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**Lehigh Mission District**  
NEWSLETTER

The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, Dean  
The Rev. Jean L. Huber, Assoc. of the Bishop  
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## Lutheran Deacons and 6261 Ministry

Mark your calendars for the  
**Lehigh Mission District  
Spring Assembly**  
at the Lutheran Center on  
Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 4 PM.

Our guest speaker is  
Deacon Kathleen "Kat"  
Tigerman. Deacon Kat is  
the Director of Evangelical  
Mission of the Northeastern  
Pennsylvania Synod.

The topic of discussion is  
Lutheran Deacons and  
6261 Ministry. Join us to  
learn what is a deacon's  
ministry and how it relates  
to the Synod's 6261 Ministry.

Pastors, synod assembly  
delegates, church members,  
and friends are all invited.

Let us know that you are  
planning to attend by  
emailing the LMD Dean at  
[nlsqns@gmail.com](mailto:nlsqns@gmail.com).  
Refreshments & sandwiches  
will be provided.

See you at the Cinco de  
Mayo LMD Spring Assembly!



*June 2024 LMD NL news  
will be due May 13, 2024.*

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

## Solar Eclipse 2024

Dear Lehigh Mission District,

About two weeks ago I was asked, "Oye, what do you think of the solar eclipse? Dicen que el mundo se va a acabar. They say the world is going to end."

I shared that the last solar eclipse I saw was in 2017 with my son. We took cereal boxes and aluminum foil. We poked a pinhole through the box to see the reflection of the solar eclipse inside the box. I assured this person that we will be here to see another eclipse and that our children will see many more.

Whether it was faith or fear from the combined long week of rain that followed the 4.0 magnitude earthquake felt from New Jersey, some Christians expected that the total solar eclipse was going to usher in an apocalyptic or an eschatological end of the world.

Some Christians, of course, believed that they would be taken up to heaven in the rapture before the end of the world, as if only Christians have a local direct line to God to deliver us from any fate to come.

On the morning of the solar eclipse, I listened to Ismael Rivera's album Eclipse Total. There were four eclipses in 1975 - the year the album was released.

As the hour was approaching, I went to the Fellowship Hall where the Ladies Aid and volunteers were baking the annual cinnamon bun at the church.

One church member had set a timer to halt production of the sticky buns so that they could step outside and capture the solar eclipse. It was a bit cloudy, but we got a chance to see God's creation.

We had a fun time watching the eclipse together. We included the Martin Luther statue in the fun by placing a pair of UV glasses on Luther.

Certainly, creation can bring fear and awe at the wonders of the galaxy. In the words of the Psalmist, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." *Psalm 19:1 NIV*

Happy post solar eclipse.

The Rev. Nelson Quiñones,  
Lehigh Mission District Dean



## Please support these upcoming events:

### EAST ALLENTOWN COMMUNITY YARD SALE To benefit youth activities

St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
(1933 Hanover Ave East,  
Allentown, PA 18109)  
Saturday, May 18, 2024  
8 AM – 1 PM  
Rain or Shine

Youth tables will be located inside the gym.

Refreshments available for purchase.

Park in our Tacoma St. lot, East side of the church.

Questions or space reservations, call the church office at 610-432-8762. (tables/chairs NOT included)  
*Please see the attached flyer*



### SUMMER INGATHERING 2024

We would like to collect the following items to help support Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Catasauqua) with their outreach program for youth in the community:

- Individual salty snack bags
- 16 oz water bottles
- \$10.00 Wal-Mart gift cards

We will be collecting items through the end of May.

Please contact Pam Page at 610-360-0226 or ppage619@gmail.com if you would like to help or if you have any questions.



### Community Free Dinners St. John's Lutheran Church (1028 Church Street, Fogelsville)

Dinners will continue the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, every other month (except November, when it will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday) from 5-? PM.  
Next meal: May 17<sup>th</sup>. Free dinners are served "to-go", while supplies last.  
All are welcome.



**SPRING DANCE:** Saturday, May 4, 2024  
Dance to the music of the Hanover Township Society for the Preservation of Big Band Sound in America from 7-10 PM.

St Timothy Evangelical Lutheran Church  
(140 South Ott Street, Allentown)  
\$15/person - all proceeds benefit Lehigh Conference of Churches.

Tickets are available at the church office (610-435-6512 x 200) or from Rick Focht (610-393-8914).



**OPERATION SUNSHINE**  
1933 Hanover Ave, Allentown, PA 18109  
Phone: 610-435-9155  
Open: Mon 11-3 and Wed. 11-3  
Email: 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.*

**All single-day trips for 2024 are currently SOLD OUT!!!**

We have been experiencing cancellations and encourage you to put your name on our waiting list.

*Please see the attached newsletter for details.*

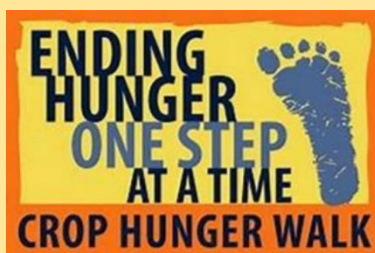
Operation Sunshine is proud to announce:  
**2024 Multi-Day trip to the GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS OF TENNESSEE.**  
September 15-20, 2024

*Please see the attached flyer for a complete rundown of the itinerary and costs.*



### CROP Thank You!

**Thank you** for helping our 2023 Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk raise a grand total of **\$31,437** to help our neighbors in need locally and around the globe!



As a result of your faithful efforts, the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank and Lehigh Conference of Churches Kitchen will each receive **over \$3,929** for their vital ministries. And our food insecure neighbors who have survived floods, drought, war, and other disasters are receiving life-giving assistance.

### Please Save These CROP Dates!

Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk:  
**Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024, 1:30 p.m.,**  
with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m.  
at St. Timothy Lutheran Church,  
140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA 18104

To register your team and/or yourself, or to learn more about the life-saving work of Church World Service, go to: [crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](http://crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa)

**CROP Pizza Party/Kick-off:**  
**Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024, 1:30-2:30 p.m.**  
(to receive materials, ideas, and inspiration for yourself and your congregation)  
at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Allentown

### Many Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors!

