written by someone like the renown Jewish historian Titus Flavius Josephus.

Jesus' resurrection may have made him known to the world, but as Christians studied the scriptures and thought and talked about what Jesus had said, they began to understand that it was Jesus' death on the cross which was the focal point of Jesus' life and indeed world history. In the resurrection we see the power of God. In Jesus death, we see the love of God. For God, power is

easy. But giving of his Son to die, that was hard. It was God's promise that no price was too much and no sacrifice too great.

Indeed, Jesus's death has made him famous. Once an instrument of torture and death, the cross became the symbol of love and life to all the world. Christ gave his life for us. Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed! So that we also may no more die.

Yours in the Living Christ,

*Pastor Greg*

## **CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY, 2023**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Worship and Music** – Music Sunday on April 22, 2023. Discussion held regarding the passing of the peace. Motion to begin doing the passing of the peace again made by Matthew Ferster, seconded by Dave Strohecker. Approved. Discussion held regarding the taking of the offering. Motion to continue doing the offering the same way it is being completed at this time, made by Lynn Schadle, seconded by Tracy Bixler. Approved. Discussion held regarding using bread again during communion. Motion to do away with the blue glove that Pastor Gregg uses during communion and use sanitizer made by Darlene Novinger, seconded by Susan Krause. Approved. Discussion held regarding acolytes and First Communion class. Pentecost Sunday is May 28, 2023.

2. **Parish Education**- Had a successful Easter egg hunt. Great turnout of young children and youth to color the eggs.

3. **Stewardship and Evangelism** - Will be having a meeting on May 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Lynn and Diane Schadle's house. Motion to hold a love offering for Jacob Esh Family on April 30, 2023 and May 7, 2023, made by Lynn Schadle, seconded by Matthew Ferster. Approved. The Gratz Historical Society will be having an Open House on May 20, 2023, from 1-6 p.m. Discussion was held about the youth from the church providing refreshments for the open house.

4. **Social Ministry** – Signs listing items needed for the food bank will be hanging in the narthex. The number of families coming to the food bank has decreased over the past 3 months. More information was provided regarding the food outreach program, that was discussed at the March meeting and a discussion was held. Motion to start a food outreach program on a designated day and time, providing bread and pastries, made by Doris Flynn, seconded by Lynn Schadle. Approved.

5. **Youth** – Meeting after church at Ciaos in Lykens on Sunday, April 23, 2023.

6. **Church Property** – Discussion held regarding a new office chair for Pastor Greg. Motion to purchase a new chair made by Lynn Schadle, seconded by Tracy Bixler. Approved.

7. **Budget and Finance** - Discussion held regarding a donation to the Gratz Fire Company for their Annual Fund Drive. Motion to donate a \$100.00 to the Gratz Fire Company made by Dave Strohecker, seconded by Doris Flynn. Approved.

8. **Fellowship** –Met on Sunday, March 19, 2023 to plan events for the year. On May 7, 2023, at 5:00p.m., Everybody’s birthday party with amateur night talent show. Soup will be provided. Bring your favorite cake, ice cream or salty snacks to share. The whole month of July, we will be having a Tupperware fundraiser. On September 10, 2023, after church is our yearly picnic to be held at the Gratz Borough Park. On October 21, 2023, we will be having a Fundraiser Magic show to be held at the Community Center. On November 19, 2023, after church we will be having a Fundraiser Cookie sale. On December 3, 2023, we will be having our Fundraiser Christmas tea and we will be having Fellowship with cookies and coffee after the Christmas program.

9. **Mutual Ministry** – NONE.

**New Business** – None.

**The Pastor's Time** – Doing a funeral on Friday, April 21, 2023. Visiting shut-ins.

**2023 GIVING**

\$37,325.97

**2023 EXPENSES**

\$39,994.72

**Difference between YTD Giving & YTD Expenses \$-2,668.75**

**{For General Operating Fund}**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**MAY**

**Sunday, May 7** - Worship Service / Holy Communion/ **Ice Cream Social w/Talent Show 5pm**

**Saturday, May 13** - Food Bank Open, 9-11 a.m.

**Sunday, May 14** - Worship Service/ **Happy Mother’s Day**

**Thursday, May 18** – Ascension of our Lord/ **Council Meeting 7 p.m.**

**Friday, May 19** - **Newsletter Deadline**

**Saturday, May 20** – Armed Forces Day/ Gratz Historical Society open house 1-6pm.

**Sunday, May 21** - Worship Service

**Sunday, May 28** - **Pentecost Worship Service/ Holy Communion**

**Monday, May 29** – **Memorial Day**

**JUNE**

**Sunday, June 4** - **Holy Trinity Worship Service** / Holy Communion

**Saturday, June 10** - Food Bank Open, 9-11 a.m.

**Sunday, June 11** - Worship Service

**Wednesday, June 14** – **Flag Day**

**Thursday, June 15** - **Council Meeting 7 p.m.**

**Friday, June 16** - **Newsletter Deadline**

**Sunday, June 18** - Worship Service/ **Happy Father’s Day**

**Monday, June 19** – Juneteenth National Independence Day

**Wednesday, June 21** - **Summer Begins**

**Sunday, June 25** – Worship Service

We will again be celebrating **CHRISTMAS IN JULY** this year and collecting toys and monetary gifts to donate to the Upper Dauphin Human Services in Lykens. So when you’re out doing your shopping and see that toy on sale or clearance pick it up and bring it to church to donate it to a worthy cause & help keep the CHRIST in CHRISTMAS.

**SERVING IN MAY & JUNE**

**MAY 7, 2023**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF**  
**EASTER w/ HOLY**  
**COMMUNION**

GREETER: Susan Krause  
READER: Jean Perkins  
USHER: Matt Ferster  
GLASSES: Tracy Bixler  
ALTAR: Sharon Erdman

**MAY 14, 2023**  
**6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF**  
**EASTER/ MOTHER'S DAY**

GREETER: Jenny Sracic  
READER: Samantha Boyer

**MAY 21, 2023**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF**  
**EASTER**

GREETER: Anna Coleman  
READER: Becky Hoover

**MAY 28, 2023**  
**DAY OF PENTECOST**  
**w/ HOLY**  
**COMMUNION**

GREETER: Darlene Novinger  
READER: Mike Hartman  
USHER: Dave Strohecker  
GLASSES: Susan Krause  
ALTAR: Dennis Barge & John Novinger

**JUNE 4, 2023**  
**HOLY TRINITY**  
**w/ HOLY**  
**COMMUNION**

GREETER: Dave Strohecker  
READER: Jenny Sracic  
USHER: Lynn Schadle  
GLASSES: Virginia Moore  
ALTAR: Doris Flynn

**JUNE 11, 2023**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER**  
**PENTECOST**

GREETER: Lynn Schadle  
READER: Dennis Barge

**JUNE 18, 2023**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER**  
**PENTECOST/ FATHER'S DAY**

GREETER: Dennis Barge  
READER: John Novinger

**JUNE 25, 2023**  
**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER**  
**PENTECOST**

GREETER: Mike Hartman  
READER: Virginia Moore

**PRAYER LIST:** Gloria Klinger, Rose Fetterolf, Lena Schwartz, Brian Hoover, Christy Barge, Carol Koppenhaver, Barb Klinger, Cathie Wilkinson, Tiffany Wilkinson, Clair & Vivian Engle, Jean Hess, David Hartman, Jim Neiswender, Kenneth Mace, Dorothy Lettich Martin, Steve Dagen, Rahn Erdman, Marie Lahr, Christy Warfel, Jeff Latsha, Cheryl Schaffner

Polk Apartments: Helen Michael, John Kissinger, Charles Schoffstall

**!!!!!!!!!!ATTENTION, ATTENTION!!!!!!!!!!**

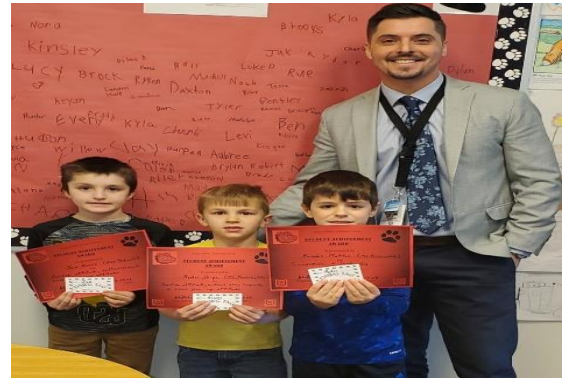
**BEGINNING MAY 2023, THE WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE IS GOING TO BE TUESDAY! IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR ITEMS IN TO THE OFFICE BY TUE. IT WILL NOT BE IN SUNDAY'S BULLETIN.**





## TRI-VALLEY ELEMENTARY

“Congratulations to Jax, Ryder, and **Brooks** on receiving a positive office referral! These awesome students are being recognized for their positive attitudes, respect for others, and for always giving their best effort. Keep up the good work kiddos!”



## Fellowship

On March 26, a wreath making class was spearheaded by Lisa Perkins. Participants could choose from two wreath designs. The following are pictures of the event.



The Fellowship committee met and decided on the following events for the rest of 2023. Mark your calendars as we are working hard to keep the Simeon's Spirit alive! This is an overview, details regarding each event will be featured in the upcoming bulletins and newsletters. If you are interested in joining our committee, please contact one of the members.

- MAY 7, 2023 Church Basement  
**Everybody's birthday party with amateur night talent show.** Dust off those tap shoes, practice your songs and prepare to entertain! Bring your favorite cake, ice cream and salty snacks to share. **Soup will be Provided.** See a committee member to sign up.  
5:00 Till whenever
- JULY All Month  
**Tupperware fundraiser.** We'll be taking orders all month. Details will follow.
- SEPTEMBER 10, 2023 After church  
**The Yearly Church picnic** will be held at the Borough Park this year. Fellowship will provide hotdogs and drinks. Please bring a covered dish to share.
- OCTOBER 21, 2023 Community Center  
**Fundraiser Magic show.** The Amazing Carson will amaze the crowd with his slight of hand. Tickets are \$10 each with children age 4 and under free. Snacks will be available to purchase. Doors open at 6:30 – Show starts at 7:00
- NOVEMBER 19, 2023 After church (Basement)  
**Fundraiser Cookie Sale** – Fill a box (provided) for \$5. Possibly other baked goods for sale as well.
- DECEMBER 3, 2023 Church Basement  
**Fundraiser Tea Party.** Details to be provided at a future date.
- DECEMBER ?, 2023 After Church (Will coincide with the Christmas Pageant)  
Fellowship cookies/coffee



### Palm Sunday

Members of the congregation along with Pastor Lindsey and the choir presented "The Passion of our Lord According to John."

*Left to right Matthew Ferster, John Novinger, Jean Perkins, Dennis Krause & Pastor Lindsey*



## EGG HUNT

Thanks to *Brody Barge* for playing the role of Easter bunny. Also, pictured is Brody's dad Nathan.



## EASTER SUNDAY



## “VOICE OF SIMEON” RADIO MINISTRY SPONSORS

### MAY 2023

**May 7** – Buffington/Reed Funeral Home

**May 14** – Willing Workers

**May 21** – Deppen's Farms

**May 28** – Sunset View Contractors LLC.

We want to thank our faithful sponsors in continuing to help with this important ministry of our church especially during these trying times. God bless you and be safe.

## DAILY DEVOTIONALS

The Daily Devotionals for April-June, 2023 are available in the narthex. Pick yours up or have someone get them for you.

# Chefs Corner



## Lemon Squares

1 cup butter

½ cup powdered sugar

2½ cup flour

4 eggs

2 cup sugar

½ cup lemon juice

1 tsp. baking powder

Melt butter and mix with powdered sugar. Add 2 cups of flour, beating until blended. Spread evenly in bottom of a greased 9x13 inch pan. Bake at 350\* for 20 minutes. In a small bowl beat eggs until light and foamy. Gradually add sugar, beating till thick and blended. Add lemon juice, the remaining ½ cup flour and baking powder; beat until well blended. Pour mixture over baked crust and bake for 25 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle evenly with powdered sugar.

## Overnight Breakfast Casserole

12 slices bread (cut in cubes)

2 cups shredded cheese

½ cup melted butter

3 cups cubed ham or 1 lb. cooked sausage

8 eggs

2 cup milk

1 tsp. salt

Grease a 9x13 inch baking dish. Put half of the bread cubes on the bottom. Top with half of the cheese and meat. Repeat with remaining bread, cheese, and meat. Combine eggs, milk, and salt. Pour over top of layers. Drizzle melted butter over top. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Bake at 350\* for 1 hour or till done, uncover for the last 15 minutes.

## Spicy Tomato Soup

2 Tbsp. oil

2 cups diced onion

2 cups diced celery

1½ qt. tomato juice

Crushed red pepper if desired

2 cup chicken broth

salt & pepper, to taste

2 Tbsp. hot sauce or tobacco sauce

2 tsp. cayenne pepper

Heat oil in a 4 qt. soup pot and sauté the onion and celery till translucent. Add the rest of the ingredients and simmer for 45 minutes.

## Tim's Homemade BBQ Sauce

3 cups ketchup

2 tsp paprika

3 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce

2 Tbsp. mustard

2 Tbsp. liquid smoke

2 tsp. salt

½ cup vinegar

2½ cup brown sugar

Combine all ingredients and cook on low till thick about 20-25 minutes



# Music Notes



## 705 It Is Well with My Soul

*He ransoms me unharmed from the battle waged against me. Psalm 55:18*

> 1. When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, When sor - rows like  
> 2. Tho' Sa - tan should buf - fet, tho' tri - als should come, Let this blest as -  
> 3. My sin - O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous tho't - My sin - not in  
> 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled

sea bil - lows roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate,  
part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
back as a scroll, The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend,

*Refrain*  
"It is well, it is well with my soul." It is well with my  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. It is well with my  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well  
"E - ven so" - it is well with my soul.

soul,  
with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

## It Is Well with My Soul

1873

When the great Chicago fire consumed the Windy City in 1871, Horatio G. Spafford, an attorney heavily invested in real estate, lost a fortune. About that time, his only son, age 4, succumbed to scarlet fever. Horatio drowned his grief in work, pouring himself into rebuilding the city and assisting the 100,000 who had been left homeless.

In November of 1873, he decided to take his wife and daughters to Europe. Horatio was close to D. L. Moody and Ira Sankey, and he wanted to visit their evangelistic meetings in England, then enjoy a vacation.

When an urgent matter detained Horatio in New York, he decided to send his wife, Anna, and their four daughters, Maggie, Tanetta, Annie, and Bessie, on ahead. As he saw them settled into their cabin aboard the luxurious French liner *Ville du Havre*, an unease filled his mind, and he moved them to a room closer to the bow of the ship. Then he said good-bye, promising to join them soon.

During the small hours of November 22, 1873, as the *Villa du Havre*, glided over smooth seas, the passengers were jolted from their bunks. The ship had collided with an iron sailing vessel, and water poured in like Niagara. The *Villa du Havre* tilted dangerously. Screams, prayers, and

oaths merged into a nightmare of unmeasured terror. Passengers clung to posts, tumbled through darkness, and were swept away by powerful currents of icy ocean. Loved ones fell from each other's grasp and disappeared into foaming blackness. Within two hours, the mighty ship vanished beneath the waters. The 226 fatalities included Maggie, Tanetta, Annie, and Bessie. Mrs. Spafford was found nearly unconscious, clinging to a piece of the wreckage. When the 47 survivors landed in Cardiff, Wales, she cabled her husband: "Saved Alone."

Horatio immediately booked passage to join his wife. En route, on a cold December night, the captain called him aside and said, "I believe we are now passing over the place where the *Villa du Havre* went down." Spafford went to his cabin but found it hard to sleep. He said to himself, "It is well; the will of God be done." He later wrote his famous hymn based on those words.

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The melody for "It Is Well," titled *VILLE DU HAVRE*, was written by Phillip Bliss who was himself soon to perish, along with his wife, in a terrible train wreck in Ohio.

*Taken from the book "Then Sings My Soul" By Robert J. Morgan*

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**RED GERANIUM ORDERS** for Pentecost Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> are being taken **now through May 14<sup>th</sup>**. Karen or Linda will be in the narthex to take your order and payment. **Please note** that only the names of the donors will be listed in the bulletin on Pentecost Sunday.

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ Total payment \_\_\_\_\_

1-plant \$4.25 2-plants \$8.50 3-plants \$12.75 4-plants \$17.00 etc.

# Happy Mothers Day



## APPRECIATION

- BEAUTIFUL
- BREAKFAST
- CANDY
- CHARMING
- COMFORT
- DEVOTED
- FLOWERS
- FORGIVING
- GIFTS

- GUIDANCE
- HUGS
- JEWELRY
- JOY
- KISSES
- LAUGHTER
- LOVE
- MATERNAL

- MOM
- MOTHER
- NURTURE
- PERFUME
- PROTECTIVE
- SHARE
- TELEPHONE
- TENDER

## THE BEST

- WARM
- WISE

**DIRECTIONS:**  
Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.