



FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

Dinke Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church
1742 Dinkey Road
Lehigh, PA 18235
Church office: 610-377-4242
Email address: cdinklc@ptd.net

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Reverend Anthony Pagotto	610-377-4242
Church Secretary	Jan Schwartz	610-377-4242
Music Director	Bridgette Gorman	
Financial	Kelli DeLuca	
Treasurer	Laura Moyer	
Sexton	David Arndt	

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship 9AM
Sunday School 10:15AM
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
Trell 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.**



The Wrestling Tournament

Claudia had a wrestling tournament the other weekend. She did well and made it to the finals where she had to wrestle a friend from another school. She's wrestled this friend several times before but has never been able to beat her. Unfortunately for Claudia that trend continued and she lost to finish in second place.

I asked Claudia how she felt afterward and she was in a really good mood and said she didn't mind losing to her friend because she has been wrestling for so many years. That made sense, but what she said next surprised me; "I'd rather wrestle her every match and lose but know I am getting better than wrestle against girls I know I can beat and win."

For a majority of my life I have always wanted to finish on top. Whether it was grades, sports, or even now comparing sermons to those of colleagues, I've wanted to be better, or at least feel like I'm better, than those around me. I'm embarrassed to even type that sentence, but it is true. There is this competitive nature I have that seems to be ingrained in all I do. I see this as a flaw in my character where my ego gets in the way and leaves no room for the Spirit to be at work.

This season of Epiphany in which we find ourselves is all about the spreading of the light of God that has come into this world in Christ. The message of who he is and what it means to us is spreading. For some of us, like myself, it's about that light reaching into the darkest corners of our being.

I believe my tendencies to want to always win and come out in front stem from a desire to feel important or that I matter. Epiphany's message is that we all matter. God's light, God's love, doesn't discriminate, it shines on all people equally. That's why the story of the wise men coming to see Jesus was so important. There were no boundaries or borders that could contain God's love.

What that means for me is that I can stop trying to compete with others and think I need to come out on top. All I need to do is rest assured that God's love and compassion is all around me. May I continue to grow in my faith and trust in God, and know that even when, and perhaps especially when, I finish second, third, or even last in anything I am just as important in God's eyes. Thanks for the lesson, Claudia.

Your servant in Christ,

Pr. Tony

Pastor Tony will be on vacation from February 4, 2025 through February 10, 2025. Please contact Pastor Cliff Herring (570)386-4388 for pastoral needs during Pastor's vacation.



02/02 Connor Bierman
02/04 Avery Miller
02/04 Rev. Anthony Pagotto
02/04 Richard Smale
02/05 Olivia Hine
02/08 Austin Miller
02/09 Clara Schleicher
02/10 Timothy Eckhart
02/10 Tina Rothermel
02/11 Gregory German
02/11 Edgar Steigerwalt
02/12 Dawson Bowman
02/12 Georgine Shupp
02/12 George Szacska
02/14 Thomas Beck
02/15 Kathy Long
02/15 Caroline Sauchinitz
02/16 Ethan Bierman
02/17 Linda Daubenspeck

02/17 Steven Schleicher
02/18 Janice Bowman
02/18 Angelica Kericsmar
02/18 Debra Miller
02/19 Eleanor Hack
02/20 Ciera Kobal
02/21 Elizabeth Arndt
02/21 Gavin Bachman
02/24 Schyler Cordova
02/24 Charles Hower
02/24 Chase Hower
02/25 Deborah Meckel
02/26 Nolan Passehl
02/27 Timm Berger
02/27 Ani Kratzer
02/27 Brittani Mertz
02/27 Earl Reabold
02/29 Adah Ceykovsky



02/01 Thomas & Debra Steigerwalt (34)

02/14 Terry & Diane Urbon (38)

02/16 Dennis & Deanna Cunfer (46)

January 2025 Council Highlights

The following actions occurred and reports were shared at the January 15, 2025 council meeting:

- ❖ Conducted election of officers: President – Rich DeLuca; Vice President – Todd Schleicher; Secretary – Karen Schleicher
- ❖ Appointed the following positions for 2025: Treasurer – Laura Moyer; Financial Secretary – Kelly DeLuca; Audit Committee – Kristin Markell, Nora Oswald, Angela Frey
- ❖ Approved the refurbishing and repair of the chimes for \$690.55.
- ❖ The youth group will be going snowtubing on Sunday, February 9, 2025.
- ❖ Teachers are needed to help with Sunday school and VBS.
- ❖ Reviewed the Lenten worship schedule.
- ❖ Approved purchasing the turkeys for the 2025 Free Thanksgiving Meal sponsored together with St. John's (Mahoning), Ben Salem UCC, Zion Stone, and St. Peter's (Mantzville).
- ❖ Moved the March council meeting to Tuesday, March 18 because of conflict with midweek Lenten worship.
- ❖ Approved a proposal for upgrades to audio, video, and streaming systems for presentation at congregation meeting on Sunday, February 16, 2025.

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 6:30PM. A reminder to everyone that council meetings are open to all members of Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Financial Reports: Financial reports are available upon request from the church office.

Congregational Meeting: There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 9:45AM to review reports of 2024 and vote on proposals for a constitution update, a stained glass window project, and a sound system project. Please plan to attend.



Anniversary Celebration: In 2026 Dinkey Memorial will be celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the congregation in 1851. A team is being formed to coordinate the celebration and we are looking for people interested in sharing the history of the congregation and having some fun while doing so. If you are interested, please speak with Pr. Tony for more information.

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.

Fermenting our Faith: Join us on February 12, 2025, 7:00PM at St John's Mahoning to explore our faith in a relaxed setting. Pizza will be ordered and drinks will be supplied by St John's.

Altar Guild: We are in need of people willing to help with the altar guild. Responsibilities include setting up and cleaning up communion, refilling candles, updating the hymn boards, and changing paraments. Our goal is to form altar guild teams that will rotate on a monthly basis. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Pr. Tony (610-377-4242 or prdinklc@ptd.net).

Vacation Bible School: The time is now for us to plan VBS for Summer 2025, however, we are in need of help. If you are able to help in any way with coordinating, teaching, assisting in the classroom, planning snacks or games, or teaching music, please speak with Kirsten Markell, Trell Schleicher, or Pr. Tony. Let's make this VBS another wonderful experience for our children!

Donut Sale: St John's is having a donut sale for pickup on March 4, 2025; order by February 16, 2025. Order sheet on back window or call the office (610)377-4242.



Those in need of prayer:

Eli Bowland
Willard Doll
Lauren Dugan
Candy Everett
Dianne Gerber

Joseph Gorman
Sonny Hack
Steve Hoffman
Joe Kluk
Deb Lilly
Kenny Schleicher

Todd Schleicher
Madalin Smale
Sherry Smith
Patti Walck
Betty Weber

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:

Tess Hinger
Ruth Keck
Debbie Meckel

Alice Scitney
Gordon Scherer
Debbie Strohl

Events to make note of

FERMENTING OUR FAITH
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025
ST JOHN'S MAHONING
7:00 – 9:00PM

570-386-9960

prdinklc@ptd.net

All are welcome to gather and explore our faith together in a relaxed format where we can share our questions, ponderings, and even doubts. Contact Pr. Tony if you have any questions.

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
 826 Mahoning Drive W.
 Lehighton, PA 18235

FELLOWSHIP
 Friends sharing time

FOOD
 Pizza and Drinks

FAITH
 Where is God?



Donut Day

Tuesday March 4, 2025

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Order by Sunday Feb. 16, 2025

Call/Text/Email Deb Scheckler at 484-866-3710/dscheckler@gmail.com



Name _____ Phone # _____

_____ (1) Persian X \$2.00 \$ _____

_____ (2) Iced Long Johns X \$4.00 \$ _____

_____ (2) Coconut Long Johns X \$4.50 \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Pick up 9:00-10:00 AM

2025 Lent and Easter Schedule

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

2:00PM at Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church
 1742 Dinkey Road, Lehighton, PA 18235
 7:00PM at Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church
 1742 Dinkey Road, Lehighton, PA 18235



Midweek Lenten Worship at 7:00PM on the following dates:

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at
 St. John's Lutheran Church, 826 Mahoning Drive West, Lehighton
 Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at
 St. Peter's Church, 184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252
 Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at
 Zion Stone Church, 45 Cemetery Road, New Ringgold, PA 17960
 Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at
 Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton, PA 18235
 Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at
 Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church, 1825 Dinkey Road, Lehighton

Spring Bazaar at St. John's LC, Mahoning

Friday, April 11, 2025, 5:00 – 8:00PM
 Saturday, April 12, 2025, 8:00AM – 2:00PM
 Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday at 11:00AM

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:00PM at St. Peter's Church, Tamaqua

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

7:00PM at Ben Salem UCC, Lehighton



Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

6:30AM Sunrise worship in Dinkey Memorial Cemetery
 7:00AM Breakfast at Dinkey Memorial LC
 9:00AM Worship at Dinkey Memorial LC
 10:15AM Easter Egg Hunt in Dinkey Memorial Cemetery
 10:45AM Worship at St. John's LC, Mahoning



Congratulations to Brian Schell who was inducted into Northern Lehigh's Ring of Honor as a coach.

THANK YOU

Valentine's Day Word Search

c g f l o w e r s i p
 j s w e e t h e a r t
 e f p a c u p i d a e
 v h o i k a c p s r t
 a o g u y h e a r t s
 l o v e r r d e g o f
 e k r a p t r r o w r
 n r i r o s e s p x i
 t o h s d r d e i r e
 i s u h s p i n n h n
 n r g a r e l l k t d
 e o s c h o s r o s h
 s w e e r t s f r i e
 v c h o c o l a t e k

valentine
 arrow
 cupid
 hearts
 love

red
 fourteenth
 hugs
 chocolate
 pink

roses
 friend
 flowers
 sweetheart
 kisses

Dinke Memorial Family,

We cannot thank you enough for the gift card to Cousins 2 for Christmas. You are so thoughtful & caring toward our family. Blessings to all of you.

Dr. Tony, Erica,
 Elijah, & Claudia

WITH YOUR HELP WE SENT MORE THAN 250 TREES TO FORT LEONARD WOOD, FORT STEWART, HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD, & MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT BRANCH J1



THANK YOU!

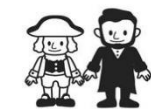
FOR SUPPORTING TREES FOR TROOPS 2024



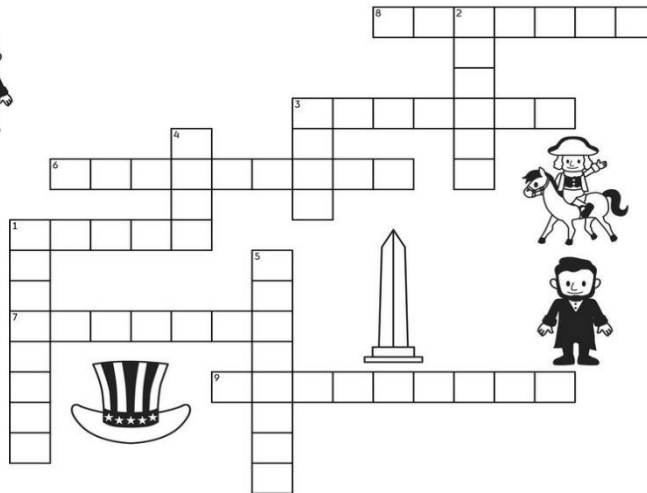
Executive Branch Crossword Puzzle



Find the correct answers to the clues and fill them into the crossword puzzle.



USA



DOWN

1. Choosing a person to fill a position
2. Excuse from guilt
3. A piece of cloth with a design, flown from a pole
4. A choice made by a person in an election
5. A group of elected representatives who make laws for a country

ACROSS

1. A bird with a hooked beak and sharp talons
3. The right to be independent
6. A system of government by the people
7. A person who is part of a nation
8. A building where the legislative body of a government meets
9. The leader of a republic



We are in need of volunteers as greeters/ushers, lectors, communion assistants and alter guild. Please let the office know if you are willing to volunteer.

SPONSOR OUR NEEDS

Flowers	\$25.00
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 and \$50 denominations.

We are still collecting:

Aluminum Tabs

Ink Jet and Toner Cartridges for Recycling

Worship Assistants for February

02/02 A: A Keller/ J Albert G: Everett L: L Ware CA: J Schwartz/ E Solt



02/09 A: R Keller Schleicher G: Frey L: K Wetzel

02/16 A: A Kirkendall G: Wetzel L: R DeLuca

02/23 A: L Klotz G: Bierman L: K Frankhouser

February 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9AM Worship Presentation of our Lord Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 12:30 Confirmation (D)	6:00PM Grief Share (SJ)	Pastor off	Pastor off	Pastor off 6:30PM Choir	Pastor off	Pastor off
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Pastor off 9AM Worship Epiphany 5 10:15AM Sunday School	Pastor off		9AM Morning Prayer via ZOOM	9:30AM Bible Study via ZOOM 6:30PM Choir		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9AM Worship Epiphany 6 10:15AM Sunday School 12:30 Confirmation (NEPA Synod Office)	10:00AM Palmer House Hymn Sing 6:00PM Grief Share (SJ) 		9AM Morning Prayer via ZOOM 6:30 Council Meeting	9:30AM Bible Study via ZOOM 3:30PM Community Food Pantry 6:30PM Choir		
23	24	25	26	27	28	
9AM Worship Epiphany 7 10:15AM Sunday School			9AM Morning Prayer via ZOOM	9:30AM Bible Study via ZOOM 6:30PM Choir		