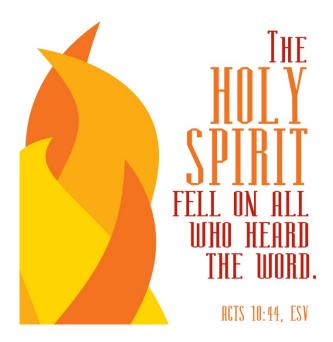
PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Breinigsville, PA

MAY 2018



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



Dear Members and Friends,

We are in the Easter "season." If you haven't noticed, Easter really lasts 7 weeks. When I was a child I thought Easter was just one day. I got up Sunday morning, went downstairs, hunted for my Easter basket which the Easter bunny hid, found it, ate some candy

and headed off to Sunday School (where I ate more candy) and then sat with my parents in church.

I had come to realize, probably in seminary, that there was more to Easter than just one day. Easter Sunday begins a season in the church year that ends with Pentecost Sunday, a day Christians remember the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the earliest believers in Jesus. The Easter season can be a time of spiritual growth and a time of deeper intimacy with God.

The appointed gospels for each Sunday allow us to reflect on some important faith issues: like doubting of Jesus presence ("Doubting Thomas"); Jesus knowing his sheep; Jesus making himself known in meal and scripture, and the depth of Jesus' love. Come join us for the rest of Easter and be inspired by Christ presence in Word and Sacrament.

Pastor Miller

TEMPLE TALKS – USE OF GIFTS

In the next few weeks you will hear from some people who volunteer to use their God-given gifts in giving back to the church and/or the community. This is an effort by your Stewardship Committee to help explain that stewardship is more than just "giving money." They will hear what it means to give of their time and talent and how it affects their faith (or how their faith affects their giving of time and talent).

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As we continue through the Easter season, I would just like to say how exciting it was to have so many people attend the Easter Vigil. It will be held again next year. If you did not attend, be sure to ask others who were there to share their thoughts about it.

On Mother's Day, we will have special music by our choir and also by other talented folks in our congregation. What a better way to celebrate than to bring your mother, grandmother, and/or family to church?

On May 20th, we celebrate Pentecost when four of our youth are confirmed. Congratulations!

Summer will soon be here (if it ever stops snowing). Look for news about the summer worship in the next newsletter.

FIRST COMMUNION

We rejoice with five of our students who received their First Holy Communion on Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018. They completed a 4 week study course for Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten age students. Their names are: Luca Caricari, Sophie Mesko, Kayla Nemeh, Ellie Pisauro, and Riley Williams.

WALK THE WALK

Do you rush, push, shout and become generally unpleasant on Sunday mornings? Do you complain about church? Are you irregular in your attendance? Are you over-conscientious about matters that are not really important?

Do you always criticize the pastor, the choir, the length of services and the usher crew? Then don't be surprised if your children grow up to look at Sundays as the worst day of the week.

-Karen Burton Mains, author of Making Sunday Special

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BREAKFAST

On Sunday, May 6, 2018 the Stewardship Committee is hosting a continental breakfast from 9:45 a.m. -10:15a.m. in the narthex. Come early and have a bite to eat and then step into worship.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Four of our students will be confirmed on the Day of Pentecost this year, Sunday, May 20, 2018. This means that they will affirm what was said by their parents and sponsors for them when they were baptized. They will now take on the responsibilities and respond to the opportunities presented by our congregation as they seek to live out their life of faith. Please pray for the following students who will be confirmed: May God bless them as they grow in faith.

POTLUCK & BREAKFAST DATES RED, WHITE, AND BLUE POTLUCK LUNCH

On May 20th, we will host a red, white, and blue potluck lunch following worship. If the weather is nice, it will be held in the pavilion. Don't forget to wear red, white, and blue!

POTLUCK BREAKFAST

At 9AM on June 24th, there will be a potluck breakfast before worship. It will take place inside. Following worship, there will be a Fellowship Committee meeting; anyone interested in joining the committee should stay.

PRAYER SHAWL NEWS

If you are currently working on a prayer shawl/lap robe, you may want to finish it up and turn it in to Peggy Kern by the week of May 7th. We have scheduled a prayer shawl blessing on Sunday, May 13, and would like to get as many of them as possible included in the blessing.

We had to change the date of our working session from April 22 to **Sunday, May 6,** after worship. If the weather is nice, we will have our working session on Steph's back porch. A light lunch will be provided. Bring your projects and plan to join us after church that day. If you are new to the group and would like to start on a shawl – we have patterns and yarn. Bring a crochet hook size G or H, knitting needles size 5 or 7, or a rectangular loom. If you can't make it on the 6th and would like to help out, please see Steph or Peggy for a pattern. For more info, talk to us at church, email, or call:stepbillwagaman@rcn.com / 610-395-0355; or peggyekern@gmail.com / 610-481-9086. Steph's address is 6663 Ivy Lane, Wescosville/

Thanks to all who are helping in this effort!

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

The church council has decided to have our church participate in Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day. The church will be selling passes for \$5.00 a piece which gives you a 25% discount at Boscov's stores on one day which will be October 16, 2018. The church receives the full \$5.00 for every pass sold. There are a few limitations on certain brands and limited number of categories of merchandise such as Nike gear and some jewelry which are not included in the discount. But these are listed on the pass. The passes will be available on the First Sunday in May (May 6th) and will be available in the office thereafter.

CARD MINISTRY



Here at St. Paul's we send cards to members of the congregation who are ill or in need of a cheerful word. These cards are on the table in the narthex. When you are here on a Sunday, or during the week, check he table to see if there is a card. Please sign your name and help bring a smile to a fellow member.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Let's help Lutheran World Relief. How?

In your spring cleaning if you come across any sheets or blankets just taking up space, they can be put to good use.

Redeemer Lutheran Church makes quilts for distribution both locally and abroad. Just bring them to St. Paul's and I will see that they get to Redeemer.

Thank you for your help. Martha Lindenmuth

ALTAR FLOWER AND BULLETIN SPONSORS FOR 2018

Your sponsorship of the flowers and the bulletins is a great way to pay tribute to someone special in your life and also to help offset the cost of these weekly items for the church.

The prices will stay the same. Altar flowers – for one vase is \$22 or both vases at \$44. The cost for the bulletin sponsors will remain at \$20 per week.

The new flower chart and bulletin chart are posted on the bulletin board. If you would like to call the church and reserve a spot for a date, please feel free to do so.

PRAYER CHAIN COMMITTEE



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

If you would like to become a member of this committee, just let me know. I am contacting the Prayer Chain Committee electronically using text messages and email from my cell phone. If you do not have a cell phone or computer, we can still contact you by phone. So if you want to be of service to those who need extra prayers, just contact me using the numbers above or see me at Church. This only takes a brief amount of time and there are no meetings to attend! We all need extra prayers and they do not take a lot of time but are of great comfort.

IRONPIGS GAME EXTRA TICKETS AVAILABLE

Announce the IronPigs game. Sunday, July 8, 2018. We again will be in the PenTele Data Box. Those who attended the game last year enjoyed the fact we were the only ones in the box. We were under cover and the food was great. Mark your calendars.

The sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex.

HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS

Are you getting Spring Fever? Think about getting out to help a neighbor in need. Consider volunteering for SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care & Hospice. Make Friendly visits, help in the office making copies and doing data entry. Bake Bread for our families. For more information please call Cathy Sweeney, Volunteer Coordinator at 570-459-6778.

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Met on April 11, discussed upcoming events and things completed in the past month. Bible Study was on *Multiple meanings: Learning from other interpretations....Session four: The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) by Mark Allan Powell.* What was interesting is how seminary students from USA, Russia, and Tanzania interpreted the meaning of the parable. USA, *squandered his inheritance*; Russia, *there was a famine*; Tanzania, *no one gave him food*.

After lunch a few ladies attended the movie: Getting Grace, which was filmed by Bethlehem resident, actor/director, Daniel Roebuck.

29th Annual Convention

Scheduled for June 2, 2018 in West Berks at Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, 250 Church Lane Rd, Reading, PA 19606. 610-779-3480. Gathering and registration – 8 a.m.; Delegate Orientation – 8:30 a.m. Convention is based on John 13:34 *Love One Another as I have loved you*. Registration fee \$30. Keynote speaker: Karen Voris, Executive Board member.

Sharon Bortz, Joyce Eisenhard, and Sandi Wagaman plan on attending.

Memorials were submitted for: Kay Balliet and Deloris Kline.

Fall Cluster Meeting

October 20, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 9 a.m. Topic: Water Crisis in America

Soup 'n Sandwich Lunch 2019 Speaker

Shirley Binkley, a parishioner of St. Paul's and published author, will be the speaker on January 6, 2019. Please mark your calendars and join us after worship.

July & August no meetings.

Join us on May 10 at 9:30 a.m. for our next meeting and Bible Study.

Submitted by Sharon Bortz

MAY 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 canned soup and stew during our monthly collection for the food bank.

During May our "food of the month" will be tuna and canned meats.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6 Volunteer Recognition Breakfast May 6 Prayer Shawl Working Session May 20 Red, White, and Blue Potluck Lunch May 20 Confirmation Day June 24 Potluck Breakfast July 8 IronPigs Game October 16 Boscov's Friends Helping Friends

JUST FOR PUN!

- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- If you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- The worker who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.

Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.

FINDING MEANING IN SURRENDER

Swedish diplomat Dag Hammarskjöld, the second secretary-general of the United Nations, was known for his Christian faith and his efforts as a peacemaker. He received the Nobel Peace Prize posthumously after dying in a plane crash in Africa en route to negotiate a cease-fire.

In *Markings*, his published diary, Hammarskjöld wrote not of his illustrious career but of his conversations with God. He expressed concern about finding meaning in life and living a life filled with meaning. On Pentecost in 1961 (just months before he died), Hammarskjöld wrote: "But at some moment I did answer *Yes* to Someone — or Something — and from that hour I was certain that existence is meaningful and that, therefore, my life, in self-surrender, had a goal."

SAVE THE DATE Vacation Bible School 2018 July 16th-20th

St. Paul's Members,

I would like to thank Pastor Miller for introducing our parish to the Easter Vigil. We had a decent turnout (70), and everyone that attended seemed to enjoy the solemn event. I hope that we will continue having the vigil in the future.

I give the Pastor two thumbs up.

Bob Nickisher

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift toward this year's FARM Family Appreciation Celebration. Your gift was listed in the program this past Saturday, March 17th, as we gathered once again.

It was exciting to welcome almost 850 adults and children to join in a wonderful meal prepared by Moyers Catering. We gathered around the natural theme of that day, St. Patrick's Day. Many wore green, recognizing that on that day...we are all Irish. As we came together in prayer and festivity, we gave thanks for your contribution that helped to make it possible.

Please share the sincere appreciation of the entire FARM Committee on behalf of all those who gave so much to provide for our everyday needs.

May God continue to bless you as you most assuredly have been a blessing to others.

Rev. Mary W. Gade Associate of the Bishop For the FARM Committee

To the members of St. Paul's,

Thank you for the prayers and condolences you said in the passing of Deloris Kline.

Thank you also for the donations you made to the church in memory of Deloris. She loved coming here and being a member of the congregation.

From the family of Deloris Kline

Dear Members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for the gift of \$200.00 that we received in March of 2018. We are grateful for your support and for your partnership in the Gospel. It takes a great team of people & congregations to keep the ministry of Bear Creek Camp alive and well and we are very thankful that your congregation is part of our team.

We are very excited about what God is doing at Bear Creek Camp. We are happy to provide opportunities for spiritual growth, community building, faith formation and exciting adventures to all our campers and guest. We understand the positive impact that time at Bear Creek Camp has on our campers and we pray that they will take home what they learn here and share it with others in word and deed.

I encourage you to keep up with all that is happening at Bear Creek Camp by checking out our website at bearcreekcamp.org or by "liking" our page on Facebook. We would also welcome you to bring members of your congregation to the camp as we would love to show you around and explore all we have to offer.

Thank you once again for your gift! We thank God for you!

Sincerely,
Dan Scharnhorst
Bear Creek Camp Executive Director

Dear St Paul's,

On behalf of the Lehigh Conference of Churches thank you for your recent committed contribution of \$300.00 on 3/8/18 to support our neighbors who are in need.

For more than 60 years, the Lehigh Conference of Churches has brought together area congregations like yours in responding to the needs of "the least among us" while building ecumenical and interfaith partnerships and fostering unity within the body of Christ. With you, we can carry out the work of God well beyond the church walls, providing housing, hope and healing to those who need it most. This most generous gift allows us to continue our work with more than 14,000 individuals and families living in poverty.

The Conference of Churches is most grateful for your support. I look forward to continuing and deepening our partnership in ministry.

Faithfully,

Rev. Dr. Larry D. Pickens, Esq.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank you for your donation of \$27.00.

Because of your caring and sharing, we are able to feed those less fortunate in our community. We are currently serving between 200 and 250 families per week.

Again, thank you for your donation.

AAEFB

Margaret Rosenbeger, Corres. Sec.

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by Lutheran Disaster Response, mid-August through December. Thank you for joining with the whole church in this season of unprecedented generosity, as together we support communities hard-hit by disasters including hurricanes, earthquakes and wildfires.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response help provide supplies needed immediately like water and generators, and support for long term recovery: disaster case management, volunteer team placement, community development and professional care for daily and continuing challenges.

Thank you for your trust in this work we do as church here and around the world. Through your generosity, you are sharing with neighbors near and far, revealing God's holy promises of peace and hope, shelter and safety, restoration and abundance.

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.
Canticle of the Turning. ELW 723

In the light and life of Christ, The Rev. Daniel Rift Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

To the members of St. Paul's,

Thank you for the card I received signed by the members of St. Paul's.

Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

Marion Reichard

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

Linford Bastian Helen Kessler Ellen Mesko Marion Reichard Krista Reichwein Viola Seidel Kathy Shryock Judy Szukics

Marilyn Thomas Irene Wenz Ginny Wingard



1 Mason Sallit 15 Neali Feimster

2 Gretchen Gotthard 17 Peggy Apgar

4 Esther Nolfe 17 Carole Beck

5 Jesse Eisenhard 18 Kyana Maslany

7 Carol Weiser 18 Kelly Morgenstern

8 Robert Bruchak 18 Adrianna Wiswesser

11 Aubrie Pavlacka 22 Sophia Mesko

11 Peggy Saylor 22 Warren Schlenker

11 Jeff Waltemyer 25 Michael Morgenstern

12 Brynn Reeger 25 Joe Thompson



1 Susan & Al Ferguson

13 Kelly Whitt

- 8 Ken & Janine Ritter
- 14 Matthew & Nicole Wiswesser
- 19 James & Joyce Eisenhard
- 21 Anthony & Katie Pisauro
- 23 John & Heather Caricari
- 24 Rosalie & Timothy Gallagher
- 27 Ethan & Vanessa Eiswerth
- 27 Kevin & Carli Henichek
- 27 Rob & Kelly Whitt
- 29 David & Patrice Walters

FUNERAL

Pastor Carey officiated at the funeral of Rev. Paul Xander on April 26, 2018

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS

MAY 13, 2018

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



CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000

HOSPITAL CODE: #321

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE EMAIL: office@stpaulsbville.org Website: www.stpaulsbville.org

STAFF

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

May 2018 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	2 6:00 p.mGirl Scouts	3 10:00 a.mTOPS 7:00 p.mChoir	4	5
6 6 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION SUNDAY 9:15 a.mSunday School 9:15 a.mConfirmation- Rehearsal 9:45 a.m10:15 a.mLight Breakfast 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mPrayer Shawl Ministry At Steph Wagaman's Home	7 9:30 a.mBible Study 6:00 p.mFinance Committee Off Site	8 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	9 9:30 a.mW-ELCA 7:00 p.mCouncil	10 10:00 a.mTOPS 7:00 p.mChoir	11	12
13 7 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:15 a.mSunday School 9:15 a.mConfirmation 10:30 a.mWorship-Church Music Sunday-Prayer Shawl Dedication	9:30 a.mBible Study	7:00 p.mProperty Committee	16 6:00 p.mGirl Scouts	17 10:00 a.mTOPS 7:00 p.mChoir	18	19 2:00 p.mMemorial Service for Rev. Richard Spengler
20 DAY OF PENTECOST CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 9:15 a.mSunday School-Last Day 9:15 a.mConfirmation 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mRed, White & Blue Picnic In The Pavilion	9:30 a.mBible Study 1:00 p.mWorship & Music Committee	22 12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	23 10:30 a.mRowdy Bunch	24 10:00 a.mTOPS 7:00 p.mChoir –Last Rehearsal	25	26
27 THE HOLY TRINITY 10:30 a.mWorship	28 OFFICE CLOSED Memorial DAY	12:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	30	31 10:00 a.mTOPS		June 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Those Who Serve for May 2018

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, May 6, 2018

Altar Guild: Carlene Brumbach Lay Assistant: June Kellogg

Greeters: Jen and Meredith Schmoyer

Reader: Bob Nickisher

Communion Bread: James and Joyce Eisenhard

Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak

Ushers: Anita Eisenhard, Rosalie Gallagher, Ken Ritter,

Larry Schneider, Mary Schneider

Sunday, May 20, 2018

Altar Guild: Rosemary Lehman Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer Greeters: Carl and Esther Seibert

Reader: Wells Rampen

Communion Bread: Diane Kropf

Communion Assistant: Marilyn Thomas

Ushers: Zack Dimovitz, Lisa Newhard, Carl Seibert,

Ryon Williams, Taryne Williams

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Altar Guild: Joyce Eisenhard Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman

Greeters: Marilyn Thomas, Madeline MacMechan

Reader: Sharon Bortz

Communion Bread: Alice Bastian Communion Assistant: Anita Eisenhard

Ushers: Diane Kropf, John Kropf, Madeline MacMechan,

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Altar Guild: Rebecca Theodore Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz

Greeters: Frank and Judy Szukics Reader: Meredith Schmoyer

Communion Bread: Madeline MacMechan Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman

Ushers: Melanie Dimovitz, Cal Fetherolf, Richard Hartley,

Marilyn Thomas, Jeff Waltemyer

He Is Risen



Joyful Ringers Processional





Volume 26, Issue 5 May 2018

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



June 8-9

Mohegan Sun Arena Wilkes-Barre, PA

Special Guest: Pastor Gustavo Gómez Pascua



President of the Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Unida (the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay).

Festival Worship Service

4:00 pm on Friday, June 8. All are welcome.

Service Projects

There will be two blocks of time on Friday for Bear Creek Camp, Ministry Displays, and Service Projects.

For more information and to register, please visit the synod website at http://nepasynod.org/synod-assembly-2018.

United Proclamation of the Gospel St. Matthew, Messiah & St. Peter, Bethlehem



What do you get when you take three distinct congregations and turn them into one community of faith? Chaos? In house fighting and bickering? No, silly! You get the United Proclamation of the Gospel (Bethlehem).

In September of 2017 the congregations of St.
Matthew, Messiah, and St.
Peter entered into a bold vision of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ in

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania! Unlike previous models of "shared ministry," this model calls for **one** community of faith on **two** campuses!

In bringing these ministries together in this way, the three congregations have been able to share leadership, bring new and exciting ministry opportunities to more people, and allow the members of these faith communities to feel the power and the presence of God in deeper and more profound ways! At the same time, they have been able to be much better stewards of the available financial resources that they enjoy.

Indeed, at the six month point of their journey together, there have been many "opportunities for them to excel" as they have encountered various obstacles in their path. There have been many difficult discussions held about the best way in which to proceed. Yet through all of these adjustments and all of these moments, a Spirit of unity, peace, and joy in sharing God's word with many more sisters and brothers in Christ has been present!

If this sounds like a ministry that you or your congregation might be interested in pursuing, please pray about it, then feel free to contact Pr. Jerry Kulp at St. Peter.

Do You Subscribe to the Weekly Synod E-News?

Each Tuesday morning the synod emails a newsletter to nearly 1,000 people. Are you one of them? If not, why not?

Synod E-News contains up to date information on happenings and upcoming events that are of interest to Lutherans in Northeastern PA.

You can subscribe on the synod website (http://nepasynod.org) under the "Publications" tab. Give it a try! If at any time you wish to stop the subscription, you can do so by clicking "Unsubscribe from this list" at the bottom of any edition of E-News.

Major Anniversaries Celebration on May 8

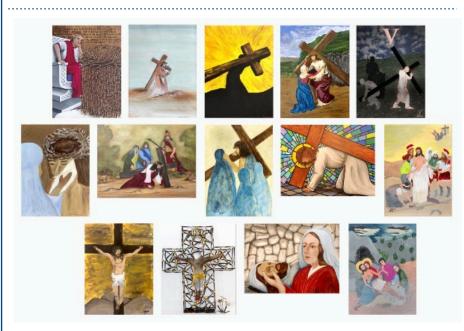
On May 8 at the Lutheran Center, there is a worship service at 11:00 AM to celebrate major anniversaries of rostered ministers in our synod. All are invited to join in recognizing the many years of service for these servants of the church.

Talking About Racism

Education - The Level Playing Field

Women of the ELCA have done some good work addressing racism. The Level Playing Field is a program to help people make the connection between racism and real life. It hopes to make people see that to be anti-(against) racism is a good thing!

Stations of the Cross at Prince of Peace, Johnsonville



This Lent the congregation at Prince of Peace, Johnsonville was invited to walk the "Stations of the Cross." The Stations or the Way of the Cross refers to a series of images of Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion. They are placed in order so that Christians may contemplate the Passion of Christ as a spiritual pilgrimage.

The use of the Stations goes back to at least the 15th century. Today, the Stations can be found in and around the churches of many Western Christian denominations, including Anglican, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, and Western orthodox parishes.

The images at Prince of Peace were completed by both youth and adult members of the congregation, using a variety of media. The Stations were hung around the walls of the sanctuary during Lent. Devotional booklets and a brochure depicting the work of the artists and their stories was made available. Members of the congregation walked the stations on their own or in groups.

A mid-week Lenten series focused on the images of the Stations using *Visio Divina* (Latin for "divine seeing"). As *Lectio Divina* is a method of praying with scripture, so *Visio Divina* is a method for praying with images or other media. The Orthodox tradition has long practiced praying with images through icons; but the western church, and Protestantism in particular, has been less comfortable with this type of prayer. A cursory glance through scripture will show, however, that images have been an important part of God's way of communicating.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. nepsinfo1988@gmail.com. View the full color edition online at http://nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news.



May 2018 LMD website: www.lehighlutherans.com Volume 23, No. 5

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

June 2018 LMD NL news will be due May 18, 2018.

E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

There's Room for You in a Centering Prayer Group - Centering Prayer is a particular form of quiet, receptive prayer as taught by Father Thomas Keating and Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault. A portion of each one-hour gathering will include some teaching about centering prayer. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced pray-er, all are welcome. First Friday of each month - May 4th - Jun. 1st - Jul. 6th, 10:30 - 11:30 AM. Led by Rev. Maritza Dolich and Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102. Parking available in Lot across Hamilton St. from Church. Please let us know if you will be joining us. Inquiries to Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, Director Center for Spiritual Awakening tclichner@rcn.com / 610-533-9362

REVISED APIL 16, 2018:

Ascension Day dinner at St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut St. Emmaus, is for their congregation ONLY. The public is invited to the abbreviated worship service starting at 7:30PM. Any questions, please contact the church office at 610-965-9885 speak with our office administrator Barbara Walck.

Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers 2018 - 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 companioning in nurturing your spirit? 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. There is no need to make a commitment to each one. Parking is available in a lot across Hamilton Street from the church. Meetings will be held at the Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102. 1:30 -3:00 PM Wednesday's: May 16th, July 18th, 2018. Each gathering will be led by Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, specially trained in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction. Please direct your interest to Pastor Tom Lichner at tclichner@rcn.com OR 610-533-9362.

Attic Treasures Sale – St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be having an indoor sale of various "attic treasures" (new and gently used items including: clothing, toys, books, jewelry, decorations, household items and more) The sale will be held from 8 AM-2 PM on Fri, June 8th and Sat, June 9th. There will be lunch items and baked goods available both days. For more info call 610-395-5535 or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org. We hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATES!

CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun., Aug. 26, 2018, 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

CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 14, 2018, 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 12:45 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA

Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need locally and around the globe!

Contemplative Prayer - Prayer Around the Cross - You are invited to join with others for a time of contemplative opening to the Spirit of God in and around us. We invite God's Light to shine in our hearts and to awakening our consciousness to live lives of mercy, justice, and love. Please join together in this brief time of sacred reading, silent reflection, poetry, chanting, candle lighting, intercessory prayer, and ample space for quiet reflection. Third Sat. of each Month, 5:00 - 5:45 PM at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, Pa, 18102. Parking lot across street from church. Address inquiries to Rev. Tom Lichner at tclichner@rcn.com.

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. ELL days and hours are, Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We always need help. We are especially looking for people who a comfortable around computers. Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at 610-434-3943 or stluke@enter.net.



LESSONS IN MERCY Fall Workshop

Let's begin by expressing our gratitude to the continuing leadership of our Lehigh Mission District. Although, like virtually all of our Mission Districts, we are dealing with continuing change as parishes merge and dissolve. Indeed, many members of our District Council have a long enough history with this group that they have little difficulty remembering how things used to be. Nevertheless our leadership is continuing to open new doors and lead us in new directions.

This happened again recently as they found themselves involved in discussion about the possibility of sponsoring a five-session workshop entitled We Thirst: Lessons in Mercy - Christian Reflections On Addiction. It was brought to their attention by retired Pastor Sandra Birchmeier from the Bethlehem-Easton Mission District, who had already had experience with this unusual event. Additional description of this program will follow, but let's first establish that it has been scheduled as a shared program of the Lehigh, Bethlehem-Easton and Northern Lehigh Mission Districts on the five Wednesday evenings in October (3, 10, 17, 24 & 31) between the hours of 7:00 & 9:00PM (6:45 - 7:00 for coffee or tea) at Nativity Lutheran Church, 4004 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA 18104. Registration materials will be available in the near future and the registration fee of \$10 per person (or \$15 per family or companion unit) can be sent to Nativity Church (Attn. Lessons in Mercy). The registration deadline is October 1st, although walk-ins will be welcome.

Now, let's define this program and introduce its leader. We're talking about a five-session program which is appropriately subtitled Christian Reflections On Addiction and which will focus our attention on the epidemic of addiction which is paralyzing our society and the ways in which we, as followers of Christ, can respond to those who are suffering – including the marginalized, the sick, and the oppressed. This series is designed to educate and spread awareness, but unlike other secular programs of this nature, this Christian series offers Hope and Support, Encourages Community, and Fosters Mercy, Faith and Love. The five sessions are subtitled 1) Biology; 2) Psychology; 3) Sociology; 4) Spirituality; and 5) Action.

The leader of this program will be Nina Marie Corona, M.A., C.R.S. Nina is a graduate of Muhlenberg College. In addition, she possesses a Master of Arts in Spirituality from Loyola University Chicago and is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry at Fordham University. Interestingly, her degree from Muhlenberg focused on Studio Arts and, consequently, when not teaching, presenting, or writing, she utilizes her artistic gifts in painting, drawing, and sculpting to express herself and the experiences that have brought both joy and pain to her life. Nina also obtained education certification in Alcohol & Drug Counseling from Villanova and is a Pennsylvania Board Certified Recovery Specialist. She is looking forward to sharing these evenings with us!

Pastor Richard Stough
LMD Secretary



OPERATION SUNSHINE

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

E-mail: LMDopsunshine@aol.com
Web site: www.LMDopsunshine.com
Paula & Dick Skelly Co-Trip Coordinators
Day of Trip Emergency Number 610-417-3286

Operation Sunshine is a non-profit fellowship opportunity within our Mission District, run solely by volunteers. Please join us and invite your friends as we enjoy a variety of venues together.

May 22 (Tues) - Mount Airy Lodge - ELVIS JAILHOUSE ROCK -

Come spend an afternoon with young Elvis. Not just any Elvis, but "The Worlds #1 Elvis". Performing all over the world, he was cast as Elvis in the hit musical "Million Dollar Quartet". Our Elvis won multiple Elvis competitions around the world. This high energy Elvis Tribute is filled with all your favorite hits such as: "Jailhouse Rock", "Blue Suede Shoes, "Don't Be Cruel", "Love Me Tender" and so many more. Our Elvis has the looks, the charisma, and the moves that will leave you all shook up! Lunch Buffet and \$15 slot play included with this trip. Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 5:30 PM

Cost \$ 64.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs., May 3

June 27 (Wed) - Fulton Theatre - Hunchback of Notre Dame-

The musical begins as the bells of Notre Dame resound through the famed cathedral in 15th-century Paris. Quasimodo, the deformed bell ringer who longs to be "Out There," observes all of Paris reveling in the Feast of Fools. Held captive by his devious caretaker, the archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo, Quasimodo escapes for the day and joins the boisterous crowd, only to be treated cruelly by all but the beautiful gypsy, Esmerelda. Quasimodo isn't the only one captivated by her free spirit, though - the handsome Captain Phoebus and Frollo are equally enthralled. As the three vie for her attention, Frollo embarks on a mission to destroy the gypsies - and it's up to Quasimodo to save them all. Lunch at The Pressroom.

<u>Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30am and will return approximately 6:30pm</u>

Cost \$97.00 Payment Deadline: Thursday, May 17

July 26 (Thursday) - Bucks County Playhouse - 42nd Street-

When revered Broadway director Julian Marsh falls on hard times with both his health and his finances, he helms an ambitious musical as a final production before his retirement. His lead actress, Dorothy Brock, is torn between two loves - the show's wealthy backer, Abner Dillon, and the earnest but penniless actor Pat Denning -- while aspiring young performer Peggy Sawyer waits in the wings, hoping for her big break. Lunch will be at the Lambertville Station Restaurant. Lunch Choices: Chicken Moscato (sautéed chicken breast in a grape tomato and white wine sauce with fresh thyme), Maple Mustard Salmon, both of these entrees are served with rice pilaf and seasonal veggies, Top Sirloin with wild mushroom butter served with roasted red potatoes and seasonal veggies. Please choose your entree at the time of reservation.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00am and will return approximately 6:30pm

Cost \$99 Payment Deadline: Thursday, June 28