

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
BREINIGSVILLE, PA

OCTOBER 2016



Reformation
Sunday

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,

We are in the midst of our fall stewardship campaign called: “Live Simply” and I am in the midst of preparing to move to Topton. I have been blessed that so far, everything has fallen into place with the sale of my home, and the dates for closings and moving into the new home. However, the concept of Live Simply is very much on my mind. (That will happen whenever one begins to pack up their home). How much stuff do I need? What do I keep, what do I toss? I have definitely come to the conclusion that I can toss all size 10 clothing! Those days are way over! None the less, the sorting and choosing of what moves with me is a process.

As we continue to think about what it means to live simply, I hope each one of us begins to exam our priorities. Often times, we say something is very important to us, and yet, we do not act on those sayings. Many say ‘spending time with the family’ is important, but they work every waking hour of the week, trying to make all the money they can. In the process, they spend little time with family. Many say ‘faith; God and church’ are very important, yet they fail to take time to worship and grow in their faith.

I guess a question I have is how often do we let the demands of the world interfere with our own priorities? Do we own our calendars, or do our calendars own us? Do we own our things, or do our things and our desire for things run our life? In the 10th chapter of Luke, we read the story of Jesus coming to visit Mary and Martha in their home. Martha was busy working, preparing, and stayed busy right through part of Jesus visit. Mary on the other hand, sat and listened, sat and spent time with Jesus. After Martha came to Jesus with her complainants about Mary, Jesus states; “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

To me, to live simply is to remind ourselves (remind **myself**) that the most important thing in all of life is our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the One who promises to supply all our needs. He is the one worthy of our love and praise and service. Everything flows from God’s grace.

As I recall this wonderful gift, I am indeed freed up to live simply, trusting that God is faithful all the time.

Growing with you in faith,

Pastor Laura

WORSHIP AND MUSIC



The choirs are back into weekly rehearsals and preparing special music which glorifies God. This year you will see some new faces among the choirs, and there is room for your face



as well! People often say that the chance to gather with fellow members' mid-week to rehearse is really a time to renew one's self and experience the holy presences of God.

During October we begin to draw to a close the church calendar year. Our lessons continue to come from the Gospel of Luke where Jesus is well on his way to Jerusalem, the place of his cross. As his time draws short, surely his teachings are of utmost importance. Be sure to come to worship and hear the words of our Lord.

You will notice that the back pew has been removed from one side of the church and a few new chairs have been placed there. Please keep this area free for those with wheelchairs, walkers etc. We hope this set up will allow couples to sit together as they worship.

Looking forward to seeing you in worship.

"When life gives you more than you can stand ... kneel."
—Unknown

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

On September 11, Sunday school kicked off with a great service project to benefit the Trexlertown Fire Company. During Sunday school, children helped make goodie bags for the fire company's first responders.

Bags included snacks such as granola bars, crackers, gum, mints and chocolate to help sustain the men and women while they are out on, or returning from calls. They also included a prayer card to help them remember God's care and love during what often are stressful times.

Through the donations of fellow church members we exceeded our goal of 100 bags! With extras of items like crackers and mints, we made additional "mini bags" which also went back to the fire company.

Members of the fire company came to church at the end of the morning via fire trucks to pick up our donations. Children were able to present them with cards and messages of thanks, while also checking out the vehicles.

Seeing the excitement of the children and the true gratitude of the firefighters made the morning very special. Thanks again to everyone who generously donated to make this event a success!

OPENINGS ON CHURCH COUNCIL

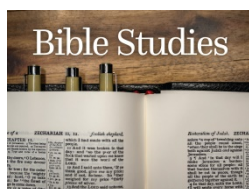
Are you looking for a way to have your input shared with the church, to get to know your fellow church members and to make a difference in the future of St. Paul's Lutheran Church? If so, there is a seat for you around the church council table. We are at an important time in our ministry at St. Paul's. While many churches seem to be declining, we are growing. Therefore, we need individuals to step up and help with the leadership of the church. The council meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month. If you can share your time and gifts with the church council, it would be greatly appreciated. No experience necessary! To keep St. Paul's moving forward, we need your help. Please give this opportunity some prayerful thought.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH LUNCHEON

Make your luncheon reservations today! Our annual free celebration luncheon will be held Sunday, October 9th, immediately following worship. If you did not fill out a reservation card at church, please do so as soon as possible, or call the church office and make your reservation.

SMALL GROUP STUDY

ADULT CROSSINGS; GOD'S JOURNEY WITH US, will be our next small group study. The study will begin on Monday, October 10.



The Bible contains hundreds of stories; thousands of names. How does a person begin to understand and remember it all? This series gives a unique overview of what many scholars consider to be the eight core stories of the Bible. By looking at these stories, we gain a perspective on God's activity throughout

history and hear God's word addressed to people of old and to our life and world today. All are welcome to come to this class where we will cover the eight core stories of the Bible.

This course is 11 sessions. Participants who are able are asked to pay \$14.00 for the work book that goes along with the class. You will get to keep your workbook. If you cannot afford a book, please do not let that stop you from attending the class.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE NEWS

The endowment committee gave a gift of \$1000 to the Trexlertown Fire Company for all their service and in honor of their 100th anniversary.

We are in need of 2 people to fill vacancies on our committee. If you like to give away money, this is the committee for you! Please let Tom Kellogg or Pastor Laura know of your interest.

CAN YOU CROCHET, KNIT OR LOOM?



As you probably know, our prayer shawl group has been making hats and mittens for inner city schools. We made a delivery last winter, and have started working on items for this winter. If you can crochet, knit, or loom, consider joining us after church on Sunday, **October 23**, to work on these items. Bring a crochet hook size G or H, knitting needles size 5 or 7, or a small round loom. If you can't make it on the 23rd and would like to help out, please see Steph or Peggy for a pattern. For more info, talk to us at church, email, or call: stepbillwagaman@rcn.com / 610-395-0355 (Steph); or peggyekern@gmail.com / 610-481-9086 (Peg).

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE FOR WORLD HUNGER

Election Day is Tuesday November 8th. I think most of us will be glad the campaigning is over as of that date. Four years ago, we held a bake sale on Election Day, and it went over extremely well. In fact, we sold out by noon, and yet people still made donations to the world hunger bucket. So, we are looking for some folks to bake cookies, cupcakes, brownies, and other items that we can sell, and we are looking for help to 'man the stand'. A sign-up sheet to work the tables will be in the narthex.

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](tel:6103516040) or cell # [610 573 7117](tel:6105737117). 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.

OUR WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Our September 7 meeting was attended by 9 women. After reading our Purpose Statement, we discussed upcoming events.

- September 24 is the Fall Fun Event at Union Schnecksville from 8:30 – 4 p.m. Service of Worship, Prayer, Bible Study, assembling school kits, Sing-A-Long, Lunch, Nature Walk, Outdoor Games (weather permitting), Bubbles/Coloring, Movie w/popcorn are planned for the day. There is no registration fee.

After the event there will be a meeting for people interested in attending the Triennial in July 2017.

- October 8th, Fall Cluster Meeting at St. Timothy, Allentown. Topic is Emergency Preparedness with Roger Conrad.
 - Sharon Bortz, as Cluster Coordinator, is planning this meeting. Registration starts at 8:45 and \$2.00 registration goes to St. Timothy. Meeting goes until noon.
- December 7th, Ingathering at St. John's, Emmaus, beginning at 10:30.
 - Judy Walker and Patty Spenser will be attending a planning meeting on September 14 at St. John's Emmaus.
- March 25, 2017, Spring Day of Renewal. Topic and place TBD.
- April 2017, Spring Cluster Meeting. More information regarding this meeting after the board meeting beginning of November 2016.
- May 20, 2017, Convention – place TBD.
- July 13-16 2017, Tenth Triennial Gathering in Minneapolis, MN.
 - 5 definite attendees; 2 possible, and Edie Mauthe will join our group.
- September 23, 2017 – Fall Fun Event, Hope Lutheran, Tatamy.

Thankoffering Sunday is scheduled for November 13. Ladies were reminded to fill their jars and bring them to church.

After all business was discussed, there was a Bible Study. *Jonah, and the terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day.* When Jonah became an

instrument of God's mercy. We read the entire book of Jonah first to better understand the study. From the Bible Study: In the end, *it doesn't matter whether Jonah gets God's point; the question is, do we?*

Next meeting is scheduled for October 12th at 9:30 a.m. Please come join us.

Submitted by Sharon Bortz

I SHALL NOT *NEED*

Despite the traditional wording ("The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want"), Psalm 23 declares that God provides everything we *need* — not everything we desire.

"He makes me lie down ..." Sometimes our busyness is useful; other times it's how we feel in control or superior to others. God knows we need to rest and sometimes must make us do so!

"He leads me beside still waters ..." Although we often prefer noisy distractions, God knows we need quiet to hear him and have our souls restored.

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies." Rather than a boast ("Ha! See how God spreads a banquet in my honor while others look on!"), this is a reminder that God wants us to dine with our enemies. We might not be able to stand those people, but God pursues reconciliation.

In the process, **"goodness and mercy ... follow me all ... my life."** That's what we need the most.

OCTOBER 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 non-perishable food will be acceptable.

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 9 – Annual Congregational Luncheon

October 16 – Fall Potluck

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.

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 NOTES

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank you for your donation of 4 boxes 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.

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

Thank you very much. You couldn't be more thoughtful and I couldn't be more grateful.

The get well wishes for my recovery from total hip replacement is greatly appreciated.

Dorothy O'Connors

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

Leroy Bortz
Bill Moyer
Doris Wilkers

Helen Kessler
Katherine Plarr
Larry Wingard

Dawn Moyer
Kathy Shryock

OCTOBER



1 Moses Ajamu	21 Jack Parmer
1 Hannah Schmoyer	21 Anthony Pisauero
1 Meredith Schmoyer	23 George Keil
1 Ginny Wingard	23 Garret Pavlacka
8 Ginger Hallock	24 Helen Kessler
15 Amy Brenfleck	25 Sean Thompson
16 Hailey Inman	26 Owen Bastian
16 Claudia Haughney	27 Linda Dietrich
16 Esther Seibert	29 Allison Thompson
16 Susan Xander	29 Judy Walker
18 Bill Moyer	31 Lisa Schmoyer
20 Richard Danner	

OCTOBER



3 Keith & Becky Theodore
11 Chris & George Holzer
14 David & Peggy Apgar
14 Bill & Sharon Heminitz
16 Stan & Mitzi Younger
25 Carl & Esther Seibert, Jr.
26 David & Nancy Reinhard
28 Steve & Amanda Mesko

PASTORAL ACTS

NEW MEMBERS

The following individuals joined St Paul's Lutheran church on Sunday, September 11th:

Doug & Diana Ebersole

Michael & Kelly Morgenstern (Matthew)

Jason & Christine Nemeh (Kayla & Liam)

Bruce & Peggy Saylor

Paul & Susan Xander.

BAPTISM

Liam Christopher Nemeh was baptized in the Christian faith on Sunday, September 11.

YOU'RX NXXDXD!

Evxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll— xxcpt for onx kxy. I havx many timxs wishxd it workxd prfxctly. It's trux that thx othxr kxys work grxat, but just onx kxy not working makxs a hugx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs our church sxxms likx my typxwritxr — not all thx kxy pxoplx work. You may say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I'm just onx pxrson. I don't makx or brxak thx church." But it doxs makx a big diffxrxncx bxcasx a church, to bx xffxctivx, nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson.

So, thx ntxt timx you think your xfforts arxn't nxcxsary, rxmxmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, "I'm a kxy pxrson in thx congrxgation, and I'm nxxdxv vxry much."

I'M CLEAN!

Church reformer Martin Luther once had a nightmare about being judged by the devil. From a scroll, Satan was reading all the sins Luther had ever committed.

“What hope of heaven do you have as a miserable sinner?” the devil accused.

Feeling despondent, Luther remembered the cross. “There’s one entry which thou hast not made, Satan,” he said.

When the devil inquired about it, Luther responded confidently: “The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7, KJV).

Praise God that he sent Jesus to be our Deliverer (Psalm 18:2) so we are no longer held hostage by Satan’s accusations!

HE'S EVERYWHERE

A mother asked her little boy to please get the broom from the back porch. “But it’s dark out there!” he protested.

“Don’t be scared,” Mom said. “Jesus is out there. He’ll take care of you.” When the child looked skeptical, his mother continued, “Jesus is everywhere. You’ll be safe.”

After a moment, the boy went to the back door and cracked it open. Peering into the dark, he called, “Jesus, if you’re out there, will you please hand me the broom?”



DAILY TASKS

When I awoke this morning, I asked, “How shall I live this day?” The answers were all around me:

The fan said, “Keep your cool.”

The ceiling said, “Aim high.”

The window said, “Look outside yourself.”

The clock said, “Every minute is precious.”

The calendar said, “Stay up to date.”

The door said, “Take advantage of opportunity.”

The floor said, “Kneel down and pray.”

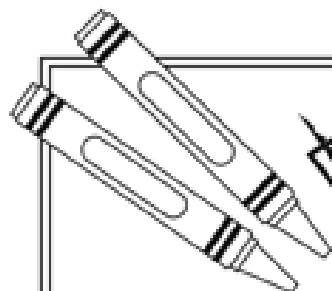
—Unknown (adapted)

LOOK UP

Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind.

... As long as you are proud, you cannot know God. A proud [person] is always looking down on things and people. And, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you.

—C.S. Lewis



PUZZLE

THE LORD WILL PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.

Directions: Connect the dots, according to the instructions below. Then use the resulting word to complete the Bible verse.

Start at 19. Draw from 19-18, 18-17, 47-62, 62-77, 22-21, 21-20, 50-51, 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20, 24-38, 38-53, 24-40, 40-55, 17-32, 47-48, 32-47, 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86, 56-57, 57-58, 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83, 55-70, 70-85, 58-43, 57-73, 73-88, 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.

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121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135

>> "So do not _ _ _ _ , for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV <<

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS**

OCTOBER 16, 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.trexkertown@gmail.com

Website: www.stpaulsbbville.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

October 2016 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
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2 20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	3	4 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. Cindy Will Be Attending At Bird In Hand	5 The Secretary's Seminar Family Inn	6 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	7	8																																										
9 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 a.m.-Annual Congregational Luncheon  STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY	10 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 6:30 p.m.-Mission Advisory Review 7:00 p.m.-Finance Committee 7:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee	11 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc.	12 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council  COLUMBUS DAY	13 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	14	15 8:30 a.m.-W-ELCA Cluster Meeting At St. Timothy, Allentown																																										
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30 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	31 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 					<div> November 2016 <table> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div>	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			
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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Those Who Serve for the Month of October

Council Person: Walter Spall 843-325-3350

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, October 2, 2016

Altar Guild: Carlene Brumbach
Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz
Greeters: Shayla Morgan, Anita Eisenhard
Reader: Wells Rampen
Communion Bread: Sue Firth
Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak
Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach, Brooke Brumbach,
Karen Feimster, Bob Nickisher

Sunday, October 16, 2016

Altar Guild: Alice Bastian
Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer
Greeters: Carol Derr-Breinig, Melanie Dimovitz
Reader: Daisy Pearson
Communion Bread: Angie Kropf
Communion Assistant: Sue Firth
Ushers: Anita Eisenhard, Rosalie Gallagher, Frank Szukics,
Judy Szukics, Jeff Waltemyer

Sunday, October 9, 2016

Altar Guild: Paula Smith
Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson
Greeters: Carlene & Brooke Brumbach
Reader: Martha Lindenmuth
Communion Bread: June & Tom Kellogg
Communion Assistant: Tom Kellogg
Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Diane Kropf, John Kropf,
Madeline MacMechan, Garret Pavlacka

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter
Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer
Greeters: than Eiswerth, Vanessa Eiswerth
Reader: Joyce Eisenhard
Communion Bread: Madeline MacMechan
Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman
Ushers: Melanie Dimovitz, Richard Hartley, Shayla Morgan,
Ken Ritter, Marilyn Thomas

Sunday, October 30, 2016

Altar Guild: Rebecca Theodore
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman
Greeters: Cal Fetherolf, Karen Feimster
Reader: Peggy Kern
Communion Bread: Florence Metzel
Communion Assistant: Sharon Bortz
Ushers: Robert Bruchak, Matthew Bruchak, Doris Fenner
Cal Fetherolf, Rosemary Lehman



August 28, 2016

Rally Day 2016



September 11, 2016

New Members



**Michael & Kelly Morgenstern
Matthew**



**Jason & Christine Nemeh
Kayla & Liam**



Doug & Diana Ebersole



Bruce & Peggy Saylor

September 11, 2016

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Faithapalooza 2016

November 11-13

Youth in grades 9 - 12 are invited to participate in this year's synod youth leadership training event, Faithapalooza. The theme is "Weaving Together God's Story and Ours."

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Learn how to tell a Bible story through music, poetry, art or storytelling
- Explore scripture through wonder and imagination
- Reflect on their own life stories and see where they intersect with biblical themes and stories
- Get to know the stories of others at this gathering
- Have fun

Faithapalooza 2016 will be held at Crossroads Camp and Retreat Center, 29 Pleasant Grove Road, Port Murray, NJ 07865.

The event begins at 8:00 pm on Friday evening and concludes at 11:00 am on Sunday morning.

The Early Bird registration fee (through October 24) is \$140. After October 24 the registration fee is \$160.

For more information and to register, please visit the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org/event/faithapalooza-2016>.

Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA

The Congregations of the Northeastern PA Synod are supporting *Always Being Made New: Campaign for the ELCA*. Campaign contributions can be directed to any of ten ELCA ministries. One of those is the International Women Leaders Initiative.

"As part of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, we are boldly investing in established and emerging women leaders from our global companion churches. Your gifts will help support the education of 200 additional international women through educational seminars, south-to-south exchanges, in-country study programs, and degree programs at ELCA colleges and universities." [ELCA website]

Because some synod donors have identified this ministry, we recently received the following note of thanks.

Dear Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA,

As a current scholarship recipient, I would like to thank you for your support of the International Women Leaders initiative! Your gift helped to support me and my fellow scholarship recipient colleagues.

Thank you!

Melissa Neo Pei Shi



The synod campaign goal, established by Synod Assembly action in 2014, is participation by 100% of our congregations. This is a realistic and attainable goal which can be met and sustained through January 31, 2019 with your support! If you need additional information about the campaign, contact Guy Ehler, Synod Campaign Coordinator at relhew@verizon.net; or call the synod office at 610-266-5101.

Bishop's Conference - November 1-2

St. Francis Retreat House, Easton

Speaker: Kay Stewart, M.Ed.

Stillwaters Mindfulness Training

For info and to register, visit the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org/event/bishops-conference-2016>



Women and Justice



"The ELCA is a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. As part of this call, we seek the common good for society, provide moral vision and are committed to addressing social and cultural injustices and issues." [ELCA website: Faith & Society]

One way in which the ELCA addresses such issues is by releasing social statements from time to time. Two more recent statements were on "Genetics" and "Human Sexuality."

In 2009, the Churchwide Assembly authorized the development of a social statement on women and justice. The ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice is now in the process of drafting the statement, which will be presented to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly.

During this study phase of the process, the task force is encouraging and hosting listening events in order to hear about the insights, hopes, and concerns of ELCA members across the country. You are invited to join in this process!

For more information about the process and the location of the listening events, please visit the ELCA website at <http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Women-and-Justice>.

James Jennings Elected to ELCA Church Council

As a newly elected member of the ELCA Church Council, I want to thank you for supporting my nomination, and share with you my excitement about this opportunity to represent our synod at the national level.

In many ways we find ourselves at a turning point in the life of the Church. As we prepare to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we look back on the roots of our Lutheran heritage while simultaneously looking forward to what the vision of the ELCA will be for the future. My hope is that together, local congregations and national leadership can draw strength and meaning from Luther's teachings and find innovative ways to apply his principles in 2017 and beyond.



I would also like to tell you a little about myself. I am a life-long member of Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bangor, PA. Over the years, I have been an active participant in a variety of ways, including committee work (Mutual Ministry, Finance, Call, Worship & Music), Council (multiple terms as President, Vice President and Secretary), and various roles in worship support (Communion Assistant, Usher, special music). I am employed as Senior Manager of Planning and Allocation with Party City Corporation. My wife Kim is a teacher, and we have two sons, Cory and Owen.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during my tenure and hope to share news from across the ELCA as we go forward. Thank you again for your support, and I pray for you and your congregations.

The ELCA Church Council is composed of 34 elected members (lay and ordained) from across the ELCA. Members of the Council come from a variety of backgrounds, among them: the social services, the legal profession, accounting and financial management, and medicine. Two youth members who were high school students at the time of their election are Council members. The Council deals with a broad range of issues, much of the work done by four committees in preparation for Churchwide Assembly action. It meets at the churchwide office in Chicago twice a year - April and November - for three or four days. The four officers of the ELCA and the chair of the Conference of Bishops are also part of the Council. In addition, nine Conference of Bishops liaison representatives attend the meetings.

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

November 2016 LMD NL news will be due October 14, 2016. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

"Journey through Grief": Luther Crest will host a "Journey through Grief" group on **Mons, Oct. 3-Nov. 7, 10:30 a.m.-noon**. For more information or registration, please contact Lutheran Congregational Services, [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205). This 6-week series is open to all; and there is no fee, thanks to the generosity of J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.

Luther Crest Hosts "Theology, Literature, and Coffee", A Moravian Theological Seminary-sponsored course, 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 \$25**, beverages will be provided. To register, please contact Moravian Theological Seminary [610-861-1516](tel:610-861-1516) or <http://www.moravianseminary.edu/continuing-ed>. **Books to be discussed are:** Oct. 3rd: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee Leader: Nelson Quinones, St. John Lutheran Church, Fogelsville, Oct. 17th: *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, Leader: Ruth Marcon, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown, Oct. 31st: *Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton, Leader: Nelvin Vos, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown.

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 at 2:30 p.m.** Oct. 4th, Dr. Manfred Bahmann on *"Which Sort of Jew was Jesus?"*, Oct 18th, Sundar Brown on *"When Religion Turns Violent"*, Nov 15th, Jason Brocius on *"What is Humanism?"*, Dec. 6th, Dr. Manfred Bahmann on *"What Is Family Anymore, Anyway?"*. For more information, please contact the Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

Fall Basket Social: St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be holding a basket raffle on **Sat, Oct 8th, 10 am-2 pm**. Drawings for the 75+ different themed baskets will be at 1:30 pm you do not need to be present to win. Various consultants and products will also be on hand including Premier Jewelry, Pampered Chef and Tastefully Simple. There will be lunch items and baked goods available, as well as jars of homemade chow-chow. New this year: **'Basket Preview Night'** on **Fri, Oct 7th, 6-8 PM** (only raffle tickets will be sold, no food). For more info, call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org. All are welcome!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 9, 1:30 p.m., beginning and ending at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104, with **registration starting at 1 p.m.** For more information, for a sponsor form, please contact your own congregation or the Lehigh County Conference of Churches [610-433-6421](tel:610-433-6421). Log on to www.cropwalk.org for further information about CROP or for making online donations.

Redeemer is celebrating her 90th anniversary this year: Mark your calendars for the following dates. **Sat, Oct 8th, 4 pm** - Anniversary Banquet at Luther Crest, Rev. Carl Shankweiler, guest speaker. Please call the church office [610-434-1291](tel:610-434-1291) for ticket information. **Sat, Oct 22nd, 6 pm** - An evening of Sacred Music featuring the choirs and musicians of the West Side Collaborative. Reception follows. **Sun, Nov 6th, 10:15 am** - All Saints Worship- Redeemer Homecoming service. Reception follows. All are welcome.

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."* For more information or registration: <http://nepasynod.org/event/aloa-adult-ministry-festival-2016/>

Basket Raffle at St. Andrew's, Allentown. Fri, Oct 14th from 3 p.m. to 7p.m. & Sat, Oct 15th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The drawing for the baskets will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the 15th.

Eco-Lutherans—Responding to the Ethics and Science of Climate Change: A workshop examining the science of climate change as well as the morality of dealing with climate change from a Lutheran perspective plus practical steps for advocacy and greening congregations. **Sat., Oct. 15th, 9 am – 1 pm**, at 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus. Light refreshments available during the workshop. Cost: \$25/person - \$5 additional for persons from the same congregation. Contact Karen Mathias-Long karen@nepasynod.org.

St. Peter's Hanover invites you to join us for a prayer vigil on **Oct 15th, from 4 to 8 PM**. In light of today's world events, we feel that we would like to open our church doors to anyone who feels the need to connect with our Lord in a quiet, prayerful environment. Bibles and devotional booklets will be available for your use.

Oct. 23, 2016 – 2:30 PM: The choirs of St. Peter's, Hanover invite you to a concert of sacred music by composer, Joseph Martin. Mr. Martin has been commissioned by the Music Ministry of St. Peter's to write an anthem in celebration of the 175th Anniversary of our congregation. Although many of you have heard his music throughout the years, we felt that a concert dedicated to his majestic compositions would be a fitting way to showcase his talent as a writer of sacred music. Come join us for an afternoon of beautiful sacred music and liturgical dance. Feel the peace, the wonder and the magnificence of our Lord through the great artistry of Joseph Martin. Light refreshments will be served. A free-will offering will be taken to help defray the cost of the anthem commission.

Trick or Treat

At the end of this month across our Lehigh Mission District, we will be celebrating Reformation Sunday in a variety of ways within our congregations. Some of those celebrations will involve special music, while others will involve a special preacher for the day. For those who are Protestant it is indeed a special day that marks "the beginning" of our denomination. Some of you, who are reading this, might even remember we had our own Mission District Reformation Service, held in the evening on Reformation Sunday to which all were invited.

Yet, have you ever wondered why we celebrate Reformation Sunday, on the last Sunday of October, and so close to Halloween? Well, it was no accident that Martin Luther chose October 31st to nail his 95 theses to the castle door in Wittenberg, Germany – an act which many view as the start of the Protestant Reformation. It had nothing to do with goblins or ghosts, candy or costumes. Rather, Luther knew that on the next day, All Saints Day, everyone in town would file past on their way to church, and thus would notice his posting. You could say it was tricky timing.

Yet while church leaders probably did not see it this way at the time, Luther also provided the entire church with a treat. You see, Luther's 95 theses got people talking about church, faith, and theology. And that was a good thing – a treat.

Almost 500 years later we still debate some of the things Luther wrote about, as Christians continue to struggle with how to be true to the calling of Jesus. It is a challenge. **Join others at The Lutheran Center on October 30th from 2:00-5:00 PM** as we discuss "a new reformation" and ways to meet this challenge today in our Lehigh Mission District. Following an opening devotional, Associate to the Bishop, Pastor Kurt Garbe, will set the stage for our discussion and sharing. Following our discussion all are invited to stay for a free supper. Come and be a part of this event!! More detailed information was sent to congregations, as well as being included in last month's newsletter. Registrations are encouraged, so as to insure proper arrangement can be made for supper. Email your response to our Lehigh Mission District Secretary, at stough@rcn.com.

Bishop Eaton of our ELCA has said that the 500th anniversary of the Reformation "provides a powerful focal point for reaffirming who we are as a Lutheran Church and understanding what God is calling this church to be in its ongoing reformation". We do not always agree as to how to revitalize our churches. But relationships thrive not so much on agreement as on honest and open communication. Join our conversation, on the 30th.

Faith is full of tricks and treats!

Pastor Jerel Gade
LMD Dean

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.

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).

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM and will return approx. 4:30 PM

Cost \$80 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Sept. 22

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 1940s. Prior to the show enjoy a delicious lunch at Spasso Italian Grill.

Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approx. 6 PM

Cost \$89 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Sept. 29

December 3 (SATURDAY!) – American Music Theatre – Christmas Show

Winter Wonderland - Something new for Operation Sunshine – a trip on Saturday. Due to the popularity of this show, even as early as March when we tried to book a performance, the best seats were available to us on Saturday. Experience the beautiful vocals, dynamic dancing, and impressive instrumentals of the critically acclaimed AMT singers, dancers, and orchestra as they perform the very best of your spiritual and secular holiday favorites. *The 2016 Christmas Show: Winter Wonderland* will be a great value, feel-good holiday event filled with yuletide whimsy and winter wonder that celebrates both the magic and the meaning of Christmas. Witness a beautiful Christmas town, an enchanting trip to the North Pole, powerhouse vocals, dazzling scenery, and lots more. A delicious family style lunch awaits us at the Fulton Steamboat Inn before the show.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 11:00 AM and will return approximately

7:00PM Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Nov. 3

***Join us September 10-20, 2017 ***

ON THE TRAIL of MARTIN LUTHER

Travel with Operation Sunshine and Collette faith on a trip to Germany to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with highlights on the trip of visits to Mainz, Worms, Gutenberg Museum, Erfurt, Wartburg Castle, Lutherhaus, Eisleben, Dresden, Leipzig, St. Thomas Church, Wittenberg, St. Mary's Church and Berlin. For a flyer and pricing information, please contact the Operation Sunshine office.