

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

## Time Flies...

Let me tell you, time sure does fly while you're having fun. July 31, 2016 was my official first date serving as St. Timothy's "pastoral presence". One school year later, and it is time for me to say goodbye. If all comes to fruition and Bishop Zeiser agrees, then I will be with you until the end of this month. Thank you so much for allowing us to grow together. Thank you for being the kind of congregation who is willing to try new possibilities.

Let's recap a little of this past year. First, Pr. Maxon and Pr. Lichner helped us discover what it means to be heading toward death. We talked about stages of death and recognized what stage we were located. Next, we talked about a new vision. The only way out of a seemingly dark situation is to discover light which calls from a new direction. It took a while but we finally named the vision as: TRANSFORMING LIVES BY CONNECTING COMMUNITIES.

From the moment of naming the vision, we have been working toward reaching it. We called the Barn to see if communication could be renewed. It sure has begun. This time, both the Barn and the St. Timothy team of people talking together have promised not to walk away from the conversation. We will be partnering together in ministries. So far, we joined together in a yard sale to benefit Habitat for Humanity. This event raised over \$2,000. There were a couple of issues which arose, but we worked through them and had a very successful joint ministry. The teams will be talking about more ways to work toward common ministry potential.

A child safety policy has been drafted. A nearby ELCA congregation was gracious enough to offer a shell for us to use in crafting our policy. At the time of me typing this report, the Council has not yet approved the adoption of this policy. Once it does, steps will be taken so we are compliant by the start of the fall educational program.

*In early May, we invited the outside groups that utilize St. Timothy space to sit down and converse with us. Some of the groups were hesitant to come. Were we looking for money*

*Continued on page 3—see [VICAR](#)*

### **St. Timothy Mission Statement**

Nurtured and sustained by God's love,  
we are called and inspired to share His love with our neighbor,  
to make God's story known, and to help our neighbors near and far  
...so that all may experience God's love.

## June Worship Calendar

Sunday School – 9 am in Fellowship Hall • Adult Forum – 9 a.m. in Lounge (Both end July 3 for Summer)  
Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m. (9:30 a.m. beginning July 17)

Date	Day	Special Events	Readings
June 4	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21; or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39
June 11	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Holy Trinity Outdoor Praise Picnic after Worship	Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20
June 18	Sunday 9:30 a.m.	2nd Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day	Exodus 19:2-8a; or Genesis 18:1-15[21:1-7] Psalm 100 or Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8[9-23]
June 25	Sunday 9:30 a.m.	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 20:7-13; or Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 69:7-10[11-15]16-18 or Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6: 1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

### 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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**VICAR** *(continued from page 1)*

from them? Did we wish to kick them out of our space? We quickly put their minds at ease by telling them that we were looking to be a connecting agent—a bridge if you will—for communities to come together for common goals. As the outside groups shared the work they did, commonalities were discovered. We could easily offer suggestions to boost their work and gave some ideas for collaboration. As of this date, we have received several phone calls from these groups thanking us for taking the time to get to know them better. We have invited these groups to our first WOW service to highlight their work and to set up information booths.

The Pastors and the Council drafted a proposal to Bishop Zeiser. This proposal listed some attributes in a leader which could help propel St. Timothy to the next step in the vision. Three names were

shared with the Bishop as potential people to fill the pastoral leadership role. We do not know if the Bishop has identified anyone as a solid candidate. We do know that he and his staff are in discussion about St. Timothy's future. They are very positive as to the work you have done over the past year. There is excitement about the future.

You have all done tremendous work over this last year. The conversations you have had with other groups will be a good foundation for the future of the church. St. Timothy will continue to do very meaningful ministry. How the work of ministry will look will be different but it will be successful. May God continue to bless all of you as you walk into the new ministry life at St Timothy church.

Your fellow servant in Christ,  
Senior Seminarian Brian Riedy



# *Catch the wave of God's Amazing Love*

## **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Redeemer Lutheran Allentown invites you to join us for  
Vacation Bible School.

Our theme is

***Surf Shack... Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love.***

Who: Children Preschool to grade 6

When: July 31st – August 3 (Mon. – Thur.)  
6 P.M. – 8 P.M.

Where: 822 N. 19th St. Allentown

To register: call the church office 610-434-1291

# A Message from Pr. Woody

In the end, June is the best month. If you think about it, we have all the warmth of summer without the hot of August. Many of the Spring flowers are still around and the Summer flowers are joining them. The days are long and comfortable and we want to do things because Winter is over. June is the best month.

One of the things less noticeable about June is that as we reach the end of the program year in May we can look back over what this year accomplished before we go into those lazy, hazy days of Summer. In June, we recall the happy faces of those children who were part of our Sunday School. We look at the group of young people who were confirmed in their faith and baptismal vows and who are now full fledge members of St. Timothy. We can recall the joy we felt when we listened to the choir, kids choir and the Praise Band. The Valentine's Day Dance with all kinds of food and fun brought together all kinds of different people for a good cause. Don't forget the piles of boxes on the stage waiting for the Garage sale with the Barn.

In the end, I am thankful for June. It is a time to think about all the blessings we have together. As a congregation, we have so much to be thankful for. More importantly, St. Timothy has so much potential! I know we are walking in faith as we explore our relationship with the Barn. New possibilities are taking shape as we renegotiate our relationship with our partners, I know that as we identify projects that will move our ministry up and out into the community

there will be helping hands and feet making that happen. I am thankful for all of you that have continued to support St. Timothy over these months of change and realignment. I appreciate the support you have given Brian and his family. I trust that you will continue to support this ministry as we move towards a new ministry with new leadership.

This year, Pentecost Sunday is the first Sunday in June. As we start June, the Spirit of God sends us out and into the ministry we share as people on fire for God. As the lessons tell us, it is a time for young people and older people to be filled with dreams and visions of what God can do with us and through us. It is a powerful time.

But like always, we have a choice. We can keep the baggage and cares of another time or we can embrace God's future. God gave us a memory not so that we can hold on to the past but so that we don't make the same mistakes in the future. So, what I am asking you is the same thing God asks of you. First to be thankful for all the Blessings you have experienced during the last year. To open your eyes to how God has acted with power in your life. Second, I ask you to consider how you will respond to the needs of ministry in this place and outside our doors. And in truly Trinitarian form, I ask you in the third place to pray and read the Bible to see what God is encouraging and empowering you to do.

June is the best month to look backwards and to act forward.

**DEADLINE**  
for the  
**JULY-AUGUST NEWSLETTER...**  
**JUNE 15!**



## Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruise



### Protecting Your Medical Identity

A new form of identity theft has arisen—medical identity theft. Medical identity theft occurs when someone steals your personal information and uses it for their own medical care. Your information can be used by another person to purchase drugs, for medical care, for submitting medical claims to an insurance company or Medicare, or to make money by selling it to someone for illegal purposes.

These actions can leave you with expensive bills to deal with leading to a credit problem for you. In addition, these actions can lead to incorrect information being inserted into your medical record. Privacy laws make it difficult to correct incorrect medical information that has been inserted into your medical record.

Take the following steps to protect your medical information:

- Do not share your insurance or other personal information with anyone other than a legitimate health care provider.
- Do not provide your medical information to anyone, even if free service is promised.
- Do not lend your insurance card or Medicare card to anyone else to use. Besides potential medical consequences to this there could also be criminal implications.

Checking your credit report is a reliable tool to ensure that someone else has not stolen your information. Federal law entitles you to one free credit report annually. You can request one by writing to: Free Annual Credit Report—Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta GA 30348-5281, or going to [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com).

If you are a victim of medical identity theft, there are a few things you can do to correct your record:

- Report it. If you notice medical services that were paid on your account that you never received, report it to the PA Attorney General's Office (1-800-441-2555). If the services were paid for by Medicare, contact the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Inspector General hotline at 1-800-447-8477.
- File a police report with your local law enforcement agency. Your insurance company may want a copy of the report.
- There may be health care providers who sought payment from you or your insurance company with whom you had no dealings. You will have to contact them.
- Request copies of your medical records from your various health care providers and have the corrections made. You may be charged for these records. After reviewing the records and you feel changes are warranted, contact your provider about having your records amended. If your provider concurs with your requested changes, the changes must be included in your record. If for some reason your medical provider disagrees with the reason for your request, you must be notified. You will then have an opportunity to add a statement to your records explaining what you believe the inaccuracies are and why. In addition, your provider has the opportunity to make a statement in your record as to why he/she is not willing to change your record.

*Adapted from Lifestyles Over 50*



## Focus on Men

Over the past several months we have been focusing on health issues that are important to us men, especially as we age. First, we looked at the issue of suicide as we age. We can't do what we use to, and so why live. It happens more often that we think. Secondly, we looked at the aging itself and what it does to us,

Today we're looking at urology, which includes Prostate Cancer and ED and Sexually Transmitted Disease.

First, we begin with a statement about support services for men. There is a subtle discrimination against men. We really have no support systems. (Although for many of us, the church is a support system. Here we do talk to each other and share some of our concerns.). We don't want to reach out for health care. We don't mourn ourselves. However, we are getting older and we are getting better. As our bodies age, some things are obvious—such as baldness or weight gain. Other things are not—such as the prostate.

Prostate problems can be controlled by medication or surgery. Many doctors want to take a conservative approach, and don't want to use invasive surgery until they must. But we don't want to talk about it, because we fear surgery. But simple PSA tests and digital exams do their jobs. After several years of testing, my urologist told me that with both these tests and my age, I probably will

never develop a prostate issue, and he released me from yearly checkups. That was good news.

Sexual issues are also involved here. Both men and women have sexual issues. Men will talk about theirs; women, generally will not. It is just a part of getting older. For us men, we feel less of ourselves and our partners will think less of us also. That is our fear and our loss, but it doesn't mean we can't have intimacy with each other. There is help. Have the blood pressure checked. Hardening of the arteries affects ED. There is medication. Anxiety also is an issue that can be addressed.

STD's are an increasing issue among the older population. Since we don't have fear of pregnancy, we don't have safe sex, and more and more of us get infected. It is a very dangerous trend and it can kill us. It may seem strange to talk about this in a church publication because most of us are of the age that we have been committed to our wives. Nevertheless, we are all vulnerable to STD's.

Our health as men is very important. We're beginning to move into the phase of health care when we are beginning to take responsibility for our health. Have yearly preventive checkups to maintain your health. God has given us precious bodies. This is a wondrous gift. Take care of yourself. Be kind to yourself.

*(Most of this material is taken from notes from a presentation by Dr. Lieberman, of Sacred Heart Hospital.)*

## AARP News

Allentown AARP Chapter #5415 will meet at noon on June 1 at St. Timothy Church, 140 So. Ott St., Allentown. Program: Linda Garber will give a presentation on Hess's revisited. Non-members and guests are welcome. Bring a non-perishable food item for the Allentown Food Bank. For more information, call 610-437-4265.



Remember, June 14 is Flag Day



**As a people called by Christ, we have a vision of:  
Transforming Lives by Connecting Communities**

The congregation council met on April 23. Those present included Rick Focht, Carol Baum, Dick Cruse, John Deisinger, Pastor Maxon, Vicar Brian Reidy, and Marilyn Mazsa. A quorum was not present.

**Vicar's Report:** Vicar Brian and others met with the Bishop on April 3. The Bishop was very receptive of the groups ideas and accepted three names for consideration. The pool of candidates could be expanded by considering candidates from other denominations. Church Committees need to look at how their mission ties in with our new vision. Discussions regarding the future must begin.

The following names were presented for Confirmation: Alexis Rounds, Tyler Keller, Lily Rohrbach, Jacob Riedy and Julianne Tyler. They were all approved by consensus.

**Old Business:**

**The Barn Update**—Our Committee of five met again with five representatives from The Barn on April 22. Tentative plans include holding two joint services during the summer.

**IT Company Proposals**—Internet maintenance proposals have been received from ReliAvail and Kyle David Group. Rich Christensen will be asked to submit a proposal.

**Bookkeeper**—Everything should be ready for Talbot to start May 1.

**W.O.W.**—Rick is in the process of scheduling ten services. It is planned that each service will have a featured Ministry.

**SonRise Service**—The service was a great success with about 45 people present. The weather was perfect. A smallish number attended the breakfast.

**New Business:**

The Discernment Committee is meeting today (April 23). No additional paper work will be needed. No one is certain of the process yet. The Bishop is to get back to us the first week of May.

**Tenant Dinner May 7**—A representative from every group that meets at the church will be asked to attend the dinner / meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to determine how each group's mission fits into our Vision Statement.

**Pastor Maxon's Report:** Has anything been done about the congregation reaching out to seniors? [This was identified as a local community.] An exit plan needs to be developed. Pastor Maxon will be with us until the end of May. The Collaborative can supply Pastoral Support until someone can be found. Vicar Brian will continue with us until he gets a call or a new person is found.

*Everyone needs to be made aware of the October 29, 2017, Reformation Sunday Worship Service that will be held at Christ Lutheran Church with Bishop Zeiser presiding. There will be **NO** service at St. Timothy that Sunday. Council is considering renting a bus to take parishioners to Christ Church for the service.*



## 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*):

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

**Mrs. Ruth Reichenbach**, Luther Crest, 800  
Hausman Rd., Health Center #541, Allentown, PA  
18104 (*June 25*)

**Mary Schnable**, (at Phoebe) Mail to:1696  
Jackson St. Whitehall, PA 18052-4174 (*August 28*)

**Carl DeFleur**, TBA

June birthdays include:

**Ms. Emily Flowers**, Good Shepherd Home,  
Raker #204B, 543 St. John St., Allentown, PA 18103  
(*June 3*)

**Mrs. Ruth Reichenbach**, (See above) (*June 25*)

# Seen Around...

The Sunday School visits Cedar Parkway



# Seen Around...



*The Sunday School presents a dramatic presentation of the story of the Good Shepherd for Children's Day worship.*



# MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

## JUNE 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 12 pm–AARP [F] 6:30 pm–Prais Band Rehearsal [NV]	<b>2</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30-11 pm–Chess Club [L] Synod Assembly @ Kalahari Resort, Mt. Pocono	<b>3</b> 9 am–Property Committee Clean Up & Weed Event Synod Assembly @ Kalahari Resorot, Mt. Pocono
<b>4 Pentecost</b> 9 am–Sunday School [F] 9 am–Adult Forum [L] <b>10:30 am–Worship</b> ~ 11:30 am–Blood Pressure Screening [L]	<b>5</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm–Boy Scouts [F]	<b>6</b> 9 am–12 pm–Quilters [L] 12-3 pm–Office Open 3:30 pm–Worship & Music Committee [L] 6:30 pm–Cub Scouts Picnic [F & LP]	<b>7</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6 pm–Senior Picnic 7 pm–Allentown Hiking Club [F] 7:30 pm–Venture Crew [F]	<b>8</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 2 pm–Daybreak Mission Team 6 pm–Scout Leadership Meeting [F] 6:30 pm–Praise Band Rehearsal [NV]	<b>9</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30-11 pm–Chess Club [L]	<b>10</b>
<b>11 Holy Trinity</b> 8 am–Praise Band Setup & Rehearsal [LP] 9:30 am–Sunday School [L] <b>10:30 am–Praise Worship Service [LP]</b> (Picnic follows worship)	<b>12</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm–Boy Scouts [F]  <b>JUNE NEWLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>13</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30 pm–Praise Band Rehearsal [NV] 7 pm–Cub Scouts [F]	<b>14</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 5 pm–Praise Band Setup & Rehearsal [LP] <b>7 pm–WoW Worship [LP]</b> 7:30 pm–Venture Crew [F]	<b>15</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6 pm–Scout Commissioners Meeting [F]  <b>JULY-AUGUST NEWLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30-11 pm–Chess Club [L]	<b>17</b>
<b>18 Pentecost 2</b> <b>Father's Day</b> 6:30 am–Mission Team @ St. Paul's <b>9:30 am–Worship</b>	<b>19</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm–Mental Health Support Group [L] 7 pm–Boy Scouts [F]	<b>20</b> 9 am–12 pm–Quilters [L] 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30 pm–Cub Scouts [F]	<b>21</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open <b>7 pm–WoW Worship [LP]</b> AARP in Parking Lot Operation Sunshine in Parking Lot	<b>22</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open	<b>23</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30-11 pm–Chess Club [L]	<b>24</b>
<b>25 Pentecost 3</b> <b>9:30 am–Worship</b>	<b>26</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7 pm–Boy Scouts [F]	<b>27</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30 pm–Cub Scouts [F]	<b>28</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open <b>7 pm–WoW Worship [LP]</b> 7 pm–AA Board Meeting [F]	<b>29</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open	<b>30</b> 12-3 pm–Office Open 6:30-11 pm–Chess Club [L]	

# SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

## Well Drilling in Honduras

A well drilling trip to Honduras was life changing to the team from Trinity, Wernersville, as it also was to the wonderful people of Teguajal, Honduras. Although the village was small, over 200 children came to the school where the team installed the well.

Before this well was drilled, the entire village's source of drinking water came from a polluted stream. Because of the very steep banks, water had to be pumped up out of the stream.



The team saw Jesus at work many times that week. The group they worked with from Honduras did not have technology to find the best place to drill, so they used a simple but powerful form of prayer to decide on a drilling location; and Jesus provided.

The team formed many relationships with the children and teachers, and they left the village the on final day with many tears, hugs, and memories to last a life time. Trinity is truly thankful for the generous \$6,000 grant from the synod Witness and Service Ministry Team, funded from your Mission Support giving.

## Alyra Parker - Muraho from Rwanda



"Over these past two months my faith has been tested more than ever," writes Alyra Parker (Hope, Reading) in her blog *Muraho from Rwanda*. Alyra (a former LYF Vice President) is a junior at Gettysburg College. She is in Kigali, Rwanda for a spring semester to study the Post Genocide Restoration and Peacebuilding program.

One of many experiences that have had an impact on Alyra was a visit to a burial site that is dedicated to children killed in the genocide. "There were pictures of children with captions that included their favorite color, their favorite things to do." In addition, there was information about how each child was killed.

"With peace building and reconciliation, I've noticed the capacity for forgiveness from Rwandans. After the genocide, President Kagame (a Tutsi) decided he did not want to pursue revenge on the Hutu's for the genocide, but rather wanted to reconcile and work together to redeem and rebuild Rwanda.

"This concept has been hard to grasp coming from the US. We focus so much on reparations, that a concept like the one President Kagame has pursued would never be worked out in the US. Learning about this has helped me to reflect on the capacity of forgiveness in my own life and in the lives of others."

Follow Alyra's blog to learn more about her experiences: <https://murahofromrwanda.wordpress.com>.

## Always Being Made New Campaign for the ELCA

We've all heard it said, "You will never know unless you try." So, back in 2013, the Churchwide Assembly overwhelmingly decided to "try" launching a five-year comprehensive campaign with four key priorities:

1. Congregations - new and renewing, and people living with disabilities
2. Hunger and poverty - ELCA World Hunger and the ELCA Malaria Campaign
3. Global Church - long-term missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission, Global Ministries and International Women Leaders
4. Leadership - Fund for Leaders, along with Youth and Young Adults

The Campaign has run for 36 months now, and the leaders are very pleased with the progress made to date. As of Jan. 31, 2017 \$113 million dollars in cash and commitments has been received (57.3 percent of the goal).

The ELCA is very grateful for the offerings that have come forward as a

result of "trying" this new thing. Just imagine what more can be done as we continue to grow in supporting the people, communities and projects that are a priority for us.

To donate, visit [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) and click on the "Campaign for the ELCA" button.



## Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ, Allentown



In February, 2015, on the drive back to Allentown from a two-day conference about people who identify as "spiritual but not religious," Pastors Tom Lichner and Woody Maxon birthed the vision of a place that would offer safe space, resources, and programming for folks to search their spiritual identity, regardless of their connection to any particular faith community.

This was the beginning of what is now called the Center for Spiritual Awakening, which has found a home in Christ Lutheran's newly renovated, at-one-time parsonage, next to the church building.

- Vision - To awaken and reawaken the awareness of people to the spirit of God in and around them everyday.
- Mission - To provide supportive programs, resources, and safe space for people to search their spiritual identity and relationship with God in order to live to their truest and fullest potential.

The Center recognizes that some people are closely aligned with a traditional faith group; but others are not and seek to satisfy their spiritual hunger through new and different ways of exploration. The Center realizes that spirituality is a way of life and not just a set of creeds and doctrines to adhere to.

To this end the Center offers one-on-one and group spiritual guidance, guided prayer retreats, discussion groups, contemplative worship, and various kinds of programs at the Center and other Lehigh Valley locations. The Center's diverse array of offerings and resources can be viewed on its webpage at the Christ Lutheran Church website: [www.christ-atown.org](http://www.christ-atown.org).

The Center's Director is the Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner. Tom was a clinical member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors for ten years and he has been certified by two institutions and been practicing as a Spiritual Director since 1989.

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July/August 2017 LMD NL news will be due June 16, 2017. E-Mail any information to me at [lmd\\_newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd_newslettereditor@gmail.com).

**“India: A Country of Considerable Contrasts”** The public is cordially invited to attend the photographic presentation on **Tues., June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 p.m.**, by John and Dianne Kareha Deisinger in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104.

**The Emmaus Chorale presents: “Feel The Spirit”** - Join us for a concert which is scheduled for **3:00 p.m. on Sun., June 11<sup>th</sup>**, at Faith Presbyterian Church, North 2nd & Cherokee Streets, Emmaus. A freewill offering will be taken. The Chorale under the direction of Laura Rabenold, will present a variety of selections, some with soloists and drums. Included will be “Ev’ry Time I Feel The Spirit” arr. by Dawson, “Shenandoah” arr. by Williams, “Irving Berlin Medley” arr. by Huff, “Elijah Rock” arr. by Hairston and “A Patriotic Salute” by Cohan arr. by Albrecht, “God of Our Fathers” arr. by Kirkland and more. For more information, contact Carole Ann Trout at [610-398-4496](tel:610-398-4496).

**Presentation at Luther Crest:** Tues. June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:30–3:30 p.m. “Matthew Fox—Internal War in the Church” by Rev. Dr. Manfred Bahmann. Contact Rev. Heimer, Luther Crest Chaplain at: [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210) or [heimerv@diakon.org](mailto:heimerv@diakon.org).

**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.lutherancongregational-services.org](http://www.lutherancongregational-services.org)**. Your congregation may also schedule a special training for \$250 + facilitator mileage. Thrivent Action Team grant funding can be used for educational trainings like this! Questions? Call Pastor Jennifer Ollikainen at [610-425-2981](tel:610-425-2981).

**Save These CROP Dates!**

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

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

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

**Books to be discussed are:**

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

**Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>: *Silence*** by Shusaku Endo, ISBN: 125008227 Leader: Nelvin Vos, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown

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

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

**Can you provide an hour or two per week** to help someone who wants to change their life? St Luke’s at 417 N 7<sup>th</sup> St, Allentown still has an ongoing need for volunteers to assist as tutors or substitutes for our growing multi-level ELL Program for individuals who desperately want to learn English. No foreign language needed. Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or [stluke@enter.net](mailto:stluke@enter.net) for class times and orientation sessions.



**LMD ASSEMBLY**  
**30 April 17**  
**Positive Reflections**

The Lehigh Mission District met in its Annual Assembly on Sunday, April 30, beginning at 5:00PM at The Lutheran Center. The spirit of the group was quite positive. The session began with a sung opening prayer led by Elizabeth Leibenguth on behalf of Lutheran Youth Fellowship. Following prayer, the group was welcomed to a full-course dinner prepared by Janelles from the Bowers area. Included in the group were nearly 50 people representing 18 congregations and representing at least three special interest groups.

During dinner, the group was informed about the activities of several groups which are associated with the Mission District or serve on its territory. The first of these presentations involved ALIM (Adult Lutherans in Ministry) and was offered by Nancy Eckert. Their annual special event is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, at Nativity Lutheran Church and is titled *Church: Still Reforming*. Her comments were followed by a review of Operation Sunshine by Dick and Paula Skelly. Now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year, this program is doing quite well and continues to attract about 45 participants for each of its trips. The group thanked Dick and Paula for their continuing leadership. Chaplain Kelly Brooks from Good Shepherd shared a few comments about this special mission which, of course, has its primary facility on our territory. In the absence of Chaplain Callista Isabelle, who was leading worship at Muhlenberg College, Dean Gade expressed gratitude for the meaning which the college's presence adds to our mission.

In the spirit of these sharing's it also became increasingly obvious that the group was pleased to have an active relationship with the Lutheran Youth Fellowship. Although there has been a space for a representative of this program on the Mission District Council, Elizabeth is the first representative in a long time to occupy it. Gratefully her efforts also prompted contributions from the congregations in the amount of a little more than \$1059 in support of this summer's LYF Assembly at Muhlenberg College (actually this amount was doubled with funds from the Lehigh Mission District). LYF also selected and processed elastic bracelets bearing the Luther Symbol and the words "NEPA Synod Reformation 500" which were distributed to all attendees.

Following dinner, the group responsibly processed the necessary agenda of this annual meeting in a relatively brief time period. Included was the recognition of those who were present who were celebrating anniversaries. This included Pastor Nelson Quinones who was celebrating 15 years of ordained ministry and Pastor Richard Stough for 55 years of service. It was also noted that St. Peter's Church, Hanover Avenue, Allentown, is in the process of celebrating its 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This portion of the evening also included the election of Pastor Quinones to a three-year term as our representative to the Synod Council and Treasurer Dick Skelly and Secretary Pastor Stough to additional one-year terms in these capacities. And both the Financial Report and the proposed Budget were approved.

And the evening concluded with a well-received presentation by The Rev. Dr. Walter Wagner entitled *Luther and the Changing Church* in the spirit of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation.

*Pastor Richard Stough*



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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**August 3 (Thurs) – Shawnee Inn and Playhouse – OKLAHOMA -**

The high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provides the colorful background against which Curly and Laurey play out their love story. With these two headstrong romantics holding the reins, love's journey is as bumpy as a surrey ride down a country road! Hit songs include "Oh What a Beautiful Morning," and "Surrey With the Fringe on Top". Lunch will be at the Shawnee Inn. **Entrée choices** are Chicken Cordon Bleu, Grilled Salmon with Honey Barbecue glaze, Roast Loin of Pork with Apple and Dijon Demi-Glace, or Tri-Color Tortellini Primavera. **Dessert choices** are Chocolate Cake or a Duet of Sorbets. **Please indicate your entrée and dessert choice at time of reservation.**

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

**Cost \$74 Payment Deadline: Thurs. July 20**

**September 13 (Wed) – Bird In Hand Family Restaurant and Stage –**

**MAGIC AND WONDER** - Experience something new and different for Operation Sunshine, a theatrical event starring illusionist Brett A. Myers. You will be amazed at the grand illusions and his act incorporates live animals and comedy. This new show will celebrate the holiday season, and help you rediscover the wonder and true magic of Christmas. Enjoy a delicious lunch Smorgasbord at the Bird In Hand Restaurant.

**Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30 AM and will return approximately 4:15 PM**

**Cost \$80 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Aug. 7**

**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**