

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

OCTOBER 2017



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
8227 Hamilton Boulevard
Breinigsville, PA 18031
Telephone: 610-398-7000

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP UPDATE

With each passing comes new life and with each transition comes new opportunities to serve our Lord. St. Paul's has been blessed with gifted, loving Pastoral leadership for many years. Now we are graced with new leadership and new opportunities.

Our new Pastor, Carey Miller will begin his ministry at St. Paul's on November 1st with his first worship service on November 5th. He comes to us from Trinity Memorial Lutheran on the South Side of Allentown where he served for the last seven years.

Pastor Miller will be with us for a two year "Term Call." What this means is that he received his call from the Bishop and the Synod and St. Paul's Council agreed with the Synod's belief that he will be an excellent Pastor for us. His call is not the end result of the regular call process which typically would have taken another six to nine months to complete.

In another eighteen months, as we near the end of his two year call, your Council will decide whether to extend his call onto a regular Congregational call with the required full Congregational vote, or to restart our existing search process again. The special opportunity that the Term Call offers us is that unlike an interim Pastor, we will have the opportunity to offer Pastor Miller a full call after two years.

This sounds kind of like having our cake and eating it too. And in a sense, it is. Even though a term call is not a new way to begin new Pastoral leadership, it isn't terribly common. In our case, this sudden opportunity happened to arrive at a time when we were in the process of finding new leadership. A happy coincidence? Instead, I believe in the intervention of the Spirit.

So please welcome Pastor Miller and his wife Nancy into ministry with us. You will find him experienced, very approachable, warm, grounded in scripture, thoughtful and excited to begin his ministry at St. Paul's.

Yours in Christ,



For your Church Council

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

We continue through the Pentecost Season, a time of growth.

The choirs are back in full swing. The choir is looking for additional voices. Plenty of prime seats are available. Please consider joining our group. I suggested cloning them, but they were not very receptive to the idea. There is power in numbers!

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Sunday school kicked off its year on September 11 with a visit from the Lehigh Valley Seeing Eye Club. Club volunteers brought their therapy dogs and pups in training to talk about the program and how they help people in need. The dogs were a hit – and a great example of using God's gifts to help others.

As we continue through the year please keep all our teachers, helpers and students in prayer for another great year of learning together!

We continue to need people to serve as substitute teachers in all grade levels. We are not asking for you to commit to a given date, but rather join a roster of (hopefully) many helpers who our teachers can call on a rotating basis should they not be able to teach on a given Sunday. A sign up sheet is on the Sunday school bulletin board in the classroom hallway.

For more information on Sunday school please contact Taryne Williams.
tarynea@yahoo.com

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH LUNCHEON

Make your luncheon reservations today! Our annual free celebration luncheon will be held Sunday, October 8th, 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.

THE FREEDOM OF GIVING

“Freely you have received, freely give.”

--Matthew 10:8

Jesus just completed an extensive course in basic training with His disciples. He called them, prepared them, trained and showed them the ropes. As a commanding officer gives final instructions to jittery young soldiers preparing for a military strike, Jesus informs the disciples of the battle plan. He provides detailed instructions, warns them of pitfalls and hardships to come and, finally, Jesus offers encouragement.

We are reminded in this text of all that God has given us in Christ. He has lavishly poured out His grace upon us, redeeming us, calling us as His own, giving us new life with Him. Ephesians 1 tells us that we have truly been blessed with every sort of spiritual blessing. We have received all this freely.

God is the source of everything we have—our time, our talents, and our finances, enabling us to give to others in His name, so that “they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven”. (Matthew 5:16)

What has God given you that you could freely give? Is it time? Do you find yourself with “free” time on your hands that could be used in His Kingdom? Has God gifted you with a particular skill or trade that could be used at our church? Has God blessed you financially? Could you free up some funds to extend His Kingdom? Take a moment and reflect on how God has given you the undeserved gift of grace through His Son, Jesus Christ. Now reread Matthew 10:8.

From “30 Days of Stewardship Devotions”, used with permission from Sunshine Community Church, Grand Rapids, MI

GUESS WHAT TIME IT IS

It is time to order your Christmas poinsettias Yes I know, Halloween isn't there 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 19th 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.

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.



When Jesus Christ utters a word, he opens his mouth so wide that it embraces all heaven and earth, even though that word be but in a whisper. The word of the emperor is powerful, but that of Jesus Christ governs the whole universe.

—Martin Luther, *Table Talk*

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Our September meeting was on September 13. We had a business meeting and also discussed upcoming events for our group.

- September 23, Hope Lutheran Church, Tatamy, NEPA Fun Fall Event.
- October 14, Lehigh Cluster Meeting, Identity Theft. [*has to be rescheduled*]

Our Bible Study was Session One: We believe in God.....**The Apostles' Creed.** The Apostles' Creed is made up of three sections or articles. The First Article talks about God, the Holy Parent. In October, we will have session two: I believe in Jesus Christ.....which says specific things about Jesus. Please join us as we continue to study and discuss The Apostles' Creed.

Please join us on October 11, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. for our next meeting.

Submitted by Sharon Bortz

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 item will be acceptable.

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

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

BIBLE STUDY

We finished the Bible study of Moses in mid-September. As Moses was undoubtedly the most important figure in the Old Testament, our time spent studying a good part of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible) was not only enlightening, but well worth anyone's time. These five books are The Torah, the books containing the laws, including the Ten Commandments, given by God to his chosen people. Our study included video of the land walked by Moses, so we could see the mountains, desert, temples, The Nile--- all very much the way they were then.

In October, we will be exploring several different themes as seen through the Christian lens. Recently, we looked at grief, grace and the Lord's Prayer. October through early November will bring different topics that will surely aid us in navigating our world.

In mid-November, we'll begin a 5-session study for Advent based on "A Different Kind Of Christmas", based on Mike Slaughter's popular book, Christmas Is Not Your Birthday --- which will help us keep our focus on Jesus during this pre-Christmas season, as well as mission and service.

All of our Bible studies teach us more than we knew before and allow us to discuss how the Bible and our studies relate to our lives today. Each week different people take the leadership role in guiding the group through that day's study. Discussions are often quite lively and occasionally very personal, allowing our group to bond more closely than in other venues. If you can possibly make it on Monday mornings, I truly believe you will find it worth your time!

SEEK AND FIND

St. Anselm of Canterbury, a 12th-century theologian known as the Father of Scholasticism, presented a “proof” of God’s existence. Philosophers still debate Anselm’s proof, which concludes: “There is ... so truly a being than which nothing greater can be conceived to exist, that it cannot even be conceived not to exist; and this being thou art, O Lord, our God.” That’s intriguing to ponder, but many of us will find this prayer by St. Anselm easier to understand:

O my God, teach my heart where and how to seek you, where and how to find you. You are my God and you are my all, and I have never seen you. You have made me and remade me, you have bestowed on me all the good things I possess, still I do not know you. ... I cannot seek you unless you teach me or find you unless you show yourself to me. Let me seek you in my desire, let me desire you in my seeking. Let me find you by loving you, let me love you when I find you. Amen.

JUST SHOW UP!

In *A Million Little Ways* (Revell), Emily Freeman says in order for Christians to “show up as you are with what you’ve been given,” we must confront these statements:

- I’m not cut out for this.
- Someone else can do it better.
- People might not like it.
- I have nothing to offer.
- I hate my calling.
- It’s a waste of time.
- It’s too much work.
- Who do you think you are?

“A million loud voices ... keep us from the million little ways [Jesus] wants to show up through us to the world,” Freeman writes.

HOW YOU CAN HELP CINDY IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

There are four areas in which you can help. Without having a pastor to get information from the members on a Sunday or through visitations I need you to keep the following in mind:

HOSPITALIZED

If you or someone you know is in the hospital, or going in, please call me in the office at 610-398-7000 to let me know. When you go into the hospital remember to give the admission office our church code of #321. If you are not register with our code and I don't know you are in, I can't pass it on to a pastor to visit.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

If you have changed your email address please let me know. When I send information of upcoming events or reminders of things happening at St. Paul's, some emails are being returned. I have made phone calls but often do not hear back.

NO LONGER USING EMAIL ADDRESS

I have heard indirectly that even though you may have an email address, you are not using it. If you would let me know, I can update my records.

NO HOME PHONE #

When we were making calls for the pictorial directory, we found that some members no longer have a home phone (land line). If you no longer have a land line, please call the office or send me an email at office@stpaulsbville.org, so I can update my records.

Thank you for helping me out in the office.
Cindy

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8 – Annual Congregational Luncheon

GROUPS THAT MEET HERE AT ST. PAUL'S

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.

TOPS

(Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

TOPS meets here at St. Paul's every Thursday morning. They are here for you if you are having trouble losing that weight. They provide help and support. Weigh-in is from 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. The meeting begins at 11:00 a.m. and lasts an hour.

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

Helen Kessler
Cathy Waltemyer

Kathy Shryock
Larry Wingard



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



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.
28 Steve & Amanda Mesko

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS

OCTOBER 15, 2017

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



CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000

HOSPITAL CODE: #321

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE


EMAIL: office@stpaulsbbville.org

Website: www.stpaulsbbville.org

STAFF

Pastor.....
Organist/Choir Director Ms. Judy Noll
Handbell Director..... Mr. Richard Steltz
Parish Secretary Mrs. Cindy Krasnansky
Sexton Mr. Charlie Meitzler

October 2017 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
1 17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship	2 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 1:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee 4:00 p.m.-Personnel Committee	3 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. Cindy Will Be Attending At Bird In Hand	4 The Secretary's Seminar Family Inn	5 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	6	7																																										
8 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship 11:30 a.m.-Stewardship Luncheon	9 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study Columbus Day Observed	10 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc.	11 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council	12 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir 	13	14																																										
15 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship	16 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	17 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Property Committee	18	19 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	20	21																																										
22 20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship	23 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	24 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc.	25 10:30 a.m.-Rowdy Bunch	26 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	27	28 8:30 a.m.-WELCA Fall Cluster Meeting At St. Paul's Lutheran Church																																										
29 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class 10:30 a.m.-Worship	30 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	31 12:00 p.m.-Trexlerstown Sr. Assoc. 				<div> November 2017 <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></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</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: 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, October 1, 2017

Altar Guild: Carlene Brumbach
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman
Greeters: Shayla Morgan, Marilyn Thomas
Reader: Wells Rampen
Communion Bread: Carlene Brumbach
Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman
Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Carlene Brumbach, Brooke Brumbach,
Martha Lindenmuth, Aubrie Pavlacka

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Altar Guild: Joyce Eisenhard
Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson
Greeters: Diane Kropf, John Kropf
Reader: Marilyn Thomas
Communion Bread: Emily Danner
Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman
Ushers: Melanie Dimovitz, Richard Hartley, Shayla Morgan,
Marilyn Thomas, Jeff Waltemyer

Sunday, October 8, 2017

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter
Lay Assistant: June Kellogg
Greeters: Lacey Edwards, Rosemary Lehman
Reader: Meredith Schmoyer
Communion Bread: Bob Bruchak
Communion Assistant: Sharon Bortz
Ushers: Cecilia Ajamu, Angie Kropf, John Kropf,
Madeline MacMechan, Garret Pavlacka

Sunday, October 22, 2017

Altar Guild: Rosemary Lehman
Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz
Greeters: Carlene & Brooke Brumbach
Reader: Jeff Waltemyer
Communion Bread: Carol Derr-Breinig
Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak
Ushers: Amy Brenfleck, Angie Kropf, Rosemary Lehman,
Martha Lindenmuth, Bruce Wagaman

Sunday, October 29, 2017

Altar Guild: Rebecca Theodore
Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson
Greeters: Carol Derr-Breinig, Melanie Dimovitz
Reader: Joyce Eisenhard
Communion Bread: Melanie Dimovitz
Communion Assistant: Anita Eisenhard
Ushers: Robert Bruchak, Matthew Bruchak, Cal Fetherolf,
Joseph Mironov, Westley Mironov

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 19, 2017**

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 19, 2017

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: _____



St. Paul's CARNIVAL



8/27/2017



Rally Day - 9/10/2017



Volunteers from Lehigh Valley Seeing Eye Club shared how their dogs are trained to help people who are sight-impaired.





Iron Pigs Baseball Game



September 2, 2017

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers

- Do you provide part time or full time care for an elder?
- Would you like a safe place to share your joys and struggles with other care-givers?
- Would you appreciate companionship in nurturing your spirit?

Elder-care-giving can certainly be challenging, presenting both joys and frustrations to elders and their care-givers. An every-other-month gathering will provide participants with a time of guided program, prayer, supportive conversation around joys and struggles, and sharing new ideas for offering care.

Each gathering will be led by the Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, specially trained in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction. Please direct your interest to Pastor Lichner either at tlchiner@rcn.com or 610-533-9362.

Meetings will be held at the Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St., Allentown from 1:30 - 3:00 PM on the following Wednesdays: Sept. 20, Nov. 15, Jan. 17, March 14, May 16, and July 18.

"Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers" is being co-sponsored by the synod's Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry Team.

Luke Csellak Swanson - YAGM



Luke Swanson with friends Alicia, Lucas, and Martin from Santo Sacramento

I am Luke Swanson, a recently returned Young Adult in Global Mission (YAGM). As a missionary/volunteer for the ELCA, I was called to walk alongside our brothers and sisters in Buenos Aires, Argentina. There I volunteered with the Santo Sacramento Congregation where I aided in their Sunday program supporting marginalized neighbors and providing them with a safe place to be themselves. Additionally, I volunteered with a creative organization, El Arca, where I lived out daily life in community, joy, and forgiveness with intellectually disabled adults.

My YAGM year was filled with ups and downs. I started my year with some inevitable expectations, many of which provided me with layers of comfort, others with intense feelings of hardship. For the first time in my life I frequently felt like an outsider. My Protestantism, white skin tone, and language all put me at a disadvantage.

But what my friends at El Arca taught me so well is that I can do things others cannot, and they most certainly can do things that I never will be able to do. Life is to be lived in community, in joy, and in forgiveness; and it is these ideas that I have brought home with me.

Thank you to all who have supported me during this journey.

Don't Reinvent the Wheel!

- ◆ Are you a member of a ministry team in your congregation?
- ◆ Did you know that the ELCA website has a ton of resources to help you?



If you visit <http://elca.org/resources> you will find links to over 50 areas of ministry (listed alphabetically).

This month we highlight some of the resources for stewardship.

They fall under 6 categories.

Leadership: These resources can help your team put together a stewardship program that is eye-catching and informative.

Care for Creation: This is a page for congregations who want to raise environmental awareness among their people.

Lifestyle: There are numerous bible studies and other spiritual resources available at this location.

Finances: Here you will find samples of giving charts, proportional giving, an explanation of tithing, and other helpful materials.

Spiritual Gifts: This page is helpful for the non-monetary aspect of stewardship.

StewardNet: This is a newsletter for church leaders. There are links both to the most recent edition as well as many previous editions.

Healing the Wounds of Racism



Christian writer and activist Jim Wallis calls racism "America's original sin." Racism was present at the birth of our nation and, as current headlines make clear, has never been eradicated.

Seeing a need to address racism in the Northeastern PA Synod, the synod staff recently studied Debby Irving's book *Waking Up White*. This book is Irving's personal story about awakening to her own racism, how it has been built into our societal structures, and how she has benefited from it. Her book is a helpful resource for white people to understand the insidiousness of racism and their complicity in it.

Conversation continues among the staff about this issue. In particular, these are some questions that continue to rise: What kinds of actions could we, a predominantly white synod, take to address this evil? Where can we have honest and open conversations about racism?

If you are looking for ways to act against racism, this book may be a good place for you to start. Including this concern in the prayer life of your congregation is also another way to begin to take action.

Each upcoming issue of Synod News will include a resource or an idea to help you wrestle with ways in which you can participate in healing the wounds of racism.

Please share any ways you might be actively addressing the sin of racism. Perhaps we can learn and act together as a synod to continue doing God's work.



Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
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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 2017 LMD NL news will be due October 13, 2017. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 8, 2017, 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 12:45 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. For more information or to register, go to www.crophungerwalk.org. Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need locally and around the globe.

Food Bank drive at the Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 8, 2017. The Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank serves 40-60 families each day. Please help by donating these items desperately in need: tuna fish, beans, canned vegetables, canned fruit, soup, peanut butter, rice, Jell-O, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce. A Food Bank truck will be at the CROP Hunger walk to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued support. Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, 534 Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18102 [610-821-1332](tel:610-821-1332).

The 2017 schedule for Lutheran Congregational Services' Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training is now available. Training will be held Oct 7th (St. John's, Stroudsburg). Details and registration information at www.lutherancongregationalservices.org. Your congregation may also schedule a special training for \$250 + facilitator mileage. Thrivent Action Team grant funding can be used for educational trainings like this! Questions? Call Pastor Jennifer Ollikainen at [610-425-2981](tel:610-425-2981).

Luther Crest hosts "Theology, Literature, and Coffee". 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. 2nd, 16th, and 30th, 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 www.moravianseminary.edu/continuingeducation

Books to be discussed are: **Oct. 2nd:** *Of Love and Other Demons* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, ISBN: 1400034922 Leader: Nelson Quinones, St. John Lutheran Church, Fogelsville, **Oct. 16th:** *Silence* by Shusaku Endo, ISBN: 125008227 Leader: Nelvin Vos, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown, **Oct. 30th:** *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, ISBN: 1476738025 Leader: Ruth Marcon, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown.

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

Reformation Celebration Concerts – St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be hosting 2 special concerts in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation: **Sun., Oct. 15th at 3 PM** will feature a performance by Recordante (recorders & woodwinds) and **Sun., Nov. 19th at 3 PM** will feature a Brass Quintet. A free-will offering will be collected. For more info call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org. All are welcome, please join us!

Ken Medema – World-Renowned Pianist to Play at: St. Peter's, Hanover Ave., Oct. 28-29! The 175th Anniversary Committee has planned an exciting weekend featuring Ken Medema at the piano. He will play THREE FREE CONCERTS! **First:** Sat. Oct. 28, 4:00 pm, in **OUR nave!** **Second:** Sun. Oct. 29, Ken will play at **OUR 10:45 am worship service**. There will only be **ONE SERVICE** on that Sunday so plan to be at the 10:45 service. **Finally:** Sun. afternoon, Ken will play at 3:00 pm as St. Peter's helps Celebrate the 500th Lehigh Mission District Anniversary of the Reformation. You are welcome to come to all three services to enjoy his performances!

St. Peter's, Allentown, invites the parishes of the LMD to participate in its Reformation Celebration. The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod has commissioned a special anthem for the Anniversary of the Reformation. With the Bishop preaching at St Peter's for the LMD Reformation service on the **October 29th at 3 pm**. The feeling here at St Peter's (Janet Heckman, St Peter's Minister of Music) is that we should have a joint choir of all singing members of our LMD churches to perform this anthem. The anthem is entitled **"God is our Refuge and Strength"** and is available to download by contacting the Synod office for instructions. If members of the LMD churches are interested in joining the St Peter's choir in singing this anthem, we ask that they practice at their choir rehearsals and then have a practice session prior to the St Peter's Reformation service at 1:30 pm. Contact St Peter's [610-432-8762](tel:610-432-8762).

Holiday Craft Bazaar - Nov. 4th from 9-3 at Zion Lehigh Lutheran kitchen will be open for lunch. For more information call [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215) or email churchoffice@zionlehigh.org

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CALLED TO MISSION
Harvey and Irma

Although late August and early September has been relatively quiet and comfortable here in Northeastern Pennsylvania, it has been quite different in several other parts of our nation and, consequently, for a significant number of our sister parishes. Hurricane Harvey hit the Texas coastline on August 25th and lingered in the area for an unprecedented period before it looped around and moved on to Louisiana. And even as it was dissolving the storm-trackers were making us very well aware of Hurricane Irma which was headed for the Caribbean and northward through Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas. Both of these storms were among the strongest ever recorded and each led to major devastation which is only beginning to be assessed and which will be months and, yes, even years in the re-construction process.

And before, during and after these hurricanes were taking their toll, there have also been as many as a dozen horrendous wildfires burning throughout the western third of our nation. Many of these have been accompanied by the additional challenge of above 100-degree weather temperatures, making it just that much more of a challenge to fight them. Thank goodness in this case the few groups surrounded by fire have been successfully rescued.

The fact of the matter is that there are a phenomenal number of human beings living in serious stress in these days and it is not clear when many of them will return to secure housing and to the normal routines of their lives. There are thousands of people of all ages living temporarily in various shelters in both these areas. The final resolution is obviously far in the future.

These tragedies, like others before them and, unfortunately, those which will follow, have a way of calling us into various levels of "mission." This certainly includes our call to mission as the church and as members of it, but it also includes the immediate response of neighbors helping neighbors, as has been exemplified by many images on TV and in newspapers and magazines during these last weeks. I suspect you have been as overwhelmed as I have by the evidence of First Responders, Police, Fire Crews, the Military and the like who have literally poured in from all over the country and, to the extent they felt comfortable leaving Texas, they moved on to the Florida scene. It's unusual to use our word "mission" in relationship to this kind of service, but it is certainly appropriate.

And the Lutheran Disaster Response effort of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has played a major role in our response to these kinds of issues across the years. Not only do we contribute financial support, but staff of this group have remained on these scenes much longer than most groups. *Our gifts will, of course, be welcomed and can be made payable to ELCA Hurricane Response and sent directly to that group at PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 28116-8009. Or many of our parishes will welcome gifts to Hurricane Response and will forward them for us. This is surely our role in this "mission."*

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](tel: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.

Believe it or not, the three remaining 2017 Operation Sunshine trips are SOLD OUT.

Check back in the November Lehigh Mission District Newsletter for the 2018 Season of Operation Sunshine trips. Join our happy band of travelers as we enjoy fun and fellowship, great meals and entertainment.

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Rev. Dr. Walter Wagner: Reviews and responds to Michael Morwood's book....***It's Time***. Mons., Oct 23rd, 30th and Nov 6th, 7:00-8:30p.m. Christ Lutheran Church, 69 Main Street, Hellertown. If you would like, you can join a carpool to Hellertown for each session. Departing from Christ Lutheran, Allentown parking lot at 6:15 p.m. Please contact Rev. Tom Lichner [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362) or tllichner@rcn.com

Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers: In today's American culture, many adults are providing full-time or part-time care for their elder parents, relatives, friends, or neighbors. Elder-care-giving can certainly be challenging, presenting both joys and frustrations to elders and their care-givers. This **every-other-month** gathering will provide participants with a time of guided prayer, supportive conversation around joys and struggles, and sharing new ideas for offering care. Come and go to these gatherings as you might need and desire. Each gathering will be led by Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, specially trained in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction. Meetings will be held at the Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102. Please direct your interest to Pastor Tom Lichner at tllichner@rcn.com OR [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).