

# PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Breinigsville, PA

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**APRIL 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,

Have you ever wondered: What if He didn't? What if Jesus did not rise from the dead? Can you imagine your life if that statement was true? To do so, I guess we would need to look back to Old Testament days, days where the people resorted to many gods, hoping that they might just appease at least one of them. We would have to wonder, day in and day out what we must do in order for some god to like us, let alone love us. As I thought about the question, I wondered if I could walk around as confidently as I do, or would I fear death so much that I might be spiritually paralyzed.

As we celebrate the truth that Christ is indeed risen from the grave, I am so thankful I never have to wonder or worry about such things. For on the cross, God poured out God's love for the world, by giving His only Son to die for us, and freeing us from the power of sin and death. We can enjoy each and every day knowing that we are beloved children of God, and that God is with us and promises never to leave us.

The empty tomb, the Risen Christ makes all the difference in the world to me, and I hope to you as well. Our God is a personable God, one who knows us and knows what it is like to journey through the joys and trails of life. God's deepest desire is to be in relationship with you, so that you will indeed be confident that you never journey alone. May the songs of Christ's victorious resurrection from the dead live in your heart each and every day, and may each of us respond to this gift of love, by loving, praising and serving God and neighbor each and every day.

Growing with you in faith,  
Pastor Laura

## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIONS NEEDED**

This year's synod assembly will be held in Allentown at the PPL center on June 17 and 18. Each congregation is to have one female and one male lay voting delegate the assembly. If you would be interested in attending the assembly as a voting delegate, please let Pastor Laura know of your interest.

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Many of you come to worship on Easter Sunday knowing the hymns that will be sung. Jesus Christ is Risen Today; Christ is Risen! Alleluia; Thine is the Glory; I Know That My Redeemer Lives. We know these songs because we sing them each year. As we enter into the seven weeks of the Easter Season, we invite you to hear these songs anew. Focus on the words to these marvelous hymns and let these hymns and the truth they bare carry you throughout your days and weeks.

We want to thank all those who added to the joy of our Easter services. The choirs, all in placed flowers in the nave, and all who came and joined in the celebration.

As we move through the Easter season and beyond, remember that each and every Sunday we have the opportunity to come and worship our Living Lord. We are blessed to know Christ promises to be present in our midst. So come. Come and worship, come without fear or hesitation. Christ is waiting for you, and so are we. As always, we look forward to seeing you in church.

## FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

A first communion class will be offered on Saturday, April 2 at 9:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending, please speak with Pastor Laura as soon as possible.

### **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.**

## **THINKING ABOUT ST. PAUL'S AND THE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR PEOPLE**

The last Sunday of March, was Easter Sunday. We rejoice at the good news that God has loved us so much that God would choose not to allow anything to separate us from God's love. Therefore, Jesus took our place upon the cross, as he died for our sins. What a wonderful gift of love! Now as we enter the month of April, a time when we see so much coming back to life, this might be a good time to look at our response to God's gift of love. Are we living out our faith in terms of our stewardship? Do our financial gifts to Christ's ministry reflect our thanksgiving to God? Certainly we can never 'pay' for God's gift of grace, but we have the opportunity to offer sacrificial offerings to the Lord on regular bases. Our church budget was built upon this premise. We want to thank all those who share their tithes and offerings to the church and, and at the same time encourage everyone to continue to support our ministry with their offerings. Though it is early in the year, we are behind budget by more than \$8000. With your generous gifts we can get back on tract and continue to serve God here and throughout the world.

## **WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

We are pleased that Reno and Priya Thomas and their children Aaliyah and Aman have joined our church family. They have been worshipping with us for quite a while and the weeks they were not here, they often traveled to Philadelphia to worship. Please be sure to introduce yourself and make all of the Thomas' welcome to the St. Paul's family.

## **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**

Thank you to everyone who enjoyed and participated in the St. Patrick's Day Event. Your creative green dishes were delicious!

On May 1st, we will have a Kentucky Derby Themed Potluck. Bring Kentucky Derby themed food. Mint Julep cupcakes will be provided. Those with horseshoe sets, bring them to play! Following tradition, ladies are encouraged to wear hats, and gentlemen should wear hats, bowties, or ties. There will be a derby race for all ages!

Best Regards,  
Angie

## **BETTER LIGHTING**

We have heard you, and now we are trying to see you! We have heard many comments about the lack of good lighting in the nave. It is very true, especially on cloudy days, that the lights seem very dim. We are in the process of changing out some lights to more cost efficient and brighter white lights and we are asking a lighting company to give us suggestions on how we might improve our lighting situation. Watch for more information to come on this topic.

## **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.

## SMALL GROUP STUDY

Small Group study **REFORMATION ROOTS** will begin on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. and repeated on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.

If you have ever wondered why we have so many Christian denominations, and if there is really much difference between them, this study is for you. We will look, via DVD into the turbulent times of the Reformation era and see the stories and struggles that still impact us today. All are welcome to join in the learning, fun and fellowship of this course.

## PRAYER SHAWL GROUP NEWS

Our knitters and crocheters have been busy making mittens and hats for center-city school kids. In February, we delivered our first batch to Union Terrace School. We want to thank those who helped out on this project – Sharon Bortz, Peggy Kern, Daisy Pearson, Sandi Wagaman, Steph Wagaman, and Irene Wentz. We also want to thank Daisy Pearson for making this contact and taking care of the delivery.

We'd like to continue this effort during the year, so we have more to deliver in the fall, before it gets very cold. If you can knit or crochet, consider making hats or mittens for school-aged kids. Contact either Peggy Kern ([peggyekern@gmail.com](mailto:peggyekern@gmail.com) / 610-481-9086) or Steph Wagaman ([stepbillwagaman@rcn.com](mailto:stepbillwagaman@rcn.com) / 610-395-0355) for a free pattern.

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

The Endowment Committee is in need a new members. If you are interested in joining the committee, please speak with Pastor Laura.

## THE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

St. Paul's Cemetery is pleased to announce it has entered into contract with Earl Wenz Memorials to construct the cremation garden. The 64 niche columbarium will be a beautiful addition to our cemetery and will meet the needs of our parishioners for years to come. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Regards,  
St. Paul's Cemetery Association

## EVANGELISM TIP

We draw people to Christ not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.

—Madeleine L'Engle



April 10 - 16  
National  
Volunteer  
Week

## "HIS GLORY"

God sends rainbows after showers  
arching 'cross the freshened skies.  
Every rainbow shows God's glory.  
Every wonder tells his story.

God sends Jesus down from heaven  
offering mercy, hope and life.  
On the cross he showed God's glory.  
Every blessing tells his story.

God sends me forth into this world  
sharing love that offers life.  
And I hope to show God's glory  
In the way I tell his story.

—MaryAnn Sundby

## A LOVE EXPLOSION

“Mommy, if Jesus comes to live inside my heart, will I explode?” One of missionary Katie Davis’ adopted daughters surprised her with that question as they headed to the Nile River for some baptisms.

Although Davis immediately replied, “No!” she later realized: “That is exactly what we should do if Jesus comes to live inside our hearts. We will explode with love, with compassion, with hurt for those who are hurting, and with joy for those who rejoice. We will explode with a desire to be more, to be better, to be close to the One who made us.”

—adapted from *Kisses From Katie*



## 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

## WELCA

Our meeting for March was the annual Lenten Breakfast on Wednesday, March 9, at Daisy Pearson's residence with 10 attendees.

The Spring Retreat on April 9 will be at St. Paul's from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are anticipating about 30/35 attendees. Our service project is assembling personal care refugee boxes for Lutheran Congregational Services.

Items needed: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, comb, brush, bar soap, razors, shaving cream, and sanitary napkins. You can drop off your donations in the box in the narthex.

Our April meeting will be on April 13, 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's.

Submitted by  
Sharon Bortz

## **APRIL 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 Macaroni & Cheese for our monthly collection for the food bank.

During April our “food of the month” will be canned soup.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>** – Kentucky Derby Potluck

## **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, stop in and attend one of our meetings.

# TREASURES

One by one he took them from me,  
all the things I valued most,  
until I was empty-handed;  
every glittering toy was lost.

And I walked earth's highways, grieving  
in my rags and poverty  
till I heard his voice inviting,  
“Lift your empty hands to me!”

So I held my hands toward heaven,  
and he filled them with a store  
of his own transcendent riches,  
till they could contain no more.

And at last I comprehended  
with my stupid mind and dull,  
that God could not pour his riches  
into hands already full!

—Martha Snell Nicholson

“The greatest gift we can give back to our great God is to let his love make us glad.”

—Ann Voskamp, *The Greatest Gift*

“The devil knows your name but calls you by your sin. God knows your sin but calls you by your name.”

—Ricardo Sanchez

“If we are not planted in Christ, we'll be uprooted in crisis.”

—Unknown

## THANK YOU NOTES

To The Members of St. Paul's,

Thank you to everyone for the lovely get well card. Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Shirley Binkley

To The Members of St. Paul's,

A note to thank you for your thoughtfulness and to let you know it really meant a lot.

Thank you for the prayers and cards.

Peggy Kern

To The Members of St. Paul's,

A sincere thank you for all my cards and prayers from the members of St. Paul's and Pastor Laura for her visits and phone calls during my recent hospital stay.

It really helped my recuperation.

Martha Lindenmuth

## THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank you for your donation of 2 boxes and 8 bags of food.

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.

Members of St. Paul's,

Thank You! We just wanted you to know that we received your gift of \$200.00

Thank you very much for your support!

Bear Creek Camp

*"By this all people will know  
that you are my disciples, if you  
have love for one another."*

JOHN 13:35. ESV



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

Leroy Bortz  
Dorothea Grammes  
Helen Kessler  
Martha Lindenmuth

Bill Moyer  
Katherine Plarr  
Kathy Shryock  
Larry Wingard

### APRIL



4 Dick Hartley	17 Jason Durback
5 Kimberly Schiffert	17 Horace Eisenhard
6 Nash Feimster	17 Janine Ritter
8 Jack Wetherhold	17 Frank Szukics
9 Gavin Wagner	18 Peggy Kern
10 Brooke Brumbach	18 Larry Wingard
10 June Kellogg	19 Hayden Kirn
11 Reagan Williams	19 Hildegard Wetzel
12 Reece Henichak	23 Sally Spall
15 David Walters	26 Bob Nickisher
16 Justin Christoffersen	29 Ayden Flores
16 Quinn Sallitt	30 Karen Feimster



### APRIL

1 Robert & Sandra Sensinger

## PASTORIAL ACT

### FUNERAL

Pastor Laura officiated at the funeral service for Ruth Glase on March 10, 2016

## **MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of Ruth Glase:

Sharon Bortz

Carol Derr-Breinig

Carl & Sandra Glase Family & Kim Sloan Family

Chris Mesko-Holzer

David & Sarah Koechel

Daisy Pearson

Eugene & Lurea Reichard

Richard & Kathleen Reichard

Bruce & Sandi Wagaman

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS**

**APRIL 17, 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.trexlertown@gmail.com](mailto:stpauls.trexlertown@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



# April 2016 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 9:30 a.m.-First Communion Class
<b>3 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	<b>4</b> 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>5</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.-WELCA Spring Day of Renewal
<b>10 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	<b>11</b> 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>12</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Bible Study	<b>13</b> 9:30 a.m.-WELCA 6:30 p.m.-Endowment Committee 7:00 p.m.-Council	<b>14</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship  <b>DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES</b>	<b>18</b> 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	<b>19</b> 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Bible Study 7:00 p.m.-Property Committee	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00 a.m.-WELCA Spring Cluster Meeting At Luther Crest
<b>24 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	<b>25</b> 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 7:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee	<b>26 ELECTION DAY</b> 7:00 p.m.-Bible Study	<b>27</b> 10:30 a.m.-Rowdy Bunch	<b>28</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

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

Council Person: Bob Nickisher 610-481-0887

**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, April 3, 2016**

Altar Guild: Paula Smith  
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman  
Greeters: Angela Kropf, Florence Metzel  
Reader: Richard Steltz  
Communion Bread: Melody Pavlacka  
Communion Assistant: Ginny Wingard  
Ushers: Amy Brenfleck, Angie Kropf, Martha Lindenmuth,  
Walter Spall, Bruce Wagaman

### **Sunday, April 17, 2016**

Altar Guild: Patrice Walters  
Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson  
Greeters: Dorothy O'Connors, John O'Connors  
Reader: Marilyn Thomas  
Communion Bread: Paula Smith  
Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak  
Ushers: Robert Bruchak, Matthew Bruchak, Doris Fenner,  
Cal Fetherolf, Rosemary Lehman

### **Sunday, April 10, 2016**

Altar Guild: Rebecca Theodore  
Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz  
Greeters: Bob Nickisher, Nick Theodore  
Reader: Jen Schmoyer  
Communion Bread: Jen Schmoyer  
Communion Assistant: Nicole Wiswesser  
Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach,  
Brooke Brumbach, Karen Feimster, Bob Nickisher

### **Sunday, April 24, 2016**

Altar Guild: Amy Brenfleck  
Lay Assistant: June Kellogg  
Greeters: Melody and Garrett Pavlacka,  
Reader: Jeff Waltemyer  
Communion Bread: Pat Spencer  
Communion Assistant: Anita Eisenhard  
Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Diane Kropf, John Kropf,  
Madeline MacMechan, Garret Pavlacka

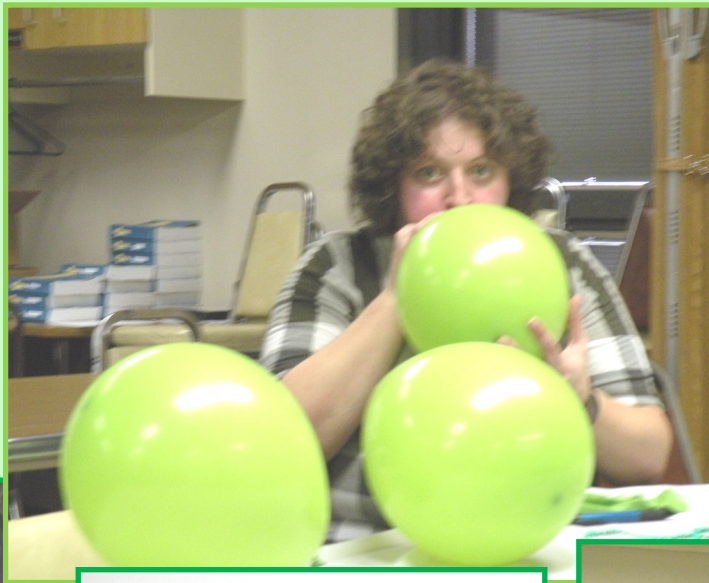


# St. Patrick's Day Theme Potluck



March 13, 2016





**FUN FOR  
ALL**





# SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

## Major Anniversaries will be Celebrated May 24

### Associates in Ministry

**25 years** Barbara-Anne G Taylor  
Florence D Snyder

**40 years** Marlane E. Druckenmiller

### Ordained Ministers

**15 years** David A Newman  
Kim A Truebenbach  
Lori A Kochanski  
Mary E Wolfe  
Richard L Moore  
Sandra W Birchmeier  
Walter W Breiner Jr

**25 years** Laura L Stoneback

**40 years** Donald W Hayn  
Gary F Koch Sr  
Gene A Parker  
Herbert H Michel  
Michael J Bodnyk  
Warren I Egebo

**50 years** Frederick I Fisher  
George P Zacharda Jr  
Gilbert B Furst  
Rudolph K David  
Walton R Horn

**55 years** Carl R Adams  
Curtis L Olson  
Frederick S Foerster  
Richard L Hinkle  
Richard W Spengler  
William B Fryer Jr

**60 years** Franklin Sherman  
Helmut H Kaffine  
Richard C Wolf  
Victor A Kroninger Jr

**65 years** Augustus V Tietbohl  
Lawrence P Delp



## Hot Dog Ministry

Every Thursday, weather permitting, fifty Lehigh Students are treated to a hot dog and a bottle of water during fall and spring semesters at the corner of Packer and Vine Street.

St. Peter, Bethlehem began this ministry in the spring of 2015 to reach out to the Lehigh community in an effort to be a good neighbor and to offer a welcoming snack to students. Usually four or five members of the community of faith hand out the hot dogs and offer greetings and encouraging words to their young neighbors.

Many students are mystified as to why the church would be giving anything away for free. Some are tentative to approach, thinking there is going to be some kind of a catch. Some reach into their wallet in an effort to give a donation which is always politely refused. But after overcoming these initial reactions, all are grateful for the hot dog and the kindness.

Social media seems to be the best form of advertisement; and many students return week after week and bring other friends along to enjoy the treat. As a result of this ministry St. Peter has become known as the "hot dog church" on campus.

This semester St. Peter is blessed to have received a grant from the synod's Campus Ministry fund which will allow them to continue this ministry through the spring and fall semester of 2016.

## 2016 Mission Support

*All mission support funds must now be submitted to the Mission Investment Fund.*

On January 5, Bishop Zeiser wrote a letter to all pastors and congregational presidents giving information about an upcoming change in the way that the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be receiving mission support gifts from congregations.

On January 15, the Mission Investment Fund (our synod's new Financial Services Organization) mailed out a packet to congregational treasurers with an overview of the new process and 12 sets of remittance forms and return envelopes.

Pastors, presidents, and treasurers - please look for these pieces of correspondence. If you have any questions, please call the synod office (610- 266-5101) or the customer service center at MIF (877-886-3522).

**Please note:** The synod's books for 2015 are closed. Any mission support should now be submitted to the Mission Investment Fund and will be credited to 2016.

**PLACE funds.** PLACE funds will remain at the synod office. A separate check will need to be written to NEPS for PLACE funds & sent directly to the synod office. It can not be combined with other benevolence and sent to the Mission Investment Fund.



## ELCA Fund for Leaders

The Northeastern PA Synod has made a special effort to support the ELCA Fund for Leaders. Below is a "Thank you" note from the recipients of a Fund for Leaders grant.

Bishop Zeiser and the body of Christ in the Northeastern PA Synod:

Wow! It is amazing to me to hear of the things you have done and are doing on behalf of the church for the Fund for Leaders. My husband Jeremy and I are blessed to be part of the leadership table "think tank" to raise awareness of the Fund. On behalf of that table I want to say "thank you" for your support of future and current leaders in the ELCA.

But I want to say "thank you" on a personal note as well. My husband and I felt a call to ministry in college, but we had no idea how we would be able to afford two seminary tuitions. We trusted that if God called us to this, God would help guide our way. What an incredible affirmation of our call and affirmation from the church we felt day that we learned both of us had received full tuition scholarships.

Now Jeremy and I are blessed to be serving our first calls in the panhandle of Texas. Last month we purchased our first home together. It has been such a blessing to be able to focus on ministry without the huge burden of financial debt. Thank for your support of us and future leaders.

God's peace,  
Amanda Ullrich

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

May 2016 LMD NL news will be due April 15th. E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com).

**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 9th, 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 4-May 9th**, 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.

\* **April 5-May 10th**, 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.

To register for either group, please contact Kathy Reyher at [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205) or [kathy@lutherancongregationalservices.org](mailto:kathy@lutherancongregationalservices.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 19th, 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 12th.**

**Lehigh Mission District Spring Assembly is scheduled for:**

**Sun. evening, May 22nd, at 6:30PM** at Western Salisbury Church, 3441 Devonshire Road, Allentown, 18103. In addition to the regular agenda and reports, this meeting will include information about the upcoming Synod Assembly which, of course, will take place on our territory, and the election or re-election of a Dean. **Pastors and lay delegates to the Synod Assembly are expected to attend.**

**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 7th 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).





## Operation Sunshine



Operation Sunshine is an outreach ministry of the Lehigh Mission District of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. This ministry began over 25 years ago by a group of forward thinkers who realized that as we age, our desire to be social and mobile does not diminish, but our abilities and opportunities to do so may not be so available. Along came the idea of Operation Sunshine providing a fellowship opportunity through travel.

Operation Sunshine offers monthly luncheon and entertainment excursions throughout the spring, summer and fall months. Thanks to the generosity of Timothy's Lutheran Church congregation on Ott St. in Allentown, we have a safe and convenient location to board the bus for our day trips. Throughout the year, Operation Sunshine may offer occasional multi-day trips, most recently an 8 day/7 night trip to America's Northern National Parks and a 2 night/3 day trip to Pittsburgh. Again, through the generosity of the Cedar Lutheran Church congregation in Cetronia, we have very secure parking for our overnight multi-day trips.

We have expanded our outreach to include any adult who would like to travel to our advertised venues. Our travelers receive trip information in many ways. We have a 200+ mailing list (Newsletter published 2 times a year) and a 100+ e-mail list, a monthly update is provided for the Lehigh Mission District Newsletter, and our newest edition, a web site. To access our web site just enter [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://www.LMDopsunshine.com), or gain access to our web site through the Lehigh Mission District web site [www.lehighlutherans.com](http://www.lehighlutherans.com).

On our site, you can see upcoming trips and even register right on line. We ask that you follow up your registration with your check mailed to our office, housed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 36 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Allentown, PA 18101. If you would like to register by phone (610-435-9155) our staff will be able to assist you. Operation Sunshine is staffed completely by a crew of six volunteers, Colleen Becker and Barbara Edwards from St. Peter's Ridge, Cathy and Ron Mordosky from St. Michaels of the Nativity and Paula & Dick Skelly, our current Co-Trip Coordinators, from St. Peter's Hanover.

*Come join us for fun and fellowship through travel!!*

**Paula & Dick Skelly**  
Co-Trip Coordinators

## 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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**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**

**June 29 (Wed.) - Doolan's Shore Club, Spring Lake, NJ – FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION – SOMETHING NEW FOR OPERATION SUNSHINE TRAVELERS!!** Enjoy a fantastic meal at a beautiful location when you join Operation Sunshine at Doolan's Shore Club for their 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. USO madness with comedy and music of America from Broadway to San Francisco, from Texas to the Heartland. Veteran's Flag Salute, Bob Hope humor and more. Complete luncheon, one hour open bar, salad, choice of three entrees, dessert, coffee/ tea & wine/soda during lunch. **Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:15 AM and will return approximately 5:30 PM. Cost \$88 Payment Deadline: Wed., June 8**

**August 25 (Thurs.) – Rainbow Comedy Playhouse – IS THERE LIFE AFTER 50?** - Three couples, all past fifty, have been friends forever. Once a year they get together for a mini vacation and to catch up with their lives. This year, the ladies have chosen a health spa for their destination, what a fun time. Oops, they haven't told the husbands yet! **Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 6 PM. Cost \$84 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Aug. 4**

\*\*\*\*\*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, \$690 for singles.**