



*Epistle from*

# *St. Timothy*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church*

September 2017

Volume 23, Issue 1

*Sharing our faith by sharing God's love!*

# Thank You!

Dearest loved ones in Christ.

I must start by expressing my gratitude to all St Timothy members for abundantly sharing love with me over the past two years. I am honored to have walked with you, even if it was a brief time. The relationships and the experiences I had with you will carry me through all of life. I am abundantly blessed through you. Thank you. Praise be to God!

Now, let's get to our last article together. Together, many strange and splendid things can happen. Together, we can walk through the valley of death into the fields of abundant life. Together, we can craft a new vision (TRANSFORMING LIVES BY CONNECTING COMMUNITIES) and see some fruits of that work. Together, we can face the storms of uncertainty and wait in hope not in fear. Together, our doors open and our hearts are flung wide so to invite the neighbor into relations. Together, we are called by Christ to new fields where we grow stronger in faith while holding onto the promise that Christ has always been with us and will always be in the future. Praise be to God, we had some life together.

As of the day I write this article, we have been called to different fields by Christ. But, Christ hasn't abandoned us. Christ has given us a gem to help us into those new fields. For me, the gem is a new congregation—full of anticipation and wonder and excitement. For you, the gem is a new leader—full of the same, waiting to start life with you.

I pray that all of you see your gem for the worth she brings. I pray you open your doors to her so she can help you fling open wide your hearts. Christ has called the two of you together. This union will produce an abundance of fruit touching the lives of many. You have so much potential at St. Timothy, not to say the work you

*Continued on page 3—see **BRIAN***

## **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.

## September 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
Sept. 3	Sunday <b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Pentecost 13</b> <b>Labor Day Weekend</b>	Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28
Sept. 10	Sunday <b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Pentecost 14</b> <b>Outdoor Praise Worship</b> <b>Rally Day &amp; Picnic</b>	Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20
<b>Don't forget! Adult Forum [9 a.m. in the Lounge] and Children's Sunday School [9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall] begin Rally Day!</b>			
Sept. 17	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<b>Pentecost 15</b>	Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35
Sept. 24	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	<b>Pentecost 16</b>	Jonah 3:10—4:11; Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

### Moving? New Email? Change Your Phone No.?

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

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

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

### NE PA SYNOD WEB SITE

[www.godslove.org](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

### ST. TIMOTHY'S EMAIL

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

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



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## BRIAN *(continued from page 1)*

do now is lacking. Rather, tomorrow's work is exciting just because of the newness. There will be many more lives transformed, just as my life was transformed through being together with you in Christ.

In closing, I say once again—**THANK YOU.** Thank you for abundantly welcoming me and my family, working with us, loving us as we tried to do the same toward you. As I say goodbye, I offer to you the peace of Christ, the source of our abundance. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,  
Brian

## Thanks for the Donations

Thank you, everyone, for your kind and generous gifts of toys, food, and clothing which you donated to little boy Omar and his mother Nelly. They were so grateful for everything, and asked us to please send thank everyone for all you did for them. Omar is looking forward to school, as they are gradually getting on their feet. Thank you, again, for your kindness and thoughtfulness.



*Flowers donated by Mike Groff that were sold at the Peach Festival. The proceeds were given to Daybreak.*

## Peach Festival

A big **THANK YOU** goes out to all the fantastic people who helped make our Peach Festival so successful: The Praise Band, bakers, servers, peelers, set up and clean-up crew... which was everyone! Thank you, too, to the office staff, all who helped sell the beautiful flowers, Mike Groff for providing the beautiful flowers, and everyone who greeted friends old and new. We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you. God bless you in His service.

## Christian Education News

This year the Christian Education Department will again function as the "one room schoolhouse," with help from our congregation. Rick Focht will teach the first Sunday of each month with plans to visit, sing to, and share homemade cookies with nearby members who are not able to get out. Dr. Mark Maehrer will teach the second Sunday of each month. I will teach the Sunday the youth sing in church, with music games and mission projects. Our theme: Kindness—It Beats the Hate, will be stressed as God's love is shown in various situations.

The youth will be making more blankets for those in need, and will be glad to show you how to do it when we have our outdoor service on September 10. So, be sure to watch for them, and have a good time helping with this valuable project.



## Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruse



### Preparing for Back to School

Where has the summer gone? In a blink of an eye, it is time for the children to go back to school. After the relaxing and fun filled days of the past several months, it would probably be a good idea to reinforce some basic safety rules with school-aged children.

#### BACKPACK SAFETY

- Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back.
- Pack lightly.
- Organize the backpack to use all of its compartments. Pack heavier items closest to the center of the back. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child's body weight.
- Always use both shoulder straps. Slung a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles.
- If your school allows, consider a rolling backpack. This type of backpack may be a good choice for students who must tote a heavy load. Remember that rolling backpacks still must be carried up stairways, they may be difficult to roll in snow, and they may not fit in some lockers.

#### TRAVELING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

##### School Bus

- Children should always board and exit the bus at locations that provide safe access to the bus or to the school building.
- Remind your child to wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb.
- Make sure your child walks where he/she can see the bus driver (which means the driver will be able to see him/ her, too).
- Remind your student to look both ways to see that no other traffic is coming before crossing the street, just in case traffic does not stop as required.
- Your child should not move around on the bus.
- If your child's school bus has lap/shoulder seat belts, make sure your child uses one at all times when in the bus.

##### Car

- All passengers should wear a seat belt or use an age- and size-appropriate car safety seat or booster seat.

- Your child should ride in a car safety seat with a harness as long as possible and then ride in a belt-positioning booster seat. Your child is ready for a booster seat when he/she has reached the top weight or height allowed for the seat, his/her shoulders are above the top harness slots, or his/her ears have reached the top of the seat.
- Your child should ride in a belt-positioning booster seat until the vehicle's seat belt fits properly (usually when the child reaches about 4' 9" in height and is between 8 to 12 years of age). This means that the child is tall enough to sit against the vehicle seat back with his/her legs bent at the knees and feet hanging down. The shoulder belt lies across the middle of the chest and shoulder, not the neck or throat; the lap belt is low and snug across the thighs, not the stomach.
- All children younger than 13 years of age should ride in the rear seat of the vehicle.
- Remember that many crashes occur while novice teen drivers are going to and from school. You should require seat belt use, limit the number of teen passengers, and do not allow eating, drinking, cell phone conversations, texting, or another mobile device use to prevent driver distraction. Limit nighttime driving and driving in inclement weather. Familiarize yourself with your state's graduated driver's license law and consider the use of a parent-teen driver agreement to facilitate the early driving learning process.

##### Walking to School

- Make sure your child's walk to school is a safe route with well-trained adult crossing guards at every intersection.
- Identify other children in the neighborhood with whom your child can walk to school. In neighborhoods with higher levels of traffic, consider organizing a "walking school bus," in which an adult accompanies a group of neighborhood children walking to school.
- Be realistic about your child's pedestrian skills. Because small children are impulsive and less cautious around traffic, carefully consider

*Continued on page 5—see **HEALTH***



# 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*):

**Sharon Clark**, Good Shepherd Home, Raker #216, 543 St. John St., Allentown, PA 18103 (*February 5*)

**Steven Hader**, Moravian Hall Square, 175 W. North St., Nazareth, PA 18064 (*November 11*)

**Barbara Fletcher**, Lehigh Commons, Rm. 212 1680 Spring Creek Rd., Macungie, PA 18062 (*December 22*)

**Al Nork**, 1231 St. Basil St., Allentown, PA 18104 (*December 16*)

There are no September birthdays among our members at home.

## Endowment Funds Update

At a meeting of the Endowment Funds Committee on Sunday, July 30, 2017, the committee awarded grants totaling \$4,200.00 to three of our college students (Alex Christensen, Ethan Christensen and Decontee Krayee) for textbooks and supplies.

Balances as of June 30, 2017:

Original Fund. . . . .	\$ 63,575.28
Berger Benefit Fund . . . . .	116,893.03
Fritzinger Scholarship Fund. . . . .	<u>268,336.08</u>
Total All Funds. . . . .	\$ 448,804.39

*Dick Cruse, Chair, Endowment Funds Committee*

## HEALTH—Continued from page 4

whether or not your child is ready to walk to school without adult supervision.

- If your children are young or are walking to a new school, walk with them the first week or until you are sure they know the route and can do it safely.
- Bright-colored clothing will make your child more visible to drivers.

*Printed with permission from the American Academy of Pediatrics 2015*

## Together—With God—We Can!!

St. Timothy Church is blessed with excellent musicians in the choirs and ensembles, as well as in the congregation. Music can express what cannot be put into words. Everyone is welcome to join any of our musical groups, and we encourage people to participate as much as their schedules allow, whether it's all year, or just for special services.

The **YOUTH CHOIR** is made up of all the children in Christian Education. Visitors are always welcome. They meet every Sunday, September to June, starting with a snack at 9 a.m., followed by singing and worshipping together in the Choir Room. The lesson and/or visiting our homebound members and special projects will follow. They sing in church one Sunday a month. All children are welcome!

The **ADULT CHOIR** meets in the church sanctuary every Wednesday, September to June, 7:30-9:00 p.m. The choir is open to everyone from middle school on up who can sing in tune and enjoys singing. The Adult Choir sings in church almost every Sunday and for special services during Lent and Christmas. They also sing occasionally during the summer. Come join us!

The **BELL CHOIR** presents music in the worship service approximately once a month. They rehearse in the church sanctuary 6:45-7:15 p.m. several Wednesdays a month and before the Sunday service in which they will be playing. The Bell Choir is open to everyone from grade four on up who enjoys hearing the bells, and would like to play them.

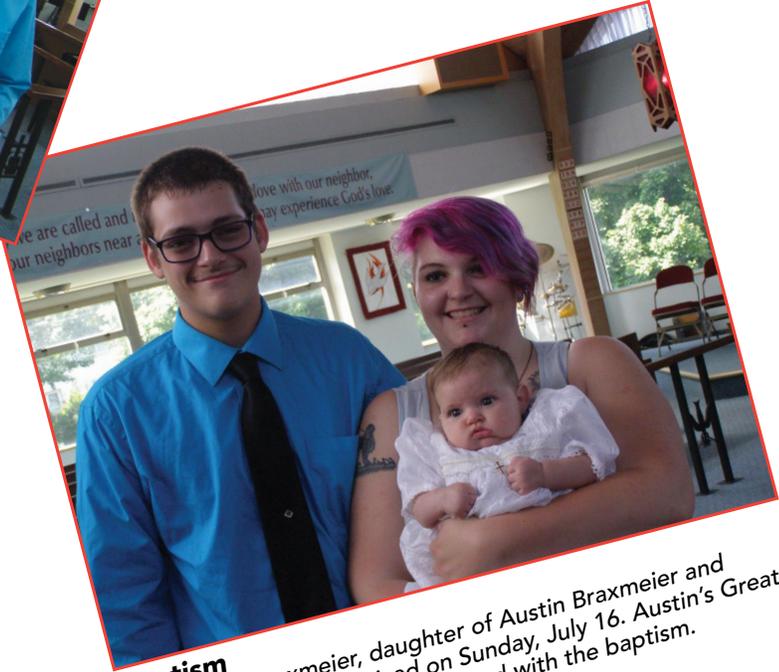
The **CONGREGATION** is where everyone can participate, no rehearsal necessary. Sing from your heart and don't worry about how it sounds. Pay close attention to the words. They have a definite purpose for being there. Your worship will be more meaningful to you because of your participation.

These are just a few of the many ways you can serve our Lord. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nancy Fennell at 610-435-0628, or nanfenn@aol.com.

# Seen Around...



**Confirmation**  
 Tyler Keller, Jacob Riedy, Lily Rohrbach, Alexis Rounds and Julianne Tyler were Confirmed on Sunday, May 21.



**Baptism**  
 Violet Faith Braxmeier, daughter of Austin Braxmeier and Caitlin Behr was baptized on Sunday, July 16. Austin's Great-aunt Pr. Caroline Franceski assisted with the baptism.

# Seen Around...



## WoW

Scenes from the August 2 Interfaith Worship at St. Timothy's Worship on Wednesdays. Worship was led by musicians from The Barn.



## WoW

Scenes from the August 16 Worship at St. Timothy's Worship on Wednesdays featuring Grace Notes Big Band.

# Seen Around...



## **Farewell and God Speed**

A luncheon was given on Sunday, August 27 for Pr. Brian and his family wishing them Farewell and God Speed as he begins a new ministry at Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church, Catasauqua.



**SAVE THESE REFORMATION CELEBRATION DATES**  
Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton

**October 1 | 3 PM | Allentown Band Concert**  
followed by a German Fest (music, food and more)

**October 29 | 10:30 AM | Reformation Sunday**  
Celebration with Bishop Samuel Zeiser, preacher

Information: [www.christ-atown.org](http://www.christ-atown.org)

# YOU'RE INVITED!



**Craig Thatcher Band**  
**Saturday, September 23**  
**3:30 - 4:30 PM & 5:00 - 6:00 PM**

Please join us as we welcome guitarist, vocalist and song writer, Craig Thatcher, and violinist, Nyke Van Wyk as they entertain us with their exciting brand of blues/rock music. Food will be available for purchase with proceeds benefiting The St. Stephen Outreach Center's after school program for children, "Playing in the Park".



Matthew S. Stephens, Supervisor

*A life well lived is a story worth sharing.*

274 N. Krocks Road, Allentown, PA 18106 | 610.434.6304  
[www.stephensfuneral.com](http://www.stephensfuneral.com)

# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER 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> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>2</b>
<b>3 Pentecost 13</b> 9:30 am-Worship	<b>4 LABOR DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>5</b> 9 am-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 3:30 pm-Worship & Music Committee [L] 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>6</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-7:30 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm-Allentown Hiking Club [F] 7:30-9:00 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew [F]	<b>7</b> 10:30 am-3:30 pm-AARP [F] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6 pm- Boy Scouts Leadership Meeting [F]	<b>8</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>9</b>
<b>10 Pentecost 14</b> 9 am-Sunday School Rally Day [F] 9 am-Adult Forum [L] <b>10:30 am-Praise Worship [LP]</b> <b>Children Sing</b> <b>God's Work Our Hands Sunday</b>	<b>11</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 9 am-Property [L] 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>12</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>13</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-7:30 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [NV] 7:30-9:00 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] Operation Sunshine in Parking Lot	<b>14</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 2 pm-Daybreak Mission Team 6 pm-Boy Scouts Leadership Meeting [F]	<b>15</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]  <b>OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17 Pentecost 15</b> 6:30 am-Mission Team @ St. Paul's 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship ~11:30 am-Blood Pressure Screening [L]	<b>18</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Mental Health Support Group [L] 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>19</b> 9 am-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F] 7 pm-Congregation Council Meeting [L]	<b>20</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:45-7:30 pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew [F] AARP in Parking Lot	<b>21 Rosh Hashannah</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6 pm-Boy Scouts Leadership Meeting [F]	<b>22 Fall Begins</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>23</b> 9 am-Outreach Committee Meeting [L]
<b>24 Pentecost 16</b> 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship	<b>25</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	<b>26</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	<b>27</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:45-7:30 pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm-AA Meeting [L] 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV]	<b>28</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open	<b>29</b> 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	<b>30 Yom Kippur</b>

# SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

## Highlights from Synod Assembly 2017

### Synod Council Election

The Assembly recognized and expressed gratitude for the years of service from Donald Smith, Vice President, and David Hinrichs, Treasurer, both of whom have volunteered countless hours for the work of the synod.



Barbara J. Huffman de Belón, a current member of Synod Council, was elected vice president; and

Donald R. Dillman was elected treasurer. In addition, Louise McCloughan, from the West Berks Mission District, was newly elected to a three-year term.

### Save the Date! June 8-9, 2018

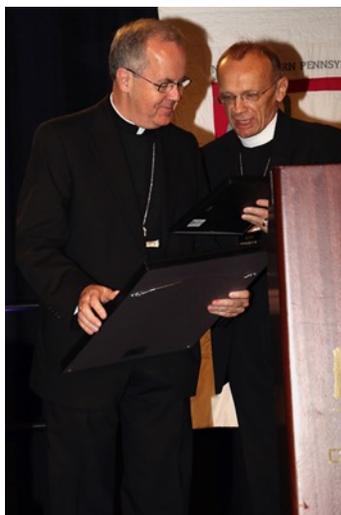
Assembly 2018 will be held at the Mohegan Sun Arena in the Wilkes-Barre.



### Repentance, Reconciliation, and Common Witness



The Assembly began with a Rite of Repentance, Reconciliation, and Common Witness led by Bishop Zeiser and by Bishop Joseph Bambara of the Scranton Diocese. This was a regional expression and affirmation of an ecumenical commemoration of the Reformation held jointly by the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church on October 31, 2016 in Lund, Sweden.



The Lund event highlighted the solid ecumenical developments between Catholics and Lutherans; and the joint gifts received through dialogue, particularly in anticipation of the 500th Reformation anniversary in 2017. It featured a cathedral service following the Common Prayer liturgical guide, based on the Lutheran-Catholic dialogue report "From Conflict to Communion." Bishops Zeiser and Bambara were delighted to celebrate the commemoration at Assembly 2017.

*(Photography by Mark Searfoss)*

## Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans

The keynote speaker was The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, Professor of Religion at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa.



Her topic was "The Catechism and Vocation for Daily Life." She emphasized that Luther's Small Catechism was written for lay people, not for clergy. Luther wanted to unleash the power of the gospel for ordinary persons. The Small Catechism is designed to be a "Guide to Christian Living," and Luther wanted each individual to wrestle with how each teaching affects "me."

For Luther "vocation" is not limited to religious callings, but is the calling each person receives to live one's daily life. This takes place at home, in community, at church, and at the workplace.

Dr. Kleinhans further suggested that Lutherans be "political, but not partisan"; that is, that Lutherans work for the good of the "polis," (Greek for city). For Luther, government is one of God's good gifts; and citizenship is one of our "callings."

## Special Offerings

Two special offerings were received during the Assembly. One for World Hunger collected over \$5,700; and one for the newly formed United Lutheran Seminary collected over \$3,700.

## Young Adults in Global Ministry (YAGM)

At the Assembly Banquet on Friday evening two young adults were recognized for their service in the YAGM program. The ELCA invites young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. Through this experience, they are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors; and they share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world.



Luke Swanson, who served in Argentina for the 2016-17 year, talked to the Assembly via Skype. He described both the joys and the challenges of ministry in an environment and culture very different from our own.



Annie Herman, who will serve in Israel/Palestine for the 2017-18 year, attended the Banquet and was introduced to the Assembly.

## Festival Worship



Gathering music for the sessions was provided by Bobby Siegfried, a singer/songwriter who is well known in the synod, and who has performed at many venues in northeastern PA. At times, Bobby was joined by friends from Emmanuel, Emmanuelsville and First Presbyterian, Allentown.

Singing at the Eucharist was led by Mark Mummert, Director of Worship at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Houston. A number of volunteers assisted with leading worship, reading lessons, and distributing communion.



In his sermon at the Festival Eucharist, Bishop Zeiser talked about the history of the Reformation and about how it resulted in both "a bruised church and a bruised world."

He went on to say that "In the bruised Jesus, God offers repentance, reconciliation, and common witness for the sake of a bruised church and a bruised world. This is our hope, as God's children in Christ Jesus, wondering when this bruised church will be reformed finally, and how much reconciliation it's going to take to mend this bruised world."

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

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

**Great Allentown 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.

**Save the date: Tues. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>**, to join old friends and new at St. Luke's Lutheran Church for a casual dinner. **Doors open at 5:30 pm** ~ Tickets and prizes are FREE for all, call [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) for your reservation. Sponsored by St. Luke's Church and the 8th Ward Neighborhood Group. Special guest presentation by Allentown Fire Department.

**The 2017 schedule for Lutheran Congregational Services' Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training** is now available. Trainings will be held **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).

**Spiritual Care for Elder Care-Givers:** In today's American culture, many adults are providing full-time or part-time care for their elder parents, relatives, friends, or neighbors. Elder-care-giving can certainly be challenging, presenting both joys and frustrations to elders and their care-givers. This every-other-month gathering will provide participants with a time of guided prayer, supportive conversation around joys and struggles, and sharing new ideas for offering care. Come and go to these gatherings as you might need and desire. Each gathering will be led by Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner, specially trained in Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Direction. Meetings will be held at the Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18102. Please direct your interest to Pastor Tom Lichner at [tllichner@rcn.com](mailto:tllichner@rcn.com) OR [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).

**Basket Social at Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church**, 535 W Emaus Ave., Allentown Pa 18103, **Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** Tickets are \$5.00 for a sheet of 25 chances. If you purchase tickets before September 22<sup>nd</sup> they are 5 sheets for \$20.00 (a \$5.00 savings). For more information call please contact the office, [610-797-4774](tel:610-797-4774). **PLEASE SEE YOUR CHURCH FOR A FLYER.**

**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. For more information or to register, go to [www.crophungerwalk.org](http://www.crophungerwalk.org). Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need locally and around the globe.

**Fall Basket Social – St. John's Lutheran Church** (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be holding a basket raffle on Sat., Oct. 7th from 10 AM-2 PM. 'Basket Preview Night' on Fri., Oct 6th from 6-8 PM (only raffle tickets will be sold, no food). Drawings for the 75+ different themed baskets and gift cards will be at 1:30 PM on the 7th, you do not need to be present to win. Various consultants and products will also be on hand. There will be lunch items and baked goods available, as well as jars of homemade chow-chow. For more info call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit [www.stjohns-fogelsville.org](http://www.stjohns-fogelsville.org). All are welcome!

**Food Bank drive at the Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk:** Sun., Oct. 8, 2017. The Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank serves 40-60 families each day. Please help by donating these items desperately in need: tuna fish, beans, canned vegetables, canned fruit, soup, peanut butter, rice, Jell-O, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce. A Food Bank truck will be at the CROP Hunger walk to receive your donations. Thank you for your continued support. Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, 534 Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18102 [610-821-1332](tel:610-821-1332)

**Luther Crest hosts "Theology, Literature, and Coffee"**. A Moravian Theological Seminary-sponsored course, "Theology, Literature and Coffee" (TLC), which will be held at Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, on **Mons., 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<sup>th</sup> (\$25 after 9/18/17)**, 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.

**Ken Medema – World-Renowned Pianist to Play at: St. Peter's, Hanover Ave., Oct. 28-29!**  
 The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee has planned an exciting weekend featuring Ken Medema at the piano. He will play THREE FREE CONCERTS! **First:** Sat. Oct. 28, 4:00 pm, in **OUR nave!** **Second:** Sun. Oct. 29, **Ken will play at OUR 10:45 am worship service.** There will only be **ONE SERVICE** on that Sunday so plan to be at the 10:45 service. **Finally:** Sun. afternoon, **Ken will play at 3:00 pm as St. Peter's helps Celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Lehigh Mission District Anniversary of the Reformation.** You are welcome to come to all three services to enjoy his performances! **PLEASE SEE YOUR CHURCH FOR A FLYER**

## VISIONING FOR THE NEW YEAR!

Welcome back! Hopefully you had a good summer break and are prepared to accept the challenges of a new year of mission and ministry! Obviously one of uniquenesses as we vision 2017-2018 is that we are moving beyond the celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. It has indeed been a privilege to be part of this observance. Admittedly it included our being reminded of the fact that Martin Luther was not absolutely right on with every decision and projection he made, but, more importantly, we found ourselves giving thanks for the leadership he provided in establishing the faith tradition of which we are a part and for which we give thanks. And, consequently, there have also been numerous responses projecting where this heritage may take us in both the immediate and the long-range future. In this changing world, it will be interesting to see what there is to be said about this even a decade from now, let alone when our world and the church moves into the next century!

As the door is opened to fall 2017, we look forward to celebrating the 501<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation with Pastor Elizabeth Langensiepen and the members and friends of St. Peter's Church, Hanover Avenue, Allentown, as they celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of their parish. The Lehigh Mission District Reformation Service will be held in this context and obviously at St. Peter's on Reformation Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00PM, followed by dinner, and featuring guest pianist Ken Medema. The blind Mr. Medema was well received when he performed at a recent Synod Assembly. He is also scheduled to offer a concert at 4:00PM on Saturday afternoon, October 28<sup>th</sup>, to which all are invited. It is to be anticipated that this special weekend will set us in a good spirit as we launch mission year 2017-2018

Obviously, the new year will also include the usual monthly meetings of pastors. We can anticipate that this schedule will be released within the next month. This tradition has a long-standing status in the Lehigh Mission District and includes both a significant opportunity for fellowship and also a setting for some unique learning experiences.

The new year will also include an up-graded Lehigh Mission District Website. We are very grateful for the efforts of Pastor Samantha Drennan, now pastor of Grace Church, Macungie, in the maintenance and development of this project. We suggest that you review the materials from your own parish which appear on this exhibit and that you be in touch with her if changes are in order ([gracemacungie@verizon.net](mailto:gracemacungie@verizon.net) or [610-966-3325](tel:610-966-3325)).

And, as we begin the new year, let's give thanks for the faithful and dedicated service of our Dean, Pastor Jerel Gade, our Associate of the Bishop, Pastor Kurt Garbe, and those who serve on our Mission District Council, beginning with Joshua Fink, who serves as its Chairperson. Under their leadership, we can anticipate another meaningful year for LMD. Obviously, your involvement is anticipated and will be most appreciated!

**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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**October 17 (Tues) – Penn's Peak – LIVE AT THE SANDS, SAMMY, DEAN AND FRANK** - Be dazzled and transported back to Sinatra's sun-kissed world of wine, women and song. When Michael Dutra performs with his full Live at the Sands, Frank, Dean and Sammy ensemble, you'll swear Dean Martin and Sammy Davis, Jr. are in the room! Enjoy the great family style meal served by Penn's Peak before the show. If we are lucky, we may see the beautiful colors of the Fall Foliage on our way!  
**Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM and will return approximately 4:30 PM**  
**Cost \$82 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Sept. 19**

**November 16 (Thurs) – Media theatre – BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** - The stage version includes all of the wonderful songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice. The original Broadway production ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical. The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity. Lunch will be at Spasso Italian Grill. Lunch Choices are Chicken Misto (Chicken sautéed with fresh chopped tomato and asparagus topped with mozzarella), Bassa Scampi (Delicate white fish sautéed in a cherry tomato white wine sauce) or Linguini Primavera. **Please indicate your meal selection at time of reservation.**  
**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 6:00 PM**  
**Cost \$85 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Oct. 5**