



Epistle from

St. Timothy

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives by Connecting Communities

September 2018

Volume 24, Issue 1

In Case You Have Wondered— the Liturgy of Our Church

Why do we do the things we do in the worship services of the church? What is the meaning of this or that portion of the liturgy? What things “must” we do? What pieces of our congregation’s liturgy are part of the church’s long tradition, and what pieces are local custom? What might be considered uniquely Lutheran “treasures” in the way we worship? Are there any aspects of our current worship service patterns that have served their purpose and are no longer relevant?

Members and Friends of St. Timothy Church, have you ever wondered about any of the above? It is easy simply to follow a pattern in a mindless or “routine” way, and therefore to miss the meaning—or to slavishly adhere to the familiar simply because it is familiar. However, we also can be helped to grow deeper in the many-layered story of our faith through “practicing” it repeatedly through the liturgy. Keeping these things in mind, I want to shine a light on the wonderful treasure of the liturgy in hopes that we all may grow continually more engaged and more aware of *presence*—ours and God’s—as we participate in worship.

While it is true that some pieces of worship services in congregations are more local custom than deep tradition (which is not to say that they have no value), so much of the liturgy has long roots in the history of people of faith responding in adoration to the Great Lover of their souls and echoing/re-enacting the lively and life-giving faith story. In many ways, liturgy reflects and conveys the flow of Love between God and God’s people.

The word “liturgy” comes from the Greek word “leitourgia,” which means “public service” or “the work of the people.” The church’s liturgy is a blessed work which we, as people of faith, do. It is not a performance by a few which others are invited to enjoy (or not) as spectators. Rather, liturgy is a work which we all do together and in which each of us plays an important part—to the glory of God and for the strengthening of the body of Christ. As we do this work with attentiveness to presence and conscious of the meaning

*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.

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. 2	Sunday 10:15 a.m.	Pentecost 15 WORSHIP @ Hope United Church of Christ – Flexer Ave Labor Day Weekend NO ACTIVITIES AT ST. TIMOTHY BUILDING	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Sept. 9	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 16 Outdoor Praise Worship & Picnic	Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17; Mark 7: 24-37
Sept. 16	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 17 Holy Conversation	Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38
Sept. 23	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 18	Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54; James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37
Sept. 30	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 19	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Remember Youth Sunday School begins Sept 9th [9:00 a.m.], meet in Fellowship Hall
AND
Adult Forum begins Sept 16th [9 a.m.] in the Lounge!

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.

ST. TIMOTHY'S EMAIL

office@sttimothy.org

FIND MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES AT:

www.sttimothy.org



Find us on Facebook at
facebook.com/sttimothyallentownpa



Follow us on Twitter at
twitter.com/StTimAPa

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SR. JANET *(continued from page 1)*

of what we do, it is joyful, stimulating, blessed work. It is work which nourishes and sustains our spirits and our fellowship in Christ, and which strengthens us for our daily engagement in the world *for the sake of Christ*.

Consider this the first installment in a series of articles which will focus on various parts of our wonderful liturgy. Let us begin with a preliminary question: *How can we prepare for this work, the church's liturgy?* Of course, some of our members have very specific preparation pieces to do in the week(s) ahead of each liturgy: laundering and pressing communion linens, planning and practicing music, deciding what needs to be included and preparing worship folders, filling candles with oil and checking tapers in candle lighters, cleaning the nave, obtaining bread and wine, preparing prayers and practicing readings, preparing a sermon, making the altar ready, etc. *In addition to those with specifically assigned roles, each of us has important "soul preparation" to do—praying for an open heart within oneself to hear God's speaking and welcome God's action in the liturgy, planning to be there, and generally getting enough rest the night before so that one can be alert and vibrant in one's participation. Doing the soul preparation is like setting a beautiful table for a special meal or preparing the nursery for the new baby. It says that something important is about to happen, a cherished gift is about to arrive.*

Stay tuned for more...

Yours in service to our gracious God,
Sister Janet

NE PA SYNOD WEB SITE

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

ELCA WEB SITE

www.elca.org
for information about our national church

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!

Spotlight on Council

Highlights of the July Congregation Council Meeting

Sister Janet has been asked to provide emergency pastoral care for Cedar Lutheran until an interim pastor is appointed.

An ELCA Mission Investment Fund seminar will be held in the fall for council and interested members and friends.

The Outreach Committee proposed a "Little Library" kiosk in front of the church or on the Land of Promise.

Miriam Maehrer will conduct a flu clinic in the fall.

There was no council meeting in August.

Ladies' Tea Brunch

A Ladies' Tea Brunch will be hosted by **Horizon Church**, 2613 W. South St.,

Allentown (just a couple of blocks from St. Timothy), on Saturday, October 13, 2018, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Speaker/author, Carol R. Cool will be featured. The event will include food and beverages, book signing and sales, raffle baskets and door prizes.

Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by going to horizonconnect.org/ladies-tea2018.



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Our Discernment with Hope United Church of Christ

Please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit:

Loving God, how can we best serve your good and life-giving intentions? Fill St. Timothy Lutheran Church and Hope United Church of Christ with your Holy Spirit. Give each congregation the grace to embody the love of Christ in its unique way as a manifestation of your church universal in this place and time. As our congregations meet and converse with one another, help us to discern whether and how you may be calling us into deeper partnership in the mission of Christ. Give us insight, wisdom, grace, and the willingness to follow your leading, Spirit of God. Amen

Please keep these Sunday dates in mind:

August 26—Both congregations will share worship *in St. Timothy's building* at 9:30 a.m. This will be a Service of Holy Communion with Pastor White presiding and preaching, as Sister Janet will be using some vacation time.

September 2—Both congregations will share worship *in Hope's building* (1031 Flexer Ave.) at 10:15 a.m. This will be a Service of Holy Communion utilizing the UCC pattern.

September 16—*St. Timothy's members will engage in holy conversation during the 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion.* The worship format will be abbreviated so that members will have opportunity to share thoughts, feelings, questions, ideas, hopes, etc.

When Hope's and St. Timothy's congregation councils met together recently, they asked Pastor White and Sister Janet to develop a sample liturgy that uses portions of both UCC and Lutheran traditions. This "meshed" liturgy will be used on two consecutive Sundays as the two congregations again worship together:

October 14 at 10:30 a.m. **in St. Timothy Lutheran**

October 21 at 10:15 a.m. **in Hope U.C.C.** (Flexer Ave.)

Each member and faithful friend of St. Timothy is an important part of this discernment. Please plan to be present for the events noted above. If you have any questions about the process, please direct them to Sister Janet or Council President Mary Sue Schnell. May God's wise and loving intentions be served!

Fellowship

Beginning on September 16, and continuing every Sunday thereafter, we invite everyone to join in fellowship before the start of the worship service in the narthex from 9:45 until 10:15 a.m. Come to meet and greet your fellow church members and visitors in an informal gathering. Refreshments will not be provided; however, you may bring your own if you wish. The church bells will ring at 10:15 inviting everyone to enter the sanctuary. All are welcome.



Calvary Moravian Church Praise Band

A reflection from Lower Susquehanna Synod—

Stewardship of our church

At all times there must be and remain one holy, Christian church. It is the assembly of all believers among whom the gospel is purely preached and the holy sacraments are administered according to the gospel.

Augsburg Confession, Article VII

Steward-discipleship means taking care of all that God has blessed us with. We think of our health, our relationships and our money, but our church? You bet!

The church [is] the only organization whose **primary purpose** is to bring people into intimate relationship with God and also gather them as sacred community. Without church, how would people grow in faith? How would the Gospel be spread to all nations, as Jesus commands in Matthew 28:19, 20?

So, what does it mean to be a good steward of our church? Here are some ideas:

Focus: We are dedicated to God's Word and Sacrament as the means by which God's grace is poured into us and out to the world. Our service projects and social events may flow from this, but they are secondary.

Community: As the Augsburg Confession (above) declares, the church is the community of God's people dedicated to Word and Sacrament. We build strong community through healthy relationships guided by principles of Christian love, trust, honesty, truth, forbearance, forgiveness.

Building: Our building is NOT **the** church, but a tool of the church for ministry. We provide the resources to maintain our building as useful for the Gospel, but feel free to move on if it no longer serves.

Resources: Understanding that ministry to God's people takes resources, we give generously of our time and talents. We strive to give a tithe—10 percent of our financial blessings.

Faith formation: It takes learning and practice to grow closer to God, both as individuals and community. We support and participate in studying the Bible and theology. We promote and engage in spiritual practices that feed our souls.

Although we tend to think that our church has a mission, it's more accurate to say that God has a mission, and that mission has a church. We grow in faith as people and community when we dedicate ourselves to good stewardship of our church.

—Rob Blezard

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DEADLINE
for the
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER...
SEPTEMBER 15!



Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruse



Back to School

Backpacks

Another school year is upon us. The supplies have been purchased and most likely a new backpack has been selected. Be sure that your children do not carry too much weight in the backpack. Doing so can lead to stretching or straining of their muscles and cause injury to the spine.

Children should not carry more than 10 to 15 percent of their weight over their shoulders and on their backs. Following a few simple tips will decrease their risk of injury:

- Place heaviest items in the backpack first. The closer they are to a child's back, the less strain on the back muscles. Younger children may want to take numerous things to school to share; sort through the items before packing them to see if anything can be left at home.
- The backpack should end just a few inches above the child's waist. It should have soft, padded straps to maximize comfort.
- Utilize the numerous compartments to help distribute the weight.

Carrying the backpack over both shoulders rather than one will help distribute the weight.

When first lifting the backpack onto their shoulders, encourage your children to bend their knees to avoid further strain on their back muscles.

When the homework arrives home in the backpack, some additional tips will foster a smooth process for its completion:

- Provide a quiet, well-lit place to do the homework away from the TV or other distractions.
- Be sure that the necessary materials are available.
- Establish a set time for doing the homework. Do not allow your child to leave the homework for just before bedtime.
- Instill a positive air regarding homework.
- Provide guidance, not the answers.
- Do not do the homework for your child. Homework can help children develop independent learning skills.
- Encourage your child to do the more difficult work first before fatigue sets in.
- Encourage breaks when frustration surfaces.
- Reinforce the positive effort put forth in successful completion of the homework.

Adapted from Family Education and the U.S. Department of Education

Tips to Maintain Safety on the Way to and from School

Walkers

- Plan a walking route that has the fewest street crossings and cross at intersections with crossing guards.
- If walking, practice the route ahead of time. Instruct children to stay away from vacant lots, fields, and places where there are few people.
- Teach children never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers.
- Implement a buddy system for walking to school.
- Teach children to obey all traffic signals.
- Children who ride bikes or scooters to school should wear protective gear.

Bus Riders

- Instruct children to not run around at the bus stop.
- Remind children to stay seated while on the bus.
- After exiting the bus, tell children to not bend down in front of the bus to pick up objects or tie a shoe; the driver may not be able to see the child before starting to move away.
- Be sure your child knows his or her phone number and address, your work number, the number of another adult and how to call 911 for emergencies.

Adapted from the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the American Academy of Pediatrics



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*):

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

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

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

There are no birthdays in September among our members at home.



Free flu shots will be offered at St. Timothy on Sunday October 28th courtesy of Miriam Maehr (Manager of a CVS Pharmacy). All people 9 years old & older are eligible.

If you would like a shot, please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex. Miriam will administer the shots in the lounge after worship until at least 1 pm on.

A required form (separate form for each person) is available next to the sign-up sheet). You can take one home, fill it out and bring it with you OR fill one out here on October 28.

The shots are free but Miriam requests you to please bring along a copy of your health insurance and any prescription coverage cards (both sides) as well. Copies can be made in the office on the 28th.

TELL

"...you will be my witnesses..." (Acts 1:8)

How does the Gospel ("Good News") spread? How did you come to know about God and God's love? For most of us, it probably was through someone's words or actions, usually a parent or a friend.

Someone shared his/her faith with you. Sometimes, though, we are not comfortable sharing details or stories about our faith with anyone other than a family member, a trusted friend or a fellow church member. Life has a way of presenting many opportunities for us to share our faith in simple, natural ways, and we may feel more confident in doing so if we are prepared or practiced.

The Outreach Committee is encouraging everyone to become involved in a new initiative called "TELL" (*Tell Everyone of the Lord's Love*). The basic idea is for us to reflect on our own faith journeys and become more at ease in sharing our own faith stories as we live out our faith. Perhaps the first step would be to take a look back and answer some questions about how and when we came to faith.

Stay tuned... this will be interesting.

Health Care Documentary Airing

You are invited to an airing of the documentary "Fix It: Health Care at the Tipping Point" on **Sunday afternoon, September 30**. This documentary includes interviews from doctors, nurses, caregivers and advocates who are trying to change the Health Care Industry.

We will gather at Christ Church, 433 Hamilton St., Allentown, between 12:00-12:30 when lunch will be provided. At 1 p.m. we will show the documentary. From 2-3 p.m. we will have discussion lead by trained volunteers who are familiar with health care and this series of documentaries.

Please join us for this important opportunity to discuss one of the significant issues of our time. More information can be found at www.fixithealthcare.com. **RSVP by September 26 to Christ Church at 610-433-4271** so we can plan our lunch.

MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 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
2 Pentecost 15 10:15 am—Worship at Hope UCC Pastor Mia White NO ACTIVITIES at St. Timothy today!	3 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	4 9 am-12 pm—Quilters [L] 12-3 pm—Office Open	5 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30-8 pm—Praise Band Rehearsal [L] 7:30 pm—Adult Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm—Allentown Hiking Club [F]	6 10:30 am-3:30 pm—AARP [F] 12-3 pm—Office Open	7 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30-11pm—Chess Club [L]	8 9 am—Outreach Committee [L]
9 Pentecost 16 Rosh Hashanah 9 am— Sunday School Rally Day [F] 10:30 am—Outdoor Praise Worship [LP] Children Sing ~ 11:30 am—Church Picnic [LP]	10 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am—Property Committee [L] 4-9 pm—Boy Scouts Picnic [LP]	11 7 am—Prayer for Peace [L] 12-3 pm—Office Open 3 pm—Worship & Music Committee [L] 6:30 pm—Cub Scouts [F]	12 12-3 pm—Office Open 1 pm—Executive Committee [P] 7:30 pm—Adult Choir Rehearsal [NV]	13 12-3 pm—Office Open 2 pm—Daybreak Mission Team 6 pm—Boy Scout Leadership Meeting [F]	14 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30-11pm—Chess Club [L]	15 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
16 Pentecost 17 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]	17 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm—Mental Health Support Group [L] 7 pm—Boy Scouts [F]	18 Yom Kippur 7 am—Prayer for Peace [L] 9 am-12 pm—Quilters [L] 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30 pm—Cub Scouts [F] 7 pm—Congregation Council Meeting [L]	19 12-3 pm—Office Open 7 pm—AA [F] 7:30 pm—Adult Choir Rehearsal [NV]	20 12-3 pm—Office Open Operation Sunshine in Parking Lot	21 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30-11pm—Chess Club [L]	22
23 Pentecost 18 9 am—Adult Forum [L] 9 am—Sunday School [L] 9:30 am—Worship	24 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm—Boy Scouts [F]	25 7 am—Prayer for Peace [L] 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30 pm—Cub Scouts [F]	26 12-3 pm—Office Open 7 pm—AA [L] 7:30 pm—Adult Choir [NV]	27 12-3 pm—Office Open	28 12-3 pm—Office Open 6:30-11pm—Chess Club [L]	29
30 Pentecost 19 9 am—Adult Forum [L] 9 am—Sunday School [L] 9:30 am—Worship						

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Bear Creek Camp 2018 – This Changes Everything!

It's been a great summer at Bear Creek Camp as the campers and staff continue to grow, celebrate, and explore God's amazing creation!

Campers (Youth and Families) have a great week all over the camp's nearly 3,000 acres (Largest in the ELCA) by hiking, swimming, zip-lining, and enjoying many large and small group activities. The experiential opportunities created at the camp make relationship building a priority. Each camper has an unlimited amount of time to build friendships with the other campers as well as their counselors. In those relationships God's grace is seen, felt, and experienced; and lives are changed. Campers are sent home to be vessels of this grace and to share it with those in their families, congregations, and communities.

This summer Bear Creek Camp will see its attendance rise for the 6th straight summer with a growth rate of over 75% since 2012. Because of the support of the two partner synods (the Northeastern and Southeastern PA Synods), congregations, families and individuals, this ministry is thriving and raising up leaders for the church.

Your support for BCC is not just a donation, it's an investment in the leadership development of our church, and those investments are needed now and always.



Update from Assembly 2018

One of the service projects at the 2018 Synod Assembly, held at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Wilkes-Barre, was an opportunity to donate jars of peanut butter and jelly to The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Northeast Pennsylvania Regional Food Bank.

Recently a "Thank-you" arrived, acknowledging that 634 pounds of peanut butter and jelly were received from our Assembly.

The donation was primarily used to supplement the many summer children's lunch programs throughout the 5 county area of northeast Pennsylvania.

Overall, the Weinberg Food Bank works to ease the pain of hunger in the elderly, children, and people who need nutrients; and by doing the Food Bank works to grow, learn, work, and give hope for a brighter future.

Always Being Made New Sunday - October 7

As the Campaign for the ELCA approaches its final year, let's focus on finishing strong. Congregations are encouraged to receive a special offering for the campaign on October 7, or conduct a special appeal for the campaign on or near that date.

For details about the campaign, or to order campaign envelopes, check the ELCA website at <http://elca.org/Campaign-for-the-ELCA>.

ELCA National Youth Gathering Houston, Texas



On June 27 more than 30,000 ELCA youth and adults, including nearly 600 from our synod, came to Houston for the 2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering under the theme: "This Changes Everything."

Each day there were opportunities to participate in a variety

of events: Community Life, Service Learning, Interactive Learning, and Bible Study. Then in the evening, everyone gathered at NRG Stadium for a **Mass Gathering**, which featured music from the house band and several guest artists.

Community Life events included games, live stages, and a place to connect with others and generally relax. There were also **bible studies** led by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Rev. Tuhina Rasche, Rev. Aaron Fuller, and Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber.

Service Learning events provided an opportunity to join with one of nearly 100 service learning partners and engage in a service project in the Houston area, including minor home repairs, community gardens, graffiti abatement, painting the homes, murals, landscaping, window washing, power washing, mulching, trimming, lawn cutting, and other services.

Interactive Learning events invited participants to encounter God through a variety of learning styles and sensory experiences inside the over 700,000 square feet Interactive Learning space. From sports to creative expressions, service projects to quiet meditation, Interactive Learning offered something for everyone.

Over 40,000 books were collected and then distributed at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city. The Sunday morning offering was split among the Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, Prison Congregations of America, and ELCA Global Ministries. And a **special offering of over \$200,000** was collected for ELCA World Hunger's Global Farm Challenge.



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View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news>.

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Mr. Joshua Fink, Mission District Chair 484-358-5720
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October 2018 LMD NL news will be due September 14, 2018.
 E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

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 Sept. 7 / Oct. 5 / Nov. 2 / Dec. 2, 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 tlcichner@rcn.com / [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).

Fall Basket Social – St. John’s Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be holding a basket raffle on **Sat., Sept 29th from 10 AM-2 PM.** ‘Basket Preview Night’ on **Fri., Sept 28th 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 29th, you do not need to be present to win. 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. **All are welcome!**

Pilgrimage as Spiritual Practice – Come...learn about an ancient spiritual practice that can change your life...Oct. 6th, 9:00am-12:00pm. Christ Lutheran Church, **1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102.** **PLEASE** see attached **Flyer/registration form or pick up at your church.**

St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church presents Designer Purse & Gift Card Bingo – Oct. 14th, doors open at 11:00am. Fearless Fire Company, 1221 S Front St., Allentown, PA 18103. **PLEASE** see attached **Flyer or pick up at your church.**

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. Alburty, PA 18011**, for more information call [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215).



Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk:
Sun., Oct. 14, 1:30 p.m.,

beginning and ending at St. Timothy’s Lutheran Church, [140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104](http://www.sttimothyslutheran.org), with registration starting at 1 p.m.
 The CROP Hunger Walk is a great fellowship and service event for families, youth groups, adult groups, and congregations. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised by the CROP Hunger Walk returns to the Lehigh Valley to support the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank and the Lehigh Conference of Churches Soup Kitchen. The remaining 75% is used by Church World Service for disaster relief (e.g., for communities in the United States and around the world devastated by hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, and floods) and development assistance (e.g., assisting poor families with clean drinking water, seeds, tools, and irrigation).

For a sponsor form, please contact your own congregation, or log on at www.crophungerwalk.org for further information about CROP or for making online donations.

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

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



LESSONS IN MERCY
Christian Reflections On Addiction
Fall Workshop

Attached to this newsletter is another flyer registration form for the special workshop entitled **WE THIRST: LESSONS IN MERCY (Christian Reflections on Addiction)** which is scheduled for the Wednesday evenings in October. As noted on the form, the deadline for registration is September 15. This project is a shared effort of the Lehigh, Northern Lehigh and Bethlehem-Easton Mission Districts.

Scheduled for the 5 Wednesday evenings, this program is appropriately subtitled **Christian Reflections On Addiction**. It will focus our attention on the epidemic of addiction which is paralyzing our society and the ways in which we, as followers of Christ, can respond to those who are suffering – including the marginalized, the sick, and the oppressed. It is designed to educate and spread awareness, but unlike other secular programs of this nature, this Christian series offers **Hope and Support, Encourages Community, and Fosters Mercy, Faith and Love**.

Nina Marie Corona, M.A., C.R.S. will lead this program and has noted that it has been well-received and appreciated at various sites in our area. Nina is a graduate of Muhlenberg College. In addition, she possesses a Master of Arts in Spirituality from Loyola University Chicago and is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry at Fordham University. Interestingly, her degree from Muhlenberg focused on Studio Arts and, consequently, when not teaching, presenting or writing, she utilizes her artistic gifts in painting, drawing and sculpting to express herself and the experiences that have brought both joy and pain to her life. Nina also obtained education certification in Alcohol & Drug Counseling from Villanova and is a Pennsylvania Board Certified Recovery Specialist. She is looking forward to sharing these evenings with us.

As noted above, this very special program is scheduled for the 5 Wednesday evenings in October (3, 10, 17, 24 & 31) between the hours of 7:00PM and 9:00PM (6:45 – 7:00 for coffee or tea). It will be held at **Nativity Lutheran Church, 4004 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA 18104**. As noted on the registration materials, the total participation fee has been set at \$10 per person (or \$15 per family or companion unit). Participants for one session will be welcomed for simply \$5 which can be paid the evening of involvement. Obviously, as noted on the registration form, it is hoped that this form and a check for the fee will be sent to Nativity Church before the September 15th deadline. Checks may be payable to Nativity Lutheran Church (Attn. Lessons in Mercy). For additional information, call Nativity [610-395-5062](tel:610-395-5062) and your call will be returned as soon as possible by someone associated with the program.

This is obviously a very unique opportunity in a day and age which is, unfortunately, becoming increasingly stressed by various addictions. Even if we are blessed by not being directly involved, there are opportunities for us to be helpful to those around us. Involvement in this program will help us develop insights and skills and will prepare us to respond positively to these challenges. Our involvement is invited and encouraged.

Pastor Richard 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.

September 20, (Thurs.) – Dutch Apple Theater – SISTER ACT

Lunch Buffet and show. **LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE**

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 5:00 PM

Cost \$91.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Aug. 30

October 15-16 (Overnight) – VILLA ROMA RESORT AND BETHEL

WOODS MUSEUM – Operation Sunshine wants to take you back in time with a visit to the Bethel Woods Museum in Bethel, New York where the Woodstock Music Festival took place in 1969. Come check out all the memorabilia through rooms of exhibits and movies about one of the greatest festivals of all time. After our private viewing in the museum, we head to beautiful Villa Roma Resort for an overnight stay which includes: Coffee and Cake upon arrival, a full dinner our first evening, evening music and variety show, breakfast, 4-course lunch and a 2 PM show starring The Unexpected Boys, a Tribute to Frankie Valle and the Four Seasons before we leave for home. Of course, you can enjoy the Villa Roma grounds and activities in your free time at the resort, some of which are bocce ball, shuffleboard, ping pong table games, indoor swimming pool and Jacuzzi and a fitness center.

Bus Leaves Cedar Church at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 7:30 PM

CALL THE OPERATION SUNSHINE OFFICE FOR PRICING AND DETAILS – 610-435-9155

November 13 (Tues) – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse – Christmas in the Air

- This season Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is offering an original, holiday musical which promises the best Christmas celebration ever! Featuring all new original songs, classic and traditional favorites, hilarious comedy sketches, and spectacular dance numbers, "**Christmas in the Air**" is their most beloved and popular show of the year all jazzed up for 2018! With an ensemble cast of multi-talented performers all backed by a live onstage orchestra, its Christmas like you remember all wrapped up in a show you'll never forget! Delicious table served entrée, dessert buffet and soft drinks included.

Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 5:30 PM

Cost \$96 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Oct. 18