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September 2021 LMD NL news will be due August 17, 2021. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

*******IMPORTANT*******

Financial gifts can be sent to our new mailing address to the attention of our new Lehigh Mission District Treasurer Leslie Talago at: **Leslie Talago, LMD Treasurer, St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 417 N Seventh Street, Allentown, PA 18102.**

UPDATE - Thank you to our former Clothes Closet facilitators, Pat & Bruce Markle for their many years of service. A twist of fate led them to quickly sell their home and relocate to Florida. It happened so fast that for now the **Clothes Closet is temporarily closed**. We are going to **still need volunteers during the week to help sort and organize our donations**. This can be as little as an hour or two per week. We want to keep this vital ministry to the community going. For more information, please contact Leslie Talago, Parish Administrator at St. Luke's Lutheran Church at [610-434-3943](tel:610-434-3943) or email to LETalago@StLukesLuth.org.

CHRISTMAS INGATHERING UPDATE - INGATHERING IS BACK
The LMD Christmas Ingathering will once again be hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church in Emmaus. Date: Wednesday, **December 1, 2021**, Mark your calendars.

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

Please Save These Dates!

CROP Recruiters' Pizza Party/Kick-off: Sun., Aug. 29, 2021, 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

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk: Sun., Oct. 10, 2021, 1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m., at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104.

For more information go

to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/allentownpa>

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 Piccurro 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.** ferdpiccurro@ptd.net / Cell: [908-310-4228](tel:908-310-4228), Home: [610-737-7871](tel:610-737-7871)



2021 Online Synod Assembly Highlights

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

The 34th Annual Synod Assembly of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod was held online from June 4-5, 2021. One of the main highlights of the two day online Synod Assembly was the Installation Service of The Rev. Christopher deForest as Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. The Bishop's Installation Service took place at the Lutheran Center with The ELCA's Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton officiating and a wide representation of ecumenical bishops. On behalf of the Lehigh Mission District and Council, Congratulations Bishop deForest!

The Assembly's theme was Bishop deForest's signature vision: Growing Young & Vital. The Friday to Saturday Synod Assembly voted and approved the several resolutions. Here are some of the highlights:

Reference and Counsel Resolution #1: "Resolution to Include Non-Binary And Gender Fluid Persons In The Official Life Of The Church" be sent with enthusiastic approval to the 2022 Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a memorial from this synod. VOTE: YES 229 (75.83%) NO 73 (24.17%). The resolution was adopted.

Synod Council Resolution: BLS10.01. An in-person, electronic, or telephone meeting of the Synod Council may be called by (a) the Synod Council itself by taking action at any given meeting to set a future date on which to meet again; (b) the bishop, (c) the vice president, or (d) any third of the members of the council. Although notice of at least two weeks should be provided if the timeliness of the projected business allows, there is no minimum time required for notification provided that all council members currently within the synod's territory have been notified prior to the meeting. VOTE: YES 267 (97.80%) NO 6 (2.20%). The resolution was adopted.

Constitution Committee Resolution: BLS 7.21.c. Regardless of how many voting members a congregation is otherwise allotted, that a congregation may have an additional lay voting member as long as at least one of the voting members from that congregation is a person under the age of thirty or a person of color and/or whose primary language is other than English, it being understood that any such additional lay voting members should not count towards the requirement that at least 60% of the voting membership shall be composed of laypersons. VOTE: YES 237 (83.75%) NO 46 (16.25%). The resolution on the bylaw regarding voting membership was adopted.

On the approval of Compensation Guidelines for Clergy: VOTE. YES 281 (97.91%) NO 6 (2.09%). On the approval of Compensation Guidelines for Deacons: VOTE. YES 277 (97.54%) NO 7 (2.46%).

To hear the full discussions on these resolutions, go to the synod's website at nepasynod.org and click the link **Synod Assembly 2021** (Recordings and Vital Information). Enjoy the worship music and the themes of Growing Young: Heal the Hurt. Love the Land. Engage the Stranger.

Blessings,

The Rev. 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 NOTE THAT MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED ON THE BUS AND AT ALL VENUES****

August 19, 2021 – Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre – GRUMPY OLD MEN, THE MUSICAL - Don't miss this laugh-out-loud story of family, friendship, love, and romance in a fresh new musical that's guaranteed to delight! Based on the 1993 film, which starred Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau, and Ann-Margret, written by Mark Steven Johnson. The story of two aging men, Max and John, neighbors, who have been feuding for most of their lives. They are re-united in friendship through the love and compassion of their new neighbor across the street, the beautiful, eccentric, and charming Ariel. Lunch is served will be a buffet style served by Dutch Apple staff.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10 AM

Cost \$94 Payment Deadline: Thurs. July 15, 2021

September 30, 2021 – Doolan's All Star Productions – HAPPY DAYS/UNDER THE BOARDWALK – Join the Operation Sunshine group for an afternoon of outstanding entertainment, food, and music that we all remember and love. Enjoy a one-hour open bar Happy Hour before lunch and you don't have to worry about driving home! Menu choices to be announced.

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

Cost \$95 Payment Deadline: Thurs. August 19, 2021

October 14, 2021 (Thurs.) – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse – DR. K'S MOTOWN REVUE - Dr. K's Motown Revue takes the stage once again with an amazing array of seasoned musicians and singers! With every performance, this talented group of performers transports you back to another era, all the while delivering a very realistic re-creation of the Motown Sound. Keeping true to its roots, Dr. K's Motown Revue combines the perfect blend of Motown era costumes with fantastic singers who complement this latter day "Funk Brothers" type band of musicians perfectly. The resulting show is nothing short of a powerhouse performance! All this plus a delicious served lunch (choose from their menu of 7 entrees including a veggie entree) plus an outstanding dessert buffet.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM Cost \$98

Payment Deadline: Thurs. September 30, 2021