

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

SEPTEMBER 2017



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

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS is published by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

It is time for another update from your Church Council.

During our most recent Council meeting on August 9th, we nominated a Call Committee of six persons. Our Congregation is blessed with many excellent candidates, so the requirements for the committee helped us narrow down our choices. The Call Committee needs to have three women and three men, one member 18 years or under and one Council member. We now have an excellent Call Committee. The Members are:

Judy Walker
Carl Schmoyer
Amy Brenfleck
Garret Pavlacka
Angie Kropf
Matt Wiswesser

Now on to how the process will work and how you can help the committee:

- Over the next few months, the committee may ask the congregation for guidance concerning what sort of characteristics we are looking for in pastoral leadership through a survey or similar vehicle. At some point, they will receive a name and information about a candidate from the Synod office. They must keep any information about that candidate and their deliberations confidential, not so much to keep anything from our congregation, but to protect the candidate and their current congregation. If word of a Pastor possibly leaving their current call for a new call were to leak, it would irreparably damage the relationship between that Pastor and their congregation. The committee will privately interview the candidate and quietly even take time to visit that candidate's church while they are leading worship. Some of this secretive work can be uncomfortable for committee members, but it is critical in order to protect candidates and their congregations. So please don't make it any harder on the Call Committee by asking questions about a candidate they may be evaluating.
- If all six members of the Call Committee unanimously vote to recommend a candidate, that candidate will then meet with our Church Council to give the entire Council an opportunity to get to know the candidate. If either the Call Committee or the Council do not

recommend the candidate to the full congregation, the process will begin again.

- If the Candidate is recommended by the Committee and Council, the Congregation will have the opportunity to meet that candidate in a casual setting, maybe an evening of dessert in the Fellowship Hall, and then we will be led in worship by the candidate on Sunday morning. Immediately after that worship service, the congregation will vote on the candidate and a 2/3 percentage yes vote of our confirmed membership present will approve the call of our new Pastor.

This process is not quick or easy. But our past experience at St. Paul's shows that it works. Please respect the work of the Call Committee and leave them to do the critical work for which they have been tasked. with for our Congregation. And take the time to pray for God's spirit to be with the Committee, your Council and this Congregation as we transition to new life in Christ.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Hellogg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

For your Church Council

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Summer is over and we are back to our regular schedules. On Thursday, September 7, we will begin choir rehearsals. Bell Choir at 6:15, and choir at 7:30. Morning Bells will begin Sunday, September 10 at 9:00. New members are always welcome. Please mark your calendars and plan to arrive promptly for rehearsals! Dick and I look forward to another great year. We can't do it without you!

FALL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

We know that transitions are hard. Change is hard. Transition in the church is often especially difficult. That is why our fall program is based on “Stewardship in Times of Transition.”

Our four-week program will start on September 17. You will hear from several members of our congregation, speaking about personal transitions they have recently weathered. You will hear about why we need to keep a clear sense of mission, which is not tied to a pastor, but rather in faith in Jesus. You will hear about why it is important to sustain stewardship and giving in times of transition in the church. Our program will conclude on October 8 with Commitment Sunday, followed by a catered luncheon.

Join us as we journey through this transition together. Let us focus on the future, and in the words of Isaiah, let us focus on the new thing that God is doing.

Isaiah 43:18-19

Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

The start of Sunday School is just around the corner! Our teachers and I are very excited to see everyone and begin another great year of learning together about God's love.

Sunday School will start with Rally Day, our informal opening session, on Sunday, September 10 at 9:15 a.m. We will have a special guest joining us as we kick off the year with this fun morning. Parents: watch for more information to come soon! Instruction will formally begin the following Sunday, September 17.

We welcome all children ages 3 and above to Sunday School. If you know of someone who may be interested in attending, please be sure to invite him or her to join us at Rally Day. Also, for more information on Sunday School, our teachers, curriculum or activities, please contact me or visit our website for more information.

Finally, we are looking for some helpers to serve as substitute Sunday School teachers and helpers. We are also looking for assistance with other non-teaching areas of Sunday School (pageant, special activities, bulletin board help, etc.). If you are interested, please contact me.

Taryne Williams
Superintendent
tarynea@yahoo.com

CONFIRMATION CLASS

On Sunday, September 10th there will be a meet and greet for the children and parents of the confirmation class in the library at 9:15 a.m.

Bruce Saylor, a member of St. Paul's, will be leading the class. Please plan on attending.

BIBLE STUDY

When Pastor Laura retired, she encouraged the Monday morning Bible Study group to continue meeting, saying that while the study sessions do need to be led by someone, it doesn't necessarily have to be a pastor. We had discussed doing a study of Moses, and the group decided to go forward with the Moses study.

All of our studies include a video. Some studies focus more on Bible text (like Moses), while others have explored our Reformation roots, the role of Christians in modern society and even the "Bad Girls of the Bible". We meet for an hour on Monday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30, and have formed an inquisitive, sharing, open-minded and accepting atmosphere for learning and fellowship. We even have attendees from outside our congregation.

With the Moses study, a willing member volunteers to lead a session --- with the assistance of study guides and leader materials. It has been working well, and all are invited to come. You can even bring a friend! The last of the six Moses sessions is scheduled for the Monday after Labor Day, as we won't meet on the holiday. Following that, we'll probably "change it up" a bit --- to keep it interesting and fresh, as these meetings are never boring.

You can start at any time, as "anytime" is as good a time as any! We hope to see you whenever you can come.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017 UPDATE!

We had a great week of VBS this year! We had about 40 children enrolled and 16 helpers! The children enjoyed diving deep down and learning more about God and Jesus. We had a new dive marker each night to teach the children that God knows us, hears us, strengthens us, loves us and sends us. The bible stories they learned each night involved water. The first night we discovered that God knew Noah and he saved him from a mighty flood. We also heard about Jonah, Peter in the storm and God's plan for Paul. The children also heard that Jesus died on the cross so we could be forgiven of our sins.

GOD IS WITH US WHEREVER I GO!

The children were guided around the church to the different sites. They rocked out in music, ate delicious snacks, made some awesome crafts, heard some fascinating stories and had fun in games.

We also collected over 50 items for the toiletry drive!

This year could not have been possible without our awesome and amazing volunteers!

ENDOWMENT NEWS

On July 17, the Endowment Committee met and awarded the following grants.

\$1000.00 to ELCA Disaster Relief

\$500.00 to Lehigh Valley Meals on Wheels

\$500.00 to Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank

\$250.00 to Allentown Rescue Mission

\$250.00 to the Trexlertown Fire Company

\$200.00 to United Lutheran Seminary

Our thanks to all who support our Endowment Fund which makes sharing our blessings with others so meaningful. As of July 14, the total value of our Endowment Fund invested with Thrivent was \$409,994.00.

TAILGATE POT LUCK

September 17th--Wear your favorite team shirt to our tailgate pot luck lunch following worship. In addition to enjoying tailgate munchies, bring tailgating games to play! It will be fun for sports fans of all ages!

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.

SEPTEMBER 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 canned vegetables or canned fruit during our monthly collection for the food bank.

During September our “food of the month” will be peanut butter and jelly.

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA



Six women from St. Paul's attended the Tenth Triennial Gathering, July 13-16, 2017, in Minneapolis, MN. The theme *all anew* explored ways in which the Holy Spirit changes us, acknowledging that reformation and transformation have happened and continue to happen within the faith-filled community of women known as Women of the ELCA. 90-minute workshops were offered four times on Friday and Saturday afternoon. There was also an exhibit hall with various vendors, but the most awesome exhibit was of quilts made by W-ELCA from all over the U.S.

We all attended the film screen of "Dreamcatcher" on Saturday evening about a former Chicago prostitute, Brenda Myers-Powell, who is co-founder and executive director of a charitable organization that helps women and teenage girls leave the sex industry and breaks the cycle of abuse and exploitation. It was an honor to see her in person when we left the filming.

Also, on Saturday evening was a hymn festival by the National Lutheran Choir. We all were part of a group almost 300 who participated in the choir for Sunday morning closing service.

The Eleventh Triennial Gathering will be in Phoenix, AZ in 2020. Please join us on September 13, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. for our next meeting.

Submitted by Sharon Bortz

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

September 3 Iron Pigs Ball Game

September 10 Rally Day/Sunday School and Confirmation Class Begins

September 17 Tailgate Pot Luck

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.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Friends,

How can I begin to thank you for the wonderful worship service and celebration party for my retirement! You have made this into a day I will never forget. Thanks to the choirs for coming together in the midst of summer to add to the praise of our Lord. Thank you for the beautiful quilt and the most generous check. Thank you for all your kind words, and yes, tears. They mean so much to me. Thank you for 14 wonderful years of growing with me in the faith.

With much love and appreciation,
Pastor Laura

Dear Tom,

What a wonderful Sunday morning it was for me at St. Paul's, Breinigsville this past Sunday! I was pleased to participate in the congregation's recognition of the ministry of Pastor Stoneback in anticipation of her retirement. It was great to worship with St. Paul's and to celebrate with everyone at the meal following worship. It was obvious that considerable love and planning went into the celebration.

Please convey my gratitude to the members of St. Paul's for the warmth and expressions of welcome extended to my wife Linda and me during our visit.

We are gratified by the kindnesses expressed to us by so many-and we discovered first hand why folks are attracted to St. Paul's. The Holy Spirit is stirring there in impressive ways.

With deep gratitude,
Bishop Sam Zeiser

ANOTHER THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Friends:

It is a time of transition in the story of Lutheran Theological Education in the Northeastern United States. After 153 years of operating just hours apart, the seminaries at Philadelphia and Gettysburg are bringing their very best gifts to the table in order to form a dynamic, innovative, and diverse educational experience for students of theology in the 21st Century.

That you have shared a portion of God's visible grace with us through your gift goes far beyond the dollar amount. Your gift signifies with gratitude all that has been here at Gettysburg Seminary for the past 191 years, and it also says "yes!" to the future work of United Lutheran Seminary. I believe the Holy Spirit is doing *something new* through the creation of this school, and *now you are now a part of this story*.

Many of the pieces have already fallen into place and there are still some details to be clarified. Your support is one of many that bring the vision of United Lutheran Seminary into sharper focus, and for that, we are very grateful.

I invite you to *learn more about what God is doing through your support on the Gettysburg campus* by visiting www.unitedlutheransemnary.edu or by coming to our campus to join us for worship, a meal, and a visit to our award-winning museum. You have a home here on Seminary Ridge!

God's peace be with you,

Rev. Dr. Angela Zimmann
Vice President of Advancement
and

Rev. Glenn E. Ludwig
Associate Vice President for Church Relations

MORE THANK YOU NOTES

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$1,000.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. With this gift you are providing emotional and spiritual care, supplying emergency relief, and addressing long-term recovery.

With your gifts you are making possible the support of unmet needs, the coordinating of volunteers in the United States through our local affiliates, and the promoting of disaster risk-reduction internationally, expanding knowledge and ability.

Thank you for this gift and all your faithful generous gifts. Thank you for encouraging others to learn, act, pray and give with you. Thank you for living into God's words of justice and mercy and for joining with the whole church to love and serve one another.

In God's grace,
The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

To The Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$167.00.

Your gift helps strengthen relationship and builds capacity to serve the most vulnerable in our midst. Together we build the resiliency of the Gospel so that our congregations proclaim clearly that God is always bringing forth renewal and hope.

Gratefully Yours,
Rev. Dr. Jennifer Ollikainen, Executive Director
Lutheran Congregational Services

ANOTHER THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Rev. Stoneback,

It's been another year filled with blessings at the Allentown Rescue Mission – thanks to you.

Through you, the Lord has blessed this Mission over and over again in 2017. Your recent gift of \$200.00 given on 6/26/2017 is already helping the most vulnerable men in the Lehigh Valley: those who are homeless, hungry, struggling with addiction, suffering abuse or barely staying afloat in life.

You've given them such an amazing gift: immediate help like hot meals, safe shelter and clean clothing...and long-lasting help, too. The recovery classes, counseling and spiritual healing you've helped provide are transforming lives, inside and out.

Throughout this year, I've seen the impact of your support countless times in countless lives – and I continually thank God for your compassion for our neighbors in need.

What a wonderful year of changing lives! Thank you again for blessing our neighbors in need at the Mission each and every day.

Thank you on behalf of everyone at the Allentown Rescue Mission,

James Byrnes, CEO
Allentown Rescue Mission

LAST THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Friends:

We truly appreciate your generous donation of \$500. Your gift will certainly be put to good use, touching lives with food and friendship, giving homebound seniors, and adults with disabilities affordable, nutritious meals.

Your support is needed now more than ever since the demand for our service continues to grow. We are currently delivering meals to 450 residents of Lehigh County each day.

Recent comments from two of our clients show the positive impact that your donation and the Meals on Wheels service have on the lives of the people we serve:

“I always have good nutrition now; a cooked hot meal every day. And I enjoy talking to the volunteers. They are so helpful and sociable” Jim, 79

“I have limited vision and heart problems and am so glad I do not have to worry about preparing my meals. Meals on Wheels give me peace of mind because my doctor wants me on a special diet.” Edna, 92

It is the thoughtful and generous support of community friends like you and the dedication of hundreds of volunteers that have sustained our agency for 46 years. Thanks to you, when our homebound neighbors are unable to cook nutritious meals or grocery shop for themselves, they know they can rely on Meals on Wheels.

Sincerely,
Michele Grasso
Director of Development and Communications

ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

VOICES OF LUTHERANISM:

CHORALES TO ALABADOS

Situated within the wider narrative of Christian worship, the story of Lutheran music begins with Martin Luther's own gifts as a lutenist and composer. Unlike Calvin and Zwingli, who appreciated music but distrusted its emotional appeal, Luther did not want to restrict ways in which God's gifts of language and music were used in worship. In a passage that recalls the parade of voices and instruments in Psalm 150, Luther wrote that praise should "sound forth with joy" from "organs, symphonias, virginals, regals, and whatever other beloved instruments there are."

Luther also knew that his fellow citizens would not be reading the scholarly documents explaining his disagreements with the Roman church. Along with his German translation of the Bible and catechisms, he wrote chorales that sought to praise and teach, placing the Word directly on the lips of the people in their own language and syntax. Aided by the expansion of printing technology, generations of authors and composers followed suit. The rhymed stanzas, catchy tunes, and dance-inspired rhythms of these chorales were not matters of happenstance but artfully combined to achieve maximum "memory" effect. (Think back: how did you learn your ABCs? By singing!) And like earlier plainchants, texts and melodies of these chorales served as building blocks for new compositions.

Luther instinctively understood the value of teamwork and cultivated partnerships with musical colleagues, inaugurating a rich tradition of collaboration between musically minded theologians (pastors) and theologically minded musicians (cantors). With Philipp Melanchthon, he established an educational model in which pastors and cantors were trained together in subjects such as grammar, rhetoric, and music. Many composers upheld as exemplars of Lutheran baroque music were products of this environment: Schütz, Praetorius, and the Bach family, to name a few.

The conditions that allowed Lutheran music to develop as it first did changed in the eighteenth century as Enlightenment ideals confronted the once-unchallenged authority of churches. As monarchies gave way to republics and democracies, composers moved from churches and courts toward concert halls. The nineteenth century saw the establishment of many civic choirs and orchestras, groups for which Mendelssohn and Brahms composed music that incorporated Lutheran chorales.

In the United States, voices of Lutheran immigrants blended with musical strands from other European denominations that had established colonial roots. The nineteenth century witnessed a constant process of intersection, recovery, and revision, allowing Anglican hymns, American shape note songs, African American spirituals, Roman plainchant, and chorales to mix freely across the frontier. Increasing ecumenical and global outlooks in the twentieth century only deepened the well of assembly song, adding familiar names like Taizé, Iona, and Hillsong to genres such as the Japanese gagaku and Mexican alabados—an abundance that Luther could hardly have imagined. Though physical materials have changed, Lutherans continue to mark days and seasons of the church year with songs from sisters and brothers of many times and places that praise, teach, pray, and bear us along our baptismal journey. Like Paul, we acclaim: Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift!

Chad Fothergill

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Luther singing with family
and friends

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

Karen Feimster
Kathy Shryock

Diane Grammes
Cathy Waltemyer

Helen Kessler
Larry Wingard



1 Kellan Feimster	21 Calise Eiswerth
1 Madelynn Walters	23 Madeline MacMechan
2 Nicholas Theodore	23 Hazel Pisauro
5 Laurin Mironov	25 Luca Caricari
6 Joyce Eisenhard	26 Carlene Brumbach
6 Nicole Wiswesser	26 Steve Mesko
11 Steph Wagaman	27 Jennifer Bentsen
16 Judy Szukics	27 Sharon Heminitz
18 Jim Eisenhard, Sr.	27 Carli Henichek
20 Lisa Newhard	28 Sue Firth
21 Emily Danner	28 Paula Smith



5 Skip & Anita Eisenhard
10 Carol & Richard Derr-Breinig
11 Mindy & Doug Inman
20 Earl & Irene Wenz
23 Karen & Pat Feimster
26 Warren & Kay Schlenker

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS**

SEPTEMBER 17, 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
SextonMr. Charlie Meitzler

September 2017 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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3 13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 a.m.-Worship 5:00 p.m.-Iron Pigs Game –Gates Open 6:35 p.m.-Iron Pigs Game	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc.	6	7 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	8	9																																										
10 14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST RALLY DAY 9:00 a.m.-Morning Bells 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:15 a.m.-Confirmation Class Meet & Greet with Kids & Parents In The Library 10:30 a.m.-Worship	11 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	12 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc.	13 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council 7:00 p.m.-Ingathering Meeting At St. John's Emmaus	14 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	15	16																																										
17 15th 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.-Tailgate Potluck	18 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	19 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.m.-Property Committee	20	21 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	22	23 8:30 a.m.-WELCA Fall Fund Event At Hope Lutheran, Tatamy																																										
24 16th 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	25 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	26 12:00 p.m.-Trexkertown Sr. Assoc.	27 10:30 a.m.-Rowdy Bunch	28 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	29	30																																										

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Those Who Serve for the Month of September

Council Person: Tom Kellogg 610-398-9033

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, September 3, 2017

Altar Guild: Joyce Eisenhard
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman
Greeters: Lauren & Westley Mironov
Reader: Tom Kellogg
Communion Bread: Janine & Ken Ritter
Communion Assistant: Anita Eisenhard
Ushers: Amy Brenfleck, Angie Kropf, Rosemary Lehman,
Martha Lindenmuth, Bruce Wagaman

Sunday, September 17, 2017

Altar Guild: Mary Schneider
Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz
Greeters: Frank Bennighoff, Sandy Bennighoff
Reader: June Kellogg
Communion Bread: Stan and Mitzi Younger
Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak
Ushers: Anita Eisenhard, Rosalie Gallagher, Ken Ritter,
Larry Schneider, Mary Schneider

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Altar Guild: Amy Brenfleck
Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman
Greeters: Cecilia Ajamu, Patrice Walters
Reader: Sharon Bortz
Communion Bread: Cecilia Ajamu
Communion Assistant: Tom Kellogg
Ushers: Robert Bruchak, Matthew Bruchak, Cal Fetherolf,
Joseph Mironov, Westley Mironov

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Altar Guild: Patrice Walters
Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson
Greeters: Frank Szukics, Judy Szukics
Reader: Sandi Wagaman
Communion Bread: Patrice Walters
Communion Assistant:
Ushers: Zack Dimovitz, Lisa Newhard, Carl Seibert,
Ryon Williams, Taryne Williams



Pastor Laura's Last Day
at St. Paul's

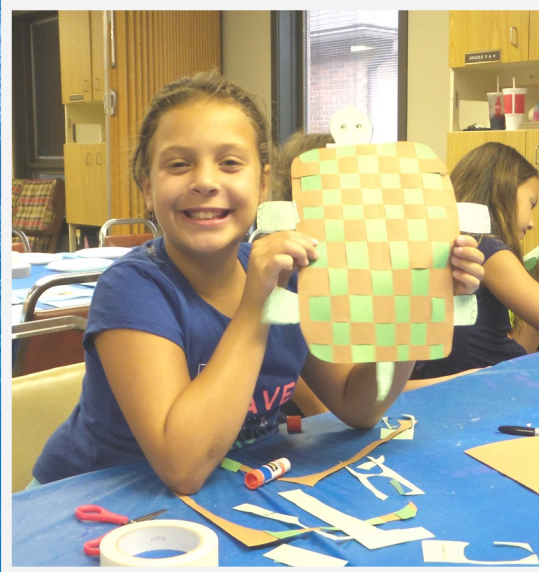
7/23/2017





*Retirement Luncheon for
Pastor Laura*







SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Highlights from Synod Assembly 2017

Synod Council Election

The Assembly recognized and expressed gratitude for the years of service from Donald Smith, Vice President, and David Hinrichs, Treasurer, both of whom have volunteered countless hours for the work of the synod.



Barbara J. Huffman de Belón, a current member of Synod Council, was elected vice president; and

Donald R. Dillman was elected treasurer. In addition, Louise McCloughan, from the West Berks Mission District, was newly elected to a three-year term.

Save the Date! June 8-9, 2018

Assembly 2018 will be held at the Mohegan Sun Arena in the Wilkes-Barre.



Repentance, Reconciliation, and Common Witness



The Assembly began with a Rite of Repentance, Reconciliation, and Common Witness led by Bishop Zeiser and by Bishop Joseph Bambara of the Scranton Diocese. This was a regional expression and affirmation of an ecumenical commemoration of the Reformation held jointly by the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church on October 31, 2016 in Lund, Sweden.

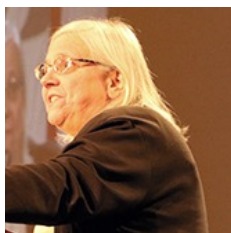


The Lund event highlighted the solid ecumenical developments between Catholics and Lutherans; and the joint gifts received through dialogue, particularly in anticipation of the 500th Reformation anniversary in 2017. It featured a cathedral service following the Common Prayer liturgical guide, based on the Lutheran-Catholic dialogue report "From Conflict to Communion." Bishops Zeiser and Bambara were delighted to celebrate the commemoration at Assembly 2017.

(Photography by Mark Searfoss)

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans

The keynote speaker was The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, Professor of Religion at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa.



Her topic was "The Catechism and Vocation for Daily Life." She emphasized that Luther's Small Catechism was written for lay people, not for clergy. Luther wanted to unleash the power of the gospel for ordinary persons. The Small Catechism is designed to be a "Guide to Christian Living," and Luther wanted each individual to wrestle with how each teaching affects "me."

For Luther "vocation" is not limited to religious callings, but is the calling each person receives to live one's daily life. This takes place at home, in community, at church, and at the workplace.

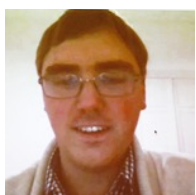
Dr. Kleinhans further suggested that Lutherans be "political, but not partisan"; that is, that Lutherans work for the good of the "polis," (Greek for city). For Luther, government is one of God's good gifts; and citizenship is one of our "callings."

Special Offerings

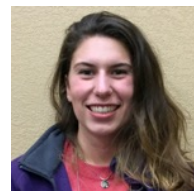
Two special offerings were received during the Assembly. One for World Hunger collected over \$5,700; and one for the newly formed United Lutheran Seminary collected over \$3,700.

Young Adults in Global Ministry (YAGM)

At the Assembly Banquet on Friday evening two young adults were recognized for their service in the YAGM program. The ELCA invites young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. Through this experience, they are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors; and they share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world.



Luke Swanson, who served in Argentina for the 2016-17 year, talked to the Assembly via Skype. He described both the joys and the challenges of ministry in an environment and culture very different from our own.



Annie Herman, who will serve in Israel/Palestine for the 2017-18 year, attended the Banquet and was introduced to the Assembly.

Festival Worship



Gathering music for the sessions was provided by Bobby Siegfried, a singer/songwriter who is well known in the synod, and who has performed at many venues in northeastern PA. At times, Bobby was joined by friends from Emmanuel, Emmansville and First Presbyterian, Allentown.

Singing at the Eucharist was led by Mark Mummert, Director of Worship at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Houston. A number of volunteers assisted with leading worship, reading lessons, and distributing communion.



In his sermon at the Festival Eucharist, Bishop Zeiser talked about the history of the Reformation and about how it resulted in both "a bruised church and a bruised world."

He went on to say that "In the bruised Jesus, God offers repentance, reconciliation, and common witness for the sake of a bruised church and a bruised world. This is our hope, as God's children in Christ Jesus, wondering when this bruised church will be reformed finally, and how much reconciliation it's going to take to mend this bruised world."

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

October 2017 LMD NL news will be due September 15, 2017. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Great Allentown CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun., Aug. 27, 2017, 1:30-2:30 p.m. (to receive materials, ideas, and inspiration for yourself and your congregation) at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104.

Save the date: Tues. Sept. 12th, to join old friends and new at St. Luke's Lutheran Church for a casual dinner. **Doors open at 5:30 pm** ~ Tickets and prizes are FREE for all, call [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) for your reservation. Sponsored by St. Luke's Church and the 8th Ward Neighborhood Group. Special guest presentation by Allentown Fire Department.

The 2017 schedule for Lutheran Congregational Services' Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training is now available. Trainings will be held **Sept. 16th** (Christ Lutheran, Hellertown) and **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).

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).

Basket Social at Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church, 535 W Emaus Ave., Allentown Pa 18103, **Sept. 23rd 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sept. 24th 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$5.00 for a sheet of 25 chances. If you purchase tickets before September 22nd they are 5 sheets for \$20.00 (a \$5.00 savings). For more information call please contact the office, [610-797-4774](tel:610-797-4774). **PLEASE SEE YOUR CHURCH FOR A FLYER.**

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.

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!

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)

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 \$20 with early registration discount before September 18th (\$25 after 9/18/17)**, 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.

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! **PLEASE SEE YOUR CHURCH FOR A FLYER**

VISIONING FOR THE NEW YEAR!

Welcome back! Hopefully you had a good summer break and are prepared to accept the challenges of a new year of mission and ministry! Obviously one of uniquenesses as we vision 2017-2018 is that we are moving beyond the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. It has indeed been a privilege to be part of this observance. Admittedly it included our being reminded of the fact that Martin Luther was not absolutely right on with every decision and projection he made, but, more importantly, we found ourselves giving thanks for the leadership he provided in establishing the faith tradition of which we are a part and for which we give thanks. And, consequently, there have also been numerous responses projecting where this heritage may take us in both the immediate and the long-range future. In this changing world, it will be interesting to see what there is to be said about this even a decade from now, let alone when our world and the church moves into the next century!

As the door is opened to fall 2017, we look forward to celebrating the 501st Anniversary of the Reformation with Pastor Elizabeth Langensiepen and the members and friends of St. Peter's Church, Hanover Avenue, Allentown, as they celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the founding of their parish. The Lehigh Mission District Reformation Service will be held in this context and obviously at St. Peter's on Reformation Sunday, October 29th, at 3:00PM, followed by dinner, and featuring guest pianist Ken Medema. The blind Mr. Medema was well received when he performed at a recent Synod Assembly. He is also scheduled to offer a concert at 4:00PM on Saturday afternoon, October 28th, to which all are invited. It is to be anticipated that this special weekend will set us in a good spirit as we launch mission year 2017-2018

Obviously, the new year will also include the usual monthly meetings of pastors. We can anticipate that this schedule will be released within the next month. This tradition has a long-standing status in the Lehigh Mission District and includes both a significant opportunity for fellowship and also a setting for some unique learning experiences.

The new year will also include an up-graded Lehigh Mission District Website. We are very grateful for the efforts of Pastor Samantha Drennan, now pastor of Grace Church, Macungie, in the maintenance and development of this project. We suggest that you review the materials from your own parish which appear on this exhibit and that you be in touch with her if changes are in order (gracemacungie@verizon.net or [610-966-3325](tel:610-966-3325)).

And, as we begin the new year, let's give thanks for the faithful and dedicated service of our Dean, Pastor Jerel Gade, our Associate of the Bishop, Pastor Kurt Garbe, and those who serve on our Mission District Council, beginning with Joshua Fink, who serves as its Chairperson. Under their leadership, we can anticipate another meaningful year for LMD. Obviously, your involvement is anticipated and will be most appreciated!

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.

October 17 (Tues) – Penn's Peak – LIVE AT THE SANDS, SAMMY, DEAN AND FRANK - Be dazzled and transported back to Sinatra's sun-kissed world of wine, women and song. When Michael Dutra performs with his full Live at the Sands, Frank, Dean and Sammy ensemble, you'll swear Dean Martin and Sammy Davis, Jr. are in the room! Enjoy the great family style meal served by Penn's Peak before the show. If we are lucky, we may see the beautiful colors of the Fall Foliage on our way! **Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM and will return approximately 4:30 PM**
Cost \$82 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Sept. 19

November 16 (Thurs) – Media theatre – BEAUTY AND THE BEAST - The stage version includes all of the wonderful songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice. The original Broadway production ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical. The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity. Lunch will be at Spasso Italian Grill. Lunch Choices are Chicken Misto (Chicken sautéed with fresh chopped tomato and asparagus topped with mozzarella), Bassa Scampi (Delicate white fish sautéed in a cherry tomato white wine sauce) or Linguini Primavera. **Please indicate your meal selection at time of reservation.**

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 6:00 PM
Cost \$85 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Oct. 5