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**October 2021 LMD NL news will be due September 16, 2021.** E-Mail any information to me at [lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

The **Clothes Closet is now open again.** 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](mailto:LETalago@StLukesLuth.org). Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

**LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT ADVENT CHRISTMAS INGATHERING**

The planning meeting will be held at: TRINITY MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (fellowship hall, behind the church in the alley) 535 W. EMAUS AVE., ALLENTOWN

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 @ 7:00 PM**

Please plan to send at least one representative so they can pass on the necessary changes and information for this year.

The committee thanks all for your participation in this important mission.

**IMPORTANT UPDATE!**

\*ZOOM\* CROP Hunger Walk Rally: **Sun., Aug. 29, 2021, 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

(Ideas, inspiration, and resources for you and your congregation)  
To register and receive Zoom info for the Rally, please contact Dianne Kareha at [karehad@gmail.com](mailto:karehad@gmail.com). **Please see attached flyer.**

**DON'T SPEND ANOTHER WINTER HOME ALONE!** LUTHER CREST offers all you could ever want ... stunning accommodations | chef-prepared dining | convenient amenities exciting events—and new friends! Because Luther Crest is a Continuing Care Retirement Community, you will have peace of mind in the coming years. Don't miss out ... If you decide on this great deal now, you can move in later in the year. Come discover why our residents are fond of saying, "This is the Way to Live". \* Entrance fee starting at \$99k on one-bedroom apartment. Limited Time offer. Please contact Mary Louise Drosdak at [610-391-8258](tel:610-391-8258) or Toll free [800-606-3424](tel:800-606-3424).

**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](mailto: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.



## Dear Lehigh Mission District

The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus found in the Gospel of Luke gives an illustration of what's happening in our nation today in regard to the deaths related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The rich man and Lazarus both died in the parable. But it is the conversation that the rich man has with father Abraham that can give us a reflection to our modern pandemic situation.

The rich man asked Abraham, " 'father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' " Luke 16.27-31.

Segments of the population have not been moved to get vaccinated with the recent rise of the more contagious Delta Variant in the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of August 16, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported a total of 619,564 deaths in the United States from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Read any of the national newspapers and you will find stories from the Washington Post to the Wall Street Journal of the testimonies from patients who have regretted not getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Patients on their deathbed call on family and friends to get vaccinated. They lay dying with regrets. This sounds like torment. The patients that have survived the ordeal have become evangelists spreading the news to get vaccinated before being tormented by the disease.

Still, some people insist that the pandemic is a hoax. Others, believe that being vaccinated infringes on their freedom. Yet others claim that if you are strong enough you will survive it. If not, it was your time to go.

Some don't believe science. Some don't believe the numbers of deaths. Worse, some don't believe the very family member dying from the pandemic on their deathbed. Do we see a reflection from the parable in our modern society way of thinking?

The parable hopes, however, that there is a reversal from the possible misfortune like the one received by the rich man. The parable serves as a reminder of the action we can take today before we find ourselves on our deathbed.

**My prayer is that you stay safe and follow the proper guidelines and procedures.**

In the Name of the Risen One,

**The Reverend 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](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 NOTE THAT MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED ON THE BUS AND AT ALL VENUES\*\***

### **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**

### **December 9, 2021 (Thurs.) – American Music Theatre – WINTER WONDERLAND - American Music Theatre's 2021 Christmas Show:**

Winter Wonderland will recapture the Christmas spirit! This highly anticipated and critically acclaimed live music production will ignite your spirit and set your heart aglow! Once you step through our doors, you'll gaze upon the magical sights and sounds of the season and be transported to a wonderland of music and enchantment – from a Bavarian mountain village to the festive, holiday excitement at the North Pole. Our extraordinary costumes, gorgeous gowns, and stunning sets will make you feel like you're really there. And ... the young ones can even catch a glimpse of Old Saint Nick himself! Winter Wonderland is AMT's newest Original Show, featuring the secular and sacred holiday songs you know and love, with all-live performances by our sensational cast of Singers and Dancers, as well as the remarkable AMT Orchestra. Bring the entire family and discover a new holiday tradition! Family Style lunch at the fabulous Fulton Steamboat Inn.

**Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:30 AM**

**Cost \$98 Payment Deadline: Thurs. November 4, 2021**