

The Rev. Nelson Quinones, Dean 610-653-5858  
The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop 610-266-5101

Elizabeth Leibenguth, Mission District Chair 484-550-0057  
Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor 610-437-9927

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

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

**Explore SoulCollage®** - The Center for Spiritual Awakening – Mornings with SoulCollage® starting **Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30am-12:00pm/ \$20.00 a session or \$50.00 for the series. **See attached flyer.**

**Wisdom Way of Knowing** – Allentown Spring 2020 – **Fri. 3/13, and Wed. 4/8**, 3-5:00 p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton Street, Allentown. RSVP: [marcellak2@aol.com](mailto:marcellak2@aol.com). **See attached flyer.**

**Madonna to Pieta** – **Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>**, 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<sup>th</sup> through May 6<sup>th</sup>**, 1:30 p.m. Contact Mary Howe at [mhowe@rcn.com](mailto:mhowe@rcn.com) for questions. **See attached flyer.**

**Interfaith Amigos** – **Tues., March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 – 3:00p.m.** – Center for Spiritual Awakening, Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. **RSVP:** Mary Howe (facilitator) [610-821-4007](tel:610-821-4007) or [mhowe@rcn.com](mailto:mhowe@rcn.com). **See attached flyer.**

**Community Free Dinner** - We will be holding another free dinner at **St. John's Lutheran Church** (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville) on **Fri., Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 PM**. The meal will include corned beef and cabbage, desserts and more. Everyone is welcome...invite your neighbors, friends and families. No reservations required. **Contact the office at [610-395-5535](tel:610-395-5535)** with any questions. We hope to see you there!

**Following the Thread** – Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00p.m. – Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. **Cost \$20 payable that day by cash or check.** **RSVP:** Angela at [aumurphy@ptd.net](mailto:aumurphy@ptd.net). **See attached Flyer.**

**COME get a TASTE...and SEE what SPIRITUAL DIRECTION is all about!** – Thurs., Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 3:00p.m. Center for Spiritual Awakening at Christ Lutheran Church, 1245 W Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102. **Please RSVP:** to sign up for a complimentary Spiritual Direction session – Mary Howe, [mhowe@rcn.com](mailto:mhowe@rcn.com) or [610-821-4007](tel:610-821-4007). **See attached flyer.**

**Roast Beef Dinner** – Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2451 Saucon Valley Road, Center Valley, PA. Sat., April 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 – 6:30p.m. Cost – Adults - \$12.00, 12 & under - \$9.00, 3 & under – Free. Proceeds to benefit Meals on Wheels of the Greater Lehigh Valley. Call [610-865-4144](tel:610-865-4144) for more information. **See flyer attached.**

**Emmaus Chorale looking for Singers** – Would you love to have an additional outlet for singing? Would you love being part of a choir of wonderful voices performing both sacred and secular music? Here's how! **Rehearsals:** Tues. nights, 7:00 – 9:00p.m. Faith Presbyterian Church, 3002 N Second St, Emmaus, PA 18049. Questions? Contact artistic director **Janet Davis:** [jdavischoirnut@gmail.com](mailto:jdavischoirnut@gmail.com). Website: [www.emmauschorale.org](http://www.emmauschorale.org). **See attached letter from director.**

**Thank you** for helping our 2019 Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk raise **\$31,570.98** to help our neighbors in need locally and around the globe! **Save These Dates!** Greater Allentown **CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 11, 2020**, 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m. at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. **CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun., Aug. 30, 2020**, 1:30-2:30 p.m. (to receive materials, ideas, and inspiration for yourself and your congregation) at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104. For more information about Church World Service/CROP, go to [www.crophungerwalk.org](http://www.crophungerwalk.org)

**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 Piccirro 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](mailto:mhowe@rcn.com).



**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.



**FAITH  
PAST...PRESENT...FUTURE**

Faith has played a very significant role in the evolution of humankind as it has dealt with the major issues and concerns in its history. It has been an important ingredient in the struggles of the ancient past and it continues to play a very special role in the wrestlings of our contemporary world.

Past history has included unique wrestlings. From our perspective none was more significant than God's revelation of the spirit's special presence as a result of the birth of that baby in Bethlehem during what has become the first century of our calendar. This revelation established a history of the past...has had a major impact upon our present...and will, we believe, continue to have a very significant influence on our future. The presence of the spirit of our faith has played a major role in the evolution of history and has had a very special impact on the development of the leaders who have walked us through the evolutions which have been part of our world.

The church which we know today is a result of the faith and inspired leadership of so many men and women across the years. Obviously, for instance, we are well aware of the fact that we would not be where we are today had it not been for the leadership of those disciples of that baby during that first century. And everyone of them ended up being sacrificed to this effort! But they were followed by many others who led this mission until it finally fell into the hands of Martin Luther and his colleagues in and beyond the 16th century. We are, obviously, very grateful to all those who have served and we are committed to building on their leadership from the past...in the present...and on into the future.

It is comforting to be able to reflect on the past and upon the leadership which has seen us through the unique challenges with which we have been confronted. Obviously many of us are aware that we are dealing with some significant changes in our leadership during the Year of Our Lord 2020. At the top to this list for us is the fact that Bishop Zeiser will be retiring. We have all benefitted from his dedicated and very special leadership throughout his tenure. And there are at least two very dedicated pastors from within our Mission District who are also in the process of retiring after long years of service and leadership – Pastor Jerel Gade and Pastor John Minnich. (Uniquely, we have also learned that there are also at least two pastors who are retiring from significant pastorates in the West Berks Mission District – Pastor Jane Kropa and Pastor Cheryl Meinschein.)

The Bishop and these pastors have all dedicated themselves to building on a respected past, being responsible to the present, and projecting creatively into the future. It is hoped, and even anticipated, that those who are currently providing leadership for our families of faith, both as ordained and as lay leadership, will continue dedicating themselves to the mantra of faith to which so many have been committed for so long.

**God Bless!**

Pastor Richard Stough

**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](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com)

Web site: [www.LMDopsunshine.com](http://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.***

**4 SEATS REMAINING!!**

**April 8 (Wed.) – Bristol Riverside Theatre – CABARET** - This Tony Award-winning musical features one of Broadway's most memorable scores, including "Money", "Willkommen", "Maybe This Time" and "Cabaret". Lunch will be served at the King George II Inn next door to the theatre. Choose an entrée from the following. ***Please notify the office of your choices at time of reservation.***

**CHOICES:** Home-Style Meatloaf OR Grilled Chicken Breast w/ Chasseur Sauce and Balsamic Glaze OR Salmon Dijonnaise All entrees will be served with a House Salad and a dessert

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM**

**Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs. Mar. 5**

**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**

**SAVE THE DATES: RESERVATIONS OPEN APRIL 1**

**June 25(Thur) – Fulton Theatre – JERSEY BOYS**

**July 23 (Thur) – Sight and Sound – QUEEN ESTHER**

**Aug 19 (Wed.) – Doolan's-RED HOT MAMA'S OF SONG**

**Sept 17 (Thur) – Westchester Broadway Th. – 9 TO 5**

**Details to follow in future newsletters.**