

## REMINDERS to the Lehigh Mission District Rostered Leaders

*Please keep the following  
dates on your calendars:*

**November 8<sup>th</sup> - 6 2 6 1**  
Bishop Christopher deForest  
& Deacon Kathleen "Kat"  
Tigerman, Director of  
Evangelical Mission

**December 14<sup>th</sup> - LMD  
Advent Worship &  
Breakfast at 8:00 A.M.**  
Leader - TBD  
Muhlenberg College Egner  
Chapel, Allentown

**January 10, 2024 - Legacy  
& Ministry**  
Deacon Travis Woodfield,  
Director of Congregation  
Legacy & Purpose

**February 5-7, 2024 -  
Bishop's Conference - TBD**

**March 13<sup>th</sup> - Wholesome  
Attitudes Toward Other  
Religions**  
The Rev. Dr. Roger Timm

**April 10<sup>th</sup> - Collapse &  
Restructuring of the ELCA**  
The Rev. Thomas Busted

**May 5<sup>th</sup> - LMD Spring  
Assembly 2024 at 4:00 P.M.**  
Lutheran Center, Allentown

**June - Synod Assembly - TBD**

**July/August - off**

*Event updates will be made  
available at meetings and  
here, in the LMD Newsletter.*



*December 2023 LMD NL news  
will be due November 13, 2023.*

Please email any information to  
[lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:lmd.newslettereditor@gmail.com)

Photo: Ferdinand Willem Pauwels/Wikimedia Commons

## A Martin Luther Statue in North America, 1883

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

On Sunday, November 12, 2023, you are invited to the dedication of a Martin Luther statue at 10:30 A.M. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Fogelsville. The Luther statue once belonged to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

On November 10, 1483, Martin Luther was born in Eisleben, Germany. In 1517, the Protestant Reformation ignited with the publication of Luther's Ninety-five Theses posted on the Wittenberg Roman Catholic Church door. From that moment on the German-priest-professor-theologian became the face of the Protestant Reformation.

Subsequently, festivals commemorating the Protestant Reformation and Luther's birthday became a thing to celebrate. Luther objected to such use of his name by his followers. He wrote in 1522, "I ask that my name be left silent and people not call themselves Lutherans but rather Christian. Who is Luther? The doctrine is not mine. I have been crucified for not one." (*Admonition Against Insurrection, 1522*) Given Luther's statement, a statue for the Reformer would be out of the question as well.

In our mission district we have 25 congregations that bear Luther's name. In some of them there is a stained glass window with the figure of Luther in their church building.

In 1883, there was a statue of Luther at the corner of Ridge Avenue and Chew Street that stood outside of St. Peter's Lutheran Church made of white bronze by Monumental Bronze Co. Bridgeport, Connecticut.

It was St. Peter's Ridge hope to take their statue to a Macungie site for a new German descent congregation. Unfortunately, St. Peter's Church dissolved in 2019 as a congregation. The whereabouts of the Luther statue became unknown until I poked around and located the Luther statue in the yard of a textile mill where it had been stored.

According to The History of the Allentown Conference of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania by Preston A. Laury, under St. Peter's Church records the "Quarto-Centennial of the Reformation was observed in 1883, and commemorated by the erection of a statue of Luther, the first in America."

What does this mean?

I can hear the words of The Rev. Dr. Walter Wagner. The professor would caution Lutherans of possible "LUTHEROLOTRY".

However, we are not idolizing Luther. I have applied the law to Luther on these pages of the *(continued on the next page ⇒)*



## Upcoming Events:

### Zion Lehigh Lutheran Church Holiday Craft Bazaar

November 4, 2023  
9 AM to 2 PM

(Please note the new time)  
8269 Spring Creek Road,  
Alburtis, PA

There will be crafts, basket raffle, food and flea market.

Contact the church for more info:  
610-395-1215  
churchoffice@zionlehigh.org  
[www.zionlehigh.org](http://www.zionlehigh.org)

### St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Cash Bingo

November 12, 2023  
1 PM (doors open at 11:30 AM)

Fearless Fire Company  
1221 S. Front Street,  
Allentown, PA

19 regular games, 50/50, coverall, special games and basket raffle. Food and baked goods available.

For tickets or more info, contact Lori Young at 610-390-2107. Ticket Price: \$30 or \$35 at the door.

### St. Timothy's Lutheran Church Craft Show

November 18, 2023  
9 AM to 3 PM

140 S. Ott Street,  
Allentown, PA

If you have questions, please contact Karen Christman at 484-408-8895 or [kceagle402@gmail.com](mailto:kceagle402@gmail.com) or text Ivy Reynolds at 610-393-1353.

(continued from previous page) Lehigh Mission District Newsletter for being a bigot ("Antisemitism on our Doorsteps" February 2023, Volumen 28, No.2). I have also applied the gospel to Luther for his sight in advocating for proper approach in handling the plague in Wittenberg ("Help Out" October 2021, Volumen 26, No. 9).

In our modern time, dedication of a Luther statue from 1883 in North America speaks of our Lutheran tradition in our own Lehigh Mission District.

The 1883 Luther statue is a symbol of Lutheran history. It is part of our heritage. We don't worship Luther. We don't worship artifacts. We worship the mighty fortress that is our God.

Thanks be to God,  
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, Lehigh Mission District Dean



### Lehigh Mission District Christmas Ingathering Reminder:

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

St. John's Lutheran Church (501 Chestnut Street, Emmaus, PA)

### Administrative Assistant Needed:

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
(417 N. 7th Street, Allentown)

St. Luke's, a center-city church with traditional Lutheran roots and an active outreach ministry, is seeking a permanent, part-time Administrative Assistant.

**Contact the office for full job description.**

Part-time, 20 hours/week. \$15.00/hour  
Office hours: M,T, Th, F: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
W: 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Respond with resume and contact to: [c1a2bachman@aol.com](mailto:c1a2bachman@aol.com)



### OPERATION SUNSHINE

1933 Hanover Ave, Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 610-435-9155

Open: Mon 11-3 and Wed. 11-3

Email: [LMDopsunshine@aol.com](mailto:LMDopsunshine@aol.com)

Website: [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.*

**STAY TUNED – WORKING ON 2024!**

**See website for details.**



Floods, wars, and other disasters have devastated communities in the United States and in other parts of the world.

What can we do to help our neighbors near and far who are struggling to recover—now and in the days to come?

We can walk and/or support the  
**Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk**  
**Sunday, October 22, 2023**

1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m.  
at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St.  
Allentown, PA 18104

25% of the funds raised helps food-insecure neighbors locally through the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank and the Lehigh Conference of Churches' Ecumenical Kitchen.

Church World Service, an ecumenical non-profit organization, uses the remaining funds for disaster assistance and development assistance, partnering with our neighbors in need throughout the U.S. and worldwide.

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

