

*Epistle from**St. Timothy  
Evangelical Lutheran Church**Sharing our faith by sharing God's love!*

In February of 2016 I sat in the second to last row of pews for service. A finger tapped me on and the shoulder. When I turned around, I saw my Mama, my great-grandmother (not really but this woman was the spitting image of her) said to me, "We're dead here. Can you help us?" I told her that I didn't know; but, I could walk with her into that deadness if she would allow me. This was my introduction to this faith community.

For three months, I interned with this church. I saw a few busy bees trying to do what seemed to be the lion's share of work around the church. Then, I entered conversations with some of you. I began to realize that there are many busy bees here—they just don't all hang around the nest. However, while those bees are busy, they too were lamenting about tasks to accomplish, lack of energy to do them, and the feeling of entering death. If death hadn't been pronounced already, I would surely think this is where the church was headed.

**It's amazing what God can do in so little time.**

To walk into the church and sit in the second last pew today, one would hear a different greeting. We have life, come, come and meet us, come and talk to us, we are open to a new relationship. This proclamation of life doesn't come from me and it doesn't come from any of you. This is the beauty of the new greeting, the new proclamation. We are sort of blind to it but it is real. The proclamation comes from a member of the Barn's Vision Team. This person shared that they noticed something is different at St. Timothy. Today, there is excitement about tomorrow instead of worry or fear. Today's invitation is much different than an invitation offered a year prior. Today we have offered the Barn an invitation to be a partner. We're not asking them to be a plug in a leaky bucket but rather to join us in this walk of a difficult journey. We're asking them to be church with us, not worship with us. Now, please don't worry about this. The Barn does not want us to lose our identity, we don't want us to lose our identity, and God does not want us to lose our identity. We will continue to be St. Timothy.

*Continued on page 3—see [VICAR](#)***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.

## May 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
May 7	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<b>Easter 4</b> <b>Children's Day</b> <b>Children Sing</b>	Matthew 18:1-4, 10-14; Psalm 23; John 21:15-17; John 10:1-10
May 14	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<b>Easter 5</b>	Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14: 1-140
May 21	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<b>Easter 6</b> <b>Confirmation</b>	Acts 1 7:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14: 15-21
May 28	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<b>Easter 7</b> <b>Bell Choir</b> <b>Memorial Day Weekend</b>	Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17: 1-11

### NE PA SYNOD WEB SITE

[www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org) or [www.nepsynod.org](http://www.nepsynod.org)  
for information about our synod

### ELCA WEB SITE

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
for information about our national church

## 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.

### ST. TIMOTHY'S EMAIL

[office@sttimothy.org](mailto:office@sttimothy.org)

FIND MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES AT:  
[www.sttimothy.org](http://www.sttimothy.org)



Find us on Facebook at  
[facebook.com/sttimothyallentownpa](https://facebook.com/sttimothyallentownpa)



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## VICAR *(continued from page 1)*

When I shared St. Timothy's story with a local pastor, she was very interested. There is interest in your story and there is interest in leading this congregation toward tomorrow. The interest goes beyond this one pastor as well. We met Bishop Zeiser on Monday April 3, 2107. He feels positive about your future. The West End Lutheran pastors feel positive as well and they will not abandon you. You will be looked after and you will be pushed toward tomorrow the whole time.

How did we get here? Within this past year, you have shared some history with me. These conversations of years past highlighted how God has called you into the world. You've opened your doors to outsiders on many occasions. You constantly look for ways in which to be Christ in the community, and you care deeply. After sharing history, you shared with me some ideas about tomorrow. Yesterday and tomorrow point to the reality of today; therefore, a vision arose based out of the reality current. This vision has always been with you. Heck, it is you. It's just now in written word: You Transform Lives by Connecting Communities.

With this statement made public, it became apparent that we do not connect communities to increase numbers (money or people). We connect communities because we know our identity is the same as our neighbor's identity: beloved children of God. This identity calls us into relationships. It gathers us as grains of wheat so to become one loaf which can be broken and shared with all.

So, here we are, on this brink. Are we going to step forward in faith and head to new relationships; or, are we going to fall back into Death Valley? In other words, are we going to invite others into partnership where we walk together in faith and

ministry; or, are we going to invite others to come and plug a hole for us, asking them to minister to us? From what has been shared, we choose to move forward. Not sure where forward leads but trusting that life is found there and not back in some Death Valley.

I get it. This doesn't make much sense. We are going to choose life, move forward, by doing what we've always done? Yup. Because we've always done by trusting that God is in control. This God who has brought bones life, who raised Lazarus from the dead certainly supplies all the things we need for life.

Finally, let's talk a little about what we may need. We need a leader. We need a leader who is community oriented, who needs the flexibility of a part-time situation, who doesn't strive to simply care for the needy, but strives to build partnerships with other groups so there is power in that care. We need a leader who doesn't sit at a desk while we die, but rather pushes us forward toward whatever new life God is offering. And, we need a leader who will coach us to be all that as well—coach us to be the body of Christ in the world. And last, we need to bring together the team who will discern for St. Timothy who the right leader will be; trusting that God has already spoken to that leader, we just need to connect.

I cannot express enough the absolute joy you have all brought me this past year. You have opened the doors of the church and your lives to me. You have allowed me to walk with you in faith. I pray, and I trust, that you will continue this walk, but with a new leader. I know that your future is very bright, you have allowed me to see that through your hearts.

Your fellow servant in Christ,  
Senior Seminarian Brian Riedy



## Report on Meeting with Bishop Zeiser

April 3, 2017

Opening prayer—Senior Seminarian Brian Riedy

Agenda set—Pr. Woody Maxon states order of presentation—approved

**Pr. Tom Lichner**—spoke toward the understanding of the old mission and the need to look to the future. Discussed how the Bible calls us into new ventures, how we need to trust God in that, and how we move from a mourning process into new life. Pr. Tom's work with St Timothy was accomplished during adult forum and Preaching during service once a month.

**Senior Seminarian Brian Riedy**—spoke toward the movement of fear and death to new life. Highlighted first impression, then conversations on St. Timothy history, and finally the conversations on possibility. Introduced how the movement from possibility turned from vision statement crafting and then unfolded into the idea of partnerships. Listed by name three very real potential leaders for St. Timothy.

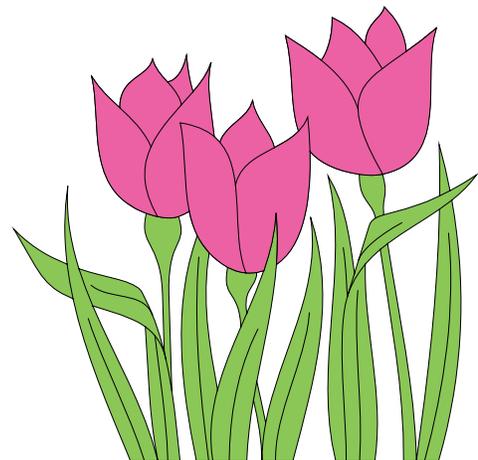
**Rick Focht**—spoke to the very real connections made through all the work St. Timothy members have done over the past two years. Mentioned Barn partnership, new WOW ideas, and future conversations with the other groups which currently use St. Timothy building for space. Informed Bishop Zeiser that this work is happening with or without a new leader. Hopefully someone is found to boost this work.

**Pr. Woody Maxon**—spoke a summary of the past two years' work. Then, gave Bishop Zeiser a document which lays out the steps for St. Timothy to follow in new future. Highlighted the hard work and dedication of the members through this process. Highlighted the role of the West Side Collaborative in this process and the new role for Collaborative in future—assured Bishop that Collaborative will continue to support and walk with St. Timothy. Posed the biggest question of the day—what do you think?

**Bishop Zeiser**—sends much gratitude to the members of St. Timothy for the hard work, the openness, and for creative willingness. He felt as though the meeting was very successful and productive. He appreciates that St. Timothy has crafted a vision and thought intentionally about tomorrow. This work provides a much bigger net for Bishop Zeiser to cast. While the Bishop finds potential candidates to fit into the new vision, he reminded us that St. Timothy still has some work to do. We will need to develop a team which will discern if candidates fit into St. Timothy. We will also need to continue our work moving forward, doing so with the backing and blessing of the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod.

## AARP News

Allentown AARP Chapter #5415 will meet at noon on May 4, 2017 at St. Timothy Church, 140 So. Ott St. Allentown. Program: The Happy Boombadeers (rescheduled from April). Non-members and guests are welcome. Bring a non-perishable food item for the Allentown Food Bank. Questions? Call 610-437-4265.



# A Message from Pr. Woody

Admiral McRaven, former Navy Seal spoke to the graduating class in 2014. He told them that there is one thing they should do every day. That one thing is to make your bed. And it must be true because his Mother told him to do that. It sounded way too simple to me. But here is what he said. Making your bed makes you pay attention to details at the start of your day. It makes you think about process and how you accomplish a task. It allows you to have success and accomplish something when you start your day. And after a tough day, you get to go to sleep in a bed that is made up.

What was true when he was young was also true when he was training to be a Navy Seal. Every day his commanding officer and trainers would come in to the barracks where the trainees were staying. Before they could do anything else that day, their beds had to be made with square hospital corners and the pillow in the center of the bed. McRaven was angry that here he was training to be a Navy Seal and he had to make his bed before he could do anything else. Really? Make my bed before anything else?

Well what he learned was that small details are important. If you don't take of small details you won't be able to handle the big details. His Navy Seal training taught him how to pay attention to little details so that they did not become big problems.

Today we celebrate an empty tomb. Today we celebrate a Savior risen from the dead. Today we know that death no longer shadows our lives but that the light of a new dawn with us with hope.

Why are we able to do that? Because like Admiral McRaven said you have to take care of the

small details and if Jesus had not taken care of the small details, I don't know for sure if we would be filled with the same kind of hope.

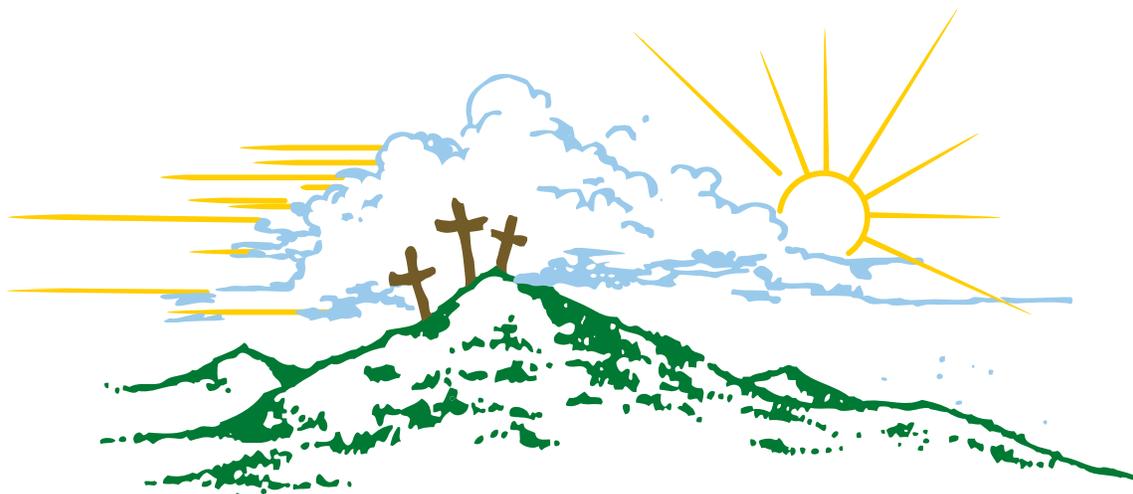
Jesus spent his entire ministry taking care of the small details. He would talk to children. He would make sure people were fed. He would heal people. He would talk theology with a woman at a well. He would pray. He would cry when his best friend died.

Because Jesus paid attention to the details he showed us that he was not Superman or a god, he was the same baby that was born in Bethlehem and was now a regular flesh and blood man.

So when Jesus came back from the dead we could know that a real flesh and blood person came back from the dead and so can we. We can be just like him because we are just like him in every way. And because we can be like him we have hope and faith.

As we go through the next few weeks we will be experiencing some changes at St. Timothy. Brian's time with us will be coming to completion. The leadership has met with the Bishop and we are exploring possibilities. New things are happening with the Barn and WoW. The only thing that does not change is that we will experience change. As we experience change we also experience hope. Through hope we are energized to meet the changes that we encounter. Change for humans started with an empty tomb and continues as we meet new challenges in our ministry together.

So, Christ is risen. He has taken care of the big things, now we can concentrate on living out the small things.





## Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruise



### Skin Cancer

The daylight hours are increasing in length allowing us to spend more time outdoors. In doing so, we are exposing ourselves to increased sunlight. We welcome the warm rays of the sun but we need to be mindful to not over expose ourselves to the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

The National Cancer Institute has designated May as Skin Cancer Month. Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. The ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun is the main cause of skin cancer. In addition, UV damage can cause wrinkles and blotches or spots on the skin. The good news is that skin cancer can be prevented and it can almost always be cured when it is found and treated early.

Anyone can get skin cancer although it is more common among people with a light (fair) skin tone. Both men and women and teenagers and even younger children can develop skin cancer. It does not matter whether your skin tone is light, dark or somewhere in between. Dark skin does not burn as easily as fair skin but even people who do not burn are at risk. Extended periods of time in the sun can damage your skin through the ultraviolet rays. There are two parts to the ultraviolet rays—UVA and UVB. Both can cause damage. As an aside, these same two rays can cause damage to your eyes. Therefore, it is important to wear sunglasses that provide protection for both types of rays.

Limit the amount of time spent in the sun, especially between mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Also, avoid other sources of UV radiation such as sunlamps and tanning beds. UV radiation is reflected

by sand, water, snow and ice and can also go through windows and car windshields.

*To protect yourself and your family members from the sun's rays:*

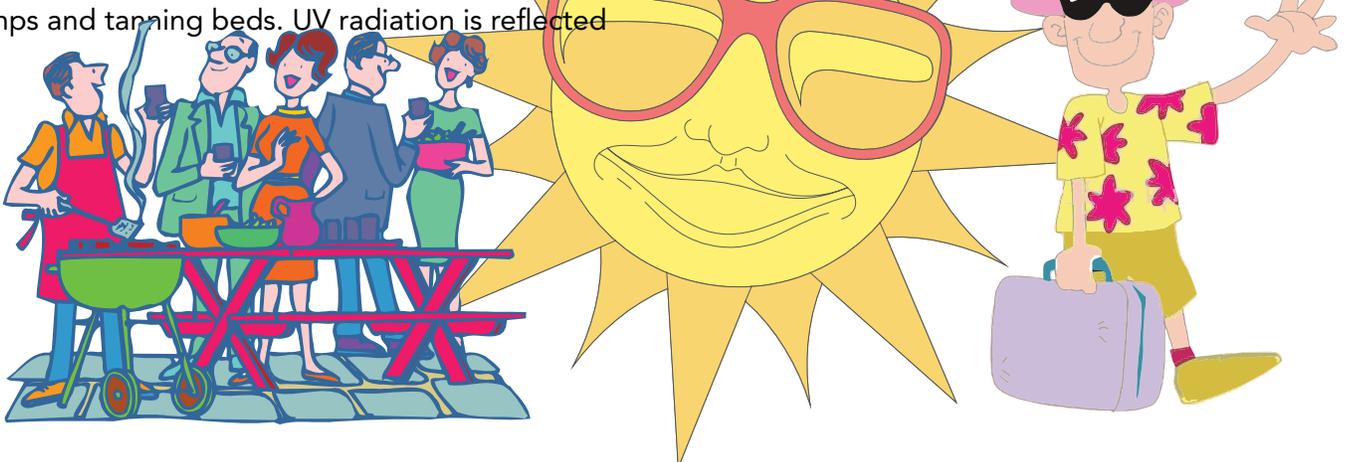
- Try to wear long sleeves, long pants, and a hat with a brim around it that shades your face, ears, and neck.
- Use sunscreen with a label that says it is broad spectrum and is at least SPF 15 or greater and filters out both UVA and UVB rays.
- Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes and the areas around your eyes.
- DO NOT use sunlamps and tanning beds.
- Be cautious in the sun when taking certain antibiotics or hormones, as they may make your skin more sensitive to sun damage.
- Medications or medical conditions that suppress the immune system may increase the risk for skin cancer.

*Be observant for early signs of skin cancer.*

- Check your skin frequently for changes.
- Tell your doctor if you notice any skin changes that do not go away within a month.
- Watch for new moles or growths on your skin.
- Check for changes in the appearance of an old growth or scar on the skin.
- Check for skin areas that are a different color and become darker or change color.

By following a few simple rules, it is possible to both enjoy the outdoors and minimize your risk for developing skin cancer.

*Adapted from the National Cancer Institute*



## St. Paul's Breakfast Ministry

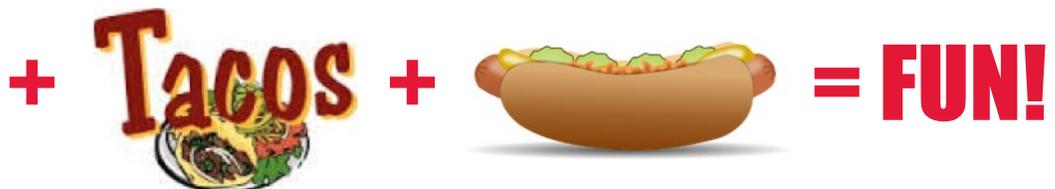
A huge thank-you to everyone who assisted in making the Easter baskets for the people who attended the Easter Sunday breakfast at St. Paul's—the Sunday School children who decorated the baskets, Cheryl for shredding paper for the grass in the baskets, those who donated the candy for the baskets, and those who supplied the decorated hard boiled eggs for the baskets. The people who attended the breakfast of eggs, pancakes, ham, rolls, cereal, and juice were very appreciative of the baskets and the kindness shown to them by the people of St. Timothy. Thanks to all.



Mexican Independence Day is celebrated on May 5. We are choosing this day to celebrate the Latin Heritage in our neighborhood.

The Allentown Band is coming to Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St. for a concert of Latin music on Friday, May 5 at 7 PM.

Prior to the concert, you are invited to a Cinco de Mayo Party in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. complete with ethnic foods (Spanish and German) and fun and games. Please give the Christ Office a call if you plan to attend. 610-433-4271.



A West End Mission Collaborative 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Celebration



## Focus on Men—Men and Pain

"We men do not like to own pain. We find it more difficult to take possession of it. We find it more difficult than women to feel someone else's suffering. You might say: We have a tougher crust to protect us.... Of course, I take notice that this other person has a serious problem. But I do not take it personally. I do not immediately feel it myself. The problem is with this other guy or girl. This is THEIR problem, not MINE. I am not responsible for it."—*Dr. Manfred Bahmann, presented at Parish Nurses Men's Health Seminar, July 30, 2016.*

Genesis 3:19 tells men that: By the sweat of your face you shall eat your bread until you return to the ground. In other words, we must work to live and in that working we will/or many get hurt and feel pain. But that pain comes from outside us. And when we feel that pain, how do we deal with it? The short answer is: "'I don't.' I don't want to deal with my suffering. I just simply reject it. I do not want to own it. We just want it to go away. We don't want to own it. It is not part of myself." I am still the young man I once was." (*Bahmann*)

This will be the last Focus on Men article I am writing. We've talked about pain and illness and

why men refuse to get help until it's too late. We've explored prostate cancer, depression and the physical changes that occur with aging. But what do we do with our health issues? Perhaps the real answer is to reach out and talk to other men about what is happening to us. Most of you know my story over the past 6 months, pneumonia ended in sore muscles and eventual spinal stenosis. I would kid—this is my new normal, but a new normal I hated. As one Psalter said, "I sit on a chair and do nothing." This is what bad health does to us. Our former life has been changed. Thankful I am having surgery and I am walking once again. My old life is back (more or less). But I was feeling burned out.

Our values by which we have lived are twisted in our disappointment and frustration. "In the process, we ignore those values we are really in need of: friendship, understanding, warm fellowship, genuine appreciation, of who we are. This failure leads then, into an inner 'burn out', a spiritual crisis." (*Bahmann*). So how do we deal with our health? ...maintain those relationships we have and talk to those men (and women) who listen and show empathy. They many very well help you through your crisis of pain. Amen



## Reformation and Beyond Tour November 2 - 14, 2017

Explore the epicenter of the Reformation and walk, sing, eat, and worship in the very places once frequented by Martin Luther. Luther rediscovered the Gospel in this land, and his influence quickly spread beyond Germany. Our visits to some of these cultural centers will expand your appreciation of diversity and historical interpretation. Magnificent castles, quaint villages, and unique concerts are sure to fill your senses and calm your spirit. It is our prayer that this tour will reinvigorate and inspire each traveler's individual faith journey.

Your hosts, Pastor Woody and Linda Maxon are foodies and wine enthusiasts, so plan to sample a little wine, a little beer and some local delicacies along the way as we explore and enjoy together.

More information about the Reformation & Beyond Tour is online at:  
[reformationtours.com/package/reformationandbeyond](http://reformationtours.com/package/reformationandbeyond)

# Seen Around...

The Sunday School class learning about the Lord's Prayer



Easter morning 2017.



The children hunt Easter eggs





# Seen Around



*The children learn to make Resurrection Bread.*



# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

## MAY 2017

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
	<b>1</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>2</b> 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>3</b> 11 am-4:30 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 3:30 pm-Worship & Music Committee [L] 7 pm-Allentown Hiking Club [F] 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew [F]	<b>4</b> 10 am-3 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 10-3 pm-AARP [F]	<b>5</b> 8 am-10 pm-Set up for garage sale [F] 10:30 am-2:30 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>6</b> 8 am-1 pm-Garage Sale [F]
<b>7 Easter 4</b> 9 am-Sunday School [F] 9 am-Adult Forum [L] <b>10:30 am-Worship Children's Day Children Sing Reception after Worship</b> ~11:30 am-Blood Pressure Screening [L] 1-5 pm-Eagle Scout Event [NV & L]	<b>8</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 9 am-Property Committee 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>9</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6-9 pm-Joint Council Meeting at Redeemer Lutheran Church 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>10</b> 11 am-4:30 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 3:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] AARP in Parking Lot	<b>11</b> 10 am-3 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 2 pm-Daybreak Mission Team 6 pm-Scout Leadership Meeting [F] 7 pm-3 D [L]	<b>12</b> 10:30 am-2:30 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>13</b>
<b>14 Easter 5 Mother's Day</b> 9 am-Sunday School [F] 9 am-Adult Forum [L] <b>10:30 am-Praise Worship Service</b>	<b>15</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Mental Health Support Group [L] 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]  <b>JUNE NEWLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b> 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>17</b> 11 am-4:30 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew [F]	<b>18</b> 10 am-3 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 6 pm-Scout Commissioners Meeting [F] AARP in Parking Lot	<b>19</b> 10:30 am-2:30 pm-Vicar in Office 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>20</b>
<b>21 Easter 6 Confirmation</b> 6:30 am-Mission Team @ St. Paul's 9 am-Sunday School [F] 9 am-Adult Forum [L] <b>10:30 am-Worship Reception after Worship</b>	<b>22</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>23</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>24</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:45 pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm-AA Board Meeting [L] 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV]	<b>25</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 7 pm-3 D [L]	<b>26</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>27</b> 10 am-12 pm-Outreach Committee Meeting [L]
<b>28 Easter 7</b> 9 am-Sunday School [F] 9 am-Adult Forum [L] <b>10:30 am-Worship Bell Choir</b>	<b>29 Memorial Day</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>30</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>31</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV]			

# SYNOD NEWS

## Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

### Keynote Speaker

**Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans**



Dr. Kleinhans is Professor of Religion at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. She joined the Wartburg

faculty in 1993 as the first woman teaching full-time in Religion.

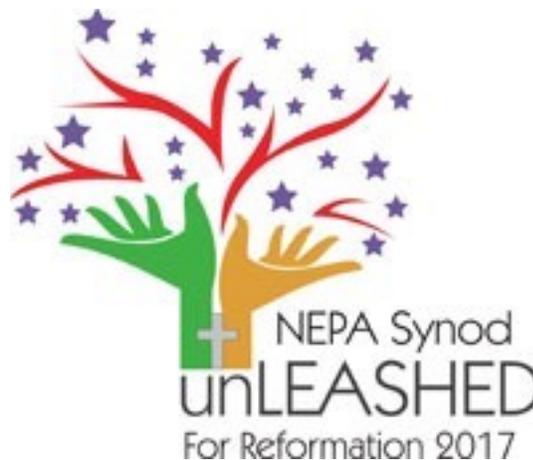
Her teaching responsibilities are primarily in Christian theology and church history, with an emphasis on Martin Luther and the theology and history of the Reformation.

She writes and speaks frequently on the relevance of Luther and the Reformation today - especially in light of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation in 2017.

Dr. Kleinhans is an ordained pastor of the ELCA. Before coming to Wartburg, she served as one of the pastors of the Lutheran Church of the Atonement in Atlanta, Georgia.

She has served the ELCA at the national level in several capacities. Currently she is a member of the Women and Justice Task Force, and a member of the Entrance Rite Discernment Group for the ELCA's proposed Word and Service roster.

Dr. Kleinhans will speak on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.



## Synod Assembly 2017

June 2-3

**Kalahari Resort & Convention Center  
Pocono Mountain, PA**

**Ever been to an Annual Synod Assembly?**

It's the largest gathering of Lutheran congregations in northeastern Pennsylvania...

...and all members of every congregation in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod are invited.

Every congregation elects two voting members to take part in the official business of the assembly.

But there are plenty of seats for visitors.

So, if you're not elected as a voting member of your congregation, come to the assembly and be enriched

by the supercharged spirit of life together in Christ. (You must register for meals with the synod office.)

Let your imagination be stirred by ministries on display in God's Playground.

Gain insight from our keynote speaker about Lutherans "unleashed" for ministry in challenging times.

Add your voice to the hymns, prayers, and acclamations lifted up during the Service of Holy Communion on June 2.

To learn more about the 2017 Synod Assembly and the schedule of assembly events, go to <http://nepasynod.org/synod-assembly-2017>.

## Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly

June 16-18  
Muhlenberg College



"Love in Action" is the theme of this year's Lutheran Youth Fellowship Assembly which will be held at Muhlenberg

College from June 16-18.

The theme for this year's assembly is taken from Romans 12:9-21. Pastor Nelson Quinones will serve as the chaplain.

Workshops, worship, group games, a dance, and more are all part of the weekend which also includes plenary sessions (meetings) for discussing issues that matter to youth.

Registration and additional information about the assembly are on the synod website at <http://nepasynod.org/event/lutheran-youth-fellowship-2017>.

## Lutheran Day at the Capitol

May 22 - Trinity, Camp Hill

With the political divisions and hostilities of today, it is critical that our voice, as the people of God, be heard as a reminder that all are made in God's image. How can we be Church Together, for the sake of the world, in Pennsylvania? For more information and to register, visit <http://www.lutheranadvocacy.org> and scroll down to "Events."

## Kalahari Resort & Conventions



This year's venue for Synod Assembly offers a unique opportunity for your whole family to enjoy the experience, whether you are a delegate or a visitor to the Assembly.

Kalahari has America's largest indoor waterpark at 220,000 sq. ft. It features a retractable roof, stand-up surfing or body boarding on the FlowRider, the twists and turns of the Anaconda and Swahili Swirl waterslides, relaxing lazy river, and indoor/outdoor family hot tub. Ride the waves in the wave pool or experience tons of activities for the little ones and much, much more!

The Resort has set aside a block of rooms for the Assembly. Rates are for up to four guests per room. To make a reservation call 888-742-9099 and identify yourself as attending the Northeastern PA Synod Assembly. Luggage can be stored with the resort until 4:00 p.m. check-in time.

The cost of the room includes admission to the park for the four people staying in the room beginning at noon the day of your arrival and ending when the park closes the day you check out. Guests can be family members or friends not attending the assembly.

Check out [www.kalahariresorts.com](http://www.kalahariresorts.com) for more information.



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2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101.  
[nepsinfo1988@gmail.com](mailto:nepsinfo1988@gmail.com); [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org)

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

June 2017 LMD NL news will be due May 15, 2017. E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com).

**"Bhutan: A Kingdom of Sexy Happiness" and "India: A Country of Considerable Contrasts"** The public is cordially invited to attend the following photographic presentations by John and Dianne Kareha Deisinger in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104:

**Tues., May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2:30 p.m.:** "Bhutan: A Kingdom of Sexy Happiness"  
**Tues., June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 p.m.:** "India: A Country of Considerable Contrasts"

**The 2017 schedule for Lutheran Congregational Services' Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training** is now available. Trainings will be held **May 13<sup>th</sup>** (St. Michael's, Sellersville), **Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>** (Christ Lutheran, Hellertown) and **Oct 7<sup>th</sup>** (St. John's, Stroudsburg). **Details and registration information at [www.lutherancongregationalservices.org](http://www.lutherancongregationalservices.org).** Your congregation may also schedule a special training for \$250 + facilitator mileage. Thrivent Action Team grant funding can be used for educational trainings like this! Questions? Call Pastor Jennifer Ollikainen at [610-425-2981](tel:610-425-2981).

#### Save These CROP Dates!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger **Walk: Sun., Oct. 8, 2017, 1:30 p.m.**, with registration beginning at 12:45 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104.

CROP Recruiters' **Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun., Aug. 27, 2017, 1:30-2:30 p.m.** (to receive materials, ideas, and inspiration for yourself and your congregation) at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need locally and around the globe!

**Available for Lease:** St. Peter's Hanover Ave., Allentown, is looking for a non-profit organization who would like to lease our former parsonage (also former offices of Lutheran Congregational Services) located next to the church at 1923 Hanover Ave. Please call the church office at 610-432-8762 to set up an appointment to discuss your needs. We are open to creative ideas to use this property in a cooperative effort to the benefit of those in our society who need assistance.

**Employment, Internship, and Volunteer Opportunities** at Luther Crest. If you or someone you know would like to explore employment, internship, or volunteer opportunities in nursing, dining services, activities, pastoral care, or other services among senior adults, please contact Luther Crest at [610-398-8011](tel:610-398-8011). For more information, please contact Rev. Virginia Heimer, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

**Luther Crest hosts "Theology, Literature, and Coffee"**. Luther Crest will host a Moravian Theological Seminary-sponsored course, "Theology, Literature and Coffee" (TLC), which will be held at Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, on **Mondays, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-3:30 p.m.** Enjoy a time of learning and fellowship as theological themes in selected literature are presented and discussed. **Cost for the series is \$20 with early registration discount before September 18 (\$25 after 9/18/17)**, and beverages will be provided. To register, please contact Moravian Theological Seminary ([610-861-1516](tel:610-861-1516)) or [www.moravianseminary.edu/continuingeducation](http://www.moravianseminary.edu/continuingeducation)

#### Books to be discussed are:

**Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>:** *Of Love and Other Demons* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, ISBN: 1400034922 Leader: Nelson Quinones, St. John Lutheran Church, Fogelsville

**Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>:** *Silence* by Shusaku Endo, ISBN: 125008227

Leader: Nelvin Vos, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown

**Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>:** *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman, ISBN: 1476738025  
Leader: Ruth Marcon, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

**THANK YOU!!** - to those who have contributed their time, talents, and donations of goods and money to the Crossroads Day Shelter at St. Paul's-Allentown. This ministry is possible only because of people like you! From **May 1<sup>st</sup> until October 31<sup>st</sup>**, Crossroads will only be open at certain times, due to the lack of volunteers and staffing. If you are interested and able to donate a few hours a week, perhaps we can be open a bit more. In the meanwhile, contributions are always welcome! Call St. Paul's at [610-435-9065](tel:610-435-9065).

**Can you provide an hour or two per week** to help someone who wants to change their life? St Luke's at 417 N 7<sup>th</sup> 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. Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or [stluke@enter.net](mailto:stluke@enter.net) for class times and orientation sessions.



**UNLEASHED  
For Reformation 2017  
NEPA Synod Assembly**

Having celebrated Easter 2017, it's time for us to contemplate and prepare for the next major celebration in our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. **Our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly is scheduled for June 2-3 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in Pocono Manor.**

Assemblies are always special events, but **this one has the added distinction of including our major celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation.**

This means that **the major Eucharistic Celebration of this event on Friday at 4:30PM will be our Synod's primary worship event dedicated to this remembrance. Bishop Zeiser will be preaching and Mark Mummert will be providing the musical support.** Even if you are not registered as a delegate or even a visitor to this Assembly, please be encouraged to include this very special event in your schedule and plan on "visiting" this special worship opportunity.

Obviously, **there will also be several special presentations regarding the Reformation and its relationship to our present church world and expectations for the foreseeable future. This consideration will be in the hands of The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans.** Dr. Kleinhans is a Professor at Wartburg College, Waverly, Iowa. Her teaching responsibilities focus primarily on Christian theology and church history, with a special emphasis on Martin Luther and the theology and history of the Reformation. She is well-known for her presentations on the relevance of Luther and the Reformation today – especially in light of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation this year (2017). Her presentations are scheduled for mid-afternoon Friday and Saturday morning. **It is anticipated that her contributions will challenge us to reflect on our present stance in relationship to the Reformation and to vision where our worlds may be evolving during the next 50 or more years.**

This will obviously be a very special Assembly and it is anticipated that it will include some special projections for the future in the spirit of the celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. If you are among those who are expected to attend this event and you haven't yet registered, please be reminded that discounted registrations must be filed no later than Friday, May 12, and that the final deadline for registrations is Friday, May 19. **Although there is no fee, visitors are also expected to register. Registration forms and additional information is available from Debbie Frey in the Synod Office (610-266-5101 or [debbie@nepnsynod.org](mailto:debbie@nepnsynod.org)).**

We are privileged to be celebrating a half-century since Martin Luther stepped forward to lay the groundwork which ultimately led to the establishment of our Lutheran Church and, more importantly, the documentation from which our tradition has evolved across those 500 years. This year's Synod Assembly will certainly remind us of this celebration and affirm our intention to follow in this tradition. Our involvement will certainly be welcomed.

**Pastor Richard Stough**  
LMD Secretary



1987-2017

**OPERATION SUNSHINE**

36 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St, Allentown, PA 18101

Phone: 610-435-9155

Open: Mon 11-3 Wed. 9-4

E-mail: [LMDopsunshine@aol.com](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com)

Web site: [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://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.*

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**June 21 (Wed.) – Paper Mill Playhouse – MARY POPPINS** - Based on the stories by P.L. Travers and one of the most popular films of all time! Mary Poppins takes us on a magical and memorable adventure. It's an enchanting mixture of irresistible story, unforgettable songs, breathtaking dance numbers, and a little bit of magic. This is a show that received nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards, including best musical. It's a **SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS** musical adventure! Lunch at Charlie Brown's Fresh Grill.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30 AM and will return approximately 6 PM  
Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs., May 18**

**July 12 (Wed.) – Fulton Theatre – NEWSIES** - The toast of Broadway for over two years, *Newsies* is based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899. Day in and day out a young group of scrappy and spirited newsboys carry the banner, hoping for a major headline so they can sell enough "papes" to survive the harrowing streets of New York City... until they become the headline! Lunch at The Pressroom. Please call the office for lunch menu choices at the time of reservation.

**Bus leave St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 6 PM  
Cost \$97 Payment Deadline: Thurs., June 8**

**\*\*MULTI- DAY TRIPS\*\***

**June 5 (Mon.) to June 8 (Thurs) – ARK ENCOUNTER AND CREATION MUSEUM**, Williamstown, KY with an overnight in Wheeling, WV (4 Days-3 Nights) Join Operation Sunshine on a tour of Biblical proportions! Travel with us to tour a full-sized replica of Noah's Ark, built to specifications from the Bible and then a day at the 70,000 square-foot Creation museum that brings the pages of the Bible to life. Travel for a night in Wheeling, WV before arriving at our home base in Cincinnati for nights 2 and 3. Dinners include a German dinner with entertainment at the first authentic Hofbrauhaus in America and a scenic riverboat dinner cruise.

**Join us September 20-30, 2017 for - ON THE TRAIL of MARTIN LUTHER**  
Travel with Operation Sunshine and Collette faith on a trip to Germany to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.  
**Now on a First-Come First Served basis.**

**For flyers and pricing information on these trips, please contact the Operation Sunshine office.**