United Proclamation of the Gospel

PEW NEWS

A weekly publication for God's children who gather at
Light of Christ Lutheran Church and St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 19 and 20, 2018

Introducing Pastor Kurt Garbe

At this week's Congregational Council meeting (May 15, 2018), the leadership of the United Proclamation of the Gospel approved extending "Contracted Pastoral Services" to Rev. Kurt Garbe, pending a positive congregational vote from Light of Christ at our semi-annual meeting.

Rev. Garbe will be teaming up with Pastor Jerry to provide a greater pastoral presence in the life of our parishioners, work to develop new ministries, and provide time relief to Pastor Jerry. Pastor Garbe will begin his ministry among us in this role on June 11, 2018 if Light of Christ approves the additional expenditure for his services.

The editors of the "Pew News" recently asked Pastor Garbe to respond to a question so that we could get to know this talented pastor on a deeper level.

Pastor Garbe, please tell us about yourself: I was born and raised in Meriden, Connecticut. I am the second child of four—I have an older brother and 2 younger sisters. I attended Bentley College (now Bentley University), graduating in 1975 with

a BS in Accounting. I worked for 5 years as a Cost Accountant—3 years at Sikorsky Aircraft where I worked on the overhaul and repairs of the fleet of Presidential helicopters and 2 years at EIS Automotive, which made replacement brakes for cars.

In 1980 I entered the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (LTSP), which is now part of the United Lutheran Seminary (ULS), graduating in 1984. My first call was to be the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Towanda, PA where I served for 7 years (1984-1991). In 1991 I was called to be the pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Reading, PA. I served there for 5 years (1991-1996) until I was called to serve on the staff of Bishop Strobel. I served on Bishop Strobel's staff for the 12 years (1996-2008) that he served as Bishop. With the retirement of Bishop Strobel and the election of Bishop Zeiser in 2008, I was called to continue serving on the Bishop's staff.

With the decline in Mission Support across the synod territory, there are going to be some changes in the staff of the Bishop. While my call continues to be from the Synod, my call is being reduced to half-time. I am looking forward to providing "pastoral care" to the United Proclamation of the Gospel to continue my ministry to God's children and to supplement my income.

Four UPG Worship Opportunities Every Week

Wednesday	6:30 PM	St. Peter's Campus	Holden Evening Prayer
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	
1st Wednesday	10:30AM	St. Peter's Campus	Healing Worship

Summer Bible Study Updates

- **Thursday Night Bible Study concludes for the summer on May 31 and will resume in September.**
- **Thursday Morning Bible Study will continue throughout the summer.**

THIS WEEK IN THE UPG May 20-27, 2018

Sunday May 20 Day of Pentecost

9:00 AM	Worship (St. P)
9:30 AM	Sunday School (LoC)
10:30 AM	Sunday School (St. P)
11:00 AM	Worship (LoC)
12:15 PM	Sunday School Teacher Brunch (LoC)
12:15 PM	UPG Mutual Ministry (LoC)
7:00 PM	Narcotics Anonymous (LoC)

Monday May 21

8:00 AM	UPG Men's Breakfast - Palace Restaurant
5:00 PM	Planting (St. P)
6:30 PM	Knitters' Group (St. P)

Tuesday May 22

8:00 AM	UPG Staff Meeting (LoC)
10:00 AM	Thrift Shop Volunteers
10:00 AM	MLCCC Closing Chapel
7:00 PM	Worship and Music (LoC)
7:00 PM	Narcotics Anonymous (LoC)

Wednesday May 23

6:30 AM	Men's Fellowship (St. P)
NO Christian Service today	
9-11:30 AM	MLCCC Program (fellowship hall) (LoC)
6:30 PM	Holden Evening Prayer (St. P)

Thursday May 24

9:00 AM	Bible Study (LoC)
9-Noon	MLCCC program (sanctuary and fellowship hall) (LoC)
12 Noon	LV Christian Chinese Church study (St. P)
6:30 PM	Bible Study (St. P)
7:00 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous (LoC)
7:00 PM	Pastors-Guardians Worship (St. P)

Friday May 25

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

Saturday May 26

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

Sunday May 27 Holy Trinity Sunday

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)

Planting Day – TOMORROW May 21 St. Peter's Campus

Calling all gardeners!

Gardeners are needed on May 21
for garden bed cleaning & planting, starting at 5PM or as soon as you can arrive.
Please let Kenda know if you can help.

Could you help with mowing at LoC to keep the lawn beautiful for Outdoor Worship…

Volunteers are needed for summer lawn mowing.

Please see the signup sheet in the LoC Narthex for dates.

Please note: the Email Address for Light of Christ is lightofchrist@rcn.com

Please discontinue using the former St. Matthew's & former Messiah email addresses. Thank you.

Summer Gardeners! Your green thumb is needed!

Summer Gardeners are needed at St. Peter's for mid-May through September.
Please contact Kenda Riley if you can help weed and water this summer.

See the Production of "JESUS"
Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre in Strasburg, PA
Wednesday, August 15, 2018
Tickets $105.00

FULL AMOUNT DUE with SIGNUP. Last day to sign up and pay is July 1.

Price includes: transportation by Perkiomen Bus Tours, tickets for Sight and Sound show "JESUS", Family Style dinner at Hershey Farm Restaurant and a tip for the bus driver.

Depart:	**Light of Christ Church**	**11:30 am**
Arrive:	**Sight & Sound Theatre**	**2:45 pm**
	Show "JESUS"	**3:00 pm – 5:30 pm**
Arrive:	**Hershey Farm Restaurant, Strasburg, PA**	**5:45 pm**
	Family Style Dinner	**6:00 pm – 7:15 pm**
Depart:	**Strasburg, PA**	**7:30 pm**
Arrive:	**Bethlehem**	**10:00 pm Approximate**

Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre in Strasburg was constructed on the site of the former Sight & Sound Entertainment Centre, which was destroyed by fire in January 1997. It was completed in the summer of 1998 and seats 2000. The Millennium Theatre is accessible.

"JESUS" Sight and Sound Theatre invites you to experience the greatest rescue story of all time! "Jesus" is the action-packed musical stage adventure that takes you on a miraculous journey alongside the most famous person to ever walk the earth, and the everyday people whose lives he changed forever.

Hershey Farm Restaurant serves Family Style dinners of fried chicken, baked ham, real mashed potatoes, green beans, buttered corn, sweet & sour relishes, homemade rolls, shoo-fly pie, apple pie and hand-dipped vanilla ice cream with fresh brewed iced tea and coffee.

You may want to bring a snack on the bus if you didn't have lunch. Light refreshments are available at the theatre.

TO SIGN UP or with any questions, please call Kathi Raphael at St. Peter's at 610-867-0519
Please make checks payable to Light of Christ with a note on the memo line "JESUS Bus Trip"

Sunday School Picnic and Festival! All Welcome!!

JUNE 3 at Light of Christ Following 11AM Worship

Where: On the lawn (inside if raining)
What: Grilled Hot Dogs and Beverages will be provided
Please Bring: Side salad or dessert to share

AND…LOTS OF FUN!!

Ring Toss, Cup Throw,
Duck Pond, Photo Booth,
Balloon Animals, Face Painting, Kiss Count!

UPG Golf Outing is June 23, 2018

Join the UPG at the Whitetail Golf Club!

$85 per golfer includes golf, hot dogs, dinner & beverages
Four-person scramble format with 1PM start
Foursomes are welcome
(also threesomes, twosomes and onesomes!)

Proceeds benefit UPG Youth!

See the UPG Golf Outing Brochure for all the details!
http://www.stpetersbethlehem.org/publications

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT FOR GOLF ARE DUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
LAST DATE TO PAY is JUNE 1.

VBS "SPLASH CANYON" is coming!!!

July 16-20, 2018 from 9 AM to noon at our Light of Christ campus we will be leading the Concordia Press program "Splash Canyon – God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride."

Registration & volunteer forms are available now (LoC table in the narthex – at St. Peter's on the Education Wing table)

Youth and adult volunteers are needed to bring the Word and Love of God to the children!! Please enroll or sign up to be on the staff today!

THANK YOU to our devoted Sunday School Teachers!

The people of the UPG are thanking our Sunday School teachers today for their love and devotion to the children, youth and adults in our Sunday Schools through their dedicated teaching of God's Love and Word. Our LOC Teachers and Staff are: Ann Nonnemacher, Michelle Harvey, Carol and Christopher Knauss (Sunday School

Treasurers as well), Karen Schoch, Leslie Snow, Kathy Pelletiers, Kasey Bosco, Jerry Clavens, Tracy Haas, Linda Maule, Ron Horwath and Rosalie Adducie. Our substitute teachers are Jennifer Grube, Karen Favinger, Larissa Pelletiers and Lynn Terry. Our St. Peter's Teachers are Lois Ritchie, Tami Holmes, Ted Birchmeier and Rich Hawk. Thank you to everyone who contributed an item of food or gave a donation to support the teachers' brunch. We thank God for all of our teachers!!

Help us collect 100,000 books for the children of Houston.

BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS

The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering
Houston Literacy Campaign

As a mission and an offering, the ELCA Youth Gathering will provide books for Houston area students in Pre-K through 6th Grade. The UPG will provide financial donations and the ELCA Youth Gathering will buy the books.

Through June 3, you can contribute using the envelopes provided. Please make your check payable to St. Peter's and on the memo line, please note "Blast off for Books".

The Gathering has recognized the need to lift up literacy in Houston. Building a foundation of literacy starts before entering Kindergarten. Students who read at home become strong writers, critical thinkers, and more successful students than those who do not. Houston Independent School District estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each school year at a disadvantage.

In joining the Gathering's Blast Off for Books campaign, you will help ensure bright futures for Houston's students. The books you donate will be distributed at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city as part of the Gathering's Service Learning experience. By putting books in the hands of Houston's economically disadvantaged students, you can help change lives.