



Epistle from

St. Timothy

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives by Connecting Communities

November 2018
Volume 24, Issue 3

The Liturgy of Our Church— *We Encounter “The Word”*

The previous installment in this series on the liturgy highlighted the “gathering” portion of the worship service. As followers of Jesus, we are gathered into the Christ-life through the waters of Holy Baptism. Similarly, we **gather** as a worshipping assembly in the affirmation of the persistent grace of that Baptism, and we burst forth in praise of the God who has showered such unconditional love and liberating mercy upon us.

Having come together as fragile, needy human beings and having been reassured (normally through “Confession and Forgiveness” or “Thanksgiving for Baptism”) of our beloved-ness as children of God, we focus our attention on **the Word**. This portion of the liturgy invites anticipation and attentive listening in us as God speaks to us through Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

The word of God is proclaimed through readings (normally three) from the Holy Scriptures, a psalm, and the sermon. The Gospel (“Good News”) text is the principle reading in the Sunday gathering, as it is a telling of God’s love poured out upon the world through the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. The first reading, from the Hebrew Bible, normally carries a thematic thread which also is found in the Gospel reading for the day. The Psalm, normally sung or read responsively by the people, is a response to the first reading. The second reading for the day is a semi-continuous reading from one of the New Testament epistles (or, letters); it bears the witness of the early church. The sermon seeks to bring God’s word (law and gospel) into the **present** time and place in order to awaken and nourish faith and to call forth faithful action in daily life on the part of those who hear it.

The readings and the sermon (as with the rest of the worship service) are **both** means through which God speaks to us and the work of the people (“liturgy”). No part of the liturgy is intended as a performance, but as a participation in loving relationship—God with the people, the people with God, and the people with one another. It is the ministry of

*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.

November 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
Nov. 4	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	All Saints Sunday Woodwind Quintet/Bell Choir	Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44
Nov. 11	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 25 Praise Worship	1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44
Nov. 18	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 26 Bread for the World Sunday Youth Choir	Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8
Nov. 21	Wednesday 7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Worship	at the Cathedral of St. Catherine's 1825 West Turner St., Allentown
Nov. 25	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Christ the King Covenant Brass	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93 Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

NE PA SYNOD WEB SITE

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

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.

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 mobile phone at 570-401-5251 (please leave a message and she will get back to you) or by calling the church office at 610-435-6512 Ext. 200 and leaving a message with Cheryl.

ELCA WEB SITE

www.elca.org
for information about our national church

ST. TIMOTHY'S EMAIL

office@sttimothy.org

FIND MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES AT:
www.sttimothy.org



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



Follow us on Twitter at
twitter.com/StTimAPa

EPISTLE FROM ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH is a publication of St. Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA). 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.

SR. JANET *(continued from page 1)*

the readers and the preacher to **speak** the word of God faithfully, and the ministry of the assembled people to **hear** it faithfully.

As a preacher, I begin my sermon preparation early in the week with the prayer that God would help me to hear God's word—for me and for the people of St. Timothy—in the appointed lessons for the week. That prayer stays with me as I read and ponder the lessons, study the texts and read comments from scholars and interpreters. Finally, as I write the sermon, my prayer is, "God, please help me to speak the word that **You** intend for the people of St. Timothy **this** Sunday—and help us to hear it." That is the work of the preacher.

There is "work" for the listener—the assembly of worshippers—to do as well. As a listener to the Scripture readings and sermon, I need to discipline myself to be attentive and expectant, for my own sake and for the sake of the whole people of God. I need to pray, "God, what is it that **You** want me to hear in these words today," and I need to have an attitude of humility before God's word, allowing it to do its transforming work in me.

Following the readings and the sermon, the assembled worshippers further proclaim the Word together in the Hymn of the Day, occasionally the Creed, Prayers of Intercession, and the sharing of Peace in Christ. The "words" that we speak and hear in this portion of the Sunday liturgy all point to "the Word made flesh" who dwells among us (John 1:14). That Word is Jesus the Christ, who is living and active among us, and seeks to unite and transform us more fully into his own body (1 Corinthians 12:27).

In next month's installment on the Liturgy, we will focus on "The Meal" and its healing, nourishing, transforming potential in our lives and the life of the Church and the world.

The peace of Christ be with you!

Sister Janet

Tuesday Prayer for Peace

Is a weekly opportunity to gather with brothers and sisters in faith for thirty minutes of reflection and prayer for peace—in hearts, in neighborhoods, in the world.

Prayer begins at 7:00 A.M.

We gather in St. Timothy Church lounge.

Please join us and invite others as well!

Surrounded by a Cloud of Witnesses "All Saints" Observance—Nov. 4

All Saints Sunday is a celebration of all the Baptized. It is a wonderful time to remember, give thanks for, and be encouraged by the fact that our lives are surrounded by faithful ones, past and present, who nurture us in the faith. In the remembering, we are strengthened in our faith journey. As the author of Hebrews (12:1-2a) wrote, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith..."

As is traditional in St. Timothy, on All Saints Sunday we will remember (by name) in the prayers of the church those members who have joined the hosts of heaven since last All Saints. We also will provide tables at the rear on either side of nave for members to celebrate loved ones who have gone before by placing a memento or photograph of those loved ones, or by simply writing the names of dear ones on cards that will be provided. Thus, we will have a visual reminder of the faithful "surrounding" us as we give thanks for the communion of saints. Bring your mementos or photos with you when you come to worship on November 4 and place them on the table or write names on the cards.



Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruse



Do You Know the Difference Heart Attack vs Cardiac Arrest?

Frequently there are misconceptions about a heart attack and a cardiac arrest. Would you know the difference between each and what to do in each event? Many times, the terms are used interchangeably but they are two different emergencies.

HEART ATTACK (a circulatory blockage)

When the blood flow to the heart is blocked, the heart does not receive adequate oxygen, resulting in damage to the heart muscle.

Symptoms of A Heart Attack

- Chest pain (described as vice-like)
- Fatigue
- Weakness
- Nausea
- Difficulty Breathing
- Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw, or stomach

A person may experience any number of these symptoms and they could occur hours or days before the actual attack.

What to Do if A Heart Attack Is Suspected

- **Immediately call 911**
- **DO NOT ATTEMPT** to take the person to the hospital in a car; if the individual should go into cardiac arrest on the way to the hospital, you will not be able to help them.
- Take or give the person one adult 325 mg aspirin to chew, unless the person is allergic to aspirin.

CARDIAC ARREST (an electrical interruption)

When the electrical system of the heart suddenly stops or there is a failure in the circulatory system, the heart will stop beating.

Symptoms of A Cardiac Arrest

- Sudden collapse
- Unconsciousness
- No breathing
- No pulse

The symptoms will occur just moments before the arrest.

What to Do if A Cardiac Arrest Occurs

- **Immediately call 911**
- Start **hands only** CPR; there is adequate oxygen in the lungs to circulate without providing mouth-to-mouth breathing.
- If an AED (automated external defibrillator) is available, follow the voice activated instructions on the AED and continue CPR until help arrives.

Each minute is critical, in each event act immediately—seconds count!

Adapted from LVHN Healthy You

Our Process with Hope UCC

In the month of October, St. Timothy and Hope continued in fellowship as, on Oct. 14, we tried out a “melded” liturgy that contained elements from both UCC and Lutheran practices. Then, on Oct. 21, after another shared worship service in Hope, members from both congregations joined in a potluck lunch and conversation. Generally, feedback has been

positive and a desire to move forward is evident. Over the next few weeks, the pastoral leaders and councils from both congregations will work to come together on the details of continuing in relationship. Please hold this process in your faithful prayers, that the outcome may serve God’s intentions in the church and the world.



CROP Walk A Harvest of Blessing

Blessings abound in sharing, and the Greater Allentown CROP Walk is one example of that fact. On October 14, after a prayerful send-off led by the Rev. Dianne Kareha, 236 walkers embarked on an effort to raise awareness in our community of the reality of hunger in the lives of many of our neighbors near and far, and to raise funds to help alleviate that hunger.

Having the option of two different routes, 124 of our walkers did the "Golden Mile" (some, more than once), and 112 did the longer (5-mile-plus) route which included joining the Allentown Halloween Parade for a few blocks, thus providing witness to onlookers of the church's concern for the needy.

Five students from William Allen School helped with registration. Five persons served on the safety team and three recruiter registration personnel also were present. St. Timothy Lutheran and St. James UCC provided rest stops and Cetronia Ambulance provided back-up for safety.

Twenty-four area churches participated, raising approximately \$28,000 (there are online donations still to be added). Additionally, gifts of packaged food were collected for the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank.

Kudos to all the walkers and all who participated in any way—including the eight walkers from St. Timothy, who reported \$1575 in donations through their efforts!

Environmental Responsibility— An Invitation

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. (Psalm 104:24)

Thanks be to God for the magnificent, intricately designed, profoundly good world that God has created! What are some of your favorite parts? Mountains? Grassy fields? Running deer? Starlit skies? Flowered meadows? Gentle rabbits or newborn calves? Wild oceans or snow-capped mountains? Blue skies or loamy soil? Stealthy foxes or leisurely turtles? Fragrant pines or succulent peaches? It's all wonderful, isn't it? And we human beings get to participate in caring for God's manifold and wonderful works.

Recently, the church council of St. Timothy approved the forming of an Environmental Responsibility Task Force in our congregation for the purpose of studying our congregational care/stewardship of the environment and recommending ways in which we can more faithfully care for that portion of the creation in our management (particularly, St. Timothy Church grounds).

Do you have an idea about how we can more faithfully care for God's created world? Or, might you be interested in serving on the task force? Either way, please speak with our ERTF convener, Jim Powers.



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*)

Margaret (Peg) Leiby, 2868 Reading Road, Allentown, Pa. 18103 (*November 1*)

Carol Keller, 3209 Aberdeen Circle, Allentown, PA 18104 (*October 10*)

November birthdays include:

Margaret (Peg) Leiby (*see above*)

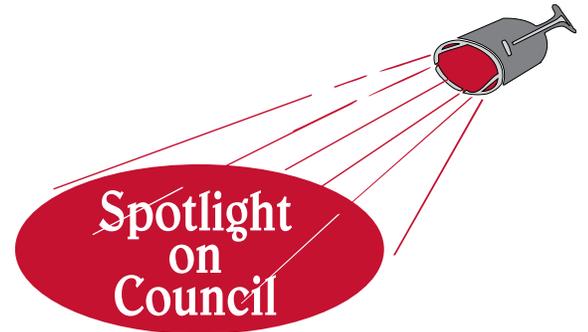
Stewarding Democracy for God's Sake

As followers of Jesus everything we do is a matter of "stewardship"—managing that which is in our sphere of influence in a way that helps to bring to fruition God's loving, unifying dream for the world. One small but very important part of that stewardship pertains to civic life. In the case of U.S. citizens, that includes "stewarding our democracy." That means engaging in the democratic process in a way that is informed—paying attention to what's happening in the world around us and seeking God's guidance (through prayer, meditation, and reading of the Holy Scriptures). Participating in democracy as informed and committed followers of Jesus, we can advocate for policies which reflect God's gracious and just reign, and we can vote for gifted leaders who will seek to govern wisely and care for the wellbeing of all, including the most vulnerable.

The next general election will take place on Tuesday, November 6. Please pray for God's wisdom and discernment. As much as you can, study the issues and learn about the candidates. Pray and discern some more. Then, go to the polls and VOTE—for God's sake.

Hospitality on Election Day

Because St. Timothy serves as a polling station, we will again have the opportunity to provide hospitality for those who staff the polls and those who come to vote. If you would like to help with this effort, please speak with George Fennell.



Highlights of the October Congregation Council Meeting

Sister Janet will attend the NEPS Bishop's Conference (November 6-8, 2018).

Pastor Garbe will visit the council meeting on November 13 to offer affirmation and hear about our progress with Hope UCC.

Council approved:

Voting membership for Carolyn Green.

Designating funds from the Hader-Dedekind bequest as follows: \$10,000 to the Major Maintenance Fund and \$20,000 for outreach. The entire fund will be held in the Mission Investment account.

Designating January 20, 2019 as the date for the annual congregational meeting. The snow date will be January 27.

A two-day council retreat starting the evening of January 11, 2019 and continuing on Saturday, January 12 for current and new council members. A portion of the retreat will be devoted to setting goals.

A Fall benefit dance on November 13 (7 p.m.) in fellowship hall. The charity is to be determined.





Fall Dance

Saturday,
November 17, 2018

Dancing 7—10 PM

St. Timothy Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

140 South Ott St., Allentown

MUSIC of the 1940's - 1980's
BY DJ BARB



All proceeds to the Angel 34 Foundation

Providing Services, Support & Hope



Donate a toy for
newborns to age 18 !

WEB SITE: angel34.org

Free will donations accepted

Fellowship Hall accessible from rear parking lot,
\$5 per person, including beverages, snacks, & desserts.

Casual attire.

Tickets available, at the church office, 610-435-6512,
or call Rick Focht, 610-393-8914



MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NOVEMBER 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 All Saints Day 10:30 am-3:30 pm-AARP [F] 12-3 pm-Office Open 7-9 pm-3D [L]	2 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	3 9 am-Outreach Committee [L]
4 All Saints Sunday Daylight Saving Time 2 am-Ends 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [L] 10:30 am-Worship Bell Choir Woodwind Quintet	5 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	6 Election Day 7 am-Prayer for Peace [L] 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open Bishop's Conference @ Shawnee Inn	7 12-3 pm-Office Open 1 pm-Executive Committee [P] 5:30-6:30 pm-Praise Band Setup [NV] 6:30-8 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm-Allentown Hiking Club [F] AARP in Parking Lot Bishop's Conference @ Shawnee Inn	8 12-3 pm-Office Open 2 pm-Daybreak Mission Team 6-9 pm-Scout Leadership Meeting [F] Bishop's Conference @ Shawnee Inn	9 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	10 12 pm-Setup for AI Anon Event [F]
11 Pentecost 25 Veterans' Day 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Praise Worship ~11:30 am-Blood Pressure Screening [L]	12 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am-Property Committee 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	13 7 am-Prayer for Peace [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F] 7-9 pm-Congregation Council Meeting [L] Operation Sunshine in Parking Lot	14 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:45-7:30 pm-Bell Choir [NV] 7:30-9 pm-Adult Choir Rehearsal [NV]	15 12-3 pm-Office Open 7-9 pm-3D [L] DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 12-3 pm-Office Open 6-8 pm-Decorate for Fall Dance [F] 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	17 7-10 pm-Fall Dance [F]
18 Pentecost 26 6:30 am-Mission Team @ St. Paul's 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:15 am-Worship Youth Sing Bread for the World Sunday	19 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F] 7 pm-NAMI Mental Health Support Group [L]	20 7 am-Prayer for Peace [L] 9 am-12pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open [L] 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F] 6:30-8 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal	21 12-3 pm-Office Open 7 pm-Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ Cathedral of St. Catherine	22 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED	23 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	24
25 Christ the King 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [L] 10:30 am-Worship Covenant Brass	26 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	27 7 am-Prayer for Peace [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	28 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-8 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [L] 7 pm-AA Board Meeting [F]	29 12-3 pm-Office Open 7-9 pm-3D [L]	30 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Monthly Mailing to Be Sent Using Email

In an effort to be more faithful stewards both of the synod's financial resources and of the earth God has entrusted to our care, the synod "Monthly Mailing" will no longer be reproduced on paper and mailed through the post office.

Beginning with the January 2019 mailing, materials will be emailed to each congregation and also posted for download on the synod website.

For this to work, it is important that each congregation have a current email on file with the synod office. If your congregation is not receiving the weekly E-News (sent out on Tuesday mornings), it is probably best if you contact the synod at nepsinfo1988@gmail.com with the email you wish to use for the monthly materials.

If your congregation does not use email, please recruit a member who does have an email address to receive your materials, and forward that address to the synod.

The synod recognizes that it may be inconvenient for a few congregations, and we appreciate your patience and cooperation with this transition. If you have any questions about what you need to do, please contact the synod at nepsinfo1988@gmail.com or 610-266-5101.

Living into Common Mission



St. John Lutheran Church and Church of the Redeemer (Episcopal) in Sayre enjoyed the fruits of its partnership this summer in at least two ways: sending 10 youth from both parishes to the Lutheran Youth Gathering in Houston, and worshipping together for the summer months. Both experiences have enriched the relationships between the two parishes.

Some years ago, the two parishes began discussions about sharing clergy with the Synod and Diocese. Early in 2017 an Episcopal priest was called to serve both parishes, bringing a full time presence to each at a part-time cost. Building on a successful youth program at Redeemer, the youth of both parishes combined to form a single youth group.

In December, the group decided to attend the LYG; and in less than six months they raised sufficient funds to send to Houston all ten eligible youth and four adult companions, including the pastor. As far as it is known, this was the only interdenominational youth group in attendance! And the youth found that for them, the Youth Event motto "this changes everything" was in fact true.

Because of construction projects at each site, the two parishes worshipped together during the summer months, alternating between Lutheran Worship and the Book of Common Prayer from week to week. Majorities of both congregations attended services, regardless of where the service was held. Both memberships remarked on how nice it was to worship in a full church and how much they appreciated the opportunity to get to know one another better.

A Year Long Celebration of Serving

For we are God's handiwork created in Christ Jesus to do good works. (Ephesian 2:10)



At St. John's Lutheran Church, Hamburg, Rally Day is more than the kick-off to Sunday School. It is an introduction to a year-long focus not only for Sunday School, but for the entire congregation. The ELCA theme, "God's Work Our Hands" was selected by the Parish Education Committee to celebrate the talents which we have been given by God to serve our community and the world.

To introduce the theme, the children were asked to bring cans of food to donate to a local food pantry, make first aid kits, and sing songs about being a helping hand.



Hand prints listing community service ideas were hung on the church walls to encourage young and old to offer their gifts to others. Located around the church are specific "God's Work Our Hands" crosses. St. John's members place a "hand" sticker on one of the crosses when they have used their hands to do God's work. As the crosses fill up with hands this year, they will serve as a way to celebrate all the good work being done by one church in Berks County, collectively using unique God-given gifts to make a difference in the world.

More Stories from God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday



Faith, Mount Penn

Several other stories about God's Work. Our Hands. community outreach projects are posted on the synod website (<http://nepasynod.org/events/stories-gwoh-sunday>). If your congregation participated in one, send a short story with one or more photos to georgiasuranofsky@hotmail.com.

As you can see from the article above, these projects can take place throughout the year!



Good Shepherd, Reading

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
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

[December 2018 LMD NL news will be due November 16, 2018.](#)
E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

***NEW – The LMD Council** is looking to add a few additional members to its ranks (Lay or Ordained) and needs a new treasurer. This group normally meets about 5 times a year on Sunday evenings at Western Salisbury Church. If you can help, please contact Dean Gade by phone [610-966-3030](tel:610-966-3030) or e-mail stpeters@ptd.net.

Set of Bells Wanted - St. Mark, Allentown, is starting a bell choir and is looking to purchase a set of bells from a congregation that may no longer need them. If you can help, please contact John Harkins at dubbadad@aol.com.

A Celebration of St. Paul's - An organ concert in celebration of the Church's music ministry **Oct. 28th**, 4:00 p.m. **36 S. 8th Street, Allentown, PA 18101**. Join us for what promises to be a memorable occasion as gifted organists and singers help us to celebrate the gift of music that has long marked the church's history. There is a sadness that comes with knowing that this historic church will close at the end of the year. But in the witness to the Resurrection, and to celebrate this Church's life well-lived, we will truly be "pulling out all the stops." Several former organists will be playing, and we anticipate many other old friends will be in attendance. Be with us for a musical experience no one will soon forget!

Fall Film Fest – The Seven Faces of Dr. Lao – Oct 29th, 1-3:00 p.m. or 7-9:00p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran, **1245 W. Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102**. Light refreshments available at no charge. Direct questions to Rev Tom Lichner and let us know you will be coming, tllichner@rcn.com. **PLEASE** see attached **Flyer** or **pick up at your church**.

Come Away To A Quiet Place – Centering Prayer is a particular form of quiet, receptive prayer as taught by Father Thomas Keating and Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault. A portion of each one-hour gathering will include some discussion about centering prayer. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced pray-er, all are welcome. **First Friday of each month Nov. 2 / Dec. 2/ Jan. 4, 10:30 - 11:30 AM**. Led by Rev. Maritza Dolich and Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, **1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102**. Parking in Lot across Hamilton St. from Church. Enter on 13th Street, look for the sign "Schantz House/Ruhe Annex". **Please let us know if you will be joining us**. Inquiries to Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, Director Center for Spiritual Awakening tllichner@rcn.com / [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).

Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church Holiday Bazaar – Nov. 3rd, 9:00 – 3:00. Crafts, Basket Raffle, Bake Sale, Grandma's Attic and Kitchen will be open to purchase food. Zion Lehigh, **8269 Spring Creek Rd. Alburtis, PA 18011**, for more information call [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215).

Annual Chicken & Waffle Dinner - Join us at St. John's Lutheran Church, **1028 Church Street, Fogelsville** on **Sat., Nov. 3rd**. Dinner will be served from 4:00 to 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Cost: **Adults \$15, Children \$7, under 3 are FREE**. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please join us for a homemade family-style dinner, everyone is welcome! For more info call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org.

A Guided "Creation Walk" – Sat., Nov. 3rd, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Jacobsburg State Park, Bushkill Township, PA. Co-Sponsored by: Christ Lutheran, Allentown and Hellertown. **PLEASE** see attached **flyer/registration form or pick up at your church**.

***NEW – Painting Party–Slate Snowman** – Jim Shore Inspired Snowman ©Girlfriends Art Clique. **Sun. Nov. 18th**, 1-3:00 p.m. at Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church, **8269 Spring Creek Rd., Alburtis, PA 18011**. BYOB Food for sale (please leave your food at home!), **\$35.00 per person, must buy tickets by Nov. 11th**. See or contact any Council member for tickets at [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215). **PLEASE** see **attached flyer or pick up at your church**.

***NEW - Contemplative Prayer...Prayer Around the Cross – Wed., Dec. 5th**, 7:00 PM - Advent Awakening. 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 awaken 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. 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.

***Updated - 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. this part of the program is in JEOPARDY due to insufficient volunteers. 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



STEWARDSHIP SEASON

Receive Love...Share Love

Yes, it's Stewardship Season! Now admittedly, faithful church leaders will quickly remind us that responsible stewardship is a year-round concern. But they will also agree that it plays a special role in the fall as we project our support of the mission efforts of our congregations, our synods, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and, obviously, as we make our personal decisions about our support of these efforts.

Uniquely, recent publications have been stressing that our decisions regarding these matters should start with our reflecting on the love we have received. We have been invited to remember God's contribution of the saving grace of Jesus the Christ. Through this gift we have received love and are challenged to seek creative ways to share this love – personally, as congregations, and as the larger church.

Unfortunately, for the most part, only the leaders of our congregations are privileged to see the annual materials from the synod which call our attention to the ways in which our contributions to and through the synod reach out in loving response to some of the special needs of our world. This seemed like an appropriate time to share a brief review of this stewardship challenge. So, let's start by noting that 53% of our contributions to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod are dedicated to sharing love within our synod and 47% is forwarded to the ELCA to support its challenges.

The synod's mission includes at least 6 primary program arenas. These include Deepening Our Spiritual Lives and Our Relationship With God; Renewing Our Passion for Sharing the Good News; Enhancing the Connections Among People and Communities; Developing Leaders for a New Church in a New World; Strengthening Ministries to Youth, Young Adults and Families; and Supporting Our Ministry Partners. All of these are significant efforts, committed to reaching out in support of our mission of love. But that last program arena is unique to our synod. Not all of our neighboring synods are involved in supporting three social ministry organizations, a seminary, a college, a camp, and a statewide council of churches.

And our contributions in support of the ELCA include at least 7 program arenas. These include Supporting Congregations and Evangelical Outreach; Stepping Forward As A Public Church; Coordination and Support of the Work of the Church in God's Mission; Bringing Forth (Developing and Maintaining) Leaders; Growing Our Global and Ecumenical Companionships; Stewardship and Mission Funding; and supporting development of Governance Procedures.

Please be encouraged to reflect on this image as you make both personal and congregational decisions with regard to your loving response to the love which you have experienced. Obviously, these decisions impact the level of love which our world will know in these times.

God Bless!
Pastor Stough

OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave.
Allentown, PA 18109

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

!!PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS!!

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.

*******11 Seats Remaining*******

Mar. 21 (Thru) – Bristol Riverside Theatre – THE SUNSHINE BOYS

– Al and Willie, a famous vaudeville team, haven't spoken to each other in over a decade. When a big TV network requests to bring the two legendary (and cranky) comics together one last time, it turns out to be easier said than done. Neil Simon's "The Sunshine Boys" is a touching story full of memories, regrets and the laughs that accompany a lifelong friendship. Lunch at the King George Inn includes a House Salad, Entrée and Cheesecake Brownie with Vanilla Ice Cream and Walnut Streusel for dessert. Choice of entrees: Home-style Meatloaf, Fish and Chips or Grilled Chicken Breast **Please indicate your choice of entrée at time of reservation.**

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00AM and will return approximately 6:30 PM

Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Feb. 7

*******Waiting List Only*******

Apr. 24 (Wed.) – Media Theatre – SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

- Tony Manero doesn't have much going for him during the weekdays. He still lives at home and works as a paint store clerk in his Brooklyn, N.Y. neighborhood. But he lives for the weekends, when he and his friends go to the local disco and dance the night away. When a big dance competition is announced, he wrangles the beautiful and talented Stephanie to be his partner. As the two train for the big night, they start to fall for each other as well. The soundtrack by the BG's (Barry, Robin and Maurice Gibb) became a classic overnight after the movie starring John Travolta hit the big screen. Return to the "70's" where disco dancing became an art form. Lunch at Spasso Italian Grill which includes a salad, dessert sampler and one of the following entrees: Chicken Marsala, Grilled Fresh Salmon, or Fettuccini Pomodoro. **Please indicate your choice of entrée at time of reservation.**

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10AM and will return approximately 6 PM

Cost \$85 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Feb. 21