



THE PROCLAMATION

APRIL 2019

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 6

LIGHT OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH

PASTOR JERRY'S

MESSAGE



1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever. 2 Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies. 3 For he has gathered the exiles from many lands, from east and west, from north and south.[a] 4 Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless. 5 Hungry and thirsty, they nearly died. 6 "Lord, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he rescued them from their distress. 7 He led them straight to safety, to a city where they could live. 8 Let them praise the Lord for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them. 9 For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. Psalm 107:1-9 (NLT)

Greetings and peace to you all!

As I sit here writing this message to share with you I find myself still being present in the early stages of my own Lenten pilgrimage but I'd like to speak to you about Easter!

Let me share a quick story; when I was in the military, I was part of an exercise in which my unit had seven hours to travel about four miles in the middle of the night using a map, a compass, and terrain features. While I was busy working with individual soldiers on their walking techniques, I realized that the time limit was drawing near. Just then the person responsible for leading the unit contacted me on the radio and shared with me that he thought we were lost. Frustrated, I began pulling out the all necessary items I needed in order to determine our location. By the time I figured out where my unit was at, the time for the exercise had expired. Mission failed! What was really interesting was that we were literally 500 yards from where we were supposed to be. The young lieutenant couldn't see how close he was to the completion of his responsibility because he was too caught up seeing the trees which were surrounding him in the darkness!

In many ways our Lenten travels, even life itself, can feel a little like that. We can get so caught up in bumping our heads into the "trees" of life, that often we miss the bigger picture and just how close we really are to our goal! The pressures at work and our fi-

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nancial responsibilities, the efforts of keeping a relationship in balance, the concerns of child rearing, and the million other tasks that consume our days can become like trees that we keep running into in the middle of the night. Lent has provided us an opportunity to examine those “life trees” that seem to place veils between us and the light of God... but Easter is drawing ever nearer!

As disciples of Jesus Christ, our story, our heritage, our tradition is one that is varied, but grounds all believers in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ! This tradition reminds us constantly that the God Who has formed and shaped us and all that we see also has loved us enough to redeem us from ourselves.

Our worship celebrations during Holy week will center us on the stories of this tradition! But as Christ is resurrected and we are given “new life” we are called to continue to love our God and love our neighbors and ourselves in order to fulfill all of God’s laws and prophecies! But that’s not the end of the story!

In fact, it’s really NOT the end, it’s just the beginning! Grounded in our traditions and stories, centered in our worship and called to serve; we are also freed from the “night time forest” to DREAM! To DREAM and HOPE and WORK towards a brighter tomorrow! To DREAM of a day when we won’t be as concerned about the “night time forest trees” and will be able to look toward the light!

Together, we’ve been doing a great deal of dreaming as we continue to proclaim God’s love; one heart at a time! May these final stages of our Lenten pilgrimage be filled with moments when great light bursts forth into our lives!

Peace for now!

PJ



Dear members of the UPG,

Each week in our Sunday bulletin, we see a list of UPG members who participate in various roles during worship as worship ministers. Pastor Kulp is, of course, our Presiding minister. When the worship service concludes, our pastor's work is not finished; during the remainder of the week, he continues to "preside" over many aspects of his pastoral calling. The work of worship ministers and worshippers is also not finished; they leave worship with many aspects of their daily lives to "minister" to during the coming week.

All of us are ministers in various ways every day. Coming to worship to hear the Word and share in the Meal strengthens our minds and bodies. This worship experience prepares us for ministry and service that extends beyond Sunday.

Attending worship gives God praise and thanks for all our blessings; attending worship provides direction for the week's activities; attending worship reinvigorates and strengthens us to "minister" to others' needs; attending worship emboldens us to share our faith; attending worship sends us out forgiven and freed to do God's work with our hands.

And - UPG hands are necessary for the maintenance and growth of the many ministries that have been undertaken by the UPG. All are important – all need our prayers and support – all need committed volunteers to share their time, talent and treasure. With the blooming of spring and the anticipation of Easter resurrection joy, let us break forth from our wintry gloom and ask – how can I help?

It begins with worship. Be present and allow the worship experience to inspire you with the spiritual energy and direction necessary to participate more fully in the mission and vision of the UPG. All will be blessed by your presence

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among us and, with your faith strengthened, you will be empowered to do and be what God intends for you.

Easter blessings,

DEACON LINDA MAULE



JUNE LEA KONJOIAN was baptized on Sunday, March 3 at St. Peter's. June is the daughter of Brett and Julie Konjoian.



UPG welcomed the following members on Sunday, March 3: **JOSHUA GULOTTA; GUNNER HORVEATH;** the **JACKUS FAMILY, GEORGE, TRACIE, MASON, and QUINN;** **LYNN and KEVIN JONES; CHUCK STOCKER and KYLIE STOCKER.**



We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of **HELEN PISCITELLO**, a member of Light of Christ, who died on February 11. Her funeral was held on February 15. She is survived by her son Michael.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of **MILDRED AULT**, a member of Light of Christ, who died on February 14. Mildred's funeral was held on February 19. She is

survived by her daughter, Nancy Liebes, who lives in New Castle, IN.

Christian Education Director



Dear friends,

On April 21, 2019 we will be celebrating Easter! To help our children and youth prepare for the Easter Season the Sunday School teachers will hold our Annual Lenten Fair on April 7, 2019 and we are participating in a daily Lenten offering through the Baby Bottle Campaign of what was formerly known as Mary's Shelter which is now known as the Cay Galgon Life House. Please read on for more information on both of these events.

OUTREACH PROJECT

Our Sunday School along with all of the members of the UPG have been collecting offerings for the Cay Galgon Life House. Our Sunday School will continue to collect offerings through the month of April and during our VBS program to support babies and their mothers in need of assistance through this program. The filled bottles will be returned to church on Easter Sunday or to Sunday School on April 28th and May 5th. A group of our youth and advisors will deliver a check to the shelter on a date to be determined.

The shelter accepts donations of gently used furniture to furnish their apartments. Also accepted are donations of diapers and other baby supplies and baby toys. We look forward to helping these young mothers and babies in need of our help.

To support this organization checks can be made payable to either congregation with "Cay Galgon Life House" written on the memo line. Thank you.

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LENTEN FAIR

We are happy to be holding the Lenten Fair on **April 7, 2019** from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of our **LOC** Campus. This time change was made to allow more of our children and youth the chance to experience the fair as evening attendance at this event has dwindled the past few years. Competition with spring sporting events and other spring time activities has lessened attendance. We hope this new time will allow for more participation. All ages are welcome and encouraged to participate. Pretzels and donut making will happen again as this is everyone's favorite part. There will be crafts symbolic of the Lenten and Easter Seasons and activities as well as coloring Easter eggs. Two of our bakers will provide baked treats to enjoy during the fair. Prior to the fair we will hold a short worship in the fellowship hall where we will sing, pray and discuss the significance of the fair's events. Adults are very welcome. We hope you can all attend!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION BRUNCH

The Educational Ministry Committee would like to thank our Sunday School teachers for their dedicated teaching of our children and youth. We will do this with a thank you dinner to be held in the fellowship hall on **April 13, 2019** following the 5:00 p.m. service. This event is not included in our Sunday School budget and we rely solely upon donations to cover our expenses. Monetary donations can be put in the marked envelope (found on the long table in the narthex on the LOC campus and placed in the offering plate). A donation envelope will be sent home with our Sunday School students. Food donations of casseroles, fruit, salads and dessert cakes will also be graciously accepted.

Thank you to all of our teachers for their love and devotion to our Sunday School students.

CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Our confirmation students continue their break from their weekly classes until we will begin our spring term on April 28, 2019. Please remember that attendance at church and Sunday School is required throughout the year, even when we are not having confirmation classes. Classes will be held on April 28 and May 19 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the library of **Light of Christ**. Pastor Jerry is working on a more complete schedule and Mrs. Terry will notify the class members once this schedule has been confirmed.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **APRIL 7, 2019** - Lenten Fair 9:00-10:30 a.m. LOC Fellowship Hall
- **APRIL 13, 2019** Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Dinner 6:00 p.m. LOC Fellowship Hall
- **APRIL 15, 2019** LOCCC Easter Chapel and Art Show 6:30 p.m.
- **APRIL 16, 2019** LOCCC Easter Hat Parade 9:15 a.m. fellowship hall and outside walkways
All Are Welcome To View The Parade!!
- **APRIL 19, 2019** Youth Fill Easter Eggs and Set Up Easter Breakfast -10:00 a.m. LOC Fellowship Hall
- **APRIL 20, 2019** Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt - 9:00 a.m. breakfast and 10:00 a.m. Egg Hunt - LOC Fellowship Hall and Lawn (hunt inside if inclement weather)
- **APRIL 21, 2019** Happy Easter!! He is Risen!! Indeed!! See worship schedule in this edition. **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL** this Sunday.

- **APRIL 26, 2019** Youth Night 7:00 p.m.
LOC Youth Room and Campus
- **APRIL 28, 2019** First Class of the
Spring Term for Confirmation 6:00p.m.
LOC Library
- **APRIL 28, 2019** - Sunday School will
begin in the sanctuary and continue in
the education building. Sunday School
families and teachers will be reminded.
A joint worship at LOC will be held on
this day at 9:30 a.m.
- **MAY 19, 2019** Sunday School Closing
Worship and Picnic/Festival on the Lawn
LOC Campus - picnic and festival to fol-
low the 11:00 a.m. service
- **JULY 15-19, 2019** VBS 9:00 a.m. - noon
- Concordia Press "Miraculous Mission"
Registration and Volunteers forms will
be available



As

Wow!!
I am
writing

this newsletter article, we are preparing for another Friendly's Family Fun Night and Basket Raffle. Due to your generous support and that of our school board members and preschool families and staff we have 35 baskets/items to raffle and from the Christian Service ladies a beautiful autumn patterned knotted blanket and four soft and cozy fleece blankets. We will use the pro-

ceeds from this fund raiser to provide tuition assistance to children in need and to purchase educational materials. We are looking forward to a fun night of ice cream and friends!!

Recent highlights include our fabulous guest readers for Lutheran Schools Week and Read Across America Day, beautiful school photos by Christmas City Studios, a fun school spirit day where we wore the color red to show our school spirit and the Holy Spirit in our lives. We are looking forward to our Easter Chapel and Art Show, our Easter Hat Parade and our participation in LOC's Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt. The month of Easter is always a very happy time in the life of a church school!! Thank you to all who made these events possible for our children and their families.

Registration is well underway for our 2019-2020 school year. We offer: Small Class Sizes, Chapel Program, Child-Centered Curriculum, Experienced and Dedicated Staff, Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, Indoor Gym and Outdoor Play Space, Neighborhood Preschool, Friends! Help us spread the word about your preschool. God's blessings and thankfulness!!

Happy Easter! Alleluia!!

Lynn Terry

Christian Education Director/LOCCC Director

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GOD'S WORK.OUR HANDS TEAM



UPG LENTEN OUTREACH PROJECT

During Lent, the UPG is supporting Mary's Shelter, an agency here in Bethlehem that cares for needy pregnant women and women with newborns. We began our participation with a Baby Bottle Campaign on March 10th, the first Sunday of Lent. Baby bottles were blessed during worship and distributed to members of the congregation to hold offerings of coins or bills.

Members are invited to fill their baby bottle more than once and return their offering and baby bottle to worship on Easter Sunday, April 21st. Please say a prayer for the moms and babies each time you place an offering in the baby bottle. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of young mothers and their babies.

If you want to participate and did not receive a baby bottle, please stop at either church office to pick one up.

GOD'S WORK.OUR HANDS CELEBRATES EARTH DAY

In celebration of Earth Day 2019, the God's Work. Our Hands Team is sponsoring a hands on "make it and take it" free potted plants for your spring gardens. Following the joint worship service at **Light of Christ** on Sunday, April 28th at 9:30 AM, please visit the Fellowship Hall for the coffee hour and choose from many varieties of flowers the ones you want to take home with you.

You may bring your own pot to fill with three flowering plants of your choosing or you will be provided with a 6" pot. Some of the plants available will attract butterflies and bees to your yard. Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Narthex so we know how many plants to provide.

GOD'S WORK.OUR HANDS FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, May 18th, the God's Work. Our Hands Team is planning a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for prosthetics for a friend of Light of Christ. Tickets will be available toward the end of April: adult meal - \$10, children under 12 - \$5. Dinner will be served from 5:00 to 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Please invite family, neighbors and friends to attend and add your name to the sign up sheet in the Narthex.



Plans are underway for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast to be held on Saturday, April 20, 2019 on the Light of Christ campus. Jennifer Grube and Tina Piscitello are leading

these two events for the UPG.

Breakfast will begin at 9:00 AM in the Light of Christ fellowship hall followed by the egg hunt on the lawn at 10:00 AM. Donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candy are needed for the egg hunt (no hard or very chewy candy, please!) There will be a bin in each narthex for donations. Each child will receive a special treat in place of a prize, so we are not asking for prize donations.

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Thank you in advance for your donations!

Please bring your favorite bag or basket to the egg hunt along with a donation for our local food bank.

If you have any questions, please contact Jen at 610-691-7120 or rojeryol@verizon.net or Tina at 610-657-5366 or tlp3672@gmail.com, or either church office. See you there!

UPG WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY IN APRIL



All women are welcome to attend Bible Study on the **St. Peter's** Campus on April 2 and 16 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in the Social Room on the parking lot level. The study of the Gospel of John will continue the Easter story, looking at Mary Magdalene, Peter, the Beloved Disciple and Thomas. John will help our understanding of all that happened and how different people responded to the events of Holy Week, giving those who gather time to respond to how each feels about the events of Holy Week. Each believer has their own responses to each of these events.

Prayerfully consider coming together with other women to share Scripture, have conversation, sing some hymns, and pray together. Coffee/tea and some snacks will be ready for you. There is always a chair at the table for you.



BLANKET MAKING IN APRIL

On Tuesday, April 16 at 11:30 am in the Social Room on the **St. Peter's** Campus, everyone is welcome to join in making warm, cozy blankets for those in need around the world! Many women have been piecing tops

and bottoms for the blankets. Then, these pieces need to be put together with the filler, stitched together, and then knotted to hold the layers together. No special skills are needed, just the desire to help others around the world making blankets that provide warmth, shelter and protection to those who receive these blankets which are distributed through Lutheran World Relief. Donations of fabric at least a yard in size are always needed. **LOUISE FIELDING** at LoC or **ELIZABETH ELTERICH** at St. Peter's are available, if you have any questions.

PANTRY NEEDS FOR NORTHEAST MINISTRY



On Pantry Sunday, **April 14**, the UPG will support Northeast Ministry with donations of boxed pasta and spaghetti, pasta sauce (plastic jars, if possible), canned pineapple, and garbanzo beans. Please fill

your red pantry bag and bring it on April 14 (also Palm Sunday).

Thank you for sharing your abundance with others.

CRAFTERS' NIGHT~~CHANGE IN DATE



MONDAY, APRIL 22, will be the date of Crafters' Night in April, 2019. Bring along your favorite project and come to the UCF Room on the **St. Peter's** campus on Level 1

from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. There are comfy couches, sturdy chairs and a table so all kinds of crafts are possible. It is a time to share ideas, supplies, good conversation, and quiet time. Plan now to come and see what others are creating with their gifts.

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BINGO AT CEDARBROOK ON APRIL 23



It's time for Bingo at Cedarbrook on Delaware Avenue in Fountain Hill on April 23 at 6:15 PM. The residents really look forward to our visits.

Please donate prizes of perfume, lotion and cards; also small bags of chips, pretzels, crackers or cookies (no candy please) are appreciated. Prizes can be dropped off in either church office with a note "Cedarbrook Bingo". And if you can help at bingo that night, please call either church office . Thank you!

UPG CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES ON MAY 19



You are invited to attend this great concert at St. Peter's. The concert is in the St. Peter's nave and is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be collected at each concert to fund this concert series. Please join us!



Sunday, May 19, 2019, 3:00 PM—"Music Among Friends" - Lucille Kincaid with some of the Lehigh Valley's top musicians



- I Jennifer Kaltreider
- Helen Klotz
- Andrew Rupp

- 2 Shauna Rose Abrante
- Tyler Jones
- 3 Leslie Holzinger
- Mary Padjen
- 4 Roger Douglas
- Joanne Stathos
- Lisa Zarzecki
- 5 Kimberly Frankenfield
- Harriet Tonkins
- Michael Harding
- Barbara Holler
- Karen Schoch
- 6 John Markwith
- 7 Frederick Kunkle
- Patricia Little
- Ratanaphorn Sarver
- Deborah Casey
- 9 Jennifer Musselman
- Scott Olenwine
- Sarah Casey
- Joan Neff
- 11 Hunter Edelman
- Elijah Kolman
- Sharon Heidecker
- 12 Allan Radtke
- Ella Joann Baltz
- 14 Talia Lehr
- 15 Madison Wolfinger
- 16 Jean Ocker
- Rick Hasonich
- 17 Kai Landskron
- Marilyn Halteman
- 18 Barbara Dravec
- Sandra Kimmel
- 19 Micah Kolman
- Pat Sabatino
- Geraldine Welton
- 20 Sherry Allender
- Susan DeAngelis
- Gail E. Rolls
- Mildred Wescoe
- Richard Wescoe

- 21 Dylan Hasonich
- 22 Marisa Deshler
- Carolyn Folmer
- 23 Peyton Kuklantz
- Vanessa Diaz
- 24 Zoraida Diaz
- Deserae Jimenez
- Patricia Lowman
- 25 Stephen Peek
- Robert Simons
- 26 David Casey
- Charles Crisafi
- Martha Paar
- Fiona Rae Zahm
- 28 Bryan Frankenfield
- Brandon Bradfield
- Anna Marie Dreher
- Judith Gubish
- Doris Hetzel
- 29 Benjamin Fistner
- Eric Hepler
- 30 Sarah Elterich



- 4 Gerard & Barbara Clavens
- 11 **JACK & BEVERLY SUROVI—60TH**
- 13 Cathleen & John Rush
- 25 Donald T. & Carole R. Brosious
- 28 Charles E. & Mary Mann
- 29 Harold & Carla Dudeck Jr.
- 30 Mike & Jean Finn
- William & MaryLou Seixas



Dear Linda,

Thank you so much for your donation of food to Northeast Ministry's Food Pantry. We are so grateful for this generous donation because without your support we would be unable to provide the programs and services that are so vital to our clients. Thank you again for the impact you have on this community.

With Gratitude,
Grace Young

On behalf of the students at Marvine Elementary School, THANK YOU for blessing us with the gift of books for our elementary school library. Many of our current holdings are older and have been in and out of backpacks between school and home for many years, so new selections are always welcomed by our eager readers. Your Giving Tree gifts will certainly bring enjoyment to our students for years to come!

Blessings,
Laurie Werkheiser

Dear Beautiful and Generous Churches:

Thank you so much for your gifts of yummys! I know this package comes with prayers for me and for all Veterans and Service Members.

Your gifts blessed my coworkers and me so mightily and with much fun and joy. We are all so very blessed by your members' ministry. I attended St. Peter's at age 16, Youth Group with Uncle Fred, and it changed my life. My mother and sister still attend, and I pop in once a year or so. St. Peter's and Light of Christ are in my prayers of thanksgiving and I uplift your members and ministries.

Thank you again for blessing me (and my Mom) so well.

Love and Joy and Blessings,
Darlene Bender Kirk
Master Sergeant, USAF
138th Fighter Wing

Dear Friends of Northeast Ministry,

Thank you so much for your donation on February 4 of hats, scarves, and warm clothing to Northeast Ministry. We are so appreciative of this donation, which will be used to distribute to the residents of Marvine-Pembroke for this winter season.

The Marvine-Pembroke neighborhood is home to over 2,000 residents at or below the poverty level. The Food Pantry continues to be very vital program offered to the residents of the Marvine-Pembroke neighborhood and surrounding communities. Just to give you an idea of the need, we served 216 families in the month of January. Our 2018-2019 After-School Homework Club serves 30 students on average daily, with 50 students registered in total.

We are so grateful to have your support because without your generosity, Northeast Ministry would be unable to provide the programs and services that are so vital to our clients. Thank you again for the impact you have on this community and for investing in the children and families of Marvine-Pembroke.

With Gratitude,

Grace Young

Marketing and Development Coordinator

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, phone calls, well wishes, flowers, and the beautiful Prayer Shawl. The surgery went well and I'm on the road to recovery. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

God Bless,

George Baltz

Dear Friends of Northeast Ministry,

Thank you so much for your generous donation dated February 25 of \$508 collected through your celebration of Harvest Home in fall 2018. We are so grateful for this gift, which will be used to help support general operating expenses at Northeast Ministry.

We have had a very productive few months providing programs and services to the residents living in Marvine-

Pembroke, all of whom are living at or below the poverty level. In the month of February, our food bank served 213 families, consisting of 274 adults, 254 children, and 107 senior citizens. There were 19 new families who accessed the pantry in February.

We are so grateful to have your ongoing support because without your generosity, Northeast Ministry would be unable to provide the programs and services that are so important to our clients. Thank you for investing in the children and families of Marvine-Pembroke!

With Sincere Gratitude,

Grace Young

Marketing and Development Coordinator

- "Forgiveness is the well from which we draw the water to wash others' feet." —D. Siler
- "Easter is more than a day, an event, a remembrance. It is a way of life." —Michael Marsh
- "April ... hath put a spirit of youth in everything." —William Shakespeare
- "God loves each of us as if there were only one of us." —St. Augustine
- "Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" —Robin Williams

THE MAGNITUDE OF GOD'S LOVE

It would be spectacular and amazing ... if some king's son were to appear in a beggar's home to nurse him in his illness, wash off his filth and do everything else the beggar would have to do. Would this not be a profound humility? Any spectator or any beneficiary of this honor would feel impelled to admit that he had seen or experienced something unusual and extraordinary, something magnificent.

And yet the love of the Son of God for us is of such magnitude that the greater the filth and stench of our sins, the more he befriends us, the more he cleanses us, relieving us of all our misery and of the burden of all our sins and placing them upon his own back.

Whenever the devil declares: "You are a sinner!" Christ interposes: "I will reverse the order; I will be a sinner, and you are to go scotfree." Who can thank our God enough for this mercy?—Martin Luther, Luther's Works 22, 166-167

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Synod Assembly 2019
Freed in Christ for a New Day
Saturday, June 1st, 8:30am-4:30pm
Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites, Hazleton

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! - Psalm 118:24

God said, "Let there be light"... God saw that the light was good... and God called the light, Day. - Genesis 1:1-5

Jesus answered... "I am the light of the world." - John 9:5



For 2019 our Synod Assembly is a one-day event - **and what a difference a day can make!** All are welcome and all congregations are called and empowered to send two voting members and any number of visitors, as together we do God's work: sharing life, love, faith and hope for the new days ahead, as the people of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

This year we celebrate our past and look to our future, as we strive in this living present and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ - whose Good News has freed us to make this day and each day a new opportunity to give thanks, to worship, to pray, to dialogue, and to seek the good of our neighbors - all by the power of the Holy Spirit and the unconditional love of our great God, all because of what Christ has done for us.

We gather in a new place: Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites in Hazleton. Our co-workers in Christ in the Coal Region and the Pocono Mountains look forward to being our hosts. A one-day event means costs can be a bit lower this year. Registration fees for voting members are only \$100, while visitors this year will pay \$20, which covers the cost of our special luncheon celebration in honor of the 50th anniversary of the chartering of our Synod.

We will also have another way to save costs and paper, while keeping us all up-to-date, with a customized "Guidebook App" for Assembly 2019. With just a simple, secure download to your smart phone or tablet, you'll have instant access to all the documents and information needed, as well as vital and helpful announcements and guidance. The App is free and available to anyone, whether or not you can attend the Assembly. More information will be given in next month's *Synod News*, and at your upcoming Mission District Assemblies.

A registration packet will be mailed to all rostered leaders and information will be on our synod's website at www.godslove.org.

God promises to shine on us the liberating light of Christ,
 to make us alive,
 to make this moment like a new morning,
 and to send us out in joy, peace and power.

Join us in June as we are

FREED IN CHRIST FOR A NEW DAY!

Anniversaries of Ordination

15 YEARS

Dana D Heckman-Beil
Jean L Huber
Katie E Lyon
Maritza Torres Dolich
Michael L Reist
Anthony P Pagotto
Virginia Anne Goodwin

25 YEARS

Elizabeth C Langensiepen
Eugene C Zaiser
Jeffrey G Bohan
Louise E Williams
Deborah Matern Graf
Diana J Hill

40 YEARS

Samuel R Zeiser
Christian P Matthy
D Michael Bennethum
Donald J Schwartz
Edith B Roberts
John R Kuschel
Richard H Elliott
Roy H Koehler Jr
Sherrie L Sneed
Thomas F Irwin Jr

50 YEARS

Kenneth C Feinour Jr

55 YEARS

Arthur L Hahn Jr
Donald P Beck
Harry J Goos
James C Papada
John J Deisinger
Thomas H Reinsel
Thomas J Keener

60 YEARS

C David Godshall
Dale E Sandstrom
Elton P Richards
Paul J Hoh

65 YEARS

Robert F Sauers

70 Years

James B Miller
John M Aurand

St. Luke, Allentown Muhlenberg College Partnership



ELL students - Nely is third from the left

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, located in center city, Allentown hosts an English Language Learning (ELL) program. Trott Nely Montana, a senior at Muhlenberg, coordinates and teaches in the program. Nely majors in Media & Communications, and minors in both Africana Studies, and Documentary Storymaking. He is a member of a number of professional and student organizations including serving as a tutor, Emerging Leaders, Track & Field, Tour Guide, Adult ELL Teacher & Coordinator. When he is not participating in extracurriculars or at school, Nely likes to draw. Plus, he enjoys playing basketball with friends or personally training peers at Muhlenberg.

Nely took over the position of the program from Jose Flores, who was part of Muhlenberg graduating class of 2016. After observing one class with Jose, Nely recognized the significance of the program. He could understand and relate to the ELL students, because he too had taken courses to learn English. In addition to supporting learning and developing better English skills among local residents, the program offers Nely the opportunity to connect and form lasting relationships with some of the locals in Allentown and the church community.

After graduating college, Nely plans to continue school in a MFA and/or PhD program in film and hopes to become a professor. He also is interested in the external and internal factors that hinder low income, high achieving students from attaining a profitable education. Nely understands the trials of being the first member of a family to go to college.; and he wants to provide low income, high achieving students with exposure to numerous resources, and access that would further their education.



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