

# PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Breinigsville, PA

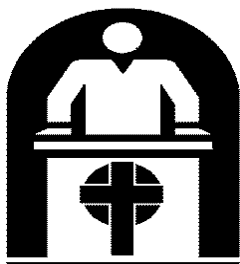
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**OCTOBER 2020**



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,

October and November are months of stewardship emphasis in the church. Because of COVID-19, our stewardship committee has not been able to meet to carry out any stewardship program to date. But I would like to share a simple thought about stewardship. A pastor colleague of mine on occasion asks the people of his congregation about

the blessings they've received in their lives. Not surprisingly, the blessings most noted were those of family, friends, health, church, food, shelter, clothing, pets, and, of course, chocolate.

If you think about it, we are people who are greatly blessed. If you can spare a moment, I urge you to take out a piece of paper and write down your blessings. I would think the paper would fill up quickly.

When God blessed Abram in Genesis, He told him to go and use his blessings to bless others. We can use our many blessings to bless others. It may be as simple as sharing a smile with a coworker. It may be as extensive as sharing your home with a friend in need. It may be that there is someone near to us who needs the blessing of a listening ear.

We have the opportunity of extending our blessings through the work of the church. Together we touch the lives of the poor and oppressed. Together we make a tremendous impact on the lives of children, teens, and adults who are searching for strength in a troubled world.

Today is a wonderful time to think about your blessings and to think of ways you can bless the lives of others. May the divine chain reaction of blessings continue through your life and flow into the lives of many.

Pastor Miller



AS OF NOW SUNDAY SCHOOL IS STILL ON HOLD.  
STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

The October calendar and assistant schedule are included with the newsletter.

## WE'RE BACK TO INDOOR WORSHIP

Beginning October 11, 2020, St. Paul's will resume indoor worship. Worship time will be 10:30 am. Parking lot communion will continue at 9:45 am as long as the weather allows.

Regarding the indoor worship, there are some procedures and guidelines that will be in place as indicated in the email or hard copy letter you were sent. Please refer to that notice for a fuller description of the protocols.

- Everyone is required to wear a mask.
- You will be seated by an usher physically distanced and seated in every other pew.
- Your temperature will be taken as you enter.
- Communion will be administered with "communion packets" like the ones used in the parking lot communion.
- There will be no singing. Hymns will be sung by a soloist (pre-taped) and shown on a screen at the appropriate times during worship.
- The indoor worship will be live-streamed so that if you cannot attend you will have an opportunity to watch it beginning at 10:30 am on your computer or phone.

Please know that the Back to Worship Committee with the support of the Congregation Council have made this decision based on the best medical advice from the CDC and our own medical personnel within our congregation. It is also the best way we can fulfill the biblical mandate to love our neighbor. Thanks to all those on the Back to Worship Committee who helped in this decision.

## HARVEST HOME

We will be celebrating Harvest Home in Sunday, September 27. Whether you view the church service online, or attend the parking lot communion, you will hear the hymns celebrating our gifts. We will be collecting **only** canned goods this year, which will be donated to the food bank. Cans will be collected at the parking lot service, or you can drop them off during the week during office hours.

## **VOLUNTEERS, PLEASE! INSIDE WORSHIP**

We are in need of volunteers for our indoor worship. We are mostly in need of ushers whose main responsibility will be to direct people to their seat. They will not receive the offering. Just because you were on the usher list before COVID-19, we can't assume you will be willing to usher now. Please contact us if you're interested. Presently we have 2 people who are willing to serve. Please, if you wouldn't mind helping out and feel safe doing so, we could certainly use you. Contact the office at 610-398-7000 if interested.

## **ADVENT BOOKLET**

The time leading up to Christmas is a busy and hectic time! The shopping, decorating, baking and other preparations sometimes results in us "forgetting the reason for the season." Advent is a time for preparing ourselves for the coming of our Lord. One item that is helpful to help us in this preparation is an Advent booklet. This booklet contains a daily scripture reading and then a personal reflection on that reading.

We are asking for volunteers who are willing to write a short reflection on how a particular scripture that you will be given relate to God's activities in your life. There are no "right or wrong" reflections as they are your personal interpretation. This is an activity for young and old and everyone in-between – as long as the participant can write down their feelings! The reflections can be done by an individual or as a family unit. The booklets will then be distributed to church members prior to the start of Advent so that we can use the writings to renew and strengthen our journey throughout Advent.

Please consider sharing a reflection in this booklet. If you are interested please either contact Cindy at the church office or Peggy Saylor at [psaylor@ptd.net](mailto:psaylor@ptd.net) or at 610-762-3670. Thank you for your consideration in participating in this endeavor.

# **PARISH NURSE NOTES**

**Peggy Saylor, RN**

Unbelievable as it may be – we are now entering “flu season!” We have been bombarded with information about COVID-19 so any more articles about “any flu” seem like overload but are extremely important.

Both influenza (flu) and COVID-19 are contagious respiratory illnesses but are caused by different viruses. There are common symptoms of influenza and COVID-19 such as fever, cough, fatigue, sore throat, headache and body aches but COVID-19 may also have the symptom of change in or loss of taste or smell. Due to the common symptoms, testing may be necessary to help confirm a diagnosis.

There are drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat influenza but there aren’t any current drugs approved by the FDA to treat COVID-19. Remdesivir is an antiviral drug that is being explored as a treatment for COVID-19 and is available under an Emergency Use Authorization (EAU.) A vaccine for COVID-19 is also currently being developed but vaccines for influenza are readily available.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, reducing the spread of influenza this fall and winter is more important than ever. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has worked with vaccine manufacturers to have extra influenza vaccines available this year and has recommended getting the vaccination in September or October. We can hope that our current practices of social distancing, thorough hand washing for at least 20 seconds, avoiding touching our faces and wearing masks will help to decrease the spread of influenza this year but these measures do NOT replace the need for an influenza vaccination. PLEASE be sure to get your influenza vaccination and hopefully one of the upcoming Parish News articles will discuss where you can get your COVID-19 vaccination!!

## BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

Boscov's is again doing their **"Friends Helping Friends"** fundraiser opportunity for non-profits. Last year you'll remember we sold tickets for \$5.00 and you took that ticket to Boscov's for a discount on your purchases on a designated day. They are doing a similar event this year but it will be **2 days – October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm**. The church has registered already with Boscov's at Lehigh Valley and Palmer Park Malls. You do not have to purchase a ticket. All you have to do is mention the church when you check out or select the church if you purchase online. **You will receive a 20% discount on most products, 10% on others and a few are excluded** (a list of inclusions and exclusions is available from the church). **Boscov's will donate 5% of your total purchase price to St. Paul's.**

## JUST BE — AND BE STILL

Various versions of the following sentiment are posted online: "I am a human being, not a human doing. It's okay to just *be* sometimes." Many of us get anxious if we think we're not *doing* enough, but peace activist Thich Nhat Hanh insists it's not a waste of time to just be: "To be alive, to be peaceful, to be joyful, to be loving ... is what the world needs most."

During the pandemic, when people were urged to stay home to slow the virus' spread, we had to think hard about how to continue being the church while limited in what we could go out and "do." Yet church leaders reminded us that we were actually loving our neighbors by staying home — by being less active.

It's sometimes okay — ideal, even — to just be. In quieting our bodies, minds and hearts, we may find ourselves more often in prayer, more aware of God's presence and more nourished for when the time is right to again take up more active forms of ministry, peacemaking and love. "In quietness and trust is your strength" (Isaiah 30:15, NIV).

—Heidi Mann

## CARD MINISTRY



Even though we are not physically attending church, we are still taking care of sending cards to the members of the congregation. If you know of someone who is ill or hospitalized, please let the office know. I will contact Judy Szukics and she will send a card signed from the congregation.

## 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.

## A NEW CALL

Noted preacher Will Willimon received a frantic phone call from parents who feared their college-age daughter was throwing away her life. Asked to intervene, Willimon inquired why she was ending her studies to work with the children of migrant farmers. What had motivated her radical decision?

“It was your sermon yesterday that started me to thinking,” she replied. Willimon had talked about how God wants us to do something important with our lives, leading the young woman to choose a new path that would make more impact and hold more meaning. After a long silence, he stammered, “But I was just preaching!”

Willimon was just preaching, and the worshiper was just attending church while home on break. Yet she perceived a change in calling that led to a change in identity, security, priorities — and fulfillment.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

## 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.

## THANK YOU NOTE

The Officers and Members  
Of the  
Good Will Fire Company No.1  
Wish to thank you for  
Your contribution of

\$250.00 (from the Endowment Fund)

Your generosity is greatly  
Appreciated by the  
Fire Company,  
Sincerely,  
Calvin Fetherolf  
Treasurer



## **THANK YOU LETTER FROM OWEN BASTIAN'S FAMILY**

Dear Pastor Miller,

It's been three months since Dad's passing. As I look back, I want to "thank you" again for the support you gave to our family during the time we spent gathering in the hospital as well as in the days following Dad's death.

Thank you also not only to you but to Cindy and the people of St. Paul's for helping to make Dad's viewing and funeral possible in the church.

St. Paul's was the church where the Bastian Family worshipped for many generations. Our generation was grateful that we could honor and celebrate Dad's life and memory at St. Paul's during this time of COVID-19. We appreciate that we were allowed to be there.

Dad was indeed a special person! His work for the church in any capacity was important to him and also to Mom. For that reason, St. Paul's will always be in the hearts of my sisters and I even though our lives have led us to other places of worship. St. Paul's is where we grew up and learned the importance of God in our lives.

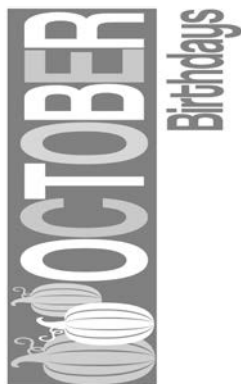
Blessings to you and the people of St. Paul's and Thank You!

Pat Petko

## **PRAYER SHAWL GROUP THANK YOU NOTE**

Thank you so much for the prayer shawl that you made for Aaron back in March. We are very blessed to have a caring church family. I am really hoping that the congregation will be able to meet Aaron soon.

Thanks again,  
Monica Parker



1 Moses Ajamu	16 Susan Xander
1 Hannah Schmoyer	18 Nancy Miller
1 Meredith Schmoyer	21 Anthony Pisauro
1 Ginny Wingard	23 George Keil
8 Ginger Hallock	23 Garret Pavlacka
13 Patrick Cope	24 Helen Kessler
15 Amy Williams	25 Sean Thompson
16 Hailey Inman	27 Linda Dietrich
16 Claudia Haughney	29 Allison Thompson
16 Esther Seibert	29 Judy Walker



3 Keith & Becky Theodore
14 Bill & Sharon Heminitz
16 Stan & Mitzi Younger
25 Carl & Esther Seibert, Jr.
28 Steve & Amanda Mesko
29 Ryon & Taryne Williams

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

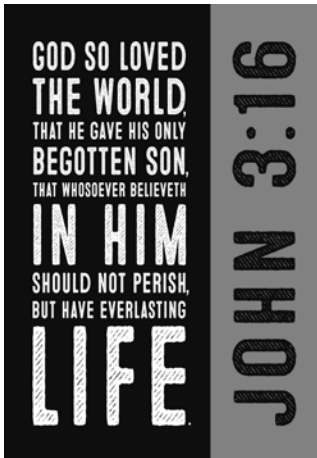
Nic Bellucci	Susan Bellucci	Brooke Brumbach
Claudia Haughney	Hughey Haughney	Helen Kessler
Esther Nolf	Heather Sedlak	Gloria Selig
Kathy Shryock	John Thomas	Irene Wenz
Mitzi Younger		

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of John O'Connors:

Alice Bastian  
 William & Gwendolyn Curry  
 Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Dominick  
 Sandra Grim  
 Stanley & Judith Krutsick  
 The Family of John O'Connors

## THE BEST MEDICINE



Near the end of his life, Protestant reformer Martin Luther suffered debilitating headaches. When told about a costly medicine that might offer some relief, Luther smiled and said, “My best prescription for head and heart is that ‘God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’”

That Bible verse became a refrain for Luther on his deathbed. “What Spartan saying can be compared with this wonderful brevity,” he said of John 3:16. “It is the Bible itself!” After repeating the words of that Gospel-in-a-nutshell verse three times in Latin, Luther exclaimed, “They are the best prescription for headaches and heartaches!”

## LOVED FOR WHO WE ARE

When I was a child, my parents loved me not because I was good but because I was ... their child. I loved them, and I wanted to please them, but their love of me did not have to be earned.

Neither does the love of God. We are loved because we are his children, because we are. If we feel that we ought to be loved because it is our due, or because we deserve it, the less we will truly feel the need of God’s love; the less implicit will be our trust; the less we will cry out, *Abba!*

—Madeleine L’Engle, *Walking on Water*



**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS  
OCTOBER 18, 2020**

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



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**CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000**

**HOSPITAL CODE: #321**

**HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE**



**EMAIL: [office@stpaulsbyville.org](mailto:office@stpaulsbyville.org)**

**Website: [www.stpaulsbyville.org](http://www.stpaulsbyville.org)**

**STAFF**

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

# October 2020    *St. Paul's Lutheran Church*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
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<b>4 18<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.- Parking Lot Worship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> .	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>																																										
<b>11 19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship	<b>12</b> Columbus Day 	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00 p.m.-Council	<b>15</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS 6:00 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting	<b>16</b> Virtual Synod Assembly	<b>17</b>																																										
<b>18 20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship  Virtual Synod Assembly	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10:00 a.m.-TOPS	<b>23</b> Virtual Synod Assembly	<b>24</b> Virtual Synod Assembly																																										
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# **PARKING LOT AND INDOOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

## **October 2020**

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000.

### **Sunday, October 4, 2020**

#### **9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Anita Eisenhard  
Calvin Fetherolf  
Richard Hartley  
Tom Kellogg  
Bob Nickisher

### **Sunday, October 18, 2020**

#### **9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Frank Bennighoff  
Jennifer Bentsen  
Sharon Bortz  
Anita Eisenhard  
Marilyn Thomas

#### **10:30AM INDOOR**

Jennifer Bentsen  
Sharon Bortz  
Anita Eisenhard  
Richard Hartley  
Marilyn Thomas

### **Sunday, October 11, 2020**

#### **9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Calvin Fetherolf  
Angela Kropf  
Bob Nickisher  
Daisy Pearson  
Marilyn Thomas

#### **10:30AM INDOOR**

Angela Kropf  
Bob Nickisher  
Daisy Pearson  
Marilyn Thomas  
Bruce Wagaman

### **Sunday, October 25, 2020**

#### **9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Calvin Fetherolf  
Tom Kellogg  
Angela Kropf  
Bob Nickisher  
Daisy Pearson

#### **10:30AM INDOOR**

Tom Kellogg  
Angela Kropf  
Bob Nickisher  
Daisy Pearson  
Bruce Wagaman



## Outdoor Worship



## Avery Thompson Baptism



9/20/2020

# SYNOD NEWS

## Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

### Growing Young in a Changing World: Virtual Summit



*Have you watched again and again as youth leave your church after they have affirmed their baptism?*

*Or maybe you have youth who only attend youth group and are not part of the larger congregation?*

*Does your congregation have a large age gap missing of people in their 20s and even 30s?*

If you see any of the above as problems that the church needs to address, **then this event is for you!** It is also for as many folks as you can bring along with you.

The Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team is thrilled to welcome everyone in our synod to a two-day Virtual Summit titled "Growing Young in a Changing World."

Dozens of youth leaders in our synod have already reaped some of the benefits from a book called *Growing Young*. On November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, one of the authors of that book, Jake Mulder from the Fuller Youth Institute, will be working with our synod specifically to help us be more welcoming and engaging to the youth

and young people in our midst. **ALL synod church staff, rostered ministers and members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.**

We will meet digitally in the morning and afternoon of Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and the morning of Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, with an optional afternoon session that day.

It is strongly encouraged that you read *Growing Young* prior to attending. You can purchase the book at <https://shop.fulleryouthinstitute.org/products/growing-young>.

**Please note:** Throughout this event, you will spend time in break out groups with others from either your congregation or mission district as we develop action plans to carry our teachings forward. Therefore, it will be helpful if you know in advance if others from your congregation or a partnering congregation are attending.

Please email [sammy@nepsynod.org](mailto:sammy@nepsynod.org) with questions and register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/growing-young-in-a-changing-world-virtual-summit-tickets-117650278149>.





# Assembly 2020 - A New Way of Being Church Together

**Friday evening, October 16 & Sunday afternoon, October 18**  
**Friday evening, October 23 & Saturday morning and afternoon, October 24**

## Watch the Assembly Online

Registration for voting members closes on October 1. However, even if you didn't register as a voting member, you can still watch all the proceedings, including the election of a new bishop. The entire assembly will be broadcast live and can be viewed by anyone with an internet connection. For "visitors" - those who simply wish to watch the proceedings - unlike past years, there is no need to register.

**The information you need to watch the Assembly will be posted on the synod website ([nepasynod.org](http://nepasynod.org)).**



**We Are Church  
Together**  
NEPA Synod Assembly 2020

## ELCA "Stories of Faith in Action"

Stories are the foundation of our faith. They teach us how to serve God with humility. They remind us of our identity as God's beloved children. They bring us together and give us hope for the future. Given the challenges of 2020, we need stories of hope and unity more than ever before. That's where your 2020-2021 edition of "Stories of Faith in Action" comes in.

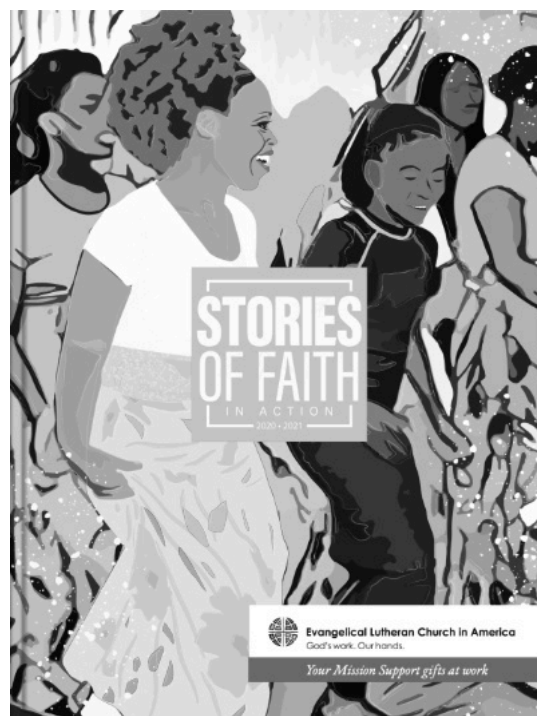
This annual publication illustrates how God is at work across the ELCA through your generosity. It highlights how a portion of your offering, called Mission Support, advances the ministry of our church – particularly the ways the ELCA nurtures vital congregations, raises up leaders and grows the global church. Most importantly, it's one way we say thank you for your faithful generosity to your congregation, your synod and the churchwide organization – by showing your offering at work.

The latest edition is now available digitally and includes:

- A special message from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.
- Nine inspiring stories from around the country and world.
- Your 2019 financial report on Mission Support – the portion of your offering your congregation shares with your synod and your synod shares with the churchwide organization.
- A story-based devotional for use at Bible studies or committee meetings.

Visit the ELCA website at <https://www.elca.org/sofia> where you can either download a printable version or view it as a "Flip Book."

*[This article is taken from an email authored by Victoria Flood, Director, ELCA Mission Support and Nick Kiger, Associate Director, ELCA Mission Support.]*



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2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. [nepsinfo1988@gmail.com](mailto:nepsinfo1988@gmail.com).  
View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org>.

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

484-550-0057  
 610-437-9927

**November 2020 LMD NL news will be due October 14, 2020.** E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com).

**It is with heavy heart** that the Christmas Ingathering Committee, with the approval of the Lehigh Mission District Council and Dean, **have agreed to cancel Christmas Ingathering for 2020.** We cannot with good conscience follow through with this program this year. Too many churches have not opened their doors yet for worship, the volunteers are 65+, and the group that we used to help unload the gifts donated are no longer available. Our goal will be to hold a Christmas in July 2021 pending the outcome of this pandemic. A decision will be made in January 2021. Please bear with us during this time. We are doing our best to make this work.

**LMD Ingathering Committee**

**CROP Hunger Walk and Drive-by Options: Thurs., Oct. 1-Sun., Oct. 11, 2020 - SEE ATTACHED FLYERS**

**Due to Covid-19 precautions, participants may choose to:**

**Walk** anytime, anywhere October 1-11, 2020, carrying CROP Hunger Walk signs and posting photos/videos on social media.

**Register** – to participate in the walk or the drive-by at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa/>

**Drive or ride** - Sunday, October 11, 2020 in a vehicle decorated with CROP Hunger Walk signs. **A 10-mile/30 minute loop, starting from St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S Ott Street, Allentown, PA 18104**

**Signs** are available at

<https://resources.crophungerwalk.org/resources/promote-your-walk/>

**Register** – for drive-by time at

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/xynzkE7/CROPDriveBy> to receive your unique vehicle number and time assignment.

**Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank** – Nonperishable food items will be collected at St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Oct 11, 2020.

**ONLINE DONATIONS** at

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa/donate>

**CHECKS** for "CROP Hunger Walk" may be given to congregation/team leaders for delivery during October 2020 to Linda Held, Allentown CROP Hunger Walk Treasurer, 3441 Devonshire Road, Allentown, PA 18103.

**St John's Lutheran Church in Emmaus** has 32 gently used black and white choir gowns that are available free to a good home. If anyone is interested, please contact the church office at 610-965-9885 or email to [officemanager@stjohnsemmaus.org](mailto:officemanager@stjohnsemmaus.org).

**Basket & Gift Card Social** – Sat., Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> - 10:00a.m. – 4:00p.m. and Sun., Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> - 12:00p.m. – 3:00p.m. at Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church, 535 W. Emaus Ave, Allentown, PA 18103. Tickets \$5.00 for a sheet of 25 chances, if purchased before Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> - 5 sheets for \$20.00 (a \$5 savings). For more information call the church office at [610-797-4774](tel:610-797-4774). **Masks are required, we will be social distancing. See attached flyer.**

**Clothes Closet - In NEED of Volunteers** – St. Luke's, 417 N 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Allentown, PA 18103. They have gradually lost all their volunteers since they have had to close for Covid. Volunteers needed to come in **1 or 2 mornings a week for two hours** to help sort and organize the backlog of clothing for its upcoming reopening this fall. And also, **volunteers to staff it on Thursday mornings** when they open to the public. There is a great need for at least one bi-lingual volunteer. For more information please contact Leslie Talago at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943).

**COME AWAY TO A QUIET PLACE...** A Brief Pause for Prayerful Renewal in Centering Prayer. 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 discussion 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**, led by Ferd Piccuiro and hosted by Pastor Maritza Dolich via Zoom, **10:30 - 11:30 AM** (Sessions held via **Zoom** temporarily until we can all meet together again in person at the Center for Spiritual Awakening). **Please contact Ferd to be placed on the email list with the Zoom information.** [ferdpiccuiro@ptd.net](mailto:ferdpiccuiro@ptd.net) / Cell: [908-310-4228](tel:908-310-4228), Home: [610-737-7871](tel:610-737-7871)

**SUSPENDED - St. Luke's ELL and Naturalization Test Study groups** have been **SUSPENDED** due to cautions regarding large gatherings during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Please contact Leslie Talago at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) for more information.



## ***Lehigh Mission District Annual Assembly 2020 Highlights***

Here are highlights of the Lehigh Mission District Annual Assembly held on Sunday, September 13, 2020 via ZOOM with 37 participants joining the meeting. The ZOOM platform was hosted by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

Ed Cool, Synod Assembly Planning and Elections Teams Representative, was our afternoon presenter. As a resource Cool helped participants understand the Synod Assembly's voting and caucusing procedures in upcoming election of a new bishop. Through a Power Point slide presentation Cool indicated the Assembly goals were keeping it focused, accessible, and recognizable to assembly participants. To this end, Cool's resources included observant plenary, voting member information, ecclesiastical ballot procedures, Lumi voting platform, and password and user name information. In addition, Cool is seeking additional questions from the mission district and voting members for the 7 nominees for bishop after the second ballot to answer. Earlier in the year, he pointed out that the Information Gathering Survey Team chaired by George Freestone came up with 5 takeaways from the spring survey done in the synod's regions. These 5 takeaways were Vision, Organization, Service, Welcoming, and Change. More details on these 5 takeaways can be found in the Synod's website with links to YouTube.

The Online Synod Assembly 2020 will begin on Friday evening, October 16 and Sunday afternoon, October 18<sup>th</sup> then continue Friday evening October 23 and Saturday morning and afternoon, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The Rev. Kristen Glass-Perez, Muhlenberg College Chaplain, written report thanks the LMD particular Pastor Samantha Drennan and Grace Lutheran Church for coordinating the kitchen kits and collecting funds for 30 international students left at the college due to the pandemic. The funds collected throughout congregations in the LMD and organization was \$4,285.75 and used for food cards.

Chaplain Kelly Brooks reported for Good Shepherd about the election of its new President and CEO Michael Spigel. Kelly mentioned Good Shepherd's building expansion of a new facility at Center Valley.

The following individuals were nominated and elected to the LMD Council: Elizabeth Leibenguth, Chair; Leslie Talago, Treasurer; Cathy Mordosky, Secretary; and Joshua Fink, Synod Council Liaison Lay Male.

We acknowledged Richard Skelly's 22 years of service as LMD Treasurer. Since 1998, Dick has demonstrated dedication and commitment for the well-being of the Mission District's finances. As a token of our appreciation, thank you cards were sent, and a restaurant gift card was presented by the Mordoskys on behalf of the LMD for his many years of service to the Mission District.

I noted the death of The Rev. John E. Lamb who died from an aggressive brain tumor. Pastor John was courageous in the last moments of his life. I was told by Pastor Kurt Garbe that John called the synod office to thank them and for having the pleasure of working with them.

The morning of September 13<sup>th</sup> a funeral service was held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Allentown and presided over by The Rev. Ted Zimmerman. The funeral service honored John with an array of bells both played by his son, Robert, and the congregation. Zimmerman expressed how Pastor Lamb loved the sound of bells. In his memory, a bell was rung as we adjourned the mission district annual assembly.

***Peace,***

***The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, LMD Dean***

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### **OPERATION SUNSHINE**

1933 Hanover Ave.

Allentown, PA 18109

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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.*

**WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT DUE TO  
CANCELLATIONS OF PERFORMANCES BY OUR VENUES,  
AND FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR TRAVELERS,  
ALL OPERATION SUNSHINE DAY TRIPS FOR 2020 HAVE  
BEEN CANCELED.**

### **MULTI-DAY TRIP – POSTPONED TO 2021**

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