



THE PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN

VOL 88, NO 7 | September 2018

PALM News pages 2-4
Mission News page 5
Campus Ministry pages 6-7
Congregation News pages 8-11
School News pages 11-12
Concordia News pages 12-15

Welcoming the new English District LCMS Gift Planning Counselor

Do you know the new guy on the block?

The LCMS Foundation is celebrating its 60th Anniversary this year. We are the primary provider of charitable expertise for The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. The Foundation has decades of charitable expertise, helping to ensure that families are provided for and beloved ministries are supported. We are all about stewardship, let me explain.

Someone once said that if you want to hear God laugh, tell Him your plan. Isn't it such a comfort that, as called and chosen children of God, we know He has a plan for our life.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and Not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11)

Because He sacrificed His only Son to make us heirs of His kingdom, we know that the plan He has for us is a great one.

Deep down inside, each of us wants to leave something behind. We want to leave a legacy. We want to be significant. We want an epitaph with substance. God put this desire in us because it is one of our purposes in life. The most blessed words we will ever hear are those that will come from our Lord as we enter heaven, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things: I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share in your Master's happiness" (Matt. 25:14-30)

The meaning of's

The blessings of faithful stewardship begin with understanding ownership. In my early childhood education, I was taught the meaning of's. It meant possession or showed ownership.

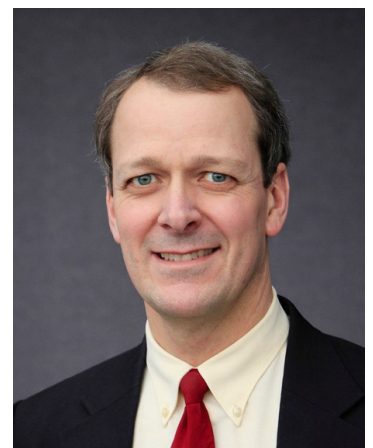
In our world we are caught up in the goal of ownership by saying, "I have this" or "I have that." Remember the saying, "the one with the most toys wins?" The gospel recognizes the one who owns all things. We are therefore managers, not owners. Everything has been entrusted to us to

care for until the Master returns.

Apply the's to money. We should learn from the parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-20). Who is going to get what you have prepared? Is this life about building bigger barns for me? It is really about "Transferring the Blessings" for God's purposes, not just my pleasures. God has called us to Transfer the Blessings entrusted to us so that we will become blessings for others. Our Lord promises to enrich us heart, mind and soul as we give. And He promises to provide for our needs in such a way that we always have the ability to give to others.

We recognize that God has placed a Personal Gift Plan in each Christian's heart. As a Gift Planning Counselor, my goal is to assist you in discovering that plan God has placed on your heart since baptism, faithfully transferring the blessings God has entrusted to you for the care of your family and the ministries that are near and dear to your heart. It would be my pleasure to get to know you and to work with you to uncover the plan that God has put on your heart. By the way if you haven't realized, I am the new guy on the block and I look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have about the LCMS Foundation and what we can do for you, with His help.

Ron Grimm
English District
Gift Planning Counselor
(412) 584-7039
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Mark your Calendar

September

3. Nar-Anon, Bethel, Glenshaw, weekly on Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
8. 3rd Annual John Toperzer Memorial Pirates Game, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:05 Game
8. Pittsburgh Zone LWML Board meeting, Christ Lutheran, Forest Hills, 10am.
9. Rally Day Picnic, Zion Sunday School, Bridgeville, immediately after late service.
11. "Johnny Angel Trio", Concordia Haven Apartments, 7:00 p.m.
12. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Lutheran Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
15. 150th Anniversary event at Zion Lawrenceville
16. Open House, Concordia Haven Apartments, at Haven I 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
16. Rally Day Sunday School Festivities, Calvary Lutheran, Murrysville, 9:45 a.m.
17. Open House, Concordia Haven Apartments, at Haven I 9:00 a.m.to 3:30 p.m.
18. Concordia Open House, South Hills Campus, 1300 Bower Hill Road in Mt. Lebanon, 10:00 a.m.to noon
21. First Anniversary Celebration, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, "Unexpected Benefits of Concordia Retirement Living" from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., happy hour following with the Rich Zabinski Trio.
23. Our First Community Day, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
25. Concordia Open House, South Hills Campus, 1300 Bower Hill Road in Mt. Lebanon, 1:00 p.m.to 3:00p.m.
26. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Lutheran Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
27. The Cabot Grief Support Group, Haven II, Cabot, Thursday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
29. Christ Lutheran 72nd P.A.L.g.S. golf outing, Victory Hills Golf Course, Elizabeth, 9:00am

October

4. The Cabot Grief Support Group, Haven II, Cabot, Thursday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
6. Concordia Oktoberfest, Haven 1, Cabot, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
6. Ascension Lutheran Church's Annual Pumpkin Fest& Flea Market, Ascension Lutheran Church, McCandless, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
10. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Luthera Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
11. The Cabot Grief Support Group, Haven II, Cabot, Thursday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
13. Pittsburgh Zone LWML Rally, Prince of Peace, Freedom, 10am. registration
Speaker is Rev. Alex Knowles, Camp Pioneer
18. The Cabot Grief Support Group, Haven II, Cabot, Thursday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
24. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Lutheran Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
25. The Cabot Grief Support Group, Haven II, Cabot, Thursday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
28. Pittsburgh Area LCMS Reformation Day Service 3pm. See page 4 for details.

November

1. The Cabot Grief Support Group, Haven II, Cabot, Thursday mornings, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
- 10.-11 43rd Annual Christian Art Show, Calvary Lutheran, Murrysville.
11. Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting, Haven 1 Dining Room, Cabot, 3:00 p.m.
14. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Lutheran Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
28. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Lutheran Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

December

12. Beaver Grief Support Group, Hope Lutheran Church, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

PALM Mission Spotlight: The Next Generation

by Pr. Bob McCanness, PALM Mission Director

What a great experience our **2nd Annual Community Day** in Hazelwood turned out to be. It's fascinating to think of mission work in terms of "plowing new ground", particularly as we look at our opportunities in Hazelwood and elsewhere.

The ground of Hazelwood in fact, IS 'freshly plowed' in many places. Plowed UNDER, is the industrial rubble of the 19th and 20th centuries, the steel mills and iron works that built America and rebuilt the world following the World Wars. Even as we celebrated back in August, in the shadow of the hollowed-out shell that was once part of J&L Steel's Mill 19, new ground behind our celebration has been plowed for Uber's driverless test track facility. New restaurants and shops are sprouting up in that reclaimed neighborhood – proving that one can indeed sow NEW seed in a place that many would claim is "unsuitable".

The Parable of the Sower (Mt.13) is so simple because it's not up to us to decide where to sow the Gospel seed. ANYWHERE – ANYTIME – ANY WAY – is a good time and place to sow seed. Even if a 'former industrial site' doesn't 'look' like the kind of place we would think to sow seed (and let's face it – this is Pittsburgh where isn't there an 'industrial site' around us?) sow it ANYWAYS. You just might be surprised what grows there.

Along those lines, mark your calendar for Sunday, September 16, the date of PALM's Annual Business Meeting this year. Held at First Trinity in Oakland that afternoon, your congregation's delegates will hear reports on our mission efforts this past year in Hazelwood, and elsewhere. You'll find out who will receive mission grants for this coming year, learn of other upcoming mission work, and you will elect new officers to the board. This is a most important function for your congregation. It is your voice in the ministry and work of PALM and helps chart the course you'd like to see mission work take in our midst.

One of those positions that will have to be replaced this term is that of PALM's Mission Director. A three-year term, my time in that position now comes to an end. It has been one of the most enjoyable, challenging, and exciting things I've done in my almost 16 years here in Pittsburgh. I urge you, as the delegates of PALM, to consider prayerfully a motivated replacement. I look forward to helping the "next man up" in this position, even as I transition to Circuit Visitor in SW Pittsburgh. My focus will naturally be the health and well-being of our circuit's congregations, Pastors, and church workers, but mission is near and dear to my heart. I will never be more than an e-mail away from a good idea. I'll still have an attentive ear for an inspired suggestion; no one will cheer on the next man more than I.

We have an exciting future together here under the PALM umbrella. I for one can't wait to see where the Holy Spirit leads next.



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<http://www.palmpa.org>



**2018 Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Reformation Day Service**

Sunday, October 28, 2018, 3:00 PM

**First Trinity Evangelical-Lutheran Church
531 N Neville Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213**



Special Guest Preacher:
The Reverend Dr. Gregory P. Seltz
Former Speaker of "The Lutheran Hour" and Executive Director of
the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C.



Sponsored by
Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries and
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Concordia Lutheran Ministries.

Ample Parking generously provided by Oakland Catholic High School.

Devotion

by Rev'd Brian Westgate

"Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He hath done." – Psalm 78:1-4

Another school year is under way! Our Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Schools family is already hard at work. Students are doing their homework. Teachers are preparing lesson plans and executing them. The staffs are making sure everything runs smoothly.

Why do we have Lutheran schools and preschools? There are so many other schools around. Why support these? Why send our children to them if we are able? Because of God's Word. Now there is no command to operate a Lutheran Day School, no command that you must send your children there. But God's Word is the chief book in a Lutheran school, whereas you might not find it these days in other schools.

Many of the subjects are the same, of course, but their purpose is different. In the Lutheran school they are taught to give all glory to God. He is the center of it all. The Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of mankind is the Source, the Focus, and the Goal of everything we teach. May God bless our teachers and our students as they learn more about Him and all He has done for us, both this year and always.



Mileposters News

On July 12 and 13, in support of LCMS efforts in Puerto Rico, the group leader made a two-day, 108-mile, unsupported round trip on the triplet between West Mifflin and Connellsville, spending the night at Melody Motor Lodge and enjoying breakfast at Ed's Diner, a favorite stop on rides to Cumberland and Washington, DC. A surprise on the 12th was meeting Lynn Glorieux, secretary of the East Allegheny Community Council, who recalled how the Mileposters used to ride in East Park during St. Matthew school hours. Among pauses on the trip was one at Mile-post 56, on the way home (pictured). Added to 70 miles in two previous rides by the group leader, the resulting total for the Puerto Rico campaign was 178. Then on July 28, our blind stoker Penny Fleckenstein, riding with current trail mom Beth Kloss (pictured at Duquesne, PA), turned Bellevue to Boston, PA, adding 51 more, for a new total of 229.



Training rides for new captains continued; the total for the summer could be as many as five, including two from the 15212 Zip code in Pittsburgh, two from Bellevue, and one from West Mifflin.



On July 21, to kick off the campaign for Campus Ministry at First Trinity Lutheran, Tim Palmer and his children Sophia, Jacob, Joseph, and Lucia made a 20-mile round trip on the Montour Trail between Mile 0 and Mile 10. Sophia and Jacob are junior and freshman at the University of Dayton and the University of Rochester, respectively. Joseph is a freshman at Moon Area High School, and Lucia is in 8th grade at Moon Area Middle School. The family is pictured having a snack at Mile 6 on the way out.

RELATIONSHIP AND STABILITY WITHIN A SEA OF TURBULENCE

By Pastor Eric R. Andrae, Campus Ministry in Pittsburgh

As a new school year begins, it is a good time to reflect to the end of last semester when three young adults were confirmed at the Easter Vigil on March 31, 2018.

Xiaoqi Esther Shen, a graduate student at Pitt from China; Kyle Wagner, a Licensed Professional Counselor from Pittsburgh; and Kaitlyn Fong, a Chinese-American freshman at CMU who grew up in China, all made the good confession of faith. I recently asked them some questions about their confirmation, how they came to First Trinity, and the role of the campus ministry in their life now. Mostly in their own words...

Esther mentioned that she “used to be in a non-denominational church but felt that I should go to a church which is more mature and belongs to a denomination” and found us online. Meanwhile, Kyle was “raised Presbyterian (PCUSA), but I had just heard the worst sermon in my life. So, I decided to try other denominations. With the 500th anniversary of the Reformation coming up, I decided to start at the beginning with Lutherans. I prefer old, stone buildings, and decided to seek out First Trinity after an online search of Lutheran churches in Pittsburgh.” Kaitlyn added that she “came across First Trinity by noticing it in the Carnegie Mellon orientation schedule booklet, as well as, walking around the area.”

Why did they come back, why did they stay? Kyles commented, “Big, old building. Nice people with a younger crowd. Good music. Very traditional, old world style. I once heard, on the radio, to find ‘a church that bends the world around the Bible, not the Bible around the world.’ I also appreciate First Trinity for having two pastors that are both able to speak with authority.” Kaitlyn echoed these sentiments and added, “I liked the traditional style of service as well as the community at Lutheran Student Fellowship (LSF). I think it’s a good way to divert from the college campus environment and interact with a range of different people from the Pittsburgh area.” Esther said simply, but profoundly, “I like this church because of the teachings in general and also the people are nice.”

They all appreciated the many months of catechesis/instruction leading to confirmation, with Esther saying that “the class is great, very detailed and systematic, and the instructor is very patient.” Kaitlyn maintained that “I really enjoyed the catechesis classes. I thought it was helpful and constructive. I had a lot of questions and doubts going into the class but through your lectures I feel like I have a better grasp and understanding.” They all wanted to be confirmed, with Esther specifically mentioning the desire for the Lord’s Supper, while Kyle declared that he “was confirmed because I felt that I had finally found a church that

taught what I believed. I also appreciate the fact that First Trinity visibly practices what it preaches by including the deaf, blind, and homeless community in every service.”

They all emphasized the vital role that the church and – for Esther and Kaitlyn – LSF plays for them. As Esther put it, “They are necessary because I need to communicate with other Christians. Church is kind of formal Christian life; the fellowship is like a student Club, but members are connected by the Lord. I learn here and also have good time with the students of same age. In college, both in China and U.S., the surroundings are difficult. Loneliness in faith could easily drive me away from the relationship with Jesus.”

Kaitlyn summed it up for them (us?) all, saying, “I have loved going to church every Sunday. I feel that it gives me a sense of stability within an otherwise chaotic and turbulent school environment.”

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR ESSENTIAL PRAYERS AND VITAL SUPPORT. Right now, we could really use extra gifts as giving has been down considerably this summer. **Please make checks out to First Trinity with "Campus Ministry" in the memo line, and mail to: Campus Mission, 535 N. Neville St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.** If you are a Thrivent member, please contribute through Thrivent Choice to "Lutheran Student Fellowship of Pittsburgh, PA". You can also **donate online:** scroll about halfway down at www.LSFPgh.com/donate.



Summertime Is Not Vacation Time for Campus Ministry

by Augusta R. Mennell, Campus Ministry Director

Wouldn't you think that summertime should be a time for vacations and rest? Well, it's not that way for campus ministry directors. Surprisingly, summertime is a very productive time in campus ministry because students now have time to think about the problems of the school year and how they have responded to them. This situation is especially valuable to campus ministry because the students often come in to talk about their experiences during the year. They come to ask campus ministry what they should do now.

This week Lisa came into see me. Weeks earlier, before graduating from SRU, Lisa (not her real name), an international student, came in to talk. She poured out her fears. She was in despair that she would not have enough money to pay her college fees so that she could graduate. She could not find anyone to cosign for her debts, and she could not earn enough money to pay the bill herself. She was so desperate that she was considering marriage just to have financial support. She is a Christian but had not made time for worship. Nevertheless, she was willing to pray. We prayed for God to help her. After that she left saying she would return soon.

She did not come back as she had promised she would. Then last week she came in to visit campus ministry. She looked a little bit sheepish because it had been so long, but she said she wanted to tell me what had happened. She exclaimed that a close relative had loaned her the money to pay her fees. She was therefore allowed to graduate. She not only graduated, but she was given an excellent internship and even a place to live when she does find a job. We thanked God for His blessings. She left Slippery Rock soon after for her internship out of state but said she would come back soon.

This time she did return, and we were able to talk about more than finances. We shared what the Bible says about forgiving people who are very hurtful; about accepting siblings who always insist on having everything their way; about believing that God forgives, not just most of our sins but all our sins when we repent. When she said goodbye this time she said she would lean on God for His strength. She had a much better and firmer understanding that God is faithful.

Conversations with Sally (not her real name) became deeper when she came in to talk this summer. What she shared is much more typical than anyone would believe. She described the hurt of being rejected by her parents. They won't even help her financially, although they have enough money to do so. This student is a Christian, so she believes it is important to love and honor her parents. But she struggles with guilt feelings because she is angry with them. She does not

want to feel the way she does. Her parents do not feel remorse. We turned to the Bible, where we read about Jesus' unconditional love. We saw that He will not reject us and will always be faithful. We prayed for God's help for her. Sally appreciated praying. She wants to lose her anger. She is lonely and enjoys our friendship.

Students come in the summer not only to share their challenges, but also to tell us about the wonderful people they've met since graduating. One of the students is Steve. He cannot say enough good words concerning his new LCMS church in Atlanta, Georgia. The pastor and congregation have made Steve feel like family in his new church in the same way that he had been at All Saints. He attends the summer midweek Bible class, which provides a meal before the study. Steve told his pastor that he must work Sunday mornings and will have to miss Communion. His pastor volunteered to serve him private communion after the Bible class. What a blessing to learn from this student, who had worshiped regularly at All Saints, that he continues to grow in faith.

Summertime is surprisingly productive because God is faithful as Pastor Todd A. Seaver, All Saints' Associate Pastor, pointed out in his Mary Magdalene sermon recently. Just as I was finishing this article Lisa came in to say that she must leave Slippery Rock because her room is no longer available to her. God's timing is so good. Our previous conversations have led her to forgive those who hurt her. She now trusts God to help her to be loving. She is overjoyed that now she can have more time with her parents before they fly home. Lisa has a peace from God. What a summer! What a faithful God!

All Saints will host a free concert featuring a Grammy-nominated group called The Choir on Wednesday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. We are going to erect a large tent next to the church in anticipation of a big crowd. The Choir will play songs from their new album, as well as from their hit album, Kissers and Killers.



Jill and the Rev. Todd A. Seaver

We hope you will join us.

Please pray for All Saints' ministry to college students.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN

McCandless

Ascension Lutheran Church's Annual Pumpkin Fest & Flea Market will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2018, from 8 AM to 1 PM at Ascension (8225 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237). Come spend a crisp fall morning with us. For the fifth year, our "almost famous" **HOMEMADE APPLE and PUMPKIN PIES** will be on sale, as well as homemade **VEGETABLE SOUP**, hot dogs, beverages, and various other goodies. Of course, there will be **PUMPKINS** for you to buy. The committee is also venturing into selling handmade cards and crafts that we hope will also become a tradition. Many other vendors with crafts or treasures participate in the **FLEA MARKET** both inside (even if it rains) and outside the church, weather permitting. To reserve a space for \$20, contact Vicki at vickig@zoominternet.net or 724-816-0413. For more information, please contact Trish at pyoung1234@comcast.net.

From July 16 to 19, 2018, Ascension went on a chilly expedition at Operation Arctic! With the help of 36 volunteers, we were able to share the Word of God with about 45 kids! During VBS we studied the greatest book in the world, the Bible. We learned how the Bible is entirely unique and a letter of love. We also discussed how we should build our lives upon the Bible, which will have an incredible impact in our lives! We made dog biscuits and decorated bandanas for the dogs at Orphans of the Storm Animal Shelter. We also collected \$96.50 for the Children's Hunger Fund, which will pay for 386 "Food Paks." These are given to children experiencing hunger in the US and abroad. On the last night of VBS, the children, families, volunteers, and church members enjoyed an ice cream sundae bar. It was a beautiful evening of fellowship with our VBS families! The congregation collected over 400 milk and water jugs so that an igloo could be made for VBS by congregation member Bob Marcellus. Please see accompanying picture.



BETHEL LUTHERAN

Glenshaw

Bethel Lutheran enjoyed the Summer by participating in **FAITH NIGHT** at PNC Park on July 27. Many from Bethel, Zion and St. John's Lutheran churches had a great time at the ball park, especially since the Pirates won!



Bethel hosted a Road Rally, Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Social in August. Thirty-seven enjoyed ice cream on a very warm summer evening. There were five teams for the road rally: The Go-getters, Team Luther, Love Bug, Tri-Parish Pariahs and The Crewsers. Team Love Bug won the race by successfully completing taking pictures with the team at various landmarks in Glenshaw, Lawrenceville and Millvale.

Bethel hopes to continue to join with their brothers and sisters in Christ from the near-by sister churches in fun and fellowship in the near future.

CHRIST LUTHERAN

Forest Hills

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH GOLF OUTING

So, the 72nd P.A.L.g.S. golf outing is on! Many of you have participated in the past and we have appreciated your support and look forward to seeing you again, and we are also excited about seeing any new golfers that wish to join us. Mark your calendars for Saturday September 29, 2018. It will be held at Victory Hills Golf Course in Elizabeth PA, with a 9:00am SHOT GUN start, a hot dog at the turn and a buffet dinner afterwards with prizes. Cost is \$80.00 per person. Please call to sign up 412-271-7173. We would like to have as many golfers as possible and have fun and fellowship all at the same time. If you are not a golfer or cannot attend the outing but would like to show you support by sponsoring a hole you may send a donation in any amount to Christ Lutheran Church & School 400 Barclay Ave Pgh PA. 15221 ATTN: Golf Outing. Thank you! Hope to see you there.

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN

Brentwood

August has remained a busy month at Concordia. Joy Toperzer has started a Women's Bible and Study Group this summer. Ladies are currently studying "The Vine Speaks," by Cindy Steinbeck (CPH publication) - a study in John 15. This group meets in her home in Whitehall at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Call the church (412) 881-3005 if you'd like to join us. There's always room for one more!

We are planning for our 3rd Annual John Toperzer Memorial Pirates Game at PNC Park. This year, it will be the September 8 game against the Florida Marlins, at 1:05 p.m. Call the church for more details, if you'd like to come along with us, or meet up with us at the ballpark. Our group photo will be taken during the top of the 3rd inning, in front of the AT&T Sports booth on the first base concourse (Section 107-105).

Congratulations to members George and Nancy Jones, who renewed their wedding vows on their 50th Anniversary (to the day!) during the Divine Service on Sunday, July 29.

Sunday School returns to 9:15 a.m., and the Divine Service to 10:30 a.m., on Sunday, September 9.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN

State College

Revive Welcomes New Director of Campus Ministry

by Matt Slaybaugh, Director of Campus Ministry

"Hello", my name is Matt Slaybaugh. I have recently accepted the call to Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church in State College, PA. I will be serving as the Director of Campus Ministry to Penn State. I graduated from Concordia Chicago in 2017 as a Director of Christian Education. I previously served a church in Central Illinois primarily leading youth ministry.

I grew up in the suburbs of Raleigh, North Carolina. However, I do have a Pennsylvania connection with family living in Gettysburg. This did not give me a choice but to be a Penn State football fan.

I would love to connect with anyone you may know attending Penn State's main campus in 2018-19. Please submit their contact information (name, phone number, email address) to me at pennstatelsf@gmail.com.



You can also learn more about our campus ministry at:

Website - revivepsu.com

Facebook - "Revive at Penn State"

Instagram & Twitter - [@revivepsu](https://www.instagram.com/revivepsu)

Martin Luther Lutheran Church

Punxsutawney

Martin Luther Lutheran Church Punxsutawney has a new long-awaited elevator to its second-floor sanctuary. It is now installed and fully operational. It has provided needed elevator access for a number of communicant member of the congregation who, by reason of physical limitations and handicaps were previously denied access. It is hoped that due to the aging of our local community others might welcome an opportunity to use our elevator to join us in the Divine Service. We are contacting other members of our community to advise them of the enhanced access now provided and invite them to participate here with us. In any case the new elevator affords us new opportunities to carry the Means of Grace beyond our immediate vicinity. With God's help, these efforts will surely bear fruit.

CALVARY LUTHERAN

Murrysville

Some of our August activities - we recognized our volunteers with a dinner and fellowship on August 1. Our annual "blessing of the backpacks" occurred at all services on August 18 and 19.

Kindergarten began on August 22 under the direction of Laura Hoff. And the Camp Fire Devotion and Fellowship was held on August 25.

Rally Day festivities are planned for September 16 at 9:45 a.m. with Sunday School for all ages. Sunday morning Bible Study re-starts September 23 at 9:45 a.m.

Our Women's Bible Study meets each Tuesday at 10 a.m. and our Men's Bible Study meets each first and third Saturdays at 8 a.m.

We continue to worship each Saturday at 5:30 p.m. (contemporary), Sunday 8:30 a.m. (Traditional), and Sunday 11:00 a.m. (Praise). Come and check us out as we serve the Lord connecting people to the love of Jesus.

AN INVITATION TO ARTISTS

Christian artists of all ages and skills working in any medium are invited to enter their original artwork in the 43rd Annual Christian Art Show, November 10 and 11 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Murrysville.

Pre-registration deadline is November 1. Entry forms are available at the church office, Old Wm Penn Highway & School Road, during morning weekday office hours, or call the office at (724) 327-2898. Registration forms are available by e-mail at: suznbobk@aol.com or call Sue at (724) 327-4230. They are also available on Calvary's web site www.CalvaryLCMS.org.

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN

West View

August is always a busy month for Mt. Calvary in West View. This is usually when both the church picnic and Vacation Bible School occur, and this year was no exception.

The picnic was held at Wall Park on Sunday, August 12, with the church service beginning at 11:00 a.m., after which everyone enjoyed good food and fellowship.

VBS was the week immediately following, August 13 to 17.



MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN (con't)

West View

However, for many evenings prior to that, members of the congregation were busy decorating the church hall to reflect the "Splash Canyon" theme. Organized by Tom and Mechele Hoover, the volunteers cut and pasted and painted to transform the hall into a scenic area with waterfalls and canyons, along with craft and snack zones. Watch for photos and more information next month.



PENTECOST LUTHERAN

Avella

When Pentecost Lutheran Church, Avella, closed earlier this year after Easter, the faithful of the parish donated their Altar, pulpit, and lectern to a mission congregation in the Dallas, TX area, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Frisco, TX.

The faithful of this congregation, a mission plant of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church of Plano, TX, are very happy to have received these gifts from God. It just so happens that this congregation has an historic connection to this sanctuary furniture. This picture was taken by Mrs. Susan Folkmann, a member of St. John's, Frisco. She is a granddaughter of the sainted Pastor Lorenz Blankenbuehler, long-time pastor at First Trinity, who also served Pentecost, Avella, for many years. Though we are saddened to say goodbye to Pentecost Avella, we rejoice that her memory will continue with the saints in Frisco.



ZION LUTHERAN

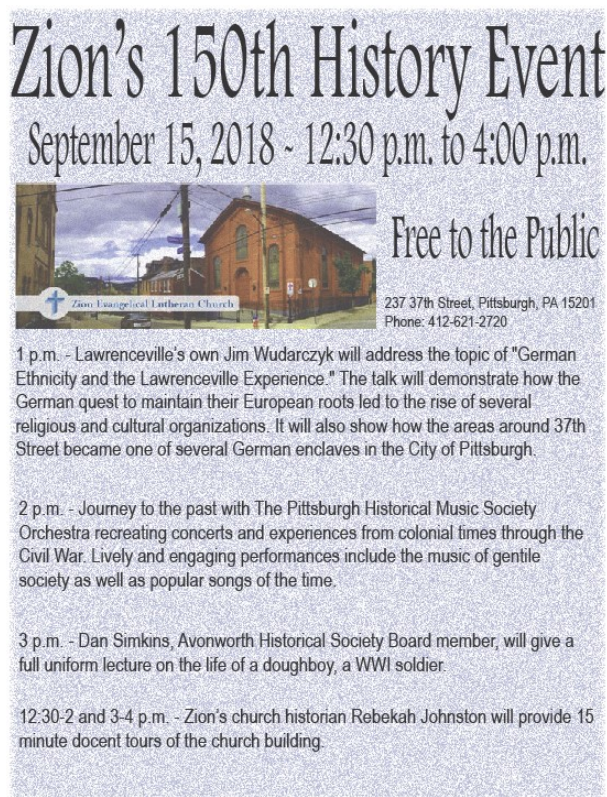
Bridgeville

MUSIC MINISTRY... Sign Up sheets are in the back of the church for Adult Choir, Men's Choir, Children's Choir, and Hand Bell Choir. If you are interested in joining one or more of these groups, please sign up. See Mark Killinger if you have any questions. We will start rehearsals on August 14, Grace Ringers at 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., Adult Choir at 7:15 to 8:15 p.m., Faith Ringers at 8:15 to 9:15 p.m. Children's Choir rehearsals will begin in September following the 10:30 service and Men's Choir rehearsals will begin in late August.

Sunday School's Rally Day Picnic – Join us on Sunday, September 9, after the late service in the Picnic Pavilion. This is a Pot Luck Picnic: Last Name A – M: bring a side dish. Last Name N – Z: bring a dessert. Don't forget your lawn chairs.

ZION

Lawrenceville



Zion's 150th History Event
September 15, 2018 - 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Free to the Public

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
237 37th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201
Phone: 412-621-2720

1 p.m. - Lawrenceville's own Jim Wudarczyk will address the topic of "German Ethnicity and the Lawrenceville Experience." The talk will demonstrate how the German quest to maintain their European roots led to the rise of several religious and cultural organizations. It will also show how the areas around 37th Street became one of several German enclaves in the City of Pittsburgh.

2 p.m. - Journey to the past with The Pittsburgh Historical Music Society Orchestra recreating concerts and experiences from colonial times through the Civil War. Lively and engaging performances include the music of genteel society as well as popular songs of the time.

3 p.m. - Dan Simkins, Avonworth Historical Society Board member, will give a full uniform lecture on the life of a doughboy, a WWI soldier.

12:30-2 and 3-4 p.m. - Zion's church historian Rebekah Johnston will provide 15 minute docent tours of the church building.

PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN CENTER FOR THE BLIND

SEPTEMBER IS HERE – A NEW SEASON OF MEALS BEGINS

As many of you know, we take a break from programming at the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind over the summer. What we do instead is plan for the next season, do some paperwork, hold a Summer Ice Cream Social and more.

A bit about us: The Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind (PLCB) is an outreach center. An outreach center seeks to meet human needs, which opens opportunities to address eternal needs.

Who we serve/what we do:

Our mission: The Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the blind seeks to reach out to the blind and visually impaired of Pittsburgh, feeling their needs, and touching them with the love of Jesus, that they may reach out and touch others with the love of Jesus.

Programs: The Monthly Meal is an excellent opportunity for persons who are blind or visually impaired to be exposed to a supportive Christian environment in a non-threatening way. We invite persons who are blind/visually impaired to attend. At least eight times a year we offer a full-course meal along with a Topical Bible Study and Vespers Service.

How you can serve:

For the past 19 years the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind has been serving meals to individuals who are blind/visually impaired. There are many ways to become involved:

- * Pray for the Outreach Center
- * Sponsor or cook a meal
- * Assist on the day of the meal: Escort our guests, plate/serve food, set up the room and help with clean-up.
- * Provide dessert for a meal
- * Provide items suitable for a treat bag. Treat bags are given two or three times a year.
- * Participate in our annual Bake Sale Fundraiser by donating a baked good or purchasing some treats for your family/friends to enjoy. Or, conduct a fundraiser of your own with proceeds going to the PLCB.

Assist the director with such tasks as:

- * Brainstorming for possible entertainment. (We like to have something special for the December meal.)
- * Offer other suggestions and input as requested
- * Be a scribe by assisting in the completion of assorted documents such as grant applications and other paper work. (The words would be provided; it is simply the writing which is needed.)
- * Periodically assist with shopping for necessary supplies.

PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN CENTER FOR THE BLIND (con't)

2018-19 Meal Dates:

September 22

November 3

December 8

January 26, 2019

February 23

March 30

April 27

May 18

February 3: Annual Fundraiser Bake Sale

We coordinate volunteers etc. well in advance of each meal. If you would like to assist ... or would like more information about the Outreach Center, please let me know. Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind, 535 N. Neville Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213; Phone: 412-682-1800; Email: director@plcb.net.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Oakmont/Penn Hills

Redeemer Lutheran School is busily preparing for the beginning of school on August 22nd. Please continue to uphold all faculty, staff, and school families in prayer. We look forward to sharing our news and updates with you in the next edition.

Two Concordia Residents Celebrate Centenarian Status

Concordia of the South Hills personal care resident David Campbell celebrated his 100th birthday on August 23, 2018. Campbell and his wife Helen were among the founders at this community having moved in October of 2002 from down the street at the Bower Hill Apartments. A lifelong resident of South Hills, he was born in Dormont. The couple married on December 26, 1949 at Dormont Presbyterian Church and are parents to Claire who also resides in Mt. Lebanon and David of Georgia. They are blessed with five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. After his retirement from property management and insurance the Campbells wintered in Florida for close to 20 years. An Army veteran of World War II, he served in Europe and Japan until after V-Day. A member of Mt. Lebanon Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Dave was a Little League Baseball coach and spent 15 years as a hospice volunteer. He enjoyed golfing and gardening. Dave's advice for longevity: "Eat lots of applesauce (and whatever was put on the table) and stay active (fixing things about the house)!"

Concordia at Cabot skilled nursing resident Martha Hobaugh celebrated her 100th birthday on August 20, 2018. Margaret lived in Vandergrift before coming to Concordia nearly five years ago. She worked as a bookkeeper for U.S. Steel in Vandergrift until she retired. Margaret is a member of the Church of Christ in Vandergrift. She credits "good living" as her secret to living to 100.

Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting

The Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 11 at 3:00 p.m. in the Haven 1 Dining Room, entrance 2A, 112 Marwood Rd.

Registration will begin at 2:30 p.m. and dinner will be served following the meeting at 5 p.m. The main agenda item is the election of six members to the Board of Directors. Each member congregation is entitled to three votes – one pastor plus two delegates.

For more information, please contact Director of Public Relations Shirley Freyer at 724.352.1571, ext. 8266

Open House Held at Concordia of the South Hills

The public is invited to learn more about why Concordia is the best retirement value in the area on Tuesdays, Sept. 18 from 10:00 a.m. to noon and Sept. 25 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Open House events on our South Hills campus located at 1300 Bower Hill Road in Mt. Lebanon near St. Clair Hospital.

Attendees will have the opportunity to tour the building including retirement living apartments as well as personal care and short-term rehab/skilled nursing units. Refreshments will be served in the Harmony Room in the common area of the community.

For more information or to register online visit the Events and News section of the website at www.concordialm.org/events-news or call Director of Marketing Christie Wahlen at 412-278-1300. Visit us online at www.concordia-southhills.org. Personal tours are also available at any time by appointment.

Concordia's Good Samaritan Hospice Conducts Grief Support Sessions

Good Samaritan Hospice, a mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries, will conduct two grief support groups this fall for anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one.

The Cabot Grief Support Group runs consecutive Thursday mornings from Sept. 27 through Nov. 1 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Haven II classroom on the second floor of the retirement living apartment located on the Cabot campus, 148 Marwood Road at Entrance 5. Pre-registration is necessary for this session by Sept. 17.

The Beaver Grief Support Group is held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from Sept. 12 through Dec. 12 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 45 Maple Drive in Beaver. Participants can register at any time during the 14 weeks for any of the sessions.

Both sessions are open to the public and free to all attendees. To register or for more information, you are invited to contact Nicole Rosswog, Bereavement Coordinator at 800-720-2557, ext. 4423.

Founded more than 135 years ago, Concordia Lutheran Ministries is a faith-based, CARF-CCAC-accredited Aging Services Network and recipient of the inaugural Pennsylvania Department of Aging Excellence in Quality Care Award. As one of the 50 largest nonprofit senior care providers in the country, the organization serves over 40,000 people annually through home care and inpatient locations in western PA and eastern OH. adult day services, home care, hospice, medical and

Concordia's Good Samaritan Hospice Conducts Grief Support Sessions (con't)

Concordia offers a lifetime continuum of care that includes adult day services, home care, hospice, medical and rehabilitation services, memory care, personal care, assisted living, respite care, retirement living, skilled nursing/short-term rehab, spiritual care and medical equipment.

Highpointe Kicks Off First Anniversary Celebration with A Weekend of Events and A Special Discount Announcement

Concordia's retirement living community Highpointe at Rebecca in Allison Park, is celebrating its first birthday the weekend of September 21 with events on Friday beginning at 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 23 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Current residents will present "Unexpected Benefits of Concordia Retirement Living" from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., followed by happy hour with entertainment from the Rich Zabinski Trio on Friday, September 21.

Our First Community Day will be introduced on Sunday, September 23 from 1-3 p.m. Bring the whole family! Enjoy the River City Brass in our expansive main courtyard. Face painting, a caricature artist and more will be available for the kids.

Tours of three model apartments – one bedroom, two bedroom and large two bedroom will be available at each of these events and weekly throughout October.

In honor of our First Anniversary, Highpointe at Rebecca will offer our opening pricing for 30 DAYS ONLY, from October 1 to 30. This means that those who commit to Highpointe in that time frame will receive a 6% discount on their entrance fee, monthly fee and second person fee. Combined with our 3% veteran's discount (ask about our eligibility requirements) and 10% discount on future health care services as Concordia at Rebecca Residence, this exclusive offer can save you thousands now and in coming years.

Highpointe residents have said that their new home and service package is the best retirement living value in the Pittsburgh North region – and there's still time to join them at a discounted rate. Now is the best time to learn more about these limited-time offers. For more information or to register online, visit the Events & News page at www.ConcordiaLM.org or call Julie Spirnock at 724-444-1521. Private tours are also available at your convenience.

Come and meet our founding residents to learn more about the community and why they chose Highpointe at Rebecca.

Summer Concert Series at Cabot Haven Apartments Offers Free Entertainment

The third of four summer concerts at Concordia Haven Apartments community will feature the “Johnny Angel Trio” on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be held in the Haven 1 Dining Room, 112 Marwood Road in Cabot.

When you experience an evening with Johnny Angel, you become a part of the Fabulous Fifties, the Soulful Sixties, the Unpredictable Seventies and see tributes to The Blues Brothers, Rock ‘n’ Roll Hall of Famers and so much more. They trace the street corner, a cappella scene, the great dance crazes, the familiar singalong tunes we all remember. Whether you are a dancing fanatic or only want to sit back and groove, the is one you won’t want to miss.

AS OUR GUEST you will have the opportunity to hear not-to-be-missed concerts at no charge. Tours of our beautiful campus will be available before each performance. And you will meet our residents and have the chance to talk with them about the worry-free lifestyle at Concordia Havens.

PARKING is free and convenient to the Haven I Dining Room.

Walk-ins are welcome - but registration is appreciated. To reserve your seat, call 724-352-1571, ext. 8518 or e-mail, lturner@concordialm.org.

You can also register using the simple online form on the Coming Events page of our website, www.ConcordiaHaven.org.

If you would prefer a personal tour, please call Peggy Trettel at 724-352-5378.

Concordia Retirement Living Hosts Open House Events

Concordia Haven Apartments is hosting an Open House on Sunday, September 16 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and on Monday, September 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Haven I located at 112 Marwood Road (Entrance 2A).

Tours of the Haven I building and model apartments will be offered, and guests will have the opportunity to ask questions. Learn more about why Concordia is the best retirement value in the area. Veterans can take advantage of special discounts.

For more information or to register online, visit the Events & News page at www.ConcordiaLM.org or call Peggy Trettel at 724-352-5378. Private tours are also available at your convenience.

A New Doctor in the House

On behalf of the Concordia Physician Practice, the Concordia family is pleased to welcome Grant J. Shevchik, MD, FAAFP.

Dr Shevchik has an impressive background having served as a staff physician for the Allegheny Health Network and UPMC Physician Services. His work experience includes leadership roles in his private practice as well as at both hospital systems as well as hospice care, rehabilitation and nursing home environments.

Board certified in family practice and geriatric medicine, he is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He completed his family practice residency at Shadyside Hospital where he maintains staff privileges. He is a senior aviation medical examiner and is licensed for CDL physicals.

He has two grown daughters, Lauren Armstrong and Catherine McCarthy, Ph.D. and currently resides in Murrysville where he was raised. Beginning in September 15 he will he will begin seeing patients in Concordia Skilled, Personal Care, and outpatient offices.

“I am blessed to join the Concordia family and look forward to providing patient-focus care to this community and beyond,” said Dr. Shevchik.

President and CEO Keith E. Frndak has confidence in Dr. Shevchik’s abilities to become an integral part of the expansion of this aspect of our mission.

The practice is now accepting new patients at 112 Marwood Road, Suite 5000 in Cabot. For an appointment please call 724-352-4448.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR CONCORDIA'S OKTOBERFEST

Concordia is planning its annual Oktoberfest, a tradition that speaks to the ethnicity of our founders and we are looking forward to hosting you on Saturday, October 6 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for a day of celebration. Festivities include baked goods from area congregations and a rummage sale (proceeds donated to Concordia's Good Samaritan Endowment Fund. IF YOUR CONGREGATION WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE A TABLE TO SELL BAKED GOODS OR ANY OTHER ITEMS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR CHURCH, PLEASE CALL SHIRLEY FREYER AT 724-352-1571, EXT. 8266 OR E-MAIL SFREYER@CONCORDIALM.ORG BY SEPTEMBER 21. Hayrides and a bona-fide German band – Mikey Dee Polka Band as well as a special German menu are planned, all located at Haven I. Tours of Haven I will also be available. The Concordia Visiting Nurses will provide flu vaccines in the Haven I Lobby area. Games, crafts, ponies and a bounce castle for kids will be provided in the ballfield behind Haven I. All children age 12 and under are entitled to three food vouchers to be used in our Quick Tent. See flier for more or call the Public Relations Office at 724-352-1571, ext. 8266

Oktoberfest 2018

Saturday, October 6, 4-8 p.m.
Haven I



For your Enjoyment: German Band, Hayrides

For your Appetite: German-Themed Menu

For your Kids: Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, Balloon Artist, Games, Pumpkin Painting, Free Food and much more

For your Curiosity: Haven I Open House

Rummage & Baked Goods Sales (4-6 p.m.), Flu Shots and more.

For more information call 724-352-1571, ext. 8266

www.concordialm.org • Haven I - 112 Marwood Rd., Cabot, PA 16023