

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

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Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor 610-437-9927

**February 2016 LMD NL news will be due January 14<sup>th</sup>.** E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com).

**Presentations at Luther Crest:** The public is cordially invited to attend the following free presentations in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104:

- \* Marla Sell and Janet Panning of Lutheran Children and Family Service on "Lutheran Social Ministry for Newcomers, Past and Present": **Tues., Jan. 5, 2016, 2:30 p.m.**
- \* Rev. Dr. Manfred Bahmann on "Angels": **Tues., Jan. 19, 2016, 2:30 p.m.**
- \* Dr. William Jennings on "A Critical Look at the Ten Commandments": **Tues., Feb. 16, 2016, 2:30 p.m.**
- \* A panel discussion and responses with Rev. Dr. Manfred Bahmann, Dr. William Jennings, and Rev. Dianne Kareha on "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People": **Tues., March 15, 2016, 2:30 p.m.**

For more information, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

**LCS will hold a Marriage Preparedness Series on Jan. 9, 2016** at Ziegels Lutheran Church, Breinigsville from **9-3:30**. The cost is \$80 which includes lunch. Couples can register on line at [www.lutherancongregationalservices.org](http://www.lutherancongregationalservices.org) or call the office at [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205).

**LCS will hold a Marriage Preparedness Series on Feb. 13, 2016** at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hanover Ave., Allentown. The cost is \$80 which includes lunch. Couples can register on line at [www.lutherancongregationalservices.org](http://www.lutherancongregationalservices.org) or call the office at [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205).

**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.

**Refugee Resettlement** accepts apartment sized furniture such as chests of drawers/dressers, kitchen tables and chairs, living room small sofas/loveseats/chairs, end tables, etc. (NO BEDS). Please call Ammar at [484-542-9849](tel:484-542-9849) to arrange for pickup of items.

**Church Council Retreat or Meeting at Luther Crest:** We invite your congregation's Church Council to hold a retreat or one of its meetings at Luther Crest. To learn more or to schedule your Church Council retreat or meeting at Luther Crest (with meals optional), please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210)

**Speakers Available:** Luther Crest has a variety of speakers available to speak to congregations, adult Sunday school classes, organizations such as women's and men's groups, Bible studies, seniors groups, and youth groups. Topics include: Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia, Depression, Elder Care, Caring for the Caregiver, Senior Housing Options, Continuum of Care, Living with Loss/Grief Support, Communicating during Times of Conflict, Prayer, Scripture Studies. For more information or to schedule a speaker, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

**The LMD Council** agreed that there were three items which it should call to the attention of our congregations.

\* First, a reminder that **Benevolence Contributions for 2015** should be forwarded to the synod office before the end of December 2015!

\* Second, that members of our congregations are encouraged to **join Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church in its Epiphany evening worship celebration on January 6, 2016 at 7:30PM as they begin their 275th anniversary celebration.** Dean Jerel Gade will be the preacher.

\* Finally, that St. Peter's, Hanover Avenue, is looking forward to supporting **missionaries Steve and Debbie Buckner in their ministry in Honduras.** The Council is wondering if there are other congregations which would like to join or if you are involved in such unique ministries.

Please contact council secretary, Pastor Dick Stough, with questions or information you would like to share [rhseah1@ptd.net](mailto:rhseah1@ptd.net) or cell phone [610-349-5488](tel:610-349-5488).



**GOOD SHEPHERD REHABILITATION HOSPITAL**  
*God's Work! Our Hands!*

I am not sure how many of us have ever stopped to think about the fact that one of the uniqueness's of being affiliated with the Lehigh Mission District is the fact that there are three major institutions of the church located on our territory – Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network, Lutheran Congregational Services and Muhlenberg College. The first several issues of our LMD Newsletter during 2016 will focus attention on these ministries and on our mission as their host.

Good Shepherd has a long and distinguished history of service in and around our territory. It was founded in 1908 by the Raker family, virtually on the site of the current primary facility in South Allentown and under the umbrella of Grace Lutheran Church where Pastor Raker was serving. It seems that a few people with special needs arrived on the scene and it prompted the Rakers to welcome them into their parsonage and, for all practical purposes, what was initially known as the Good Shepherd Home was founded. When called upon to describe the initial mission of Good Shepherd, people today describe it as "A home for the needy!"

A lot has happened since those early days and leadership of Good Shepherd passed quite naturally from one generation of the Rakers to the next and continued under their leadership for approximately 75 years of its history. The current Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network provides care to more than 60,000 people with special needs per year at 57 different locations. However, its primary base of operations is still located on the site where the Raker's initiated that service to a few people with special needs and it's unique to be privileged to vision its geographic relationship to our mission district.

And in that spirit we celebrate with the administration that Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network in Allentown, including its unit at Pocono Medical Center and its Pediatric Unit in Bethlehem, has recently been accredited, for a period of three years, by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), an independent, non-profit accrediting organization which works to ensure that high standards of care and quality are met by its accredited inpatient rehabilitation providers. Good Shepherd has been accredited by CARF since 1983. Included in the accreditation are:

- Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs – Hospital (Adults)
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs – Hospital (Pediatric Specialty Program)
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs – Hospital: Amputation Specialty Program (Adults)
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs – Hospital: Brain Injury Specialty Program (Adults)
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs – Hospital: Spinal Cord System of Care (Adults)
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs – Hospital: Stroke Specialty Program (Adults)
- Interdisciplinary Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation Programs: Spinal Cord System of Care (Adults)

Additionally, Good Shepherd was recognized for exemplary conformance to CARF standards for its inpatient pediatric feeding program.

Obviously we celebrate this accomplishment with our friends and colleagues at Good Shepherd and are honored to have their administrative offices and primary facility located within our mission district.

*Pastor Richard Stough*  
LMD Secretary

**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

***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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***Shake off the winter doldrums with our Operation Sunshine trip to Hunterdon Hills!***

**Feb. 24 (Wed.) – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse – SPREADING IT AROUND - A**

well-to-do widow living in Florida grows tired of handing out money to her neglectful and unappreciative children and sets up a foundation to give her money to people truly in need. When her greedy son and his shopaholic wife find out what she's up to, they attempt to have her declared financially incompetent. However, when Mom learns of their scheme, she comes up with a plan to show just how competent she really is! Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is always a good time with great food. Choose your meal from a great menu when you get there. Break the winter doldrums with our Operation Sunshine trip to Hunterdon Hills!

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 4:30 PM.**

**Cost \$85 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Feb. 11**

**Apr. 13 (Wed.) – Bristol Riverside Theatre, Bristol, PA –RUMORS -**

Join us at a **NEW VENUE** and see how hilarity abounds as guests arrive at the New York City Deputy Mayor's townhouse to find the host has shot himself (though it's only a flesh wound), his wife is missing, and there isn't any food! The party guests are desperate to hush up the scandal, if that's what it is, that surrounds their unseen host. As the confusion and miscommunication mount, the evening soon spins out of control in this non-stop laugh-out-loud **Neil Simon** farce.

Lunch will be at the historic King George II Inn on the waterfront, and will include soup, dessert, beverage, and your choice of one of the following, **Quiche of the Day, Tavern Cheeseburger, Turkey Junior Club.** **Please indicate your meal choice at the time of reservation.**

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

**Cost \$89 Payment Deadline: Thur., Mar. 17**

**\*\*\*\* NEW \*\*\*\***

**Due to the quick sell-out of our Mar. 24 trip to Samson, we have added another trip.**

**MAY 11 (WED.) SIGHT & SOUND – SAMSON –** Join Operation Sunshine on our 2<sup>nd</sup> trip this year to see "SAMSON", the newest show added to the Sight & Sound lineup, done as only Sight and Sound can. The world's first superhero ... the strongest man who ever lived.... He killed a lion with his bare hands and defeated a thousand soldiers ... but he's not a hero because of the strength of his hands, he's a hero because of the faith in his heart! One of the most captivating stories in the Bible, SAMSON is filled with colorful characters, extraordinary feats of strength, and amazing special effects that your whole family will love. When Samson stands between two colossal columns in a godless temple and starts to push - it's an immersive scene that literally brings the house down. Lunch will be at the best buffet in town, Shady Maple.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approximately 7:00 PM.**

**Cost \$99 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Apr. 7**