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

Basket & Gift Card Social: Sat., Oct. 22, 2022 and Sun., Oct. 23, 2022 at – Trinity Memorial Lutheran Church, 535 W Emaus Ave, Allentown, PA 18103. Tickets are \$5 for a sheet of 25 chances. If you purchase tickets before Oct., 22nd – 5 sheets for \$20 (a \$5 savings). For more information or to have tickets held for you at the door call the church office [610-797-4774](tel:610-797-4774). See flyer attached.

Holiday Craft Bazaar: – Sat., Nov. 5th, 9:00 – 3:00 - Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church – 8269 Spring Creek Rd. Alburtis, PA. Crafts, Basket Raffle, Food & Flea Market. [610-395-1215](tel:610-395-1215)

ADVENT CHRISTMAS INGATHERING: Wed., Dec. 7, 2022. St. John's Lutheran Church, 501 Chestnut St, Emmaus, PA 18049. Thank you for all your support in making this Outreach Ministry possible.

Muhlenberg College's Candlelight Carols Advent Service will take place this year on Dec. 3rd at 7:30pm and Dec. 4th at 3:30pm and 7:30pm. We are currently taking reservations and community members can reserve up to 4 tickets on a first come, first serve basis. Please call [484-334-3121](tel:484-334-3121) for more information or visit <https://www.muhlenberg.edu/student-life/religiouslife/egnerchapel/candlelightcarolsinformation/> to reserve tickets online.

Community Free Dinners – St. John's Lutheran Church, 1028 Church Street, Fogelsville. Dinners will continue on the 3rd Friday, every other month (except November, when it will be held on the 2nd Friday) from 5-7 PM. Dinners are served "to-go", while supplies last. All are welcome.

The Clothes Closet is open: We only have one person trying to help a lot of people at one time. **Another person is needed to help people shop.** The hours are **Thursday mornings 9:30-11:30.** 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 LETalago@StLukesLuth.org. Thank you to all who help contribute things!!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk News

Thank you to all the faithful walkers, community leaders, and support crew who braved the elements for our Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk on Sun., Oct. 2! **See some of our photos, attached!**

Congratulations to all who received awards at the Oct. 2 CROP Opening Ceremony! And special thanks to Linda Held for making all of the awards!

2019 Golden Sneaker-First Presbyterian, Allentown
2019 Silver Sandal-Luther Crest
2019 Bronze Booty-Christ Lutheran, Allentown

2020 Golden Sneaker-Asbury Spirit
2020 Silver Sandal-The Barn

2020 Bronze Booty-Blank Slate Faith Community
2020 Red Racer-Lara McQue, Calvary Baptist
2020 Blue Buggy-Christine Connelly, First Presbyterian
2020 Blue Buggy-Joanne Marchetto, The Barn

2021 Golden Sneaker-Blank Slate Faith Community
2021 Silver Sandal-Calvary Baptist, Allentown
2021 Bronze Booty-St. John's ELCA, Emmaus
2021 Red Racer-Calvary Baptist, Allentown
2021 Blue Buggy-St. John's UCC, Fogelsville

If your congregation or group walked at another time, please **share** your **CROP Hunger**

Walk **photos** and **videos!** **Post them** on social media and send them to karehad@gmail.com to include in our CROP follow-up emails to congregations and other CROP supporters!

Also, there's still time to give online at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa>

Alternatively, **checks for "CWS/CROP"** may be given to congregation/group leaders for delivery **by Oct. 31, 2022**, to Linda Held, Allentown CROP Hunger Walk Treasurer, 3441 Devonshire Road, Allentown, PA 18103.

Compounded by COVID-19 and its variants, as well as the war in Ukraine, hunger and malnutrition are life-threatening problems in our community, nation, and world.

Thank you for making a difference and helping our neighbors in need!

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

RACISM IS A PROBLEM

The United States is not a racist country but our nation certainly has a racism problem, and so does our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

On October 27, 2018, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 11 Jewish Americans were killed at the synagogue Tree of Life Congregation during a Shabbat service. On June 17, 2018, in Charleston, South Carolina, 9 African Americans were killed at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church during a Bible Study. On March 16, 2021 in Atlanta, Georgia, 8 Asians Americans, the majority women, were killed at a spa.

These racist attacks on people of color were committed in the United States. If I included the killings of African Americans in the hands of police officers, I would need a page in the LMD Newsletter to write all of the victim's names.

These hate crime attacks on people of color and women were laced with Anti-semitic, white supremacy, and misogynistic sentiments by their perpetrators. The racist sentiments that are espoused by some people around us and in our congregations begs the question: Do these Christians know Jesus was a person of color? He was not born in Europe. The Gospels refer to him as Jesus of Nazareth or Jesus of Galilee. Rabbi Jesus was a Jewish Middle-Easterner.

One of the resolutions carried over to the Synod Council to vote on from the 2-day Online Synod Assembly that was held on June 10-11, 2022 was the Anti-Racism Education Emphasis resolution. On Saturday, July 23, 2022, the Synod Council met at the Lutheran Center in Allentown and adopted the Anti-Racism motion.

The resolution reads in part, "that the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA establish a requirement for Racial Justice/Anti-Racism training for Rostered Ministers and Synod Authorized Lay Ministers at least every three years..."

To this end, in seeking further understanding on the problem of systemic and institutionalized racism, the Synod's Racial Justice Team set up interviews with clergy of color and training with prospective speakers. For more information click the link below: <https://nepasynod.org/racial-justice-team/>

As we continue to reflect on our life with Jesus The Son of All Humanity, it is my hope that we can come to see each other as a race of human beings and stop seeing each other in ethnic and gender construct terms.

Thanks be to God.

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.

Dec. 8 2022 (Thurs) – Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre – ELF THE MUSICAL

– Based on the 2003 hit movie, *Elf* introduces us to a young orphan named Buddy, who mistakenly crawled into Santa's bag of gifts and was transported to the North Pole. Raised by elves his entire life, Buddy doesn't know he is actually a human. When his enormous size and poor toy making ability cause him to face the truth, Buddy embarks on a journey to New York City to find his birth father and discover his true identity. This modern-day holiday classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner elf as Buddy wins over his new family and helps New York remember the true meaning of Christmas. After all, the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.

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

Cost \$110 Payment Deadline: Thurs., Nov. 10.

2023 Trips are in the Works!

