PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Breinigsville, PA

MARCH 2020



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



Dear members and friends,

We will soon begin the season of Lent. Lent is a 40-day journey beginning on Ash Wednesday, a journey to the cross. We will follow as Jesus enters Jerusalem, celebrates the Passover with his disciples, prays in Gethsemane and suffers betrayal and arrest. We will see him condemned to death – for us. Lent is a season of repentance, as we acknowledge that it

was our sins Jesus carried in his own body to the cross.

Lent is a 40-day journey of worship, prayer, bible study, a time to grow in faith as we consider the cost of our salvation. We meet together to praise our Savior, confess our sins and receive his forgiveness. We pray and study God's Word, encouraging and building up one another in faith.

At the end of 40 years in the desert, the people of Israel stood at the border of the Promised Land. At the end of 40 days in the wilderness, Jesus stood triumphant over Satan's temptations. At the end of these 40 days of Lent, after following Jesus' path to the cross, we will stand with joy before his empty tomb!

Come and worship with on this Lenten journey.

Blessings,

Pastor Miller



I am looking for someone to make a phone call once a week on a Thursday to remind the person who is bringing the bread for worship on Sunday. If you are interested, please call Cindy in the church office.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Season of Lent begins with ashes and ends with alleluias. It is a season of spiritual growth, beginning on February 26th and concluding six weeks later with the brilliant white colors of Easter. The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday named for the practice of imposing ashes, a practice that many Lutheran congregations have found quite meaningful.

Ashes symbolize several aspects of our human experience. First, ashes remind us of God's condemnation of sin, as God said to Adam, "Dust you are and to dust you shall return." Second, ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. Ashes were used anciently in the absence of soap, and on Ash Wednesday ashes are a penitential substitute for water as a reminder of our Baptism. Third, ashes remind us of the shortness of human life, for one day the words "We commit his/her body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust" will be said over our bodies. Fourth, ashes are a symbol of repentance, as expressed in Luke 10:13 and the hymn "Savior, When in Dust to Thee." Services will be held at 10:30 am and 7:00 pm. Please join us for either of these services to begin the season of Lent.

ELECTING OUR NEXT BISHOP

You are invited to attend the final meeting scheduled for **February 15th**, **9:00 a.m.** – **12:00** p.m. at Union Lutheran Church, 5500 Route 873, Schnecksville. Participants will discuss synod mission priorities and the skills/spiritual gifts needed in the next synod bishop. Information gathered at the three meetings will be collated and reported back at three meetings to be held in May (dates to be announced). Rostered ministers and all members of synod congregations are encouraged to attend.

SNOW/CANCELLATION INFORMATION



Winter advisory...Please be sure to check St. Paul's website, www.stpaulsbville.org or WFMZ storm center to see if any church service or event is cancelled due to snow or ice.

NORTHERN LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT RETIREMENT LUNCHEON FOR BISHOP SAMUEL AND LINDA ZEISER

The Northern Lehigh Valley Mission District is planning a retirement luncheon for Bishop Zeiser on May 17th and they anticipate there may be extra tickets available. If you are interested, **RSVP by** February 28 to Jane Ringer with the number of tickets requested to <u>janeer57@gmail.com</u> or call <u>610-262-3000</u>. <u>Download a form</u> to provide the name of your church, contact person, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail. They must confirm that the number of tickets you request are available prior to your sending the check by March 31.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKING

The Parish Nurse Committee will be holding blood pressure checks on the **last Sunday of each month**. We will be located in the **library from** 10 - 10:30 am. Please feel free to come and have your blood pressure checked on a regular basis."

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

The results of our Souper Bowl collection were as follows: Chiefs \$63.00 49ers \$35.00

The money collected will be sent to the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who participated with either a cash donation or food

PARISH NURSING NOTES JUNE KELLOGG RN STAYING WELL DURING COLD AND FLU SEASON

Winter brings more challenges to staying well. Here are some tips that may help.

Practice cough etiquette when you are coughing or sneezing. When you sneeze or cough, you send out droplets of fluid from your nose and mouth. Those droplets can carry infections, and when they enter someone else's eyes, nose or mouth, the infection can make them sick. This is the way the flu and many viruses are spread.

www.verywellhealth.com > Health A-Z > Cold & Flu

To help stop the spread of germs:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Put your used tissue in a waste basket.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.

Remember to wash your hands after coughing or sneezing:

- Wash with soap and water, or hand sanitizer if a sink is not available.
- Keeping hands clean through improved hand hygiene is one of the
 most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and
 spreading germs to others. Many diseases and conditions are
 spread by not washing hands with soap and clean, running water.
 If clean, running water is not accessible, as is common in many
 parts of the world, use soap and available water. If soap and water
 are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains
 at least 60% alcohol to clean hands. Content source: Centers for
 Disease Control and Prevention

Stay home and rest if you are not feeling well. Twenty-four hours after you no longer have a fever is generally recommended. Disinfect communal spaces (doorknobs, faucets etc.) Wash your hands frequently and use disposable towels. Avoid shaking hands with others if you are not feeling well. Our objective is to get you healthy and feeling better and not spreading any infections to your church family.

FARM FAMILY APPRECIATION CELEBRATION

March 21st. Doors open at 6:15 PM, but no earlier. Dinner buffet – 7:00 to 8:00 PM (Tables will be held for families that work late.) Hoedown and Country music by "The Outlaws," with line dance music between sets: 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. Theme: Trucks. Feel free to support your favorite brand of truck! Hamburg Field House, Hamburg, PA - Exit #30 off I-78. For more information and to register, please

visit: http://nepasynod.org/event/farm-family-appreciation/.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice[®] program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until **March 31, 2020,** to direct any remaining 2019 Choice Dollars. Help support St. Paul's. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

NORTHEASTERN PA SYNOD WELCA SPRING JUSTICE RETREAT

March 28th, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. It will be held here at St. Paul's. Theme: "Diversity – Reaching Across Barriers to Live as God's People." The day will focus on our call to action through advocacy and how advocacy is expressed in our daily lives. Keynote Speaker: Rev. Jeffrey J. Butz, Pastor at Zion's Union Church Maxatawny and adjunct professor of World Religions at Penn State University, Allentown and Reading campuses. Afternoon Session Leader: Rev. Kristen Glass-Perez Muhlenberg College Chaplain. Download a Flyer (http://nepasynod.org/documents/NEPA-WELCA-spring-retreat-flyer-2020.pdf). Download the Registration Form (http://nepasynod.org/documents/NEPA-WELCA-spring-retreat-registration-2020.pdf).

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

At our meeting on Wednesday, February 12, we discuss our Lenten Breakfast which will be March 11 at the Pearson Residence. We also finalized our preparation for the Cluster Meeting on March 21 and Justice Retreat on March 28.

Future Events: * all are welcome to these events; look for more information in upcoming newsletters.

- *The spring cluster meeting topic *Help Your Dr. Help You* will be on March 21 at 9:30 a.m.
- *Justice Retreat, March 28
 - O Christin Perez, chaplain at Muhlenberg College will present and afternoon bible study on Ruth.
 - She is part M.U.L.E., the outreach program at the college, and has an article in the December issue of *gather* magazine.
 - We are collecting non-perishable, hygiene, and school supplies for needy college students at Muhlenberg.
- NEPA W-ELCA Convention, May 16 at Tatamy Lutheran Church.
- June 10, tour of the Shelter House Museum in Emmaus. Historic colonial log cabin restored in 1952.

Our bible study was on: We are called! Session two Disciples of Christ by Kathryn A. Kleinhaus.

Please see a member of WELCA if you are interested in details of any these events and are interested in attending:

Sharon Bortz, Carol Derr-Breinig, Melanie Dimovitz, Joyce Eisenhard, Rosemary Lehman, Martha Lindenmuth, Heather Sedlak, Patty Spencer, Marilyn Thomas, Sandi Wagaman, Judy Walker.

ANNUAL W-ELCA LENTEN BREAKFAST

The annual W-ELCA Lenten breakfast will be held on Wednesday, March 11th at 9:30 AM at the home of Daisy Pearson. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. See Daisy if you need directions. Hope to see you then.

LEHIGH ZION CEMETERY SHAREHOLDERS MEETING

April 20, 2020 the Lehigh Zion Cemetery will have their annual shareholders meeting.

Anyone having a plot on the cemetery is a shareholder.

Officers are elected at this meeting.

APRIL 20, 2020, 7 P.M., ZION LEHIGH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please see Sharon Bortz since she is the current secretary of the board.

CAMERATA SINGERS

Camerata Singers with Muhlenberg College Choir will perform Mozart's Great Mass; his Mass in C Minor at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown on Sunday April 26th at 7:30 pm. This Mass was written as a means for Mozart to demonstrate his love for his new wife—Constanze. For ticket information see Cathy Waltemyer or to purchase tickets on line go to: www.pacameratasingers.org

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

Guess what? It is time to place your order for Easter flowers. An order form is available in this newsletter. They will also be available on our website and on the table in the narthex. You can also call me in the office at 610-398-700 or send me an email at – office@stpaulsbville.org.

The DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH.







EMMAUS CHORALE LOOKING FOR SINGERS

Would you love to have an additional outlet for singing? Would you love being part of a choir of wonderful voices performing both sacred and secular music? Here's how!

Who: The Emmaus Chorale

When: Rehearsals: Tuesday nights, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

1 Christmas concert, usually the 2nd weekend in Dec.; 1 spring concert

usually 1st Sunday of June

Where: Faith Presbyterian Church, 3002 N. Second St., Emmaus, PA

How: Questions? Contact artistic director Janet Davis:

jdavischoirnut@gmail.com.

Website: www.emmauschorale.org

The Emmaus Chorale

Based in Emmaus, the Chorale is a chorus of forty experienced singers drawn from throughout the Lehigh Valley. We sing both sacred and secular music of all musical periods and styles, including standard and contemporary sacred works along with spirituals, Broadway, jazz-inspired and light classical works. Currently, the Chorale presents two concerts each year at Faith Presbyterian Church but is examining the possibility of performing in other venues for each program. The Chorale was founded in September, 1983 to provide musically inclined residents of the Emmaus area with an opportunity to sing both classical and light choral music.

DON'T SETTLE

For most of us, the great danger is not that we will renounce our faith. It is that we will become so distracted and rushed and preoccupied that we will settle for a mediocre version of it. We will just skim our lives instead of actually living them.

-John Ortberg, The Life You've Always Wanted

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 the table to see if there is a card. Please sign your name and help bring a smile to a fellow member.

ALTAR FLOWER AND BULLETIN SPONSORS FOR 2020

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 – one vase is \$22 or both vases at \$44. If you are sponsoring both bouquets, **PLEASE** sign your name to **BOTH LINES.** The cost for the bulletin sponsors will remain at \$20 per week.

The flower chart and bulletin chart will be posted soon 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.

HOSPITALIZED?

Parish Code for hospitalized parishioners is 321. Please give this code when you are admitted to the hospital so the pastor can be made aware that you are a patient and can administer the pastoral care you require while you are hospitalized.

Please take note, that if you are admitted on a Thursday night, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, the pastor will not be aware that you are hospitalized until Monday mid-morning, since the church does not have office hours on Friday, and the hospital pastoral care office is not available on Saturday or Sunday.

This means, if you would like the Pastor to know you are hospitalized on the weekend, please call the church office or the Pastor.

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.

MARCH 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 & Jelly during our monthly collection for the food bank.

During February our "food of the month" will be Macaroni & Cheese.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 23 Lunch at Legends (if you made a reservation)

February 26 Ash Wednesday Services 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

March 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 18 7:00 p.m. - Pastimes Concert

March 22 11:30 a.m. - Potluck lunch & fill Easter Eggs for Egg Hunt

March 28 8:30 a.m. -W-ELCA Justice Event

April 4 9:00 a.m. - Community Breakfast

10:00 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt



W-ELCA SPRING CLUSTER MEETING ALL ARE WELCOME!!!!!



HELP YOUR DOCTOR HELP YOU MARCH 21, 2020 9:30 A.M. – FELLOWSHIP HALL

Will be discussing how best to make use of the limited time that we have with our physicians.

ALL OUR WELCOME TO ATTEND!!!!



IRONPIGS GAME

Announcing the IronPigs game. Sunday, July 19, 2020. We again will be in the PenTeleData 3rd Base Party Porch. Those who attended the game the last three years enjoyed the fact we were the only ones in the box. We were under cover and the food was great. Mark your calendars. Watch for the signup sheet.

THANK YOU LETTER

I would like to thank my St. Paul's Church Family for all the well wishes while out for recent surgery. I thank you all for thinking of me, all of God's blessings.

Sue Bellucci

THANK YOU LETTER

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

As I write this important letter to you today, my heart is filled with gratitude for the ways you are helping change the course of life for orphans and families throughout East Africa!

Poverty has thousands in a chokehold that snuffs out life for yet another generation of parents, increasing the number of orphans in our world. We thank God for friends like you who are stepping in to break these chains. You are helping hundreds come to know the love of God and gain skills to crush poverty. Now over 330 orphans are thriving in families; 25 villages have clean water; 1,380 illegal brewers have changed to become positive community leaders; thousands of struggling families, pastors, and recovering alcoholics are crushing poverty.

These World Changers are multiplying the impact as they also pass forward what they've learned with others throughout East Africa! Thank you for your partnership and generosity in you giving of \$225.52.

As a ministry family, we are also thrilled to let you know that 2020 represents 25 years of ministry for Empowering Lives International! During this special anniversary season, we will be reflecting on the past and celebrating this incredible season of opportunity for the future! From he early days in Tanzania to a movement that is now creating change in 11 countries, the Kingdom of God is advancing.

Thank you again. Because of you, empowered lives are putting an end to the generational poverty and sharing their new love for God with others! Thank you for helping change moms. dads, sons, and daughters for now and eternity. I count it a great privilege to be...

Empowering lives together, Don Rogers Founder/International Director

(This thank you letter was received from empowering lives/INTERNATIONAL for the contribution send from Vacation Bible School of the offering they collected during the week.)



1 Monica Parker 12 Susan Ferguson 6 Larry Schneider 12 Betty Moyer 8 Joe Flores 17 Mitzi Younger 9 Kelly Kirn 19 Maddox Rampen 9 Dawn Wertz 20 Jennifer Schmover 10 Roland Grammes 20 Pamela Zahour 25 Matthew Morgenstern 10 Bruce Wagaman 11 Rita Miller 27 Joyce Bastian 12 Ruth Berghold 27 Liam Nemeh



24 Ronald & Jennifer Carlson 31 Westley & Laurin Mironov

28 Ellie Pisauro

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

Peg ApgarSusan BellucciDoris FennerDick HartleyHughey HaughneyHelen KesslerBill KnollLisa NewhardEsther NolfeHeather SedlakJerry SedlakKathy ShryockJohn ThomasIrene WenzStanley Younger

12 Avie Cope

(Their names were printed in the bulletin during the last month)

PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERAL

Pastor Carey officiated at the funeral of Linford Bastian on February 17th.

JOY SEEKERS

In northern Minnesota several years ago, some women formed a "joy circle." They settled into a routine of meeting every couple of weeks to share joys they've noticed. Their aim, amid our troubled world and chaotic lives, is to deliberately focus on the positive. The women don't simply hope to stumble upon good news among the outrage, bitterness and tragedy surrounding us; they actively seek out joy and report it to the group.

Joy is a fruit of the spirit named in Galatians 5:22-23. As Christians, we don't ignore or dismiss life's struggles and sorrows, and neither do joycircle participants. But God promises that life is stronger than death, and Jesus' resurrection is proof. With the Holy Spirit's help, we can make a spiritual discipline of seeking and sharing joy — and thanking God for it. (Visit joycircles.network online to learn more.)

—Heidi Mann

A LENTEN HISTORY LESSON

Though the date of Easter varies, the majority of the Lenten season occurs during March. In fact, the word *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon words *lenctentid* (meaning "March") and *lencten* (meaning "spring").

The first reference to Lent dates back to 325 AD, in one of the 20 canons decreed at the council of Nicaea. By the eighth century, Christians started observing Lent, and a 10th-century monk named Aelfric connected the use of ashes and "the Lenten fast" to the pre-Easter period.

Lent lasts 40 days to represent Jesus' time in the wilderness, when he was tempted by the devil. The six Sundays that occur between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday aren't counted as part of Lent; instead, as the traditional day of worship, they're considered "mini-Easters."

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS

MARCH 15, 2020

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 L. Miller
Organist/Choir Director	Ms. Judy Noll
Handbell Director	Mr. Richard Steltz
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Cindy Krasnansky
Sexton	3

March 2020 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:00 a.mMorning Bells 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship	2 9:30 a.mBible Study 1:00 p.mWorship & Music Committee 7:00 p.mMutual Ministry Committee At Tom Kellogg's Home	3 1:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc. 1:00 p.mStewardship Committee 6:00 p.mTrexlertown Fire Co. Meeting	4 6:00 p.mGirl Scouts	5 10:00 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir	6	7
9:00 a.mMorning Bells 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship	9:30 a.mBible Study	1:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	9:30 a.mW-ELCA Lenten Breakfast At Daisy Pearson's Home 7:00 p.mCouncil	12 10:00 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir	13	14
15 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 9:00 a.mMorning Bells 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mEvangelism Committee NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9:30 a.mBible Study	1:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc. 7:00 p.mProperty Committee St. Day	7:00 p.mPast Times Concert	19 10:00 a.mTOPS 6:00 p.mHaafsville Board Meeting 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir	20	9:00 a.mW-ELCA Spring Cluster Meeting
9:00 a.mMorning Bells 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mPotluck & Fill Easter Eggs For Hunt	9:30 a.mBible Study	1:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.	25 10:00 a.mRowdy Bunch 6:00 p.mGirl Scouts	26 10:00 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers- 7:30 p.mChoir	27	28 8:30 a.mNEPS W-ELCA Justice Event
9:00 a.mMorning Bells 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship	9:30 a.mBible Study	31 1:00 p.mTrexlertown Sr. Assoc.				April 2020 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 the Month of March

Council Person: Anita Eisenhard 484-221-0445

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, March 1, 2020

Altar Guild: Jennifer Bentsen, Joyce Eisenhard

Lay Assistant: Sandi Wagaman Greeters: Jen & Meredith Schmoyer

Reader: Kelly Whitt

Communion Bread: Alice Bastian Communion Assistant: Jeremy Schmoyer

Ushers: Frank Bennighoff, Brooke Brumbach, Carlene Brumbach,

Richard Hartley, Tom Kellogg

Sunday, March 15, 2020

Altar Guild: Brooke & Carlene Brumbach

Lay Assistant: Dick Steltz Greeters: Carl & Esther Seibert Reader: Martha Lindenmuth

Communion Bread: June & Tom Kellogg Communion Assistant: Bob Bruchak

Ushers: Zack Dimovitz, Angie Kropf, Martha Lindenmuth,

Bruce Wagaman, Amy Williams

Sunday, March 8, 2020

Altar Guild: Michele Rampen, Patrice Walters

Lay Assistant: Cathy Waltemyer Greeters: Melody & Garret Pavlacka

Reader: Michele Rampen

Communion Bread: Diane Kropf

Communion Assistant: Anita Eisenhard

Ushers: Aubrie Pavlacka, Garret Pavlacka, Diane Kropf,

John Kropf, Madeline MacMechan

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter, Susan Xander

Lay Assistant: Daisy Pearson

Greeters: Lacey Edwards, Rosemary Lehman

Reader: Peggy Kern

Communion Bread: Madeline MacMechan Communion Assistant: Marilyn Thomas

Ushers: Rosemary Lehman Ken Ritter, Joshua Solderich,

Larry Schneider, Mary Schneider

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Altar Guild: Rebecca & Keith Theodore Lay Assistant: Meredith Schmoyer Greeters: Janine & Ken Ritter Reader: Calvin Fetherolf

Communion Bread: Jen Schmoyer

Communion Assistant: Rosemary Lehman

Ushers: Melanie Dimovitz, Cal Fetherolf, Frank Szukics,

Judy Szukics, Marilyn Thomas



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

February 2, 2020

EASTER



Easter is Sunday, April 12, 2020. It seems just like yesterday we were ordering poinsettias.

The deadline for flower orders will be Sunday, March 15, 2020

The cost for Lilies will be \$9.00 per plant. Azaleas will be \$12.00. All other plants are \$7.50. The flowers may be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service or you may donate them to shut-ins.

Please fill out the order form and return it with a check (made out to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. In the memo, please mark for Easter Flowers.) Either place it in the offering plate, mail it in, or hand it to Janine Ritter.

If you have any questions, please contact Janine Ritter at 610-285-2127.

Additional forms are available in the narthex.

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

Janine Ritter Festival Committee St. Paul's Lutheran Church 8227 Hamilton Blvd. Breinigsville, PA 18031 610-398-7000

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

LILIES: \$9.00 AZALEAS: \$12.00 **ALL OTHER PLANTS: \$7.50 ORDER DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020** CHOOSE THE TYPE OF FLOWER YOU WOULD LIKE AND PLACE THE NUMBER YOU WANT ON THE LINE BEHIND. LILIES ____ MUMS ___ DAFFODILS ____ TULIPS ____ AZALEAS ____ **ORDERED** BY: (Please print clearly) IN MEMORY OF: IN HONOR OF:

PICK UP AFTER THE 10:30 A.M. EASTER SERVICE: _____

WILL DONATE TO SICK OR SHUT-IN: _____

Volume 28, Issue 3 March 2020

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly 2020 "We Are Church Together"



INFORMATION SESSION LIVESTREAM via YouTube
With Bishop Samuel Zeiser
- Live from The Kalahari Resort Thursday, March 19 at 10:30 AM

Join Bishop Zeiser and others on the 2020 Synod Assembly Planning Team, LIVE via YouTube Livestream from the Kalahari Resort. This Information Session will give you the latest details on:

- The election of a new Bishop
- Ministry table displays
- What will happen when
- The speakers, presenters and special guests
- Who should attend and why
- How to download and use the Guidebook app

This YouTube video stream will be available live at the date and time listed above; or you can view it anytime later, as a recording.

To watch it, either live or later: simply search this name on Google: "NEPS Assembly 2020 Info Session", or type this into your internet browser: https://youtu.be/RwZFsLahD34.

For event details about Synod Assembly 2020, including to register and to book a room at Kalahari, you can visit the Assembly 2020 Event page at http://nepasynod.org/event/assembly-2020.

For all information needed for the Assembly itself (nomination forms, resolution forms, agenda, etc.), you can visit the Assembly 2020 Information page at http://nepasynod.org/assembly2020-info.

Festival Worship at the Assembly

On Friday morning there will be a Eucharist with Bishop Zeiser preaching and music led by Bobby Siegfried. The offering will be for the World Hunger Appeal.

On Saturday morning there will be a Eucharist in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women. Dr. Catherine Ziel will preach, and music will be led by Deacon Tom Yenser and a brass quintet.

Pianist becomes Organist at Trinity, Bangor



Before Easter our organist/music director resigned at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bangor, PA. We let it be known to the community through FB, emails and the synod newsletter that we needed an organist/music director. For a few weeks we had substitute organists with no choir director. The choir continued to practice, and we managed to do some *a capella* pieces for a few weeks. The choir improved dramatically, feeling determined to sing with much more focus and dedication.

Within weeks we had some inquiries from pianists and organists. We interviewed Ms. Bethann Kratzer. She is an excellent pianist, but she admitted that she didn't play the organ. She does play 8-10 other instruments. We hired her for the summer on a trial basis, since we do worship services during the summer in our air-conditioned fellowship hall and only use the piano for that worship.

In addition, we asked her if she was willing to take organ lessons from Dr. Michael Krentz over the summer. We offered to pay for 10 lessons and to continue paying for 1 lesson a quarter over the next year. She agreed to try. By the end of the summer she had "fallen in love" with the organ and is becoming an accomplished organist. She now plays the organ for worship in our sanctuary, works with our Sunday School children, leads the choir, and plays the piano when needed. We are thrilled with her willingness to try and learn the organ, her ability to work with the choir, and her outstanding piano playing. We have hired her as our full-time music director. She continues to take organ lessons on her own and learn the instrument.

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.



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The Rev. Nelson Quinones, Dean The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop

610-653-5858 610-266-5101 Elizabeth Leibenguth, Mission District Chair Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor

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<u>April 2020</u> LMD NL news will be due <u>March 13, 2020</u>. E-Mail any information to me at Imd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Healing for Our Troubled Times – The Gifts and Challenges of Empathy. **2020 dates: Feb. 5**th and Mar. **4**th, 10:30-12:30 at The Center for Spiritual Awakening. See attached flyer.

Explore SoulCollage® - The Center for Spiritual Awakening – Mornings with SoulCollage® starting Feb. 25th, 9:30am-12:00pm/\$20.00 a session or \$50.00 for the series. See attached flyer.

Wisdom Way of Knowing – Allentown Spring 2020 – **Fri. 3/13, and Wed. 4/8**, 3-5:00 p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton Street, Allentown. RSVP: marcellak2@aol.com. See attached flyer.

Madonna to Pieta – **Feb. 15**th, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton Street, Allentown. **Snow date will be Feb. 22, 2020**. See attached flyer.

The Gospel of Thomas Series - 2020 – The first and third Wednesdays of the month beginning **Feb. 19**th **through May 6**th, 1:30 p.m. Contact Mary Howe at mhowe@rcn.com for questions. See attached flyer.

Interfaith Amigos – Tues., March 10th, 1:30 – 3:00p.m. – Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. RSVP: Mary Howe (facilitator) 610-821-4007 or mhowe@rcn.com. See attached flyer.

Community Free Dinner - We will be holding another free dinner at **St. John's Lutheran Church** (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) on **Fri., Mar. 20th from 5-7 PM**. The meal will include corned beef and cabbage, desserts and more. Everyone is welcome...invite your neighbors, friends and families. No reservations required. **Contact the office at** 610-395-5535 with any questions. We hope to see you there!

Following the Thread – Mar. 23rd, 1:00 – 3:00p.m. – Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. **Cost \$20 payable that day by cash or check. RSVP**: Angela at aumurphy@ptd.net. See attached Flyer.

COME get a TASTE...and SEE what SPIRITUAL DIRECTION is all about! – Thurs., Mar. 26th, 1:00 – 3:00p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. Please RSVP: to sign up for a complimentary Spiritual Direction session – Mary Howe, mhowe@crcn.com or 610-821-4007. See attached flyer.

Roast Beef Dinner – Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2451 Saucon Valley Road, Center Valley, PA. Sat., April 4th, 4:00 – 6:30p.m. Cost – Adults - \$12.00, 12 & under - \$9.00, 3 & under – Free. Proceeds to benefit Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley. Call 610-865-4144 for more information. See flyer attached.

Emmaus Chorale looking for Singers – Would you love to have an additional outlet for singing? Would you love being part of a choir of wonderful voices performing both sacred and secular music? Here's how! Rehearsals: Tues. nights, 7:00 – 9:00p.m. Faith Presbyterian Church, 3002 N Second St, Emmaus, PA 18049. Questions? Contact artistic director Janet Davis: jdavischoirnut@gmail.com. Website: www.emmauschorale.org. See attached letter from director.

Thank you for helping our 2019 Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk raise \$31,570.98 to help our neighbors in need locally and around the globe! Save These Dates! Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 11, 2020, 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-Off: Sun., Aug. 30, 2020, 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. For more information about Church World Service/CROP, go to www.crophungerwalk.org

Centering Prayer - First Friday of the month – 10:30 a.m., Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102. Parking in Lot across Hamilton St. from Church. Enter on 13th Street, look for the sign "Schantz House/Ruhe Annex". Beginning in January, Ferd Piccuirro will be leading the monthly Centering Prayer gathering along with Rev. Maritza Dolich. Ferd has been practicing Centering Prayer for about 19 years, comes from a Roman Catholic background and now attends Christ Lutheran Church in Hellertown, PA. He leads the monthly Mediation Group there and is an accomplished guitarist and singer/song writer. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced prayer, all are welcome. For questions contact Mary Howe at <a href="mailto:mhotsuper:mhots



Naturalization Test Study Class – St. Luke's will resume its Naturalization Test Study class on **Jan. 15, 2020** from 7-8 p.m. The classes are free and bilingual. Please contact Leslie Talago at 610-434-3943 for more information.



FAITH PAST...PRESENT...FUTURE

Faith has played a very significant role in the evolution of humankind as it has dealt with the major issues and concerns in its history. It has been an important ingredient in the struggles of the ancient past and it continues to play a very special role in the wrestlings of our contemporary world.

Past history has included unique wrestlings. From our perspective none was more significant than God's revelation of the spirit's special presence as a result of the birth of that baby in Bethlehem during what has become the first century of our calendar. This revelation established a history of the past...has had a major impact upon our present...and will, we believe, continue to have a very significant influence on our future. The presence of the spirit of our faith has played a major role in the evolution of history and has had a very special impact on the development of the leaders who have walked us through the evolutions which have been part of our world.

The church which we know today is a result of the faith and inspired leadership of so many men and women across the years. Obviously, for instance, we are well aware of the fact that we would not be where we are today had it not been for the leadership of those disciples of that baby during that first century. And everyone of them ended up being sacrificed to this effort! But they were followed by many others who led this mission until if finally fell into the hands of Martin Luther and his colleagues in and beyond the 16th century. We are, obviously, very grateful to all those who have served and we are committed to building on their leadership from the past...in the present...and on into the future.

It is comforting to be able to reflect on the past and upon the leadership which has seen us through the unique challenges with which we have been confronted. Obviously many of us are aware that we are dealing with some significant changes in our leadership during the Year of Our Lord 2020. At the top to this list for us is the fact that Bishop Zeiser will be retiring. We have all benefitted from his dedicated and very special leadership throughout his tenure. And there are at least two very dedicated pastors from within our Mission District who are also in the process of retiring after long years of service and leadership — Pastor Jerel Gade and Pastor John Minnich. (Uniquely, we have also learned that there are also at least two pastors who are retiring from significant pastorates in the West Berks Mission District — Pastor Jane Kropa and Pastor Cheryl Meinschein.)

The Bishop and these pastors have all dedicated themselves to building on a respected past, being responsible to the present, and projecting creatively into the future. It is hoped, and even anticipated, that those who are currently providing leadership for our families of faith, both as ordained and as lay leadership, will continue dedicating themselves to the mantra of faith to which so many have been committed for so long.

God Bless!

Pastor Richard Stough

OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave. Allentown, PA 18109 Phone: 610-435-9155 Open: Mon. 11-3 and Wed. 11-3

E-mail: **LMDopsunshine@aol.com**Web site: **www.LMDopsunshine.com**Paula & Dick Skelly Co-Trip Coordinators

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.

4 SEATS REMAINING!!

April 8 (Wed.) – Bristol Riverside Theatre – CABARET - This Tony Award-winning musical features one of Broadway's most memorable scores, including "Money", "Willkommen", "Maybe This Time" and "Cabaret". Lunch will be served at the King George II Inn next door to the theatre. Choose an entrée from the following. Please notify the office of your choices at time of reservation.

CHOICES: Home-Style Meatloaf OR Grilled Chicken Breast w/ Chasseur Sauce and Balsamic Glaze OR Salmon Dijonnaise All entrees will be served with a House Salad and a dessert

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM

Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Mar. 5

May 4 (Mon.) – The Revere Tavern – THIRD SPACE THEATRE PRESENTS "LAST WRITES" – What happens when a group of Famous Mystery Writers start living out an actual mystery? Strange occurrences leave the writers wondering if they should watch their backs! Be a part of this interactive Comedy Mystery Dinner Theatre show by chatting with the writers and questioning the suspects during the interrogation. Or simply sit back, relax, and enjoy the show at the Historic Revere Tavern in Paradise, PA. While there, we will enjoy a buffet luncheon and put on our detective hats as we try to follow the clues to solve the crime. After the crime is solved, we will head to the Kettle Kitchen for an hour of browsing the fine crafts and sampling some of the delicious jams, jellies and condiments.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM

Cost \$83 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Apr. 8

SAVE THE DATES: RESERVATIONS OPEN APRIL 1

<u>June 25(Thur) – Fulton Theatre – JERSEY BOYS</u>

July 23 (Thur) – Sight and Sound – QUEEN ESTHER

Aug 19 (Wed.) - Doolan's-RED HOT MAMA'S OF SONG

Sept 17 (Thur) - Westchester Broadway Th. - 9 TO 5

Details to follow in future newsletters.