



The Rev. Jerel W. Gade, Dean	610-966-3030	Mr. Joshua Fink, Mission District Chair	484-358-5720
The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop	610-266-5101	Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor	610-437-9927

March 2019 LMD NL news is due February 14, 2019. E-Mail information to lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

***NEW - The Gospel of Thomas Series** - The first and third Wed. of the month **1:30 to 3:00 pm beginning Feb. 6, 2019.** Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St, Allentown, PA. Discovered in a cave in Egypt in 1945, the Gospel of Thomas is a collection of 114 sayings of Jesus. Rather than being narratives, they are more like koans or riddles. They appeal more to the heart and imagination than to reason. You are invited to attend ongoing gatherings to explore this gospel using the prayer form of *lectio divina* (Latin for Divine Reading). Direct questions and registration to Mary Howe: mhowe@rcn.com

***NEW - Pork and sauerkraut dinner**, complete with salad, drinks, and dessert will be held on **Feb. 2 at St. Peter's Lutheran Church**, 1933 Hanover Ave, from **4 to 6:30 pm**. The cost is **\$10 per person for tickets purchased in advance and \$11 per person at the door**. Children 5 years and under are free; 6-10 years \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. To purchase tickets, please call the church office at [610-432-8762](tel:610-432-8762).

***NEW - Wisdom Way of Knowing - 1/25, 2/22, 3/29, 4/26 from 3 to 5:30 pm.** Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W. Hamilton St, Allentown, PA. This monthly gathering will introduce the rhythm and tools of a 'Wisdom way of knowing', an 'integral way of knowing' which engages and harmonizes our three intelligence centers: heart, mind and movement. This will be an experiential gathering with a balance of centering, teaching, Lectio Divina and gentle body prayer. Together we will explore ways to weave the different components of Wisdom into our daily life and spiritual practice. RSVP to marcellak2@aol.com

Set of Bells Wanted - St. Mark, Allentown, is starting a bell choir and is looking to purchase a set of bells from a congregation that may no longer need them. If you can help, please contact John Harkins at dubbadad@aol.com.

The LMD Council is looking to add a few additional members to its ranks (Lay or Ordained) and needs a new treasurer. This group normally meets about 5 times a year on Sunday evenings at Western Salisbury Church. If you can help, please contact Dean Gade by phone [610-966-3030](tel:610-966-3030) or email stpeters@ptd.net.

Come Away To A Quiet Place – Centering Prayer is a particular form of quiet, receptive prayer as taught by Father Thomas Keating and Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault. A portion of each one-hour gathering will include some discussion about centering prayer. **First Fri., of each month 10:30 to 11:30 am.** Led by Rev. Maritza Dolich and Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, **1245 W. Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18102.** Parking in Lot across Hamilton St. from Church. Enter on 13th Street, look for the sign "Schantz House/Ruhe Annex". **Please let us know if you will be joining us.** Inquiries to Rev. Dr. Tom Lichner tllichner@rcn.com / [610-533-9362](tel:610-533-9362).

Updated - 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. Days and hours: **Monday and Thursday 9:30 to 11:30 am - this part of the program is in JEOPARDY due to insufficient volunteers. Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. We always need help.** Contact Leslie Talago or Pastor Lamb at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or stluke@enter.net

Please Save These Dates!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: **Sun., Oct. 13, 2019, 1:30 pm**, with registration beginning at **1:00 pm** at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-off: **Sun., Aug. 25, 2019, 1:30-2:30 pm** - receive materials, ideas, and inspiration for yourself and your congregation at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown. Thank you for your support of our neighbors in need locally and around the globe! For more information, go to www.crophungerwalk.org

LOVE CHANGES THINGS

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this (you) will know that you are my disciples...John 13:34-35.

As we began the new year, I had the privilege of encountering several experiences that bore testimony to the fact that people are responding actively to this commandment and their lives are being positively affected. It is my hope that this sharing will serve as an inspiration as we commence another year of mission and ministry.

My first experience involved providing support to a fellow Lutheran who is in need of daily assistance as a result of surgery which was performed early in December. I was privileged to become part of a team which has been providing this service. I was particularly moved by a comment from one of the members of the team who indicated that one of his commitments when he recently retired was to see that he extended himself "in love" at least once a day in his retired life. I had never encountered such a commitment previously, but it certainly resulted in some serious reflections. It is obvious that this individual does not call attention to this special commitment, but clearly he is experiencing special meaning in his life as a result.

Then there was the privilege of reading the article regarding Momoh Freeman in the January issue of *Living Lutheran*. If you haven't read this brief article, I encourage you to do so. Momoh was born and raised in Liberia during its civil war. Obviously, life was very difficult under those circumstances, but, despite this, he found himself very attracted to the piano and set about learning to play it. He walked miles to a neighboring village to practice the closest piano. And as he became skilled, he began playing in places where he would receive contributions for his offering. This helped provide food for him and his family in the refugee camp. Now in America he is the organist, pianist and choir director at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Almelund, Minnesota. And the love he extends through his contributions is obviously being rewarded with special meanings in his own life.

I have also learned recently of an adult Sunday School class that is reaching out to provide special support to the Sixth Street Shelter in Allentown. They have literally adopted one of the apartments in this complex and have agreed to meet the needs of keeping it functioning. Recently this has even led to a request for support to help in repairing some of the equipment in this facility. The spirit of their ask reveals that they are sensing a spirit of love in

response to their contribution. I encourage you to think on these things as we begin a new year.

God Bless!
Pastor Stough

OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave.

Allentown, PA 18109

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

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.

SATURDAY SHOW!!!!

May 11 (Sat.) – Dutch Apple Theatre - CAMELOT - The legendary love triangle of King Arthur, Guenevere and Sir Lancelot comes alive in this Lerner and Loewe musical. An idealistic young King Arthur hopes to create a kingdom with the Knights of the Round Table who fight for justice and right. His ideals, however, are tested when his lovely queen, Guenevere, falls in love with his favorite knight. Hits include "If Ever I Would Leave You", "I Loved You Once in Silence" and of course "Camelot". Dutch Apple's Famous Buffet lunch is included.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM and will return approximately 5:30 PM

Cost \$92 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Apr. 11

June 26 (Wed.) – Fulton Theatre – MAMMA MIA! - A picturesque setting for a dream wedding, with only one problem: the bride doesn't know who her father is! On a secret quest to find her dad, so he can walk her down the aisle and complete the picture-perfect wedding, Sophie must invite the three prospects to the wedding. Sophie's mother relives her glory days with her former suitors and her former girl group "Donna and the Dynamos." Set to the free-spirited music of ABBA, with explosive dance, Mamma Mia! will be a summer escape of hilarious fun! Lunch is at famous Shady Maple Smorgasbord.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:15 AM and will return approximately 6:30 PM

Cost \$105 Payment Deadline: Thur., May 16