

**Weekend of February 17 and 18, 2018**

**Bethlehem United Proclamation of the Gospel**

*Serving God's children who gather at:*

***Light of Christ  
Lutheran Church***



***St. Peter's Evangelical  
Lutheran Church***

**Pew News!**

*Whether a first-time guest with us or a life-long member, Pew News is a weekly publication for the family of Christ who gather at Bethlehem United Proclamation of the Gospel!*

**Check out our websites at [messiahlutheran18017.org](http://messiahlutheran18017.org) and [stpetersbethlehem.org](http://stpetersbethlehem.org) and "like" us on Facebook!**

**Hip – Hip – Hurray for Jesus!**



Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

***1 Corinthians 13:4-7***

Greetings and peace to you all!

I just came back from spending some time with some of my favorite friends; the children of the MLCCC on our Light of Christ Campus. Each week I try to read both to the children of Head Start who meet daily on our St. Peter's Campus and the children who gather at the preschool on our Light of Christ Campus. Truly these times with these children always seem to refresh and encourage me through the rest of the day!

This morning was particularly wonderful as together we read a book entitled "The Best Thing of All is Love!"

Such a simple concept.... Right? It seems that this should be something we instinctively know.... Right? The children this morning proved this point to me once again, as they shared with me, very enthusiastically, that they loved everyone. Of course by "everyone" they began a list; moms, dads, brothers, sisters, friends, cousins, playmates.... But then they continued, the children at school, our teachers, Pastor Jerry, the people on my block, the people in my town.... And the list as you might imagine could have continued to infinity. It was a wonderful display of children understanding how God desires that we all live!

How clearly, I recall being admonished by a man my elder as he shared with me that the "church has become too soft!" In this man's mind he wanted a church and a pastor to tell parishioners how they need to behave to earn entrance into heaven, what activities they need to avoid, how much money they need to give. At the height of this man's harsh words he said, "Pastor, all you ever do is tell people that God loves them!"

Guilty!

And oh, by the way.... God loves you too!

Peace and blessings

PJ

## UPG Worship Opportunities During Lent

Wednesday	Noon	Light of Christ Campus	Light Meal, Devotions and Discussion
Wednesday	6:00 PM	St. Peter's Campus	Light Meal, Devotions and Discussion
Saturday	5:00 PM	Light of Christ Campus	Worship
Sunday	9:00 AM	St. Peter's Campus	Worship
Sunday	11:00 AM	Light of Christ Campus	Worship

*Each worship includes Holy Communion*

1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	10:30AM	St. Peter's Campus	Healing Worship
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**Please note:** *Holden Evening Prayer on the St. Peter's Campus will resume after Easter.*

## LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

All members of the UPG are invited to journey through Lent together.

*Let's journey through Lent Together...*  
**“Wondering and Wandering to Unknown Ventures”**  
*as we*

<i>Raise Up</i> biblical stories of Wondering and Wandering	<i>Lift Up</i> the unique stories of each faith community that now forms the UPG	<i>Invite Each</i> unique story to help shape a new story of mission and ministry
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**Join us each Wednesday of Lent** *(Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21)*  
*for a light soup and salad meal, devotions, and guided discussion.*

<b>12:00 Noon – 1:10 PM</b> Light of Christ Campus <i>Fellowship Hall – basement level</i>	<b>6:00 – 7:15 PM</b> St. Peter's Campus <i>Social Room – parking lot entrance</i>
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### Dates and Bible Readings are:

- February 21** *The Call to “Go”* (Genesis 12:1-7)  
**February 28** *Defining the Way* (Exodus 19:1-8a)  
**March 7** *Jesus Maps our Destination* (John 14:1-6)  
**March 14** *Obstacles on the Way* (Acts 8:1-8)  
**March 21** *God's People Proclaiming, Wherever they Go* (1 Peter 2:1-10)

**Light of Christ Campus:** The Fellowship Hall is on the lower level. Plenty of on-street parking is available. Enter at the front door and walk down the stairs or use the ramp to take the elevator to the lower level.

**St. Peter's Campus:** The Social Room is on the lower level. Enter by the doors at the lower end of the parking lot.



*Today on the LoC campus, we welcome guest organist Bob Ormesher. Bob served Salem Lutheran Church as director of music for many years and now teaches voice and piano privately. Thank you, Bob, for sharing your time and talent with us.*

## **THIS WEEK IN THE UPG      February 18-25**

### **Sunday February 18 is the First Sunday in Lent**

- 9:00 AM      Worship (St. P)
- 9:30 AM      Sunday School (LoC)
- 10:30 AM     Sunday School (St. P)
- 11:00 AM     Worship (LoC)
- 12 Noon      Altar Guild Meeting (LoC)
- 1:00 PM      UPG Mutual Ministry (LoC)
- 7:00 PM      Narcotics Anonymous (LoC)

### **Monday February 19**

#### **OFFICES CLOSED Presidents Day**

- 6:30 PM      Knitters' Group (St. P)
- 7:00 PM      Dart Baseball: St. Peter's @ College Hill / Farmersville @ Messiah and Holy Cross@ St. Matthew's

### **Tuesday February 20**

- 8:00 AM      Staff Meeting (St. P)
- 9:30 AM      Women's Bible Study (St. P)
- 7:00 PM      UPG Council Meeting (St. P)
- 7:00 PM      Narcotics Anonymous (LoC)

### **Wednesday February 21**

- 6:30 AM      Men's Fellowship (St. P)
- 9:00 AM      Christian Service (LoC)
- Noon      LENTEN WORSHIP (LoC)
- Noon      AARP Tax Prep (St. P)
- 5:00 PM      Diakon (St. P-Trauger)
- 6:00 PM      LENTEN WORSHIP (St. P)
- 7:30 PM      Choir rehearsals – both campuses

### **Thursday February 22**

- 9:00 AM      Bible Study (LoC)
- Noon      LV Christian Chinese Church study
- 5:00 PM      MLCCC night @ Barnes & Noble
- NO Evening UPG Bible Study (St. P)
- 7:00 PM      Pastors and Guardians Holy Israel worship (St. P)
- 7:00 PM      **NEW!** Alcoholics Anonymous (LoC)

### **Friday February 23**

- 6:00 PM      LV Christian Chinese Church Worship (St. P)

## Saturday February 24

- 5:00 PM Worship (LoC)
- 7:00 PM Pastors and Guardians Holy Israel Worship (St. P)

## Sunday February 25 is the Second Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 AM Worship (St. P)
- 9:30 AM Sunday School (LoC)
- 10:30 AM Sunday School (St. P)
- 11:00 AM Worship (LoC)
- 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous (LoC)

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## UPG PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!

All of these UPG documents are now available on the St. Peter's and Light of Christ websites:

- Monthly UPG Worship Ministers schedule
- Monthly *Proclamation* newsletter
- Monthly UPG Calendar
- Weekly *Pew News*

On the St. Peter's website <http://stpetersbethlehem.org/> visit the "Publications" tab.

On the Light of Christ website <http://www.messiahlutheran18017.org/> visit the "Church News" tab.

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## This week in the UPG

**UPG members helping at the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter on February 6. Thank you!**



## Share yourself with others!



### **Blood Drive on March 11 at Light of Christ 8AM to Noon**

Please sign up in advance to donate – you can call the church office or contact Kasey Bosco at 610-737-3807 (email: [Jenae56@gmail.com](mailto:Jenae56@gmail.com) ).

Some helpful tips: Please be sure to eat a hearty meal before you donate and include salty snacks if you can. Drink plenty of water as well.

You can complete the donor history questionnaire online before your donation by visiting [www.GIVEaPINT.org/iScreen](http://www.GIVEaPINT.org/iScreen) -or- when you arrive at the Blood Drive. Please see the **Healthy Donation Tips** pamphlets in the LoC Narthex for more helpful information.



**Share Your Cooking Skills on March 4** Residents of Victory House and daytime clients of New Bethany Ministries need meals prepared for them. Please consider being part of a team to cook an evening meal at Victory House for about 25 people. Members of the team provide and prepare the food. Please call Linda Maule (610-691-2321).

On the third Thursday of every month, please consider volunteering with others to prepare the noon meal at New Bethany. Food is provided; only preparation and serving help is needed. Please contact Marilyn Musgnung (610-691-1314) if you can volunteer. **Thank you** for helping to feed the hungry.

## ELCA GOOD GIFTS... and GOATS!



The UPG (Light of Christ and St. Peter's campuses) God's Global Barnyard, a program of ELCA World

will provide farming families in developing countries with the **gift of goats**. These nimble animals are considered to be the **superheroes** of the barnyard. Goats can go where other animals can't and are able to survive in some of the world's harshest environments. Fresh milk from a goat will provide daily nutrition for children and their families and, as goats increase in number, they can transform a community.

is sponsoring a Lenten project to support Hunger. Our offering this year

Please consider making a contribution; offering envelopes are found in the pew racks. If donating by check, please make the check payable to "St. Peter's or "Light of Christ" and please write "Good Gifts" on the memo line. **Thank you** for your generosity.

## Meet the Staff of the UPG

Our “Meet the Staff” column continues into the spring to help members meet the people who help keep the UPG and its churches running!



This week’s staff member is Kathi Raphael, Executive Assistant to Pastor Jerry Kulp. Kathi is a life-long Lutheran who has extensive experience in both banking and software.

Her work for St. Peter’s includes all things administrative including official church records and software, documenting and streamlining office procedures, and postings items on the church website including daily prayers, calendars, ***Pew News*** and ***The Proclamation***.

Kathi’s UPG-level duties include long-range planning; oversight of all UPG planning calendars; working with software vendors; data base administration; communicating with and scheduling for UPG congregations, members, councils, ministry teams, rostered leaders, vendors and visitors including written documentation, emails and phone calls. She is also the main writer for and editor of the UPG’s weekly ***Pew News***.

In her spare time, Kathi plays flute professionally and teaches liturgical dance at several churches in the Lehigh Valley. And she loves Eagles football – ask her sometime about football school...

An important part of Kathi’s work is using her extensive business expertise to help our churches, members, visitors & the UPG. If there are any areas where Kathi’s areas of experience may be of help to you, please call her at the St. Peter’s office.

***If you are admitted to the hospital, please let the church office know. Due to privacy regulations, hospitals are no longer permitted to automatically call the church when a person is admitted. A friend or family member may also call the church office on your behalf.***





**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

*Connecting faith & finances for good.®*

## **Thrivent Action Teams Planning Breakfast – All in the UPG are invited!**

You are invited! Come to the St. Peter's Social Room at 9 AM on Saturday, March 10, (with March 17 as a bad weather back-up day) to help choose Thrivent Action Teams projects for 2018.

Is there a project you would love to see happen in the community? In the congregation? This is our chance to choose ministries and to set up Thrivent Action Teams to make them happen.

We'll share cake and coffee, do some brain-storming, and leave at the end of an hour or so with our plans for projects for the year. All who are interested in thinking up exciting new ministries are welcome – you don't have to be a Thrivent member to attend!

There is important work to do and the funding to do it is available.  
Mark your calendar for March 10 and come be part of the excitement!

## **Attention Thrivent Members: Thrivent Choice Dollars \$\$\$**

Thrivent Financial members: you may have Choice Dollars available that can be directed (donated) to St. Peter's or Light of Christ. 2017 Choice Dollars must be directed by 03/31/18 (Choice Dollars not directed by that date will be lost). To find out if you have Choice Dollars to donate to the congregation call 1-800-847-4836. Make the call today to help make more ministry happen!

A note for Light of Christ members: When calling Thrivent, please mention Messiah Lutheran Church, the Messiah Lutheran Church Child Center or St. Matthew's as the recipient. Thrivent does not yet recognize the new church name.

SAVE  
THE DATE

# Barnes & Noble Bookfair



Please visit the Barnes and Noble Bookfair from 5-7PM February 27, 2018 at the Easton PA store (4445 Southmont Way) for the benefit of the MLCCC Preschool.



## Barnes & Noble Bookfair supporting Messiah Lutheran Church Child Center

Tuesday Feb. 27, 2018 5-7 PM

Barnes & Noble

4445 Southmont Way Easton PA

Bookfair ID 12320453

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.\*

\*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, magazine subscriptions, video games, purchases made at Cafés owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not eligible for bookfair sales. Institutional discounts may not be applied. See [BN.COM/bookfairs](http://BN.COM/bookfairs) for more details and to shop online.



To have the purchase benefit the school, please take the voucher (at left) with you to the store.

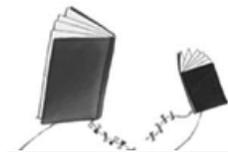
The voucher is good in-store on February 27 from 5-7PM. Feel free to make copies for friends or family to use!

You can also shop online from February 27 to March 4 using this Bookfair ID number: 12320453

Come celebrate Read Across America and Dr. Seuss's birthday with the children of our Sunday and weekday schools. Easter is coming and books found in Easter baskets make great gifts for young children. Questions? Please call either church office or see Lynn Terry.

### Can't attend our bookfair at Barnes & Noble?

Visit [bn.com/bookfairs](http://bn.com/bookfairs) to support us online from 2/27/18 to 3/4/18 by entering Bookfair ID 12320453 at checkout.



A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases will benefit our school/organization.



UPG Phantoms Hockey Event  
PPL Center - April 14 @ 7:05 PM  
Tickets \$20 per person

Please pay when you sign up, either cash or check. Checks can be made payable to **Light of Christ with a note "Phantoms Hockey"** on the memo line.

Payments can be dropped off at either church office. Any questions, please call either church office.

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Join the UPG at Coca-Cola Park for  
Iron Pigs Baseball  
June 14 and 15 at 7:05 PM  
Tickets \$11 per person



Enjoy Iron Pigs Baseball with the UPG on two nights in June! Payment due by May 15, either cash or check, for the game on June 14 or June 15.

Checks for June 14 can be made payable to Light of Christ. For June 15, please **make the check payable to St. Peter's. Please write a note "Iron Pigs Baseball"** on the memo line.

Payments can be dropped off at either church office. Questions? Please call the church office.