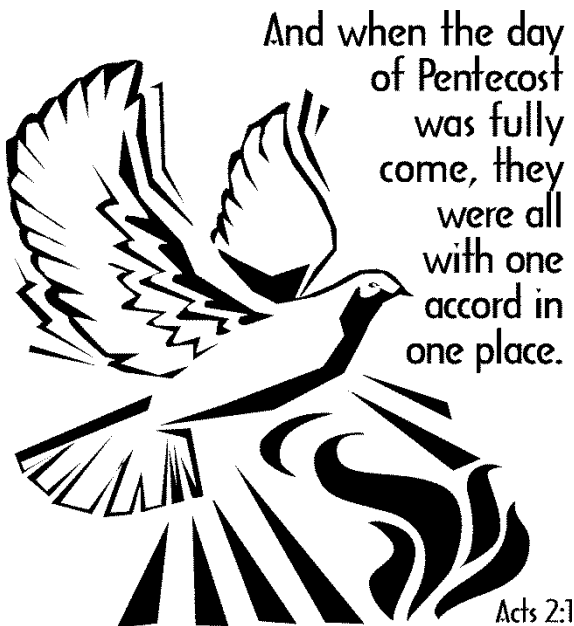


PAUL'S PARISH NEWS

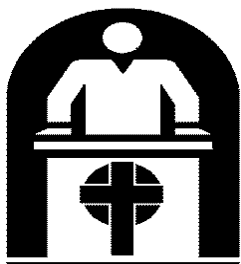


SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

MAY 2021



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



Dear Members and Friends,

Fans at sporting events often shout to opposing fans: “We’ve got spirit. Yes, we do! We’ve got spirit. How ‘bout you?” On the Day of Pentecost, which we celebrate at the end of May, we, as members of God’s team, can answer that question with a resounding, “Yes!” We do have Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This Spirit, sent to us by God on

Pentecost, is living within us, guiding us, inspiring us, calling us, and sanctifying us to do the will of God the Father, for the sake of God the Son. The result: A “Spirited” life of Christian love, service, and witness.

WIND

The first thing the disciples heard when the Holy Spirit arrived on Pentecost was the wind. And that wind of the Spirit still blows through our lives, making us aware of the presence of God, stirring our hearts to believe, and moving us all to action.

FIRE

The Spirit’s flaming tongues over each of the disciples, heads on Pentecost “fired them up” to share the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ to all who were gathered there. That fire of the Spirit still burns within us as we share with excitement what Christ has done for us through his life, death and resurrection.

WATER

On Pentecost 3000 were cleansed of their sins and brought into the family of God through water and Word in Holy Baptism. This water blessed by the Spirit still flows today whenever someone is baptized into the faith.

May God’s Holy Spirit work within you, bless you, and enable you to live out your calling as you seek to use your God given gifts.

Pastor Miller

“If at first you don’t succeed, try doing it the way mom told you to in the beginning.”
—Unknown

USHERS/WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

We are in need of people to help with either the parking lot service or the inside worship service, or both. For the parking lot you will be walking up to the cars and handing out the bulletin, a communion cup(s) and collecting the offering.

For the inside service you will be handing out the bulletin, a communion cup(s) and directing people to a pew. After the service you would be directing them out of the sanctuary, pew by pew. The offering plates are on the tables at the sanctuary doors.

If you would be willing and interested in helping, please contact Steph Wagaman at 610-395-0355 or stepbillwagaman@rcn.com or call the church office at 610-398-7000.

BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

We are taking bulletin sponsorships for 2021. Now that the building is open for worship, sponsorships will be for both the parking lot and inside services. The price is \$20.00. Call the church office to pick a date to sponsor or check the bulletin board for available dates. Fill out the **white** slip with your name, date you are sponsoring, and the wording and place it in the folder under the signup sheet.

Altar Flower Sponsorships are: one vase is \$22 or both vases are \$44. If you are sponsoring both vases, **PLEASE** sign your name to **BOTH LINES**. Fill out the **blue** slip with your name, date you are sponsoring and the wording and place it in the folder under the signup sheet. Call the church office to pick a date to sponsor or check the bulletin board for available dates.

IRONPIGS GAME



Announcing the IronPigs game, Sunday, June 27, 2021. Game time is 1:35 p.m. Gates open at Noon. We again will be in the PenTeleData 3rd Base Party Porch. We have a limit of 30 tickets and the price is \$37.00. Mark your calendars. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex or you can call the church office at 610-398-7000.

A WEEK OF TRIBUTES TO MOM

To celebrate the special woman in your life, use a quote a day the week before Mother's Day, or honor her with tributes the whole week after. Write one of these (or one of your own) on a card, make a message into a placemat, tape one to the bathroom mirror — get creative! Every day of the week is a good day to celebrate her love and show her yours.

“There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one.” —Jill Churchill

“The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children.” —Elaine Heffner

“An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest.” —Spanish proverb

“When your mother asks, ‘Do you want a piece of advice?’ it’s a mere formality. It doesn’t matter if you answer yes or no. You’re going to get it anyway.” —Erma Bombeck

“The mother’s heart is the child’s schoolroom.” —Henry Ward Beecher

“Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible.” —Marion C. Garretty

“Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn’t know you had.” —Linda Wooten

Women of the ELCA Northeast PA Synod

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod

31st Annual Convention

June 12, 2021

Hope Lutheran Church, Tatamy, PA

Registration - 8AM Voting Members Orientation – 8:30AM

What Does the Lord Require of

You?

To Do List:

- 1. Act justly*
- 2. Love mercy*
- 3. Walk humbly with God*

Proverbs 8:8

The convention will be a hybrid event. It will be at Hope Lutheran Church Tatamy and online. Registration will be due by May 30 but voting delegates will need to be registered by May 15 and are required to attend the convention in person. Registration fees are \$20 if attending Hope Tatamy, which includes lunch; online registration fee is \$10.

Since the pandemic did not allow for a spring Justice Event this year, we are combining it with the convention. The afternoon session will be a Bible Study on Unity...The Story of Peter and Cornelius.

There is also a Fall Fun and Service Event planned for September 25, 2021. The board is in the process of booking a church for this event and the information will be forwarded when confirmed.

EAGLE PROJECT FLYER

Hello, my name is Christopher MacDonald. I attend Emmaus High School and Lehigh Career Technical Institute. I am a Boy Scout with Troop 80 in Emmaus PA. I have been in Scouts for 8 years and I am currently working on my Eagle project. My Eagle project is Ancestry Data with St. Paul's Cemetery Association. They have purchased a cloud-based cemetery management program and need to collect pictures and verify data and enter it into the program.

My Eagle project will focus on gathering the information from the Old section of the cemetery. I will be taking pictures of gravestones and linking the data to the new database. So all of the records can be available to the public.

I am raising money for supplies that will be needed for gathering the information and to provide food and beverages for the volunteers for my Eagle project. My goal is \$500.00. Any donation will be truly appreciated. Any donations can be made out to St. Paul's Cemetery Association. (please write Eagle Project on the memo line) **Donations can be placed in the offering plate at worship or mailed to St. Paul's Cemetery Association, PO Box 560, Trexlertown, PA 18087.**

If there are any questions you can reach me by email (chrismac03@gmail.com) or phone (484-353-2159).

A SHARED EXPERIENCE

What comes to mind when you hear the word *Pentecost*? Many people think of a mighty wind, tongues of fire and multiple languages. But Acts 2 begins with another detail that's just as key: Jesus' disciples "were all together in one place." Because they were together physically and spiritually, the early believers didn't miss the life-changing, world-changing birth of the Church.

The pandemic, while changing our definition of gathering, also highlighted our need for interaction. If Jesus' first followers hadn't been assembled on Pentecost, they would've missed the outpouring of God's power and the indescribable joy God had for them. Think about what believers today might miss if we neglect to worship with other friends of Christ. Who would want to miss God's blessings, promises and joy?

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.

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.



We have opened the church, we will still be sending cards to the members of the congregation. If you know of someone who is ill or hospitalized, please let the office know. Judy Szukics will be contacted and she will send a card signed from the congregation.

MEMORIAL DAY

Is it enough to think today
Of all our brave, then put away
The thought until a year has sped?
Is this full honor for our dead?

Is it enough to sing a song
And deck a grave; and all year long
Forget the brave who died that we
Might keep our great land proud and free?

Full service needs a greater toll,
That we who live give heart and soul
To keep the land they died to save,
And be ourselves, in turn, the brave!

—Annette Wynne

WORTH CELEBRATING

While going through the so-called “daily grind,” it’s fun to anticipate special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries and holiday meals — especially when other people cook and clean up! Although *every* day is full of countless reasons to rejoice, we may not always feel like celebrating. Life’s concerns pile high, distracting us from gratitude, joy and intentional acknowledgment of our blessings.

When you need a reason to smile and celebrate, head to www.NationalDayCalendar.com. Almost every food item and hobby now has its own day, and you’ll even find gems such as National Be Late for Something Day (September 5, if you want to plan ahead!).

These fun “occasions” can help you embrace small joys and may even inspire you to celebrate them with family or friends. As you do, consider what it is about today and each gift from God that makes this day special.

THANK YOU NOTES

To Friends at St. Paul's,

Thank you for all the care and concern shown to Bill and me during our recent illnesses. To Prayer Shawl Group - thank you for the shawls you gave to each of us, they are such a comfort. To Pastor Miller - thank you for the calls and for the prayers. To Judy and Choir members - thank you for the notes, cards, calls, and offers of assistance. But most of all - thank you all for prayers. They are greatly appreciated.

Steph and Bill Wagaman

Dear Friends,

On behalf of The Lehigh Conference of Churches thank you for your recent committed contribution of \$300.00 on 3/15/2021. To support our neighbors who are in need.

For 65 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 is most grateful for your support. I look forward to continuing and deepening our partnership in ministry.

Faithfully,

Pastor Genie Watson

Ecumenical Associate

Dear Friends

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 we received on March 12, 2021. Your gift enables us to continue to point people around the world to the life-giving message of God. Thank You! You mean so much to us.

Gratefully

Rick Dehaan

President of Our Daily Bread



1 Sue Bellucci	17 Peggy Apgar
6 Helen Post	17 Carole Beck
7 Carol Weiser	18 Kyana Maslany
8 Bob Bruchak	18 Kelly Morgenstern
8 Dave Feierstein	18 Adrianna Wiswesser
11 Aubrie Pavlacka	22 Sophia Mesko
11 Peggy Saylor	25 Michael Morgenstern
11 Jeff Waltemyer	25 Joe Thompson
13 Kelly Whitt	



1 Susan & Al Ferguson
8 Ken & Janine Ritter
9 Nick & Sue Bellucci
14 Ryan & Monica Parker
14 Matthew & Nicole Wiswesser
18 Margaret & Ray Stoudt
19 Jim & Joyce Eisenhard
21 Anthony & Katie Pisauro
23 John & Heather Caricari
24 Rosalie & Timothy Gallagher
24 Amy & Joe Williams
27 Ethan & Vanessa Eiswerth
27 Rob & Kelly Whitt
29 David & Patrice Walters

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

Carole Beck	Brooke Brumbach	Tom Kellogg
Helen Kessler	Martha Lindenmuth	Larry Schneider
Kathy Shryock	John Thomas	Marilyn Thomas
Bill Wagaman	Steph Wagaman	

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION

The following memorial contribution was been received in memory of Esther Nolf by:
Shirley Yeager

FUNERAL

Pastor Carey officiated at the grave side funeral of Howard R. Bachman, Jr. (a non-member).





A lasting promise



Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.



Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

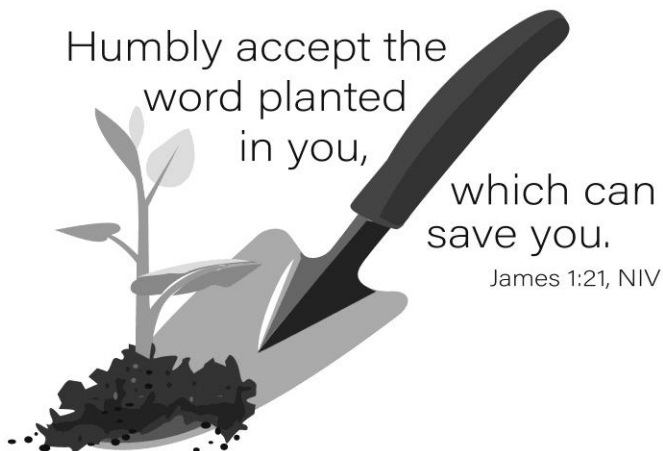
"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answer: power

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS
MAY 16, 2021**

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



CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000

HOSPITAL CODE: #321

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

EMAIL: office@stpaulsbbville.org

Website: www.stpaulsbbville.org

STAFF

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

May 2021 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																	
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2 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship	3	4	5	6	7	8																																																	
9 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship 	10	11	12 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council	13	14	15  ★ ARMED FORCES DAY ★																																																	
16 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	17	18 ELECTION DAY 	19	20 5:45 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting	21	22 1:00 p.m.-Piano Recital (Non-Church Event)																																																	
23 DAY OF PENTECOST 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship 	24	25	26	27	28	29																																																	
30 THE HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship	31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  MEMORIAL DAY					<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">June 2021</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	June 2021							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
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PARKING LOT AND INDOOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

May 2021

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000
or the Council Person of the Month – Anita Eisenhard 484-221-0445

REVISED SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 2, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Daisy Pearson
Janine Ritter
Ken Ritter
Carl Seibert
Sandi Wagaman

10:30AM INDOOR

Daisy Pearson
Ken Ritter
Carl Seibert
Bruce Wagaman
Sandi Wagaman (Reader)

Sunday, May 16, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Calvin Fetherolf
Richard Hartley
Angie Kropf
Daisy Pearson
Carl Seibert

10:30AM INDOOR

Calvin Fetherolf
Richard Hartley
Angela Kropf
Daisy Pearson (Reader)
Carl Seibert

Sunday, May 9, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Frank Bennighoff
Jennifer Bentsen
Janine Ritter
Ken Ritter
Bob Nickisher

10:30AM INDOOR

Zack Dimovitz
Rosemary Lehman
Madeline MacMechan
Frank Szukics
Judy Szukics
Sharon Bortz (Reader)

Sunday, May 23, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Frank Bennighoff
Jennifer Bentsen
Sharon Bortz
Anita Eisenhard
Sandi Wagaman

10:30AM INDOOR

Zack Dimovitz
Rosemary Lehman (Reader)
Madeline MacMechan
Frank Szukics
Judy Szukics

Sunday, May 30, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Sharon Bortz
Anita Eisenhard
Calvin Fetherolf
Richard Hartley
Bob Nickisher

10:30AM INDOOR

Sharon Bortz
Anita Eisenhard
Calvin Fetherolf
Richard Hartley
Bob Nickisher (Reader)

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

Our Synod is trying something new – and we need you! As many of you will know, our 2021 Synod Assembly (SA21) was scheduled to be at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. COVID canceled that plan. Our Synod Assembly for this year is to be virtual once again and is scheduled for June 4 & 5.



Our theme for SA21 is “Growing Young and Vital.

It will showcase our commitment to the nation-wide church renewal program called “Growing Young”. It will also introduce our three-pronged Synod-wide emphasis on the “Vital Signs,” signs of life and thriving among us. These Vital Signs are: **Loving the Land, Healing the Hurt, and Engaging the Stranger.** Our goal was to invite many churches and ministries in the Synod to participate by bringing your ministries in the three areas to display at the Kalahari Resort. **So, what to do, now that SA21 is virtual?**

Introducing NEPA Ministry Lab 2021! (MinLab for short.) MinLab is your opportunity to spotlight how your churches or organization’s ministries are already showing evidence of these Vital Signs. Where is your congregation shining as a “Jesus-Centered Community” (Growing Young)? Think of this day exactly as the name implies: *a ministry laboratory*. 1.) we give you a display area. You showcase your ministry in that space exactly how you choose. It is up to your creativity. 2.) this is your opportunity to mingle with others doing ministries like yours. And, 3.) perhaps most importantly, be inspired by others doing ministry around one of the other vital signs.

We will hold the event mainly outdoors at the Lutheran Center in Allentown – our Synod headquarters – on August 14, 2021 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM. More details about exactly when and how to participate will be coming soon. **This is where you come in!** How can your churches or organization’s ministries help all of us in our synod to see the signs of life among us?

This is your opportunity to proclaim to all the signs of life that are active in your local community. To inspire others to partner with you, or to start a ministry of their own. To show the rest of us how it works, right where you are planted. There will be lots of fun and excitement on full display. We will use as much of the Lutheran Center’s parking lot and property as we can to accommodate all who

TROUBLE THE WATER RACIAL JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION

Registration is now open for the Trouble the Water: **Racial Justice & Reconciliation** event on Saturday, May 22. This is a completely virtual conference with our keynote speaker, the Rev. Cecee Mills, and featured speakers the Rev. Marsha Williams, Dr. Helen Davis, the Rev. Melissa Pohlman, and as both a workshop leader and preacher for the event we have the Rev. James Thomas. This is a day of **worship and workshops** to better grow in our understanding of racial justice and reconciliation that is open to all people: Pastors, Deacons, staff, lay member, non-church people, etc. Some of the topics of the workshops are a biblical view against racism, white privilege, how congregations can support communities during social unrest, & what is implicit bias is all about. [Register](#) from the synod's website. Please register and join us for this important and timely event. A suggested donation for the event is \$25 per person.

want to participate. There will be music – with an emphasis on Growing Young and Vital. Does your church have a ministry in music that reached out to others? Please bring that gift to share with us. There will be food – with an emphasis on food insecurity – an excellent example of all three of our vital signs. Loving the Land by using locally sourced ingredients; Healing the Hurt by sharing generously with those in need; Engaging the Stranger by showing love and compassion to “the least of these”. Join us!!

-Dan Raudenbush, Trinity Lutheran Church, Kutztown

Meet the Staff: Rev. Lauren Wolfe Blatt

I joined the synod staff in January as the **Director of Communication and Events**. I also serve full-time at St. John's, Mahoning, which is a small rural congregation nestled in the Mahoning Valley farmlands. I received my undergraduate degree in Philosophy from Alvernia University, my Mdiv from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and I am currently working on my DMin from United Lutheran Seminary. I was ordained in 2017 as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, and I love pastoring God's people.



I enjoy spending time at home with my wife, Hannah, our dogs (Riley & Sirius), and our cats (Finnegan & Tank). In my leisure time, I enjoy anything related to Pokemon, reading, video games, and completing projects around the house!

The Rev. Nelson Quinones, Dean
 The Rev. Jean L. Huber, Assoc. of the Bishop

610-653-5858
 610-704-5133

Elizabeth Leibenguth, Mission District Chair
 Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor

484-550-0057
 610-437-9927

June 2021 LMD NL news will be due May 14, 2021. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

*******IMPORTANT*******

Financial gifts can be sent to our new mailing address to the attention of our new Lehigh Mission District Treasurer Leslie Talago at: **Leslie Talago, LMD Treasurer, St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 417 N Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18102.**

****REOPENED** – Thursdays 9:30-11:30am. Clothes Closet - St. Luke's, 417 N 7th Street, Allentown, PA 18103. Volunteers are needed to come in 1 or 2 mornings a week to organize donations for two hours (Tuesday or Wednesday mornings).** 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).

LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT ASSEMBLY:

The Mission District Spring Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, April 25th, 2021, starting at 6:00 P.M. The speaker for the evening is our new Bishop Christopher deForest. The ZOOM Invite will be provided as we get closer to the event.

CHRISTMAS INGATHERING UPDATE:

Last year it was decided to postpone the 2020 Christmas Ingathering. This year it was the hope of the Christmas Ingathering Volunteers to host the Christmas Ingathering in July. Unfortunately, the passing of one of the co-chairpersons, along with only a few congregations open for in-person worship due to the pandemic have made this event challenging. At this time, the Christmas Ingathering is postponed until further notice. Christmas Ingathering Committee

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 / 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

Save These Dates!

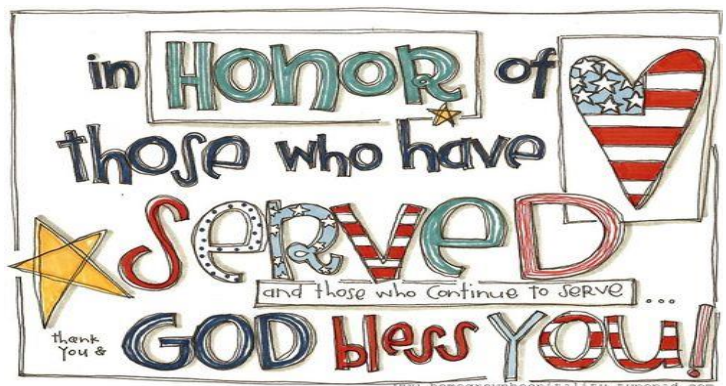
Greater Allentown **CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 10, 2021,**
 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m.
 at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown,
 PA 18104

CROP Recruiters' **Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun., Aug. 29, 2021,**
 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 <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/page/about-the-walk>

The CROP Hunger Walk Pages are Live!

Please find your NEW Walk page on our new OneCause Platform
 at www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa



Stigmata: The Eternal Scars of God

Have you ever wondered about the scars of God? We are a people who believe in a Triune God revealed in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. That is our confession. In this Christian understanding of the Triune God, we find one who has been scarred—Jesus the crucified one.

When I read the Scriptures about the Passion of Christ, I think of the scars made by the beating Jesus received in the hands of the authorities. I think of the scars on his forehead from the crown of thorns. I think of the scars on his hands and on his feet from the piercing nails. I think of the scar on his side made by the puncture of the spear to his body.

Then on “The third day he rose again from the dead.” We believe the witness of the men and women disciples, the apostles, and the Church creeds. This is our confession.

Jesus said to Thomas, *“Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe. Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God! Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”* **John 20:27-29**. What this text says is that Jesus had visible scars on his body. Jesus’ resurrection did not take away his scars and wounds. These are the eternal stigmata of open wounds and scars on the Christ that continues to be revealed to the world.

We stand in witness of the scars and wounds in our world. We have witnessed the scars and wounds on Asian Americans that have been captured on videos. Many have been attacked while walking by on the sidewalk. We’ve seen the scars and wounds on African Americans recorded on cell phones from traffic stops. Many don’t make it home. We’ve seen the scars and wounds on the victims affect by shootings. Are these scars and wounds difficult to believe? We’ve been traumatized—scarred—from seeing these events played out on media.

The resurrection is an invitation to see the scars and wounds in our world and come to believe. Then our confession like Thomas becomes God’s reconciliation with one another in Christ.

Blessed Eastertide,
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones
Lehigh Mission District Dean

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.

We hope this newsletter finds all of you happy and healthy. It’s hard to believe that it has been over a year since we were able to travel together. With the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccines, we feel that with care, we will be able to travel together again. We know the demand to get back to normalcy is out there, and we hope that we can help all of you do that. So, here are the upcoming trips that we have “planned”. Of course, everything depends on current directions from the state and the CDC at the time of the trip. Hope to hear from you and see you soon! Dick and Paula

****PLEASE NOTE THAT MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED ON THE BUS AND AT ALL VENUES****

MULTI-DAY

June 7 – 10 – MAINE – 4 Days/3 Night

Includes Kennebunkport and the Portland Lighthouse 3 Nights lodging, 3 full course dinners including a “Downeast” Lobster Bake, Narrated Harbor Cruise of Casco Bay, Boothbay Harbor Tour, Eartha Revolving Globe, Maine Narrow Gauge Railway, LL Bean and Dexter Factory Outlets, Nubble Lighthouse, taxes, and gratuities included. Contact the Skelly’s via LMDopsunshine@aol.com or call at 610-433-6878 for a complete itinerary and pricing.

Final Payment will be due by April 23, 2021

July 20 (Tues.) – SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE – QUEEN

ESTHER – **Everyone has a story.** Set in the opulent yet perilous Persian Empire, QUEEN ESTHER is a captivating tale of beauty and bravery. Esther’s ordinary life changed forever when she was taken through the palace doors, entering a new world of royalty and risk. With a crown on her head and a secret in her heart, can she find the courage to trust in God’s plan and believe that she was made for such a time as this? Experience one of the most riveting Bible stories of the Old Testament as it comes to life with magnificent sets, special effects, and live animals in this brand new, original stage production! Lunch at the Shady Maple Buffet.

Bus leaves St. Timothy’s at 10 AM Cost \$110 Payment

Deadline: Thurs., June 11, 2021