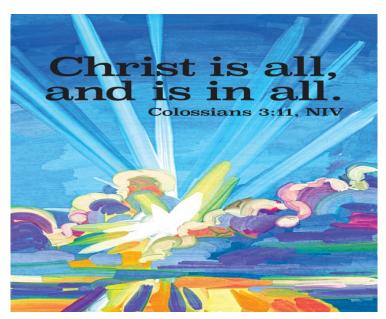
PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Breinigsville, PA

JULY/AUGUST 2016



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



Dear Friends,

On June 19th, I preached a sermon in response to the shootings at the Pulse Club in Orlando. The words that I spoke did not side with any political party and did not speak to changing any current laws. The words I spoke were based on our relationship with Jesus Christ and his teachings as

witnessed in the New Testament.

I was amazed at the reaction to the sermon. Not because so many of you gave positive comments, but that so many people heard what I said. What this showed me is that there is a need to put our faith to use in our daily life. We need to know what we as followers of Jesus Christ are called to do, and how we are to live out our faith.

In a world where so much is in chaos, many are losing hope. Our fears are running high, and we just don't see how things can or will get any better. We can blame so many things/people for the way our world is, but placing blame does not bring about peace and it does not restore hope. Peace and hope are gifts given to us by God through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen. God sent Jesus into this world to live among chaos. Jesus witnessed divisions among people; divisions based on geography, race, religion and social status. Jesus saw first-hand the pain, hurt and brokenness caused by those divisions. Jesus saw sin at work in the world. Back in Jesus's day and in our world today, it might appear that sin is/was winning. But God has/had other plans. Love wins. Jesus came to love all people, to restore dignity, to offer grace, and to be hope and light in a world of darkness.

Sometimes I think we forget that Jesus rose from the dead, that Jesus and the Spirit of God is alive among and within us, and therefore we can be people of hope. We are saved from the power of sin and as God so graciously loved and saved us, God is counting on us to love and offer that same grace to others. Hatred is a learned behavior. Hatred causes division and fear. We are people who are loved and who are called to share love with all others. If we want evil to stop in our world, we need to change our hearts. We need to be as Jesus, and share love and hope and peace.

Growing with you in faith, Pastor Laura

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

You know how each of us must go to the doctor from time to time. Well, our hand bells are currently at their doctor. After years of service, it was time for them to have a check up and be refurbished so they would be ready for many more years of making music. The photos included in the newsletter are pictures of the tour of the Malmark Company.

Throughout the summer, we offer the opportunity for people to share their special gifts of music during the worship service. If you have an instrument or are interesting in singing, please see Judy Noll.

Throughout the summer, you will notice that on some days, we will use a well-known hymn as the hymn of praise. We hope you will enjoy this change and reflect on the words of the hymn as you praise God for all of God's blessings.

AUGUST SMALL GROUP STUDY

The last week of June, we finished a 12 week study entitled "Reformation Roots". In this study we learned about Martin Luther and various other reformers who broke away from the Catholic Church. We explored the theological debates which often centered on Holy Communion and baptism. We learned how various dominations were formed and the differences between them.

After taking the month of July off, we will begin a new course written by Adam Hamilton entitled <u>Half Truths</u>: <u>God helps those who help themselves and other things the Bible doesn't say.</u> This course will address things that every one of us probably said, and we believe they are written in the bible. I invite you to come and join in the learning, the fun and fellowship as together we explore via DVD and conversation, what the bible does, and does not say. All are welcome. We will meet the 5 Monday mornings in August at 9:30 AM.

A GOOD PLACE

This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in.

—Theodore Roosevelt

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School will resume on September 11th. We are looking forward to another great year of learning about the love of God and how we can best love one another. Will you help our children by answering the call to teach a class? If you are interested in teaching, please speak to Taryne Williams or Pastor Laura. More details about the first day of Sunday School will be sent out in the near future.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

On July 17th, there will be a patriotic potluck in the pavilion, weather permitting. Join us as we celebrate our freedom as Americans by wearing red, white, and blue and incorporating the patriotic theme into your dish! There will be patriotic games and decorations, as well. All together now, "Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light..."!

Come to the summer carnival and potluck on August 28th. Bring picnic themed foods. Kids will enjoy the games, such as bean bag toss and duck pond, and get excited for the new school year as summer comes to a close.

THE MASTER PUZZLER

In Laughing in the Dark (Howard Books), Christian comedian Chonda Pierce calls God the Master Puzzler, because "in him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:17). In his infinite wisdom, God "can organize the colors better than anyone (Have you seen a sunset lately?) He knows where to fit every shape and size (Have you seen a mountain range?)."

Until God places the last piece, the final picture is a mystery to us. But in the meantime, God offers order and purpose, providing his law as the puzzle's edges.

Pierce encourages people to let the "Master Puzzler" take over when life gets messy. Like the prophet Jeremiah, we can cry, "GOD, pick up the pieces. Put me back together again. You are my praise!" (17:14, *The Message*).

4

[&]quot;Pray, and let God worry." -Martin Luther

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fireworks, sponsored by the Schmoyer Funeral Home will be held in Breinigsville Park on Saturday, July 2^{nd} with a rain date of Sunday, July 3^{rd} .

On July 16th, The Goodwill Fire Company of Trexlertown will celebrate their 100th anniversary with a 4 county parade. The parade will begin at our church and go to the UCC church. The parade steps off at 1:00 p.m. Special events will be held at the Trexlertown Cycling Center throughout the day. Come and celebrate with the fire company and thank them for all they do for our community.

PRAYER CHAIN



A note to let you know that if anyone is in need of additional prayers for someone in your family or someone you know, please call Judy Walker at 610 351-6040 or cell # 610 573 7117. She will start the prayer chain by calling the people who serve on that committee. They in turn will keep extra prayers going for that person. All we need is a name of someone in need of prayer, a reason does not have to be given as to why you want the extra prayers.

GRACE IN, GRACE OUT

The computer acronym GIGO — "garbage in, garbage out" — describes how putting wrong code into a machine will lead to faulty output. Jesus offers a similar lesson in Matthew 15: "What comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person" (v. 18, ESV).

GIGO works the other way, too. If we put good things (including the good news of salvation) "in" our hearts, Jesus' goodness will shine "out" through our lives. And when God's grace enters and changes us, we'll also reach out and share that good news with others.

"I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least."

—Dorothy Day

WELCA

Two members of our WELCA group attended the 27th WELCA Convention, June 11, 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lehighton, PA from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- There was a Worship Service with Holy Communion in the morning.
- A.M. Workshop was on **Soul Keeping**, discussing Will, Mind, Body, Soul; the parts of a human being.
- P.M. Workshop was **Awareness and Prevention of Human Trafficking**. This affects approximately 4 million people per year [children, girls, boys, and adults] worldwide.
- Closing was a trio of local ladies Friends of the Heart Presentation –
 At Any Age, At Any Stage: Celebrating the Christian Life with
 song, skits, and testimonials.

WELCA has their next meeting scheduled for September 14, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.

Submitted by Sharon Bortz

"PRAYER AT SUNRISE"



O greater Maker of this thy great sun, Give me the strength this one day's race to run, Fill me with light, fill me with sun-like strength, Fill me with joy to rob the day its length. Light from within, light that will outward shine, Strength to make strong some weaker heart than mine, Joy to make glad each soul that feels its touch; Great Father of the sun, I ask this much.

—James Weldon Johnson

* * *

"Always be a little kinder than necessary."

—J.M. Barrie

DESTINATION DEVOTIONS

Planning a summer trip? Take along a Scripture passage befitting your vacation to use for devotions and prayer time (all NIV below):

- In the mountains: "The mountains and hills will burst into song before you" (Isaiah 55:12).
- At a lake, perhaps on a fishing trip: "They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people'" (Matthew 4:18-19).
- Near an ocean or river: "Let the sea resound ... let the rivers clap their hands" (Psalm 98:7-8).
- In the desert: "They looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud" (Exodus 16:10).
- In the woods: "Blessed is the one ... whose delight is in the law of the LORD That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season" (Psalm 1:1-3).
- In the flatlands: "'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest" (John 4:34-35).
- On a "staycation" close to home: "Love the LORD your God These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ... Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:5-9).

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.

JULY AND AUGUST 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 pasta for our monthly collection for the food bank.

During July and August our "food of the month" will be any kind of canned vegetables or canned fruit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 16 The Goodwill Fire Company of Trexlertown parade at 1:00 p.m.

July 17 Patriotic potluck

August 28 End of summer carnival & potluck

THE GIFT OF GRACE

Grace is something you can never get but only be given. The grace of God means something like: Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you.

There's only one catch. Like any other gift, the gift of grace can be yours only if you reach out and take it. Maybe being able to reach and take it is a gift too.

-Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking

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.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank you for your donation of 8 Bags & 1 box 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.

AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL

Psalm 118:8, the verse that falls in the middle of the Protestant Bible, reads, "It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in humans" (NIV).

The center of God's Word reminds us to make God the center of our lives! No other person or possession can fulfill or save us. Only God is a safe, certain refuge, and we grow closer to him by grounding ourselves in his Word and his will.

A SMALL LAUGH

"God warned a man named Lot to take his wife and flee out of the city," said the Sunday school teacher, "but Lot's wife looked back and was turned to salt."

A curious boy then asked, "What happened to the flea?"

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

Leroy Bortz JansonDurback Deloris Kline Katherine Plarr Larry Wingard Sandi Christoffersen Jesse Eisenhard Bill Knoll Kathy Shryock Richard Danner Helen Kessler Bill Moyer Doris Wilkers

JULY



5 John Kropf 21 Ed Pearson 5 Heidi Sokol 24 Ada Bennicoff 6 Aaliyan Thomas 24 Aman Thomas 6 Stanley Younger 25 Kim Bruchak 7 Jackson Eisenhard 25 Sienna Burley 9 Kathy Granger 25 Sophia Gotthard 9 Dorothy Moll 25 Mindy Inman 10 Kathy Maslany 25 Kylee Maslany 14 Briana Mironov 26 Kim Pearson 15 Melody Pavlacka 26 Marilyn Thomas 15 Patrice Walters 27 Michelle Kirn 27 Paulette Mecherly 16 Sarabeth Mesko 16 Matthew Schiffert 28 Anita Eisenhard 19 Leroy Bortz 28 John Thomas



JULY

28 Earl Wenz

- 11 James & Neali Feimster
- 16 Bob & Kim Pearson

19 Olivia Gotthard

- 18 Philip & Tonya Wagner
- 21 Mark & Kathy Maslany
- 22 Doris & Wallace Fenner
- 24 Jeremy & Jennifer Schmoyer
- 31 Joseph & Sandra Stanton

ALL ABOARD!

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer.

—Corrie ten Boom

AUGUST



1 Robert Sensinger

3 Olivia Eisenhard

4 Michele Rampen

7 Katherine Plarr

8 Kay Schlenker

9 George Reeger

11 David Apgar

12 Joseph Mironov

12 Gloria Selig

14 Douglas Inman

15 Martha Lindenmuth

18 Cleo Gehman

18 Robin Montgomery

18 Doris Wilkers

19 Amy Morgan

22 William Heminitz

24 Riley Williams

25 Jeffrey Heminitz

25 Eric Montgomery

26 Joseph Stanton

27 Rebecca Yeager

AUGUST



6 Joe & Amy Mutis

7 James & Judy Kresley

8 Linford & Joyce Bastian

10 Tom & June Kellogg

11 John & Diane Kropf

16 Ginger & Bill Hallock

21 John & Marilyn Thomas

26 Robert & Kathy Granger

31 Joe & Felicia Flores

PASTORAL ACTS **FUNERALS**

On Saturday, June 11, 2016 Pastor Laura presided at the funeral of Jesse Wheeler.

On Monday, June 13, 2016 Pastor Laura presided at the funeral of Dorothea Grammes.

We pray God's peace and comfort to be with the families of Jesse & Dorothea.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS

AUGUST 14, 2016

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



CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000

HOSPITAL CODE: #321

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

EMAIL: stpauls.trexlertown@gmail.com

Website: www.stpaulsbville.org

STAFF

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

July 2016 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31					1	2
3 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	6	7 10:00 a.mTOPS	8	9
10 8 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship	11 1:00 p.mStewardship Committee 7:00 p.mFinance Committee	12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	13 7:00 p.mCouncil	14 10:00 a.mTOPS	15	1:00 p.mThe Goodwill Fire Company of Trexlertown will celebrate their 100 th anniversary with a 4 county parade. Starts at St. Paul's Lutheran
17 9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mPatriotic Potluck	18	19 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.mProperty Committee	20	21 10:00 a.mTOPS	22	23
24 10 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship 31 11 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship	25	26 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	27	28 10:00 a.mTOPS	29	30

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Those Who Serve for the Month of July

Council Person: Tom Firth 484-894-3183

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, July 3, 2016

Altar Guild: Rebecca Theodore Lay Assistant: June Kellogg

Greeters: Angela Kropf, Pat Spencer

Reader: Sharon Bortz

Communion Bread: Janine & Ken Ritter Communion Assistant: Sharon Bortz

Ushers: Melanie Dimovitz, Richard Hartley, Marilyn Thomas,

Jeff Waltemyer, Ginny Wingard

Sunday, July 17, 2016

Altar Guild: Amy Brenfleck Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz

Greeters: Janine Ritter, Ken Ritter

Reader: Rosemary Lehman

Communion Bread: Cecilia Ajamu Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak

Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Diane Kropf, John Kropf, Madeline MacMechan, Garret Paylacka

Sunday, July 10, 2016

Altar Guild: Patrice Walters Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman

Greeters: Lauren & Westley Mironov

Reader: Thomas Firth

Communion Bread: Stan and Mitzi Younger Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman

Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach, Brooke Brumbach,

Karen Feimster. Bob Nickisher

Sunday, July 24, 2016

Altar Guild: Sue Firth

Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer

Greeters: Frank Szukics, Judy Szukics

Reader: June Kellogg

Communion Bread: Joyce Eisenhard Communion Assistant: Sue Firth

Ushers: Robert Bruchak, Matthew Bruchak, Doris Fenner,

Cal Fetherolf, Rosemary Lehman

Sunday, July 31, 2016

Altar Guild: Carlene Brumbach Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson

Greeters: Keith Theodore, Rebecca Theodore

Reader: Martha Lindenmuth

Communion Bread: Carlene Brumbach Communion Assistant: Marilyn Thomas

Ushers: Anita Eisenhard, Rosalie Gallagher, Ken Ritter,

Frank Szukics, Judy Szukics

August 2016 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	9:30 a.mBible Study	2 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.mWorship & Music Committee	3	4 10:00 a.mTOPS	5	6
7 12 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship	8 9:30 a.mBible Study	9 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	10 7:00 p.mCouncil	11 10:00 a.mTOPS	12	13
14 13 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship	9:30 a.mBible Study	16 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.mProperty Committee	17	18 10:00 a.mTOPS	19	20
21 14 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship	9:30 a.mBible Study	23 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	24 10:30 a.mRowdy Bunch	25 10:00 a.mTOPS	26	27
28 15 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mEnd Of Summer Carnival & Potluck	9:30 a.mBible Study	30 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	31			September 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Those Who Serve for the Month of August

Council Person: Daisy Pearson 610-285-0144

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, August 7, 2016

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter Lay Assistant: June Kellogg

Greeters: Martha Lindenmuth, Paula Smith

Reader: Bob Nickisher

Communion Bread: Bob Bruchak Communion Assistant: Anita Eisenhard

Ushers: Amy Brenfleck, Angie Kropf, Martha Lindenmuth,

Walter Spall, Bruce Wagaman

Sunday, August 21, 2016

Altar Guild: Paula Smith Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer

Greeters: Jeff Waltemyer, Patrice Walters

Reader: Richard Steltz

Communion Bread: Emily Danner Communion Assistant: Sue Firth

Ushers: Robert Bruchak, Matthew Bruchak, Doris Fenner,

Cal Fetherolf, Rosemary Lehman

Sunday, August 14, 2016

Altar Guild: Alice Bastian Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman Greeters: Joyce and Jim Eisenhard,

Reader: Michele Rampen

Communion Bread: Sandy Christoffersen Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak

Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Diane Kropf, John Kropf,

Madeline MacMechan, Garret Pavlacka

Sunday, August 28, 2016

Altar Guild: Rebecca Theodore Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz

Greeters: Stan & Mitzi Younger

Reader: Jen Schmoyer

Communion Bread: Carol Derr-Breinig Communion Assistant: Calvin Fetherolf

Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach, Brooke Brumbach,

Karen Feimster, Bob Nickisher









Shaping Outside

Outside & Inside Bell Patterns

Shaping Inside

Testing Bell Tone

Shavings for recycling









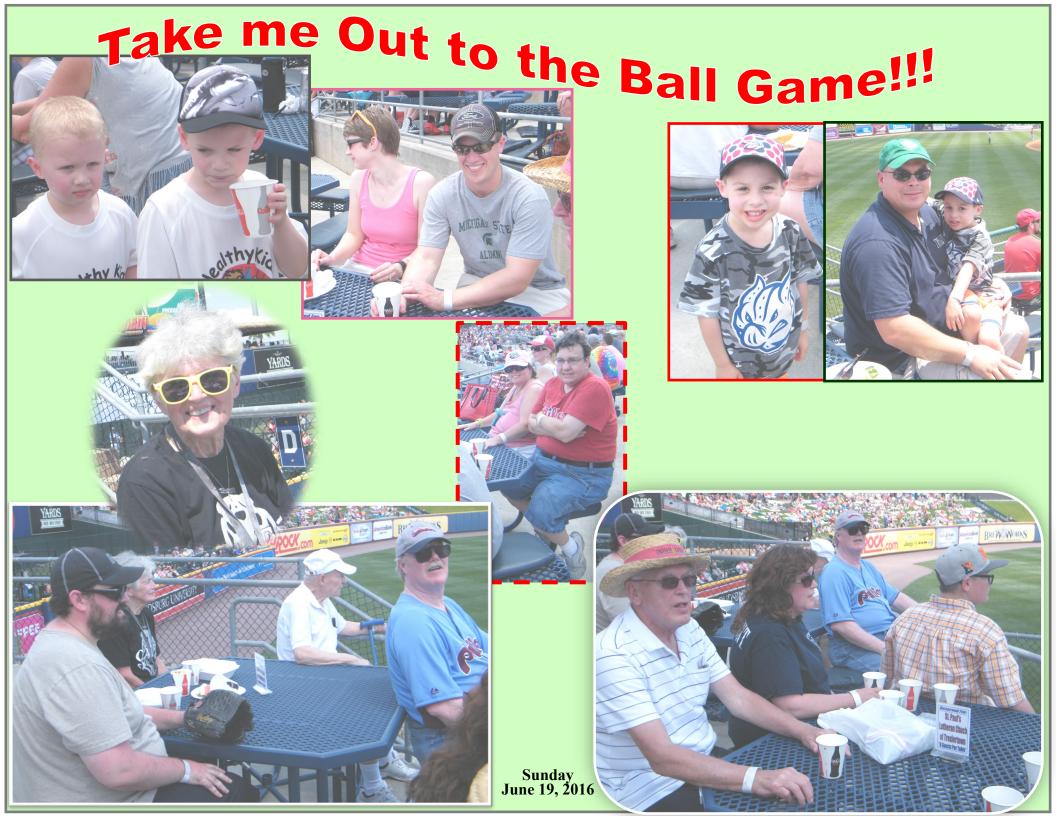






↑ Smallest Bell

















Volume 24, Issue 7 July 2016

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



Yes, we'll gather at the river!

On May 7, the Creation Care Task
Force of the Northeastern
Pennsylvania Synod sponsored a
kayak and canoe trip down the
Schuylkill River. 50 people from
nine congregations around the
Synod gathered along the river in
Hamburg to connect with this
historically significant body of water
and live out our Baptismal calling to
"care for the world God made."

Bishop Zeiser offered reflections on the river's importance to previous generations and encouraged the paddlers be open to how the trip would connect them to God. The Bishop then led a thanksgiving for Baptism at the water's edge just before the paddlers began their journey downriver to Leesport.

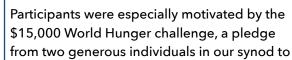
Those who remained behind on land sent the paddlers off with song and spent the rest of the morning reflecting on Genesis 1, playing games, and cleaning up trash along the river. It was an energizing day at the river, as we celebrated how God's gift of water sustains our life and vocation.

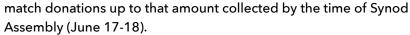
Bike for World Hunger



On Saturday, May 21, nearly one hundred participants of all ages – including spunky pups, Loki and Lucy – representing 19 NEPS congregations, were united for a single purpose as they biked, scootered, unicycled, jogged, and walked at the gorgeous Bob Rodale Cycling & Fitness Park in the Trexlertown area for the synod's 5th annual "Bike for World Hunger" event.

After receiving the official blessing from Bishop Zeiser, many wheels, feet, and hands headed for the macadam tracks inside the lush green fields, tall trees, and sprinkling of buttercups to start the trek of raising money to erase hunger for good.





to all who will have a "wheelie" fun time joining us in the future.

Many thanks to the World Hunger Task Force for organizing this event; to the Bishop for his tireless support; to those who raised monies through their dedicated efforts; to those whose hearts will be opened to give; and





Photos courtesy of Chip Bachman



Luke Swanson Young Adult in Global Mission

Luke Swanson, a member of St.
Andrew's, Easton, son of of Pastors
Mark Swanson and Laura Csellak, has
been called to serve as a Young Adult
in Global Mission through the ELCA to
serve in Argentina/Uruguay.

The program, for young adults between the ages of 21 and 29, allows for young Lutherans throughout the ELCA to be unleashed in the world, embracing and serving their neighbors through celebration of the Gospel, making God's story, our story.

Luke's experience will allow him to connect with our brothers and sisters in the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay, a companion church of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

He is asked to raise \$4000 as a commitment to the global mission of the church. Congregations and individuals are welcome to join in this commitment. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact Luke at lukeswanson9@gmail.com.

Anniversary Luncheon



The Rev. George P. Zacharda, Jr.

The Rev. Walton R. Horn

On Tuesday, May 24 the synod hosted a luncheon to celebrate major anniversaries of our rostered leaders. Two pastors celebrating the 50th anniversary of their ordination shared some remarks with the group. The Rev. Gilbert B. Furst, who retired in the Chicago area, submitted a video with his remarks.

Donate Online to Mission and Ministry

The synod has established an account with Vanco Payment Solutions to provide the opportunity to donate online. You can donate to Mission Support, the Witness and Service Grant Program, the Student Education Fund (for rostered leader support), and Youth Event Scholarships.

You can also donate to Disaster Relief, both on the domestic and international level; and you can donate to World Hunger. You can even donate to a project that you designate.

The "Donate" button appears at the top of the synod website. You can also use the QR code shown here. Try it out!





July/August 2016 LMD website: www.lehighlutherans.com Volume 21, No. 7

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

<u>September 2016</u> LMD NL news will be due <u>August 16, 2016.</u> E-Mail any information to me at Imd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Christ Lutheran invites you to an evening of: Guided, Quiet, Reflective Prayer using various forms with the theme of Freedom, sponsored by The Spiritual Directors of the Greater L.V. Mon., July 11th, 6-8 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 13th & Hamilton, Allentown, PA 18102. Any questions contact Pastor Tom Lichner at 610-533-9362 or tclichner@rcn.com.

Saturday Night Worship in the Grove: This summer, Saturday night services are a joint venture of the three Macungie area Lutheran congregations - Grace, Zion's, and St. Peter's. Services are held at St. Peter's Church Grove on St. Peter's Road, every Saturday in June, July, and August at 5:00 pm, except July 23 when the service will be held at Grace. Services are open to the whole community and will be held outdoors (weather permitting; indoors if need be) so please invite your friends. Bring your own lawn chairs for seating. Services will include communion, both contemporary and traditional hymns, and the pastors of all three churches will lead services as this becomes an alternative for your summer worship/communion experience at this very busy time of the year.

Presentations at Luther Crest - The public is cordially invited to attend the following presentations in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104: Tues., July 19th, 2:30 p.m. Dr. Manfred Bahmann on "In Bondage to Sin? Luther's Concept of Free Will", Tues., Sept. 20th, 2:30 p.m. Dr. William Jennings on "Religions of the Presidential Candidates", Tues., Oct 18th, 2:30 p.m. Sundar Brown on "When Religion Turns Violent". For more information, please contact the Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest 610-391-8210.

Second Annual Community Fair and Open House: Grace Lutheran Church, 28 W Main Street, Macungie, will hold its Second Annual Community Fair and Open House on Sat., July 23, noon to 3:00 pm. A Car Wash will be held in conjunction with the Fair with donations accepted. Tickets for a quilt raffle, with a quilt made by the ladies of the sewing circle, will be sold. Come see the results of our major renovations and enjoy free food and events. We are serving hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy, drinks, and make-your-own sundaes. The Macungie Ambulance, Fire and Police have been invited. There will be displays, live music, games for the children and a free cake walk. Come join us for what should be a great time of outreach and fellowship!

Journey through Grief at Luther Crest: Luther Crest will host a "Journey through Grief" group on Mons., Oct. 3rd - Nov. 7th, 10:30 a.m.-noon. For more information or registration, please contact Lutheran Congregational Services, 610-770-9205. This 6-week series is open to all; and there is no fee.

CROP Kick-Off Pizza Party: Sun., Aug. 28, 1-2 p.m.: You and your family are invited to the CROP Hunger Walk Kick-Off Pizza Party on Sun., Aug. 28, 1:00-2:00 pm at St. Timothy's Lutheran (Ott & Walnut Streets, Allentown, PA 18104). Enjoy free food and fellowship, learn about hunger, and pick up your congregation's CROP materials. RSVP by Wed., Aug. 24, to Rev. Dianne Kareha, karehad@gmail.com.

Save the Date -- Brain Injury Walk: On Sun., Sept. 25th, Good Shepherd joins forces with The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania to sponsor the Sprint, Stroll & Roll 5 K/1 Mile Walk at Lone Lane Park in Macungie. The run starts at 9:00 a.m., and the walk starts at 9:15 a.m. For more information on how you can participate or support this worthwhile cause, visit www.biapa.org/SprintStrollRoll2016.

Luther Crest Hosts "Theology, Literature, and Coffee" - Luther Crest will host a Moravian Theological Seminary-sponsored course, "Theology, Literature and Coffee" (TLC), which will be held at Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, on Mons., Oct. 3rd, 17th, and 31st, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Enjoy a time of learning and fellowship as theological themes in selected literature are presented and discussed. Cost for the series is \$20 with early registration discount before September 19 (\$25 after 9/19/16), beverages will be provided. To register, please contact Moravian Theological Seminary 610-861-1516 or http://www.moravianseminary.edu/continuing-ed

Books to be discussed are:

Oct. 3rd: <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u> by Harper Lee ISBN-10: 0446310786 Leader: Nelson Quinones, St. John Lutheran Church, Fogelsville, Oct. 17th: <u>A Lesson Before Dying</u> by Ernest Gaines ASIN: B00E31IHG6, Leader: Ruth Marcon, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown,

Oct. 31st: <u>Cry, the Beloved Country</u> by Alan Paton ASIN: B009O35AXQ, Leader: Nelvin Vos, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown.

ALOA Adult Ministry Festival: Where: Nativity Lutheran Church, 4004 Tilghman St, Allentown, PA, When: Oct. 8th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Cost: \$15 (includes lunch). Keynote speaker, The Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Wengert, professor emeritus of Reformation history at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, will speak on "Luther's Catechisms for Adults: Tasting Them Again for the First Time." Join us for a day of engaging speakers, inspirational music, and creative workshops presented by ALOA in partnership with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries. Attendees will glean "take home" ideas and starter material for personal faith development as well as intergenerational and adult programs for congregations. For more information or registration: http://nepasynod.org/event/aloa-adult-ministry-festival-2016/

LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT Mid-Year Update

As we pass the mid-point of 2016, it seems appropriate that we pause for a moment to update what's happened in our LMD during the first half of the year and to project a bit of what's expected for the remainder of the year. This seems even more appropriate since this newsletter will be being released just as we have concluded hosting this year's Synod Assembly at the PPL Center in downtown Allentown.

Obviously our reflections on this past year should begin with calling attention to the fact that Pastor Jerel Gade was all but unanimously reelected to a second three-year term as Dean of our Mission District at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 22^{nd} , at Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church. Other actions at this meeting included the re-election of Joshua Fink to another three-year term as a member of the Mission District Council. And at a different level, Dick Skelly was re-elected Treasurer and Pastor Dick Stough was re-elected Secretary. These are one-year continuously re-electable terms.

Other actions at this meeting included the recognition of Pastor Laura Stoneback's 25th anniversary of ordination; Pastor Fred Foerster's 55th anniversary; and Dr. Frank Sherman's 60th anniversary. It was also noted that one of the reasons for holding this meeting at Jerusalem Church was to help it celebrate its 275th anniversary. There was also, of course, the regular business of affirming the Financial Report for the past year and confirming the Budget for the new year. There were also brief institutional reports from Operation Sunshine by Dick Skelly and from Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries and Luther Crest by Chaplain Dianne Kareha, who also noted that she would be retiring as Chaplain of Luther Crest by mid-summer.

And of particular interest was a brief report from Luke Swanson, son of Pastor Mark Swanson and Pastor Laura Csellak who will be serving as a Young Adult in Global Mission in Argentina and Uruguay beginning in mid-August. As a result of his comments, Pastor Marty Milne moved and the group affirmed supporting him with a \$750 grant from the Budgeted Mission Fund of the Mission District. The group wished him well with his venture and he agreed to be available for congregational presentations about it both before and after his experience.

Of particular interest at this meeting was the noting by Dean Gade and Synod Staff Liaison Pastor Kurt Garbe that approximately half of the more than 25 congregations in the Lehigh Mission District are in some state of change – whether simply in the process of calling a new pastor or making decisions about their futures. They invited our prayers for these situations.

This was a particularly well-attended assembly with 48 people representing 24 congregations and representative from two institutions and the ELCA's Global Mission Program. It was also noted that the Mission District Council is in the process of developing a special program for Reformation Sunday (October 30) 2:00PM to 5:00PM, including a light supper.

Pastor Richard Stough LMD Secretary

OPERATION SUNSHINE

36 S. 8th St, Allentown, PA 18101 Phone: 610-435-9155 Open: Mon 11-3 Wed. 9-4

E-mail: LMDopsunshine@aol.com Web site: 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.

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

ONLY TEN (10) OPENINGS REMAINING!!!

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.

October 13 (Thur.) – Penn's Peak – Bill Haley's Comets - The Comet's Rock and Roll Show is an energetic entertaining show featuring fun, comedy, dance and music that keeps the crowds laughing, clapping and singing along to all the oldies and classic rock favorites. With the harmonies and choreography of the two poodle skirted and car hop uniform. All luncheon shows come complete with a family style meal including the ever popular Penn's Peak Pot Roast, all non-alcoholic beverages (alcohol available for purchase).

<u>Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM and will return approx. 4:30 PM Cost \$80 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Sept. 22</u>

November 17 (Thurs) - Media Theatre - "A Christmas Story, The Musical"

– Get in the mood for Black Friday shopping and the upcoming Christmas season along with Ralphie and his family as they weave their way through life from the "major award" of the lady's leg lamp to the "adorable" but embarrassing footed bunny pajamas for Ralphie. See how Ralphie tries to convince his parents, his teacher, and a grumpy department store Santa that a Red Ryder B.B. gun really is the perfect gift for a kid of the 1940's. Prior to the show enjoy a delicious lunch at Ristorante Gennaro where you will choose from Chicken Parmesan, Meat Cannelloni, Baked Salmon or Baked Eggplant Parmesan along with a choice of soup or salad, soft drinks, coffee and a choice of Gelato or Tiramisu for dessert. Please advise your meal and dessert choice, and soup or salad at the time of reservation.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approx. 6 PM Cost \$89 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Sept 29th