



# St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church



*CONNECTING WITH GOD, SHARING OUR FAITH, UNITED IN SERVICE!*

## The *Fishnet* – September 2019

**Sunday Worship Services  
8:00 am and 10:00 am**



Pastor showing his soccer skills during VBS

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## From the Pastor

Did you know that St. Peter's has a fascinating history? Earlier this summer I read Suzanne Jacob's marvelous book From the Smallest of Seeds: The History of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hilltown, Pennsylvania, published in 1978. (The book was sitting on the shelf behind my desk in the office, begging to be read. I could not resist the book's pleas.)

What particularly caught my attention was the story of the Reverend Ferdinand Berkemeyer, who was St. Peter's pastor from 1859 to 1895, 36 years. (I was somewhat familiar with Pastor Berkemeyer's story, while I served as pastor of St. John, Quakertown.) Born in the year 1828 in Berks County, he came to Hilltown after serving congregations in New Jersey and the Lehigh Valley. He quickly exerted his influence throughout Upper Bucks by organizing congregations at St. Michael, Sellersville; Emmanuel, Souderton; St. Paul, Doylestown; St. John, Quakertown; and St. Andrew, Perkasio. Traveling to these congregations on a regular but rotating basis, he led worship, preached, and provided pastoral leadership and care not only to them but also to St. Luke, Dublin; St. Matthew (Keller's Church), Perkasio; St. John, Richlandtown; Jerusalem (Almont), Sellersville, all while serving at St. Peter, Hilltown. That's ten congregations in total! Even though his time of service at some of these congregations was only for a few years, I cannot begin to imagine the high levels of energy and stamina that his work required. Pastor Berkemeyer was truly "on fire" for the Lord. He retired sometime after his wife's death in 1895 and died in 1917. His funeral was held at St. Michael, Sellersville.

When I was a member of the ELCA Church Council, one of the terms that I learned to describe the church was *interdependent*. Whether we are the congregation, the synod, or the churchwide organization, we are the church. Pastor Berkemeyer's story reminds me how *interdependent* we are. His story opened my eyes to see the prominent role that St. Peter's played in the building and strengthening of so many congregations in the area. St. Peter's was a direct line of support for them. It's like finding out that you have relatives that you didn't know you had.

No Christian is an island -- and no congregation is an island. Our stories connect with each other's stories. We are intertwined, so that whatever happens to one of us affects the rest of us. Martin Luther King wrote in his famous Letter from a Birmingham Jail: "In a real sense, all life is inter-related. All [people] are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny... I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be, and you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be... This is the inter-related structure of reality."

God has blessed us with Pastor Berkemeyer's wonderful vision for the church. As we return from vacation and begin a new program year, may we capture his "missionary zeal" for seeing the church as much bigger than ourselves but no less than ourselves. As Christians, we are here for each other, wherever we may be.

## Calling All Potential Confirmation Students

Confirmation at St. Peter's is a two-year program for young people, normally entering the seventh or eighth grade. Last year confirmation classes met on the first and third Sundays of the month, October through May, usually for ninety minutes. Led by the pastor and one or two knowledgeable and dedicated church leaders, the classes focus on the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism.

In May of this year, all the participants in the program were confirmed. As such, we are seeking to identify any young people who would like to begin the program, starting this October. Please let us know who you are by calling the church office. If you are not sure but have an interest, we invite you to speak to Pastor Miller directly. We look forward to hearing from you.

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## Call Committee

The call committee conducted two interviews with pastoral candidates in July. Unfortunately, we were not able to move forward with either candidate.

The Deans of the Synod held their regular meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup> and at the time of this writing, we were awaiting any new candidates to be presented to us for consideration.

We will keep everyone informed as to the status of calling a new pastor and appreciate the prayers and concerns that everyone has expressed.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Call Committee

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## Passing of Note

Blanche Rappold Wimmer, long-time member of St. Peter's Lutheran, passed on Thursday, July 18. Pastor Miller officiated at the Memorial Service, assisted by Chaplain Wenzel, on August 1 in the chapel at the Lutheran Community at Telford, where she had resided for the past 10+ years. Interment will occur at the convenience of the family.

Please keep Blanche and her daughters in your prayers.

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## Blood Mobile

The Red Cross Blood Mobile was at St. Peter's on Thursday, August 1. The goal was 25 and we achieved 27 components. Thanks to all who participated.

The supervising nurse, on her report of number of attendees and components, wrote the following: "Again, thanks so very much for hosting us. You are the best. This church definitely is filled with love..."

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## Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, August 27 at the Apple Orchard Café (207 W. Summit Street, Souderton 18964).

All are welcome to join us and enjoy this Dutch treat fellowship. Please call Kerry Furiga (215-257-1707) before August 23 to confirm your attendance.

The September 24 Lunch Bunch will meet at 12:00 noon in Harbinger Terrace at the Lutheran Community at Telford. For only \$12, you have a three (3) entrée choice. Please let Kerry know by September 20 if you are attending.

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## Quilt Raffle

The St. Peter's Quilters recently hand-quilted a queen size Log Cabin Quilt, pieced by Martha Fickert and donated by her family. The quilt size is 77 x 92 (Queen size).

The St. Peter's Quilters are selling tickets at \$1.00 each for a drawing to be held on Saturday, September 21 during the Wines on the Hill Festival. For tickets before the drawing date, please see Maryann Zepp or Hope Garrett.

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## God's Work Our Hands Sunday

The ELCA annual Day of Service is Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>! Meal packaging and other events will be held at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Perkasio beginning at 2:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Contact Holly Lee with questions.

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## Pennridge CROP Walk

The 36<sup>th</sup> annual Pennridge CROP Walk for Hunger will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m.

There will be a five mile walk starting at St. Andrew's and the Golden Mile walk will be held at a new location at the parking lot by the Walnut Street, Sellersville Lenape Park ballfield.

The walk will be held rain or shine. The CROP Walk raises funds to fight hunger locally at Pennridge FISH and around the world. Save the date and watch for more information about walking or supporting a St. Peter's walker! Contact Holly Lee with questions.

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## St. Peter's Pavilion

**Pavilion Update** - We recently sent our first deposit to George Ely Associates, Inc. The overall cost of the pavilion kit will be under budget. Manufacturing of the pavilion kit has begun and once the plans arrive, we can approach the township for the appropriate building permits. Once we have the permits and pavilion kit, we plan to begin construction as soon as possible. (from) Dalton Bell

Envelopes for donations to St. Peter's Pavilion Fund, Dalton Bell's Eagle Scout project, are in the basket in the Narthex and on the table in the entrance.

Zach Vaneman of Troop 187, the troop that meets at St. Peter's, constructed the walkway from Dorcas Hall for his Eagle Scout project. The project was completed over the weekend of August 9-11 with Zach's supervision. Be sure to look out the back of Dorcas Hall and admire his beautiful work, including the post-and-rail fence over the swale. Once the pavilion is finished, the walk will be extended to reach the pavilion.

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## ELCA Churchwide Assembly

For a summary of actions taken by the ELCA's Churchwide Assembly in early August, go to [www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8003?\\_ga=2.139520880.2109323177.1566225756-1914187051.1519316307](http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8003?_ga=2.139520880.2109323177.1566225756-1914187051.1519316307).

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### Backpack Drive

This year, St. Peter's backpack drive for backpacks and school supplies again went to Penridge FISH for distribution. Listed are St. Peter's generous contributions:

Backpacks = 18	Crayon packs = 9	Colored pencil packs = 7
Marker packs = 14	Dry erase marker packs = 2	Pencil packs = 14
Highlighter packs = 10	Glue bottles = 3	Glue stick packs = 17
Pen packs = 11	Loose leaf paper packs = 6	Composition books = 19
Eraser packs = 6	Scissors = 6	Scotch tape packs = 2
Post-it packs = 2	Rulers = 8	Spiral notebooks = 54
Binders = 3	Index card packs = 6	Pocket folders = 36
Pencil cases = 13	Construction paper pack = 1	Book cover = 1
Push pin pack = 1	Protractors = 5	Pencil sharpeners = 5

"Thank you for all the generous donations. Penridge FISH greatly appreciates our continued support." Lisa Bell

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### Go Orange for Animals

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> is Go Orange for Animals day at St. Peter's. It is all about animals helping people. Animals are a gift from God and assist and bring joy to people every day. We will have many animal helpers visiting the church.

Logan's Heroes will present their work. They focus on human-animal relationships. They emphasize helping Veterans and First Responders.

Dwight and Calvin the therapy cat will visit us again. Calvin brings happiness and peace to all he visits in Grandview Hospice and 4H summer programs for children.

Patrolman Brian Schreiber is joining us with his K-9 partner Cooper to demonstrate their skills and to meet everyone! K-9 units in Montgomery County work with the police department to not only apprehend suspects but help with the search for evidence and missing persons.

Canine Partners for Life (CPL) is also among the animal visitors. CPL provides therapy dogs to help those with mobility, developmental, and cognitive disabilities. They are a nonprofit volunteer organization that breeds, trains, and pairs dogs with humans that need assistance with daily life.

During September, dog and cat items will be collected. Please see the list at the end of the newsletter under "Celebrating All Creatures Great and Small."

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### Church Chat

- **Input for the October newsletter is due by Thursday, September 19 please.**
- **Chalfont Fire Co.** turkey hoagie Saturday is September 7. Baked goods are also available!
- **Interfaith Philadelphia is offering Civil Conversations Facilitator Training virtual workshops on August 28 and September 27.** Additional information is on the bulletin board outside Dorcas Hall.
- **A buffet breakfast is being offered by the Chalfont Fire Company on Sunday, September 22.** \$6.50/adult provides a sumptuous meal that will tide you over until supper. Details on the bulletin board outside Dorcas Hall.
- **On October 12, Reformation Lutheran Church in Media will host "In God's Image - Shaping Ministry to be Inclusive of LGBTQIA+ Folks" from 9 am to 2 pm.** Contact the church for more information.



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### Save the Dates

September 8  
September 21  
October 5  
October 6  
October 13  
October 27

God's Work Our Hands afternoon of service  
Wines on the Hill Festival: Quilt raffle awarded  
Blessing of the Animals  
Go Orange for Animals Sunday  
CROP Walk for Hunger  
Reformation Sunday

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## Congregational Staff

To arrange a Pastoral visit, email or call the church office (see below).

- **Rev. Raymond Miller, Bridge Pastor** 215-822-9075 (Pastor's office)  
Pastoral emergency: 267-733-5243 stpeterslc@comcast.net  
**Office hours: Monday and Wednesday mornings, 10 am to 12 noon and by appointment**
  - **Sue Fellman Jacob, Parish Administrator** 215-822-9108  
**Office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 2:00pm** stpeterslc@comcast.net
  - **Norman Geist, Organist**
  - **Bill Gottshall, Worship Ensemble Leader**  
**Susan Scherffel, Worship Ensemble Leader**
  - **Jeff Thompson, Sexton**
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## St. Peter's Congregational Council

**Pam Abaza**, President (term ends: December 2021) 2<sup>nd</sup> Term  
(215) 500-8458 [pamela\\_abaza@merck.com](mailto:pamela_abaza@merck.com)

**Diane Gall**, Vice-President (term ends: December 2020) 1<sup>st</sup> Term  
(215) 651-1112 [alottagall@verizon.net](mailto:alottagall@verizon.net)

**Linda Ertel**, Secretary (term ends: December 2021) 2<sup>nd</sup> Term  
(215) 712-9820 [lmertel@verizon.net](mailto:lmertel@verizon.net)

**Ken Shanks**, Treasurer (completed two terms on council as of December 2015)  
(267) 424-0202 [Kshanks6@gmail.com](mailto:Kshanks6@gmail.com)

**Spencer Butterwick** (term ends: December 2021) 1<sup>st</sup> Term  
(215) 881-7464 [ssb1@psu.edu](mailto:ssb1@psu.edu)

**Rick Daubert** (term ends: December 2020) 1<sup>st</sup> Term  
(215) 830-1270 [rdoubled1@verizon.net](mailto:rdoubled1@verizon.net)

**Debra Detweiler** (term ends: December 2020) 1<sup>st</sup> Term  
(267) 228-0530 [detweiler32658@gmail.com](mailto:detweiler32658@gmail.com)

**Patti Dowse** (term ends: December 2019) 1<sup>st</sup> Term  
(215) 738-2781 [privateagreement@gmail.com](mailto:privateagreement@gmail.com)

**Joan Gerhart** (term ends: December 2019) 1<sup>st</sup> Term  
(215) 822-9186 [jjcjd@yahoo.com](mailto:jjcjd@yahoo.com)

**Phil Tackett** (term ends: December 2019) 2<sup>nd</sup> Term  
(215) 896-1775 [Lpt2829@gmail.com](mailto:Lpt2829@gmail.com)

# Prayer List

As of August 18, 2019

## God's Protection and Safety:

On all who drive buses, trains & planes. For all the service men & women especially:

**Petty Officer Second Class Abigail Gall, US Coast Guard**, daughter of Diane & Chris Gall  
**2nd LT. Walker Gall**, US Air Force, son of Diane & Chris Gall

## God's Welcome

Sawyer Milan Hilton, born July 8 to Brian & Jessica Hilton and sister to Owen Hilton.

## God's Healing:

**Parishioners:** \*Jean Gugger, Trudy Ramsey, Julie Detweiler (Phoebe-Richland), Sharon Snider, Kristine Martin, June Bair, Bob Bair, Bob Snider, Joe Haenn, Owen Hilton, Jim Lynch, Charles Gehman, Bob Bergey, Jim Ertel, Sharon Senigo, Mary Ettore, Jeff Flagler, Sandie Driscoll.

\* - **new addition**

## God's Healing:

### Friends and family:

Jackie Korbas (Jerry Gerhart's sister), Marie Davies (cousin of Chris Fellman), York Cassel (husband of quilter, Sue Cassel), Gene Gugger (son of Jean & Gene Gugger), Brooke Smith (friend of Donna Blackburn), Aidan Drakeley (Carol Barringer's grandson), Ryan Stetler (friend of John Snyder), Lauren Gugger (granddaughter of Gene & Jean Gugger), Gail Coltrain (friend of Bill Gottshall family), Holly Olsen (friend of Charles Rizzo), Ann Weikel (sister-in-law of Sue Jacob), Faye Slack (daughter of Blanche Wimmer), Betty Zepp (relation to Maryann Zepp), Donna Kuehlewind (friend of Deb Detweiler), Kay Moyer (friend of Hope Garrett), Phil Richard, June Breithaupt (mother of June Bair), Arlene Leonard (Gene Gugger's sister), Steve Traynor (friend of Sandie Driscoll), Jim Hardy (son of Peg & Ed Hardy), Barbara Jones (Danielle Simpkins' mother), Al Palmer (friend of Dean Jerasa), Mark Newbold (friend of Charles Rizzo), Rhelda Warriner (sister of Rita Bixler), Donna Cross (friend of Jim & Linda Ertel), Debbie Breithaupt (sister-in-law of June Bair), Mason Long and Randy (grandsons of Peg & Ed Hardy), Brandon Latham (friend of Scherffel family), Chase Yarns (nephew of Tammy Daubert), George Yarns (father of Tammy Daubert), Patricia Deitz (sister of Bob Bair), Debra Scott (Sue Scherffel's cousin), Butch Trucksess (brother-in-law of Donna and Brian Blackburn), Michael Burgess (brother of Kim Jerasa), Joseph Hartner (brother-in-law of Michael Ettore, Sr.).

\* - **new addition** *[Names for healing will stay on the printed list for 1 month]*

## God's Comfort & Peace:

For our homebound members: **Ted Fickert** (Dock Woods), **Joe Haenn**, **Bob Bergey** (Lutheran Community at Telford), **Esther Saylor and Tillie Murray** (Hidden Meadows on the Ridge), **Betty Nash** (Springhouse Estates), **Ted Hilmer**, **Mary VanThyne** (Home).

## God's Grace for the Family & Friends who mourn the death of:

+Blanche Wimmer, +Betty Rohrs, +Edna Ney, Harry Kieffer (Deb Detweiler's brother-in-law), John Rizzo (brother of Charles Rizzo), +Doris Hardy, +Bonnie Lesh, James Seward, Sr (father of Jim Seward), +Marge Moll, +Glen Kramer.

*[+indicates a member of St. Peter's. Names will stay on the printed list for 1 year]*

# Celebrating all Creatures Great and Small

## Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

1:00pm at St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Please bring your pet or a photo of your pet to be blessed.

Join us for both people and animal treats!



**There will be a collection for the following items**

**from September 1<sup>st</sup> to October 6<sup>th</sup>**

Wet and dry cat food, dog and cat treats, paper towels, tall kitchen bags with handie ties, Swiffer sweep and wet mop refills, Lysol disinfecting wipes, doggie waste bags, dog toothpaste, Post-its, cat and dog toys, Dixie paper plates

# Celebrating all Creatures Great and Small

## Go Orange for Animals

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

We have learned many ways to help animals; this year we are learning how animals help us.

We will be joined by therapy/service animals and their handlers throughout the morning.

We would also like to hear your stories.

How have you been helped or have you seen others being helped by an animal?

### 8:00 am service

Jennifer Logan's Heroes and Horses

Dwight and Calvin, the therapy cat

### 9:00 am fellowship hour

Dwight and Calvin, the therapy cat

Jennifer's Heroes

Montgomery Township K-9 Cooper

Canine Partners for Life

### 10:00 am service and children's worship

Dwight and Calvin, the therapy cat

Montgomery Township K-9 Cooper

Canine Partners for Life



## “GO ORANGE” FOR ANIMALS

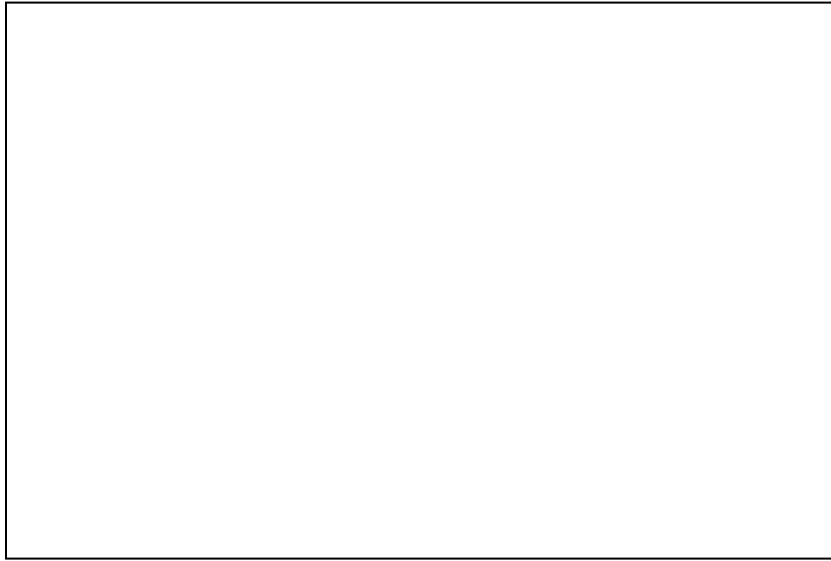


**This year the theme for “Go Orange” for Animals is “HELPING”.**

Throughout all of Jesus’ life he helped others and implored us to do the same. His acts of kindness are the cornerstone for a Christian life.

Do you have a “Helping” story to share with us? It can be any story where someone or something helped someone or something. Does your pet help you in some way? Did you help your pet in some way? Have you seen something on YouTube? Have you witnessed helping with your own eyes? Tell us about it! Use the form below to document your “helping” story. The box at the top is for a photo or picture if you have one. Please sign your name so we can be sure the photos are returned to you. Use more than one page if needed. Bring your finished story to church and attach it to the Library windows in the Narthex or submit it to the office.

## HELPING STORY



My  
story: \_\_\_\_\_

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Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

7th Annual  
*Wines On The Hill*  
**...and craft beer!**



**Saturday, September 21, 2019**  
**12:00pm - 6:00pm**

**St. Peters Lutheran Church**  
1530 Augsburg Drive  
Hilltown, PA 18927

**Wineries, Craft Beer, Distilleries, Food,  
Live Music, Exhibitors, Vendors  
... and much, much more!**

**Purchase Tickets @ [www.hilltownfirerescue.org](http://www.hilltownfirerescue.org)**

**Advance Tickets: \$20    At The Gate: \$30    Designated Driver: \$5**

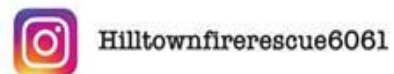
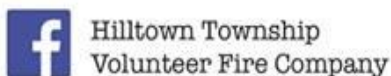
**Must be 21 & older to consume alcoholic beverages.**

**Pets Not Permitted.**

**All Proceeds Benefit:**

**HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.**

**Follow Us For Up To Date News**



September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8am & 10:00am Worship Services	2 Labor Day – church office closed	3 9 am – Quilters	4 12n – AA	5  7pm-Boy Scouts	6 12n – AA	7
<b>8</b> 8am & 10:00am Worship Services 1-3 pm: 4H meeting 2 pm: Day of Service at St. Andrew’s, Perkasio	9	10	11 12n – AA	12  7pm-Boy Scouts	13 12n – AA	14
<b>15</b> 8 am & 10:00 am Worship Services  2-4 pm: 4H meeting	16  7 pm – Council mtg	17 9 am – Quilters	18 12n – AA	19 Newsletter input due  7pm-Boy Scouts	20 12n – AA	21 12n – 6pm: Wines Festival: Quilt drawing
<b>22</b> 8 am & 10:00am Worship Services	23	24 12:00 noon – Lunch Bunch	25 12n – AA	26 Newsletter will be emailed 7pm-Boy Scouts 7pm-Bldg Blks Parent Night	27 12n – AA	28
<b>29</b> 8 am & 10:00 am Worship Services	30					



## Monthly Assisting Ministers Calendar – September 2019

Date	Time	Ushers	Greeters	Acolyte	Crucifer	Scripture	Prayer	Server	Altar Guild	Counters
9/1/19	8:00 am TEAM B	P Tackett & D Bell		E Rebnegger	K Shanks	**Lou Bell	D Gall	Lisa Bell	J & D Snyder	J Johnson & M Fickert
	10:00 am TEAM B	R Johnson & G Gerhart	D & D Fell	B Flagler	K Flagler	T Daubert	**T Daubert	P Abaza		
9/8/19	8:00 am TEAM C	W & C Fellman	P Hardy & S Davenport	K Shanks	J Snyder	**L Tackett	J Smith	P Tackett	K Park & L Ertel	S & D Texter
	10:00 am TEAM C	C Simpkins & G Gugger	D & S Texter	P Dowse	**L Lombardo	K Jerasa	K Jerasa	M Zepp		
9/15/19	8:00 am TEAM D	J & B Snider	J & D Snyder	D Bell	H Lee	H Garrett	**H Garrett	E Rebnegger	D Detweiler & P Abaza	K Jerasa & N Driscoll
	10:00 am TEAM D	R Johnson & G Gerhart	P Dowse & C Rizzo	**N Driscoll	S Butterwick	B Schwab	T Schwab	L Lombardo		
9/22/19	8:00 am TEAM E	S & E Rebnegger	W & C Fellman	D Seward	J Seward	**P Tackett	D Gall	P Tackett	P Dowse & C Rizzo	P Dowse & C Rizzo
	10:00 am TEAM E	C Simpkins & A Scherffel	R Johnson	S Texter	D Texter	**C Evans	C Evans	S Fischer		
9/29/19	8:00 am TEAM F	J & D Snyder		E Rebnegger	K Shanks	J Snider	J Smith	**D Gall	R Bixler & L Lombardo	S & D Texter
	10:00 am TEAM F	**D & S Texter	N & S Driscoll	C Rizzo	P Dowse	M Zepp	M Zepp	K Jerasa		
10/6/19	8:00 am TEAM A	D Detweiler & P Hardy	P Hardy & S Davenport	D Bell	F Park	H Lee	**H Lee	K Shanks	D & S Texter	J Johnson & M Fickert
	10:00 am TEAM A	**A Scherffel & D Simpkins	R Johnson	L Lombardo	A Reice	K Ballard	R Daubert	P Dowse		

**YOU STILL NEED TO CONTACT YOUR TEAM LEADER WITH CHANGES.**

**The yellow, highlighted names with double stars are team leaders.**

**Please arrive 10 minutes before the Service so the Team Leader knows you are available.**