



Epistle from

St. Timothy

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives by Connecting Communities

February 2018
Volume 23, Issue 6

Mutual Ministry—It’s about “us”

The term “mutual ministry” affirms that the ministry of the Church is the task and the responsibility of all the baptized so that the mission of Christ may be carried out effectively. Each baptized child of God has been given some spiritual gifts in order to participate in this “mutual ministry.” As St. Paul has written, “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.... To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). As each child of God uses his/her gifts for God’s loving purposes, the mission of Christ is furthered, and the church is up built. Every needed gift is given. Every gift that is given is needed.

Mutual ministry also means that we are **connected with** one another and responsible to each other in this ministry that we share. As members of Christ’s Church, we are called to encourage, empower, and equip one another in this ministry. That requires prayer, conversation, listening, and discernment in community, as well as active outreach and healthy systemic functioning.

Each member of the church is called in some special way to engage in the mission and ministry that Christ has given us as his body. A few are called to what we in the ELCA term “rostered ministry”—ministers of word and sacrament (pastors) and ministers of word and service (deacons). Their role is one piece of the ministry of the whole people of God. While rostered leaders are uniquely accountable to the ELCA and in their specific places of call, they do not minister “instead” of other members, but “with” them.

It is broadly recognized within the ELCA that having a Mutual Ministry Committee in a congregation helps to enhance the “mutuality” of ministry. A Mutual Ministry Committee seeks to engender good communication and healthy relationships among members of the congregation and between the congregation and its rostered leader(s) so that the life of the congregation can remain Christ-centered and mission-oriented. The committee serves as a sounding-board for

*Continued on page 3—see **SR. JANET***

St. Timothy Mission Statement

Nurtured and sustained by God’s love,
we are called and inspired to share His love with our neighbor,
to make God’s story known, and to help our neighbors near and far
...so that all may experience God’s love.

February Worship Calendar

Sunday School – 9 am in Fellowship Hall • Adult Forum – 9 a.m. in Lounge
Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Date	Day	Special Events	Readings
Feb. 4	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Epiphany 5 Bell Choir Souper Bowl Sunday	Isaiah 40: 21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
Feb. 11	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Transfiguration of our Lord Scout Sunday Praise Worship	2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9
Feb. 14	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 OR Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-2
Feb. 18	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Lent 1	Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
Feb. 21	Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Lenten Meal & Worship (Fellowship Hall)	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 OR Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10;
Feb. 25	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Lent 2 Youth Choir	Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38
Feb. 28	Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Lenten Meal & Worship (Fellowship Hall)	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 OR Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10;

Moving? New Email? Change Your Phone No.?

We constantly struggle in this mobile society we live in to keep up with everyone's current mailing and contact information. We are asking everyone to make sure the information we have is up-to-date by completing the form below and either mail it to the church secretary or drop it in the offering plate.

Name	
Address	
City	State Zip Code
Home Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> include in Directory <input type="checkbox"/> omit from Directory
Cell Phone (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> include in Directory <input type="checkbox"/> omit from Directory
Work Phone (optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> include in Directory <input type="checkbox"/> omit from Directory
Email	<input type="checkbox"/> include in Directory <input type="checkbox"/> omit from Directory
Please send my copy of the newsletter to me via:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail (Post Office) <input type="checkbox"/> Email

PLEASE PLACE COMPLETED FORM IN
OFFERING PLATE OR DROP IN THE MAIL.

NE PA SYNOD WEB SITE

www.godslove.org or www.nepsynod.org
for information about our synod

ELCA WEB SITE

www.elca.org
for information about our national church

ST. TIMOTHY'S EMAIL

office@sttimothyhc.org

FIND MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES AT:
www.sttimothyhc.org



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twitter.com/StTimAPa

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SR. JANET *(continued from page 1)*

the rostered leader; provides for an annual review of the ministry of the congregation in light of ministry goals; encourages the involvement of all members in the ministry of the church; if requested, assists in seeking resolution to conflict; and reports to the Church Council while maintaining confidentiality regarding personal information.

Five members of St. Timothy have consented and been appointed to serve on the Mutual Ministry Committee for our congregation at the present time. They have drawn lots to stagger terms, which normally are three years. The members of St. Timothy's Mutual Ministry Committee are:

Anne Creveling (three-year term), convener
 Jim Maehrer (three-year term)
 Rodger Heil (two-year term)
 Faith Snyder (two-year term)
 Charlotte Cruse (one-year term)

I thank these persons for their willingness to serve in this way. Please pray for the committee as they carry out their work for the well-being of St. Timothy's ministry in the name of Christ. In the mutuality of our ministry, may the work of our Lord in and through St. Timothy Church grow and flourish—to the glory of God!

Yours in service to Christ,
 Sister Janet

As Pastoral Care Needs Arise

Please help Sister Janet provide timely pastoral care by informing her if you or another member of the congregation goes into the hospital or if you have any other pastoral care needs (in-home visit, spiritual counsel, baptism, funeral, wedding). You can reach her at 570-401-5251 (mobile number—please leave a message and she will get back to you) or by calling the church office at 610-435-6512 and leaving a message with Cheryl.

Endowment Funds Committee

During 2017, the committee awarded grants totaling \$4,200.00 to three of our college students (Alex Christensen, Ethan Christensen and Deontee Krayee) and the William Allen High School Chorale. The individual fund balances as of December 31, 2017 were as follows: the Regular Endowment Fund \$ 67,121.21, the Berger Benefit Fund \$123,243.56 and the Fritzingler Scholarship Fund \$248,812.39. The total of all funds as of December 31, 2017 was \$475,177.16.

Questions regarding the Endowment Funds should be directed to any member of the committee (Bill Krill, Jim Maehrer, Anne Ritter or Dick Cruse).

St. Timothy Church Council for 2018

We thank God for all who have responded to the call to serve or continue serving on the Church Council of St. Timothy for the coming year. They are (*in alphabetical order*): **Steton Benner, Dick Cruse, John Deisinger, Mike Groff, Don Hilbert, Mark Maehrer, Jonathan Mosebach, Jim Powers, Anne Ritter, Mary Sue Schnell, Mary Simmons, and Homer Wentz.** May our prayers surround and uphold them as they engage in the work of spiritual discernment and of management of our congregation's organizational structure. Let us partner with them as they provide leadership in our congregational mission and vision.

Following the congregational meeting on January 21, the new church council met to elect officers. The results are: **Mary Sue Schnell, President; John Deisinger, Vice President; Dick Cruse, Secretary; Mark Maehrer, Treasurer; Carol Keller, Financial Secretary.** We thank them for their willingness to serve in these offices.

Card Front Recycling

St. Jude's Ranch for Children no longer accepts card fronts as they have discontinued the card project. Therefore, unless we find another use for them, we will no longer be collecting card fronts.



Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruse



February is Heart Month

For the Ladies: NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2018—Wear red to raise awareness against heart disease in women. Heart disease is the number one killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year.

For the Men: Men tend to put off scheduling an annual check-up which is a necessary step to maintaining a healthy heart. There are no good reasons to not see a doctor, only excuses. Don't wait – schedule a check-up today!

For Men, Women and Children: all lead busy lives resulting in many meals eaten on the go. If you must indulge in fast food, follow these tips to make fast food healthier:

- Pass on the value size.
- Skip the sides unless you choose fruit cup or salad.
- Try the grilled chicken sandwich—chicken without skin is significantly leaner than the meat in burgers.
- Skip the mayo and other sauces which add unnecessary calories.

Heart and Mouth Health Link

One might ask what the connection is between the heart health and the health of one's mouth. The two are linked through gum (periodontal) disease.

- Gum disease increases the risk for heart attack. Bacteria from infected gums can enter the bloodstream, attach to blood vessels, and increase clot formation. Clots decrease the blood flow through the blood vessels, consequently to the heart, resulting in an increased blood pressure and an increase in the risk for a heart attack.

- Floss for your heart. The mouth is full of bacteria. The bacteria in your mouth can enter your blood stream and cause an infection in your heart (endocarditis). The infection can damage your heart valves and cause irreversible damage.
- Oral health provides warnings about heart disease. Studies have indicated that over 90% of all diseases that involve the entire body, such as heart disease, have oral symptoms. Warning signs of gum disease are:
 - red, swollen, tender gums
 - bleeding gums while brushing or flossing
 - gums that look as though they are pulling away from the teeth
 - chronic bad breath or a bad taste in the mouth
 - loose teeth in adults

Prevention is key to the link.

- Schedule regular dental exams and cleanings, and brush twice a day for two to three minutes at a time.
- Floss daily to remove plaque from areas that a brush cannot reach.
- Eat a healthy diet.
- Avoid cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.
- If you have heart disease, be sure to convey that to your dentist.
- Share your medical history including medications that you are taking with your dentist.

If you are prescribed an antibiotic prior to dental work, be sure to follow through and take it.

Adapted from the American Heart Association, the LVHN Healthy You pamphlet, and AARP Delta Dental.

The Recycling Corner

Have you ever wondered how to recycle some of the items around the house? How to be better stewards of God's earth and help others at the same time? Here are some of our ongoing projects:

ARTICLES	WHERE TO PUT THEM	PERSON IN CHARGE
Sheet blankets	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Quilting committee
Soda cans	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>for Scouts</i>)
Men's socks in good condition	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>Alliance Hall</i>)
Toiletries (from hotels/motels)	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>Alliance Hall</i>)
Eyeglasses	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>Center for Visually Handicapped</i>)
Good used sneakers	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>Alliance Hall</i>)
Plastic bags	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>Food Bank</i>)
Styrofoam Peanuts	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>recycled @ Mailbox</i>)
Styrofoam medicine boxes and shipping packaging ONLY	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>recycled @ Bethlehem Recycling</i>)
<i>Styrofoam trays, cups, plates, egg cartons, food containers, etc. are no longer accepted. Please dispose of in your trash.</i>		
General Mills box tops for education; cash register receipts from Redner's & Fairgrounds Market;		
Campbell's labels	Appropriate boxes in narthex	Cheryl Christensen
Rubber Bands*	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>*from newspapers</i>)
Current Calendars	Cabinet in narthex	Anyone who can use them
Empty printer, fax machine or desktop copier cartridges		
Old cell phones	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Nancy Fennell (<i>recycled @ FundingFactory</i>)
Women's and Men's business attire and accessories... (<i>for "The Perfect Fit"/"First Impressions for Men"</i>)		
(Must be Clean, Good Condition/gently used laundered/ironed)		
IN SEASON ONLY!!!	Coatroom by upstairs restroom . . .	Gloria Hinrichs
Thanks for your help and cooperation with these projects!		



Members at Home

We pray weekly for our members at home. Every month we highlight a portion our list of homebound members so that you can send cards, and perhaps visit!

Here is this month's list (*birthday in italics*):
Ms. Emily Flowers, Good Shepherd Home, Raker #204B, 543 St. John St., Allentown, PA 18103 (*June 3*)

Elaine Jones, 2835 W. South St., Allentown, PA 18103 (*May 2*)

Virginia (Ginny) Stetz, Woodland Terrace at the Oaks, 1263 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Apt. 310, Allentown, PA 18103 (*July 23*)

Shirley Hingberger, Above and Beyond, Rm 203, Emmaus, PA 18049

February birthdays include:
Sharon Clark, Good Shepherd Home, Raker #, 543 St. John St., Allentown, PA 18103 (*February 5*)



DEADLINE

for the

MARCH NEWSLETTER...

FEBRUARY 15!

Big Band Dance

Dance to the
music of the
Hanover Township
Society for the
Preservation of Big
Band Sound in
America



CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS !

Saturday, February 10, 2018 Dancing 7—10 PM

**St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church
140 South Ott Street, Allentown**

All proceeds benefit the Sixth Street Shelter.

Sixth Street Shelter, a program of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, provides temporary housing for Lehigh Valley homeless families with children.

A donation jar and basket raffle for Sixth Street Shelter will be available at the dance.

Tickets available starting January 23,
at the church office, 610-435-6512, or
call Rick Focht, 610-393-8914 or
Jim Henry, 610-435-9834
Kristine Blasco, 610-435-1490

Fellowship Hall is accessible from
rear parking lot, \$5 per person,
including beverages, snacks,
and desserts.
Casual or Mardi Gras attire.



St. Timothy Mail Bag

Dear Rick and the Sunday School Children,
I just want to thank you for bringing a part of St. Timothy to me on Sunday. You were wonderful, and I know you were in a different setting, but you handled it well! It took a great deal of organization for you to come and entertain my friends here at Country Meadows, and I thank you!!!

Blessings,
Charlotte Mann

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ at St. Timothy,
My resounding thanks to all who attended the installation service on January 14, and to all who were praying God's blessing on this partnership in ministry! It was a Spirit-blessed time, filled with joy, as the congregation of St. Timothy and I affirmed our mutual commitment to partnership for the sake of Christ's mission, witnessed by visitors including leaders from the wider church. I look forward in great hope to the ways in which God will work in and through us in the months and years ahead!

Yours in gospel service,
Sister Janet

Dear St. Timothy Carolers,
How very kind and generous of you to give us the gift of your time and your 'Team's' talent to spread Christmas hope and cheer. We deeply appreciated the special songs shared in our home with people we love, and who have loved and cared for us for so many years! Just as our Savior gifts us with grace and hope, you poured forth your musical gifts to impart His message. You all are a Joy to the World!

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a joyous new year!! Hoping for peace in your heart, peace in your home, and peace on earth!

In faith, gratitude, and appreciation,
Phyllis Sharkan and Lyjia

Dear Youth Choir,
Thank you very much for coming out and singing at my installation service on January 14. The message of the anthem fit perfectly and was sung well. You all are an inspiration and a blessing to our congregation! I look forward to hearing more from you!

Yours in Jesus' love,
Sister Janet

Seen Around...



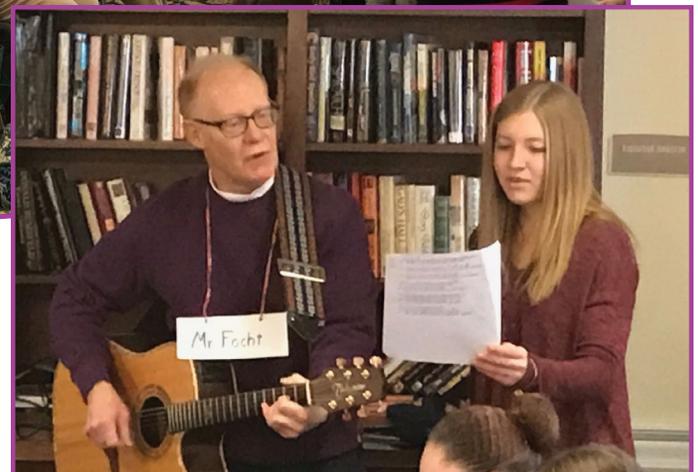
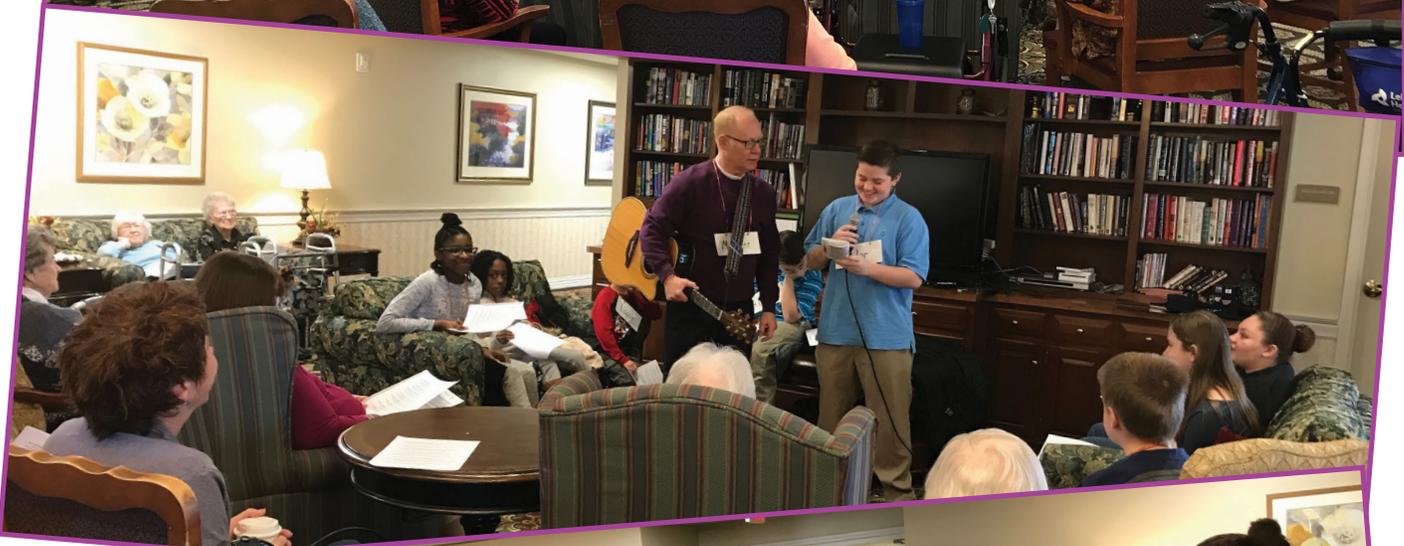
Sister Janet's Installation





The Sunday School Visits Country Meadows

Seen Around





The Sunday School class makes blessing boxes with Rose and Jim Maehrer

Seen Around...



MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2018

Key: [F] = Fellowship Hall [L] = Lounge [P] = Pastor's Office [NV] = Nave
 [N] = Nursery [LB] = Library [YR] = Youth Room [LP] = Land of Promise

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10 am-3 pm-AARP Meeting [F] 12-3 pm-Office Open 7-9 pm-3-D [L]	2 11 am-Rostered Leaders Meeting [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	3 9-11 am-Outreach Committee [L] 9 am-12 pm-Hamilton Park Baseball Signups [F] (SNOW DATE) 6 pm-Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Setup [F]
4 Epiphany 5 9 am-Sunday School [F] 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 10:30 am-Worship Bell Choir Souper Bowl ~11:30 am-Blood Pressure Screening [L] 12-6 pm-Cub Scout Pinewood Derby [F]	5 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	6 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 3 pm-Worship Committee [F] 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [L]	7 12-3 pm-Office Open 1 pm-Executive Committee Meeting [P] 5:30-8 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm-Allentown Hiking Club [F] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew [F]	8 12-3 pm-Office Open 2 pm-Daybreak Mission Team 6-9 pm-Scout Leaders Meeting [F]	9 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	10 9:30 am-Decorate for Dance [F] 6:30-10 pm-Mardi Gras Benefit Dance [F]
11 Transfiguration 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Praise Worship Scout Sunday	12 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am-Property Committee 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	13 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F] 7-9 pm-Congregation Council Meeting [L]	14 Ash Wednesday 12-3 pm-Office Open 7:30-8:30 pm-Ash Wednesday Worship [NV] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew [F]	15 12-3 pm-Office Open 6-7:30 pm-Glorious Day Rehearsal [L] 7-9 pm-3D [L] MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	17
18 LENT 1 6:30 am-Mission Team @ St. Paul's 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship	19 President's Day OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-NAMI Mental Health Support Group [L]	20 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	21 12-3 pm-Office Open 5:30-7 pm-Lenten Meal & Worship [F] 6-7:30 pm-Glorious Day Rehearsal [L] 7:30 pm-Adult Choir [NV]	22 12-3 pm-Office Open	23 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	24
25 LENT 3 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship Youth Choir	26 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	27 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-8:30 pm-AA Board Meeting [F]	28 12-3 pm-Office Open 5:30-7 pm-Lenten Meal & Worship [F] 6-7:30 pm-Glorious Day Rehearsal [L] 7:30-9 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 6:30-8:30 pm-AA Board Meeting [YR]			

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

A New Ministry Partnership



Joint choir under the direction of Geert Ruelens

On December 1, 2016, Nativity and St. Paul, Reading, entered into a ministry partnership when they agreed to share Geert Ruelens as their musician. On Monday evening, both choirs rehearse together; and in 2017 the two congregations joined in celebrating Epiphany and Ascension (to which they invited the community); and they worshiped together on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and for the Easter Vigil.

When Nativity's interim pastor, Cathy Feil, received a call, St. Paul and Nativity saw an opportunity to deepen their partnership. They entered into fruitful discussions about sharing a pastor, guided by the Holy Spirit and Associate of the Bishop, Rev. John C. Richter. On August 1 St. Paul's pastor, Carol B. Kehler, began serving also at Nativity after an agreement was reached to purchase time from St. Paul. On August 6, Pastor Richter offered prayers for the beginning of a new ministry at Nativity.

Congregational leaders join in Worship and Music Committee meetings as well as in a quarterly Council meeting to evaluate the ongoing partnership. Members have four weekly opportunities for Worship, two for Bible study, and share Eucharistic ministers. The congregations look forward to sharing both another Epiphany celebration as well as an Advent 4 service on December 24 (for which a bell choir will be formed).

Between Nativity and St. Paul, 74 families received a Thanksgiving basket containing a full meal, prayerfully offered by the congregations. As the congregations look to influence each other in the best of ways, St. Paul has adopted Nativity's yearly Women's Thankoffering and Nativity members have contributed food, clothing, and household donations to St. Paul's monthly Food Pantry. St. Paul and Nativity will continue trusting in God's guidance as they look to the future together.

Second Annual Parish Secretaries' Christmas Lunch

On Tuesday, December 12, the synod support staff hosted the 2nd Annual Parish Secretaries' Christmas Lunch. All NEPS congregations were encouraged to treat their parish secretaries to a time of fellowship and a catered lunch. The group had an opportunity to ask questions of the synod's support staff, play some Christmas games, make new friends, and reconnect with old friends.



Talking About Racism

WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE

In 2016 the Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team of the Synod received a grant to help young people learn about racism and how they could help heal the wounds of racism. Several of them attended the "White Privilege Conference." The next conference will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan from April 4-April 7, 2018. Take a team of folks from your congregation (<http://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/wpc.html>).

ORGANIZATION: Race Forward

"Race Forward's mission is to build awareness, solutions, and leadership for racial justice by generating transformative ideas, information, and experiences. We define racial justice as the systematic fair treatment of people of all races, resulting in equitable opportunities and outcomes for all and we work to advance racial justice through media, research, and leadership development." (<https://www.raceforward.org>).

The vision statement: "Race Forward envisions a vibrant world in which people of all races create, share and enjoy resources and relationships equitably, unleashing individual potential, embracing collective responsibility and generating global prosperity. We strive to be a leading values-driven social justice enterprise where the culture and commitment created by our multi-racial and diverse staff supports individual and organizational excellence and sustainability."

St. Paul, White Haven Community Lunch Program



St. Paul, White Haven is a small church in a small town; but church members and helpful friends serve approximately 3,400 meals a year to anyone who stops by for lunch on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

The church's Community Lunch Program has been in place for years; but in 2014 Sherry Legg, St. Paul's Secretary, thought the community needed a communal celebration - a free Thanksgiving dinner. Encouraged by commitments from an informal social media poll, Sherry organized her husband and their four kids, her parents, extended family and friends, and they served 163 guests for dinner on Thanksgiving Eve.

Billed as The Second Annual White Haven Community Thanksgiving Dinner, the 2015 event attracted nearly 200 guests in a raging snowstorm that knocked out power briefly, panicking the kitchen workers.



By 2016, with 258 guests, the event had truly become a community tradition. The high school Key Club showed up to help, St. Patrick's RCC members roasted turkeys, and Boy and Girl Scouts helped set up and decorate. The local ambulance crew delivered meals to shut-ins, and the

Lions Club wrote a check. This year the White Haven Market donated turkeys, and Thrivent sent a donation.

The 2017 guest numbers grew to 317, which is nearly 30 percent of the population of White Haven.

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2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. nepsinfo1988@gmail.com.
View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news>.

The Rev. Jerel W. Gade, Dean 610-966-3030
The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop 610-266-5101

Mr. Joshua Fink, Mission District Chair 484-358-5720
Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor 610-437-9927

March 2018 LMD NL news will be due February 14, 2018.

E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers 2018 - Do you provide part time or full-time care for an elder? Would you like a safe place to share your joys and struggles with other care-givers? Would you appreciate companionship in nurturing your spirit?

In today's American culture, many adults are providing full-time or part-time care for their elder parents, relatives, friends, or neighbors. Elder-care-giving can certainly be challenging, presenting both joys and frustrations to elders and their care-givers. This every-other-month gathering will provide participants with a time of guided prayer, supportive conversation around joys and struggles, and sharing new ideas for offering care. Come and go to these gatherings as you might need and desire. There is no need to make a commitment to each one.

Parking is available in a lot across Hamilton Street from the church. Meetings will be held at the Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, [1245 W. Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102](#). **1:30 - 3:00 PM Wednesday's: January 17th, March 14th, May 16th, July 18th, 2018.**

Each gathering will be led by Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, specially trained in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction. Please direct your interest to Pastor Tom Lichner at tllichner@rcn.com OR [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).

Simple Gifts – Two women plus twelve instruments equal one good time! Simple Gifts takes stage at **St Paul's Lutheran Church**, 8227 Hamilton Blvd, Breinigsville, 18031, on **January 30, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** This award-winning band performs on an impressive array of instruments, including two violins, mandolin, hammered dulcimer, recorders, banjo, and guitar plus more unusual instruments. All are welcome! **This concert is free however, donations will be collected of non-perishable food items for local food pantries.**

Big Band Dance – Sat. Feb. 10, 2018, 7:00 – 10:00p.m. at St Timothy, 140 S. Ott Street, Allentown. All proceeds benefit the Sixth Street Shelter. The Shelter provides temporary housing for Lehigh Valley homeless families with children. A donation jar and basket raffle for the Shelter will be available at the dance. Tickets are \$5.00/person. Contact the church office at [610-435-6512](tel:610-435-6512). **See flyer located at your church for more information about the dance.**

Lenten Morning Reflections...Paying attention to God – Sat. Feb. 24, 2018, 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. For more information contact, Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, tllichner@rcn.com or [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362). **See flyer located at your church for more information.**

Contemplative Prayer - Prayer Around the Cross - You are invited to join with others for a time of contemplative opening to the Spirit of God in and around us. We invite God's Light to shine in our hearts and to awakening our consciousness to live lives of mercy, justice, and love. Please join together in this brief time of sacred reading, silent reflection, poetry, chanting, candle lighting, intercessory prayer, and ample space for quiet reflection. **Third Sat. of each Month, 5:00 - 5:45 PM** at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, Pa, 18102. Parking lot across street from church. Address inquiries to Rev. Tom Lichner at tllichner@rcn.com.

Can you provide an hour or two per week to help someone who wants to change their life? St Luke's at 417 N 7th St, Allentown still has an ongoing need for volunteers to assist as tutors or substitutes for our growing multi-level ELL Program for individuals who desperately want to learn English. No foreign language needed. **ELL days and hours are, Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We always need help. We are especially looking for people who a comfortable around computers.** Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or stluke@enter.net.

Crossroads at St. Paul's-Allentown:
"Lord, when did we see you?"

Crossroads is Allentown's only day shelter, where the homeless can gather out of the cold, and hopefully improve their lives.

Thanks to our partners, we are pleased to announce that Crossroads is now open

**Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm, Friday, 11am-4pm
and Saturday, 11am-3pm!**

Additionally, a lite breakfast is served
Monday-Wednesday, 8:30am

Contact **St. Paul's-Allentown** at [610 435-9065](tel:610-435-9065), or email jennstpauls1st@ptd.net.

**Just 30 or 60 minutes
can make such a difference!**

**With your help, we can distribute the following items to those
whom we serve:**

Cough Drops
Tissue Packets
Knit Hats
Chap Sticks
Hand Warmers
Bandanas

CROSSROADS
Special Ministry
ST. PAUL'S IN ALLENTOWN

St. Paul's has been known for many years as "The Church with a heart in the heart of the city!" It continues to take that challenge seriously and is now involved in an effort known as "Crossroads" which is reaching out significantly to the homeless and the helpless. Pastor Steven Shussett has set a review of this effort in a historical setting. His contribution commences here and continues in March.

Paul wrote, "What then is Apollos? What is Paul? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose... For we are God's servants working together; you are God's field, God's building."

These seeds were planted at St. Paul's in Allentown long ago. Maybe it came from being an immigrant church, German speakers in an English-speaking country, strangers in a strange land. Maybe it was from giving birth to different language churches, seeing old friends leave and wanting the best for them. But seeds were planted, and at St. Paul's we have stories dating from the Depression Years. Children from a nearby elementary school walked to the church every day to receive a hot lunch. So many had so little, and the church had enough. Enough to share!

And though times in this church, and generally in Christ's church, are a lot tougher now than they were in the 1930s, St. Paul's continues to share. Last November we hosted our 38th annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner, and the Sunday Breakfasts have been going just about as long. Since 2005, the day after fire destroyed its former home, St. Paul's has also hosted the Lehigh Conference of Churches community lunch three days a week.

The church's ministry with the marginalized changed dramatically with the tragic weather-related deaths of two homeless people in 2010. In response, a room in St. Paul's was made available for those in need of shelter from the cold. While it was not perfect, it was shelter, and it became the first overflow shelter (or warming station) in Allentown. As others hosted and improved on sheltering for the night, St. Paul's took on the day. When you have a home, when you have a job, you don't think much about where to be. But the library and other public buildings, including places like McDonald's, often discourage staying longer than an hour.

Crossroads opened four years ago, once again starting as simply a place to be out of the cold, but growing year by year, now hosting up to 60 people a day. Thanks to partners like those in the Lehigh Mission District, St. Paul's has expanded the drop-in center in a variety of ways.
[**More about this next month!**](#)

Pastor Steven Shussett
St. Paul's in Allentown

OPERATION SUNSHINE
36 S. 8th St, Allentown, PA 18101
Phone: 610-435-9155
Open: Mon 11-3 Wed. 9-4
E-mail: LMDopsunshine@aol.com
Web site: www.LMDopsunshine.com
Paula & Dick Skelly Co-Trip Coordinators
Day of Trip Emergency Number [610-417-3286](tel:610-417-3286)

Operation Sunshine is a non-profit fellowship opportunity within our Mission District, run solely by volunteers. Please join us and invite your friends as we enjoy a variety of venues together.

March 13 (Tues.) – Hunterdon Hills – STEEL MAGNOLIAS - An immediate critical and popular hit in its premier production in New York, **Steel Magnolias** revolves around the lives of a group of gossipy southern ladies in a small-town beauty parlor. The play is alternately hilarious and touching, revealing the strength and purposefulness that underlies the banter of its characters. Lunch included at Hunterdon Hills.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 4:30 PM

Cost \$89.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Mar. 1, 2018

April 26 (Thurs) – Papermill Playhouse – THE STING –

A new musical based on the academy award-winning film. Chicago 1936. Get ready to enter a smoke-filled world of cons and capers, where nothing is what it seems, and no one is who they appear to be.

Lunch at Charlie Brown's Fresh Grill. **Lunch Choices:** Chicken Marsala, Prime Rib and Lemon Dill Salmon. **Dessert Choices:** Cheesecake, Key Lime Pie or Ice Cream. Charlie Brown's Famous Salad Bar included. **Please indicate your choices at time of reservation.**

Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30 AM and will return approximately 6:30 PM

Cost \$99.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Mar. 22, 2018

Tuesday, May 15 to Thursday, May 17 – RIDE THE RAILS OF WEST

VIRGINIA – This exciting trip includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners and not one, but two train trips, the Cheat Mountain Salamander with lunch on board the train and the Durbin Rocket. On day three we will visit the Seneca Caverns before heading home.

Contact the Operation Sunshine office for a flyer with the full itinerary and pricing. Travel Protection is available and suggested.

May 22 (Tues) – Mount Airy Lodge – ELVIS JAILHOUSE ROCK -

Come spend an afternoon with young Elvis. Not just any Elvis, but "The Worlds #1 Elvis". Performing all over the world, he was cast as Elvis in the hit musical "Million Dollar Quartet". Our Elvis won multiple Elvis competitions around the world. This high energy Elvis Tribute is filled with all your favorite hits such as: "**Jailhouse Rock**", "**Blue Suede Shoes**", "**Don't Be Cruel**", "**Love Me Tender**" and so many more. Our Elvis has the looks, the charisma, and the moves that will leave you all shook up! Lunch Buffet and \$15 slot play included with this trip.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 5:30 PM

Cost \$ 64.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs., May 3, 2018