



# THE PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN

VOL 87, NO 10 | December 2017

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## Thank You from... Pittsburgh Lutheran Deaf Ministry

The Pittsburgh Lutheran Deaf Ministry would like to thank everyone who so generously donated to their ministry during the 500th Anniversary Reformation Service in Pittsburgh on October 29, 2017.



\$1,126.67 was collected and work has begun on a new Smart Deaf Classroom with SmartBoard Technology. Your offering, along with several grants, will help us to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Deaf Community in Pittsburgh

in accord with the Great Commission by establishing a classroom that is conducive to Deaf learning and Deaf culture. In our new Smart Classroom, we can communicate with other LCMS Deaf Missions by way of SmartBoard live streaming including access to LCMS Lutheran Deaf Mission Society Resources with streaming of Hymns, Devotions and Bible Stories in ASL.

Smart technology will help us to preach and teach the true Word of God that all who hear it may live and grow in faith in Jesus Christ. We are instructing them to act in faith with love and mercy toward others, especially other Deaf in the Pittsburgh area, as Jesus Christ would have us do, and also across the United States. We have already made connections other LCMS Deaf Ministries and are currently working with Hands of Zion Lutheran Deaf Outreach in Tomball, Texas to sponsor a Deaf family for Christmas who was devastated by Harvey.

On Saturday, November 4, 2017, with your help and grants received from Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries, Western Pennsylvania Deaf Ministry, Thrivent Financial Action Grant and volunteer workers from First Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, we had enough to begin converting the old church office into our new Smart Classroom. Tasks included...removal of all items from the room and walls. (ex: large



chalkboard), stripping and cleaning of walls, plaster repair work and priming and painting.

Currently the Pittsburgh Lutheran Deaf Ministry has an every Sunday Bible Study at 9:45AM where attendance is taken followed by an interpreted Divine Service at 11:00AM. Following the Divine Service the Deaf assemble for a bagged lunch where they can socialize with other Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Hearing members. On the second Sunday of each month, the ministry provides a free lunch and craft to help meet their physical needs as well as spiritual. We call this activity the Second Sunday Deaf Social. During this time we pray, eat, complete a craft based on the Gospel reading and inform them about activities happening throughout the church community over the next month.

We are underway but are still in need of funds to complete this task and continue reaching out to the Deaf community. Our most expensive purchase will be the SmartBoard technology. Articles in The Pittsburgh Lutheran will show you our progress. Most of all, we ask and thank you for your prayers!

If you would like to make a donation to the Pittsburgh Lutheran Deaf Ministry, please make your check payable to: First Trinity Lutheran Church  
Memo: Deaf Ministry.  
Mail to:  
First Trinity Lutheran Church  
535 North Neville St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



Cindy Fenger—Interpreter, Donna Ulmer, Sharon Arce and Debra Terhune—Director

## Mark your Calendar

### December

- 4 Nar-Anon, Bethel Lutheran, Glenshaw, each Monday at 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Holiday Bazaar, Concordia of South Hills, Mt Lebanon, 10:00 am to 4:00 p.m.
- 5 Concordia Annual Christmas Cantata, Haven I Dining Room, entrances 2A and 2B, Cabot, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Christmas Caroling, Concordia, Brentwood, Assisted Living Center, Concordia, South Hills
- 10 "Advent Event" Program, Concordia, Brentwood, during Divine Service
- 10 Concordia Live Nativity, Haven II, Cabot, performances at 4:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- 11 Seniors for Safe Driving Course, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 13 Caroling at William Penn Care Center, Calvary, Murrysville, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Christmas Concert at Penn Hills HS, Redeemer Lutheran School, Penn Hills / Oakmont
- 17 Annual Christmas Program, Ascension, McCandless, during worship, 9:30 a.m.
- 17 Youth Christmas Program and Potluck Luncheon, Calvary, Murrysville, 10:00 a.m.
- 17 Festival of Lessons and Carols, Bethel, Glenshaw at Rebecca Residence and High Pointe, CLM
- 21 to Jan. 2 No School- Christmas Break, Redeemer Lutheran School, Penn Hills / Oakmont

### Advent Services

- 6 Advent Service, Redeemer, Oakmont, 5:00 and 7:30 p.m.
- 6 Advent Services, Bethel, Glenshaw, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Evening Meditation, Calvary, Murrysville, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 Advent Service, Concordia, Brentwood, 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Advent Service, Redeemer, Oakmont, 5:00 and 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Advent Services St. John, Millvale, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Advent Service, Concordia, Brentwood, 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Advent Service, Redeemer, Oakmont, 5:00 and 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Evening Meditation, Calvary, Murrysville, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Advent Services, Zion, Lawrenceville, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Advent Service, Concordia, Brentwood, 7:30 p.m.

### Christmas Eve Services

- 24 Divine Service with Holy Communion celebrated by Rev. Dr. Dan Hahn Jr, Zion Lawrenceville, 11:30 a.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, Calvary, Murrysville, 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 11:00 p.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Ascension, McCandless, 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve candlelight service conducted by Rev. Dan Strussenberg, Zion, Lawrenceville, 7:00 p.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Service, Concordia, Brentwood, 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols, Redeemer, Oakmont, 7:30 p.m.

### Christmas Day Services

- 25 Christmas Day Service, Calvary Murrysville, 10:00 a.m.
- 25 Christmas Day Holy Communion, Redeemer, Oakmont, 10:00 a.m.
- 25 Christmas Day Divine Service, Concordia, Brentwood, 11:00 a.m.
- 25 Divine Service with Holy Communion conducted by Rev. Dan Strussenberg, Zion, Lawrenceville 11:30 a.m.

### New Year's Eve Services

- 31 New Year's Eve Divine Service conducted by Rev. Dr. Dan Hahn Jr, Zion, Lawrenceville, 11:30 a.m.
- 31 Eve of the Name of Jesus Service, Concordia, Brentwood, 7:30 p.m.
- 31 New Year's Eve, Redeemer, Oakmont, 7:30 p.m.

### January

- 1 New Year's Day Holy Communion, Redeemer, Oakmont, 10:00 a.m.
- 6 Epiphany Holy Communion, Redeemer, Oakmont, 10:00 a.m.

*See individual articles for details.*

## Update on the Pittsburgh Lutheran

Beginning in 2018 the two months hiatus for the Pittsburgh Lutheran will be January and July. No articles will be due in December and June.

We will also be **going digital**. With the New Year, a new distribution system will be utilized starting in February. Since we will no longer mail hard copies to you, we are asking you to provide us with your email address. The Pittsburgh Lutheran will have the same look, but you will be able to read it on your computer, tablet, or phone. Also, there will be **no subscription cost**.

If you would like to receive The Pittsburgh Lutheran via email, please send your email address to:  
[pittsburgh.lutheran.editor@gmail.com](mailto:pittsburgh.lutheran.editor@gmail.com)

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## PALM Mission spotlight: Unity Lutheran Community Mission - "FINALLY"

*by Pr. Bob McCanless, PALM Mission Director*

Pastor Reholma McCants has been a fixture in Pittsburgh for over 30 years now, and while many have heard of his After-school Mission Project (FINALLY) in Homewood, far fewer have been to see this vital ministry, in a needed place in Pittsburgh.

Beginning in 1986, with a single student, Pastor McCants program grew quickly. The following week, seven more showed up - and fifteen the week after that. Now running Monday through Thursdays during the school year, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., Unity Lutheran has served literally thousands over the decades, helping children from ages 4 to 16

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Devotion

by Rev'd Brian Westgate

*"Behold, the Virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel." – Isaiah 14:7.*

December is here, and that can only mean one thing: Christmas. Maybe you've gotten lots of your shopping and decorating done already. Maybe you're waiting to do one or both until December 23. We go through these routines every year, and we love them. But the best routine of all of the prepping for Christmas is getting ready to hear the story of Jesus' Birth.

That's what we're celebrating. We don't have a God who wants nothing to do with us. We have a God Who gets down and dirty in the filth of our sin. We have a God Who did what no false god would ever do: become a human being in order to save us from wickedness and sin.

That's why God's Son came to earth. He was born of a Virgin so He would be both 100% God and 100% man. A man had to pay the price for sin, but only holy God could do it. So that's what He did. God was born of Mary in order to win for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. This message is for you, for Pittsburgh, for Pennsylvania, for America, for the whole world.

*(Continued from page 2)*

with their homework, providing a hot meal on a cold winter's day, teaching them valuable life skills, computer skills, and providing a safe place for play and recreation. Pastor McCants and volunteers put a face and helping hands to the love of Christ for these children, to show them a better way, and hope for a better tomorrow in a challenging time and place. Student success from this program include a local doctor and magistrate; one student has run for Pittsburgh City Council, and many have gone on to successful careers in the military.

PALM has been proud to partner with Unity Lutheran to help support the blessings it has brought to so many over the years. One of the bigger goals for the program, is to partner with more of our PALM congregations, for resources, ESPECIALLY volunteers and volunteer groups. One of the more exciting pairings of late, has been the work of Trinity Lutheran of Glen Savage, volunteering at Unity for projects around the building, as well as volunteering with the children. Trinity Lutheran, on the Somerset/Bedford county line, with Pastor Paul Yanke and their members, have greatly enjoyed their time at Unity, and interaction with the students and program. Getting our other congregations and members, who are even closer, out to Homewood is something Pastor McCants would love to make possible.

PALM members and congregations have donated hotplates, bulk food items (hotdogs, especially) and volunteers over the years. Some congregations, for example, have put together a "giving tree" at Christmas, decorated with new scarves, hats, gloves, and mittens, for children in the program. The possibilities to help are nearly endless, because the needs are just as numerous.

If you'd like to find ways in which you or your congregation could help serve this blessed mission, contact Pastor McCants at (412) 731-2811 is from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. during the school year. The experience is guaranteed to change you for the better, as much as it will benefit the children.



Volume 87, No. 10  
**The Pittsburgh Lutheran**

### Published by

Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM)

### Editors

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Mary Lou Rilee

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The Pittsburgh Lutheran is published 10 times per year.

The annual congregation subscription fee is \$10.00 per copy (minimum of 5 copies).

Single subscriptions mailed to one address may be obtained for \$18 per year.

Make checks payable to:  
"The Pittsburgh Lutheran."

All inquiries regarding subscriptions should be addressed to the Editor.  
Pittsburgh.lutheran.editor@gmail.com

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### PALM Officers

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### PALM Website

<http://www.palmpa.org>

## Veteran's Day at Minersville

On Veterans Day, Pastor Westgate conducted the second-annual PALM-sponsored Veterans Day service at Minersville Cemetery. Ten people, total, were in attendance. In his devotion, Pastor Westgate connected St. Martin to his namesake, Dr. Martin Luther, and to Veterans Day. The Bishop of Tours was a Roman veteran and named for the Roman god of war.

Nation hymns from The Lutheran Hymnal were sung, as were "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word" and "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" in celebration of Dr. Luther's Baptism Day during this Reformation 500 year.

We look forward to next year's Memorial Day and Veterans Day services at Minersville.



## Mileposters News

Before Hurricane Maria, described by news sources as apocalyptic, with tornado-force winds, the poverty rate of Puerto Rico was 45%. Then \$95 billion in damage was done and 80% of the crop value disappeared. 100% of electric power was lost. Even three weeks later, 85% of the country still had no electricity; 40% had no safe drinking water. One resident of the island was brutally honest. "Now comes the bad part," he said. It is expected to take six months to restore power to all areas. The task of rebuilding homes is daunting. In many communities, 80% to 90% of the homes were completely destroyed. Puerto Rico is bracing for a "new normal," which promises to be worse than the old.

After making five rides (one was a two-in-one from opposite ends) with a total of 200 miles, Mileposters prepared and mailed some two hundred letters of appeal, asking recipients for donations toward long-term hurricane relief on the island.

The first 45-Minute Special was held October 5 after Sunday morning worship at Trinity Lutheran, Monroeville. Four riders, Makayla and Conner Schriver, Gabriel Jordan, and Bella Collington (pictured, and Conner by himself), enjoyed kick bikes and a scooter, circling the church parking lot, after eating delicious sandwiches prepared by Ellen Fetterman and Lori Schriver. More 45-Minute Specials are coming up, including an extended Bible drill, old-time movies (cartoons and newsreels), as well as chess and checkers.



An early community Thanksgiving dinner was anticipated for November 18 on Troy Hill. Roller skating is planned for January, at Romp'N'Roll, in Glenshaw, and the Neville Roller Drome, on Neville Island, plus Games Nights and Movies Nights.



**A.D. 2057**

by Augusta R Mennell, Campus Ministry Director

The hardest part of working in campus ministry is saying goodbye to the many students we have come to know. While saying goodbye does hurt, it cannot be the end of the story. All Saints prays to be on campus forty years from now, in 2057, to share the Gospel with students.

Steve is an American Christian who comes from near Cleveland Ohio. His passion is the outdoors, working in state parks, rock climbing, and repairing anything broken. He installed a movie projector and several loudspeakers and hooked them up to create surround sound at ASLC. He also located and replaced a broken router. Steve is a quiet, unassuming student who studies hard and comes to worship regularly. He comes every week to study the Bible because he wants to fill in the gaps of his biblical knowledge. He enjoys bringing lunch to the Bible studies. He laughs a lot. He has become a close friend. He will be a blessing to the next congregation he joins.

Wazma is from Pakistan. She has only been at All Saints since September and she will leave in December to finish her studies at home. In that short time, she has made a place in our hearts. She smiles easily, loves adventures like skydiving and water rafting. She wants to see all she can of America while she is here. She is a practicing Muslim, but is willing to know what others believe. She came to hear the Bible story of creation and the Bible story of Jesus' death on the cross. She is interested in the concepts of free will and sin. She believes Mohammed is the final prophet. She realizes that the people of All Saints are kind and caring, and that gives her trust so that she has been able to share her faith and listen to ours. We have had fun going to see the Amish, shopping for treasures at the Salvation Army store in Grove City, and eating at Bob's Sub Shop, her lunch treat to me. Like Steve, we will miss her terribly when she goes home.

Wazma and Steve represent the reason All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center is here in Slippery Rock Pennsylvania. All Saints just celebrated her 40th anniversary. During the celebration of thanks to God for enabling this congregation to make it here, Rev. Larry K Loree, Jr. spoke directly to the students during the anniversary banquet. He talked right to them, saying that they are the reason All Saints is here. They (Ray, Moses, Isuri, Galila, Parto, Jordan, Monique, Juiletta, Wazma and Steve) beamed at his loving words.



The 40th Anniversary of All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center

All Saints is working to improve and increase ministry to future college students from SRU and Grove City College. We are forging ahead to establish a coffeehouse on Main Street, across the street from our church building. The recently vacant building on Main Street is a perfect location for our needs: it is extremely visible to the students. It is located on a natural corridor from the university to restaurants, stores, and apartments, and students pass by all the time. We intend to offer coffee, ping-pong, billiards, occasional live music, and time for students to have friendship, fellowship and study time; but most important, a chance to ask Pastor Loree whatever they would like to ask him. We will have free books and Bibles in different languages. We will still have our regular Korean meals and Sunday worship, but we will increase our times to get to know the students. Our desire is to plant seeds of faith.

Before the students leave this December, we have arranged to bring Rev. Hesham Shehab, an LCMS pastor, to speak on the topic: "From the Muslim Brotherhood to Follower of Christ." He will speak at 7 PM on Saturday, December 2, 2017 here at All Saints. Refreshments will be served. Pastor Loree wants the students to hear this pastor's story of faith. Students, the congregation, and everyone reading this article are invited to attend. We hope that many of our readers will come to hear Pastor Shehab's story. Pray for All Saints to go forward in campus ministry toward A.D. 2057, our next forty years.

**Love, Life, Legacy**

by Pastor Bryan Spang

*We love because He first loved us. – 1 John 4:19*

When you were but a baby you may have been brought to the baptismal font by your parents. They did so because they wanted you to know the one who first loves before you had even given Him a thought. They did so because they had lived life knowing that love and wanting to share that love with you. That is the love they knew, that is life they lived and that is the legacy they wanted to pass on to their loved ones. That love in the life of the person who follows the One who first loved goes beyond the bounds of family ties for the Holy Spirit dwelling in us causes our cup to overflow in love towards others.

For today's young people on our college campuses there are many who have never been introduced to the One who first loved us, our Lord and Savior Jesus. Sadly, on the campus of Penn State there are only about 1,000 students out of 46,000 students (a little over 2%) that are meaningfully involved in any type of Christian campus ministry. What will life look like for them as they try to navigate this life not knowing that God loves them so much that He gave his Son to die for them? What legacy will they leave to their children not knowing that? What legacy will they leave for society not knowing that?

Universities, such as Penn State, have students literally from all over the world that will be the future leaders in many fields from science and technology to politics. So just as Paul stood before the Athenians in the Aeropagus to proclaim to them the "God who made the world and everything in it", so we too are proclaiming that to this generation. And we want to continue proclaiming that to the generations yet to

(Continued on page 6)

*(Continued from page 5)*

come. We need your help to leave a legacy of love for the generations to come.

Campus ministry simply is not paid for by the students who are introduced to Jesus; they aren't in a financial position to do so. In response to the love God has shown us we have set up a campus ministry endowment fund through the LCMS Foundation (entitled: GOOD SHEPHERD CAMPUS MINISTRY ENDOWMENT FUND). Our God-sized goal is to fully endow a campus ministry position that will continue to proclaim the love of Jesus to now and future generations of students at Penn State through an LCMS campus ministry. We have set a goal of raising 1.5 million dollars for a permanent endowment towards campus ministry and are asking you to consider joining us in building this legacy of love. You may want to give now towards this endowment or consider meeting with an LCMS gift counselor to see how your estate planning can be used to leave this legacy of love.

To give towards this endowment you can send a check with campus endowment on the memo line to: Good Shepherd Lutheran, 851 North Science Park Road, State College, PA 16803

To find out more about how your estate planning can leave a legacy of love to future generations, please contact:

Robert Wirth

LCMS Foundation

Gift Planning Counselor-Eastern District

716-863-4427 Cell

email:robert.wirth@lfnf.org

## ASCENSION LUTHERAN

### *McCandless*

Members of Ascension Lutheran Church have been busy packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. On kick-off Sunday (October 22), we had a guest speaker, Henrietta Doren, who is the Allegheny County Church Relations Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child. It looks like Ascension's record from last year will be broken and more children will hear the Gospel. Ascension's LWML group helped by packing 20 shoeboxes as well.

The Sunday School children of Ascension will present their annual Christmas Program on Sunday, December 17, 2017, during the 9:30 a.m. worship service. A candlelight Christmas Eve service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, 2017.

## BETHEL LUTHERAN

### *Glenshaw*

On October 28, Oktoberfest, Eddie Stabile got into the spirit of the evening by wearing his German attire (see picture).

Bethel will hold their annual Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 17, at Rebecca Residence and at the new High Pointe of Concordia Lutheran Ministry.



## CALVARY LUTHERAN

### *Murrysville*

Calvary Murrysville will feature Wednesday Evening Meditation opportunities during Advent on December 6 and 20 at 7 PM. Life's Journeys will be the theme.

Caroling at William Penn Care Center will be Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30 PM.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be offered at 5:30, 7:30, and 11:00 PM.

Christmas Day Service will be at 10:00 AM.

Our Youth Christmas Program and Potluck luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 17 at 10:00 AM (One service only that weekend).

We continue to provide worship opportunities each weekend on Saturdays at 5:30 PM and Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. Blessings to you and yours from your friends at Calvary during Advent, Christmas, and into the New Year.

## CONCORDIA LUTHERAN

### *Brentwood*

Advent is upon us, and Concordia brims with anticipation of this new Church Year. We kicked off a new year of Stewardship with our Annual Kickoff Luncheon on Sunday, November 12, with a covered dish luncheon. Norm Schumm gave a moving & heartfelt testimonial, as our Stewardship Committee addressed ways to increase giving, while also addressing our need to better evangelize (which leads to more stewardship opportunities), under the theme, "Sowing the harvest of tomorrow - our Stewardship TODAY, at Concordia."

Our Advent Wednesday theme, in this 500th Anniversary Year of the Reformation, is, "Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura". On Wednesday, 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20, we will learn how Christ is the very heart and fulfillment of these three great "Solos," made flesh for our salvation. Services are at 7:30 p.m. and all are welcome.

Our children will go Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins on Saturday, December 9, ending with a performance in the Assisted Living Center at Concordia of the South Hills. On Sunday, December 10, they will put on the annual "Advent Event" program, during the Divine Service.

Concordia's Christmas Eve "Festival of Carols" Service will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, while the Festival Day of Christmas Divine Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 25.

2017 will conclude on Sunday, December 31, with our "Eve of the Name of Jesus" service at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us and ring in the new year, IN Jesus name.

## MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN

### *West View*

Mt. Calvary in West View combined a Reformation service with its annual Oktoberfest to create a wonderful Sunday celebration. Following an inspirational service in the sanctuary, which included trumpet music by Anthony Thomas, members and friends went downstairs to the church hall for a traditional German meal.

Under the organization and preparation of Tom and Mechele Hoover, and with help from others, everyone en-



joyed a luncheon of pork and sauerkraut, hot dogs and kielbasa sandwiches, noodles, green beans, applesauce, German potato salad, and Holy Roman Empire (Caesar) salad – all homemade. Desserts completed the meal, and Conrad Oster-tag provided entertainment on the accordion.

Decorations that were still in place from VBS, including a "castle" with a "drawbridge" combined with German flags and posters to create a medieval atmosphere reminiscent of the type where Martin Luther might have enjoyed a dinner. (But his certainly wouldn't have been this good!)

In other activities during the month, Mt. Calvary provided cookies to the local Meals on Wheels, so donations brought in throughout October were taken to the facility. Also, on Halloween night, Georganne and Mike Paprocki led a team that passed out treat bags (including devotional tracts and information about Mt. Calvary) to youngsters, while adults were offered coffee or hot chocolate.

## PEACE LUTHERAN

### McMurray

#### Harvest festival

Members of Peace, McMurray, PA had a wonderful time celebrating the fall season at their annual Harvest Festival. Children and even some adults came in costume for a night of fellowship and fun.



#### College care packages

Twelve iC.A.R.E. kits (College Aid Response Effort) were assembled and shipped to members of Peace, McMurray, PA who are away at college and to those serving in the mili-

tary. Lots of goodies are included with the kits along with Portals of Prayer and notes of encouragement from our congregation. iC.A.R.E. kits are shipped during the first and second semester of the school year. "Cast all your cares on him because he cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7



## ZION LUTHERAN

### Bridgeville

**Christmas Decorating Party** - Mark your calendars for our 2nd Annual Christmas Decorating Party. More information to come! Dinner will be served Saturday, December 2, 4:00 p.m. Adults and Kids welcome!

**2017 Children's Christmas Program** - "And It Came to Pass" Sunday, December 10, 1:00 p.m. Lunch will be served following second service and prior to the program. The program will feature a Jesse Tree with ornaments that symbolize an ancestor or prophecy which foretold the coming of the Messiah. Come, Lord Jesus! Be our guest and encourage Zion's youngest disciples with the pleasure of your company!

**Portals of Prayer Prison Ministry** - The month of November is a perfect time to again bring thanksgiving for Zion members and Pastor Grimenstein because of your care in collecting used Portals of Prayer and other prayer booklets. As you know, these used booklets are gathered by Christ Lutheran Church, Forest Hills, under the direction of Ruth Hirko, and sent to a correctional facility for women in Muncy, PA.

The prison chaplain recently wrote the following: "The publications that you send to us don't last very long on our distribution racks. They are definitely touching many women's lives here."

With all praise to God and great thanks to you for your participation in bringing the light of Christ to these women.

### Kid's Corner

Do you know a child who loves to create? We are currently accepting submissions of children's drawings, paintings, art, and poetry for future issues of The Pittsburgh Lutheran.

Send submissions to:  
Pittsburgh.lutheran.editor@gmail.com

## PITTSBURGH AREA LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Schools was blessed with a lovely Autumn day for the 5K Run for Education. On October 7th. Participants gathered in Saxonburg, PA to experience scenic views of the two lakes, half-mile horse track, and beautiful rolling woods and farmland of Saxony Farm. The first-place male and female runners, Nathan Jackson and Charis Carroll, received \$100 certificates. It truly was a great day for the race. Proceeds enable PALS to continue its mission to support and promote Lutheran schools in the Pittsburgh area in the ministry of spreading the Gospel through distinctive Christ-centered education.

PALS values the support of our 2017 sponsors:

Gold Sponsor: Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Silver Sponsor: Penn Energy Services LLC

Mile Markers: Charlton & Charlton

Friend: Brown Wealth Management



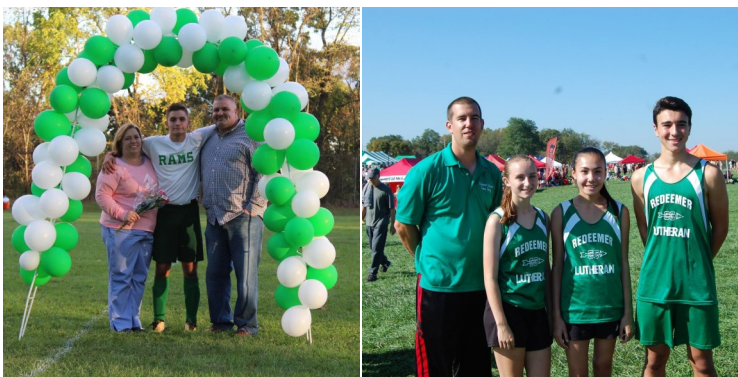
Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Schools: Helping to build a Child's Faith, Body, and Mind.

## REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

*Penn Hills / Oakmont*

It seems that fall is finally upon us here in western Pennsylvania. Although temperatures have dropped, the level of activity at RLS stays as busy and fulfilling as ever. On Thursday, October 19, we hosted our annual Fall High School Informational Event. Faculty and administration presented information on Redeemer's high school program and answered questions from interested students and families. We look forward to holding another HS Info Night in the spring.

As the month of October came to a close, our soccer, volleyball, and cross-country teams wound down their seasons. Our volleyball team enjoyed their inaugural season, our soc-



cer team finished with a 6-5 record, and our cross-country runners posted their best times at regionals in Slippery Rock. RLS seniors were honored at our last home soccer game with a special ceremony, and all teams were recognized at our pep rally earlier in the day. We had a terrific fall cheering on our Rams. We now look ahead to girls and boys basketball. They are practicing and preparing for their first games after Thanksgiving.

Redeemer hosted a special Reformation event on Saturday, October 28, to mark the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of his 95 theses. Redeemer faculty took us back to the days of Martin Luther in a special "Reformation Walk" that illustrated some of the facets of life in Germany and the church in 1517. Children took part in fun games and activities presented by our student council, while parents and kids alike enjoyed lunch prepared by the members of PALM. AriSon Records performed two concerts during the afternoon, and the event ended with a special showing of the new movie "Luther," with childcare provided by student council. It was a wonderful day spent with students, school and church families, and community members. Thank you to Redeemer faculty, PALM, Student Council, and AriSon Records for a terrific celebration.

On Sunday, November 5, we held our annual Ladies Luncheon at the Green Oaks Country Club in Verona. 140 women came together to support Redeemer while enjoying a delicious lunch and bidding on over 90 baskets of all kinds. Over \$6500 was raised during the afternoon. Thank you to all who participated in the event and donated items, and as always, a huge amount of appreciation to Jean Wilshire and her volunteer team for putting on such a fabulous event.



On Friday, November 10, we held our annual Veterans Day event. Due to the cold, we had to forego our usual parade to the cemetery, but our observance of the day was not dimmed. The entire school gathered at Redeemer Church in Oakmont to honor all those who have served and are currently serving in our country's armed forces around the world. Students presented poems and songs, and Pastor Jack Hartman from Concordia Lutheran Ministries shared a brief and heartfelt message with the veterans in attendance. We thank the Plum High School Air Force JROTC for once again providing our flag detail.



After the ceremony, lunch was served to those veterans that attended, and high school upperclassmen assembled



Christmas gift bags to send to troops that are currently deployed. Thanks to the generous donations of our school and church families, we were able to pack more than 150 bags. We are grateful for this opportunity to support and encourage those that are bravely defending our country and our freedom.

We wish everyone a blessed holiday season. We will see you in 2018.

### Goodbye from Kristianna Coburn

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! I have been serving my year-long Director of Christian Education internship with Redeemer Lutheran School in Verona, PA since January, and it is quickly coming to a close. I will be returning home to Alaska at the end of December, which means that I will be unable to continue coordinating the Pittsburgh Lutheran Youth Fellowship. But it doesn't have to end with me! I encourage all the church leaders within the Pittsburgh area to continue branching out and involving each other in their youth events (and any other events). We had a great time getting to know different youth and forming relationships with each other, and it would be a shame for it to stop now. If you have any interest in being a leader to help this group continue, please email me at [kcoburn@redeemer-oakmont.org](mailto:kcoburn@redeemer-oakmont.org), and I will be happy to provide you with more information. Thank you!

Blessings on your future ministry.

In Christ,

Kristianna Coburn

DCE Intern

Redeemer Lutheran School

## ZION LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

### *Bridgeville*

To convey the Gospel message in a visual way and keeping with the fall season, we use two carved pumpkins. The pumpkins presented to the children are side by side, one smiling with a candle lit inside, representing life with Jesus, and the other frowning and dark inside, representing life without Jesus. "For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:6.

I tell the children that Jesus is the Light of the World, and that He can provide a light to guide their lives if they love Him with their whole heart. The children all pay close attention as the lesson is being taught.



## Concordia Lutheran Ministries Elects Six New Board Members

Keith E. Frndak, President and CEO, Concordia Lutheran Ministries announced the election of six new board members yesterday at the annual delegate meeting.

Eighteen board members comprise the governing body and represent 32 Lutheran Churches Missouri Synod in the western Pennsylvania area.

Installed by Rev. Jack Hartman, director of chaplaincy services, the newly elected members follow. Each will serve a three-year term.

### Mary Ann Bornemann of Plum Borough

Mary Ann has been married for 42 years to Douglas and they have two daughters and two grandchildren. Retired for nine years as the administrative assistant to the principal at Redeemer Lutheran School, she enjoys floral arranging, gardening, shopping, and her volunteer work at Grace Lutheran Church in Penn Hills where she has served as Recording Secretary, Altar Guild Chair. In addition, Maryann works on Redeemer Lutheran School's Annual Fund Campaign and played a leadership role in the LCMS Planting Gospel Seeds While Serving Human Needs outreach. This will be her second consecutive term as a director. She was Chair of the Home Care Committee and served on the Quality Assurance and Compliance Committee.

### Peter Humphrey of Cranberry Township

A 1991 graduate of Penn State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Architectural Engineering, Peter was appointed President of SYNTHÉON, North America in December 2012 after serving as the Director of Design and Engineering since joining SYNTHÉON under NOVA Chemicals in 2010. A member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Freedom, he currently serves as Head Elder. He is married to wife, Terri and has two children. This is Peter's second consecutive year as a director. He was elected Vice Chairman for the Board last year and was a member of the Executive and Strategic Planning Committees.

### Rev. Barry J. Keurulainen of Cabot

Shepherd at St Luke, Cabot since 1982, Rev. Keurulainen served on the Concordia Board for 15 years previously. He also held leadership roles in the Eastern District, LCMS Board of Evangelism Services and its Board of Directors for the Lutheran Family Association and has written many devotions and Bible studies for Concordia Publishing House. He is married to Andie, and they have two grown daughters who live out of town and two grandchildren. He can be heard every Sunday on WORD-FM at 10:30 a.m. He served the previous three years as a director and this past year as Chairman of the Mission and Ministry Committee.

### Paul Rehkopf of Murrysville

Retired after 38 years at UPMC as Director of Laser Surgery, Paul is a former member of the clinical faculty at Pitt's School of Medicine and Chairman of the Medical Staff Laser Committee. Paul and his wife Laura have been members of Calvary for more than 30 years where he has served as an elder and a member of the chancel choir. He served seven previous terms on the Concordia parent board and sings with the Masterworks Concert Choral. Paul chaired the Quality Assurance and Compliance Committee this past year.

**Bob Schmidt of McMurray**

Bob is a graduate of Duquesne University with a master's degree in business education and the University of Notre Dame's Bayer custom MBA Program. Retired Vice President of Bayer Corporation in global Healthcare Information Management, North America Information Technology, and Operations an E-business & Technology, Bob also served as chairman, elder and chairman of the Board of Education for Zion in Bridgeville where he and his wife Diana have been members of 48 years. They have two children and six grandchildren. He served last year on both the finance and Audit and Strategic Planning Committees.

**Aubrey Merkle of Wexford**

Newly elected this year, Aubrey is a newer member of First Trinity and a Pittsburgh resident for the past three years. She graduated with a B.S. in Integrated Language Arts in Secondary Education from Defiance College and a M.Ed. in Student Affairs in Higher Education Administration from Wright State University both in Ohio. Her most recent employment was Academic Advising Coordinator and Instructor for Academic Affairs at Carlow University. She and her husband Thomas, married for eight years adopted three teenage sisters (two with special needs) six years ago. Aubrey serves on the Board of Directors for

North Park Trail Runners, and has completed seven ultramarathons. She serves on the Disability Access Committee working to raise funds for renovating the church to be universally accessible.

Presented with a thank-you plaque was Jim Limbaugh, St. Luke Cabot, and former Vice Chairman of the Board, for 25 years of service.

Twenty churches were represented and a total of 50 delegates as well as management staff and guests were in attendance. Keith E. Frndak, President and CEO is both impressed and delighted with the caliber of the candidates and looks forward to robust expansion and strong support of our mission of faithful caring.

**Concordia Alleluia Chorale Performs Annual Christmas Cantata**

The Concordia Alleluia Chorale will present its annual Christmas Cantata on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Haven I Dining Room at 112 Marwood Road in Cabot, PA 16023, entrances 2A and 2B. The Cantata is free and open to the public.

This year's performance, titled "Gabriel & the Angels" was written and directed by Concordia Haven III resident Carol Oliver, who first served as the piano accompanist for the 2010 Christmas cantata directed by the late Alma Wilson, also a Haven III resident. For the last seven years Carol has been directing both the Easter and Christmas sacred musicals focusing on a variety of prominent characters in these beloved Bible stories.

"This season we will hear the Christmas story from the viewpoint of God's angel, Gabriel and his interactions with Zacharias, father of John the Baptist (who was born just months) before Jesus and with Mary, Joseph and the shepherds," explains Carol. "We'll also learn about the important roles of angels throughout the Old and New Testaments," she adds. The Chorale consists of 33 Concordia residents. The program will include two numbers by a four-part men's chorus directed by newcomer Duane Brannon of Haven III and one Christmas carol by a select women's group. Rev. Ralph Storm (Haven I) plays the role of Gabriel. Judy Eshelman (Haven I) is narrator. The performance is accompanied by pianists Martha France (Haven I) and Lois Volstad (Haven II).

Following the Cantata performance refreshments will be served. For more information on this event, please contact Lynn Turner at 724-352-1571 ext. 8518 or visit Concordia's News and Events page ([www.concordialm.org/events-news](http://www.concordialm.org/events-news)).

**Highpointe at Rebecca Presents Seniors for Save Driving**

Highpointe at Rebecca, Concordia newest retirement living community, located at 1871 Highpointe Lane, Allison Park, will be a new location for the Seniors for Safe Driving course.

The class will be held on Monday, December 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room and the main floor. A one-hour break for lunch will be provided courtesy of Highpointe. Interested parties need to call 1-800-559-4880 or register online at [www.SeniorsForSafeDriving.com](http://www.SeniorsForSafeDriving.com)

This PennDOT approved driver improvement course is designed specifically for mature drivers, 55 years and older. It is an opportunity that allows participants to refresh their driving techniques, regain lost confidence, and develop a positive driving attitude.

All insurance companies authorized to write private passenger automobile insurance within PA provide a premium discount for each motor vehicle on a policy under which all named participants are 55 years of age or older, and have successfully completed a motor vehicle driver improvement course meeting the standards of the Department of Transportation. The minimum reduction is 5% per policy. Please check your insurance policy for details.

Participants need to take an approved course every three years to continue to be eligible for the discount on insurance.

## Got Bells in your Closet?

by Carol Oliver

Two residents of the Concordia Havens in Cabot are interested in organizing an English hand bell choir; one has directed choral and bell choirs for approximately 40 years and the other is an enthusiastic and experienced bell ringer. However, they have a problem. At this point, the residents have no bells!

We are aware that there are churches in the Pittsburgh and surrounding areas who have sets of beautiful English hand bells packed away in storage. Some churches are closing or possibly merging and have belts that could be offered a new life, inspiring involvement, and enhancing worship.

Naturally, we would welcome a donation to our "Faith in Caring" center here in Cabot. More likely, perhaps a sales agreement or a borrowing contract could be arranged. If you have any information that would help us to revive otherwise idle bells, please contact Shirley Freyer at 724-352-1571 ext. 8266.

## Non-Discrimination Policy

The In accordance with the Provisions of Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act of 1995, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2010), and the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, please be informed that it is the policy of Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care, to admit and treat all residents without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, religious creed, handicap, disability, or any other category that may be protected under applicable law.

This non-discriminatory policy applies to all applicants, residents, employees, and physicians of Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care. Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care is an equal opportunity employer and provides employment, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, religious creed, handicap, or disability.

It is the policy of Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care to comply with these acts in all areas and no person shall be excluded from participation in, or be denied benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in the provisions of any service, including but not limited to our skilled, assisted living, and homecare services.

This policy and notification is inclusive of Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care and all its locations, which include: Concordia at Cabot; Concordia at Ridgewood Place; Concordia at The Orchard; and Concordia Haven Apartments. Employees and others working for Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care are expected to implement and abide by this policy of non-discrimination in services and employment opportunity.

Keith E. Frndak  
President & CEO of Concordia Lutheran Health and Human Care

The Annual Concordia of the South Hills

# Holiday Bazaar

Tuesday, December 5

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Retirement Living Common Area

Shop for everyone on your list!  
*Get something special for yourself!*

Satisfy your sweet tooth with the employee bake sale!

Auction Baskets, Jewelry, Fashion Accessories,  
Ornaments, Art Work and Holiday Decorations

*Proceeds benefit the Concordia of the South Hills Caring Fund.*

For more information call 412-294-1306.  
1300 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Complementary valet parking available



"The mission of the Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM) is to facilitate cooperation among the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations in the Pittsburgh region and outer lying areas in supporting the mission work of the church. PALM is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS."