



Epistle from

St. Timothy

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Transforming Lives by Connecting Communities

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write this as we are about to enter the month in which people in the United States observe “Thanksgiving.” (In case you didn’t know, our neighbors in Canada celebrate Thanksgiving on the second Monday of October.) Certainly, we can find much for which to give thanks: crisp, sunny autumn mornings; the loving presence of family and friends in our lives; the beauty and goodness of the natural world (This year, I am especially giving thanks for Trexler Park!); the liberties that many of us enjoy in this nation; and much, much more. As followers of Jesus and members of his church, our Thanksgiving holy-day includes the awareness and celebration of God’s deep compassion and rich grace constantly flowing toward humanity and all of creation. Indeed, as we ponder the giftedness of our lives, gratitude flows freely.

At the same time, we are aware of trouble—in our own lives and in the wider world. Many of us struggle with health difficulties in our own bodies, with relationship challenges, with economic or work concerns, or with concerns for family members or friends. There are sorrows in our lives and sorrows in the world in which we live. We hear of devastating fires, earthquakes, hurricanes and floods, and we grieve with those who have lost so much. We watch news reports covering terrible oppression, famine and displacement, and war and strife around the world, as well as the presence of division, violence and injustice in our own nation. Perhaps our awareness of all this trouble can tend to dim our observance of the upcoming holiday. We may ask, “How can we celebrate while there is so much suffering near and far? Do we have to be in denial about the painful realities in our world in order to enjoy Thanksgiving (and not refer to it as ‘turkey day’)?”

One of my favorite passages of Scripture is Philippians 4:4-7 where St. Paul writes, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but *in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving* let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard

*Continued on page 3—see **SR. JANET***

St. Timothy Mission Statement

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

November Worship Calendar

Sunday School – 9 am in Fellowship Hall • Adult Forum – 9 a.m. in Lounge
Sunday Morning Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Date	Day	Special Events	Readings
Nov. 5	Sunday Daylight Savings Time Ends 10:30 a.m.	All Saints Sunday Cinque Venti (Five Winds) Woodwind Quintet Bell Choir	Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12
Nov. 12	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 23 Praise Worship	Amos 5:18-24; Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
Nov. 19	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Pentecost 24 Children Sing Faith Commitment Sunday	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
Nov. 22	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Worship Location TBA	
<i>You are invited to bring canned or packaged foods for the local food bank. A free will offering will also be taken with the proceeds going to the food bank.</i>			
Nov. 26	Sunday 10:30 a.m.	Christ the King Covenant Brass	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

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 or www.nepsynod.org
for information about our synod

ELCA WEB SITE

www.elca.org
for information about our national church

ST. TIMOTHY'S EMAIL

office@sttimothy.org

FIND MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES AT:
www.sttimothy.org



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SR. JANET *(continued from page 1)*

your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (NRSV) St. Paul reminds me that I don’t need to “be in denial” in order to celebrate, and that concern (which is **not** the same as worry or anxiety) for the suffering in the world and in my own life is (properly) held together with gratitude for gift and blessing. It is trust in God’s continual, loving presence in the midst of every circumstance that holds the two (concern and gratitude) together—and that moves and empowers me to work for healing and just reconciliation in the world.

Therefore, my sisters and brothers, meditating upon the abundant gifts and the wondrous blessing which God has poured into our lives, let us *celebrate heartily* this Thanksgiving! With humble and trusting hearts, let us GIVE THANKS. And, let us hold in our awareness and our love those places of trouble, division, violence, injustice, and need—both near and far. By prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let us request of God healing, comfort, release, and renewal for all who suffer. Let us ask God that we may be instruments of God’s peace for our community and the whole creation.

A blessed Thanksgiving to all!

Rejoicing, with you, in the Lord,
Sister Janet



Installation Service Scheduled

Sister Janet will be installed as Deacon of St. Timothy Lutheran Church on Sunday, January 14, at the 10:30 a.m. worship service, with Bishop Samuel Zeiser officiating. More information will be available later. For now, please note the date in your calendar and please plan to attend the service.

Crossroads at St. Paul’s-Allentown: “Lord, when did we see you?”

Are members of your congregation looking for an opportunity to help those in need? St. Paul’s-Allentown and Crossroads have several opportunities! Crossroads is Allentown’s only day shelter, where the homeless can gather out of the cold, and perhaps better their lives.

30 minutes! Monday through Wednesday from 8:30-9 am breakfast is served at Crossroads. Volunteers are needed on Mondays and Wednesdays to hand out food and offer a friendly smile.

60 minutes or more! Crossroads is open Monday through Thursday from 9am-4pm. We have a variety of services and social opportunities to offer throughout the week, but we can always use more.

Are you one of those people who can talk to anybody? Do you like to play games or do puzzles?

Are there crafts that you can teach? Perhaps you have specialized training that you are willing to share.

In addition to available slots on Mondays (9 am-4 pm), Tuesdays (1-4 pm), Wednesdays (9 am-4 pm), and Thursdays (9 am-12 pm), we are hoping to expand our hours to Friday and Saturday (9 am-4 pm) and Sundays (11 am-3 pm). No one has to be there that whole time. By being there for just an hour or two, Crossroads can be a place of shelter and care.

But we need YOUR help to make that happen. Contact St. Paul’s-Allentown at (610) 435-9065, or email jennstpauls1st@ptd.net. Your time and your presence can make such a difference!

Items for those in need

November

Antibacterial Wipes
Q-Tips
Small Towels
Combs
Hairbrushes
Nail Clippers

December

Juice Boxes
Granola Bars
Sandwich Crackers
Candy Bars
Slim Jim’s
Hand Wipes

January

Socks
Gloves
Sandwich Crackers
Candy Bars
Slim Jim’s
Hand Wipes



Health Topic of the Month

by Charlotte Cruse



Cholesterol and You

Cholesterol is a soft waxy substance in your blood and your body's cells. There are two types of cholesterol—good cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein commonly known as HDL, and low-density lipoprotein commonly known as LDL.

According to experts from the Lehigh Valley Hospital, less than fifty percent of the people with high cholesterol actually are under treatment for the condition. Better screening tools and increased public awareness have not affected a change in these numbers. It is estimated that of those being treated, only about one third achieve their recommended goal for good cholesterol. High cholesterol levels can lead to heart disease and stroke.

Good cholesterol (HDL) keeps the arteries from clogging, while bad cholesterol (LDL) sticks to the walls of the arteries and clogs them, leading to a decrease in circulating blood. The goal for good cholesterol is 60 mg/dL or higher and the goal for bad cholesterol is less than 130mg/dL. If a person is a high risk for heart disease, the goal for the LDL is less than 100mg/dL.

What Influences Good Cholesterol?	What Influences Bad Cholesterol?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High fiber foods (fruits, vegetables, and wholegrains) • Omega-3 fatty acids found in fish such as salmon, tuna and trout • Nuts • Maintaining a healthy weight • A program of regular exercise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatty, high cholesterol foods such as fatty eats and cheese • A sedentary lifestyle • Obesity • High LDL • Lack of exercise • Smoking

In some instances, there is a familial tendency for high cholesterol in spite of one's weight and their diet and exercise habits. Your physician can determine if you have this predisposition and set up a screening program or even prescribe medication. LDL lowering drugs as statins are generally prescribed. New treatment recommendations for cholesterol control are continually being developed.

Adapted from the Lehigh Valley Hospital "Healthy You"

SPECIAL NOTE: If you have not yet received your influenza vaccine it is not too late to do so. Predictions from the Centers for Disease Control are that this season has the potential to be a "bad" flu season. In addition to your physician's office, you can receive the vaccine at many public entities such as grocery stores, pharmacies and clinics. Protect yourself and your family.

DEADLINE
for the
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER...
NOVEMBER 15!

Quilts & Blankets

The quilts and fleece blankets we gave to "The Fund to Benefit Children & Youth" in Lehigh and Northampton counties are shown below. The Sunday school children have also been helping to make the fleece blankets.



We pray weekly for our members at home. Every month we highlight a portion our list of homebound members so that you can send cards, and perhaps visit!

Here is this month's list (*birthday in italics*):

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

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*)

November birthdays include:

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

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



Seen Around



The Sunday school children prepare name tags for visiting our older members.

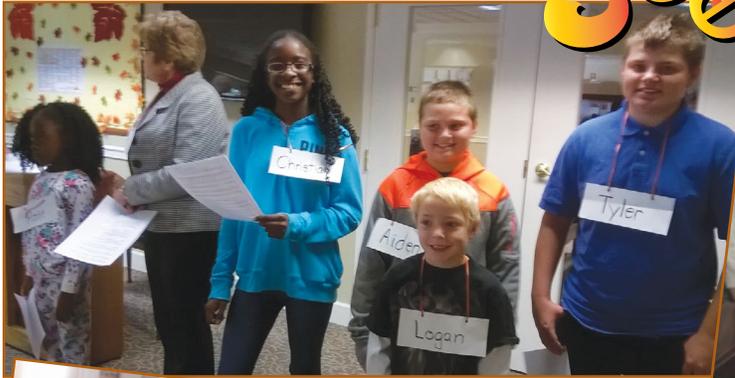


Children learning Bible lessons during Sunday school.



Brian Reidy cuts the cake at the reception that followed his ordination.

Seen Around...



The Sunday school class visits Woodland Terrace.



To the Sunday School
Student's & Teachers
who shared joy &
fellowship with us!

You really made
my day!

Thank You for your
visit & kindness
and yummy cookies!

The residents & staff at
Woodland Terrace!

Thanks...



MONTHLY CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NOVEMBER 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
			1 All Saints Day 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:45-7:30 pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30-9 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30-9 pm-Allentown Hiking Club [F] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew 120 [F]	2 10:30 am-3 pm-AARP [F] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-8 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [L]	3 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	4
5 All Saints Day 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship Bell Choir ~11:30 am-Blood Pressure Screening [N]	6 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	7 Election Day 6 am-10 pm-Voting (POLLS OPEN 8am-8 pm [F]) 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open	8 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-8 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [NV] AARP in Parking Lot	9 12-3 pm-Office Open 2 pm-Daybreak Mission Team 3-4:30 pm-Worship & Music Committee [L] 7-9 pm-Boy Scouts Leadership Meeting [F]	10 Veterans Day (Observed) 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11 pm-Chess Club [L]	11 Veterans Day
12 Pentecost 23 9 am-Sunday School 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 10:30 am-Praise Worship	13 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am-Property Committee [L] 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	14 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [L]	15 12-3 pm-Office Open 7:30-9:00 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm-Venture Crew 120 [F] DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 12-3 pm-Office Open Operation Sunshine in Parking Lot	17 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	18
19 Pentecost 24 6:30 am-Mission Team @ St. Paul's 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship 12-5 pm-AlAnon Event [F]	20 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F] 7 pm-Mental Health Support Group [L]	21 9 am-12 pm-Quilters [L] 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	22 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-7:30 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [L] 6:45-7:30 pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7:30 pm- Thanksgiving Eve Worship [TBA]	23 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED	24 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30-11pm-Chess Club [L]	25
26 Christ the King 9 am-Adult Forum [L] 9 am-Sunday School [F] 10:30 am-Worship Covenant Brass	27 OFFICE CLOSED 7 pm-Boy Scouts [F]	28 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30 pm-Cub Scouts [F]	29 12-3 pm-Office Open 6:30-7:30 pm-Praise Band Rehearsal [L] 6:45-7:30 pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal [NV] 7-9 pm-AA Board Meeting [F] 7:30-9 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal [NV]	30 12-3 pm-Office Open		

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



Our synod has given \$1,065,309 in support of this Campaign. We celebrate that nearly 81% have given to at least one of the priorities of the campaign. With a bit more effort we can reach the goal of 100% congregation participation established by Synod Assembly.

You can contact Guy Ehler, Synod Campaign Coordinator, at guy.ehler@rcn.com for information about your congregation's record.

As we complete the 4th year and enter the final year of the Campaign in 2018, 52 of our 268 congregations have yet to contribute. Suggested milestones for meeting the goal of 100% are:

- 13 more congregation contribute by the end of this fiscal year (January 31, 2018),
- 13 more before April 30,
- 13 by September 30,
- and the final 13 before the end of the Campaign in January 2019.

The Campaign Priority for 2018 is "Leadership" which includes the ELCA Fund for Leaders, and Youth and Young Adults. The youth and young adults are the future of our churches. Wouldn't this be a great priority for your congregation to support next year?

Good Shepherd, Easton Summer Youth Program



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Wilson Borough (Easton, PA) hosted a Summer Youth Program, a free summer-long program for elementary age children. The program was conceived by Pastor Michael Reist of Good Shepherd. Pastor Becca Middeke-Conlin of St. Paul's, Southside Easton served as the Program's Director.

Pr. Becca oversaw a staff of four in addition to several volunteers. Over 40 children participated throughout the summer with an average of 20 children a day. With donations through Thrivent Action Team Grants, a Synod Grant, and donations from Good Shepherd and other local congregations the program was able to provide breakfast, snack and lunch to the children each day.

During the program, the children participated in a variety of activities, thanks to congregation members and local organizations. Through 4H they made messy science experiments including homemade bouncy balls and slime. They learned where food comes from and how to cook thanks to the Easton Hunger Coalition.

They made a variety of crafts, learned about different cultures, read to therapy dogs, met a variety of animals, and engaged in many more activities. The children also learned about saving money as they watched their money add up this summer through a collection for God's Global Barnyard.

Talking About Racism

ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENT

A November 2015 news release from the ELCA stated, "As racism remains an enduring crisis in the United States, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the ELCA, is continuing her call... to address [racism's] complexity and implications..."

Here is a helpful resource for congregations, small groups, and youth groups to examine more closely these complexities and implications. What resources are you using? Please share them on the synod Facebook page.

As a starting place for conversations about racism, check out the ELCA social statement "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture" at <http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Race-Ethnicity-and-Culture>.

This statement expresses the ELCA's calling to celebrate culture and ethnicity. And it commits the ELCA to confront racism; to engage in public leadership, witness and deliberation on these matters; and to advocate for justice and fairness for all people.

The statement is grounded in the conviction that the church has been gathered together in the joyful freedom of the reign of God as announced by and embodied in Jesus. That reign has not yet come in its fullness, but the message of God's "Yes" to the world breaks down all dividing walls as we live into that promise. A study guide accompanies the social statement.

Nigerian Refugees Find a Home in West Berks



On June 9, God placed a Nigerian family in the hands of the West Berks Mission District. That Friday afternoon, the Johnson family (Tola, Abigail and their 3 children ages 4, 6 and 8) was released from the family detention center in Bern Township and dropped off at the bus terminal in Reading with tickets to NYC. Luckily their attorneys were notified; and after a bit of research, it was determined there was not an appropriate living plan for them in NYC.

A network of volunteers from the Greater Reading Immigration Project and the West Berks Mission District was contacted. The family was placed in a hotel for the weekend, and a host family came forward to offer housing to them until August. Since then there has been an amazing outpouring of support from individuals and faith communities!

Thanks to the kindness of strangers, the Johnsons moved into an apartment at the end of July. Six-months rent and security deposit needed to be paid up front. To date more than \$15,000 has been donated with more promised! All the furnishings and household items have been collected from generous folks sharing from their abundance.

This has been an incredible opportunity to experience what a caring community can do! The Johnsons will most likely need continued support for at least a year, as the asylum process can take quite a long time. The family is so grateful and is humbled by the love and support they have found here in this community! Tola describes this as "the physical presence of God in their lives, working through the people who have been put in their path during this journey."

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

The Rev. Jerel W. Gade, Dean 610-966-3030
The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop 610-266-5101

Mr. Joshua Fink, Mission District Chair 484-358-5720
Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor 610-437-9927

December 2017 LMD NL news will be due November 15, 2017. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Ken Medema – World-Renowned Pianist to Play at: St. Peter's, Hanover Ave., Oct. 28-29! The 175th 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 500th Lehigh Mission District Anniversary of the Reformation.** You are welcome to come to all three services to enjoy his performances!

St. Peter's, Allentown, invites the parishes of the LMD to participate in its Reformation Celebration. The Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod has commissioned a special anthem for the Anniversary of the Reformation. With the Bishop preaching at St Peter's for the LMD Reformation service on the **October 29th at 3 pm.** The feeling here at St Peter's (Janet Heckman, St Peter's Minister of Music) is that we should have a joint choir of all singing members of our LMD churches to perform this anthem. The anthem is entitled **"God is our Refuge and Strength"** and is available to download by contacting the Synod office for instructions. If members of the LMD churches are interested in joining the St Peter's choir in singing this anthem, we ask that they practice at their choir rehearsals and then have a practice session prior to the St Peter's Reformation service at 1:30 pm. Contact St Peter's [610-432-8762](tel:610-432-8762).

Reformation Celebration Concerts – St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be hosting a special concert in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation: **Sun., Nov. 19th at 3 PM** will feature a Brass Quintet. A free-will offering will be collected. For more info call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org. All are welcome, please join us!

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 **Mon., Oct. 30th, 1:30-3:30 p.m.** Enjoy a time of learning and fellowship as theological themes in selected literature are presented and discussed. To register, please contact Moravian Theological Seminary [610-861-1516](tel:610-861-1516) or www.moravianseminary.edu/continuingeducation

Book to be discussed are: Oct. 30th: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman, ISBN: 1476738025 Leader: Ruth Marcon, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown.

Rev. Dr. Walter Wagner: Reviews and responds to Michael Morwood's book... ***It's Time***. **Mons., Oct 23rd, 30th and Nov 6th, 7:00-8:30p.m.** Christ Lutheran Church, 69 Main Street, Hellertown. If you would like, you can join a carpool to Hellertown for each session. Departing from Christ Lutheran, Allentown parking lot at 6:15 p.m. Please contact Rev. Tom Lichner [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362) or tlchiner@rcn.com

Holiday Craft Bazaar - Nov. 4th from 9-3 at Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church (8269 Spring Creek Rd, Alburtis), features crafts and a basket raffle. Kitchen will be open for lunch. For more information call [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215) or email churchoffice@zionlehigh.org

The Emmaus Chorale presents: "Glad Tidings We Sing" Join us for a concert of the Emmaus Chorale which is scheduled for **3:00 p.m. on Sun., Dec 10, 2017, at Faith Presbyterian Church, North 2nd & Cherokee Streets, Emmaus.** The Chorale, under the direction of Laura Rabenold, will celebrate the season with a variety of selections, some with organ, flute, piano, harp and trumpet. Included will be **"Alleluia"** by Randall Thompson; **"Mary Had A Baby"** (Spiritual) arranged by Craig Courtney; **"Then Sings My Soul (How Great Thou Art)"** by Stuart K. Hine, setting by Mary McDonald; **"The Holly and The Ivy"** arranged by John Rutter. For more information, contact Carole Ann Trout at [610-398-4496](tel:610-398-4496).

Crossroads at St. Paul's-Allentown: "Lord, when did we see you?" Are members of your congregation looking for an opportunity to help those in need? St. Paul's-Allentown and Crossroads has several opportunities! Crossroads is Allentown's only day shelter, where the homeless can gather out of the cold, and perhaps better their lives. **30 minutes! Mon. through Wed. from 8:30-9am breakfast is served at Crossroads.** Volunteers are needed on Mon. and Wed. to hand out food and offer a friendly smile. **60 minutes or more! Crossroads is open Mon. through Thurs. from 9am-4pm.** We have a variety of services and social opportunities to offer throughout the week, but we can always use more. Are you one of those people who can talk to anybody? Do you like to play games or do puzzles? Are there crafts that you can teach? Perhaps you have specialized training that you are willing to share. In addition to available slots on Mon. (9am-4pm), Tues. (1-4pm), Wed. (9am-4pm), and Thurs. (9am-12pm), we are hoping to expand our hours to Fri. and Sat. (9am-4pm) and Sun. (11am-3pm). No one must be there that whole time. By being there for just an hour or two, Crossroads can be a place of shelter and care. But, **we need YOUR help to make that happen.** Contact St. Paul's-Allentown at [610-435-9065](tel:610-435-9065), or email jennstpauls1st@ptd.net. Your time and your presence can make such a difference! ****See flyer posted in your church****

**See side 2
Items Needed for Crossroads**

MISSION SUPPORT BLESSINGS

This is the season when we are challenged to make our commitments in support of the continuing mission of our Church – our local parishes, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We have recently received a letter from Bishop Zeiser inviting us to give this our serious and prayerful consideration. And for the second year in a row representatives of our synod's Mission Support Table are visiting with selected councils for the purpose of expressing the larger church's gratitude for the support which is provided through our commitments and to encourage us, if possible, to increase the level of our support.

It has been my privilege to serve as one of the members of this visitation team and I am particularly gratified by the opportunity to call attention to some of the unique ways in which our contributions support the mission of Christ's Church. We always begin by calling attention to the fact that 54 cents of every mission dollar contribution supports the work of the Synod and 46 cents supports the work of the ELCA. But, gratefully, the materials we have in front of us help us identify 6 different efforts which are supported within the Synod and 7 efforts which are supported through the ELCA. I am particularly excited about calling attention to our Synod's ministries in "Renewing Our Passion for Sharing the Good News" and "Strengthening Ministries to Youth, Young Adults and Families." And at the ELCA level I appreciate being able to call attention to our support of "Congregations and Evangelical Outreach" and "Bringing Forth Leaders" (recruiting and supporting rostered leaders).

Obviously, the experiences of these last several months have also reminded us of the challenges which are ours to reach out to our devastated brothers and sisters in Christ who are in the process of trying to recover from floods, hurricanes, and now serious fires. Of particular concern in our nation and its immediate surroundings are the people of Texas and Louisiana, Florida, Puerto Rico, California, and Mexico. It's interesting that the last three of these locations have been added to the list just since we prepared the material for our October edition of this newsletter. The thousands, indeed millions, of people affected by these crises are welcoming both our prayerful support and our gifting.

As noted in the last month's newsletter, our special gifts in support of these efforts will be welcomed. Many of our parishes are inviting gifts through their systems but personal responses will also be welcomed by **ELCA Hurricane Response** and can be sent directly to that group at **PO Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 28116-8009**. It should also be noted that these gifts will be welcomed well into the future, because our response teams are committed to remaining in such situations until the rebuilding is on a solid footing. Obviously, our support of these special needs will be most appreciated and will serve to remind those with these serious needs that God's love is being extended to them.

Pastor Richard Stough
LMD Secretary



1987-2017

OPERATION SUNSHINE

36 S. 8th St, Allentown, PA 18101

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

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.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have traveled with us this past year, and look forward too many more trips with our old friends, and hopefully some new ones. Please know that traveling with Operation Sunshine is not just another "bus trip". It is a fellowship of many with a common goal – a great time with friends you may or may not have met yet.

As our 2017 remaining shows are SOLD OUT, our first trip in 2018 is scheduled for the end of March at Hunterdon Hills to see "Steel Magnolias".

We have some great shows in the works for 2018, so check back in the December Lehigh Mission District Newsletter for the 2018 Season of Operation Sunshine trips. Join our happy band of travelers as we enjoy fun and fellowship, great meals and entertainment.

Items Needed for Crossroads

****See Flyer posted in your church****

November

Antibacterial Wipes
Q-Tips
Small Towel
Comb
Hairbrush
Nail Clippers

December

Juice Box
Granola Bars
Sandwich Crackers
Candy Bars
Slim Jim's
Hand Wipes