“ARE WE THERE YET?”

How many times do we remember our kids asking this question from the back seat of our cars? When it would be asked too many times within too short a space of time, we would grow impatient with that question and its questioners. We shouldn’t have been, for our kids were only mimicking us in their (our) focus on the destination.

For example, when asked ‘What did you do on vacation last summer?’ we most often respond with an answer like ‘we went to the shore’ or ‘we spent a week in the mountains’ or ‘we didn’t go anywhere.’ Our answers are destination-oriented; we focus on the destination rather than on the journey. We most frequently define our vacations by where we went rather than by what we did or what we might have discovered along the way.

Well as we retrace the steps that Jesus took, we discover that he fully lived the journey. While the Father had him destination-bound to Jerusalem’s Cross, you would never know that from the way the Gospel writers told the Story. Whether he was calling his disciples, or teaching, or healing, or rescuing from a stormy sea, or meeting the women or disciples while on a Resurrection walk, Jesus is always described as ‘on the way’ or ‘passing by.’ It is generally true that, rather than moving from one place to another, Jesus moves from one person to another or from one healing to another, or from one event to another. The disciples and women are portrayed as a group of followers who almost breathlessly are spiritually and physically always trying to keep up. You never heard them asking, ‘Are we there yet?’

So, what is the picture of discipleship we get from this? Maybe this – Discipleship is following Jesus on a journey without ever knowing exactly who he is or where he is going. Perhaps the closest contemporary analogy would be those ‘mystery trips’ that some bus companies use to (maybe still do) offer:

• you buy into it without knowing your destination;
• all they tell you is whether you’ll need warm clothes or cool clothes, and how long you’ll be gone. The journey, not the destination, becomes the point. And it is an adventure.
Worship Calendar

Sunday Morning Services – 10:30 a.m. • Adult Forum – 9 a.m. • Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Special Events</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Second Sunday in Lent</td>
<td>Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Romans 4:13-25;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pr. John Minnich</td>
<td>God's Promise in the (Empty) Tomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Third Sunday in Lent</td>
<td>Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pr. David Kidd</td>
<td>God's Promise in the Nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Fourth Sunday in Lent</td>
<td>Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pr. Dick Stough</td>
<td>God's Promise through the Two Crosses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Fifth Sunday in Lent</td>
<td>Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:5-10;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pr. Don Billeck</td>
<td>God's Promise in the Wine-Soaked Sponge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Dates shown in **PURPLE** are separate services at each church. Dates shown in **RED** are shared services.

LENTEN WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY SERVICES 2012
7:30 PM

Overall Topic: THE PASSIONATE PROMISES OF GOD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>HOST CONGREGATION</th>
<th>PREACHER</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Cedar</td>
<td>Pr. John Minnich</td>
<td>God's Promise in the (empty) Tomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Nativity-St. Michael</td>
<td>Pr. David Kidd</td>
<td>God's Promise in the Nails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>St. Timothy</td>
<td>Pr. Dick Stough</td>
<td>God's Promise through the Two Crosses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Nativity-St. Michael</td>
<td>Pr. Don Billeck</td>
<td>God's Promise in the Wine-Soaked Sponge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>PALM SUNDAY</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ST. TIMOTHY’s EMAIL
office@sttimothylc.org
ADDITIONAL EMAIL ADDRESSES AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT:
www.sttimothylc.org

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 EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
EPISTLE FROM ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Published monthly except August by St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church, 140 South Ott Street, Allentown, PA 18104-6197. Questions or comments may be directed to the Editor, Epistle from St. Timothy, St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church, 140 South Ott Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18104-6197.
**PASTOR—Continued from Page 1**

In Christ, our ultimate destination is assured. And so when the point of our living is not destination-oriented, then the question ‘Are we there yet?’ is not the important question. But rather... What have we experienced?... How has our life changed?... Through whom did God meet me today?... Who met God through Me today?... How have we grown in grace?... What stumbling block held us back?... I wonder how God will encounter me tomorrow?

THAT’S discipleship!

Baptized, like you, to adventure

---

**Health Topic of the Month**

by Charlotte Cruse

**Tips to Tempt Even the Fussiest of Eaters**

Do you struggle to get your child to try new foods, especially fruits and vegetables? Well, you are not alone. Many children are fussy eaters, but do not give up! You can encourage even the fussiest of eaters to eat more fruits and vegetables each day by:

- **Offer a choice.** Offering choices allows children to feel as though they are selecting the food to eat. Instead of setting the plate before them, ask in advance if they want carrots or broccoli or both, or watermelon or strawberries or both. When shopping, encourage your child to find the “best” apples, head of lettuce or whichever produce item interests them. Usually if a child picks the food, they will be more inclined to eat it.

- **Appeal to the senses.** Offer foods that taste and smell good. Mashed cauliflower may seem bland, so add a bit of low-fat cheese sauce. Drizzle broccoli with a bit of extra-virgin olive oil and kosher salt. Dip strawberries in melted dark chocolate. This way they eat only a bit of dark chocolate, but a lot more fruit. For younger children or toddlers, offer foods in a variety of textures and colors. Remember, as adults, toddlers eat with their eyes first. Use cookie cutters to make almost anything into an appealing shape.

- **Be a good role model.** If you are not eating fruits and vegetables, your child probably will not either. You need to have positive eating behaviors. Your child will be more likely to imitate you and will eat right along with you.

- **Do not give up!** If your child refuses a food, or even spits it out, offer it again another night, and then again. Remember, food preferences change as we grow and develop. Continue to encourage children to try different foods.

Adapted from Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

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**Moving? Got Email?**

**Change Your Phone #?**

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Address</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
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<tr>
<th>Home Phone</th>
<th>include in directory</th>
<th>omit from directory</th>
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<tr>
<th>Cell Phone (optional)</th>
<th>include in directory</th>
<th>omit from directory</th>
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<tr>
<th>Work Phone (optional)</th>
<th>include in directory</th>
<th>omit from directory</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>E-mail</th>
<th>include in directory</th>
<th>omit from directory</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

PLEASE PLACE COMPLETED FORM IN OFFERING PLATE OR DROP IN THE MAIL.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!
Time has a way of passing quickly. We are now in the second month of the 2012 and we just want to remind you that the Capital Campaign for the “Promised Land” is still in progress. If you have not yet pledged but would like to or if you would like to make a contribution you can use the envelopes in the narthex marked CAPITAL CAMPAIGN. If you have pledged and are keeping your pledge current, we thank you. What a blessing it has been to have the land to use for summer worship, the Fun Fest and to share with our neighbors. We have been blessed so that we can be a blessing to our community!

Mary Simmons,
On behalf of the Capital Campaign Committee

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):

- **Dorothy Brunone**, Country Meadows, 420 Krocks Rd., Bldg. #2, #278, Allentown, PA 18106 (October 10)
- **Gerry Civitts**, 919 Beverly Dr., Allentown, PA 18103 (August 22)
- **Sharon Clark**, Good Shepherd Home, Raker #216, 543 St. John St., Allentown, PA 18103 (February 5)
- **Al Jaindl**, Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Rd., Apt. #261, Allentown, PA 18104
- **Dorothy Kostenbader**, Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Rd., Apt. 203, Allentown, PA 18104
- **Reds and Doris McEllroy**, 1119 Washington Ave., Allentown, PA 18103

No members at home celebrate birthdays in March.

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**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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARTICLES</th>
<th>WHERE TO PUT THEM</th>
<th>PERSON IN CHARGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheet blankets</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Quilting committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soda cans</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (for Scouts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men’s socks in good condition</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (Alliance Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toiletries (from hotels/motels)</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (Alliance Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Card fronts (from greeting cards)</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (St. Jude’s Home for Children)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyeglasses</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (Center for Visually Handicapped)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good used sneakers</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (Alliance Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic bags</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (Food Bank)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Styrofoam Peanuts</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (recycled to Mailbox)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Mills boxtops for education; cash register receipts from Redner’s &amp; Fairgrounds Market; Campbell’s labels</td>
<td>Appropriate boxes in narthex</td>
<td>Cheryl Christensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber Bands*</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (*from newspapers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Calendars</td>
<td>Cabinet in narthex</td>
<td>Anyone who can use them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empty printer, fax machine or desktop copier cartridges</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (recycled to FundingFactory)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old cell phones</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Nancy Fennell (recycled to FundingFactory)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s business attire and accessories</td>
<td>Coatroom by upstairs restroom</td>
<td>Gloria Hinrichs (for “The Perfect Fit”)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ironed IN SEASON ONLY!!!

Please note: We are no longer collecting plastic lids and caps. You may put them in your regular recycling bin.

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**Please Note:** We are no longer collecting plastic lids and caps. You may put them in your regular recycling bin.
Notes from the February 14, 2012 Council Meeting:

Rick Focht reported on the meeting he attended with Loretta Wiltraut and Jess Keller with two officers of the Allentown Zoning office. They asked us to submit more information on the proposed use of the pavilion we would like to construct on the Land of Promise. He and Pastor Kidd have drafted a letter outlining the different types of outdoor services we have in mind. The Zoning Office will then make a decision and tell us if we will need to go before the Zoning Appeal Board.

Jim Holben has gathered the addresses of our immediate neighbors and drafted a letter to explain our plans for the Land of Promise. How we will present this to them will be decided at our March meeting.

The Synod District Dean Martin Milne and Pastor Glenn Simmons presented a copy of the “Procedure and Practice for Congregations in Pastoral Transition” to the council. They will work with us during this time of transition to find a new pastor for our church. The first step will be an opportunity for all members of the congregation attending services in April to fill out a survey questionnaire. This information will help the council and the Bishop find the kind of pastoral leadership most suitable to our congregation.

AARP NEWS

Allentown AARP Chapter #5415 meets the first Thursday of the month, except July and August, in St. Timothy’s Fellowship Hall. The program for March is Audiologist, Cheryl Delfino. The program for April is a Betsy Ross impersonator who will give a presentation on the real Betsy Ross and the making of the flag. There is a social hour from noon to 1 p.m. followed by the program. A business meeting follows. For more information, call Jeanne Tilghman (610-437-4265).

Trips:

Casino Trips: March 28 and April 18—$20 cost. Includes bus fare, $10 food, and slot play.

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Dinner/Theater—March 14—Cost $75. Comedy show “Wally’s Café” $75;

Ehrhardt’s/Mt. Airy Casino—April 4—Cost $55. Begin at Ehrhardt’s with breakfast, entertainment, family style luncheon. Leave at 1 p.m. for Mt. Airy Casino with $20 slot play.

Sight and Sound “Jonah and the Whale”—May 9—Cost $90. The most talked about show this year. We have filled one bus and half of another bus. We stop at Shady Maples for prime rib buffet on the way home.

For more information on all trips (which are open to non-members), call Jeanne Tilghman (610-427-4265).

Our thanks to those who saved plastic lids and caps for the recycling center and the benefit of a leukemia victim. We are no longer collecting caps. If anyone knows of another benefit for the caps, please let Jeanne know. We are also collecting coupons from the newspaper and sending them to the military who can use them at their PX and Commissary. They will be accepted at those places for three months after expiration. Give to Cheryl in the church office or to any of St. Timothy parishioners who belong to our AARP Chapter.
New Council Members Installed

New and reelected members of congregation council were installed on Sunday, February 12 during the worship service. The new members of council are Rick Focht and Jim Holben. Bonnie Slocki, who filled an unexpired term last year, was elected to fill another 1-year term. The following officers were reelected for a second term: Loretta Wiltraut, President; Jess Keller, Vice President; and Marilyn Mazsa, Secretary.

Observations on Growing Older

Your kids are becoming you... and you don't like them ...but your grandchildren are perfect!
Going out is good. Coming home is better!
When people say you look “Great”... they add “for your age!”

When you needed the discount, you paid full price. Now you get discounts on everything... movies, hotels, flights, but you're too tired to use them.
You forget names... but it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!
The 5 pounds you wanted to lose is now 15 and you have a better chance of losing your keys than the 15 pounds.
You realize you’re never going to be really good at anything... especially golf.
Your husband is counting on you to remember things you don't remember.
The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don’t care to do them anymore.
Your husband sleeps better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than he does in bed. It's called his “pre-sleep.”
You used to say, “I hope my kids GET married.” Now... “I hope they STAY married!”

You miss the days when everything worked with just an “ON” and “OFF” switch.
When GOOGLE, ipod, email, modem were unheard of, and a mouse was something that made you climb on a table.
You used to use more 4 letter words... “What?” “When?”

You used to say, “I hope my kids GET married.” Now... “I hope they STAY married!”
You miss the days when everything worked with just an “ON” and “OFF” switch.
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You used to use more 4 letter words... “What?” “When?”

Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it’s not safe to wear it anywhere.
Your husband has a night out with the guys. but he's home by 9 p.m. ...next week it will be 8:30 p.m.
You read 100 pages into a book before you realize you've read it.
Notice everything they sell in stores is “sleeveless?”
What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
Everybody whispers.
Now that your husband has retired, you would give anything if he would find a job!
You have three sizes of clothes in your closet... two of which you will never wear.
HOWEVER, old is good in some things: old songs, old movies, and best of all, OLD FRIENDS!!
Celebrating Our Faith Through the Arts: the Psalms

April 28, 2012
The Lutheran Center
9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

“In the beginning, God created...”

The salvation story begins with a wonderful act - God’s creation of the world. In that story, God creates us in the image of God’s self – and so we are creators, too!

On April 28, Lutherans from across the synod will gather at the Lutheran Center in Northeastern Pennsylvania to Celebrate Our Faith through the Arts. This event will give participants an opportunity to observe and experience how faith can be deepened and enriched through art -- our creations. Celebrating Our Faith through the Arts will focus on Psalms through drama, music, visual arts, creative writing, and liturgical dance.

Participants will—

- Experience ways that using the arts can help bring them in a closer relationship with God;
- Create and/or observe and/or experience the visual arts (photography, sculpture, paintings, sketches, etc), auditory arts (music, drama), written art (poetry, stories), and physical art (liturgical dance);
- Get ideas for implementing a day like this for their own congregations (if desired); and
- Become part of a supportive network of people who are interested in a specific art (if desired).

An art exhibit with Psalms as the theme is a significant part of the event. The principle objective of the exhibit is to share spiritual knowledge, inspirations and experiences from the book of Psalms. Artists are invited to submit up to three pieces for inclusion in this juried exhibit.

This event is open to those who are in 8th grade through adults. For more information, click the link on the synod website home page (www.godslove.org). Participants may register by completing and mailing in the form or by registering online. Also available are the guidelines for submitting art work and a submittal form.

The cost for the event is $10. Bring your own lunch and a lawn chair to enjoy your lunch outdoors at the Lutheran Center.

Bishop Talks about Synod Budget

The synod council met on January 18. A major item was wrestling with how to balance the synod budget in the face of declining income. Bishop Zeiser talks about the difficult decisions they made on his webpage at www.godslove.org/bishop.
Family Faith Challenge

Take part in the monthly family faith challenges developed by the synod’s Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry Team!

Here are March’s challenges under the theme, Telling the Story: We challenge you to notice how God’s story and your story connect.

Week one: Gather around the table and allow each family member to tell a five-minute uninterrupted story.

Week two: Read Genesis 1:2-4a. Draw a picture to illustrate the creation story. Hang the pictures on your refrigerator.

Week three: Google “Saint Patrick” on your computer or visit your local library and borrow a book about Saint Patrick. Talk about one new thing that you learned about St. Patrick.

Week four: Share your favorite story about Jesus. Post it on your Facebook status. Find your favorite story about Jesus in the Bible.

For a list of all the family faith challenges, click the link on the synod home page at www.godslove.org.

Farm Family Appreciation Celebration

Saturday, March 17, 2012

Celebrate the annual farm family appreciation celebration with friends and families across the synod.

For more information or to register, call 610-378-1327 and ask for Donna or go to www.godslove.org/calendar.

Back to BASICS

Register now for the Back to Basics event, two popular workshops that will be presented at two different times and two different locations this year. Lutheran Basics (led by Cheryl Statham, Betsy Frey, and associates in ministry Marlene Druckenmiller and Leesa Wimmer) and How the Bible Came to Be: From Papyrus to iPad (led by Pastor Greg Frey) will be held March 17 at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, and August 25 at Christ’s United, Ashland. The cost is only $10.

For more information and a registration form you can download and print, or to register online, click the link on the synod website, www.godslove.org.

2012 Synod Assembly

June 15-16, Sovereign Center, Reading PA

Kindness and Compassion

NEPS WELCA Spiritual Growth Retreat

March 17, 2012 (snow date, March 24)
Nativity Lutheran Church, Allentown

Guest: Bruce Becker, author of Kindness and Compassion, the story of the Nickel Mine tragedy.

For more information and to register, see the December Flame at www.godslove.org.

2012 Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly

June 22-24, 2012’ Muhlenberg College

Leaning, Lifting, Leading, the 2012 LYF Assembly, will be held at Muhlenberg College June 22-24.

The cost for the event is $120. Scholarship money is available. Youth completing 8th through 12th grades are invited to register. A registration form, medical release form, poster, and scholarship form can be found on the synod website.

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA; 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101; info@nepsynod.org; www.godslove.org
Bible Study Opportunities: We welcome you to join us for one or both of these Bible studies at Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Rd, Allentown, PA, 18104.

**Tues., 10-11 a.m.**, in the Wellness Center Conference Room, join us as we reflect on and discuss the book of Genesis.

**Thurs., 10-11 a.m.**, in the Wellness Center Conference Room, join us as we reflect on and discuss the upcoming Sunday scripture readings from the common lectionary. For more information, please contact Luther Crest Chaplain Dianne Kareha, 610-391-8210.

Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network has welcomed Soofia Khan, M.D., to its Physician Group. Dr Khan specializes in spinal injuries and stroke care and will serve as Good Shepherds medical director of neurosciences. Dr Khan is board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Podiatry services at Good Shepherd’s Spine & Joint Center are now provided by Thuyien Vu, DPM, of Podiatry Associates of the Lehigh Valley, LLC. Dr Vu sees outpatients on Wed afternoons at the Good Shepherd Health & Technology Center, 850 S Fifth Street, Allentown, PA 18103.

Good Shepherd Rehabilitation needs volunteers in the gift shop, pediatrics hospital, personal assistance and to accompany residents on outings and special occasions. To find out more about how you can take part in the volunteer opportunities offered call 610-776-3125 or fill out an application at www.goodshepherdrehab.org.

St. Luke’s Neighborhood Center, 435 N 7th St, is looking for committed individuals to help at the “Clothes Closet” Wed 9:30-11:00 am, to sort and fold while center is open. They continue to look for committed individuals to distribute pre-sorted clothing to local community residents, Thurs 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m. each week. Please contact Director Karen Berard with your availability at 610-434-5799 or e-mail at slnc2@verizon.net.

St. Luke’s at 417 N 7th St., Allentown continues its free ESL classes. We still need additional volunteers to tutor or be a substitute tutor for this growing multi-level program. Classes are on Mon and Thurs 9-11 am. **Weds class hours can be adjusted for after school or early evening if needed.** (No foreign language needed). Phone 610-434-3943 for Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb. There will be an orientation session available. E-mail to stluke@enter.net.

April 2012 LMD news will be due March 12. The information can be e-mailed to nativity4004@verizon.net or faxed to 610-395-6491.
DOING WHAT MATTERS
Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church
Homer Royer, Sr. Pastor

The leadership of Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church in Allentown has found that becoming involved with the “Do What Matters” experience of the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod during 2011 to be helpful in our life together. “Do what Matters” refers to the A Renewal Enterprise (ARE) program the congregations of the synod were invited to participate in during the past year, and in which the Synod leadership is also taking part.

Our congregation, a Shared Ministry congregation with membership in the Lutheran and United Church of Christ traditions, has a unique story with special gifts and needs arising from that history. Interestingly, those in attendance from our church at the first ARE presentation we attended at Topton Home were UCC members! But as we say around here, that was fine, as we do not record who is and who isn’t Lutheran or UCC at events, worship, etc. Those of us who attended the Topton event were not quite sure how this was going to work in our setting, but took solace in the fact that that was the point: we were to think about our own situation in responding to the invitation to this work, to Be Who We Are, See What We Have, and then, Do What Matters.

We began using resources gained from the March meeting for the time we call “Faith Building and Sharing”, that time at the beginning of our leadership meeting when devotions happen in most churches. Homework was assigned for the October meeting, which we realized in October needed to be re-assigned for the November meeting.J At our December meeting we broke up into small groups, with productive discussions centered around questions regarding our Shared Ministry Vision Statement (which is, “To Welcome All People, Share Christ’s Love for One Another, and Help to Make Christ Visible in Daily Life”), and the fact that we light the Unity candle every Sunday (UCC and Lutheran members take turns doing this).

Our second trip to share with ARE leadership took place in the fall. The group which traveled from our church was a representative body from our leadership (Lutheran Council and UCC Consistory). At this meeting at St. John’s church in Nazareth, more of our leaders became enthusiastic about the possibilities of the program in our particular setting. Our leadership has made a commitment to use information from the program as a basis for our 2012 annual leadership retreat and going forward, including Bible Study resources and the Congregational Toolkit and its 4-D Cycle of Doing, Debriefing, Discovering, and Deciding (for more information, see the Toolkit). Beyond conversations in our leadership settings, a specific change has been the instituting of a “God Sightings” bulletin board, which came out of the Do What Matters experience. This has been a bulletin board converted to a new use in one of our main church entrances where interested parties are encouraged to think about God’s presence in their daily lives, and then to put a brief note up on the board describing experiences arising from these moments of insight.

OPERATION SUNSHINE
36 S. 8th St, Allentown, PA 18101
Open 9-4 Wed. & Thurs
610-435-9155

LMD members 21 and older are invited to participate

Dear Travelers and Friends,

In an effort to be more responsive to you, we have created an e-mail address in order to better communicate updated scheduling and news from Operation Sunshine. If you would like to receive information more often, please send an e-mail to: LMDopsunshine@aol.com.

Include your name(s) and e-mail address in your initial e-mail to us. This will insure that you will personally receive an Operation Sunshine monthly up-to-date trip calendar.

Richard (Dick) & Paula Skelly (Co-Trip Coordinators)

March 21 (Wed)-Fulton Theater-Sunset Blvd.-2 spots remaining-Cost $91. Respond by ASAP.


April 14 (Sat)”Ultimate Pops” with PETER NERO and the Philly Pops at the Kimmel Center with lunch (choice of 2 entrees) at the historic City Tavern. COST $150. Payment Deadline: Thur. March 8.


June 13 (Wed.) Lunch (choice of 3 entrees) on the majestic tall ship, Moshulu followed by a tour of the National Constitution Center which includes the film “Freedom Rising”. COST $85. Payment Deadline: Wed. May 9

August 15 (Wed) “American Icons” at the American Music Theater with lunch at the Fulton Steamboat Inn. It’s the ultimate tribute to America’s all-time greatest entertainers, Sinatra, Streisand, Presley, featuring some of their best loved hits from the 50s, 60s, 70s, and beyond. Cost $94. Payment Deadline: Thur June 7.

CALL 610-435-9155 OR EMAIL LMDopsunshine@aol.com FOR INFORMATION ON MULTI-DAY TRIPS!
# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**MARCH 2012**

**Key:**
- [F] = Fellowship Hall
- [L] = Lounge
- [NV] = Nave
- [N] = Nursery
- [LB] = Library
- [P] = Pastor’s Office
- [LO] = Land of Opportunity

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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
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<td><strong>11 LENT 3</strong></td>
<td>9 am—Adult Forum [L]</td>
<td>6:30-8 am—TLA Before Care [F] 11-3—Office Open 3:30-5:30 pm—TLA After Care [F] 7 pm—Boy Scouts [F]</td>
<td>9 am—Quilters [L] 11-3—Office Open 3:30-5:30 pm—TLA After Care [F] 6:30 pm—Cub Scouts [F] 7:30 pm—Lenten Worship @ Cetronia</td>
<td>6:30-8 am—TLA Before Care [F] 11-3—Office Open 3:30-5:30 pm—TLA After Care [F] 6:15 pm—Senior Choir [NV] 7 pm—Allentown Hiking Club [F] 7:30 pm—Lenten Worship @ Nativity—St. Michael</td>
<td>6:30-8 am—TLA Before Care [F] 11-3—Office Open 2 pm—Daybreak Mission Team 3:30-5:30 pm—TLA After Care [F] 6:30-11 pm—Chess Club [L]</td>
<td>11-3—Office Open 3:30-5:30 pm—TLA After Care [F] 6:30-11 pm—Chess Club [L]</td>
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St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church
140 South Ott Street
Allentown, PA 18104-6197

St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of the Lehigh Mission District, Lehigh County Conference of Churches, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday—11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Sunday School: Adult Forum—9 a.m.; Sunday School—9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10 a.m. Service of Holy Communion