

# PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Breinigsville, PA

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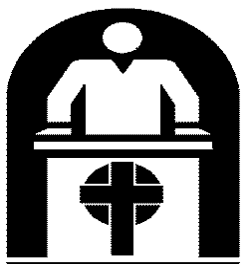
**JULY/AUGUST 2021**

*Seek the things  
that are above,  
where Christ is.*

COLOSSIANS 3:1, ESV

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,

As I write this, I'm looking at this Sunday's (June 13<sup>th</sup>) gospel lesson. It's the one from Mark where Jesus is with his disciples on a boat. Jesus is fast asleep and a storm came up, the boat was filling with water and the disciples seemed overwhelmed. They thought the boat was going to sink. They asked Jesus whether he was concerned

that they might perish. Jesus, then stills the storm. He rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" The wind ceased and the storm stopped. The disciples seemed to have lost faith, for Jesus says "Have you no faith?" The disciples apparently lost faith in Jesus even though they had been following him for some time.

I'm reminded of another type of storm that I experienced in recent days. That's one of moving from one house to another. Moving is a stressful and overwhelming experience in one's life.

It ranks high on the list of stressors that psychologists have developed to measure stress in your life. We only moved about 2 miles from our previous location so one would think it's not so bad. But as Nancy and I watched the movers do their thing, it seemed like a whirlwind, watching men carrying your stuff out the door, watching your packed boxes and furniture flying down the steps from the second to the first floor on a pre-laid cardboard slide! It's a bit overwhelming. Add to that all that leads up to that day: signing and e-signing documents, paperwork with the realty and loan companies, renting a storage unit and dragging stuff there, worrying about the buyers backing out of the deal, packing our own boxes for two weeks leading up to moving day. We felt like we were drowning in this mess. I believe those feelings generated from those experiences were not unlike the feelings of the disciples.

Oftentimes when we're under stress we tend to lose faith. We feel overwhelmed and drowning in the details of whatever is going on in our lives. But as Jesus demonstrates, he is always there for us. He says, "Have you no faith?" "Why are you afraid?" Jesus awakes from sleep as if to say, "I will always be here for you." You need not to doubt for our assurance is in our Lord. Christ is always there in the midst of the storm even if we doubt or lose faith. You can count on that!

Pastor Miller

## ASSISTANT SCHEDULES

The assistant schedules at this time are being done one month at a time. With the two services, people not willing to help, conflicts in schedules, summer vacation it is not easy for Steph to coordinate the schedules. So until we can get more volunteers, the schedule will be mailed once a month. Please look the schedules over and let me know of any changes needed.

Cindy

## 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 worship, we will be worshipping the way worshipped before Covid 19. You will be handing out the bulletin. Hymns will be sung. The offering will be collected in the pew. Communion will be taken at the altar. You will be directing the congregation to the altar and handing them a communion cup.

If you would be willing and interested in helping, please contact Steph Wagaman at 610-395-0355 or [stepbillwagaman@rcn.com](mailto: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.

# PARISH NURSE NOTES

Peggy Saylor, RN

I cannot tell you how wonderful it was to be back in church in the beginning of June. The vaccine clinics that I have been working have decreased the number of clinics that are needed, and Sundays are no longer scheduled vaccine days. The added bonus on Sunday was that the CDC has lifted the requirement for wearing masks for vaccinated individuals. Not only could I attend and worship, but I could see the smiles on everyone's faces and sing beloved hymns!

I thought I would use this time to provide updates on some of the "hot topics" for COVID-19 that are being discussed as of June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The information below comes mainly from the CDC website.

1. If you had COVID-19, you should still get the vaccine. Experts do not know how long you are protected from getting the virus again, so the vaccine is recommended. If you were treated with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma during your illness, it is recommended that you wait 90 days to get the vaccine.
2. Vaccines are safe for children ages 12 and older. While some may have side effects from the vaccines, they are usually mild and should go away in a few days. Presently the rate of infection for adolescents is rising so the vaccines are especially important for that age group.
3. There have been some concerns raised over cases of myocarditis (inflammation of the muscles of the heart) among young adults after receiving the vaccine. The number of cases in the general populations runs around 10 cases per 100,000 individuals. In the United States there were 7 cases of young adults (16 – 30 years old), mostly males while there have been 2.2 million individuals just between the ages of 16 – 17 that have received their vaccination. Experts are stressing that the risk of myocarditis is not a contraindication to the vaccine and are not confirming that the cases were a result of the vaccine. They stress that getting the COVID-19 virus carries a higher risk for myocarditis as well as lasting respiratory and heart problems.

If you have any concerns about the safety of the COVID vaccines, please talk to your health care provider. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA NORTHEAST PA SYNOD

The Women St. Paul's ELCA met on June 9. Although there were only 4 attendees, we had a great discussion and Bible study.

Those in attendance discussed having meetings over the summer and thought we should. *It was also discussed about having our August meeting at Daisy Pearson's house since we did not have our Lenten Breakfast this year.* If the meeting will be at the Pearson House, ladies that normally attend the meeting will be notified.

## Bible Study

We had a lively discussion during our bible study on *Just L.I.F.E. (Liberation Is For Everyone!)*, Session one, Just Wisdom by Angela T. Ikhabe. "Just Wisdom" delves into how God can open our hearts and minds to a spiritual understanding that is not bound by our human comprehension. At the second session in July, we will explore "Just Truth"; we will witness Jesus' boldness in speaking truth to power. Our third session in August, we will explore "Just Hope"; our role as the body of Christ.

We are planning to meet again on July 14, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

August 11, 2021 meeting at 9:30 a.m. - - Pearson Home?!

31<sup>st</sup> Annual Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Convention Report.

- Approximately 30 women attended the 31<sup>st</sup> annual convention Saturday, June 12, 2021. It was a beautiful day, and we were blessed to have the meeting in the pavilion at Hope Lutheran Church in Tatamy.
- We honored Elsie Frye who had been a life-time participant in the NEPA W-ELCA and is 100 years old.
- Bishop DeForest gave a welcome to the attendees via a pre-recorded message which was very inspiring.
- Angela Bell, our Churchwide Representative from Chicago, addressed us via an online program.
  - Most notably was a statement: "The Holy Spirit is with you; speak up and help and support will follow".

- Jewel Williamson-Burns, Thrivent Representative, reminded us that as a not-for-profit fraternal organization, money needs to be given away.
  - Reminder that we can form Action Teams and receive seed money for our event from Thrivent.

The Story of Peter and Cornelius was a Bible Study in the afternoon. Acts 10:1-8 was read in parts and then the entire group discussed questions regarding the story of Peter and Cornelius.

## **THANK YOU NOTES**

To The Members of St. Paul's,

I thank the Prayer Shawl Ministry persons for the prayer shawl that you made for me. I appreciate the many hours of effort that you put into making this prayer shawl for my comfort during the period of my recuperation. The care and workmanship that went into this prayer shawl is obvious. Again, thank you very much.

Dick Steltz

Dear Friends of St. Paul's,

I want to thank you so much for all your prayers and cards for Larry and I. Also the prayer shawl he received in 2018 for his open heart surgery was being used by him everyday. It gave him so much comfort to have it around his shoulders.

Thank you Pastor Miller for your visits. It truly meant a lot to both of us.

You are all in my prayers for the kindness you have shown us during these difficult times.

God Bless You,  
Mary Schneider

## A NIGHT OF VBS

WHEN: August 18<sup>th</sup>

TIME: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

WHERE: St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Breinigsville, PA

AGES: 3 years - 12 years

Please join us for a fun night of bible stories, bible activities and music.

PLEASE CALL 484-221-0445 (Anita) TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD or Register the night of the event



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## **GREETING CARD CLASS**

St. Paul's is pleased to announce a new class being held at the church on the second Thursday of each month, beginning in September. The class is all about making greeting cards from paper, ink and die cutting. Many techniques are taught and hands on learning with the stamping and die cutting is a must. This class runs from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the cost is \$35.00 which includes everything you need, and you leave with 8 different cards suitable for all occasions

The 3 hours are fun filled and relaxing and will bring out you creativity and imagination. Bring a friend for a fun time. First class is September 9th.

Reservations are required because supplies may be limited. If you are interested please contact Gretchen Galiardo at [ggaliardo@aol.com](mailto:ggaliardo@aol.com) for any more information.



## 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, and 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.

## **LIVING OUT SCRIPTURE**

When Texas suffered an uncharacteristic winter storm in February, one couple's act of kindness toward a stranger demonstrated the power of living by the Golden Rule.

Chelsea Timmons, a grocery store delivery driver, got stuck in the ice-covered driveway of customers Doug Condon and Nina Richardson. Because towing companies were inundated, the couple invited her to stay with them — which she ended up doing for five nights! The three shared meals and conversation, and Chelsea baked them a cake and befriended their dogs. In short, Nina and Doug say, she became “part of the family.”

“Do to others what you would have them do to you,” says Jesus (Matthew 7:12, NIV). Doug echoes Jesus closely when he explains one reason behind their actions: “We have daughters, and we hope if they were ever in a situation like this that there would be someone who would open their house and help them.”

Perhaps Doug and Nina also experienced the delight of another Bible verse: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares” (Hebrews 13:2, ESV).

—Heidi Hyland Mann

## **MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

The following memorial contributions have been received from the following people in memory of Larry Schneider:

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bartnick, Jr.

Julie Kister

Rosemary Lehman

“Your Bunco Friends”

The following memorial contributions have been received from the following people in memory of Esther Nolfe:

Alice Nolfe

The Talley Family

## SAVED FROM SINKING

For Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time, fame and gold medals weren't enough to shore up a drowning self-esteem. The U.S. swimmer, who faced legal trouble and ended up in rehab, contemplated suicide during the prime of his sports career. "I thought the world would just be better off without me," Phelps told ESPN.

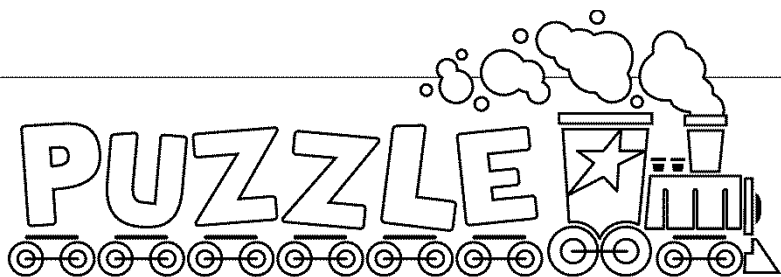
Then a friend, NFL star Ray Lewis, sent Phelps a copy of Rick Warren's bestseller *The Purpose Driven Life*. The book made such an impact on Phelps that he read excerpts aloud to fellow rehab-clinic patients, who dubbed him Preacher Mike. "It's turned me into believing there is a power greater than myself, and there is a purpose for me on this planet," Phelps says. "It helped me when I was in a place where I needed the most help." The swimmer's message to Lewis? By extending a hand and sharing the gospel's message of hope, "You saved my life."

## HOPE DEFINED

Hoping does not mean doing nothing. .... It means going about our assigned tasks, confident that God will provide the meaning and the conclusions. It is not compelled to work away at keeping up appearances with a bogus spirituality. It is the opposite of desperate and panicky manipulations, of scurrying and worrying.

And hoping is not dreaming. It is not spinning an illusion or fantasy to protect us from our boredom or our pain. It means a confident, alert expectation that God will do what he said he will do. It is imagination put in the harness of faith. It is a willingness to let God do it his way and in his time. It is the opposite of making plans that we demand that God put into effect, telling him both how and when to do it.

—Eugene Peterson, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*



# As sweet as honey



Honey is both a sweetener and a medicine.  
How can our words be used in the same ways?



*Directions: Use the hexagon key to fill in the missing vowels and complete Proverbs 16:24, NIV.*



Gr  c    s w  rds

r   h  n   c  m b,

s w   t t  th  s   l

n d h   l  n g



t  th  b  n  s.



PROVERBS 16:24, NIV

Answer: Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24, NIV

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
NEWSLETTER IS  
AUGUST 15, 2021**

**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@stpaulsbbville.org](mailto:office@stpaulsbbville.org)**  
**Website: [www.stpaulsbbville.org](http://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



## Birthdays

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 5 John Kropf       | 25 Kim Bruchak     |
| 6 Stanley Younger  | 25 Sienna Burley   |
| 10 Kathy Maslany   | 25 Kylee Maslany   |
| 14 Briana Mironov  | 28 Anita Eisenhard |
| 15 Melody Pavlacka | 28 John Thomas     |
| 15 Patrice Walters | 28 Earl Wenz       |
| 16 Sarabeth Mesko  | 29 Kayla Nemeh     |
| 21 Ed Pearson      |                    |



## Anniversaries

- 16 Bob & Kim Pearson  
21 Mark & Kathy Maslany  
22 Kim & Shawn Sicher  
24 Jeremy & Jennifer Schmoyer  
30 Bob & Donna Nickisher



## Birthdays

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Robert Bastian  | 12 Gloria Selig      |
| 4 Michele Rampen  | 15 Martha Lindenmuth |
| 8 Kay Schlenker   | 22 William Heminitz  |
| 12 Joseph Mironov | 25 Jeffrey Heminitz  |



## Anniversaries

- 6 Joe & Amy Mutis  
10 Tom & June Kellogg  
11 John & Diane Kropf  
12 Michael & Kelly Morgenstern  
16 Ginger & Bill Hallock  
24 Bruce & Peggy Saylor  
31 Joe & Felicia Flores

# July 2021      St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
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<b>4 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST</b> 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Inside Worship 	<b>5 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>	6	<b>7</b> 1:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee	8	9	<b>10</b> 9:00 a.m.-WELCA Board Meeting																																										
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## **PARKING LOT AND INDOOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**July 2021**

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000  
or the Council Person of the Month – Jennifer Bentsen 484-226-5227

**Sunday, July 4, 2021**

**9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Sharon Bortz  
Anita Eisenhard  
Cal Fetherolf  
Richard Hartley

**10:30AM INDOOR**

Sharon Bortz  
Anita Eisenhard  
Cal Fetherolf  
Richard Hartley  
**Altar Guild:** Jennifer Bentsen  
**Communion Asst:** Rosemary Lehman  
**Lay Asst:** Meredith Schmoyer  
**Reader:** Meredith Schmoyer

**Sunday, July 18, 2021**

**9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Sharon Bortz  
Richard Hartley  
Ken Ritter  
Carl Seibert

**10:30AM INDOOR**

Richard Hartley  
Frank Szukics  
Judy Szukics  
Bruce Wagaman  
**Altar Guild:** Janine Ritter  
**Communion Asst:** Sharon Bortz  
**Lay Asst:** Sandi Wagaman  
**Reader:** Peggy Kern

**Sunday, July 11, 2021**

**9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Frank Bennighoff  
Jennifer Bentsen  
Bob Nickisher  
Peggy Saylor

**10:30AM INDOOR**

Zack Dimovitz  
Rosemary Lehman  
Madeline MacMechan  
Judy Walker  
**Altar Guild:** Amy Williams  
**Communion Asst:** Peggy Saylor  
**Lay Asst:** Daisy Pearson  
**Reader:** Sandi Wagaman

**Sunday, July 25, 2021**


**9:45AM PARKING LOT**

Frank Bennighoff  
Cal Fetherolf  
Bob Nickisher  
Carl Seibert

**10:30AM INDOOR**

Zack Dimovitz  
Rosemary Lehman  
Madeline MacMechan  
Judy Walker  
**Altar Guild:** Rosemary Lehman  
**Communion Asst:** Cal Fetherolf  
**Lay Asst:** Meredith Schmoyer  
**Reader:** Bob Nickisher

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# SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

## MINLAB 21

**How has your church been able to: Heal the Hurting, Love the Land, and Engage the Stranger?**

Learn new ideas to take home and try. And show and tell others about the "vital signs" you've seen "growing" in your midst through God's grace, love and care in your community. On August 14th we will also go deeper into ways the "Growing Young" movement across our Synod is making a difference and changing the ways we are growing as a Jesus-centered community.

We hope every congregation will send at least two participants, to learn and share and grow. **Join us August 14, 2021**

**Sign up online at [Godslove.org](https://Godslove.org)**



## Christian Freedom vs. American Freedom

As we gather this month to celebrate July 4<sup>th</sup> and the **Freedom** ascribed to us as citizens of the United States of America, we often think of the individual freedoms that we 'hold dear.' Those "I" statements regardless of impact on another. We must understand these notions of what freedom means for us as **Lutheran Christians** and how we celebrate freedom *from* and *for*. We often see freedom as *from* something: oppression of speech, restriction of arms, etc. However, when God talks about freedom, God speaks of freedom *for* one

## Meet Laurie Christman

Born and raised in Allentown, I now live with my husband of 31 years, two young adult sons, and one tortoiseshell cat in Lehigh Township, Northampton County. Hobbies flow with the seasons - gardening, reading, jigsaw puzzles and upcycling crafts.

During office hours, you'll find me at the front desk in the Lutheran Center. I enjoy answering the phone and greeting folks when they visit. If I don't have the information you need, I'll track it down or connect you with the right person. When you do your yearly congregational report, I'm the person that makes sure we have a copy in the synod's record. I keep the roster of people and congregations updated as well. My most challenging task is scheduling supply pastors for congregations in transition, as there seems to never be enough pastors.



another. Jesus states the 'greatest commandment' is to *love one another as he (Jesus) loves us* (John 13:24-25). This biblical freedom, is one which Luther encouraged others to share. The promise that God engages us in freedom for one another. **To build up**

**community** by strengthening relationships with one another and with God. The diversity by which we have been created is something that is meant to offer strength not divide. Luther spends a lot of time with Paul's letters, and the language of the **Body of Christ**. *We are all members of Christ's body, together, united, with differing views, even on the understanding of Freedom.*

While we are different we are united. The same blood flows through us all." Luther quotes Romans 6:4 in the Small Catechism to support the above claim: "We were buried with Christ through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too, are to walk in new life."

Let us celebrate this nation's day of independence both from oppression, and for the love of one another: that we may see the unity in the diverse makeup of our nation, which strengthens our resolve as community, to live into the Body of Christ more fully every day.

*Pastor Zach Labagh, Lead Pastor at Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church, Knauers, PA*

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

**September 2021 LMD NL news will be due August 17, 2021.** E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

**\*\*NEW \*UPDATE\*** - The **Clothes Closet** is now open again. We are going to **still need volunteers during the week to help sort and organize our donations.** This can be as little as an hour or two per week. We want to keep this vital ministry to the community going. For more information, please contact Leslie Talago, Parish Administrator at St. Luke's Lutheran Church at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or email to [LETalago@StLukesLuth.org](mailto:LETalago@StLukesLuth.org). Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

**CHRISTMAS INGATHERING UPDATE - INGATHERING IS BACK**

The LMD Christmas Ingathering will once again be hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church in Emmaus. Date: Wednesday, **December 1, 2021**, Mark your calendars.

**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

**Please Save These Dates!**

**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

**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.

**For more information go**

to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/alltownnpa>

**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)



## 2021 Online Synod Assembly Highlights

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Synod Assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod was held online from June 4-5, 2021. One of the main highlights of the two day online Synod Assembly was the Installation Service of The Rev. Christopher deForest as Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. The Bishop's Installation Service took place at the Lutheran Center with The ELCA's Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton officiating and a wide representation of ecumenical bishops. On behalf of the Lehigh Mission District and Council, Congratulations Bishop deForest!

The Assembly's theme was Bishop deForest's signature vision: Growing Young & Vital. The Friday to Saturday Synod Assembly voted and approved the several resolutions. Here are some of the highlights:

Reference and Counsel Resolution #1: "Resolution to Include Non-Binary And Gender Fluid Persons In The Official Life Of The Church" be sent with enthusiastic approval to the 2022 Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a memorial from this synod. VOTE: YES 229 (75.83%) NO 73 (24.17%). The resolution was adopted.

Synod Council Resolution: BLS10.01. An in-person, electronic, or telephone meeting of the Synod Council may be called by (a) the Synod Council itself by taking action at any given meeting to set a future date on which to meet again; (b) the bishop, (c) the vice president, or (d) any third of the members of the council. Although notice of at least two weeks should be provided if the timeliness of the projected business allows, there is no minimum time required for notification provided that all council members currently within the synod's territory have been notified prior to the meeting. VOTE: YES 267 (97.80%) NO 6 (2.20%). The resolution was adopted.

Constitution Committee Resolution: BLS 7.21.c. Regardless of how many voting members a congregation is otherwise allotted, that a congregation may have an additional lay voting member as long as at least one of the voting members from that congregation is a person under the age of thirty or a person of color and/or whose primary language is other than English, it being understood that any such additional lay voting members should not count towards the requirement that at least 60% of the voting membership shall be composed of laypersons. VOTE: YES 237 (83.75%) NO 46 (16.25%). The resolution on the bylaw regarding voting membership was adopted.

On the approval of Compensation Guidelines for Clergy: VOTE: YES 281 (97.91%) NO 6 (2.09%). On the approval of Compensation Guidelines for Deacons: VOTE: YES 277 (97.54%) NO 7 (2.46%).

To hear the full discussions on these resolutions, go to the synod's website at [nepasynod.org](http://nepasynod.org) and click the link **Synod Assembly 2021** (Recordings and Vital Information). Enjoy the worship music and the themes of Growing Young: Heal the Hurt. Love the Land. Engage the Stranger.

Blessings,

**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](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com)  
Web site: [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://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 NOTE THAT MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED ON THE BUS AND AT ALL VENUES\*\***

### **August 19, 2021 – Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre – GRUMPY**

**OLD MEN, THE MUSICAL** - Don't miss this laugh-out-loud story of family, friendship, love, and romance in a fresh new musical that's guaranteed to delight! Based on the 1993 film, which starred Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau, and Ann-Margret, written by Mark Steven Johnson. The story of two aging men, Max and John, neighbors, who have been feuding for most of their lives. They are re-united in friendship through the love and compassion of their new neighbor across the street, the beautiful, eccentric, and charming Ariel. Lunch is served will be a buffet style served by Dutch Apple staff.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM**

**Cost \$94 Payment Deadline: Thurs. July 15, 2021**

### **September 30, 2021 – Doolan's All Star Productions –**

**HAPPY DAYS/UNDER THE BOARDWALK** – Join the Operation Sunshine group for an afternoon of outstanding entertainment, food, and music that we all remember and love. Enjoy a one-hour open bar Happy Hour before lunch and you don't have to worry about driving home! Menu choices to be announced.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:15 AM**

**Cost \$95 Payment Deadline: Thurs. August 19, 2021**

### **October 14, 2021 (Thurs.) – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse – DR. K'S MOTOWN REVUE**

- Dr. K's Motown Revue takes the stage once again with an amazing array of seasoned musicians and singers! With every performance, this talented group of performers transports you back to another era, all the while delivering a very realistic re-creation of the Motown Sound. Keeping true to its roots, Dr. K's Motown Revue combines the perfect blend of Motown era costumes with fantastic singers who complement this latter day "Funk Brothers" type band of musicians perfectly. The resulting show is nothing short of a powerhouse performance! All this plus a delicious served lunch (choose from their menu of 7 entrees including a veggie entree) plus an outstanding dessert buffet.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM Cost \$98**

**Payment Deadline: Thurs. September 30, 2021**