

The Rev. Nelson Quinones, Dean
The Rev. Kurt E. Garbe, Assoc. of the Bishop

610-653-5858
610-266-5101

Elizabeth Leibenguth, Mission District Chair
Mrs. Linda Smith, Newsletter Editor

484-550-0057
610-437-9927

January 2021 LMD NL news will be due December 14, 2020. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

Muhlenberg College is proud to present our very popular Advent Candlelight Carols Service, adapted from the Festival of Lessons and Carols of King's College, Cambridge University in England. This year, on **December 12th and 13th**, the Muhlenberg and surrounding communities will gather **virtually** for three Candlelight services to mark the season of Advent. The service features singing of traditional Advent carols, readings of scripture by members of the College community and musical offerings specially prepared by the College's Choirs, Department of Music and Department of Theatre & Dance. For questions contact Tanya Schock at [484-664-3121](tel:484-664-3121) or tanyaschock@muhlenberg.edu.

A virtual RSVP is required in order to receive event details. Please visit the following website to register: <https://www.muhlenberg.edu/student-life/religiouslife/candlelightcarolsinformation/>

St John's Lutheran Church in Emmaus has 32 gently used black and white choir gowns that are available free to a good home. If anyone is interested, please contact the church office at [610-965-9885](tel:610-965-9885) or email to officemanager@stjohnsemmaus.org.

Clothes Closet - In NEED of Volunteers – St. Luke's, 417 N 7th Street, Allentown, PA 18103. They have gradually lost all their volunteers since they have had to close for Covid. Volunteers needed to come in **1 or 2 mornings a week for two hours** to help sort and organize the backlog of clothing for its upcoming reopening this fall. And also, **volunteers to staff it on Thursday mornings** when they open to the public. There is a great need for at least one bi-lingual volunteer. For more information please contact Leslie Talago at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943).

COME AWAY TO A QUIET PLACE... A Brief Pause for Prayerful Renewal in Centering Prayer. 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. So, whether you never heard of centering prayer, are a beginner, or an experienced pray-er, All Are Welcome. **First Friday of each month** led by Ferd Piccuiro and hosted by Pastor Maritza Dolich via Zoom, **10:30 - 11:30 AM** (Sessions held via **Zoom** temporarily until we can all meet together again in person at the Center for Spiritual Awakening). **Please contact Ferd to be placed on the email list with the Zoom information.** ferdpiccuiro@ptd.net / Cell: [908-310-4228](tel:908-310-4228), Home: [610-737-7871](tel:610-737-7871)

SUSPENDED - St. Luke's ELL and Naturalization Test Study groups have been **SUSPENDED** due to cautions regarding large gatherings during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Please contact Leslie Talago at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) for more information.



*May our Precious Lord bring
peace, love, joy, happiness, and
good health to
His children in 2021*

A Note from the Dean

Through this Advent Season, God's Spirit leads us to the Emmanuel. In this journey already begun we thank God as we bid farewell to one bishop and welcome a new bishop elect.

I bring greetings to all of you from our new Bishop Elect Christopher deForest, Bishop Samuel Zeiser, and the Lehigh Mission District Council of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

The 2020 Online Synod Assembly was held over two weekends: October 16 and 18 plus October 23rd and 24th. The highlight of the assembly was the election of a new bishop.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic that led to the cancellation of gathering face to face, the Synod staff made it possible to have a successful and engaging Synod Assembly. Thank you for your hard work in these challenging times.

After the Fifth Ballot was casted by pastors and lay delegates, the report came back with the election of The Rev. Christopher deForest as our new Bishop Elect. He will be the fifth bishop to serve our synod. Welcome!

Bishop Elect deForest serves as pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Kutztown, Pennsylvania.

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American, will install Pastor deForest as Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

Pastor deForest's installation service will be live-streamed starting at 10:00 A.M on Saturday, December 5.

We bid Godspeed to Bishop Samuel Zeiser for his ministry in our Synod. Dr. Zeiser worked faithfully and tirelessly for 2 terms that encompassed 12 years of ministry. Thank you!

As we conclude this year with the Synod Assembly completed and a new bishop, we witness that indeed God is with us.

Wishing you a Happy Merry Christmas!

The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, LMD 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.

WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT DUE TO CANCELLATIONS OF PERFORMANCES BY OUR VENUES, AND FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR TRAVELERS, ALL OPERATION SUNSHINE DAY TRIPS FOR 2020 HAVE BEEN CANCELED.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO TRAVELING WITH YOU AGAIN IN 2021. LOOK FOR NEXT YEAR'S SCHEDULE EARLY 4TH QUARTER OF 2020.

SAVE THE DATES!

MAINE – JUNE 7-10, 2021

Includes Kennebunkport and the Portland Lighthouse 3 Nights lodging, 3 full course dinners including a "Downeast" Lobster Bake, Narrated Harbor Cruise of Casco Bay, Boothbay Harbor Tour, Eartha Revolving Globe, Maine Narrow Gauge Railway, LL Bean and Dexter Factory Outlets, Nubble Lighthouse, taxes, and gratuities included.

Call the Skelly's at [610-433-6878](tel:610-433-6878) for a complete itinerary and pricing.

