

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



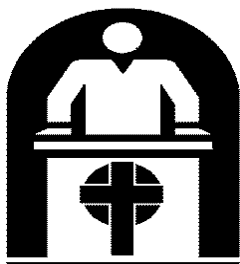
SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

JANUARY 2023



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,

Epiphany: a time to take a *look*. As we look at the church calendar, we see that we will soon be in the season of Epiphany beginning January 6th. And the season of Epiphany is a time when we take a cue from the wise men and take a look at what God is revealing to us in the sky above, in the words of ancient Scripture, in the Baby Jesus,

and in the recesses of our very heart and soul.

It's time to *look up*! It was the wise men from the East who looked up and saw the star that told them that a King had been born. And the wise men kept looking up as they followed the star that led them to Jesus. It's time this Epiphany season to look up at the stars at night, marvel at God's creation, and commit your way to the Lord, who has sent Jesus to be with us.

It's time to *look back*! When the wise men got to Jerusalem, they asked King Herod, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?" Herod called the chief priests and scribes to look back in Scripture. They found the answer in the words of the prophet Micah: "You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people, Israel." It's time this Epiphany to look back at the words of Scripture that declare to us that Jesus is indeed the Messiah, the fulfillment of all the prophecies of old, the revelation of all the promises of God.

It's time to *look down*! When the wise men found the Baby Jesus, they looked down, as they knelt before the Son of God and worshiped him. Only then did the wise men open their treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Lord. It's time this Epiphany season to bow your heads in prayer to the Savior, to come to church for worship, and to humbly offer your gifts to the One who has given us so much – forgiveness, renewal, peace, hope, and love.

As you look, may the Christ Child be revealed to you in your daily life.

Pastor Miller

WORSHIP SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE

3:00 p.m. Service – Our 3:00 p.m. service will require masks and be socially distanced and there will be no singing. Holy Communion will be self-administered in the pew by using the communion packets.

4:30 p.m. Service – Our 4:30 p.m. service will be the family service with candlelight and involving the children of the congregation. The Joyful Ringers (our bell choir) will be playing at this service.

7:00 p.m. Service – Our 7:00 p.m. service will be a candlelight service. There will be special brass music offered at this service.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES – Sunday, December 25, 2022

We will have Christmas Day services. It will be our regular schedule – 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICES – January 1, 2023

There will only be one service at 10:30 a.m. on New Year's Day. It will be a service of Lessons and Carols. There will be no communion. Pastor Miller will be on vacation. Deacon Bruce Saylor will be conducting the service.

CHURCH OFFICE



The church office will be closed on Monday, December 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday. The church office will also be closed on Monday, January 2, 2023 in observance of the New Year's Holiday.

PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE



Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you would like a prayer shawl, or know of someone who is struggling and could use a prayer shawl – please see Peggy Kern or Steph Wagaman.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

The end of 2022 is almost here. In order to make sure all your contributions are posted on your Year End Giving Statement, it is important to have your 2022 contributions received in the church no later than Thursday, December 29, 2022 (Church Office is closed on Friday) or if mailed, they must be postmarked by December 31, 2022. Any contributions that arrive after that, starting in January, will be posted on your 2023 giving statement.

Sandi Wagaman

UPCOMING EVENT FROM THE EVANGELSIM/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

February 12, 2023 – Annual Congregational meeting (reports from staff and committees). Pot-luck luncheon with a special feature of chocolate desserts. Bring your favorite chocolate desserts to share. Ummm goooood!!!

SNOW/CANCELLATION INFORMATION



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

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU

We are in need of bulletin sponsorships for 2023. Bulletin sponsorships will be for both 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 **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.

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.

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.

PRAYER SHAWL NEWS – OUR NEXT OUTREACH PROJECT

We received a heartfelt thank you note from Jeni Janis of Seafarer's International House for our donation of wool hats and cowls, and also the 12 Christmas satchels. The note is reprinted toward the end of this newsletter – please take a minute to read it.

For our next outreach project, we are returning to making Twiddle Sleeves. This is something we worked on in 2019, and learned that there is a need for additional sleeves at Luther Crest. Below is a link to an article about how Twiddle Sleeves are being used to help dementia patients keep their hands busy, and thus become more settled.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-48335245>

Below are links to both knit and crochet patterns for sleeves. Printed patterns will be available at church.

https://www.thewi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/193657/Twiddle-Sleeve-guidelines.pdf

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/twiddle-muff>

<http://www.stpaulsbbville.org/stephscrochetedsleeve/>

We purchased some brightly-colored variegated yarn for this project and created kits containing skeins of other colors and textures that go with the variegated skein. This project is great for using up partial skeins in your stash. But if you don't feel comfortable putting colors together, or you don't have a yarn stash (gasp!), pick up a Twiddle Sleeve Yarn Kit in the storage closet. Feel free to open bags to peruse colors, and pick a kit with colors you like. Even if you are not interested in making sleeves – we could use help with making crocheted or knitted flowers and other doo-dads.

Once completed, the sleeves will be embellished with items to fidget, such as ribbon, lace, pom-poms, flowers, beads, buttons, etc. In 2019, we purchased supplies for embellishments using a Thrivent Action Team grant. We have plenty of those supplies left, and will plan an “Embellish-A-Sleeve Party” in the fall.

Steph Wagaman
Peggy Kern

PARISH NURSING NOTES

“Re-introduction to Parish Nursing”

January 2023

Peggy Saylor, RN

I thought that for this month’s article, I would write a few lines re-introducing Parish Nursing.

Parish Nursing is a unique, specialized practice of professional nursing that holds the spiritual dimension as central to its practice. We are registered nurses who promote wellness in the physical, social, emotional and spiritual realms. Parish nurses do not provide hands-on care or skilled nursing care but rather focus on providing the congregation with methods to promote health within the context of the values, beliefs and practices of a faith community.

I became certified as a Parish Nurse in 2000 and have started programs in various congregations that we were at. It can be customized to each congregation, and I have tried to do so based on the surveys that you filled out when the program was initially introduced.

We had a hiatus due to COVID-19, as did all other programs. However, I would like to re-start the blood pressure checks beginning this month. It seems like the third Sunday of the month does not fall on any holidays so we will start with that. Exceptions would be due to snow and ice as Bruce’s wheelchair does not function well in the elements!!

The checks will most likely be held in the last room on the right at the end of the hall. Watch for signs giving the location and promoting this service.

Please let me know if there are any other services you would like to see in the congregation within the scope of nursing covered in Parish Nursing.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy 2023!

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Our monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, December 14th.

The Thankoffering collected on Sunday, November 20th was sent to the national offices of WELCA in the amount of \$462. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this.

Many thanks also to those of you who contributed to the Lehigh Mission District Ingathering. Ten children from Topton Home Children's Services and six residents at Good Shepherd Raker received wrapped gifts from their wish lists. In addition, more than 160 items went to Daybreak and another 150+ went to Topton Home. Your generosity will be very much appreciated by the recipients.

News from the NEP Synod WELCA

Sharon Bortz and Sandi Wagaman attended the meeting on December 1, 2022 led by our new president, Kathy Walter. Our newest member is Laraine Montgomery who offered her church as a meeting place for the Justice Event scheduled for October 14, 2023. Also planned at this meeting was Spring Fling at Kirby House April 28-29 (it's an overnight event) and Convention June 24 here at St. Paul's. Due to a lack of new board members, the majority of the board has agreed to remain active in planning upcoming events.

We are still waiting for information about the 12th Triennial Gathering in Phoenix September 21 – 24, 2023.

Remember "The Flame"? We are hoping to get this publication up and running again. If you do not have a computer, be sure to let either Sharon or Sandi know so that we can get a printed copy out to you once it is up and running again.

Our Bible Study/Devotional this month was entitled "Good things come in small packages – Moving from wanting to waiting at Advent".

(Continued)

Some things to think about:

In what ways can we put God first, rather than the desire to always accumulate more?

What does God's still, small voice" sound like to you?

Upcoming for Winter/Spring 2023 Bible study will be "The Ten Commandments". It will examine how the commandments still speak to the challenges of our world today.

Join us, the second Wednesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Mark your calendars for January 11, 2023!

ST. PAUL'S CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The St. Paul's Cemetery Association is comprised of six members; three from St. Paul's Lutheran Church and three from St. Paul's United Church of Christ.

Board members are elected for three years and may serve no longer than six consecutive years. A former board member may return to the board after a year of absence after their expired term.

Bob Nickisher has completed his sixth year and we are now in need of another board member from our church.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. approximately four times yearly; unless there are issues that need to be addressed immediately, we will meet more often.

Please see Bob Nickisher, Cal Fetherolf or Sharon Bortz if you have any questions and are interested in becoming a member of the board.

LOOKING FOR HELP ON AN OUTREACH PROJECT

Judy and I are considering joining an outreach project that involves making sleeping mats out of plastic bags – for donation to the homeless. The mats are crocheted out of plastic bags that are cut into strips, tied together, and then wound into a ball - called “plarn.” Even if you can’t crochet, you can help by creating the plarn for us to crochet. We can train you on the process, and it is a great way to get rid of plastic bags! If you are interested in helping out, see us at church or contact us - Judy: disneyjudym@gmail.com or 610 914-7782; Steph: stepbillwagaman@rcn.com or 610 395-0355.

Judy Noll
Steph Wagaman

PROOF OF LIGHT

On January 6 Christians celebrate Epiphany, when the Magi came to worship baby Jesus. Epiphany, which means an appearance or manifestation, symbolizes the first recognition of the Savior by non-Jews. Because Epiphany also is a reminder that Jesus came as the light of the whole world, its symbols include light, candles and a star.

How did the wise men know — and how do we know — that Jesus is the light of the world? As preacher George Buttrick said, “It would little avail to ask how we know. That would be like asking how we know that Beethoven’s ‘Hymn to Joy’ is joyous. If a man were to say, ‘It is not joyous to me,’ he would not condemn the music; he would tell only his morbidness. There is no logic to establish an axiom, for an axiom is the basis of all logic; and the soul of Jesus has axiomatic truth. Jesus is light, and there is no proof for light except light itself.”



THANK YOUS

Dear Prayer Shawl Members,

I received the beautiful prayer shawl you made for me! I love it. Thank you so much for thinking of me and keeping me in your prayers.

Love, Peace & Joy
Irene Wenz

To The Members of St. Paul's,

Thank yo so much for yooor support! Your gift gives more opportunities to campers to connect, learn, and grow at Bear Creek Camp.
Charissa

THANK YOU

Dear Stephanie, Pastor Carey, and the faithful Prayer Shawl Group,

We are so delighted and grateful to receive today your generous gifts of handmade love: 35 hat and cowl sets, plus 3 additional hats, plus the extraordinary 12 Christmas-at-Sea Satchels for our seafarers! We so appreciated you taking the time and effort to hand knit these items and then to send the knitted items along with satchels at your expense.

We know that this is a labor of love for you and we thank you. God is given concrete channeling of christian love through your gifts.

Peace,
Pastor Marsh Drege
Seafares Int'l House, N.Y.C

WISDOM FROM MLK

I am convinced that love is the most durable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a

Utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Someone must have sense enough and morality enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can only be done through love.

—Martin Luther King Jr.



PURSUE JESUS — AND YOUR PASSIONS

If you struggle with making and keeping resolutions, you're not alone. It can be discouraging to focus on what you're doing "wrong" and all the difficult changes in store. Yet January offers great opportunities to listen to God's direction. After all, Jesus came to give us abundant life and wants us to pursue him.

As you review the previous year, ask: What brought me joy? How did I grow? How did I help others? What did I do that no one else could have done? Whether your list includes spending time outside, mentoring or coaching young people or making crafts to give away or sell, continue doing what brings you joy. God gives us each unique gifts and circumstances, so live passionately for him this year!

—Janna Firestone

LEAVE THE LIGHT ON

"We'll leave the light on for you," a motel chain once promised. In other words, they were expecting you and looking forward to your stay. During the time of the high priest Eli, "the lamp of God had not yet gone out" (1 Samuel 3:3). Eli oversaw the tabernacle, so some people say this refers to an actual lamp. But the passage could have a deeper meaning. Although Eli had turned a blind eye to his sons' sins and neglected his duties, God knew that Eli could still be a divine instrument. God knew not to turn off Eli's light. God was expecting Eli to still shine brightly for him, and eventually Eli figured out that Samuel, his young charge, was hearing God's voice.

So if your light seems dim or even burned out, be assured that your pilot light remains on! God has left the light on not just *for* you but also *in* you.

—Julie Lee

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. We will send a card signed from the congregation.



3 Ken Ritter	16 Ryan Parker
9 John Caricari	19 Gianna Caricari
10 Dominique Clark	20 Pamela Craig
10 Rosemary Lehman	22 Westley Mironov
12 Joe Mutis	27 Mark Grammes
12 Robert Pearson	31 Mary Gade
14 Irene Wenz	



3 Joe & Allison Thompson

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISM

On Sunday, December 4, 2022 we were blessed to be witnesses to the baptism of Radek Reid Richmond who was made a child of God in this precious sacrament. Radek is the son of Shelby & Jared Richmond. Rorrick is the big brother of Radek.

FUNERAL

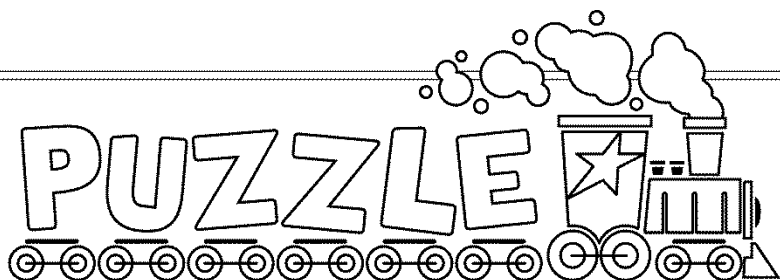
Pastor Carey officiated at the funeral of Joan Breinig on December 7, 2022.

BAPTISM IS SERIOUS BUSINESS!

Baptizing people into God's family has always been a ministry highlight for Pastor Stan Purdum. One Sunday, he had the privilege of welcoming three infants and two young boys to the baptismal font, along with all their parents. After baptizing the babies, Purdum turned toward the families with older children, who'd been instructed to have their boys step forward one at a time.

Immediately, the 3-year-old shouted, "Not me!" and bolted for the exit. His father caught the youngster and carried him back as the congregation chuckled. This time, Purdum wasted no time completing the sacrament.

"Maybe this young boy was not greatly wrong to try to duck baptism," he later pondered. "Far from being a harmless little ceremony, baptism begins a lifetime commitment to God, which over the long haul is no easy thing. It lays upon us the responsibility to live up to the vows we have made." How seriously do you take your baptismal vows?



Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.

FIRST SECOND THIRD FOURTH FIFTH SIXTH

God made wild animals and livestock.

○ _ _ _ _

God said, "Let there be light."

_ _ _ _ ○

God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.

_ ○ _ _ _

God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."

_ _ _ _ _ ○

God created plants and trees.

_ _ _ _ _ ○

God separated the light from the darkness.

_ ○ _ _ _

God made the water teem with living creatures.

_ _ _ _ _

God made the sun and moon.

_ _ _ ○ _ _

God made birds fly above the earth.

_ _ _ _ _

God made stars.

_ ○ _ _ _

God created mankind in his own image.

_ _ _ _ _

God _aw all tha_ he _ad ma_e, an_ _t was ve_y g_od.

GENESIS 1:31, NIV

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, fifth, fourth, sixth;
God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS
JANUARY 15, 2023**

**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

January 2023 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
1 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 10:30 a.m.-Worship 	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	3 2:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee	4 6:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts	5 9:30 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	6	7																																										
8 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	9 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 7:00 p.m.-Basket Social	10 6:30 p.m.-St. Paul's Cemetery Assoc. Mtg. 7:00 p.m.-Finance & Endowment Mtg.	11 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council	12 9:30 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	13	14																																										
15 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	17 6:30 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting 	18 12:00 p.m.-NEPA W-ELCA Mtg.	19 9:30 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	20	21																																										
22 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	23 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	24	25 6:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts	26 9:30 a.m.-TOPS 6:15 p.m.-Joyful Ringers 7:30 p.m.-Choir	27	28																																										
29 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 9:00 a.m.-Worship 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 10:30 a.m.-Worship	30 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	31				<div> February 2023 <table> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div>	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				
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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

January 2023

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000
or the Council Person of the Month - Sandi Wagaman 610-203-8085

Sunday, January 1, 2023

NO 9:00AM SERVICE **10:30AM**

(Masks Optional)

Melanie Dimovitz, Madeline MacMechan

Altar Guild: (None)

Communion Asst: (None)

Communion Bread: (None)

Greeter: Carol Derr-Breinig

Lay Asst: Sandi Wagaman

Reader: Peggy Kern

Sunday, January 15, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Frank Bennighoff, Richard Hartley

Altar Guild: Jennifer Bentsen

Communion Asst: Pamela Craig

Communion Bread: Dorothy O'Connors

Greeters: Carl & Esther Seibert

Lay Asst: Rosemary Lehman

Reader: Jennifer Bentsen

Sunday, January 8, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Anita Eisenhard, Ken Ritter

Altar Guild: Janine Ritter

Communion Asst: Bob Bruchak

Communion Bread: Bob Bruchak

Greeter: Bruce Wagaman

Lay Asst: Sharon Bortz

Reader: Nancy Miller

Sunday, January 22, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

David Craig, Pamela Craig

Altar Guild: Rosemary Lehman

Communion Asst: Cal Fetherolf

Communion Bread: Tom & June Kellogg

Greeter: Zack Dimovitz

Lay Asst: Daisy Pearson

Reader: Cal Fetherolf

Sunday, January 29, 2023

9:00AM

(Masks Required)

No Assistants

10:30AM

(Masks Optional)

Andrew Bruchak, Bob Bruchak

Altar Guild: Amy Williams

Communion Asst: Peggy Saylor

Communion Bread: Joshua Solderich

Greeter: Lacey Edwards

Lay Asst: Sandi Wagaman

Reader: Lacey Edwards

Potluck Luncheon



20 November 2022

Tree Trimming



20 November 2022



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA



Generosity and Vitality in the **NOW** Normal

A Stewardship Extravaganza

January 21, 2023 | Trinity, Lansdale



Generosity And Vitality In The NOW Normal
Sponsored by the Southeastern PA and Northeastern PA
Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Saturday, January 21, 2023
8 A.M. To 4 P.M.

Trinity Lutheran Church
1000 W. Main St., Lansdale, PA 19446

An In-Person Only Event

Cost: \$40 per person (includes lunch)

FREE for SEPA/NEPA Synod seminarians and first-call
pastors

Engage with outstanding church leaders in plenary
presentations and question-and-answer sessions.



Keynote:

Ryan Burge: "The Nones:
From The Overlooked
Category to Impossible
to Miss in Less Than
Fifty Years"

Register Now!

Join us!

LEARNING MINISTRIES DAY

January 28, 2023

[WWW.GODSLOVE.ORG/
LEARNINGMINISTRIESDAY](http://WWW.GODSLOVE.ORG/LEARNINGMINISTRIESDAY)



SAVE
THE
DATE

SYNOD
ASSEMBLY
2023

JUNE
1-3



ELCA

A Fresh Look for the ELCA

The ELCA has released refreshed branding featuring a cleaner look and a modified color scheme. Learn more at elca.org/Resources/ELCA-Branding. The new logos should be used in digital media including websites, email, and social media. Printed materials may be used until they are depleted.

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

February, 2023 LMD NL news will be due Jan. 13, 2023. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Community Free Dinners – St. John’s Lutheran Church, 1028 Church Street, Fogelsville. Dinners will continue the **3rd Friday, every other month** (except November, when it will be held on the 2nd Friday) from 5-7 PM. Dinners are served "to-go", while supplies last. All are welcome.

Lehigh Mission District Christmas Ingathering

We are grateful to all who made this important mission happen.

Our thanks to the 23 Churches in the Lehigh Mission who participated. We are thankful to St. John’s Lutheran church in Emmaus for sponsoring the Ingathering this year and the men from St. John’s who helped.

A lunch was served before some agencies came to pick up their gifts and small items. Thanks to the kitchen “Angel” who served us with the goodies.

We also thank the gentlemen from Keenan House who came to help us as well. They were most helpful and very appreciated.

The Christmas Ingathering serves many in need.

We continue serving the Lord and
all in need.

We wish all a most Blessed Christmas and a Healthy New Year
Lehigh Mission District Committee

The Clothes Closet is open: 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](tel:610-434-3943) or email LETalago@StLukesLuth.org. Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk News

Hubert Huang, Director of Children and Families, shared First Presbyterian-Allentown’s 2022 Faith Formation CROP Hunger Walk experience and photos:

On World Communion Sunday, 10/2/22, the children of First Presbyterian Church of Allentown (FPCA) read and discussed scripture from Micah 6:8 that tells us to “do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.” The scripture connected to FPCA’s fall sermon series focusing on the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s marks of membership, specifically “working in the world for peace, justice, and human

fulfilment.” In their faith formation lesson, the children explored what justice meant, what injustice may look like in the world, and the ways in which they, as disciples of Jesus, can work toward helping others, particularly in relation to food insecurity and water scarcity in their communities and in the broader world.

The children then participated in a mini-CROP Hunger Walk through the church to visit several different stations. Each station had a series of pictures, infographics, and charts as well as activities that demonstrated elements of food insecurity that invited the children to discuss and better understand how food insecurity and water scarcity impact people, especially those in the Lehigh Valley. The lesson served as a springboard to FPCA’s 11/6/22 All Church Fellowship and Faith Formation Event that centered on food insecurity in our local community.

Thank you, First Presbyterian-Allentown, for your life-giving ministry and for sharing some great ideas about how to increase awareness and enthusiasm for the CROP Hunger Walk and other ministries to help our food insecure neighbors near and far!

The 2022 Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk has raised **OVER \$27,000 TO DATE!**

Let us continue to increase awareness of the need and encourage family, friends, and others to join us in helping our food insecure neighbors with **ONLINE GIFTS** at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownnpa>

Alternatively, **CHECKS FOR “CWS/CROP”** may be sent ASAP to Linda Held, Allentown CROP Hunger Walk Treasurer, 3441 Devonshire Road, Allentown, PA 18103.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA: In honor of loved ones, give the gift of life to neighbors in need with a **GIFT TO “CWS/CROP”** at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownnpa>

Compounded by COVID-19 and its variants, as well as the war in Ukraine, hunger and malnutrition are life-threatening problems in our community, nation, and world.

THANK YOU for making a difference and helping our neighbors in need!

**Dear Lehigh Mission District
God's Rainbow Promise of Life**

FIFA banned Pride Armbands from being worn on the soccer field at the 2022 World Cup held in Qatar. The Pride Armband is of rainbow colors with a heart shape and the number 1 inside the rainbow heart. The significance of the Pride Armband was to show support to the LGBTQ community.

Scroll the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod website and you'll find a similar rainbow heart shape with a cross inside center.

The soccer teams who planned on wearing the One Love Pride Armband reconsidered wearing them because of threats of being sanctioned with the possibility of not playing in the World Cup. (Nov. 22, 2022. [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com))

One could argue that social statements in solidarity with people who are being oppressed need not to be part of any sport. But such a statement only avoids the issue and encourages perpetrators to continue to inflict injustices to communities.

In the United States in Colorado Springs an LGBTQ nightclub shooting leaves 5 dead and several injured. (Nov. 21, 2022. [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com)). The hate crime charge is one of hundreds of criminal charges filed against the shooter.

The 5 victims in the Club Q shooting were Daniel Aston, Kelly Loving, Ashley Paugh, Derrick Wayne Rump, and Raymond Green Vance.

One of the victims, Derrick Wayne Rump, was from the Kutztown, Pennsylvania area in the East Berks Mission District of our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

Sounds close to home, doesn't it? Sí, yes, because Rump and all the other victims belong to a family. We know of LGBTQ friends and relatives who form part of our life and the church who are being discriminated for wanting to live their life.

There's an ancient rainbow in the book of Genesis where God said to Noah, "I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh." Genesis 9.15-16.

God's ancient rainbow that today we see in the sky after a brief rain shower is God's reminder not to destroy humanity, living creatures, and the earth. It appears like God owns up to the idea that it was not good to destroy humanity and all living creatures.

Thus, God's rainbow serves as a promised reminder to God and us to not destroy humanity. God wants a relationship with humanity, and the created world, and all living creatures.

Why then the destructive religious and social discrimination against our LGBTQ siblings? God's rainbow embraces their promised life.

Life and relationships are God's covenant agreement sealed by the sign of a rainbow in the clouds for all to see. We can't miss it.

God makes a promise to enter in a relationship not destruction. To this end, we as humans are called to relationships that bring out our life together. As God made the rainbow a promise for life, we ought to adopt it as our own reminder to provide life for the LGBTQ communities. God's rainbow promise is for us all.

Happy New Year!

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.

Mar 15 (Wed.) – Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre – SISTER ACT

Based on the musical comedy movie, *Sister Act* tells the hilarious story of Deloris Van Cartier, a disco diva, whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a murder and the cops hide her in the last place anyone would think to look – a convent! Under the suspicious watch of Mother Superior, Deloris helps the secluded sisters find their voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own. A sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship, *Sister Act* is reason to rejoice!

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 - Cost \$117

Payment Deadline: Thurs., Feb. 16

MULTI-DAY TRIPS

April 20 to April 23, 2023 (Thur - Sun) – PARADE OF NATIONS AND VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO

This trip includes a 3-course dinner on The Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise, Reserved seats for the 70th Annual Parade of Nations, a performance of the Virginia International Tattoo Show (the term "Tattoo" here is a ceremonial performance of military music by massed bands from around the world including acrobats, choral groups, and precision military drill teams), and much more. **Call the office to receive a full itinerary and pricing. Final payment is due by March 1, 2023**

September 17 to September 23, 2023 (Sun.-Sat.) – CHICAGO WITH AN 2 OVERNIGHTS IN CLEVELAND - Join Operation

Sunshine to visit one of the great cities of the US, Chicago, IL. This fun-filled trip is packed with activity. On our way out to Chicago, we will stop for an overnight in Cleveland where we will visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In Chicago, we will have a guided bus tour of the city, a visit to the Navy Pier is also in our itinerary. We will visit Chicago's famous "Skydeck," the Shedd Aquarium, the Lincoln Park Observatory, a cruise on Lake Michigan and More!

For pricing and complete itinerary please call the office. Our overnight in Cleveland on the return trip will include a bus tour of the city. Call the office to receive a full itinerary and pricing. Final payment is due by July 31, 2023.