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March 2016 LMD NL news will be due February 15th. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Workshop for Confirmands being held on **Feb. 6th** at the Islamic Center of Reading. **Openings are still available for this session.** If you have any interest, please contact Kathy Reyher at [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205) to register.

LCS will hold a Marriage Preparedness Series on Feb. 13th 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 or call the office at [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205).

Presentations at Luther Crest: The public is cordially invited to attend the following free presentations at 2:30 p.m. in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104:

- * Dr. William Jennings on "A Critical Look at the Ten Commandments": **Tues., Feb. 16th.**
 - * A panel discussion and responses with Rev. Dr. Manfred Bahmann, Dr. William Jennings, and Rev. Dianne Kareha on "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People": **Tues., March 15th.**
 - * Revs. John and Dianne Kareha Deisinger on "South America and Antarctica": **Tues., March 29th.**
 - * Dr. William Jennings on "Ethical Decision Making": **Tues., May 17th.**
- For more information, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

Ministry with Our Elders (Senior Adults): For Clergy, Parish Nurses, Secretaries of Congregations, Pastoral Care Visitors, and Other Caregivers. Luther Crest (800 Hausman Road, Allentown) will host a Moravian Theological Seminary course on **Mondays, April 4-May 9th, 1:30-4:30 p.m.** This six-week course is designed for clergy and laity who want to become more effective in ministry with the senior adults with whom they serve. Participants will have an opportunity to improve their skills of communication with older adults, as well as gain an understanding of the life issues that confront them. The course will cover the following topics: grief, dynamics and issues of dementia and aging, caring for the caregiver, life review, spirituality and faith, visitation and communication skills, effects of aging on family systems, and community resources.

The cost for this 1.8 CEU course is \$60 (payable to Moravian Theological Seminary, 1220 Main Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018-6650); **early bird registration is \$50 (by March 28, 2016).** For more information, please contact Luther Crest's Chaplain Dianne Kareha [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210) or go to <http://www.moravianseminary.edu/continuing-ed>

Luther Crest to Host Model Passover Seder Dinner: Would you like to experience the beautiful traditions and the distinctive foods of a Passover Seder? (As you may know, Passover is a Jewish commemoration of deliverance from bondage. According to the gospels, the "Last Supper" that Jesus shared with his disciples occurred around the time of the celebration of Passover.)

On **Tues, April 19th, 3:30-5:30 p.m.** in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, Kathy Katyah Gohr will lead a model Seder service, which will include a full, buffet-style meal. **Cost is \$11.00.** For reservations or questions, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210) by **Tues., April 12th.**

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. Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or 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, and 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).

February 10, 2016



MUHLENBERG COLLEGE
God's Work! Our Hands!

The introductory paragraph to this material in the January Newsletter called attention to the fact that the territory of our Lehigh Mission District is privileged to host three major institutions of our Church – Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network, Muhlenberg College, and Lutheran Congregational Services. It's not clear how many mission districts can claim such an honor, but there can't be many. January's article continued by underscoring the mission and ministry of Good Shepherd. This month we'll take a brief look at what it means to have the privilege of hosting Muhlenberg College.

Muhlenberg was founded by the Lutherans in 1868 and was originally located in a building known as Trout Hall at the intersection of Walnut and Fourth Streets in center city Allentown. The fact that it originated in this building identified it very solidly with the early history of Allentown, since it had been built as a summer home for James Allen and his family when his father deeded him the land in 1767. But Muhlenberg moved to its current site in western Allentown in the early years of the 20th century. Let's also remind ourselves that Muhlenberg was an all men's college until it became co-educational in 1957.

Although Muhlenberg has a very varied student body of more than 2000 students, it has continued its affiliation with the Lutheran Church and is still supported by our Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. Chaplain Callista Isabelle facilitates worship services in the chapel at 5:00PM on Sunday evenings during the academic year and these are followed by an informal supper. Muhlenberg also reaches out to interact with the community in which it is located. Various programs result in an interaction with the community, including the involvement of audiences for the exceptional theater program which has developed across the last quarter of a century or so and the experiences of various student groups which have been sent into the community to gain service experience. Recently, for instance, this involved a student group supporting the community-service program of St. Luke's Church on North Seventh Street.

Of special interest are the various kinds of interaction which result from the program of the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding which is just concluding its 25th anniversary. The Mission Statement of the IJCU indicates that it is committed to *Enhancing Jewish-Christian understanding by helping Christians understand Jews and Judaism more clearly, more deeply and more appreciatively, and by helping Jews understand Christians and Christianity more clearly, more deeply and more appreciatively.* On campus this mission involves regular classes, travel seminars, independent study and student interfaith groups designed to help develop tomorrow's leaders. The IJCU also reaches out to the community through *First Friday at Noon* events which feature unique presenters and are open to the community, through clergy study groups, and by means of participation in workshops and seminars both on campus and as far away as Israel. We thank the Rev. Dr. Peter Pettit for his leadership of these efforts.

We are indeed blessed to have Muhlenberg College on the territory of our Lehigh Mission District and we look forward to continuing interaction with both its staff and its students.

Pastor Richard Stough
LMD Secretary

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

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.

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

****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 2nd trip this year to see “**SAMSON**”, the newest show added to the Sight & Sound lineup, done as only Sight and Sound can. 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