

The Rev. Nelson Quinones, Dean
The Rev. Jean L. Huber, Assoc. of the Bishop

610-653-5858
610-704-5133

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

484-550-0057
610-437-9927

March 2022 LMD NL news will be due February 11, 2022. E-Mail any information to me at lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com.

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.**

CWS/CROP News

Thanks to Your Generosity to CWS/CROP, Tornado Victims Are Receiving Help

Thanks to your generosity to CWS/CROP, tornado victims in Kentucky and surrounding states are receiving help from Church World Service: <https://cwsglobal.org/appeals/situation-report-tornado-response-in-kentucky-and-surrounding-states/>

You can help further by donating online

at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa>

Help Victims of Tornadoes and Other Disasters ANYTIME!

Consider honoring a loved one with an Alternative Gift to

CWS/CROP at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa> for Christmas, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.!

CROP Hunger Events Follow-up

Our 2021 Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Events donations total \$26,428.47 as of 11/30/21. Please contact our CROP Treasurer, Linda Held, at [610-797-4242](tel:610-797-4242) or jucc3441@ptd.net, if you have not done so already. -- Call or email Linda ASAP to report your CROP team's online donations, and to let her know if someone from your team would like a CROP t-shirt - free for anyone who has raised \$150 or more! -- **Send checks for "CWS/CROP" ASAP to Linda Held, 3441 Devonshire Road, Allentown, PA 18103.** Thank you for helping our neighbors in need through your CROP efforts!

Luther Crest is expanding, and adding 72 new one- and two-bedroom apartments!

Soon, more people will be able to enjoy senior living at its finest! Luther Crest has been the #1 choice for retirement living in the Lehigh Valley since 1983, offering seniors an active and thriving lifestyle and peace of mind knowing that additional health care services are offered right on the Luther Crest campus. Our new independent living building will be called Greenwood in celebration of our spectacular on-campus nationally accredited arboretum. Greenwood will feature 72 spacious, modern apartments ranging in size from 920 to 1900 square-feet. Floorplans include one- and two-bedroom options, all with an abundance of amenities and designer features. Call us today to find out more at 610-391-8229 or check out our web site at luthercrestseniorliving.org.

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. Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

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:434-3943) for more information.

Happy
Valentine's
Day

Dear Lehigh Mission District.

God's Gift of Love to the Cosmos

February 14 is around the corner. The sole mention of February 14 and we already know that it is Valentine's Day.

This is a time to express our love to the ones we love. We bring flowers. We buy chocolates. We go out to dinner. We go out to the movies. All to express our love to the one we love. The expression both given and received makes us feel alive.

Here's God's divine expression of love: *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."* John 3. 16

God's agape love is for the cosmos. We may think it is for the world as rendered in the English translation. However, the Greek word for what has been translated as world is actually cosmos.

I believe cosmos brings to mind all of the aspects in God's creation found in Genesis -from light to humanity.

There is no independent world as the sole focus. The cosmos is larger than the world. Therefore, humanity and the world form part of the vast cosmos. God's agape love is given towards all within the cosmos of creation. That is why God's love is unconditional.

God's love is expressed in giving the Son to the cosmos. All of what God created God loves.

Happy Valentine's Day,

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.

Mar 16, 2022 (Wed.) – Fulton Theatre – THE SOUND OF MUSIC

- The beloved musical that celebrates family, love, and perseverance?! The inspirational story follows an ebullient postulate who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain Von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire Von Trapp family must make a moral decision. Featuring a trove of cherished songs, including "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "My Favorite Things," "Do Re Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" and the title number, The Sound of Music won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars. Family Style luncheon at the Fulton Steamboat Inn.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM

Cost \$117 Payment Deadline: Feb. 24, 2022

April 20, 2022 (Wed.) – Sight & Sound – DAVID

Master Poet, Fearless Warrior, Anointed King, From still waters to shadowed valley, David's ascent to the throne is filled with towering giants, wild animals, and Philistine soldiers. After unprecedented victories lead to devastating failures, this passionate warrior will face the biggest battle of all; the one within himself. Come alongside this young shepherd on his journey to become a man after God's own heart. With original music inspired by the Psalms, DAVID is a state-of-the-art theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness one of the most legendary Bible stories as it come to life with spectacular special effects, massive sets, and live animals in this brand-new stage production. Smorgasbord lunch at Shady Maple.

Bus leaves St. Timothy's at 10:00 AM

Cost \$124 Payment Deadline: Mar. 17, 2022

MULTI-DAY TRIPS – CALL THE OFFICE FOR INFO.

June 23, 2022 to June 27, 2022 (Thurs.-Mon.) – SHAWSHANK AND THE WILDS SAFARI (OHIO) 5 days/4 nights

September 18, 2022 to September 24, 2022 (Sun.-Sat.)– CHICAGO 7 Days/6 nights