



# NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD NEWS

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## What's it like to be a Pastoral Intern in NEPA?

By Melissa Hrdlicka

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It is hard to believe I have been on internship with Common Ground Recovery Community for nine months already! My time with Common Ground has been a deep blessing to me and to my education. I have witnessed the presence of God in the open vulnerable sharing during our Wednesday worship, in the heartfelt reverent “thank you’s” when serving communion and meals in downtown Reading and in our study of the scriptures and 12-steps. Common Ground truly is a place of radical love and where God’s grace embraces our brokenness.

As part of my internship project, I invited our worshiping communities and ministry partners to reflect on these three questions: What does Common Ground mean to you? What does community mean to you? And where do you see God here and in the world? They then drew on white cotton squares that will be sewn together to make an altar cloth to fit all of our communion tables. The responses were profound and beautiful!

There are drawings of stick figures holding hands around the globe, animals peacefully living together, a place of refuge in the storm and in the desert, flowers, hearts, and crosses. There are phrases like, “Freedom, break the chains”, “God is love”, “We are better together”, “Never give up hope because there is hope in everything”, and so much more on these 33 squares!

As these squares are knit together to make one, we are reminded that God weaves all of us together in a tapestry of love to bring warmth, comfort, grace, and peace to a weary world! May we live out this good news and may it spill over into thanksgiving! (Colossians 2:2-7)



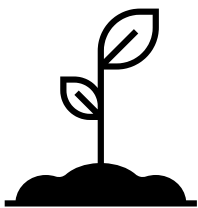
## TOGETHER

Our 2022 Assembly will be held online on June 10-11. Each congregation is entitled to bring two voting members.

Register on the synod website today!

[Godslove.org](http://Godslove.org)

## STEWARDSHIP EXTRAVAGANZA



**JUNE 18, 2022**

**TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, LANSDALE**

**AN EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE  
SEPA AND NEPA SYNODS  
(REGISTRATION FORTHCOMING)**



*Faith*  
**FORMATION**  
*Saturdays*

**Join us on the 2nd  
Saturday of every month!**  
(more information on our website)



THE HART HARVEST, INC

## The Potato Project Annual Seed Cutting

**APRIL 23 & 24, 2022, 1PM-4PM**

RAIN OR SHINE, BAREBONES EVENT, BRING  
YOUR OWN KNIFE, CUTTING BOARD, DRINKS,  
AND SNACKS. WE'LL BE CUTTING THE SEED  
POTATOES FOR PLANTING SEASON! ALL ARE  
INVITED! JUST WALK-IN AND HELP!

BECKER'S ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
265 MAIDENCREEK ROAD  
FLEETWOOD, PA 19522

## Three Years of Growth and Change



GROWING YOUNG



GAINING STRENGTH



BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE