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January 2018 LMD NL news will be due December 14, 2017.
E-Mail any information to lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

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).

St. John's Lutheran Church - 501 Chestnut St., Emmaus will hold an Advent Evening Prayer service and Soup Supper **Sun., Dec. 10, 2017.** Please join us at **5:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall** for soup, bread, and dessert followed by the Holden Evening Prayer Service at **6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.** The service will be led by Interim Pastor David Newhart. For more information, please contact the church office at [610-965-9885](tel:610-965-9885). The building is handicapped accessible.

Blue Christmas Service: Sunday, December 17th, 2:30 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut St., Emmaus. This service is an opportunity for those who are living with loss to gather with others and acknowledge the "blue" feelings they have at Christmas time, the reasons for them, and offer them to our great sign of hope, the Christ child. Sylvia Havlish will help to facilitate the service. Light refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall following the service. **The church building is handicapped accessible.** For further information, please contact the church office at [610-965-9885](tel:610-965-9885).

Sondergottesdienst zu Weihnachten Alle Willkommen– Join us **January 7, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.,** for a Special German Christmas Service- at **St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut St., Emmaus.** The liturgy and hymns will be in German with the sermon in English. Fellowship with German cookies and coffee will follow in the Parish Hall. **The church building is handicap accessible.** For further information, please contact the church office at [610-965-9885](tel:610-965-9885).

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!

Items Needed for Crossroads

<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>
Juice Box	Socks
Granola Bars	Gloves
Sandwich Crackers	Sandwich Crackers
Candy Bars	Candy Bars
Slim Jims	Slim Jims
Hand Wipes	Hand Wipes

For
Unto
us a
CHILD
is born
Unto us a Son
is given, and the
Government shall be
Upon His shoulders,
and His Name shall be called,
Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace!
 Isaiah 9:6

A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

We are once again into what we affectionately know as the Holiday Season! It includes our observance of Thanksgiving Day, our celebration of Christmas and the beginning of another New Year. For most of us this Season includes some special and unique traditions. Thanksgiving often includes the gathering of family, some of whom we haven't seen for as much as a year, and the sharing of a very special meal. Christmas includes the sharing of gifts among family and friends. Most importantly it is celebrated with God's greatest gift, the Birth of the Christ Child! And, for many of us, our observance of the New Year includes watching the ball drop, in the warmth of our homes, in Times Square. We make new resolutions which we may or may not keep or accomplish in the New Year. Indeed, some of us abide by their own observances and own special traditions.

I had an unusual experience as I was beginning to contemplate this year's Holiday Season. As a Retired Navy Chaplain, I am often invited to participate in ceremonies involved in the observance of Veterans Day (November 11). This year was no exception, and as I was preparing for this year's responsibilities, I came across a piece which a colleague had shared with me a few years ago which was obviously an appropriate sharing in this context but, as I contemplated it, it occurred to me that it could also relate to the broader Holiday Season.

He reminded me of a man who constructed a *Remembrance Rock* for himself in a secluded spot in his back yard. The *Remembrance Rock* was composed of bits and pieces of earth and rock which he had accumulated, and which had a very special meaning for him.

There was a bit of earth from Valley Forge which reminded him of the costly and bitter winter that George Washington and the troops spent there during the American Revolution. There are a couple of small rocks from the battlefield at Gettysburg which brought to mind the bloody conflict which served as the turning point of the Civil War. There is bit of earth from near the Lincoln Memorial and from the Argonne Forest. There is a bit of sand from Normandy Beach; rocks from Iwo Jima, Korea and Saigon; and a brick from Baghdad.

All these materials were carefully deposited and layered into a little mound. Obviously, this became a place of special retreat for this man. He would spend time there reflecting upon what had been, what might have been, and what could have been. He told my friend that his trips to his *Remembrance Rock* helped him to see life in a different perspective. Among other things, as he stood staring at that symbol, he was reminded of how brief life is and how important it is to give for the sake of others.

I would suggest that the Holiday Season itself has a similar meaning for us. As we move from one year to another, we are reminded of observances and celebrations in the past which we have shared with loved ones. Hopefully these remembrances prompt us to contemplate our commitment to share the love of the season with one another. Blessings for the Holidays!

Pastor Richard Stough
LMD Secretary

OPERATION SUNSHINE

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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.

****New 2018 Trips****

March 13 (Tues.) – Hunterdon Hills – STEEL MAGNOLIAS -

An immediate critical and popular hit in its premier production in New York, **Steel Magnolias** revolves around the lives of a group of gossipy southern ladies in a small-town beauty parlor. The play is alternately hilarious and touching, revealing the strength and purposefulness that underlies the banter of its characters.

Lunch included at Hunterdon Hills.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return

approximately 4:30 PM

Cost \$89.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Mar. 1

April 26 (Thurs) – Papermill Playhouse – THE STING –

A new musical based on the academy award-winning film. Chicago 1936. Get ready to enter a smoke-filled world of cons and capers, where nothing is what it seems, and no one is who they appear to be. Lunch at Charlie Brown's Fresh Grill.

Lunch Choices: Chicken Marsala, Prime Rib and Lemon Dill Salmon. **Dessert Choices:** Cheesecake, Key Lime Pie or Ice Cream. Charlie Brown's Famous Salad Bar included.

Please indicate your choices at time of reservation.

Bus Leaves St. Timothy's at 9:30 AM and will return

approximately 6:30 PM

Cost \$99.00 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Mar. 22

Tuesday, May 15 to Thursday, May 17 – RIDE THE RAILS OF WEST VIRGINIA –

This exciting trip includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners and not one, but two train trips, the Cheat Mountain Salamander with lunch on board the train and the Durbin Rocket. On day three we will visit the Seneca Caverns before heading home. **Contact the Operation Sunshine office for a flyer with the full itinerary and pricing.** Travel Protection is available and suggested.