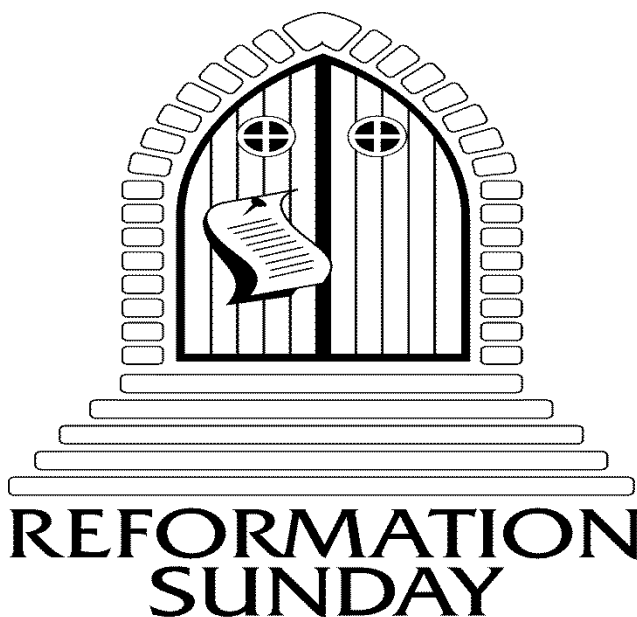


PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



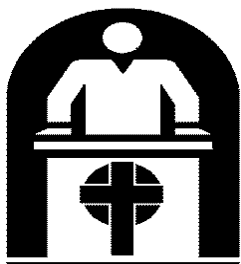
SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

OCTOBER 2021



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,

I was reading a devotional written by John Edgerton, a UCC pastor writing for the national United Church of Christ's website. He begins by asking three questions: 1. How has the recent Covid-19 resurgence affected your church? 2. Are there people you know for whom increased restrictions are bad news? Are there people you

know for whom increased restrictions are good news? 3. What is God calling your church to do in these days?

He quotes from Haggai 1:7-9 – “Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Consider how you fared . . . You have looked for much, and lo it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘Because my house lies in ruins, while all of you hurry off to your own houses.’” This is about what to do when hopes and expectations are dashed.

The Hebrews in exile prayed for an end. When it came it was hard to believe. But joy didn't last. Trouble found them again and they felt let down. “Why was this happening?”

God explained that the people were not yet finished working. The Hebrews thought everything was fine with the homecoming from the exile but that was not true. The rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem was the important work that was left unfinished. God said “finish the work.” And he said “only then can your hopes flourish.” God gave them strength to do the work.

As we are in the midst of a resurgence of Covid-19, plans for schools, churches, and family are up in the air. We were hoping for an end to this pandemic or at least the restrictions. Our hopes have been dashed. Why is this happening?

I think of those who are most vulnerable in this pandemic. The work of caring for the vulnerable is never finished. God says “finish the work, only then can your hopes flourish.”

Let us care for the vulnerable among us and do the work that must be done rather than “running off to your own houses.” In other words, rather than thinking about our own selves who are the vulnerable among us and how can we care for them, as individuals and as a community. Caring for the neighbor is imbedded in the 10 Commandments. Caring for the neighbor is something Jesus always put forth.

Pastor Miller

ASSISTANT SCHEDULES

The assistant schedules are still being done one month at a time. With the two services, fewer volunteers, conflicts in schedules, it is not easy for Steph to coordinate the schedules, and she has to unfortunately schedule you more than once a month and maybe for more than one thing a Sunday. 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 bulletins, communion packets, and collecting the offering. For the inside 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.

BULLETIN & ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

We are in need of bulletin sponsorships for 2021. Bulletin 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.

MONTHLY MADDNESS FUNDRAISER – GIVE THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

St. Paul's is once again participating in the Monthly Maddness fundraiser in conjunction with Dan Schantz Greenhouse. A purchase of a gift card for **\$20** will give the gift card recipient a specific flower (or pumpkin) gift each month during 2022 – a \$75 value. St. Paul's will receive **\$10** on every card sold – proceeds will go toward the cost of snow removal. Redeeming your monthly gift is easy - simply present the gift card at Dan Schantz Greenhouse on Lehigh Street in Allentown any time during the month and pick up your gift. Note that you do not need to make a purchase when picking up your gift. And if you cannot get there during a particular month, the card can be used during that month in 2023. Here is what is offered for each month in 2022.



We are taking orders for Monthly Maddness cards beginning September 12, and will continue through November 21. This time, we will have two delivery dates. If you purchase your card(s) by **October 10**, you can pick them up at church on **October 17**. If you purchase your card(s) between **October 11 and November 21**, you can pick them up at church on **November 28**.

You can purchase cards before/after Sunday worship. If you are attending indoor worship, look for the display – pick up an envelope and fill out your contact info along with number of cards requested. Price is \$20/card. Place your cash or check in the envelope and drop the envelope in the box labeled Monthly Maddness. If you are attending the parking lot service, ask an usher for an envelope, fill out your contact info along with number of cards requested. Place your cash or check in the envelope and return to an usher. Please make your checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and write **gift card** on the memo line.

If you are unable to pick up your gift cards on October 17 or November 28, call Judy (610) 914-7782 to set up a time to pick up.

Worship and Music Committee

HARVEST SUNDAY



We will be celebrating a Harvest Sunday at St. Paul's on October 10, 2021 to commemorate the gathering in of harvest. For this special service, the church will be decorated with fall décor and harvest items. We will sing hymns of celebration and give thanks for our bounty.

As part of this celebration, we are calling for **non-perishable** food donations. You can bring canned goods and other non-perishable items to church beginning Sunday, September 5, and place items in the box in Narthex marked "Harvest Home". For people who are attending parking lot service, cans will be collected before service on October 3 and October 10. All food items will be donated to the food bank.

Help us to celebrate Harvest Sunday on the 10th, and bring food donations for those in need.

CONCERT AT ST. PAUL'S PASTIMES CONCERT

Add to the Halloween excitement by joining us for a concert on Sunday, October 31st at 2:00 PM. Pastimes is the next addition to our continuing concert series. There will be light refreshments following the concert, which will finish in plenty of time for you to distribute candy to all the trick-or-treaters. Join us for this exciting trip in musical history!

Pastimes is an early music consort performing music from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. Their repertoire spans 500 years, from crusader songs to dances from Queen Elizabeth's court. Pastimes performs on authentic period instruments and in historical costume. Featured instruments include strings (lute, violas da gamba, medieval fiddle, renaissance guitar), winds (recorders, krummhorns, dulcians, shawms, rackets, pipe and tabor, and the ever popular 'screaming pipe'), drone instruments (a variety of historical bagpipes, hurdy-gurdy), and odd percussion instruments (assorted drums, clacking shells, string drum, rommelpot).

FOR LOVE OF ANIMALS

St. Francis of Assisi, known for his affection for animals, is honored on October 4. Some congregations observe this day by blessing pets, remembering that God pronounced animals — along with all creation — good. God saved not only Noah's family but animals of all kinds from the Flood. And despite Jonah's protests, God had compassion on Nineveh — "and [its] many animals" (Jonah 4:11). How intriguing that the prophet adds this point!

Care for all living creatures is clearly part of the divine character. Animals don't do anything to earn God's favor except be themselves. From this, we can learn that God pours out love unconditionally. As Psalm 36:6 (CEV) declares, "All people and animals are under your care."

PARISH NURSE NOTES

“Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month”

October 2021

Peggy Saylor, RN

In 1998, President Regan designated October as “Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness” month and in 2006, the United States House of Representatives passed a resolution declaring October 15th as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day.

The statistics on perinatal loss which is defined as “the death of an infant during pregnancy or shortly thereafter” and may include miscarriages, stillbirths or neonatal deaths are grim. According to the CDC, 10% - 15% of all pregnancies before 20 weeks gestation are miscarriages and over 24,000 stillbirths (pregnancies between 20 and 40 weeks) are stillbirths. Advances in medical technology over the past 30 years have resulted in improved prenatal care but sadly the rate of early stillbirth (20 – 27 weeks) has remained the same.

Having a designated time for grieving parents and friends has provided a safe space for those trying to understand the loss and comfort those grieving. Most individuals who suffer an early loss suffer alone as there was no “body” to be seen and usually occurs before the outward signs of pregnancy are noted. These individuals may also have experienced remarks from well-meaning friends and family using clichés such as “heaven needed another angel,” “it must have been God’s plan,” or other words meant to ease the pain, but they do not.

Some suggestions for helping those grieving are:

Recognize that a baby has died, and this death is as real as the death of an older child. Realize that parents are sad because they miss their baby, and that baby cannot be replaced by a future child or an older child that they already have.

Let the parents know they are in your prayers. Send a card simply stating this. Long expressions are not needed.

Take time to be with them. Most times, words are not needed. What is needed is a listening ear, a shoulder to cry on, a hand to hold or a hug. If the baby was given a name, use that name in conversation.

It is okay to admit that you can't imagine how they feel. A simple phrase to say is "I can't imagine how you feel but want you to know that I am here for you and am so sorry that you are going through this."

Offer to help with chores – grocery shopping, do laundry, etc. and any other way to help lighten the burden of daily chores. Bring meals to them as most mothers don't have the energy to do even the basic chores.

Most of all, give parents time to grieve. This process can last a lifetime, but our help, comfort and sensitive support can help to support them during their grief journey.

DAILY REMINDERS OF BAPTISM



One way Satan attacks Christians is by reminding us of our sins, both of commission (wrongdoing) and omission (neglecting to do right). And one way we can fight back is by remembering our baptism. The reformer Martin Luther recommended pondering that sacrament daily, whenever we wash our face, because "in baptism sins are drowned."

Getting dressed can serve as another frequent reminder, Luther says, because baptism is the "daily garment ... the Christian is to wear all the time." He writes, "Christ instituted holy baptism ... to clothe you with his righteousness. It is tantamount to his saying, 'My righteousness shall be your righteousness; my innocence, your innocence. Your sins indeed are great, but by baptism I bestow on you my righteousness; I strip death from you and clothe you with my life.'"

Thank & You!

Thank you to Judy and Frank Szukics for the hours they put in weeding the flower beds and making the church look nice for the band concert.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA NORTHEAST PA SYNOD

- Sandi Wagaman will be attending the Ingathering Planning Meeting on September 15th and will report at our October meeting.
- Since the NEPA board was unable to obtain a meeting venue, the fall fun event has been cancelled.

The Bible Study was *The gift of the Spirit: A divine wild goose chase*, Session one, Spirit of God, revealer and resource by Sara Olson-Smith. Like a wild goose, the Holy Spirit is hard to capture, difficult to nail down with an easy definition or quick answers.

Our October Bible Study will be *The gift of the Spirit: A divine wild goose chase*, Session two, Breath of God: Reviver and Reformer by Sara Olson-Smith. She writes about the Nicene Creed and how the Spirit gives life, revives us, bringing us breath, life and hope.

Upcoming Bible Studies

November – *The gift of the Spirit: A diving wild goose chase* by Sara Olson-Smith

Session 3: Wind of God: Refiner and Re-router

December 2021 – Advent devotional/study

2022 – January through April

The kingdom of God by Mark Allen Powell

A four-session study

Join us on October 13 at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for our next meeting.

MIXED SIGNALS

A newcomer approached the pastor after worship and said, “I’d like you to pray for my hearing.”

Placing hands on the man’s ears, the pastor said a very passionate, earnest prayer and then asked the visitor, “How’s your hearing now?”

With a confused look, the man said, “Well, it’s scheduled for tomorrow.”

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. 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 for any more information.

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

St. Paul's is again participating in Boscov's Friends Helping Friends event. We will be selling shopping passes for \$5.00 each. Each pass entitles you to 25% of most items (15% and 10% of other items – see the reverse of your pass). You may also register to win a \$100.00 Boscov's Gift Card, one per store. Just drop it in Friends Helping Friends ballot box in the store. **This is one day only – October 20, 2021. Stores are open 8:00am to 11:00pm.** 100% of your donation goes to St. Paul's. You can purchase them at worship both outside and inside. Inside, Martha Lindenmuth will be selling the passes. For outside worship see Pastor Miller. They will also be available in the office during the week. Please have the exact amount available. Thank you.

PET BLESSING

Join us for the Pet Blessing on Sunday, October 3rd at 1 PM. Arrive early around 12:30 to enjoy hotdogs, drinks, and the bake sale. Raffle winners will be announced immediately following the pet blessing. To purchase raffle tickets, Diane Kropf will be selling them at church on Sunday mornings. If you cannot make it then, reach out to Angie Kropf to arrange a meeting to purchase tickets. Her cell is 484-575-6189. All proceeds benefit The Sanctuary at Haafsville. You do not need to be present to win.

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP – SEAFARER’S PROJECT REMINDER

This is a reminder if you are working on hats and cowls for the Seafarer’s project, the deadline for completion and bringing to church is **Sunday, November 7**. The hats and cowls will be blessed during worship service that day, and mailed to Seafarer’s International House the following week. There is still time, if you are interested in making a hat or cowl! Pick up a skein of wool from the box in the Narthex.

If you want to bring your hats and cowls to church before November 7, there is a green bin in the storage closet (in Fellowship Hall) marked “Prayer Shawls/Seafarer Hats and Cowls.” You can place your items in there.

If you have any questions, contact either Steph (610-395-0355 stepbillwagaman@rcn.com) or Peggy (610-481-9086 peggyekern@gmail.com).

Stephanie Wagaman
Peggy Kern

2021 LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT CHRISTMAS INGATHERING

The Ingathering is finally back, but in a modified form from years past to accommodate COVID. Instead of a list of items to donate to 10-12 different agencies, each congregation has been assigned two agencies to focus their donations. St. Paul's will be collecting items for The Allentown Rescue Mission and Turning Point. Our WELCA group will be responsible to take our items directly to these two organizations rather than gathering at a site to sort and pack them. Let Sandi Wagaman know if you would like to volunteer to be a delivery person.

We will once again also be purchasing gifts for specific individuals with Topton Home Children's Services, Bethany Ministries, Good Shepherd Home and Keenan House. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex sometime later in October. Those lists have not been supplied to us yet. Watch for announcements in the bulletin or in an email as soon as we get the information. We will deliver the wrapped gifts to Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church 535 W. Emaus Ave, Allentown on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 between 9:00-10:30. We also need volunteers to deliver these items to Trinity.

Place all items for the Rescue Mission and Turning Point in the box in the Narthex. Wrapped gifts should be placed on top of the coat rack. Please check off your name on the list when bringing the wrapped gifts.

Deadline to bring items for both of these parts of the mission will be Sunday November 28, 2021.

Contact Sandi Wagaman if you have any questions. 610-203-8085.

(See the insert for the list of items needed.)

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.



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

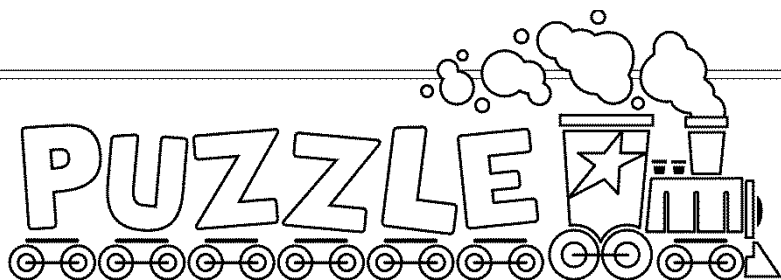


3 Keith & Becky Theodore
14 Bill & Sharon Heminitz
16 Stan & Mitzi Younger
25 Carl & Esther Seibert, Jr.
28 Steve & Amanda Mesko

WHAT GOD IS LIKE

Before her death in 2019, Rachel Held Evans started writing a book with her young children in mind. The goal was to help them explore images for God, who is love. *What Is God Like?* (co-authored by Matthew Turner) acknowledges, “That’s a very big question, one that people from places all around the world have wondered about since the beginning of time.” The book highlights such biblical images for God as an eagle, a shepherd, a fort, wind, an artist, a “strong and safe” mother, and a “gentle and safe” father.

Just as Evans remained open to questions as a means to grow in faith, her book concludes: “Keep searching. Keep wondering. ... But whenever you aren’t sure what God is like, think about what makes you feel safe ... brave ... loved. That’s what God is like.” What images for God come to your mind? Indeed, what is God like — for you?



MASTER MULTIPLICATION

Jesus tells a parable about faithful servants who multiply their master's money. How does the master respond?

Directions: Solve the math problems. Find the letters that match the answers and write them in order to complete Matthew 25:21, NIV.

1 (5) x 3 =	6 (6) x 6 =
2 (7) x 4 =	7 (9) x 3 =
3 (4) x 6 =	8 (3) x 8 =
4 (2) x 10 =	9 (10) x 4 =
5 (9) x 5 =	10 (11) x 8 =

KEY

A = 28	J = 50	S = 88
B = 35	K = 21	T = 45
C = 14	L = 63	U = 64
D = 25	M = 15	V = 32
E = 33	N = 24	W = 80
F = 72	O = 77	X = 56
G = 40	P = 54	Y = 20
H = 36	Q = 9	Z = 48
I = 27	R = 16	

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!

You have been faithful with a few things;

I will put you in charge of _ _ _ _ _ .

Come and share your master's happiness!'"

MATTHEW 25:21, NIV

Answer: 15, 28, 24, 20, 45, 36, 27, 24, 40, 88, many things

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS
OCTOBER 17, 2021**

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



**CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000
HOSPITAL CODE: #321
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE
EMAIL: office@stpaulsbbville.org
Website: www.stpaulsbbville.org**

STAFF

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

October 2021 St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																								
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3 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship 1:00 p.m.-Pet Blessing 	4 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	5 CINDY WILL BE ATTENDING THE	6 6:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts IN LANCASTER SECRETARIES SEMINAR	7	8	9 11:00 a.m.-NEPA W-ELCA Board Meeting 2:00 p.m.-Decorating For Harvest Sunday																																																								
10 20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HARVEST SUNDAY 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	11 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 6:30 p.m.-Cemetery Board Meeting	12  COLUMBUS DAY	13 9:30 a.m.-W-ELCA 7:00 p.m.-Council	14 6:00 p.m.-Card Crafters Group	15	16																																																								
17 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship 7:00 p.m.-Mutual Ministry Meeting at Jen Schmoyer's	18 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	19	20 Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day	21 5:45 p.m.-Haafsville Board Meeting	22	23																																																								
24 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship	25 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study 1:00 p.m.-Worship & Music Committee 7:00 p.m.-Lehigh Zion Cemetery Board	26	27 6:00 p.m.-Girl Scouts	28	29	30																																																								
31 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:15 a.m.-Sunday School 9:45 a.m.-Parking Lot Worship 10:30 a.m.-Worship 2:00 p.m.-Pastimes Concert  						<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">October 2021</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	October 2021							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
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PARKING LOT AND INDOOR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

October 2021

If you cannot fulfill an assigned duty, please call the church office at 610-398-7000
or the Council Person of the Month – Bruce Saylor 610-762-7001

**REVISED
SCHEDULE**

Sunday, October 3, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Frank Bennighoff
Bob Nickisher

10:30AM INDOOR

Frank Bennighoff, Lacey Edwards,
Anita Eisenhard, Amy Williams
Altar Guild: Jennifer Bentsen
Communion Asst: Sharon Bortz
Lay Asst: Daisy Pearson
Reader: Peggy Kern

Sunday, October 17, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Tom Kellogg
Bob Nickisher

10:30AM INDOOR

Jennifer Bentsen, Sharon Bortz,
Carl Seibert, Judy Walker
Altar Guild: Amy Williams
Communion Asst: Cal Fetherolf
Lay Asst: Sandi Wagaman
Reader: Cal Fetherolf

Sunday, October 10, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Bob Nickisher
Ken Ritter

10:30AM INDOOR

Zack Dimovitz, Anita Eisenhard,
Ken Ritter, **Judy Walker**
Altar Guild: Janine Ritter
Communion Asst: Bob Bruchak
Lay Asst: Rosemary Lehman
Reader: Sandi Wagaman

Sunday, October 24, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT

Richard Hartley
Bob Nickisher

10:30AM INDOOR

Zack Dimovitz, Madeline MacMechan,
Daisy Pearson, Peggy Saylor
Altar Guild: Rosemary Lehman
Communion Asst: Anita Eisenhard
Lay Asst: Sharon Bortz
Reader: Rosemary Lehman

Sunday, October 31, 2021

9:45AM PARKING LOT 10:30AM INDOOR

Bob Nickisher
Carl Seibert

Carl Seibert, Frank Szukics,
Judy Szukics, **Sandi Wagaman**
Altar Guild: Esther Seibert
Communion Asst: Peggy Saylor
Lay Asst: Daisy Pearson
Reader: Bob Nickisher

ALLENTOWN RESCUE MISSION ITEMS

Lo-sodium canned soups
Lo-sodium chili
Lo-sodium pasta sauce
Powdered milk
Pancake mix (just add water kind)
Maple syrup
Disinfectant cleaning spray
Pine Sol
Paper towels
Undershorts (sizes 28-52) NEW
Thermal shirts (sizes M-XL) NEW
Winter work gloves
Anything on the Rescue Mission Amazon Wishlist

TURNING POINT

All items need to be NEW, please!

Bath towels
Full-sized comforters
Body wash
Shampoo
Body lotion
Conditioner
Scented hand creams for Moms
Baby wipes
Diapers 4-8
Pull-ups (all sizes)
Paper plates
Plastic forks, knives & spoons
Disposable cups (hot & cold)
\$10 Gift cards to the following stores:
Giant
Weis
Wawa
Walmart
Target



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

OCTOBER 2021 • ISSUE 10 • VOLUME 29

CONGREGATIONAL LEGACY & PURPOSE

BY DEACON TRAVIS WOODFIELD

I have to admit, I'm a sucker for history, especially church history. I love learning about times in the past that I'll never get to experience, in places I can only aspire to visit. I've been fortunate to go to some of those places: I've stood in churches that were 1,000 years old across Europe and marveled at the engineering, been in the cradle of the Roman Empire, lived in New York City and Philadelphia, laid down, in the rain, in the grass of monasteries from 800 years ago that is now in ruins. In all of these places, I try to imagine what it was like to be part of a community from long ago. Sometimes it's easier than others, I know something unique about a place or I know how a building was built, but the end is the same- I am in a place, remembering what I can about it, being part of its history and life.

There is a cycle to these things. Empires come and go. Leaders and rulers come and go. Institutions come and go. All of these life cycles, being born, going through a growth period, living adulthood, moving into the twilight of life, and finally, death, are all part of our lives, whether on a personal or institutional level. Part of the incredible message of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection is that death does not have the final word. However, no matter how much we try to avoid it, duck it, or deny it, death will have a word. Jesus himself understood that the only way to resurrection was through death - after all, if there's no death before resurrection, what we are really talking about is immortality, which is certainly not the Christian message.

These "deaths" can come in many forms in the church. Maybe it's moving a worship time, moving from 2 services to 1 so that the community might be one and ministry might be effective. It may be struggling with how to do "virtual" church in the time of a pandemic. Maybe it's letting a go special ministry that the church can no longer support with financial or labor. Maybe it's giving up a building to move to a building that fits the congregation. Maybe it's merging or closing.

The truth is that none of these realities, these deaths, are easy to imagine or even embrace. There is real grief, fear, anxiety, anger, and sadness that comes with even thinking about them. It's also true that we are not alone in these decisions. We do not know what resurrection may look like, but we know that it is Christ's promise. History always seems short when we are the ones participating in it. Christ sees the long view and, I think, wondering how we can participate in trying to see that long view is part of our call as a Christian. We cannot see the end but we can think and pray about what next, faithful steps may be. As a church, we have to start thinking about what those faithful steps might be, both as individuals, as a church, and as a synod.

Four years ago, I had the chance to go to the Isle of Iona in Scotland and visit the Benedictine abbey there, which is now a retreat center. Could a group of Benedictine nuns, living in the 1200's on a remote island of Scotland, possibly imagine that a guy from a land that had not been discovered yet to come visit their monastery? That, I would lay down, in the rain, in the ruins of their chapel, and imagine what it was like to worship there? 800 years ago, it would have been simply impossible to dream. What they did do was make faithful decisions that allowed that moment to happen and, even in the literal ruins of their communal life, there was a moment of that community's resurrection in my mind and heart, remembering them. As we move forward as a church, locally and as a synod, I pray that we can make faithful, prayerful decisions that are resurrection decisions and not immortality ones.



Synod Staff:

STACEY BURKE

Stacey Burke is the Lutheran Center's receptionist and the friendly voice you will most likely hear when calling the Synod office. Her main responsibilities will be scheduling supply pastors and maintaining the database of congregations.

Stacey graduated with a graphic design and TV/Film degree and plans to use her positive attitude and creative mindset to fulfill God's work throughout the Synod office and beyond. Being an active member at Hope Lutheran Church in Cherryville for over 30 years, Stacey has volunteered her time in various committees including youth group, Vacation Bible School, choir, orchestra, and worship arts.

Stacey is inspired daily by her husband Kevin and their new baby boy. They love spending time together as a family, which also includes a cat named Duncan and a dog named Red. Stacey resides in Bethlehem and enjoys attending art festivals and concerts. In her free time, Stacey likes to capture photography, play the guitar, perform in theater arts and spend time outdoors. She is very excited to have the opportunity to join the Synod staff, and she looks forward to growing within the Lutheran Center and watching God inspire and work all around her.

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

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November 2021 LMD NL news will be due October 15, 2021. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

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.**

Basket & Gift Card Social – Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church, 535 W. Emaus Ave, Allentown, PA 18103. **Sat, October 23rd and Sun, October 24, 2021.** For more information or to have tickets held for you at the door, call the church office [610-797-4774](tel:610-797-4774). **Masks are required, we will be social distancing. Please see attached flyer.**

IMPORTANT CHANGE:

LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT ADVENT CHRISTMAS INGATHERING

Lehigh Mission District Advent Christmas Ingathering. This year's Ingathering will be held at Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church **535 W. Emaus Ave Allentown, PA. 18103**, Wednesday, December 1, 2021. We thank Trinity Memorial for sponsoring this year's Ingathering. Any questions please contact Penny Newhard, newhardp@ptd.net

DON'T SPEND ANOTHER WINTER HOME ALONE! LUTHER CREST offers all you could ever want ... stunning accommodations | chef-prepared dining | convenient amenities exciting events--and new friends! Because Luther Crest is a Continuing Care Retirement Community, you will have peace of mind in the coming years. Don't miss out ... If you decide on this great deal now, you can move in later in the year. Come discover why our residents are fond of saying, "This is the Way to Live". * Entrance fee starting at \$99k on one-bedroom apartment. Limited Time offers. Please contact Mary Louise Drosdak at [610-391-8258](tel:610-391-8258) or Toll free [800-606-3424](tel:800-606-3424).

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. Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

COME AWAY TO A QUIET PLACE... A Brief Pause for Prayerful Renewal in Centering Prayer. Centering Prayer is a particular form of quiet, receptive prayer as taught by Father Thomas Keating and Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault. A portion of each one-hour gathering will include some discussion about centering prayer. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced pray-er, All Are Welcome. **First Friday of each month** led by Ferd Piccuiro and hosted by Pastor Maritza Dolich via Zoom, **10:30 - 11:30 AM** (Sessions held via **Zoom** temporarily until we can all meet together again in person at the Center for Spiritual Awakening). **Please contact Ferd to be placed on the email list with the Zoom information.** ferdpiccuiro@ptd.net / Cell: [908-310-4228](tel:908-310-4228), Home: [610-737-7871](tel:610-737-7871)

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



Dear Lehigh Mission District

HELP OUT

We are beginning to feel the return of fall. By this time many families have completed their vacation outings. School is back in session both online and in the classroom. By now many congregations have celebrated Rally Day at the end of the month of September.

Rally Day signals the beginning of Sunday school and church activities in the liturgical calendar year.

But the year 2021 seems a bit more like the year 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to surround us with its new Delta variant. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as of September 16, there has been 666,440 total deaths in the United States.

The continual presence of the pandemic has caused pastors and congregations to approach in-person Sunday School and other activities with caution. Like many school districts, several churches follow the recommended guidelines of wearing a face mask, social distancing, washing hands, and getting vaccines.

In a similar situation around 1527 in Germany, Martin Luther had to deal with the plague in Wittenberg.

Luther's instructions were "Use medicine; take potions which can help you; fumigate house, yard, and street; shun persons and places wherever your neighbor does not need your presence or has recovered, and act like a man who wants to help put out the burning city."

Basically, Luther's guideline was to help put out the fire of the plague in Wittenberg. This simple instruction was because the Christian community in Wittenberg was divided over whether to take the proper precautions to curb the plague.

When there have been natural disasters such as fires and floods, Christian churches have divinely extended their hands to help out.

Our Christian response now shouldn't be any different. At this time, our mission is to help put out the fire of COVID-19.

Stay safe,

Pastor 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.

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

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

December 9, 2021 (Thurs.) – American Music Theatre – WINTER WONDERLAND - American Music Theatre's 2021

Christmas Show: Winter Wonderland will recapture the Christmas spirit! This highly anticipated and critically acclaimed live music production will ignite your spirit and set your heart aglow! Once you step through our doors, you'll gaze upon the magical sights and sounds of the season and be transported to a wonderland of music and enchantment – from a Bavarian mountain village to the festive, holiday excitement at the North Pole. Our extraordinary costumes, gorgeous gowns, and stunning sets will make you feel like you're really there. And ... the young ones can even catch a glimpse of Old Saint Nick himself! Winter Wonderland is AMT's newest Original Show, featuring the secular and sacred holiday songs you know and love, with all-live performances by our sensational cast of Singers and Dancers, as well as the remarkable AMT Orchestra. Bring the entire family and discover a new holiday tradition! Family Style lunch at the fabulous Fulton Steamboat Inn.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM
Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs. November 4, 2021