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November 2016 LMD NL news will be due October 14, 2016. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

"Journey through Grief": Luther Crest will host a "Journey through Grief" group on **Mons, Oct. 3-Nov. 7, 10:30 a.m.-noon**. For more information or registration, please contact Lutheran Congregational Services, [610-770-9205](tel:610-770-9205). This 6-week series is open to all; and there is no fee, thanks to the generosity of J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.

Luther Crest Hosts "Theology, Literature, and Coffee", A Moravian Theological Seminary-sponsored course, will be held at Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, on **Mons, Oct 3rd, 17th, and 31st, 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 \$25**, beverages will be provided. To register, please contact Moravian Theological Seminary [610-861-1516](tel:610-861-1516) or <http://www.moravianseminary.edu/continuing-ed>. **Books to be discussed are:** Oct. 3rd: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee Leader: Nelson Quinones, St. John Lutheran Church, Fogelsville, Oct. 17th: *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, Leader: Ruth Marcon, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown, Oct. 31st: *Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton, Leader: Nelvin Vos, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown.

Presentations at Luther Crest - The public is cordially invited to attend the following presentations in Crest Hall of Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA 18104, **Tues at 2:30 p.m. Oct. 4th**, Dr. Manfred Bahmann on "Which Sort of Jew was Jesus?", **Oct 18th**, Sundar Brown on "When Religion Turns Violent", **Nov 15th**, Jason Brocius on "What is Humanism?", **Dec. 6th**, Dr. Manfred Bahmann on "What Is Family Anymore, Anyway?". For more information, please contact the Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

Fall Basket Social: St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) will be holding a basket raffle on **Sat, Oct 8th, 10 am-2 pm**. Drawings for the 75+ different themed baskets will be at 1:30 pm you do not need to be present to win. Various consultants and products will also be on hand including Premier Jewelry, Pampered Chef and Tastefully Simple. There will be lunch items and baked goods available, as well as jars of homemade chow-chow. New this year: **'Basket Preview Night'** on **Fri, Oct 7th, 6-8 PM** (only raffle tickets will be sold, no food). For more info, call [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535) or visit www.stjohns-fogelsville.org. All are welcome!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 9, 1:30 p.m., beginning and ending at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104, with **registration starting at 1 p.m.** For more information, for a sponsor form, please contact your own congregation or the Lehigh County Conference of Churches [610-433-6421](tel:610-433-6421). Log on to www.cropwalk.org for further information about CROP or for making online donations.

Redeemer is celebrating her 90th anniversary this year: Mark your calendars for the following dates. **Sat, Oct 8th, 4 pm** - Anniversary Banquet at Luther Crest, Rev. Carl Shankweiler, guest speaker. Please call the church office [610-434-1291](tel:610-434-1291) for ticket information. **Sat, Oct 22nd, 6 pm** - An evening of Sacred Music featuring the choirs and musicians of the West Side Collaborative. Reception follows. **Sun, Nov 6th**, 10:15 am - All Saints Worship- Redeemer Homecoming service. Reception follows. All are welcome.

ALOA Adult Ministry Festival: Where: Nativity Lutheran Church, 4004 Tilghman St, Allentown, PA, When: **Oct. 8th, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.** Cost: \$15 (includes lunch). Keynote speaker, The Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Wengert, professor emeritus of Reformation history at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, will speak on "Luther's Catechisms for Adults: Tasting Them Again for the First Time." For more information or registration: <http://nepasynod.org/event/aloa-adult-ministry-festival-2016/>

Basket Raffle at St. Andrew's, Allentown. Fri, Oct 14th from 3 p.m. to 7p.m. & Sat, Oct 15th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The drawing for the baskets will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the 15th.

Eco-Lutherans—Responding to the Ethics and Science of Climate Change: A workshop examining the science of climate change as well as the morality of dealing with climate change from a Lutheran perspective plus practical steps for advocacy and greening congregations. **Sat., Oct. 15th, 9 am – 1 pm**, at 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus. Light refreshments available during the workshop. Cost: \$25/person - \$5 additional for persons from the same congregation. Contact Karen Mathias-Long karen@nepasynod.org.

St. Peter's Hanover invites you to join us for a prayer vigil on **Oct 15th, from 4 to 8 PM**. In light of today's world events, we feel that we would like to open our church doors to anyone who feels the need to connect with our Lord in a quiet, prayerful environment. Bibles and devotional booklets will be available for your use.

Oct. 23, 2016 – 2:30 PM: The choirs of St. Peter's, Hanover invite you to a concert of sacred music by composer, Joseph Martin. Mr. Martin has been commissioned by the Music Ministry of St. Peter's to write an anthem in celebration of the 175th Anniversary of our congregation. Although many of you have heard his music throughout the years, we felt that a concert dedicated to his majestic compositions would be a fitting way to showcase his talent as a writer of sacred music. Come join us for an afternoon of beautiful sacred music and liturgical dance. Feel the peace, the wonder and the magnificence of our Lord through the great artistry of Joseph Martin. Light refreshments will be served. A free-will offering will be taken to help defray the cost of the anthem commission.

Trick or Treat

At the end of this month we will be celebrating Reformation Sunday in a variety of ways within our congregations. Some of those celebrations will involve special music, while others will involve a special preacher for the day. For those who are Protestant it is indeed a special day that marks "the beginning" of our denomination. Some of you reading this might even remember that once we had our own Mission District Reformation Service, held in the evening of Reformation Sunday.

Yet, have you ever wondered why we celebrate Reformation Sunday, on the last Sunday of October, and so close to Halloween? Well, it was no accident that Martin Luther chose October 31st to nail his 95 theses to the castle door in Wittenberg, Germany – an act which many view as the start of the Protestant Reformation. It had nothing to do with goblins or ghosts, candy or costumes. Rather, Luther knew that on the next day, All Saints Day, everyone in town would file past on their way to church, and thus would notice his posting. You could say it was tricky timing.

Yet while church leaders probably did not see it this way at the time, Luther also provided the entire church with a treat. You see, Luther's 95 theses got people talking about church, faith, and theology. And that was a good thing – a treat.

Almost 500 years later we still debate some of the things Luther wrote about, as Christians continue to struggle with how to be true to the calling of Jesus. It is a challenge. **Join others at The Lutheran Center on October 30th from 2:00-5:00 PM** as we discuss "a new reformation" and ways to meet this challenge today in our Lehigh Mission District. Following an opening devotional, Associate to the Bishop Pastor Kurt Garbe will set the stage for our discussion and sharing. Following our discussion all are invited to stay for a free supper. Come and be a part of this event!! More detailed information was sent to congregations, as well as being included in last month's newsletter. Registrations are encouraged to insure proper arrangement can be made for supper. Email your response to our Lehigh Mission District Secretary, at stough@rcn.com.

Bishop Eaton of our ELCA has said that the 500th anniversary of the Reformation "provides a powerful focal point for reaffirming who we are as a Lutheran Church and understanding what God is calling this church to be in its ongoing reformation". We do not always agree as to how to revitalize our churches. But relationships thrive not so much on agreement as on honest and open communication. Join our conversation on the 30th.

Faith is full of tricks and treats!

Pastor Jerel Gade
LMD Dean

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.

October 13 (Thur.) – Penn's Peak – Bill Haley's Comets - The Comet's Rock and Roll Show is an energetic entertaining show featuring fun, comedy, dance and music that keeps the crowds laughing, clapping and singing along to all the oldies and classic rock favorites. With the harmonies and choreography of the two poodle skirted and car hop uniform. All luncheon shows come complete with a family style meal including the ever popular Penn's Peak Pot Roast, all non-alcoholic beverages (alcohol available for purchase).

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM and will return approx. 4:30 PM
Cost \$80 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Sept. 22

November 17 (Thurs) – Media Theatre – "A Christmas Story, The Musical"

– Get in the mood for Black Friday shopping and the upcoming Christmas season along with Ralphie and his family as they weave their way through life from the "major award" of the lady's leg lamp to the "adorable" but embarrassing footed bunny pajamas for Ralphie. See how Ralphie tries to convince his parents, his teacher, and a grumpy department store Santa that a Red Ryder B.B. gun really is the perfect gift for a kid of the 1940s. Prior to the show enjoy a delicious lunch at Spasso Italian Grill.

Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM and will return approx. 6 PM
Cost \$89 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Sept. 29

December 3 (SATURDAY!) – American Music Theatre – Christmas Show Winter Wonderland - Something new for Operation Sunshine – a trip on Saturday.

Due to the popularity of this show, even as early as March when we tried to book a performance, the best seats were available to us on Saturday. Experience the beautiful vocals, dynamic dancing, and impressive instrumentals of the critically acclaimed AMT singers, dancers, and orchestra as they perform the very best of your spiritual and secular holiday favorites. *The 2016 Christmas Show: Winter Wonderland* will be a great value, feel-good holiday event filled with yuletide whimsy and winter wonder that celebrates both the magic and the meaning of Christmas. Witness a beautiful Christmas town, an enchanting trip to the North Pole, powerhouse vocals, dazzling scenery, and lots more. A delicious family style lunch awaits us at the Fulton Steamboat Inn before the show.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 11:00 AM and will return approximately 7:00PM Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Nov. 3

*****Join us September 10-20, 2017 *****
ON THE TRAIL of MARTIN LUTHER

Travel with Operation Sunshine and Collette faith on a trip to Germany to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with highlights on the trip of visits to Mainz, Worms, Gutenberg Museum, Erfurt, Wartburg Castle, Lutherhaus, Eisleben, Dresden, Leipzig, St. Thomas Church, Wittenberg, St. Mary's Church and Berlin. For a flyer and pricing information, please contact the Operation Sunshine office.