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March 2017 LMD NL news will be due February 14, 2017. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Re-awakening to a Loving God – Guided Prayer and Scripture a 5-week Session beginning **Jan. 16th**. For further information and to register, contact Rev Virginia Heimer, Chaplain for Luther Crest at [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

Presentation 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., Jan. 24th**, Sundar Brown on Theoterrorism: Further Discussion about Religion and Violence, **Feb. 21st**, Rev. Dr. Manfred Bahmann on Jesus as a Regular Guy. For more information, please contact Rev. Virginia Heimer, Chaplain for Luther Crest at [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

Muhlenberg College's Lutheran Roots: Beyond the Red Doors with visiting scholar Dr. Darrell Jodock, **Fri, Feb. 3rd, 9:00 a.m.**, Seegers Union GQ Annex (inside main entrance to the left), Muhlenberg College. Join us for a conversation with Dr. Jodock about the Lutheran values that continue to be important to Muhlenberg College and Lutheran higher education. How can churches and Muhlenberg partner together as we move into the future? Continental breakfast will be served. **To sign-up or for more info:** Chaplain Callista Isabelle cisabelle@muhlenberg.edu or [484 664-3120](tel:484-664-3120).

10th Anniversary Gospel Weekend Worship at Muhlenberg College: Feb 17th-18th! Make a joyful noise and join the open rehearsals of the Gospel Weekend choir led by Edward "Chief" Menifee from Atlanta. **Rehearsals:** Fri, Feb. 17th, 4:00-6:00 p.m. and 7:30-9:30 p.m., Sat, Feb. 18th, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., all in Egner Chapel at Muhlenberg. **FREE Gospel Concert, Sat. Feb. 18th, 3:30 p.m.**, Egner Chapel. All are welcome! More info: Chaplain Callista Isabelle [484 664-3120](tel:484-664-3120) or cisabelle@muhlenberg.edu.

Journeys Through Grief: Two LCS six-week grief support are available this spring in the Lehigh Valley. There is no cost to attend but registration is required. **Luther Crest**, Mon. mornings from 10:30 a.m. to noon from Mar. 6th to Apr 10th; **Emmaus Moravian Church** Mon. evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Mar. 6th to Apr 10th. Contact Sylvia Havlish to register at [610-657-7075](tel:610-657-7075) and visit our website for more information at www.lutherancongregational-services.org.

Employment, Internship, and Volunteer Opportunities at Luther Crest. If you or someone you know would like to explore employment, internship, or volunteer opportunities in nursing, dining services, activities, pastoral care, or other services among senior adults, please contact Luther Crest at [610-398-8011](tel:610-398-8011). For more information, please contact Rev. Virginia Heimer, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest [610-391-8210](tel:610-391-8210).

The 2017 schedule for Lutheran Congregational Services' Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training is now available. Trainings will be held **Mar. 11th** (Good Shepherd, Reading), **May 13th** (St. Michael's, Sellersville), **Sept. 16th** (Christ Lutheran, Hellertown) and **Oct 7th** (St. John's, Stroudsburg). **Details and registration information at 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).

Rehab Services and 55+ Senior Living Opportunities at Luther Crest. If you or someone you know is in need of rehabilitation services (e.g., physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy) or would like to explore senior living opportunities for people age 55 or older (e.g., independent living, personal care, memory support, or skilled nursing), please contact Matt [610-391-8227](tel:610-391-8227), Mary Louise [610-391-8258](tel:610-391-8258), or Cathy [610-391-8256](tel:610-391-8256) at Luther Crest.

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.

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 - Wed from 8:30-9am 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 Mon - 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 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](tel:610-435-9065), or email jennstpauls1st@ptd.net. Your time and your presence can make such a difference!



The Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding of Muhlenberg College (JCU) is a program office that serves the campus, the community, and Christian and Jewish congregations and clergy. Several of its programs and resources are available to the Lehigh Mission District on a regular basis. Check out the full website at <http://www.ijcu.org>.

First Friday: a monthly one-hour brown-bag symposium featuring different speakers and focusing on a variety of topics ranging from religion and interreligious relations through civic issues and the arts to history, culture, and the Lehigh Valley.

Clergy Colloquy: a monthly brown-bag interfaith discussion group, often focused on a particular book – classical or contemporary – in the realm of religious and interreligious issues. It's easy continuing education, helping clergy (and lay people with training in the critical reading of texts and history) make the commitment to continue reading and to engage those of other faith communities in safe, meaningful exploration of values and theology.

Pre-Lent Workshop: an annual half-day workshop during Epiphany that provides resources for navigating the texts and themes of Lent and Holy Week without misrepresenting Jews and Judaism along the way. Each year brings another expert presenter on a particular theme, often directly relevant to the year's lectionary cycle.

Minicourse: an annual 4- to 6-session study of a topic in Jewish-Christian relations, aimed at clergy and lay people. Weekly on weekday evenings in the winter or spring.

Images of Israel: This 6-unit introduction to modern Israel in its complicated reality is supported by 14 teaching videos, a participant book with study texts, and a leader's guide that equips any pastor or lay leader to take a congregational group into fresh, enlightening avenues of exploration, discovery, and understanding.

Meals of Freedom for Life: A participatory introduction for Christians to understand the Jewish Passover Seder. Designed for use on Maundy Thursday as a family meal in advance of the congregation's worship, it can easily be used in other settings, too. The leader guide provides all the details for how to learn about the Seder and its relationship to Holy Communion in a fun, tasty, intergenerational event!

Christianity in Relation to Judaism: A 9-hour unit for youth as catechetical instruction or a learning retreat. With leader guide and PDF files to give young people hands-on engagement with the ways in which Christianity is related to contemporary Judaism through Jesus, liturgy, scripture, and calendar.

The Institute's director, the Rev. Peter A. Pettit, PhD, is a Muhlenberg College faculty member in Religion Studies and is available for teaching in congregational settings. For more information about the JCU, send e-mail to ijcu@muhlenberg.edu or call us at 484-664-3470.

Rev. Peter A. Pettit, PhD
Muhlenberg College



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.

March 14 (Tues.) – Hunterdon Hills – BORN YESTERDAY - A "business man" named Harry, comes to Washington DC to make crooked deals with government officials. He brings his charming, but uneducated ex-chorus girl girlfriend, Billie, along for the trip. Harry is worried that her lack of social graces and seemingly feeble brain won't impress the bigwigs he's trying to swindle. But Billie proves to be a quick study—learning about history, politics...and what Harry is really all about. This famous comedy enjoyed one of the longest runs in Broadway history and gave Judy Holliday the role that made her a star!

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

Cost \$86 Payment Deadline: Tues., Feb. 28

April 6 (Thurs) – Bristol Riverside Theatre - JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR - Andrew Lloyd Webber's Jesus Christ Superstar, which changed the face of musical theater when it debuted on Broadway in 1971, is a remarkable retelling of the last seven days in the life of Jesus of Nazareth as seen through the eyes of his betrayer, Judas Iscariot. This powerful musical, filled with emotional intensity and explosive theatricality, features chart-topping songs such as "Everything's Alright," "I Don't Know How to Love Him," "Gethsemane," and the high-octane title song. See the groundbreaking rock opera that reinvented musical theater for the modern age! Lunch at the King George II Inn with your choice of Roast Turkey Junior Club, French Dip on a Long Roll, and Quiche of the Day served with Soup du Jour and Vanilla Ice Cream and Cookie. Please indicate choice at time of reservation.

Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approx. 6 PM

Cost \$94 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Mar.9

MULTI-DAY TRIPS

June 5 (Mon.) to June 8 (Thurs) – ARK ENCOUNTER AND CREATION MUSEUM, Williamstown, KY with an overnight in Wheeling, WV (4 Days-3 Nights) Join Operation Sunshine on a tour of Biblical proportions! Travel with us to tour a full-sized replica of Noah's Ark, built to specifications from the Bible and then a day at the 70,000 square-foot Creation museum that brings the pages of the Bible to life. Travel for a night in Wheeling, WV before arriving at our home base in Cincinnati for nights 2 and 3. Dinners include a German dinner with entertainment at the first authentic Hofbrauhaus in America and a scenic riverboat dinner cruise.

*****Join us September 20-30, 2017 for*** 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 flyers and pricing information on these trips, please contact the Operation Sunshine office.