

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
BREINIGSVILLE, PA

NOVEMBER 2016



DEUTERONOMY 26:II, NRSV

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Reverend Laura L. Stoneback, Pastor
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Breinigsville, PA 18031
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PAUL'S PARISH NEWS is published by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Dear Friends,

No doubt as we head into the month of November, many will begin to feel the Christmas pressure. Already in mid-October, Christmas decorations are up in stores and people are trying to figure out what gifts to buy for their loved ones.

Many ask themselves: "What can I get them so they know how much I love them and how special they are to me?" Many of us try to figure out how much money is enough money to spend on gifts.

As I think about this, I am reminded of the book of Micah. In the sixth chapter of the book, we see that the people were trying to figure out how to present themselves before God. They were wondering, 'how much offering is enough offering, to the point of raising the question: "Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Should I give my firstborn for all my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"' (Micah 6:6-7)

The answer to these questions comes in the next verse of Micah. "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (vs.8)

Perhaps as we enter this gift giving season, it would be good to remember that the greatest gift we can give is that of love, kindness, respect and justice. We do well to remember that God is the giver of all gifts and that we are called to love, respect and care for one another as though they were Christ himself.

As we approach the season of Advent where we wait upon the Lord, let us do a quick scan of our own lives. When Christ does come back, and he will, what will he see as he looks at our life and our interactions with others? Let us all strive to be people who do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God.

Growing with you in faith,
Pastor Laura

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

The choir will present a Christmas musicale on Sunday, December 18th during the worship service. The Christmas Story will be told through anthems, while photos of our Sunday School children in costume will be shown on a screen. (You will want to sit up front that week!) Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, November 3rd at 7:30 p.m. for the Christmas Musicale. The choir would like to invite you to join us on the choir for this special program.

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.

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A brief but important congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, November 13th. The purpose of this meeting is to adopt the 2017 church budget and to elect new council members. Please plan to stay for this meeting.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE NEWS

At its October meeting, the Endowment committee awarded two grants of \$500 each. One was given to the Allentown Rescue Mission and another to the Meal's on Wheel's program of the Lehigh Valley. If you would like to join the endowment committee, please let Pastor Laura know of your interest.

SIMPLY LIVING

Over the past weeks, you were asked to think about what “simply living” might mean. We had many responses to our question, and want to share some of those with you. Thank you to everyone who responded. May we all learn to live a bit more simply as we trust God to supply our needs.

To remember our blessings and share them with others.

To own my things, but not have my things own me.

Doing what you can afford and not trying to live up with the “Jones”.

Be honest, don’t over indulge, treat others fairly.

Living a simple life is to not be caught up in the many distractions of today’s world.

Letting things wear out or break before replacing them.

Living simply means minimizing how much stuff one accumulates in the house.

No cellphones, iPads or television.

Food, shelter, family and friends.

Grocery shop the perimeter of the store. Forget processed foods.

Just live every second.

Keep love in all you do.

To live simply you should get back to the basics...love, service to others and thankfulness for all God has provided.

To live my life as one of God’s children.

Being in retirement.

Living simply means: Letting go of the past, which cannot be changed and not worrying about the future because ultimately, God has us in God’s hands and will not drop us.

Not doing anything all day.

Eliminate buying whims by using that money to fight world hunger.

Live in the Glory of God without the distractions of today’s electronics.

To live the way God wants us to live.

Take day by day and thank God I am here today.

To live the way God wants us to live.

Try to stick to a budget. Buy less clothes and shoes. Be more giving.

Living simply is being happy with what you have and not being unhappy with what you don’t have.

Raise and grow what you need and live and take the surplus to market on the dirt road with horse and buggy.

STEWARDSHIP

What a wonderful celebration we had on October 9th as we worshipped together and then sat down for our annual celebration meal. Nearly 90 people stayed for the time of food and fellowship and enjoyed a wonderful spread catered by A and L Catering. The meal always follows our time where we share our financial commitments of offering for the next year. We had 54 giving units turn in commitment cards and are expecting more to be turned in during the coming weeks.

There is no getting around that fact that God calls us to be stewards of all we have and to take care of and share the blessing we have received. How blessed we are that God trusts us to care for all of God's creation. How blessed we are that God has provided all of our needs, and yes, even some if not many of our wants. Let us continue to celebrate and praise God daily as we return thanks to God for all God has, is and will do for us.

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE FOR WORLD HUNGER

On Election Day, November 8th we will hold a bake sale at the church. Items can be dropped off Monday at the church from 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., or Monday evening from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. They can also be brought in Tuesday morning. If you enjoy baking and can make something for this day, it would be appreciated. “Grab and go” items might sale best.



THE LEHIGH CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES

Their supplies of toiletries are extremely low. You can help cover the gaps in public assistance for those who need it most. They are looking for

Full-size bottles of shampoo & conditioner Deodorant

Shaving cream & razors Toothbrushes & toothpaste

Baby wipes & diapers in sizes 3, 4 & 5 Feminine products

Monetary donations and gift cards to stores including: Walmart, Target and Kmart that will allow us to purchase these items are also greatly appreciated.

COAT DRIVE



Even though it still feels like summer out there, the cold weather will be here before you know it. In preparation for that, we will be doing our annual coat drive in November, and will be collecting gently-used coats for people in need. As you go through closets to prepare for colder weather, keep us in mind and bring in any extra coats that you can spare.

LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT LUTHERAN INGATHERING

On Wednesday, December 7, 2016, the Lehigh Mission District Lutheran Ingathering will take place at St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut Street, Emmaus. Gifts will be sorted and packed beginning at 10:30 a.m. The dedication of gifts will take place at 12:00 p.m. followed by a light lunch.

St. Paul's will again collect donations of gift items to be taken to the Ingathering. These **unwrapped** items can be placed in boxes found in the Narthex marked for the Ingathering. Lists of gift items is included separately in this newsletter.

Our church is also responsible for providing some specific **wrapped** gift items for children at Keenan House (10 total) and The Topton Children's Home (7 total). There will be tags for you to pick up on the table in the Narthex stating the price range, age group and sex of the child and sometimes a wish list is included.

All donations need to be at the church by Sunday, December 4th.

If you have any questions, contact Sandi Wagaman 610-395-6387.

FLEECE TIED BLANKETS: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ST. PAUL'S AND LUTHER CREST COMMUNITIES TO WORK TOGETHER

Some of the residents at Luther Crest have started making Fleece Tied Blankets. The first blankets they make will be for residents who need the blankets. After that, we would like to give the blankets to people around the world through the Lutheran World Relief program (see www.lwr.org).

Of course we need help: we need your prayers, money to purchase fabric and ship completed blankets and volunteers to work side-by-side with our residents to prepare fabric and tie knots.

Please prayerfully consider donating money and/or the gift of your time and energy to Luther Crest and this project.

You can contact me with any questions you may have or to let me know that you are ready to help us: xanders@diakon.org. My name is Susan Xander; I am a very new member at St. Paul's and an Activity Professional at Luther Crest. You probably already know that Diakon (the owner of Luther Crest) is a Lutheran Social Ministry Organization of the ELCA.

Thank you for considering this request.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

Yes I know, Halloween isn't here yet, we haven't celebrated Thanksgiving and I'm asking you to think about and order your poinsettias.

The deadline to place your order is Sunday, November 27th and the price will stay the same at \$9.00.

An order form can be found in the newsletter or after the calendar, if you are receiving this on line as an email. You can also find extra forms on the table in the Narthex, or call the church office at 610-398-7000.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SUNDAYS

While every Sunday is a special day, during the month of November we have a few festival days. November 6th is All Saints Day, a day in which we recall that all of us are saints through the rite of Holy Baptism. On this day, we especially remember all those who were baptized in the last year, as well as all those who have passed on to their eternal home.

November 20th is the last day of the liturgical year and is Christ the King Sunday. On this day we recall that no matter what day it is or what is going on, Christ reign is eternal and true. We thank God for God's constant abiding presence with us.

November 27th begins the season of Advent. Come and prepare your heart as we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November Pot-luck and Tree decorating will take place on Sunday, November 27th. Please come and join in the fellowship and the decorating. Remember, many hands make the work go faster

If you are thinking ahead, please know we will have two worship services on Christmas Eve, 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. We will also have worship on Sunday, December 25th at 10:30 A.M.



“Greed says the more you get, the more you have. Christ says the more you give away in love, the more you are.”

—Frederick Buechner

“Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action.”

—W.J. Cameron

ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

Martin Luther: Monk to Reformer

We live in an era when fame is highly desired. Whether it's getting hits on social media, getting invited to desirable gatherings, or making it big in Hollywood or Nashville, people want to be known, to be memorable—often for the wrong reasons. It's noteworthy, then, that in 2017 the Lutheran church—and the world—marks a big anniversary involving one of our own (our founder, actually). Martin Luther didn't intend to become famous, and yet he changed the world, helping to usher in the modern era.

This little sheet doesn't have room to detail Luther's life and accomplishments, and you will probably be hearing a lot about them from many sources, so this will just provide a brief overview.

Martin Luther was born in 1483 in what is now central Germany but then was a separate principality called Saxony. His parents tried to give him a good education and hoped he would become a lawyer. Instead, when he was twenty-one he became a Catholic monk. He wanted to earn God's love but was tormented by the sense that he could never be good enough. He punished himself mercilessly until finally a wise mentor sent him to study and teach Bible at the then new University of Wittenberg.



Not long after he arrived there, he became incensed by the church saying, in effect, that if people bought a certain document—an indulgence—it would provide God's forgiveness for their (or a loved one's) sins. Being a university professor, he wrote a list of ninety-five sentences to debate about the topic. That list, the Ninety-Five Theses, stirred up a hornet's nest in the church and began the Reformation. He made them public on October 31, 1517—coming up on five hundred years ago.

For challenging the church and refusing to back down, Luther was called

before the Holy Roman emperor, Charles V, at a meeting in the imperial city of Worms. Asked to take back what he had written, he refused and was declared an outlaw. Anyone could have captured him and killed him or turned him in to authorities, in which case his death was likely. Fortunately, his own prince protected him, hiding him out in a castle where he began translating the Bible into German. In the process, he helped create the standard German language.



Luther wrote many influential books, most of which are still valued today. He created the Small Catechism to guide ordinary people in learning about God. He wrote hymns such as “A mighty fortress is our God.” He was a passionate, sometimes crudely mannered man, and in later life he wrote terrible, cruel things about the Jewish people, statements for which the Lutheran church has apologized.

Yet Luther was a remarkable man, helping to create the modern notion of what it means to be an individual, not just an atom in a sea of molecules, and, of course, reviving and reforming the church. He is a man worth celebrating!

EMMAUS CHORALE CONCERT

The Emmaus Choral presents: “*Because It’s Christmas*”- Join us for a concert of The Emmaus Chorale which is scheduled for **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 11th**, at Faith Presbyterian Church, North 2nd & Cherokee Streets, Emmaus. A freewill offering will be taken. The Chorale under the direction of Laura Rabenold, will celebrate the season with a variety of selections, some with piano, organ, handbells and flute. Included will be “Breath of Heaven” by Easton/Grant; “Because It’s Christmas” by Barry Manilow; selections from “Christmas Oratorio” by Saint-Saens; selections from “Frostiana” by R. V. Williams and more. For more information, contact Carole Ann Trout at [610-398-4496](tel:610-398-4496).

Women of the ELCA

Our October meeting was attended by 12 ladies. After reading our Purpose Statement we discussed upcoming events.

- The Thankoffering Service is scheduled for November 13. We were reminded to bring our Thankoffering jars to church and place on the baptismal font before service. Joyce will speak to the Pastor about talking about W-ELCA at our church over the years.
- Martha Lindenmuth told us the list of Food Bank Volunteers for 2017. Volunteers go to 6th and Chew Streets from 9:30 – 12, once a month, and can park in the visitor parking space or by the dumpster.
- Sandi Wagaman thanked Judy and Patty for attending the Ingathering meeting in September. The Ingathering will be on Wednesday, December 7, 10:30 a.m. at St. John's, Emmaus. A worship service follows the assembling of gifts. She also had a list of kids looking for gifts which need to be wrapped; baggies with names for Topton Home wish list which are \$10-\$20 gifts; other baggies that give \$ amount for gift. Deadline for gifts is December 4. At this time, W-ELCA members are scheduled to meet December 6th in the afternoon to sort items given for Ingathering.
- Treasurer's Report
Our checking account balance is \$436.74. We discussed donating \$100 to Disaster Relief and giving \$75, 2x yearly to the NEPA Synod W-ELCA which is an increase of \$50/year.
- Our Fall Cluster Meeting on Emergency Preparedness was held on October 9 at St. Timothy's in Allentown. Roger Conrad presented a great program which was attended by 11 ladies.
- Our Bible Study was on Jesus and the Evil Eye: When God Blesses the Underserving by Meghan Johnston Aelabouni which was based on Matthew 20:1-16. Some takeaways:
 - As Luther reminds us, "daily bread" is not ours to restrict or deny to others because it is not dependent on how anyone has worked to earn or achieve it. Daily bread is God's gift to us and to all. When everyone has daily bread, the kingdom of God has become real and present among us.
 - What 'fairness' looks like is rarely simple because so many factors privilege some and disadvantage or exclude others.

- We are a church that proclaims that all people are saints and sinners alike; not one of us “deserves” the blessings of God. All is grace, freely given. When we talk about the God who gives grace unfairly to the underserving, let us not forget: *We are talking about ourselves.*

Submitted by Sharon Bortz

USE IT ALL UP

About two-thirds of Americans say eating Thanksgiving leftovers is more important than eating the actual holiday meal. That’s one of the few times people hope food is left on the table.

When it comes to giving out blessings, God doesn’t want any leftovers to remain. In Genesis 12:2, God blesses Abraham so he will be a blessing to others.

Charles Stanley writes: “A hoarded blessing is never enjoyed as richly as a shared one. Using your gift to meet someone else’s need glorifies God by demonstrating his grace at work in your life. Don’t let his generous provisions end with you. Pass them on and discover the joy of a never-ending cycle of blessings.”

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.

NOVEMBER 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 Macaroni & Cheese for our monthly collection for the food bank.

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

REMINDERS

November 13th Congregational Meeting

November 27th Potluck & Tree Decorating

November 27th Deadline to order poinsettias

December 4th Cookie Swap – watch for details

December 24th Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m.

December 25th Christmas Day worship at 10:30 a.m.

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.

ALWAYS THANKFUL

Martin Rinkart, a German Lutheran minister, wrote the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" in 1636. At the time, the Thirty Years' War was ravaging central Europe, claiming millions of lives. Rinkart served as pastor in Eilenburg, a walled town that became a crowded refuge for starving fugitives. Although Rinkart was struggling to provide for his own family, he opened his own home to people in need.

After the plague entered Eilenburg, Rinkart conducted up to 50 funerals a day — including services for his wife and the only other two pastors in town. Amid the despair, he wrote many hymns, including "Now Thank We All Our God." Originally intended as a table prayer, it's now sung at Thanksgiving to remember God's "countless gifts of love" — even during hardships.

WHERE IS THY STING?

Death's power is limited. It cannot eradicate memories or slay love. It cannot destroy even a threadbare faith or permanently hobble the smallest hope in God. It cannot permeate the soul and it cannot cripple the spirit. It merely separates us for a while. That is the only power death can claim — no more.

—Donna VanLiere

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

Leroy Bortz
Katherine Plarr
Larry Wingard

Helen Kessler
Kathy Shryock

Bill Moyer
Doris Wilkers



6 Judy Noll	15 Robert Granger
7 Sandra Stanton	16 Jeffrey Strauss
7 Evelyn Randall	16 Philip Wagner
7 Carl Seibert, Jr.	18 Daisy Pearson
8 Judy Kresley	18 Felicia Flores
9 Kevin Henichek	19 Ethan Eiswerth
9 Joshua Soldrich	25 Madison Mironov
10 Sandra Sensinger	27 Diana Ebersole
12 Deloris Kline	29 Jodi Eisenhard
14 Matthew Wiswesser	29 Katie Pisauro



1 Robert & Rita Miller
8 Bill & Ina Knoll
9 Reno & Priya Thomas
10 Bill & Betty Moyer
14 Alan & Carlene Brumbach

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS

NOVEMBER 13, 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.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

November 2016 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
		1 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc.	2	3 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	4	5																																										
6 ALL SAINTS DAY 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship –New Members Received DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS 	7 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	8 ELECTION DAY 	9 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council	10 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	11  VETERANS DAY	12																																										
13 26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST WELCA SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship-Congregational Meeting 2:00 p.m.-Private Party In Fellowship Hall NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	14 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	15 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Property Committee	16	17 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	18	19																																										
20 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship 1:30 p.m.-Private Party In Fellowship Hall	21	22 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc.	23 10:30 a.m.-Rowdy Bunch	24 OFFICE CLOSED  Happy Thanksgiving	25	26																																										
27 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 a.m.-Potluck & Tree Decorating DEADLINE TO ORDER YOUR POINSETTITAS	28 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 1:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee	29 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc.	30			December 2016 <table border="1"> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	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
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CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Christmas, that heart warming time of the year and it is time to start thinking about ordering your Christmas poinsettias.

Why not take a few moments now to fill out the order form and you will not have to think about it during the Christmas *whirlwind*.

This year's price will be \$9.00 per plant. Feel free to fill out this form and do one of the following:

1. mail it with your check (made out to St. Paul's, memo: Poinsettia) to the church;
2. place it in an envelope and put it in the offering plate; or
3. hand deliver to Janine Ritter.

**The Due date for order is
November 27, 2016**

Additional forms are available in the narthex.

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

Janine Ritter
610-285-2127
Festival Committee

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

(Please Print Clearly)

PRICE PER PLANT: \$9.00

ORDER DEADLINE: Sunday, November 27, 2016

OF PLANTS _____ TOTAL COST \$ _____

COLOR: RED PINK WHITE MARBLE
(CIRCLE ONE)

ORDERED

BY: _____

(Please print clearly)

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

PICK UP AFTER THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: _____

DONATE TO SICK OR SHUT-IN: _____

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Those Who Serve for the Month of November

Council Person: Stan Younger 610-966-7817

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, November 6, 2016

Altar Guild: Rosemary Lehman
Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz
Greeters: Rosalie Gallagher, Rosemary Lehman
Reader: Calvin Fetherolf
Communion Bread: Diane Kropf
Communion Assistant: Sue Firth
Ushers: Tom Kellogg, Joseph Mironov, Westley Mironov,
Lisa Newhard, Carl Seibert

Sunday, November 13, 2016

Altar Guild: Patrice Walters
Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson
Greeters: Madeline MacMechan, Betty Marchetti
Reader: Jen Schmoyer
Communion Bread: Sandi Christoffersen
Communion Assistant: Sharon Bortz
Ushers: Amy Brenfleck, Angie Kropf, Rosemary Lehman,
Martha Lindenmuth, Marilyn Thomas

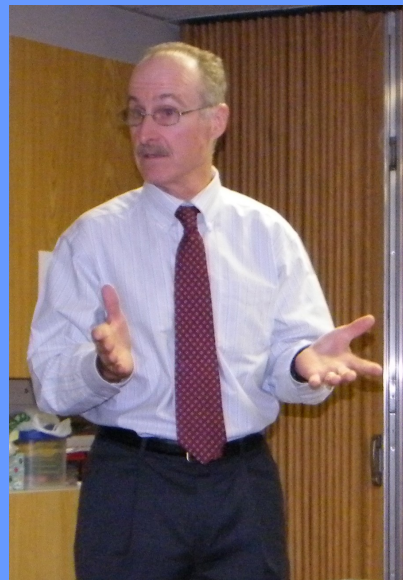
Sunday, November 20, 2016

Altar Guild: Amy Brenfleck
Lay Assistant: June Kellogg
Greeters: Bruce Wagaman, Dick Hartley
Reader: Rosemary Lehman
Communion Bread: Esther Nolve
Communion Assistant: Calvin Fetherolf
Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach, Brooke Brumbach,
Karen Feimster, Bob Nickisher

Sunday, November 27, 2016

Altar Guild: Sue Firth
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman
Greeters: Diane Kropf, John Kropf
Reader: June Kellogg
Communion Bread: Melody Pavlacka
Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak
Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Diane Kropf, John Kropf,
Madeline MacMechan, Garret Pavlacka

Live Simply Congregational Luncheon



October 9, 2016

Pumpkin Painting



10/16/2016



Remember Our Veterans This Christmas

Approximately 310 Veterans are buried at St. Paul's Cemetery. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, St. Paul's UCC and St. Paul's Cemetery Association want to remember Vets with a Christmas wreath placed on each Vet's grave.

This project is to:

- Remember the fallen who gave up their tomorrows with family and loved ones, so that we can enjoy our todays.
- Honor those who serve, the men and women of the armed forces who put themselves in harm's way to protect.
- Teach our children about the freedoms we enjoy each day, and the great cost at which they were purchased. From Wreaths Across America - www.wreathsacrossamerica.org

The cost of one wreath (live) is \$10. If writing a check, please make it payable to *St. Paul's UCC* and in the memo line write WREATHS. If you would like to remember a specific veteran with a wreath, please write their name on piece of paper. If a name is not listed anywhere, your wreath will help us honor all of the veterans in the St. Paul's Cemetery. Orders and payment are due **Sunday, November 20th**. Thank you.

Questions? Please contact the Church Office at 610-395-4571.

Please consider sponsoring a wreath and remember a Vet!

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Learning Ministries Day Something for Everyone

Saturday, January 29, 2017

Mindfulness. Faith, sexism and justice. Youth worship planning. Faith in the public life. Luther and science. Adult Bible studies. The changing church. Creation care in the church. A Bible study on Revelation. Confirmation. Healing the wounds of racism. Service learning. Reforming Sunday school.



These are just a few of the themes for this year's Learning Ministries Day, "Growing in Faith: Always [Re]Forming,"

to be held at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Bethlehem on Saturday, January 29. Registration begins at 8:30 AM, and the day concludes at 3:00 PM. Workshops will be offered both in the morning and afternoon.

The keynote speaker is Beth Lewis, President and CEO of 1517 Media (formerly Augsburg Fortress). Through December 31, the cost for the event per person is \$30 (includes lunch). After that date, the cost will be \$45.

For more information and to register, visit the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org> (under the events tab). Information was also in the synod mailing this month. Or you may contact Karen Matthias-Long at karen@nepasynod.org or 610-266-5101.

Reading Lutheran Parish God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday

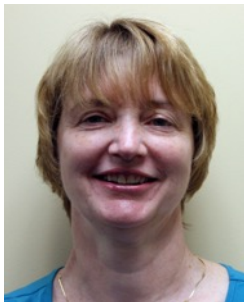


On Sunday morning, September 11, members and rostered leaders of the Reading Lutheran Parish (RLP), a partnership of the 12 congregations and one synodically authorized worshipping community in Reading, came together to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the 2001 attacks and to participate in the ELCA's "God's Work. Our Hands." emphasis.

The day began with the Lutheran community supporting the Reading Fire Department in its annual remembrance of first responders who lost their lives on 9-11-2001. The Rev. Peggy Wuertele, ministry coordinator of the ELCA's Region 7, spoke about her memories of the day. At the time she served as a pastor in Queens. A joint RLP choir sang *Amazing Grace* just before 10:00 a.m., the time when a plane crashed into the second of the Twin Towers.

Following the Fire Department observance, nearly 200 Lutherans along with visitors from the community remained for a joint worship service. Pr. Wuertele's sermon focused on forgiveness in the midst of grief. The day of remembrance and service continued with a picnic lunch and several service projects, including the assembly of personal care kits for guests at Opportunity House, a local shelter. The day's offering was contributed to *The Battle of the Badges*, a scholarship program for children of police and fire fighters.

Meet Synod Support Staff



Laurie Christman

Laurie is the receptionist at The Lutheran Center; and as such, hers is the first voice you usually hear when you call.

Her most time-consuming duty is to arrange for supply pastors for nearly 40 congregations without a regularly called pastor. At times this can be a real challenge!

Laurie also tracks the Annual Congregational Reports. She records online any paper copies submitted to the synod office, and she then downloads all the reports to the synod's server.

In addition to all the above, she maintains the synod calendar; so please contact her if you want something scheduled.

Laurie has worked in church positions for 30 years. She started at the synod office in 1984, and later worked for the ELCA disaster response team. When that office relocated to Chicago, she joined the staff at St. John's Allentown. 13 years later she rejoined the synod staff in her present position.

Laurie and her husband, Rodney, have two adult sons, and are members at Hope, Cherryville.

"Beer and Hymns" Brings Praise to Public Spaces



Last November, historic Trinity Lutheran in downtown Reading began offering "Beer and Hymns" events at local pubs and restaurants. About every other month at various venues, participants gather together to sing songs of faith, share a meal, and raise a glass in the finest Lutheran tradition.

Hymn sheets are provided and various accompanists lead sets of 3-4 hymns, providing opportunities between sets for everyone to eat, drink and visit. There is no preaching or proselytizing at "Beer and Hymns".

Trinity's senior pastor, Alan Wolkenhauer, established a similar event with his previous congregation in Dunedin, Florida. He says that "Beer and Hymns" gives members an opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, and family members to experience a Christian community that is fun-loving, open and welcoming.

He has found that people are often more willing to invite and to accept an invitation to an event like "Beer and Hymns" than they would be for a typical church gathering. Events in Reading have averaged about 80 participants from over a dozen different churches, as well as guests who are unaffiliated with any church.

Pastor Wolkenhauer's favorite "Beer and Hymns" experience is that of a young gay man who said at an event in Florida, "I haven't been to church for over ten years and I thought that God hated me. Tonight was the first time in a very long time that I really experienced the love of God."

"Beer and Hymns" in Reading is co-sponsored by Trinity's covenant partner, Christ Episcopal Church. The next event: "Beer and Christmas Carols," will be held on Tuesday, December 13 at GNA Restaurant in West Reading. Follow the Facebook page "Beer and Hymns Reading" for more photos and information.

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

December 2016 LMD NL news will be due November 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**, continuing through **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.

Redeemer is celebrating her 90th anniversary this year: Mark your calendars for the following dates. **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. Please call the church office [610-434-1291](tel:610-434-1291) for more information.

Annual Chicken & Waffle Dinner - Join us at St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) on **Sat., Nov. 5th**. Dinner will be served from **4:00 to 7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. **Cost: Adults \$15, Children \$7, under 3 are FREE.** Tickets will be sold at the door. Please join us for a homemade family-style dinner, everyone is welcome! For more info, call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org.

Craft Bazaar at Zion Lehigh Lutheran, Alburtis, (8269 Spring Creek Rd.). **Sat., Nov. 12th, 9:00-3:00** - Crafts, Basket Raffle, Grandma's Attic, Bake Sale. Kitchen will be open. For more information, call the church office at [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215).

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., Nov 15th**, Jason Brocius on **"What is Humanism?"**, **Dec. 6th**, Dr. Manfred Bahmann on **"What Is Family Anymore, Anyway?"**. For more information, please contact Rev. Virginia Heimer, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

The Emmaus Chorale presents: "Because It's Christmas"- Join us for a concert of The Emmaus Chorale which is scheduled for **3:00 p.m. on Sun., Dec 11th**, at Faith Presbyterian Church, North 2nd & Cherokee Streets, Emmaus. A freewill offering will be taken. The Chorale under the direction of Laura Rabenold, will celebrate the season with a variety of selections, some with piano, organ, hand bells and flute. Included will be "Breath of Heaven" by Easton/Grant; "Because It's Christmas" by Barry Manilow; selections from "Christmas Oratorio" by Saint-Saens; selections from "Frostiana" by R. V. Williams and more. For more information, contact Carole Ann Trout at [610-398-4496](tel:610-398-4496).

Rehab Services and 55+ Senior Living Opportunities at Luther Crest. If you or someone you know is in need of rehabilitation services (e.g., physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy) or would like to explore senior living opportunities for people age 55 or older (e.g., independent living, personal care, memory support, or skilled nursing), please contact Matt [610-391-8227](tel:610-391-8227), Mary Louise [610-391-8258](tel:610-391-8258), or Cathy [610-391-8256](tel:610-391-8256) at Luther Crest.

Employment, Internship, and Volunteer Opportunities at Luther Crest. If you or someone you know would like to explore employment, internship, or volunteer opportunities in nursing, dining services, activities, pastoral care, or other services among senior adults, please contact Luther Crest at [610-398-8011](tel:610-398-8011). For more information, please contact Rev. Virginia Heimer, 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, Scripture Studies. For more information or to schedule a speaker, please contact Rev. Virginia Heimer, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

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

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 for class times and orientation sessions.



**Muhlenberg College
Community Engagement**

Muhlenberg College's Office of Community Engagement (OCE) engages students, employees and local communities through partnerships intended to catalyze personal, institutional and community change. The OCE provides a central location on campus for coordinating work connecting communities including service-learning, community-based work-study, weekly volunteer programs, social justice/civic clubs, Civic Fellows, community-directed research projects, the Community Internship Program and community events on/off campus. With a focus on depth of engagement, students commit to 30 volunteer opportunities that occur on a weekly basis with 16 different community partners. Each year almost 300 students spend 20 hours or more in a given semester connecting with folks in local communities.

The 2015-2016 school year marked the College's 25th anniversary of its partnership with Jefferson Elementary School in Allentown. Over the last 25 years, the College has expanded its relationship with Jefferson from a Field Day and mentoring program to seven different during and after-school programs occurring throughout the year and many visits of Jefferson students to Muhlenberg's campus. Last year faculty in physics and biology partnered with Muhlenberg students and 4th graders at Jefferson Elementary on exciting campus based science experiments. Kids looked at invertebrates in fresh water stream samples, participated in physics experiments related to vision and dissected a sheep's eye. Each year third graders came to campus for College Connect to talk about future careers and push Muhlenberg students to also think about the future. Fifth graders work with students in Muhlenberg's Circus Workshop to tumble, juggle, clown, dance and imagine. Second graders will come to campus this year for a literacy-focused event and the entire school comes for Jefferson Field Day. With focused activities for each grade level and the entire school's attendance at Field Day, each child at Jefferson will come to Muhlenberg at some point during the year. With Muhlenberg students also working in classrooms and after-school programs at Jefferson, it is our hope that the students from both schools will continue to envision each space as part of their own educational experiences.

Mutually beneficial relationships between college students and community members enhance the lives of each. Answering the tough questions of elementary school children, connecting with people with whom you don't share a language and engaging cross-generationally teaches students invaluable lessons outside of the classroom. Similarly, important, is the work of challenging ourselves to reflect on our own social positions within local communities and consider the social structures that influence us. The OCE will continue to engage on and off-campus communities in reciprocal and change-driven ways.

Beth Halpern,
Director of Community Engagement,
Muhlenberg College

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.

SOLD OUT

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

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

ONLY 4 SEATS LEFT

December 3 (Sat.) – 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

December 6 (Tues.) Operation Sunshine Traveler Appreciation Luncheon at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1933 Hanover Ave., Allentown. Full course lunch, accompanied by entertainment, fellowship and fun! You must provide your own transportation to the church. **Open to the first 60 reservations.** Call the office to reserve your space. **Open only to Operation Sunshine travelers.**

Time: 12:00 p.m. Cost: \$5.00

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

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.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR 2017 TRIPS IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!