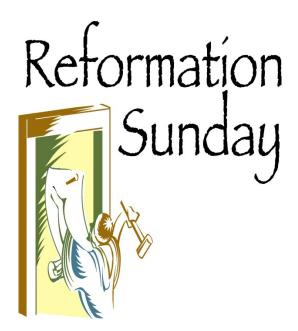
PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Breinigsville, PA

OCTOBER 2022



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



Dear Members and Friends,

In a couple of weeks, we will begin a three-week stewardship emphasis titled *Experiencing the Joy of Generosity*. This will be an exciting and beneficial three weeks of sermon messages and lay presentations. We believe this program will be a blessing to those who already are experiencing the joy of being generous with the gifts God has given

to them, and we hope and pray that this effort will help many more experience the joy that comes from giving faithfully and generously.

When we give to God through giving to our church and others, we experience true joy. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." God doesn't need our gifts, but he asks us to give them. God accepts and uses them and gives us joy in sharing them. As we respond to God's love for us by giving back to him part of what he's given to us, he reacts by giving us even more. "Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you" (Luke 6:38). Although we don't give so that we will receive God's blessings, God's Word promises us that, when we give faithfully and willingly, we will receive blessings.

Have you ever wondered why you are left with such a joyful feeling when you are able to give a gift to your church or to help a person in need? The answer to that question may be rooted in us as Christians who are being recreated in the image of God. To be made in God's image means we are made to be like him whose nature is to give. Giving helps us feel fulfilled as we reflect God's nature. Our Creator empowers us to give joyfully to our church and others according to his will. With this attitude of joyful gratitude, others see his image through us.

Our pursuit for fulfillment and joy culminates in the discovery that we receive those things when, by God's grace, we respond with eagerness to God's directive to give.

We hope and pray that the emphasis *Experiencing the Joy of Generosity* will be a blessing to you and your family!

Pastor Miller

HARVEST HOME



We will celebrate Harvest Home on Sunday, October 2nd. We are asking for donations of non-perishable food items. You may bring the items to church and put them in the box provided in the narthex. The food will go to the Allentown Food Bank.

PET BLESSING



St. Paul's will hold its Annual Pet Blessing on October 2nd. The event starts at 12:30 p.m. with the blessing to be held at 1:00 p.m. – rain or shine. Available food: hot dogs, chicken BBQ, water, and baked goods. Raffle tickets will be available for cat baskets, dog baskets, and gift cards for Target, Giant, and Amazon. Tickets are \$5.00 each, 3 for \$10.00, or arm's length for \$20.00.

CONCERT SERIES

St. Paul's is resuming its concert series on October 9th at 3:00pm when the Covenant Brass Quintet will entertain us in the sanctuary. Come and enjoy!

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

St. Paul's will again be selling shopping passes to be used at Boscov's on October 19, 2022. The passes are good for 25% off most items. There are limited discounts (10%, 15%) on other items which are listed on the back of the pass. The passes will be available on Sundays in the narthex for \$5.00 each. All proceeds go to St. Paul's.

BASKET SOCIAL NEWS

Our first Basket Social was a great success – we made a **GRAND TOTAL of \$7,649.75**, which will go towards St. Paul's budgetary needs.

A breakdown of the income is:

\$6,645.00 Tickets 604.75 Bake Sale

400.00 Kitchen Food Sales

A great deal of thanks goes to our hard-working Basket Social Committee: Carol Derr-Breinig, Melanie Dimovitz, Anita Eisenhard, Peggy Kern, Diane Kropf, Pastor Miller, Frank Szukics, Judy Szukics, Becky Theodore, and Steph Wagaman. The Committee has been meeting and planning this event since November 2021!

We could not have done it without the help of the congregation. Thank you for all the donations of completed baskets, baskets to fill, gift cards, items, paper products, and baked goods. Special thanks for the anonymous donations of some of our Specials and the Grand Prize. Thank you especially to the volunteers who came out in droves to help set up, tear down, and assist throughout the day with kitchen duty, bake sales, food sales, ticket sales, ticket drawings, basket-running, and telephoning. There was a lot to do – and we had lots of help getting it done!

We would also like to gratefully acknowledge these local organizations who have donated baskets and/or gift cards, or food/beverage items:

Applebee's	Josh Early
Auto Zone	Keystone Foods
Barnes and Noble	Nestle
Bimbo's	Nothing Bundt Cakes
Car Wash on Broadway	Philadelphia Eagles
Cozy Home Originals	Picasso Pizza
D&J Sports	Potsy Pizza
Fiorentina	Premise Maid
Fogelsville Hotel/HOPS	Red Robin
GIO Italian Grill	Dan Schantz

Giant	Schmoyer Funeral Home
Healthy Alternatives Health Food & Nutrition Center	Slice of Italy
Herr's	Texas Road House
Hometown Diner	Tractor Supply
Ice Cream World	Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church
Jaindl	

PRAYER SHAWL NEWS SEAFARER'S PROJECT IN 2022

Just an update on the Seafarer's Project. As you know, in addition to making hats/cowls, we are planning to put together 12 Christmas satchels for the seafarers. A satchel will contain a sweatshirt, t-shirt, socks, and a snack item in addition to a wool hat and cowl. The sweatshirts and T-shirts have been purchased with Thrivent grant money. In October, we will ask the congregation for donations of socks and snack items.

The deadline for completing hats and cowls is **Sunday, November 6** – they will be blessed at the 10:30AM worship service on that day. So please remember to bring your finished pieces on or before November 6. Also, we would like if each person making hats and cowls would write out a Christmas card for the recipient, to be included in the satchel. So far I have these people down for making hats and cowls: Patti Everett, Carole Fiori, Jackie Grove, Peggy Kern, Judy Noll, Daisy Pearson, Sandi Wagaman, Steph Wagaman, and Irene Wenz. Please bring your signed Christmas card on November 6 as well!

PARISH NURSING NOTES

"Breast Cancer Awareness Month" October 2022 Peggy Saylor, RN

October is designated as Breast Cancer Awareness month. First a few facts:

- 1 in 8 women and 1 in 833 men will develop breast cancer during their lifetime that is one person every 12 minutes in just the United States.
- The two greatest risk factors for developing breast cancer are getting older and being female.
- In 2021, it was estimated that 43,600 women and 530 men in the United States will have died from breast cancer.

These are staggering statistics but there are steps that you can take to help decrease your risk of mortality from breast cancer:

- 1. Know your family history. Did anyone in your family have breast cancer?
- 2. Check yourself! Monthly self-breast exams help you establish a baseline and will make you more aware if changes occur. It is recommended to do self-breast exams around the same time each month and normally best about a week after your period ends.
- 3. Get screened on a regular basis. Talk to your primary care provider to discuss when you should start screening based on your family history and other risk factors. The American Cancer Society recommendations are that if you are at average risk and between the ages of 40 and 44, you have the option to start screening every year. Women between the ages of 45 to 54 should get screened every year and women ages 55 and older can switch to mammograms every other year or continue with yearly screening. Screening should continue if you are in good health and expected to live at least 10 more years. However, the best recommendation would be to discuss your needs with your primary care provider based on your individual risk assessment.

A side note to scheduling mammograms around times of getting a COVID vaccine or Flu vaccine:

During the winter of 2021, some health care providers were suggesting a 4-6 week delay in getting a mammogram since vaccines can cause enlarged lymph nodes (it just means that your immune system is working correctly.) Since then, the Society of Breast Imaging, based on multiple published studies, has changed the recommendation to no delay between a vaccine and a screening mammogram. Again, check with the doctor who orders your mammograms regarding the timing of the study.

4. Live a healthy lifestyle. Maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly and limit your alcohol intake.

Whether you are a male or female, take care of the body that God has given you and your breasts are part of that body!!



Pam & Dave Craig and Maria Evans became members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church on September 4th. The following is a bio sketch to get to know Dave & Pam and Maria a little better:

Pam & Dave Craig moved from an active adult community in Pennsburg, PA, where they lived for 17 years. They were active in their community, both at home and at church, until Covid hit. With David's retirement in 2021, their home was no longer suitable for them. They found Hamilton Walk, loved its amenities and all that is available to do in the area. They are looking forward to learning the area, meeting new people and getting involved again.

Maria Evans has lived in the Lehigh Valley of PA most of her life. Maria works for MLHS in Philadelphia. She likes biking, walking, meditating. She also does yoga and she volunteers when her schedule permits.

MONTHLY MADNESS FUNDRAISER



St. Paul's is once again participating in the Monthly Madness fundraiser in conjunction with Dan Schantz Greenhouse. The purchase of a card for \$25 will give the card holder a specific flower (or pumpkin) each month. St. Paul's will receive \$10 for each card sold. Redeeming your monthly gift is easy - simply present the card at the Dan Schantz Green-

house on Lehigh Street in Allentown any time during the month and pick up your gift. Note that you do not have to make a purchase when picking up your gift. And if you cannot get there during the month, the card does not expire! You can pick up the gift the following year!

We are taking orders for Madness cards beginning October 2 through November 20. We will have two pickup dates. Cards ordered by October 23 will be available for pickup on October 30. Cards ordered October 24 through November 20 will be available for pickup on November 27.

You can purchase cards before/after Sunday worship. Look for the display and fill out an envelope. Insert your check or cash into the designated box. Price is \$25. They make great gifts!

GREETING CARD CLASS

Due to illness in the family, the Greeting Card Class is on hold for now.

Gretchen will inform the church when she is able to resume the class.



BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

We are in need of bulletin sponsorships for 2022. Bulletin sponsorships will be for both 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 \$22.00 or both vases are \$44.00. If you are sponsoring both vases, **PLEASE** sign your name to **BOTH LINES.** Fill out the <u>blue</u> 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.

USHERS/WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

We are in need of people to help with the 10:30 a.m. worship service. For the service, worship is the same as before Covid 19 – i.e. hymns are sung, offering is collected in the pew, and communion is taken at the altar. You will be handing out the bulletin, helping to collect offering, and 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 or call the church office at 610-398-7000.

THANK YOU!

We would like to give a big Thank You to St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Breinigsville for all of the wonderful toiletries that were donated by their parishioners. The toiletry drive was organized by Reverend Carey Miller and Meals on Wheels volunteer, Rosemary Lehman. These donations will help us to create many welcome bags for new clients.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA NORTHEAST PA SYNOD

St. Paul's W-ELCA group met on Wednesday, September 21. At our business meeting we discussed outcomes from the NEPA-WELCA Synod Convention held on September 10 where we elected Kathy Walter to the position of President for a one year term and also elected a new Board member, Laraine Montgomery. Several Board positions remain open. The event included in-person messages from Bishop Christopher deForest and Linda Post Bushkofsky, Executive Director of Women of the ELCA. Daisy Pearson represented our unit as a voting member.

We will be observing Thankoffering Sunday on November 20. Women from the congregation will be greeters, ushers, readers and lay assistants. Members of our group will present their personal offerings to be forwarded to the Women of the ELCA. All are invited to make a donation to this organization. There will be a container in the narthex for your convenience.

Our Bible Study for this month was titled "Jesus and Nature: Teachers of Faith" by Sara Olson-Smith. Through vines, branches, mustard shrubs, and fig trees, Jesus teaches us about our reliance on God and on one another. The October study will continue the theme with scripture relating to soil and the conservation of our environment.

All women in the church are invited to join us on the second Wednesday of each month for fellowship and study of God's Word. The gathering begins at 9:30 a.m. and usually ends around 11:30 a.m. Next meeting is October 12, 2022. Please join us.

INFORMATION UPDATES

The church keeps a directory of our members' addresses, phone numbers, and emails. If any of that information has changed for you recently, please notify the office at 610-398-7000. We regularly send out emails containing the newsletter so, it is important that we have the correct information.

CENTS-IBLE STEWARDSHIP

During a children's sermon, the pastor gave each child two pennies and told them to put one in each hand. "With full hands," he asked, "how would you do other things, like drink a glass of juice?" They'd have to let go of one penny. (Likewise, adults must be willing to "let go" of material goods and desires to worship God alone.)

The pastor let the children keep the coins. When my 5-year-old returned to her seat, I suggested she could put them in the offering. Her quite loud response was, "NO! I need more money!" (Maybe my at-home talks about generosity — not to mention the kids message — hadn't sunk in?) Granted, giving is a tough concept, even for grown-ups. But adults would gladly give away "worthless" pennies.

When the offering plate came by, my daughter put in her pennies all by herself. "Now maybe some little girl can eat tonight," she said. God's prompting may take some time to change our hearts. But may we all give so freely and give up what seems important at the time.

—Julie Lee

YOU'RE MADE FOR FAITH

Contrary to popular opinion, faith and doubt aren't opposites. Instead, "doubt is a way station en route to faith," writes J. Ellsworth Kalas. "I can't imagine getting to faith at a grand level that raises the hair on your arms without passing through doubt to get there."

Switching metaphors, Kalas explains, "Faith is an edifice in which some of the grandest parts are the various stones and mortar of doubt." Christians need not worry about doubt, which is "the stuff that goes into the building of faith."

The *real* enemy of faith is unbelief, but it's not a fair fight, says Kalas. Because humans "are made for faith ... unbelief is always an intruder, always working against what is magnificently native to us."



WHERE ARE YOUR WINGS?

Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard told this parable about a town filled with ducks. Does it remind you of anyone?

In a land inhabited only by ducks, all the residents waddled to church one fine Sunday, with ducklings following behind their parents. They entered the Duck Church doors, got situated in their proper pews, sang from the Duck Hymnal and then listened to Duck Minister preach from the Duck Bible (yes, even ducks have their own preferred version of Scripture).

"Ducks, God has given you wings!" the preacher shouted. "With wings you can fly like eagles! You can soar into the sky! No walls can confine you! No fences can hold you! God has given us wings, and we can know the utter euphoria of unfettered freedom! Do you believe you can fly?" In response, the duck congregation all shouted, "Amen!" Then they left their pews ... and all waddled back home.

LIVING IN THE PRESENT

During Martin Luther's great struggle to reform the church in the 16th century, the Holy Roman Emperor sought to silence him. So he spent some lonely months in Wartburg Castle under protective custody. There, as he fought despair, Luther scribbled the words "I am baptized" on his desktop as a reminder that he was living according to an ongoing call from God. He did not write, "I was baptized" but used the present-tense verb. For he rightly understood that in his baptism, God had adopted him as his son, and no human could take that from him.

Later, in his *Large Catechism*, Luther wrote: "To be baptized in God's name is to be baptized not by human beings but by God himself. Although it is performed by human hands, it is nevertheless truly God's own act."

—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.

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.



8 Ginger Hallock 13 Patrick Cope

15 Amy Williams

16 Claudia Haughney

16 Esther Seibert

16 Susan Xander

18 Nancy Miller

21 Anthony Pisauro

23 Garret Pavlacka

24 Helen Kessler

25 Sean Thompson

27 Linda Dietrich

29 Allison Thompson

29 Judy Walker



3 Keith & Becky Theodore

6 Kevin & Dominique Clark

6 George & Julie Sanchez

14 William & Sharon Heminitz

25 Carl & Esther Seibert, Jr.

28 Steve & Amanda Mesko

PASTORAL ACTS FUNERAL

Pastor Carey officiated at the funeral of Allen Blose on August 13.

FUNERAL

The funeral of George Keil was held on September 14. Rev. Fady Lous officiated at the service.

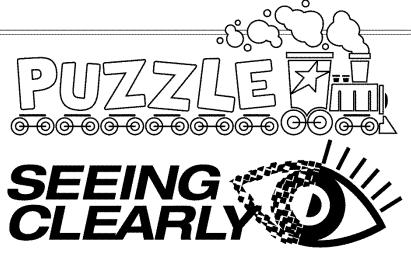
FUNERAL

Pastor Carey officiated at the funeral of Hughey Haughney on September 15.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

The following prayer, included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006) and other hymnals, is often used in Protestant churches on Reformation Sunday. But it's an important petition for all Christian denominations at all times of the year, for we constantly need God's truth and peace, direction and reformation.

"Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen."



God's character is evident through what he made.

Directions: Hold up the puzzle to a mirror. Then write the backward words correctly to complete Romans 1:20, NIV.

DUNOW BHT TO CREATION BHT BONIS NOT

ETERNAL 21H — 23TIJAUD INVISIBLE 2'DOD

POWER AND BUILD NATURE — HAVE BEEN

MORT UNDERSTOOD DAILS CLEARLY

SAH TAHT OS, JOAM NASH SAH TAHW

WITHOUT EXCUSE. SUAMOR 1:20, NIV

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 16, 2022

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



CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000

HOSPITAL CODE: #321

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

STAFF

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

October 2022 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 1:00 p.mDecorate For Harvest Home
2 17 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HARVEST HOME 9:00 a.mWorship 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship 1:00 p.mPet Blessing (12:30 p.m. Food Available)	9:30 a.mBible Study 1:00 p.mWorship & Music Committee	CINDY WILL BE ATTENDING THE	5 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts IN LANCASTER SECRETARIES SEMINAR	9:30 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir		8
9 18 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 9:00 a.mWorship 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship 3:00 p.mCovenant Brass Quintet Concert	9:30 a.mBible Study Columbus Day is Observed	7:00 p.mEvangelism/ Fellowship Committee	9:30 a.mW-ELCA 7:00 p.mCouncil	9:30 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir	14	9:00 a.mW-ELCA Board Meeting
16 19 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 9:00 a.mWorship 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9:30 a.mBible Study 7:00 p.mLehigh Zion Cemetery Board	6:30 p.mHaafsville Board Meeting	1:00 p.mStewardship Committee At Bruce Saylor's Home	9:30 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir	21	22
23 20 th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 9:00 a.mWorship 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship 11:30 a.mRefreshments	9:30 a.mBible Study	25	6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 6:00 p.m7:30 p.m Trunk & Treat	9:30 a.mTOPS 6:15 p.mJoyful Ringers 7:30 p.mChoir	28	29
9:00 a.mWorship 9:15 a.mSunday School 10:30 a.mWorship	9:30 a.mBible Study Happy Halloween					November 2022 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS October 2022

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000 or the Council Person of the Month –Sharon Bortz 610-398-0320

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Sunday	lotohor	''	74177
Sunday,	OCTORET	4.	4044

10:30AM

(Masks Required) (Masks Optional)

No Assistants

9:00AM

Frank Bennighoff, Jennifer Bentsen

Altar Guild: Esther Seibert **Communion Asst**: Peggy Saylor

Communion Bread: Tom & June Kellogg

Lay Asst: Sharon Bortz **Reader**: Jennifer Bentsen

Sunday, October 9, 2022

<u>9:00AM</u>

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

<u>10:30AM</u>

(Masks Optional)

Madeline MacMechan, Peggy Saylor **Altar Guild**: Rosemary Lehman

Communion Asst: Anita Eisenhard
Communion Bread: Anita Eisenhard

Lay Asst: Daisy Pearson **Reader**: Sandi Wagaman

Sunday, October 16, 2022

<u>9:00AM</u> <u>10:30AM</u>

(Masks Required) (Masks Optional)

No Assistants Ken Ritter, Anita Eisenhard

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter

Communion Asst: Cal Fetherolf

Communion Bread: Ken & Janine Ritter

Lay Asst: Rosemary Lehman

Reader: Bob Nickisher

10:30AM

Sunday, October 23, 2022

9:00AM

(Masks Required) (Masks Optional)

No Assistants Frank Szul

Frank Szukics, Judy Szukics
Altar Guild: Jennifer Bentsen
Communion Asst: Daisy Pearson
Communion Bread: Peggy Kern

Lay Asst: Sandi Wagaman

Reader: Peggy Kern

Sunday, October 30, 2022

<u>9:00AM</u> <u>10:30AM</u>

(Masks Required) (Masks Optional)

No Assistants Lacey Edwards, Amy Williams

Altar Guild: Amy Williams Communion Asst: Bob Bruchak Communion Bread: Pat Spencer

Lay Asst: Sharon Bortz **Reader**: Nancy Miller

FALL 2022 BASKET SOCIAL













FAGILES TO STATE OF THE STATE O

Special Prize Eagles Merchandise













♦ Pet Blessing Table **▶**

September 17, 2022

http://

Visit Godslove.org

for up-to-date

happenings

around the synod

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

Q What's happening in NEPA Synod?

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Bishop Conference 2022...

Synod Assembly 2023...

Going Beyond...

Stronger Together...

Growing Young...

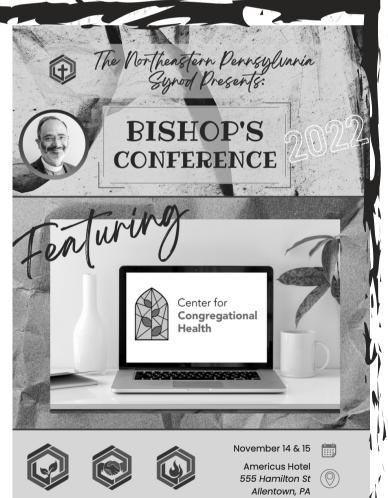
Learning Ministries Day 23...















* 2023 Update on Portico Health Rates & Plan Changes

ELCA-Primary health contribution baseline rate will increase 3%, the same rate increase as last year, which was the lowest in eight years. The 3% increase also applies to sponsored members receiving the ELCA Medicare-Primary health benefit Standard option. ELCA-Primary Gold+ option deductibles will increase to \$1,500 for member only, \$2,250 for member and child(ren) and \$3,000 for member and spouse or member, spouse, and child(ren). Coinsurance, out-of-pocket limits and prescription drug cost-share will not change.

X Prepare for 2023 Annyal Enrollment



As you prepare to make selections in October, keep these things in mind: Sponsoring employers (congregations and organizations) will select the option they will offer their employees Oct. 3-14. Your registered EmployerLink user can access the 2023 Decision Guide and their Custom Comparison Report to help determine 2023 costs and options. Note: any organization that does not make a selection will be assigned Silver+ (A) to offer their plan members the ability to choose the coverage that works best for them. Sponsored members, watch for an email from Portico with specific information about 2023 Annual Enrollment, including when your selection period will be

open.



Save the Pate!



October 2022 LMD website: www.lehighlutherans.com Volume 27, No. 9

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

<u>November 2022 LMD NL news will be due Oct. 14, 2022.</u> E-Mail any information to me at Imd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Spaghetti Dinner: Sat. Oct. 8th - Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church, 8269 Spring Creek Rd. Alburtis, PA 18011. AYCE Spaghetti Dinner **\$10.00** (Children under 5 free) **From 4-7 pm.** Includes homemade sauce, meatballs, salad, dessert and a drink. Any questions, call <u>610-395-1215</u>.

Basket Social – St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) preview night on Friday, October 7th (6-8 PM), event on Saturday, October 8th (10 AM to 2 PM). Takeout food items will be available to purchase on the 8th. Ticket pricing: 1 sheet = 25 tickets; 1 sheet/\$10, 2 sheets/\$20, 3 sheets/\$25. Winners will be drawn at the end of the event and contacted by phone. Email the office at stjohns.lutheran@verizon.net with any questions.

Basket & Gift Card Social: Sat., Oct. 22, 2022 and Sun., Oct. 23, 2022 at – Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church, 535 W Emaus Ave, Allentown, PA 18103. Tickets are \$5 for a sheet of 25 chances. If you purchase tickets before Oct., $22^{nd} - 5$ sheets for \$20 (a \$5 savings). For more information or to have tickets held for you at the door call the church office 610-797-4774. See flyer attached.

<u>Holiday Craft Bazaar:</u> – Nov. 5th, 9:00 – 3:00 - Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church – 8269 Spring Creek Rd. Alburtis, PA. Crafts, Basket Raffle, Food & Flea Market. 610-395-1215

ADVENT CHRISTMAS INGATHERING: Wed., Dec. 7, 2022. St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut St, Emmaus, PA 18049Thank you for all your support in making this Outreach Ministry possible.

<u>Community Free Dinners</u> – Dinners will continue on the 3rd Friday, every other month (except November, when it will be held on the 2nd Friday) from 5-7 PM. Dinners are served "togo", while supplies last. All are welcome.

<u>The Clothes Closet is open</u>: We only have one person trying to help a lot of people at one time. *Another person is needed to help people shop*. The hours are *Thursday mornings 9:30-11:30*. 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 or email <u>LETalago@StLukesLuth.org</u>. Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

NEW CROP Walk <u>Date</u> (Sun., Oct. 2, 2022), <u>Registration/Donation Procedure</u> (online or through your congregation), <u>Flyers</u> & <u>QR</u> <u>Code</u> (attached), <u>Facebook</u> Page!

NEW Date!!!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 2, 2022, 1:30 p.m., at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104

NEW Registration/Donation Procedure!!!

Register/Donate ONLINE at www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa
(Or register/donate through your congregation)

The CROP Hunger Walk is a great **intergenerational fellowship and service event** for families, youth groups, adult groups, and congregations.

Walkers who raise **\$150 or more** earn a free CROP Hunger Walk **T-shirt!**

Two routes from which walkers may choose: a **10K route** (with refreshments available at the Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank, the Lehigh Conference of Churches, and St. James UCC) and a **"Golden Mile"** route (through the Hamilton Park neighborhood).

Through our Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk, we help food-insecure neighbors locally through the Conference Kitchen and the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank. Our CROP Walk funds also support Church World Service's life-saving disaster assistance and long-term development assistance with our neighbors in need throughout the United States and around the globe, including victims of the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/AllentownCROPWalk

Please share the attached flyers (one is for Sponsors and the other is for Walkers/Donors) with your congregation, family, friends, businesses, and others—during worship, on your website, in emails, on social media, in print, any way you can! Thank you!

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly Highlights

The 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly was held on August 8-14 at Columbus, Ohio with a theme of Embody the World.

Imran Siddiqui was elected Vice President of the ELCA. This is a six year term and the highest-ranking position that a lay leader can hold in the ELCA.

Siddiqui is the first Asian American elected to the national post. He is a senior investigator for the U.S. Department of Labor. He was Vice President of the Southeastern Synod. Siddiqui is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Atlanta.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton lead the assembly in a public apology to Iglesia Luterana Santa María Peregrina, Stockton, California of the Sierra Pacific Synod.

The Roe v. Wade Memorial (776-27) Encourages support and prayers for people affected by the overturning of Roe v. Wade, including restored ministers and lay staff at congregations and social ministry organizations. It also calls for a conversation on the church's teaching on abortion and related topics, as well as synodical reviews of the impacts that overturning Roe v. Wade and other related local rulings may have on pastoral counseling and the pastor-client relationship.

At the Churchwide Assembly gathering, an acknowledgement was made of the ELCA's formation and its 35th Anniversary. On April 30, 1987, the American Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Church in America, and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches gathered to form the current Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Columbus, Ohio.

The 2025 Churchwide Assembly will be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

For more information on actions on any of the 78 memorials, please go to ELCA.org/cwa

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
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.

Nov. 16, 2022 (Wed) – American Music Theatre – CHRISTMAS SHOW – "HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS" –

Inspired by the warm, cherished memories of family Christmases spent together with loved ones, *Home for the Holidays* opens on the joyous gathering of family and friends who celebrate with a rich tapestry of song, dance, and holiday traditions. Next, we take you to Santa's Candy Factory where you'll be transported to a dream world of bright colors and Candy Elves! Finally, you'll join us at a "midnight" candlelight service for some songs of worship, traditional carols, and a powerful, harmony-filled rendition of "O Holy Night". Smorgasbord Lunch at Hershey Farm.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30AM
Cost \$115 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Oct. 6, 2022

Dec. 8 2022 (Thurs) – Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre – ELF THE MUSICAL – Based on the 2003 hit movie, Elf introduces us to a young orphan named Buddy, who mistakenly crawled into Santa's bag of gifts and was transported to the North Pole. Raised by elves his entire life, Buddy doesn't know he is actually a human. When his enormous size and poor toy making ability cause him to face the truth, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father and discover his true identity. This modern-day holiday classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner elf as Buddy wins over his new family and helps New York remember the true meaning of Christmas. After all, the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00AM
Cost \$110 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Nov. 10.

