

# PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Breinigsville, PA

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**MARCH 2016**



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The Reverend Laura L. Stoneback, Pastor  
8227 Hamilton Boulevard  
Breinigsville, PA 18031  
Telephone: 610-398-7000

*PAUL'S PARISH NEWS* is published by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago, we had a potluck lunch followed by our annual congregational meeting. The lunch was outstanding. So many wonderful dishes brought in by many people. I don't know if we say it often enough, but thank you to all those who bring food and to all those who stay for times of fellowship. Our fellowship time together is one of the things that help to make our congregation a family. Following our meal, we had a family discussion.

We can be excited about the ministry that takes place at St. Paul's. And by ministry, I am not referring to the work I do, but the work you do in Christ's name for your church and your brothers and sisters in Christ. Every week, we have a list of volunteers who help, not only on Sunday mornings, but throughout the week as well. We have people who serve in various ways in our community to assist others in need. Perhaps you, in your home and in your place of business strive to be one who shares the love of Christ with others. When people come to our church, I believe they sense the friendliness and mission that we share together. Together is a key word. For it is only as we work and serve and play together, that we reflect the Body of Christ.

I am so thankful for the mission we share and the privilege to be part of that mission. When I recall that I am part of a family, a family of faith, I get excited. We are so blessed to be able to do what we do. We are blessed to teach children and adults about Christ. We are blessed to sing praises to God, to receive the sacraments, to laugh and to cry with one another. How blessed we are to be held in prayer, and what an awesome thing it is to take the concerns of our 'family' to God in prayer.

St. Paul's is a church where all are welcome. We continue to be a growing family which will allow for more opportunities to serve God and one another. Never be afraid to share your passion for ministry; never be afraid to share your love of Jesus. As we head towards Easter and the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, I am excited to see what new life we might experience together as the people of God here at St. Paul's.

Growing with you in faith,  
Pastor Laura.

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As the month of March begins, we find ourselves in the middle of the Lenten Season. Lent, as you may know, is 40 days in length (the same length of time Jesus was in the wilderness) minus Sundays' which are always celebrated as days of resurrection. As Jesus continued to set his face towards Jerusalem, where he will suffer and die for us, we invite you to stay strong in your worship and devotional life.

Palm/Passion Sunday is on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Our service will begin with the procession of palm remembering Jesus' entry into the city of Jerusalem during which he was first hailed as king. Our children will bless us in this worship service as they sing a song. The mood of the service soon changes as we hear the passion narrative read.

On Maundy Thursday our worship service will be held at 7:00 p.m. During this service we recall how Jesus gathered with his disciples to celebrate the Passover meal, but then changed it by saying that the bread was his broken body and the cup his blood, given and poured out for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Our Good Friday service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Did you hear Jesus speaking from the Cross? Do you understand what love he has for you? Please join us on Friday for this special service.

Easter worship will be held at 6:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Get ready to rejoice! Death does not will, Christ has Risen.

### **ST. PAUL'S ADDRESS CHANGE**

If you need to mail anything to the church, please use our street address as **8227 Hamilton Blvd., Breinigsville, PA 18031-1486.**

## **NEW WEB ADDRESS**

Given the church's mailing address change from Trexlertown to Breinigsville, the Web site address (domain name) has been changed to [www.stpaulsbville.org](http://www.stpaulsbville.org).

We have a new look. Check it out.

## **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

### **It's Party time! Join us on March 13 for a St. Patrick's themed Potluck.**

What does that mean? It means, break out your green attire. Incorporate some green into your food! Most important, come. There will be a scavenger hunt for kids, and adults, we are going to let you get your hot air out by seeing who can blow up the most green balloons in five minutes. This is bound to be a great party. We may even have some Irish music!

Looking ahead, on, May 1<sup>st</sup>, we will have a Kentucky Derby Themed Potluck. So, sport your hats, and wear your bow ties, and see us at the track.

## **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> we held Souper Bowl Sunday. Through your offering and donations we had a successful day. A lot of soup and other items were collected for the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank. Also, donations were collected for your favorite team. The Denver Bronco's got \$30.00 and the Carolina Panthers got \$42.07

## **HOSPITALIZED?**

If you are in the hospital, please let the church office know. The hospitals have updated their computers, and unfortunately, we are not getting accurate reporting of members in the hospital. Our code # is 321.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE**

From now through Easter, Sunday school children will be collecting change to benefit ELCA's Good Gifts program. Children will use red barns to collect change to benefit the cause.

Money collected will help provide tools and gifts to help families struggling with hunger and poverty worldwide. Items we can help fund include: chicks, pigs, goats, wells, fish farms, trees, farming tools, mosquito netting and more. Prices for each item ranges from \$10 to \$2,500. The more we collect, the more we can help fund.

Each Sunday children will have barns in church. When you see any Sunday school child, please consider donating!

For more information on the Good Gifts program, visit [www.elca.org/goodgifts](http://www.elca.org/goodgifts)

## **SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES MONDAY MORNINGS MARCH 7 & 14**

All are invited to join in our study WHAT WONDROUS LOVE: HOLY WEEK IN WORD AND ART. Those who came for the Advent study of word and art really enjoyed how the artist made us think outside the box as we looked and listened to various well know texts. We look forward to a similar experience with this Lenten study. Classes will only be held on Monday mornings at 9:30. All are welcome.

## **SNOW/CANCELLATION INFORMATION**

Winter advisory...Please be sure to check St. Paul's website, [stpaulslutherantrexlerstown.org](http://stpaulslutherantrexlerstown.org) or WFMZ storm center to see if any church service or event is cancelled due to snow or ice.

# “JOURNEYS THROUGH GRIEF”

A six-week seminar support group for those who are grieving

Spring 2016



Luther Crest  
Fullenbach Room  
800 Hausman Road  
Allentown, PA 18104

Monday mornings  
10:30 a.m. –12:00 p.m.  
April 4, 11, 18, 25 May 2 & 9

*There is no fee to participants  
thanks to the generosity of the following:*

*J. S. Burkholder Funeral Homes, Inc.  
1601 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, PA*

## **Registration required**

### **Contact**

Lutheran Congregational Services  
1923 Hanover Avenue  
Allentown, PA 18109  
610-770-9205

[www.lutherancongregationalservices.org](http://www.lutherancongregationalservices.org)



## **WHERE SHOULD I GIVE MY GIFT? MEMORIAL FUND OR ENDOWMENT FUND?**

There is no right or wrong answer to this question. But you should be aware that each fund has its own purpose. The memorial fund is used to buy or replace items that are used in the church or grounds of the church. For example, the following are items that have been purchased through the gifts made to the memorial fund: new communion linens or communion ware, banners, the hanging cross, bibles, the pew pads, and bell chimes. We are very appreciative of the gifts made to the memorial account.

The Endowment fund has a difference purpose. The principal of the gifts made to the Endowment Fund are never used. Therefore, when one gives to this fund, your gifts last forever as only the interest earned is spent. The fund has specific ministries that are supported by the gifts. These include grants offered for those pursuing a career in ministry, the support of Lutheran ministries locally and worldwide, the enhancement of ministries in the local community and /or congregation, the support of non-Lutheran charities, and to assist with extraordinary events within or congregation. Many who have made it a practice sharing their faith through their lifelong financial stewardship like to give to this fund so that their gifts live on and serve God even after their death.

We thank all those who share their financial gifts with the church.

## **EASTER FLOWERS**

Time is running out to order your Easter Flowers. The deadline is Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Forms were sent with the February newsletter. You can pick one up at church, send me an email or call the office to place your order.

“God proved his love on the cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, ‘I love you.’”

—Billy Graham

## EASTER JOY

Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. God loves a cheerful giver. One gives most who gives with joy. The best way to show our gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy.



A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen.

—Mother Teresa

## DELIVER US

We sing and say “hosanna” every Palm Sunday but hardly ever in between. So what does that word mean?

That first Palm Sunday, crowds spread their cloaks before Jesus as people had before Jehu to proclaim him king (2 Kings 9:13). They waved palm branches in greeting — a traditional sign of celebration (Leviticus 23:40). And, of course, they shouted, “Hosanna!”

This was an exclamation of “a people in distress [addressing] their king or their god,” explains Bible scholar William Barclay. Drawn from Psalm 118:25, *hosanna* is Aramaic for “save now.” By the time of Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Barclay says, *hosanna* may have “become to some extent only a cry of welcome and of acclamation, like ‘Hail!’; but essentially it is a people’s cry for deliverance and for help in the day of their trouble.”

“Hosanna!” is the plea of an oppressed people to the one they recognize as their true king: Jesus, their Savior.



## **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND IRON PIGS GAME**

We are scheduled for the Iron Pigs on Sunday, June 19, 2016. Game time is 1:35 p.m. The cost is \$27.00. A signup sheet is available in the narthex.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016**

Save the Date for VBS. Vacation Bible School 2016 will be SUNDAY, June 26th to THURSDAY, June 30th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Ages 3 to 12 are invited to join the fun! Make sure to invite your grandkids, neighbors, friends and family. We will have sign ups starting in April. Look for more info to come.

As always we need amazing volunteers to help us have a successful week. Contact Katie Pisauro in church or email her at [Katiepisauro@gmail.com](mailto:Katiepisauro@gmail.com) if you would like to help! Don't be shy we always have a great time!



We had a great turn out last year and look forward to another great year of VBS.

Katie Pisauro, Kimberly Schiffert

## **HAPPY TO HELP**

The International Day of Happiness is observed on March 20 (also the first day of spring this year; coincidence?). Jesus said we'll be happy (or "blessed") when we're meek, merciful, pure and so on (see his Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12). In other words, happiness results from putting others' needs above our own.

Research confirms that helping others boosts people's self-esteem, forges strong friendships, offers a sense of belonging and purpose, decreases stress, increases gratitude and sparks others to "pay it forward." In fact, University of Texas researchers found that the "activism cure" is a great way to overcome bouts of sadness. So get helping — and get happy!

## THE ORIGIN OF “EASTER”

It's not certain where the word *Easter*, which never appears in Scripture, originates. In some places, the day is called Pasch, which comes from “Passover,” the festival during which Jesus was crucified. Others call it Resurrection Sunday.

Some scholars think the church absorbed the word *Easter* from pagan roots, because the goddess of spring, Eostre, was celebrated about the same time as Passover.

Others suggest the word derives from an old Latin phrase referring to the white robes traditionally worn by people being baptized on the Sunday that celebrates Jesus' resurrection.

## WELCA

They had their meeting on February 17th since the second Wednesday was Ash Wednesday.

Details for the Lenten Breakfast were finalized. Daisy Pearson is hosting this event this year.

The Spring Retreat – April 9, 2016 will be here at St. Paul's. It is anticipated that approximately 35 will attend and planning for this event was discussed and will be finalized in March. There will be two workshops and attendees will assemble personal care refugee boxes for Lutheran Congregational Services.

Our Bible Study was Confidence in God's Beginnings and Endings which was on Paul's Missionary Journeys.

Submitted by  
Sharon Bortz

## **MARCH FOOD BANK ITEMS OF THE MONTH**

The congregation has donated to the Food Bank throughout the year but the needs of those less fortunate continue. So please continue to bring nonperishable food items along to worship.

Each month we plan to feature a food item, but any item will be acceptable.

**THANK YOU** to all who brought in peanut butter and jelly for our monthly collection for the food bank.

During March our “food of the month” will be Macaroni & Cheese.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

I am pleased to announce that our church will make its first appearance at the NEPS Bike for World Hunger Event in 2016. The event takes place at the Rodale Fitness Park. Runners, Walkers, Bikers, and Rollerbladers of all ages and athletic abilities are encouraged to participate and cheer on participants. The date will be confirmed in January, but mark it on your calendars now; it is traditionally third Saturday in May. Additional information will be forthcoming. If you have any questions about this event, please reach out to Angie Kropf, [angenk@verizon.net](mailto:angenk@verizon.net).

Sincerely,

Angie Kropf

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 13<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick’s Day Theme Potluck

March 20<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday – Children of the Church Easter Egg Hunt

March 24<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

March 27<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday Worship Services at 6:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
(No Sunday School)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS. SPRING FORWARD BY TURNING YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR.**

## **TREXLERTOWN SENIOR ASSOCIATION**

The Trexlertown Seniors are looking for new members. We meet every Tuesday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Our meetings start at 1:00 p.m. Some come a little early to socialize. Light refreshments are served.

From time to time we have a speaker come in. We play bingo, have trivia, play cards, pinochle and more. Once in a while we have entertainment with a piano player and a sing-a-long.

If you have any questions, Ostop in and attend one of our meetings.

## THANK YOU NOTES

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church Congregation,

Now the holiday season is behind us, and we reflect upon the gifts that have come our way. It is with thankfulness that you receive this letter from me. The Lehigh Conference of Churches is so very appreciative of the winter jackets that you have given to us that have been passed on to the ones that we serve. Those less fortunate individuals who receive the jackets that you donated are truly blessed and thankful for your acts of kindness to place these pieces of clothing necessities in their lives.

Thank you for your generosity and your ongoing support for what we do to help the homeless and needy in our community. Through your contributions, you are making extreme differences in the lives of others.

Thank you very much! I truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,  
Ben Stephens  
Clinical Supervisor  
Pathways Housing Program  
The Lehigh Conferences of Churches  
1031 W. Linden Street, Suite #104  
Allentown, PA 18102

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank you for your donation of \$102.00.

Because of your caring and sharing, we are able to feed those less fortunate in our community. We are currently serving between 200 and 250 families per week.

Again, thank you for your donation.  
AAEFB - Margaret Rosenbeger, Corres. Sec.

## PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Leroy Bortz  
Ruth Glase  
Dorothea Grammes  
Helen Kessler  
Martha Lindenmuth

Bill Moyer  
Katherine Plarr  
Kathy Shryock  
Larry Wingard

### MARCH



8 Joe Flores  
9 Kelly Kirn  
10 Roland Grammes  
10 Bruce Wagaman  
11 Rita Miller  
12 Betty Moyer  
12 Ruth Berghold  
12 Susan Ferguson

12 Brittany Reeger  
17 Henrietta Younger  
19 Maddox Rampen  
20 Jen Schmoyer  
20 Pamela Zahour  
27 Joyce Bastian  
28 Ellie Pisauro



### MARCH

5 Richard & Emily Danner  
24 Ronald & Jennifer Carlson  
31 Jason & Sandi Christoffersen  
31 Westley & Laurin Mironov

## PASTORIAL ACT

### FUNERAL

Pastor Laura officiated at the funeral service for Mary Keller on February 6, 2016

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The following memorial contribution has been received in memory of  
Myrtle Becker:  
The Becker Family

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of  
Mary Hartley:  
Carole Beck  
St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation WELCA

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of  
Mary Keller:  
Alice Bastian  
Robert Bastian  
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Krutsick  
Rosemary Lehman  
Martha Lindenmuth  
John & Dorothy O'Connors & the Hilton & Littlejohn Families  
Keith & Becky Theodore  
Bruce & Sandi Wagaman  
St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation WELCA  
Mr. & Mrs. James Welty, Jr.

The following memorial contribution has been received in memory of  
Margaret Roemig:  
Carole Beck

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS**

**MARCH 13, 2016**

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR  
ARTICLES SUBMITTED TO  
THE CHURCH OFFICE  
BY THIS DATE.**

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**CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000  
HOSPITAL CODE: #321  
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE  
EMAIL: [stpauls.trexlerstown@gmail.com](mailto:stpauls.trexlerstown@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stpaulsbville.org](http://www.stpaulsbville.org)**

**STAFF**

Pastor..... The Reverend Laura L. Stoneback  
Organist/Choir Director ..... Mrs. Judy Noll  
Handbell Director..... Mr. Richard Steltz  
Parish Secretary ..... Mrs. Cindy Krasnansky  
Sexton ..... Mr. Charlie Meitzler



# March 2016 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship <b>DEADLINE TO ORDER EASTER            FLOWERS</b>	<b>7</b> 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>8</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc.	<b>9</b> 9:30 a.m.-WELCA Lenten Breakfast At Daisy Pearson's Home 7:00 p.m.-Council	<b>10</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 a.m.-St. Patrick's Day Themed Potluck <b>DEADLINE FOR            NEWSLETTER            ARTICLES</b>	<b>14</b> 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>15</b> 12:00 p.m.-Secretaries Luncheon At St. Luke's Lutheran Church 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Property	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir  	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20 PALM SUNDAY</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m.-Worship   <b>HOLY WEEK</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc.	<b>23</b> 10:30 a.m.-Rowdy Bunch	<b>24</b>  10:00 a.m.-TOPS 7:00 p.m.-Worship	<b>25</b>   <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 10:30 a.m.- Worship	<b>26</b>
<b>27 RESURRECTION OF OUR            LORD/EASTER</b> 6:00 a.m.-Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship   <b>ALLELUIA!            He Is Risen!</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir		

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

### **Those Who Serve for the Month of March**

Council Person: Tom Kellogg 610-398-9033

#### **Sunday, March 6, 2016**

Altar Guild: Sue Firth  
Lay Assistant: June Kellogg  
Greeters: Lacey Edwards, Rosemary Lehman  
Reader: June Kellogg  
Communion Bread: Diane Kropf  
Communion Assistant: Tom Kellogg  
Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach,  
Brooke Brumbach, Bob Nickisher

#### **Sunday, March 13, 2016**

Altar Guild: Carlene Brumbach  
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman  
Greeters: Diane Kropf, John Kropf  
Reader: Martha Lindenmuth  
Communion Bread: Lisa Newhard  
Communion Assistant: Marilyn Thomas  
Ushers: Anita Eisenhard, Rosalie Gallagher, Tom Kellogg,  
Frank Szukics, Judy Szukics

**If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please notify the council person of the month or call the church office at 610-398-7000.**

#### **Sunday, March 20, 2016**

Altar Guild: Alice Bastian  
Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz  
Greeters: Dick Hartley, Tom Kellogg  
Reader: Bob Nickisher  
Communion Bread: Bob Nickisher  
Communion Assistant: Sue Firth  
Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Diane Kropf, John Kropf,  
Madeline MacMechan, Garret Pavlacka

#### **Sunday, March 27, 2016 EASTER 6:00 A.M.**

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter  
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman  
Greeters: James & Joyce Eisenhard  
Reader: Cal Fetherolf  
Communion Bread: Janine & Ken Ritter  
Communion Assistant: Cal Fetherolf  
Ushers: Madeline MacMechan

#### **Sunday, March 27, 2016 – EASTER 10:30 A.M.**

Altar Guild: Rosemary Lehman  
Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer  
Greeters: Madeline MacMechan, Betty Marchetti  
Reader: Michele Rampen  
Communion Bread: Esther Nolfé  
Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman  
Ushers: Melanie Dimovitz, Richard Hartley, Marilyn Thomas,  
Jeff Waltemyer, Ginny Wingard

# E A S T E R



# F L O W E R S

Easter is Sunday, March 27, 2016. It seems just like yesterday we were ordering poinsettias.

**The deadline for flower orders will be Sunday, March 6, 2016**

The cost for Lilies will be \$9.00 per plant. Azaleas will be \$12.00. All other plants are \$7.50. The flowers may be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service or you may donate them to shut-ins.

Please fill out the order form and return it with a check (made out to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In the memo, please mark for Easter Flowers.) Either place it in the offering plate, mail it in, or hand it to Janine Ritter.

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Krasnansky at 610-398-7000.

Additional forms are available in the narthex.

As always, thank you for making our church a special place.

Cindy Krasnansky  
Church Office

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
8227 Hamilton Blvd.  
Breinigsville, PA 18031  
610-398-7000

## EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

LILIES: \$9.00

AZALEAS: \$12.00

ALL OTHER PLANTS: \$7.50

**ORDER DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2016**

**CHOOSE THE TYPE OF FLOWER YOU  
WOULD LIKE AND PLACE THE NUMBER  
YOU WANT ON THE LINE BEHIND.**



LILIES \_\_\_\_\_

MUMS \_\_\_\_\_

DAFFODILS \_\_\_\_\_

TULIPS \_\_\_\_\_

AZALEAS \_\_\_\_\_

ORDERED

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print clearly)

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PICK UP AFTER THE 10:30 A.M. EASTER SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_

WILL DONATE TO SICK OR SHUT-IN: \_\_\_\_\_





# Mardi Gras



# pot Luck Lunch

February 7, 2016







# Congregational Annual Report Meeting



February 7, 2016



# SYNOD NEWS

## Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

### Celebration of Major Anniversaries

#### Save the Date: May 24

For the third year, the Committee of Deans will host this event apart from the synod assembly. It will be held at the Lutheran Center on Tuesday May 24 beginning with a worship service at 11:00 a.m.

All those who wish to celebrate with the honorees are invited to attend the worship service. If there is interest, attendees are invited to participate in a choir.

Following the public worship service, the anniversary celebrants and their guests will gather for lunch and a program on the lower level of the Lutheran Center.

### Motorcycle Mass

(continued)

The hope is to hold the event at St. Paul, Dallas and in the surrounding community in connection with the Dream Ride, a motorcycle ride/fundraiser that supports the Special Olympics which last year raised over one million dollars.

Are you interested in participating? You can share the news with someone you know who rides; or you can volunteer to grill, work on a flyer, provided music, or help to organize the event. You may contact Vicar Theiss by phone at 830-305-1161 or by email at paulbtheiss@gmail.com.



### Motorcycle Mass

Seminarian Paul Theiss is serving an internship at Trinity, Towanda with a special assignment to do mission work in Susquehanna County. In an effort to do something new and creative, he is planning a "Motorcycle Mass" for the weekend of June 25.

The idea began with Pr. Gunnar Sigurjónsson, a Lutheran pastor and friend in Iceland, who for the past 9 years has been opening his church to the Motorcycle community in his country. In honor of his 10th year Pr. Sigurjónsson suggested coming to NEPA to begin a motorcycle Mass here! So he and a group of Icelanders will come this June to help lead and guide the Motorcycle Mass.

This effort has received tremendous help and leadership from Joseph Snyder, who is part of the worshipping community at Trinity, and who is the founder and president of the Rolling Souls Motorcycle club. He has connected with Rev. Abner Fuentes, a pastor at Maná Family Worship Center in East Stroudsburg, who is also President and founder of the Least Of Saints MC Pocono PA Chapter.

The vision and hope is that this will be a worship-centered event focused on bringing people together in the name of Jesus to break down walls and stereotypes: from minorities to ecumenical, cultural, or marginalized peoples. Planned for the weekend of June 25-26, the event will include music, food, and fellowship, all centered around the worship and praise of God.

(continued in the lefthand column)

## Found Money!



The synod was notified some time ago that it might have money sitting in "abandoned" accounts. There is a form to fill out after finding the information on line. It was not really difficult to do, and in the late fall of 2015 the synod received a check for a total of almost \$11,000 from four different accounts.

Rostered leaders often suggest to their congregation that when non-budgeted income is received, the congregation give a tithe to some mission outside of the congregation. This is to set an example for individuals to tithe in the same way.

In conversation with the Bishop and synod treasurer Dave Hinrichs, it was decided that the synod would tithe \$1,100 to Lutheran Congregational Services for Refugee Resettlement. The rest of the money was invested in the synod's Student Education Fund.

It's easy to check if you or your congregation has money sitting somewhere gathering dust. You can begin at <http://unclaimed.org> or visit the PA site directly at <http://www.patreasury.gov>.



## Environmental Advocacy

The original roof at St. James, Pitman was built in 1944. Because of a leak in the roof In 2007, the congregation spent more that year for heating bills than for mission support; and the congregation met downstairs for worship in the cold winter months to save on heat. An Energy Task Force was formed to deal with the situation. The members of the task force were Jim and Josh Heper, John Melick, and Jim Deeben.

As a result of their efforts a new, heavily insulated roof was installed; the old heating system was replaced with a modern, more efficient one; and the old stained glass windows were covered with a protective shield to provide insulation. A future project is to investigate the use of energy saving lighting throughout the church.

This past year a new natural gas pipeline from Canada was proposed. The issued generated a lot of controversy in the Mahantongo Valley. The proposed route was to pass as close as 700 feet from the home of one Task Force member. As a result, the Task Force, along with the pastor and some others members of St. James, attended fact finding meetings and gave testimony in opposition to the plan. One Sunday afternoon during the controversy, these leaders conducted a walking tour of the valley using scripture that related to their rural environment.

A resolution opposing the pipeline was brought to two local council township meetings; and even though both resolutions were defeated, the task force and members of St. James have been "energized" by their advocacy. The proposed pipeline is to be built starting sometime in 2016.

The Rev. Jerel W. Gade, Dean  
The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop

610-966-3030  
610-266-5101

Mr. Joshua Fink, Mission District Chair  
Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor

484-358-5720  
610-437-9927

April 2016 LMD NL news will be due March 16th. E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com).

**Presentations at Luther Crest:** The public is cordially invited to attend the following **free presentations at 2:30 p.m.** in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104:

\* A panel discussion and responses with Rev. Dr. Manfred Bahmann, Dr. William Jennings, and Rev. Dianne Kareha on "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People": **Tues., March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

\* Viewing and discussion of "Locked in a Box", an award-winning short documentary that follows the stories of individuals held in the U.S. Immigration detention system and those who visit them: **Tues., March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

\* Revs. John and Dianne Kareha Deisinger on "South America and Antarctica": **Tues., March 29<sup>th</sup>.**

For more information, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

**Ministry with Our Elders (Senior Adults):** For Clergy, Parish Nurses, Secretaries of Congregations, Pastoral Care Visitors, and Other Caregivers.

Luther Crest (800 Hausman Road, Allentown) will host a Moravian Theological Seminary course on **Mons., April 4-May 9<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-4:30 p.m.** This six-week course is designed for clergy and laity who want to become more effective in ministry with the senior adults with whom they serve. Participants will have an opportunity to improve their skills of communication with older adults, as well as gain an understanding of the life issues that confront them. The course will cover the following topics: grief, dynamics and issues of dementia and aging, caring for the caregiver, life review, spirituality and faith, visitation and communication skills, effects of aging on family systems, and community resources. **Cost for this 1.8 CEU course is \$60** (payable to Moravian Theological Seminary, 1220 Main Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018-6650); **early bird registration is \$50 (by March 28, 2016).** For more information, please contact Luther Crest's Chaplain Dianne Kareha [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210) or go to <http://www.moravianseminary.edu/continuing-ed>

**LCS Journeys Through Grief groups this spring:**

\* **April 5-May 10<sup>th</sup>,** at Emmaus Moravian Church, 146 Main St., Emmaus on **Tues. evenings from 7-8:30 p.m.** No fee will be charged thanks to the generosity of Bachman, Kulik & Reinsmith Funeral, Homes, P.C. and Schantz Funeral Home, P.C.

\* **April 4-May 9<sup>th</sup>,** at Luther Crest, Fuellenbach Room, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown on **Mon. mornings from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** No fee will be charged thanks to the generosity of J. S. Burkholder Funeral Home, Allentown.

To register for either group, please contact Kathy Reyher at [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205) or [kathy@lutherancongregational-services.org](mailto:kathy@lutherancongregational-services.org).

**Luther Crest to Host Model Passover Seder Dinner:** Would you like to experience the beautiful traditions and the distinctive foods of a Passover Seder? (As you may know, Passover is a Jewish commemoration of deliverance from bondage. According to the gospels, the "Last Supper" that Jesus shared with his disciples occurred around the time of the celebration of Passover). On **Tues, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:30 p.m.** in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, Katyah Gohr will lead a model Seder service, which will include a full, buffet-style meal. **Cost is \$11.00.** For reservations or questions, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210) by **Tues., April 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network** offers a variety of support groups and classes to help individuals dealing with chronic illness and injuries. Throughout the month, multiple classes focusing on conditions including multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury, stroke, concussion, brain injury and others are available. Many sessions are free and open to the public. Please call [1-888-44-REHAB \(73422\)](tel:1-888-44-REHAB) or visit [GoodShepherdRehab.org/events](http://GoodShepherdRehab.org/events) for more information

**Can you provide an hour or two per week** to help someone who wants to change their life? St. Luke's at 417 N 7<sup>th</sup> St, Allentown still has an ongoing need for volunteers to assist as tutors or substitutes for our growing multi-level ELL Program for individuals who desperately want to learn English. No foreign language needed. Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or [stluke@enter.net](mailto:stluke@enter.net) for class times and orientation sessions.

**Church Council Retreat or Meeting at Luther Crest:** We invite your congregation's Church Council to hold a retreat or one of its meetings at Luther Crest. To learn more or to schedule your Church Council retreat or meeting at Luther Crest (with meals optional), please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

**Speakers Available:** Luther Crest has a variety of speakers available to speak to congregations, adult Sunday school classes, organizations such as women's and men's groups, Bible studies, senior's groups, and youth groups. Topics include: Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia, Depression, Elder Care, Caring for the Caregiver, Senior Housing Options, Continuum of Care, Living with Loss/Grief Support, Communicating during Times of Conflict, Prayer, and Scripture Studies. For more information or to schedule a speaker, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).





**LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES**  
*God's Work! Our Hands!*

The Lehigh Mission District is privileged to host three major institutions of our Church – Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network, Muhlenberg College, and Lutheran Congregational Services. Over the past few months, we've highlighted Good Shepherd and Muhlenberg. This month we'll take a brief look at what it means to share in the mission and ministry of Lutheran Congregational Services (LCS).

LCS's roots can be traced to 1971 when congregations of the Eastern Pennsylvania Synod formed Lutheran Chaplaincy Services of the Lehigh Valley to provide pastoral care and visitation to persons confined in hospitals, nursing homes and local institutions. Lutheran Services of the Lehigh Valley became Lutheran Congregational Services in 1999 as a reflection of the broad spectrum of ministries and services provided. In 2010, LCS joined Liberty Lutheran Services, a larger "umbrella" Social Ministry Organization with its roots in southeast Pennsylvania, thereby economizing costs and expanding our reach beyond the Lehigh Valley and northeast PA.

Throughout our history, LCS has maintained a mission to support and serve congregations and communities with flexibility focusing on areas of greatest needs. LCS is committed to faithfully responding to and supporting those in crisis or need. Over 45 years, LCS has provided a wide variety of programs including the grief groups, teen suicide prevention, refugee resettlement, ministries with those who are deaf, substance abuse education, disaster response, Lay Eucharistic Visitor training, Marriage Preparedness classes, distributing surplus household goods, and more.

Today, LCS provides education and facilitates collaboration and coordination of ministries that strengthen human relationships and build capacity to serve the most vulnerable in our congregations and communities. In 2012, LCS, through its connection to Lutheran Children and Family Service in the Liberty family, became the sole refugee resettlement service provider in the Lehigh Valley. Currently, LCS welcomes approximately 100 refugees per year from around the world and most recently, from Syria, with the assistance and generosity of congregational and community volunteers.

LCS accompanies congregations and communities in response to crisis and disaster as the local affiliate for Lutheran Disaster Response. We support teams serving children who have survived disasters in partnership with Camp Noah, a program run by Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota. On behalf of the ELCA, we have been piloting a new program of Disaster Spiritual Partners who reach out to communities and congregational leaders to accompany the congregation's response to the crises within their own community.

We continue to offer programming like Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training, Marriage Preparedness Series, Workshops for Confirmands, and our Share Our Surplus Warehouse ministry. With a small staff and a nimble structure, LCS relies on volunteers and support from congregations and individuals to share the love of God through our ministries and programs. Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to the new things God is doing through our ministries bringing life and hope to the most vulnerable in our communities.

**The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phelps Ollikainen**  
Executive Director LCS/LLS

**OPERATION SUNSHINE**  
36 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St, Allentown, PA 18101  
Phone: 610-435-9155  
Open: Mon 11-3 Wed. 9-4

E-mail: [LMDopsunshine@aol.com](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com)  
Web site: [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://www.LMDopsunshine.com)

Paula & Dick Skelly Co-Trip Coordinators  
Day of Trip Emergency Number 610-417-3286

*Operation Sunshine is a non-profit fellowship opportunity within our Mission District, run solely by volunteers. Please join us and invite your friends as we enjoy a variety of venues together.*

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**Apr. 13 (Wed.) – Bristol Riverside Theatre, Bristol, PA –RUMORS -**

Join us at a **NEW VENUE** and see how hilarity abounds as guests arrive at the New York City Deputy Mayor's townhouse to find the host has shot himself (though it's only a flesh wound), his wife is missing, and there isn't any food! The party guests are desperate to hush up the scandal, if that's what it is, that surrounds their unseen host. As the confusion and miscommunication mount, the evening soon spins out of control in this non-stop laugh-out-loud **Neil Simon** farce. Lunch will be at the historic King George II Inn on the waterfront, and will include soup, dessert, beverage, and your choice of one of the following, **Quiche of the Day, Tavern Cheeseburger, Turkey Junior Club.** **Please indicate your meal choice at the time of reservation.**

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 6:00 PM.**

**Cost \$89 Payment Deadline: Thur., Mar. 17**

**May 11 (wed.) Sight & sound – Samson –** Join Operation Sunshine on our **2<sup>nd</sup> trip** this year to see "**SAMSON**", the newest show added to the Sight & Sound lineup, done as only Sight and Sound can. Lunch will be at the best buffet in town, Shady Maple.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 7:00 PM.**

**Cost \$99 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Apr. 7**

**May 24<sup>th</sup> (Tues) Mt Airy- Vintage Vegas-** Join your fellow travelers and experience a touch of comic camp, good old fashioned razzle dazzle, nostalgic song and dance numbers of the 1950's and 60's, with this exciting live stage show offering audiences a classic showroom / nightclub experience, with the glamour and flair of Vintage Las Vegas! Along with the show, enjoy a fabulous lunch buffet and free slot play. **Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30 AM and will return approximately 5:30 PM.**

**Cost \$62 Payment Deadline: Thurs., May 5**

\*\*\*\*\* **NEW MULTI-DAY TRIP** \*\*\*\*\*

**Taste the Flavor of Vermont: Tues, Sept. 13 to Fri, Sept 16 – 4 Days/3 Nights** in the Killington area of Vermont. Experience the tastes of a Maple Sugar Farm, Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, Cabot Cheese, Woodchuck Hard Cider and visit a Marble Museum, Danforth Pewter, an Alpaca farm and the popular Vermont Country Store. 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners, 1 with entertainment and 1 live cooking demonstration. Call the office for flyer.

**Cost \$600 pp based on double occupancy, \$670 for singles.**