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[March 2020 LMD NL news will be due February 13, 2020.](#) E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Healing for Our Troubled Times – The Gifts and Challenges of Empathy. **2020 dates: Jan. 15th, Feb. 5th and Mar. 4th**, 10:30-12:30 at The Center for Spiritual Awakening. **See attached flyer.**

Explore SoulCollage® - The Center for Spiritual Awakening – **A Day of SoulCollage® Jan. 23, 2020**, 10:00am–3:00pm/ \$45.00, supplies available. Bring lunch. **Mornings with SoulCollage® starting Feb 25, 2020**, 9:30am-12:00pm/ \$20.00 a session or \$50.00 for the series. **See attached flyer.**

It's B-I-N-G-O time!! – Join us on **Sun., Jan. 26, 2020**, at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 201 E. Juniata Street, Allentown, in Luther Hall. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and Bingo starts at 1:30 p.m. We'll have Designer Purses, Gift Cards, and much more! You'll have additional opportunities to win with Tricky Tray, 50/50, and door prizes. Food will be available for purchase. Spread the word and purchase tickets! Tickets will be **\$20 in advance and \$25 at the door**. Buy your tickets early, we sold out before the event last year. You can purchase tickets by calling the church office Monday – Thursday 9-12:00, [610-797-6440](tel:610-797-6440).

Wisdom Way of Knowing – Allentown Spring 2020 – **Fridays 1/31, 3/13, and Wednesday 4/8**, 3-5:00 p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton Street, Allentown. RSVP: marcellak2@aol.com. **See attached flyer.**

Madonna to Pieta – **Feb. 15, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton Street, Allentown. **Snow date will be Feb. 22, 2020.** **See attached flyer.**

The Gospel of Thomas Series - 2020 – The first and third Wednesdays of the month beginning **Feb. 19 through May 6, 2020**, 1:30 p.m. Contact Mary Howe at mhowe@rcn.com for questions. **See attached flyer.**

Centering Prayer - First Friday of the month – 10:30 a.m., 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". Beginning in January, Ferd Piccuiro will be leading the monthly Centering Prayer gathering along with Rev. Maritza Dolich. Ferd has been practicing Centering Prayer for about 19 years, comes from a Roman Catholic background and now attends Christ Lutheran Church in Hellertown, PA. He leads the monthly Mediation Group there and is an accomplished guitarist and singer/song writer. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced prayer, all are welcome. For questions contact Mary Howe at mhowe@rcn.com.

CITIZENSHIP TEST

Naturalization Test Study Class – St. Luke's will resume its Naturalization Test Study class on **Jan. 15, 2020** from 7-8 p.m. The classes are free and bilingual. Please contact Leslie Talago at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) for more information.



*****PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FLYERS FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LISTED EVENTS*****

- 1- Healing for Our Troubled Times – Starting Jan. 15, 2020
- 2- Explore SoulCollage® - Starting Jan. 23, 2020
- 3- Wisdom Way of Knowing – Starting Jan. 31, 2020
- 4- Madonna to Pieta – Feb. 15, 2020
- 5- The Gospel of Thomas 2020 Series – Starting Feb. 19, 2020

February 26, 2020

Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

E C C L E S I A S T E S 3 : 2 0

DISCERNMENT

When we try to define the word discernment, what comes to mind is making a decision. Simple. Right? Well, in our Christian faith discernment becomes moments of reflection and moments of prayer until we come to a moment of understanding and make a decision.

Discernment is really, "Faith Seeking Understanding" to use Christian theologian Daniel L. Migliore's book title. In this moment of faith seeking understanding we look to God as a community of faith before making our decision.

In the October LMD Newsletter, I mentioned how Rostered Leaders (local Lutheran pastors) will be meeting with Bishop Samuel Zeiser "as we seek discernment in preparation for the Synod Assembly in June and the election of a new bishop."

Lutheran congregations throughout the region are invited to participate in the discernment process towards the election of our next synod bishop.

To support the election of the next Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Bishop of the ELCA, a team will be soliciting input from any interested member of a Synod congregation. The input will be concerning (1) priorities for the next Bishop to address current and future issues, and (2) what spiritual gifts and skills we are looking for in that next candidate for the role.

Three regional meetings are set in February to gather input, each from 9-12 on a Saturday morning. Each meeting will include light refreshments. (There will be a single makeup session on February 29 if inclement weather occurs.)

Saturday, February 1 – NEPA Synod South

Bern Lutheran Church, Leesport

820 W. Leesport Rd., Leesport (north of Reading on Route 183)

Saturday, February 8 – NEPA Synod North

Christ Lutheran Church, Conyngham

467 Main St., Conyngham

Saturday, February 15 – NEPA Synod Central

Union Lutheran church

5500 Route 873, Schnecksville

For the Lehigh Mission District, the Saturday, February 15th location at Union Lutheran Church, Schnecksville is the closest to attend.

After input is collected and collated, a second set of meetings will be set in May 2020 to provide a summary of what was heard and what will be taken to the Synod Assembly and provided to the candidates for the Bishop's position.

Through these information gathering sessions, let us together reflect, pray, and seek understanding as we discern the election of the next bishop.

Info Gathering Team Members - George Freestone, Chairperson, Todd Gimbi, Pastor Nelson Quiñones, Sister Janet Stump, Jaime Taylor, Ed Cool.

In the everlasting light of Christ,

Pastor Nelson Quiñones, Lehigh Mission District Dean

OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave.

Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 610-435-9155

Open: Mon. 11-3 and Wed. 11-3

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.

February 27 (Thurs.) – Paper Mill Playhouse – UNMASKED –

MUSIC OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBER - One of the most successful musical theater composers of all time takes audiences on a behind-the-scenes journey in Unmasked: The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber. Written with Richard Curtis and directed by Laurence Connor, Unmasked is a not-always-reverential look at Andrew's life and musical career. You'll hear his best-loved work, including classics from Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita, Cats, Phantom of the Opera, and Sunset Boulevard, in sometimes new and unexpected ways. This new production will also feature new material and rediscovered gems, along with the history of their creation intertwined with Andrew's extraordinary personal story. Lunch at Charlie Browns, Chatham, NJ which starts with their great salad bar and one entrée and one dessert choice below.

Please notify the office of your choices at time of reservation.

Entree Choices – Chicken Piccata, with Seasoned Rice **OR** Bistro Steak with Garlic Mashed **OR** Salmon with Seasoned Rice **Dessert Choices** – Key Lime Pie **OR** New York Cheesecake **OR** Vanilla, Chocolate or Mint Chocolate Chip Ice Cream

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 9:15 AM

Cost \$112 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Jan. 16

May 4 (Mon.) – The Revere Tavern – THIRD SPACE THEATRE

PRESENTS "LAST WRITES" – What happens when a group of Famous Mystery Writers start living out an actual mystery? Strange occurrences leave the writers wondering if they should watch their backs! Be a part of this interactive Comedy Mystery Dinner Theatre show by chatting with the writers and questioning the suspects during the interrogation. Or simply sit back, relax, and enjoy the show at the Historic Revere Tavern in Paradise, PA. While there, we will enjoy a buffet luncheon and put on our detective hats as we try to follow the clues to solve the crime. After the crime is solved, we will head to the Kettle Kitchen for an hour of browsing the fine crafts and sampling some of the delicious jams, jellies and condiments.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM

Cost \$83 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Apr. 8

Happy Valentines Day