



# DECEMBER

## NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

Dinke Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1742 Dinkey Road  
Leighton, PA 18235  
Church office: 610-377-4242  
Email address: [cdinklc@ptd.net](mailto:cdinklc@ptd.net)

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Reverend Anthony Pagotto	610-377-4242
Church Secretary	Jan Schwartz	610-377-4242
Musician	Belle Moyer	
Financial	Kelli DeLuca	
Treasurer	Laura Moyer	
Sexton	David Arndt	

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship 9AM  
Sunday School 10:15AM  
[www.dmlcashfield.com](http://www.dmlcashfield.com)  
Zoom ID: 586 370 219

### 2025 Church Council

Rev. Anthony Pagotto  
Charles Bierman  
Kian Bowman  
Rich DeLuca  
Jay Frey  
Scott Klotz  
Laura Moyer  
Karen Schleicher  
Kenny Schleicher  
Todd Schleicher  
Daniel Schwartz  
Kurt Steigerwalt

#### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9AM-2PM  
Thursday 9AM-2PM  
Friday 9AM-2PM



## Weekly Zoom Events

### Wednesday Morning Prayer

Pastor Tony hosts a  
Morning Prayer on Zoom every Wednesday  
Morning at 9AM

<http://zoom.us/j/87911224>

Meeting ID: 187 911 224

Call in: 1-929-205-6099

### Thursday Bible Study

Pastor Tony hosts a Bible Study on Zoom  
Every Thursday morning at 9:30AM

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/376540617>

Meeting ID: 376-540-617

Call in: 1-929-205-6099

**Community Food Pantry is held the third  
Thursday of every month from 3:30-5PM.  
If you know someone in need please contact  
Pastor Tony.**

**Meet Quentin Joseph, our newest member at Dinkey.**





## **Giving It All Away**

On November 4, Dinkey held its annual Election Day Spaghetti Dinner. Some of the faces helping with the dinner changed, but it was still the same fantastic salad bar, great selection of sauces, and wide variety of desserts. There were even many familiar faces that support the dinner year in and year out. Yet there was one big difference from previous spaghetti dinners.

This year, the profits from the dinner would go to VALOR (Veterans Assisted Living Out Reach). VALOR Clinic Foundation is a nonprofit organization committed to improving access to quality of healthcare and shelter of veterans. Their office is located at “Paul’s House” in Kunkletown at the Old Jonas Hotel.

The difference isn’t that profits are going to VALOR; every year donations are made to different organizations. The big difference this year is that all the profits are going to VALOR. This is the first time that I or anyone else can remember that everything is being given away to a ministry outside the congregation – which brings me a great deal of joy!

A check for \$2163.13 will be presented to VALOR to support the work they do with veterans. This is possible all because people were willing to donate their time, efforts, and resources. What makes this even cooler is that this wasn’t a solo venture.

Last year, and again this year, St. John’s, Mahoning provided the meatballs and members volunteered to help with the setup, serving, and clean up. When St. John’s council heard all the profits were going to VALOR, there was no hesitation, they were going to donate all the meatballs for the dinner. And trust me, they made a lot of meatballs!

When Dinkey and St. John’s entered into the Purchase of Service Agreement over 3 years ago now, the reasons were that there aren’t enough pastors and neither congregation was positioned financially to support a fulltime pastor on their own. As a result of these two congregations working together, we are able to partake in outreach ministry like the spaghetti dinner and let that light of Christ shine. This is why we agreed to work together, not to keep the doors of each congregation open, but to share the love of God with the community and beyond. Thank you all for your commitment to living out our calling as the people of God! You are an inspiration to me!

Your servant in Christ, Pr. Tony

*Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn.*

*(Isaiah 58:6-8a)*

## November 2025 Council Highlights

The following actions occurred and reports were shared at the November 19, 2025, council meeting:

- ❖ Approved the purchase of new parking lot timer.
- ❖ Set the next congregation meeting for Sunday, February 28, 2026, directly following worship service to review
- ❖ Approved contract with Carl Schleicher for snow removal for winter 2025-2026.
- ❖ A check will be presented to Valor in the coming weeks from the profits of the Spaghetti Dinner.
- ❖ Agreed to have Bella Moyer serve as the musician for Sunday worship and provide lessons. In the meantime, advertisements will be posted for the position of organist/choir director.
- ❖ Decided not to meet in December, meaning the next meeting will be on January 21, 2026.

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 6:30PM. A reminder to everyone that council meetings are open to all members of Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**2025 Flower & Bulletin Chart:** The flower and bulletin charts for 2025 are on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs for anyone interested in sponsoring a date. Sign up on the charts or call the office (610)377-4242. If you want to sponsor a date for 2026 please contact the office at this time.

**Giant Gift Cards:** If you would like to purchase any Giant Gift Cards please see Kathy Steigerwalt. We receive 5% from each gift card sold.

**Fundraiser:** Dinkey is selling streak free cloths for \$5.00, please see Jan in the office if interested.

**Trees for Troops:** Dinkey will again be collecting money for Trees for Troops. There are collection buckets in the back of the church. There will be a Trees for Troops program on Friday, December 5, 2025 at 10:00 AM at Yensers Tree Farm. All are welcome.

**Advent Toiletree:** Dinkey will be collecting toilet paper and toiletry items for the Bare Necessities Pantry every Sunday through Advent. Bare Necessities supplies these items to residents in the Leighton, Palmerton, and Jim Thorpe school districts. Please help those in need.

**Poinsettias:** Poinsettias for Christmas Eve can be ordered by December 14, 2025. Cost is \$9.50. Order forms are on the back window for anyone interested or you can call the office (610)377-4242.

**Pizza Fundraiser:** Dinkey will be having a pizza kit fundraiser; orders due by January 18, 2026; pick up on February 5, 2026. Order sheet in the back of church.

**Worldwide Children's Remembrance Day:** Trinity Lutheran Church in Lehighton will be sponsoring a children's remembrance day (for those who have passed away) for all parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends on Sunday, December 14 2025 at 2:30PM. This event is hosted by Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow Ministry. Dinner and a ceremony featuring a candle lighting ritual & slide show to honor your beloved child, grandchild or sibling will be provided. RSVP & photo deadline is Wednesday, December 3, 2025. Contact & send photos to: Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow Ministry.

**Lehighton Cold Weather Station:** The LCWS is an important ministry for the homeless in the Lehighton area. When the temperature drops below 25 degrees overnight, the station is open to anyone in need to have a warm place to sleep overnight. Volunteers and donations are always needed, so if you would like to help in any way, please come out for one of the following information sessions:

[Tues](#) 12/02 at 1:15PM - Lehighton Library, 124 North Street, Lehighton

[Thurs](#) 12/04 at 1:15PM - Lehighton Library, 124 North Street, Lehighton

[Thurs](#) 12/11 at 5:30PM - Lehighton Library, 124 North Street, Lehighton

**To order TEXT**  
Joanie @  
(484)619-1583  
or Karen @  
(610)751-1151 by  
12/14/25

**Christmas  
Cookie Tray  
Sale**  
Includes 3 dozen  
homemade cookies  
Plus wrapped  
chocolates & candy  
\$20 each

**Pickup Saturday,  
December 20<sup>th</sup> from  
12:00-2:00 p.m. @ St.  
John's Lutheran Church  
826 Mahoning Dr. W.  
Lehighton**

**Benefits  
Jen  
Nielsen's  
cancer  
treatment  
efforts**



**Presenting the check to Valor from  
the spaghetti dinner profit**

**Christmas recital:** There will be a Christmas organ recital presented by organist Alex Haggerty on Friday, December 19, 2025 at 6:30 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church. Wear an ugly sweater or holiday pajamas. All are welcome.





12/02 Kirsten Frankhouser  
12/03 Devin Biegley  
12/03 Ayden Hand  
12/03 Mitchell Reinheimer  
12/04 Dennis Cunfer  
12/06 Aiden Biegley  
12/06 Sierra Frankhouser  
12/07 Owen Ruth  
12/07 Carl Schleicher  
12/07 William Watkins III  
12/08 Elizabeth Rosko  
12/08 Lukas Schleicher  
12/09 Quinton Heiland  
12/10 Kandice Barachie  
12/11 Susan Wilkinson  
12/12 Leisa Ahner  
12/12 Logan Biegley  
12/12 Angela Rothermel

12/13 Linda Arndt  
12/13 Lori German  
12/15 Kara Newton  
12/15 Jay Reinheimer  
12/15 Holly Wilk  
12/17 Deegan Berry  
12/17 Thomas Steigerwalt  
12/18 Donna Miller  
12/20 Alice Scitney  
12/21 Adam Howard  
12/22 Hali Keck  
12/22 Debra Lilly  
12/23 Holli Solt  
12/24 Arlene Bisbing  
12/25 Scott Berger  
12/29 Sarah Zagata  
12/31 Earl Heiland  
12/31 Brian Koryttko  
12/31 Penny Reinheimer



12/10 Steven & Eileen Miller (42)  
12/22 Ronald & Debra Miller (45)

12/26 Brian & Sharon Schell (44)

# MIDWEEK

## ADVENT WORSHIP & SOUP SUPPER

WEDNESDAYS

6:00PM

Join us each Wednesday in Advent for a  
Soup Supper and Worship Service:

December 3rd, 10th & 17th

St. John's Lutheran Church  
826 Mahoning Drive West  
Lehigh, PA 18235

## EVENTS TO MAKE NOTE OF



*"Where deep grief resides, there IS great love."*

### ♥ Remembering Our Children: A Community Invitation ♥

On Worldwide Children's Remembrance Day and Candle Lighting, we invite all parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends to a special time of comfort and remembrance.

No matter the age, how long ago, or cause, we share in remembering all of our children who have died. Please be our guest for dinner and a meaningful ceremony featuring a candle lighting ritual and slide show to honor your beloved child, grandchild, or sibling. Their love IS still with us. ♥

#### Event Details

- Date: Sunday, December 14, 2025
- Time: Doors open 2:30 PM | Dinner served 3:00 PM
- Location: Luther Hall, Trinity Lutheran Church (Lehigh, PA)

RSVP & Photo Deadline: Wednesday, December 3. Contact and Send New Photos to:  
Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow Ministry

We look forward to sharing this gentle space with you.

### Lehigh Cold Weather Station:

The LCWS is an important ministry for the homeless in the Lehigh area. When the temperature drops below 25 degrees overnight, the station is open to anyone in need to have a warm place to sleep overnight. Volunteers and donations are always needed, so if you would like to help in any way, please come out for one of the following information sessions:

Mon 11/24 at 5:30PM - Lehigh Rec Center, 243 S. 8th Street, Lehigh

Tues 12/02 at 1:15PM - Lehigh Library, 124 North Street, Lehigh

Thurs 12/04 at 1:15PM - Lehigh Library, 124 North Street, Lehigh

Thurs 12/11 at 5:30PM - Lehigh Library, 124 North Street, Lehigh



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES  
AND CELEBRATE WITH US THIS YEAR!

3 PM - St. John's

5 PM - Dinkey Memorial

10 PM - Dinkey Memorial



### Yenser's Tree Farm & Trees for Troops Brings Military Families Together in the True Spirit of Christmas

- This year is the 21st Anniversary of Trees for Troops. Yenser's is proud to be a sponsor for all 21 years and the area's only Official Location.
- To date, Trees for Troops has donated 326,273 trees to military families.
- A donation of \$30 will send a Christmas tree to a military family (up to 300 trees). Additional money donated will be given to the Trees for Troops non-profit to continue the program.
- Donations can be made at our farm, online at [yenserstreefarm.com](http://yenserstreefarm.com) or mailed to the address below.
- Any questions can be emailed to [yenserstreefarm@gmail.com](mailto:yenserstreefarm@gmail.com).
- You're invited to join our annual Trees for Troops program on Friday, December 5th at 10AM at Valley View at Yenser's Building.

Checks Payable to:  
Yenser's Tree Farm  
1910 Mahoning Dr. East  
Lehigh, PA 18235



### **Those in need of prayer:**

Alexis  
Faith Beck  
Arlene Bisbing  
Eli Bowland  
Sherri Bowman  
Robert Coccio  
Rick D  
Lauren Dugan  
Candy Everett  
Louise Everett

Family of Jesse Farber  
Ann German  
Dick German  
Joseph Gorman  
Steve Hoffman  
Doug Keller  
Sandy Keller  
Joe Kluk  
Jim Koch  
Deb Lilly

Robert Miller  
Emily Persinger  
Kenny Schleicher  
Tanner Schleicher  
Tom Scott  
Kathy Steigerwalt  
Patti Walck  
Sandy Walter  
Betty Weber

### **HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:**

Sheila Flickinger  
Tess Hinger  
Debbie Meckel

Alice Scitney  
Gordon Scherer  
Debra Strohl

### ***MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM OR ASSOCIATED WITH DINKEY MEMORIAL***

Noah K. Kunkel PSC41 Box 6927 APO AE 09464  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Benjamin Cordova, 9300 Valencia St., Tucson, AZ 85747



## **SPONSOR OUR NEEDS**

Altar Flowers	\$25.00
Memorial Bowls	\$20.00
Bulletins	\$13.00
Cemetery Pole*	\$21.00
Strength For the Day*	\$20.00
Devotions Booklet*	\$20.00

(\*donates monthly)

**Please contact Jan in the office at 610-377-4242**

to request a specific day or month to sponsor.

## **MORE WAYS TO HELP MY CHURCH AND CHURCH FAMILY**

Purchase Giant gift cards by contacting Kathy Steigerwalt at 540-250-6539

Cards are in \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations.

We are still collecting:

Aluminum Tabs

Ink Jet and Toner Cartridges for Recycling

Worship Assistants for December

12/07 A: M Bowman/ A Keller G: Everett L: J Schwartz CA: L Schleicher/ E Solt

12/14 A: R Keller G: Frey L: K Wetzel

12/21 A: L Klotz G: Sunday School L: Sunday School

12/28 A: J Markell G: Everett L: R DeLuca

# December 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	6:00PM Grief Share(SJ)		6PM Worship Service (SJ)		10AM Trees for Troops(Yensers)	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9AM Worship Advent 2 Communion 10:15 Sunday School 12:30PM Confirmation(D)	10:00 Palmer House hymn sing		9AM Morning Prayer via ZOOM 6PM Worship Service (SJ)	9:30AM Bible Study via ZOOM		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9AM Worship Advent 3 10:15 Sunday School	6:00PM Grief Share(SJ)		9AM Morning Prayer via ZOOM 6PM Worship Service (SJ)	9:30AM Bible Study via ZOOM 3:30PM Community Food Pantry		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9AM Worship Advent 4 10:15 Sunday School 12:30PM Confirmation			Christmas Eve 3PM Worship(SJ) 5PM Worship(D) 10PM Worship(D)	Merry Christmas 		
28	29	30	31			
9AM Worship Christmas 1 No Sunday School			9AM Morning Prayer via ZOOM			