



THE PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN

VOL 89, NO 8, OCTOBER 2019

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| PALM News | 1-3 |
| Campus Ministry | 4-5 |
| Mission News | 6-7 |
| Special Events | 8-10 |
| Congregation News | 11-14 |
| School News | 15-17 |
| Concordia News | 17-19 |

PALM DEVOTION

by Rev. Brian Westgate

"The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our Refuge." – Psalm 46:7/11

Fall is here now, and that means the kids are looking forward to Halloween. Trick or treating is fun, but it is not related to the meaning of that word Halloween. It simply means All Hallows Eve, the evening before All Saints Day.

We Lutherans look forward to celebrating that day for another reason: it's the day in 1517 A+D Dr. Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of Wittenberg's Castle Church, protesting the Roman Church's indulgences. He was not fully formed by the Gospel at that time, but was still grappling with what Jesus does for us. He was still learning what it means that Yahveh of Sabaoth is with us, the God of Jacob is our Refuge.

He quickly learned. It means Jesus is not a stern judge for the Christian. He is our loving Savior. He does not condemn us because He condemned Himself on the Cross for our sins. Therefore He acquits us, remits our death sentence, forgives us, and gives us eternal life. He does this through His Means of Grace, preaching and the Sacraments. God is for us. He's on our side.

This is what Dr. Luther taught. This is what the Scriptures teach. God, keep Your faithful people steadfast in Your grace and truth and protect, comfort and defend us with Your saving peace!



Mark your Calendar

October

- 5. Annual Pumpkin Fest & Flea Market, Ascension Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 5. Annual Pumpkin Fest & Flea Market, Ascension Lutheran Church, McCandless, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 5. Concordia Lutheran Ministries Oktoberfest, Haven I, Cabot, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 13. "Smart Questions to Ask" Concordia Haven Apartments, Cabot, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 14. Open House, Concordia Haven Apartments, Cabot, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 20. Open House, Concordia of the South Hills, Mt. Lebanon, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 20. Open House, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 20. 170th Anniversary, Prince of Peace, Freedom, 10:15 a.m.
- 21. Open House, Concordia of the South Hills, Mt. Lebanon 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 21. Open House, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 25. Dinner & Movie Nite, Concordia Lutheran, Brentwood, 6:30 p.m.
- 26. Tri Parish Oktoberfest, Bethel Lutheran, Glenshaw, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- 28. Christian Art Show at Calvary, Murrysville.
Pre-registration deadline.



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<http://www.palmpa.org>

Mark your Calendar

November

3. "Lifestyle" Concordia Haven Apartments, Cabot, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
4. Open House, Concordia Haven Apartments, Cabot, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
9. The 44th Annual Christian Art Show, Calvary Murrysville, 9:00 am to 4:00pm
9. Bake Sale & Basket Raffle Fundraiser, Calvary, Murrysville, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.
10. CLM Annual Meeting, Haven Dining room, Cabot, 3:00 p.m. Dinner at 5:00 p.m.
10. The 44th Annual Christian Art Show, Calvary Murrysville, Noon to 4:00pm.
11. Veteran's Day Service, Minersville Cemetery, time TBD
17. Open House, Concordia of the South Hills, Mt. Lebanon, 1:00p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
17. Open House, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
18. Open House Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
18. Open House, Concordia of the South Hills, Mt. Lebanon, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

PALM NEWS

The annual area Reformation Festival service is right around the corner. It will be held this year at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1261 Pennsylvania Ave. (Pennsylvania Ave. & 13th St.), Oakmont, on Sunday, October 27, at 3:00 p.m. A reception will follow.

We hope you will be able to attend. The preacher for this service will be Rev. William C. "Bud" Palmer, pastor of Emmanuel Deaf Lutheran Church, West Allis, WI (Milwaukee area). Pastor Westgate will be the organist. The offering at this service will be collected for St. John's Clarksburg. The Festival is a great way to get to know our fellow LCMS Lutherans in the Pittsburgh region.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

PSU Revive Campus Ministry Kicks Off

By Matt Slaybaugh, Director of Revive Campus Ministry

It's an exciting time of the year here in State College! Our international students arrived on campus August 15th and Pastor Bryan Spang and I were involved helping with their orientation sign in and moving them in. During the first week of school, we met LCMS students and others through our Involvement Fair and personal recruitment around campus. We also had our Labor Day Party, outdoor games and lunch together on campus. For our weekly gatherings, we're excited to be going through The Red Letter Challenge by: Zach Zehnder. Lastly, we had a Fall Retreat at Krislund Camp September 20-22. You can support our ministry through these opportunities:

- 1) Prayer is greatly appreciated
- 2) Let us know if you know any students attending Penn State's Main Campus and submit their contact info. It could even be someone you know from your community
- 3) Stay informed about the ministry- email me at slaybaugh.matt@gmail.com to be added to our ministry newsletter
- 4) Give financially to support our ministry based on donations

Online at goodshepherdsc.org click "donate" at the top of our website and designate funds to "campus ministry"

Check - made out to Good Shepherd Lutheran and put "Campus Ministry" in the memo line

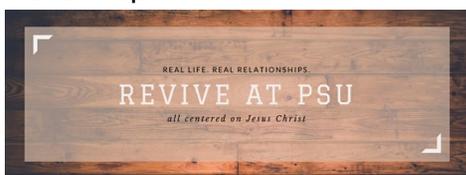
Download the App "Give+" and list our church zip code "16803" click on the church Good Shepherd and designate funds to "campus ministry"

To learn more about our ministry visit:

Website- revivepsu.com

Facebook- "Revive at Penn State"

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



Campus Ministry: a Lifesaver

by Augusta R. Mennell, Campus Ministry Director

Campus ministry means even more to me because our oldest granddaughter went off to college this semester. Our prayers are that she will find a campus ministry at her university.

College students are basically the same as students were twenty-five years ago. Although they are much more tech savvy, they are still often broken on the inside, no matter how well-adjusted they seem to be on the outside. The recent suicide of a Slippery Rock University student who was a popular leader on campus made this shockingly apparent. He allowed inner pain, which he had not shared with anyone, to overwhelm him. So he took his own life.

A bright young student popped in to campus ministry on the first day of classes this semester. Thankfully, she had the courage to come and ask for help in dealing with some personal painful issues. College students need unconditional friendship and the clear Gospel. All Saints campus ministry has these for students.

The important thing is that through campus ministry many people are reaching out and providing care for students. Xueni (pronounced shoo NEE) is one example of how campus ministry makes the difference. Xueni is a Chinese college student who came to Slippery Rock eight years ago. She took a break from her college courses in China to work as a nanny for an American couple who have lovingly adopted several children from China. They invited Xueni to be a nanny so she could help care for their young family. While Xueni lived with them she wanted to meet more Americans. Someone at Slippery Rock University suggested that she contact All Saints Campus Ministry, saying that they were very friendly and therefore would be happy to help. We invited Xueni to our annual Thanksgiving dinner in our home, and she came. Then

Campus Ministry: a Lifesaver (continued)

she gladly accepted our invitation to study the Bible two or three times a week at All Saints. What a remarkable student she was and is! She soaked up the Bible like a sponge. Studying the Bible quickly became the center of her life. She realized that her passion was sharing the Gospel. She wanted to be baptized, but something held her back: she wanted to be baptized with her father. The first thing she did when she went home to China was to be baptized with him.

One thing led to another. An international professor who came to campus ministry to improve his English and to learn a little of the Bible introduced Xueni to a couple who were getting ready to go to China as missionaries. They became



close. This couple gave advice to Xueni about how she could serve God. They guided her while she was living in China, Angola, and Australia. Since they are back in Ohio now, they brought Xueni to visit All Saints this summer. Xueni is now attending Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. She has an internship teaching Chinese to English speaking students, and she has a scholarship to study linguistics. She thanks the missionary couple for all their prayers. Xueni explained that it was not easy to know where she should work or study. What made a difference was the help from campus ministry and help from friends who gave her advice and love. I will never forget her time in Bible class. The thing that stays in my mind is one statement it seems like she made repeatedly: "I have one more question!" She always wanted to learn more about God's Word.

Not all students need as much as Xueni did, but almost all of them could use a place to be: a home away from home. Effective campus ministry makes a huge difference for impressionable and vulnerable young people. I hope it will in my granddaughter's life, too. Each of our student Korean meals will be introduced with the words that whatever their burdens or challenges or fears are, All Saints campus ministry is here for them. We want to do all we can to help.

LOCAL MISSION

Mileposters News

The Still Ravaged campaign to support LCMS ministry in Puerto Rico has finished, with a total of 1,024 miles. Appeal letters are being mailed out. Although Dorian mostly missed Puerto Rico, the damage from Maria has still been only minimally repaired. Some 30,000 homes are still missing their roofs, making do with the familiar blue emergency tarps. Over a thousand roads are still blocked, and Puerto Rico is \$70 billion in debt.

The effort to support Campus Ministry at First Trinity in Oakland has begun, with 396 miles ridden so far. Included are 5 miles by the 20th and 21st new riders of the season on August 19 (pictured), one of two round trips between Greenfield and Downtown on the Eliza Furnace Trail; the other was August 22 (also pictured).

In order to get more riders out at the same time, another tandem, a Raleigh Companion, has been added to the stable, purchased in Waynesburg, PA on August 29.



Both captain and stoker positions are short, enabling smaller riders to fit. Also acquired in August were two aluminum alloy frames, one to re-frame the second Mileposters tandem, and the other for future expansion or replacement. Three of the current tandems were built by the group leader, customized for smaller stokers, and in one case for our shortest adult captain ever; it is now perfect for our newest trail mom.

On September 2, the group leader, riding the original Mileposters tandem alone, broke his season record by doing 20 miles in 1 hour and 49 minutes, all stops included, on a round trip from Buena Vista, PA to Cedar Creek County Park in Westmoreland County--the new best time in five years.



INTERNATIONAL MISSION

Rev. Charles Wokoma, LCMS Missionary to Nigeria

On Sunday, September 15, Zion Lutheran Church, Bridgeville, received a very special visitor from Nigeria – Rev. Charles Wokoma. Rev. Charles Wokoma is a called LCMS missionary who serves in Nigeria as a theological educator. He teaches a wide range of classes to students on theology and scripture. Rev. Wokoma was born in Nigeria, became a U.S. citizen, and is a graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne.

During his visit to Zion, Rev. Wokoma preached at both divine services. During the Bible study hour, Zion hosted a light continental breakfast to about 75 persons as Rev. Wokoma gave a presentation highlighting his work in Nigeria. Rev. Wokoma shared with Zion the many challenges students face coming to the seminary to study to become a Lutheran pastor. The majority of students come well below the poverty level even in Nigeria. They often tend farms on the seminary grounds to help provide food for themselves and others while they study. A grant given several years ago from the LCMS allowed the seminary to build a fish farm. The fish farm provides students with much needed protein. As Rev. Wokoma remarked, “due to the lack of protein in their diet many of the students were tired and falling asleep during class.” In addition to the food challenges, students have difficulty procuring proper clothing and medical care while they attend the seminary. A recent grant from Concordia Lutheran Ministries has been very beneficial in providing medical care, and additional food staples to the students. The seminary is very thankful for her partnership with so many individual donors, congregations and organizations that support their work of training young men for the pastoral ministry.

During Rev. Wokoma’s presentation, he also shared the growing threat of militant Islam that he, the students and the seminary face on a daily basis. Several Lutheran churches have been looted and even bombed in regions where the terrorist organization, *Boko Haram*, is active. In spite of their financial needs and lack of safety, students still flock to the seminary and are very dedicated to the work of Christ and His church. If you would like to support Rev. Wokoma and his ministry, learn more about it and pray for him, please visit: <https://www.lcms.org/rwokoma>



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Ascension Lutheran - *McCandless*

Ascension Lutheran Church's Annual Pumpkin Fest & Flea Market will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2019, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Ascension (8225 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237). Come spend a crisp fall morning with us. For the sixth year, our "almost famous" HOMEMADE APPLE and PUMPKIN PIES will be on sale, as well as hot dogs, beverages, and various other goodies. Of course, there will be PUMPKINS for you to buy. The committee will also have some unique crafts for sale. 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.

Bethel Lutheran - *Glenshaw*

Bethel will be holding an Oktoberfest in conjunction with The Tri Parish group on Saturday, October 26, at Bethel Lutheran Church, 301 Scott Avenue in Glenshaw. The fun will take place from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is a free event but a Free Will Offering will be taken to benefit Redeemer Lutheran School in Oakmont. All your traditional German food will be served.

Calvary Lutheran - *Murrysville*

The 44th Annual Christian Art Show is November 9 and 10 at Calvary Murrysville, Old Wm Penn Hwy and School Road in the lower level Fellowship Hall. Hours are 9:00 am to 4:00pm on Saturday and Noon to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Lunch will be available at the Gallery Café. Artists of all ages and skills are invited to share their God-given talent in the visual arts and enter their original artwork in any medium into the show. Pre-registration deadline is Monday, October 28. Entry forms are available at the church office or call (724) 327-2898 or on the web at www.calvaryLCMS.org. They are also available as an e-mail attachment at suznbobk@aol.com. or call Sue at (724) 327-4230.

A Bake Sale & Basket Raffle Fundraiser will be held at Calvary Murrysville's entry narthex on Saturday, November 9 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Old Wm Penn Hwy and School Road.

Concordia Lutheran- *Brentwood*

On Friday, October 25, "Dinner and a Movie Nite" returns, with a 6:30 p.m. viewing of the Academy Award nominated 1953 film, "Martin Luther". Younger folk may be better acquainted with the 2003 "Luther" movie, but as we recently acquired this film on DVD, we look forward to seeing it that Reformation weekend. All are welcome to attend!

Our youth are also looking forward to our annual Simmon's Farm Hayride in October. If you're interested in joining up with us, contact Pastor McCanless at the church, (412) 881-3005.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Concordia Lutheran Ministries will hold its annual Oktoberfest celebration featuring a spectacular Fireworks display on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Haven I (112 Marwood Rd., Cabot, Entrance 2A). Children 12 and under will receive a free food voucher for the Quick Tent. Entertainment will be provided by the Mikey Dee Polka Band. Free parking and shuttle service will be available. The event is open to the community and admission is free.

The Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 3:00 p.m. in the Haven 1 Dining Room, entrance 2A, 112 Marwood Rd., Cabot. Registration will begin at 2:30 p.m. and dinner will be served following the meeting at 5 p.m. For more information, please contact Director of Public Relations Shirley Freyer at 724.352.1571, ext. 8266.

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 Oct. 17 through Nov. 21 from 10:00- 11:30 a.m. in the Haven II classroom on the second floor, located on the Cabot campus, 148 Marwood Road at Entrance 5. Pre-registration is necessary for this session by Oct. 14. To register, contact Nicole Rosswog, Bereavement Coordinator at 800-720-2557, ext. 4423. The Beaver Grief Support Group is held on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 25 through Oct. 30 at the Beaver Inpatient Unit Chapel in Heritage Valley Medical Center, 1000 Dutch Ridge Rd., Tower B, 4th Floor. Pre-registration is necessary for this session by Sept. 20. To register, contact Janice Campbell, OSF, Spiritual Care Counselor at 800-720-2557. Both sessions are open to the public and free to all attendees.

First Trinity Lutheran - *Shadyside*

A class on the intersection of film and faith will be offered, free of charge, at First Trinity in Oakland on Sunday nights from September 29 through November 3, with each session running from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Popcorn and pizza to be provided, and childcare is available upon request.

Prince of Peace Lutheran - *Freedom*

On October 20, 2019, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Freedom, PA will celebrate the 170th anniversary of its founding. Our Eastern District President, Rev. Dr. Chris Wicher, will speak after dinner on the history of the LCMS in our region. A chicken dinner will be served immediately following the 10:15 a.m. Sunday service.

If you would like to celebrate this special event with us please contact the church office at 724-728-3881 or popluthsecy@comcast.net . RSVP by October 1, 2019. Space is limited.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Service of Recognition at St. John's Clarksburg

Sunday, October 6, at 4:00 p.m., is the day and time the service will be held at St. John's Clarksburg, WV to recognize it as a new congregation of the Missouri Synod and the English District. Pastor Ben Eder, English District Eastern Region Vice President, of Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Kenmore, NY (Buffalo), will preach. Pastor Westgate, Circuit Visitor, will lead the service. Pastor Oester will serve as the lector. Rev. Robert Zagore, executive director of the LCMS Office of National Mission, will also be present. The church is at the corner of Park & Meigs just east of downtown Clarksburg.

Zion- Lawrenceville

More than two years ago Bethel, Glenshaw, St. John's Millvale and Zion, Lawrenceville formed a Tri-Parish group and work together on activities as well as shared services for evening worship - at Thanksgiving, during Advent and Lent. The three congregations do a round robin alternating between locations with Pastors Litke and Hahn presiding. On Saturday, October 26 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the Tri-Parish group invites everyone to an Oktoberfest at Bethel, 301 Scott Avenue, Glenshaw complete with homemade potato pancakes, beer and entertainment. This is a fundraiser on behalf of Redeemer Lutheran School. A freewill offering will be collected. For more information, please call 412-486-5777.

Palm News

The annual area Reformation Festival service is right around the corner. It will be held this year at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1261 Pennsylvania Ave. (Pennsylvania Ave. & 13th St.), Oakmont, on Sunday, October 27, at 3:00 p.m. A reception will follow.

BodyGenesis Gym and Fellowship of Christian Athletes hosts:

WEIGHTS & The Word

After school youth program designed to encourage faithful followership in the world of competitive sports. Come lift weights and be encouraged by the Word and one another.

Contact Pastor Gandy for more details.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

ASCENSION LUTHERAN

McCandless

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES will again be collected at Ascension Lutheran Church (8225 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237). Kick-off Sunday will be Sunday, October 13, 2019.

If you are interested in packing a shoebox(es), we have both plastic shoeboxes and cardboard shoeboxes available. Shoeboxes are due back no later than 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 24, 2019. For more information about packing a shoebox, you can visit the Operation Christmas Child website at www.samaritanspurse.org/occ. If you would like to participate, please contact Bob Marcellus at finance@ascensionpgh.com

BETHEL LUTHERAN

Glenshaw

The Pastor at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. Arthur Litke, recently announced to his flock his plan to retire from his ministry profession in June 2020. He has been Bethel's shepherd for 23 years.

Four members of Bethel participated in the first Tri Parish Retreat at Camp Pioneer in late August. Fred Heintz was the oldest of the group, 69, to successfully climb the tower and zip line to the ground. During the retreat we had some time to make "plarn", plastic yarn, which will then be crocheted into mats for First Trinity Homeless Ministry.

BETHEL LUTHERAN (continued)

Glenshaw

Bethel will be holding an Oktoberfest in conjunction with The Tri Parish group on Saturday, October 26, at Bethel Lutheran Church, 301 Scott Avenue in Glenshaw. The fun will take place from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is a free event but a Free Will Offering will be taken to benefit Redeemer Lutheran School in Oakmont. All your traditional German food will be served.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

CHRIST LUTHERAN

Forest Hills

On September 8, Christ Lutheran combined Rally Day or Education Sunday with Fall Fellowship. Sunday school reconvened, teachers were installed, and a luncheon followed the worship service. The hand bell choir added lovely tones to the worship service.



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN

Brentwood

Concordia members enjoyed "Rally/Homecoming Sunday" on September 9. Following a service of preaching and hymns around the theme of "The Cost of Discipleship", members enjoyed a potluck luncheon and fellowship in the undercroft. Following on the heels of this summer's Synod Convention, and Resolution 5-09A, the Adult Sunday School began a study of the Book of Genesis that day. This study will go throughout the year, as we study the foundation of God's creation in it.



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN (continued)

Brentwood



On Friday, October 25, "Dinner and a Movie Nite" returns, with a 6:30 p.m. viewing of the Academy Award nominated 1953 film, "Martin Luther". Younger folk may be better acquainted with the 2003 "Luther" movie, but as we recently acquired this film on DVD, we look forward to seeing it that Reformation weekend. All are welcome to attend!

Our youth are also looking forward to our annual Simmon's Farm Hayride in October. If you're interested in joining up with us, contact Pastor McCanless at the church, (412) 881-3005.

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN

West View

After a summer of vacations and picnics and outdoor fun – and of course church – the Outreach Group at Mt. Calvary in West View met early in September to begin planning myriad activities for the rest of the year.

Three annual events will keep everyone busy in October: baking cookies for Meals on Wheels; preparing and enjoying an Oktoberfest feast in the church hall at the end of the month; and passing out treats and crafts (for children) and coffee and hot chocolate (for adults) on Halloween.

November will be the time to begin putting together Christmas gift packages for the people receiving Meals on Wheels, and also to begin collecting items and supplies for the Christmas Blessings outreach. And following church service the first Sunday in December, members of the congregation and friends will partake in the annual Christmas luncheon/grab bag.

In addition, bell and voice choir rehearsals will begin in October, with the two groups performing on certain Sundays throughout the holiday season.

Watch for more details on all events in the coming months.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN

Oakmont

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Oakmont celebrated the beginning of the 2019-20 school year on Sunday, August 18.

During the morning service, the annual induction of teachers and staff was held. That afternoon, all the area congregations and the school families

REDEEMER LUTHERAN (continued)

Oakmont

were invited to the annual church picnic, held this year on the school grounds. Many people attended and enjoyed the good food, fun games, and great conversation, including members from First Trinity and Trinity Monroeville.

We thank them all for coming!

ST LUKE LUTHERAN

Cabot and Butler

Pastor Gandy and St. Luke Lutheran Church and School in Cabot have collaborated with the local regional Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) director and local gym owner to host an after-school program designed to foster faithful followership in all Christian athletes.

It's no secret that churches are at competing ends with after-school extracurricular activities, particularly sports. Parents find themselves conflicted about sending their children to sports camps, practices, and games. Pastors and congregations worry about losing young minds, adept to the faith, to the secularism of sports idolatry and to a life apart from the Church.

"Weights & The Word" aims to combat that mindset by bringing the catechetical instruction of the classroom and the devotional life of home into the training life of these young Christian athletes, who are pulled in the direction of sports. This is by no means a substitution for the celebration of Sunday worship. Rather it is an opportunity to keep the faith within the vocation these student athletes find themselves.

ST LUKE LUTHERAN (continued)

Cabot and Butler

Inasmuch as St. Paul exhorts Christians to strive beyond physical training to foster spiritual training (1 Timothy 4:8), strict discipline is rooted and fostered in both (1 Corinthians 9:24ff). Moreover, developing and nurturing the faith in such a manner as this program benefits the development of the athlete's Christian identity within his/her respective sport. Athletes who remember St. Paul's words from 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 compete with the intent of not their own glory, but the glory of God who has bestowed such gifts and talents.

Pray that the student athletes in this program will become the future witnesses that will joyfully boast about Christ.

ZION LUTHERAN

Lawrenceville

Tri Parish Retreat

A small group of members from the Tri-Parish alliance enjoyed a weekend retreat at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center August 23 to 25. Bible studies, worship in the outside chapel, zip lining (for the strong), outdoor games and of course three square meals, songs and prayers around the campfire passed the time quickly and assured a second annual Tri-Parish Retreat.

The group picture shows, Left to right, the Terry Miller family from Zion; Rev. Art and Marie Litke and Donna and Fred Heintz, Bethel; Beth Schweitzer and Shirley Freyer, Zion and the Gary Schaar family representing St. John's. Not pictured, Rev. Dan and Mary Hahn as this photo was taken on Sunday afternoon and they returned late Saturday evening to cover worship services at Bethel and St John's.

ZION LUTHERAN (continued)



Donna Heintz, Bethel Glenshaw church secretary is preparing for the zip line!

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Oakmont/Penn Hills

Redeemer’s two campuses opened the doors for the first day of school on Wednesday, August 21. Our middle and high school students began the year with their annual teambuilding retreat. This year’s retreat was held at Camp Pioneer, a Christian camp along the shores of Lake Erie in New York. Students participated in devotional times, outdoor games, and other activities to encourage leadership and bonding.



RLHS freshmen girls wait their turn for the ropes course at Camp Pioneer

Redeemer held the annual Dads Night event on Thursday, August 30. Preschool thru 4th grade students and their Dads/father figures enjoyed a tailgate dinner before participating in a fun evening of games and activities. Thank you to our teachers for coordinating the event, and to our students and dads for attending; we love the opportunity to celebrate our school families!



The Hagey family enjoying Redeemer Dads Night

With the advent of the school year comes the fall athletic season! The volleyball, soccer, and cross country teams began practicing before school began, and have been busy ever since, with games, matches, and meets taking place all around the greater Pittsburgh area. The high school cross country team competed in the Red, White, and Blue invitational at Schenley Park on September 7. Each team member posted a “PR”—their personal best time!



RLHS cross country boys preparing for a race at Schenley Park

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL (continued)

Oakmont/Penn Hills

Our high school robotics team is gearing up for the annual BEST Competition. The event is hosted at Penn State DuBois this year, with the final competition taking place on October 18 and 19. As of this writing, the team has just received their competition challenge from the kickoff event last Saturday; we wish Mrs. Schumacher and the students the very best as they collaborate and prepare for the competition!



Robotics coach Mrs. Schumacher observes the challenge for this year's competition

Looking ahead to the next issue: Details on this year's National Honor Society induction, more sports updates, and a focus on our new middle/high school teacher, Mrs. Jodi Sloboda.

ST. LUKE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Cabot

St. Luke Lutheran School opened its doors to 224 students, pre-school to 8th grade, on August 28 for the 2019-2020 school year.

This year our theme is Joyful Always. This is in reference to the scripture found in 1Thessalonians 5:16-18,

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."



ZION LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Bridgeville

Zion Lutheran Preschool welcomed 183 students for their first day of school. Each class has 12 to 18 students and serves children ages 2 through 5. Eleven different classes are offered between the morning and afternoon session. Our days are full of play, academics, learning about Jesus and so much more.

If you would like to know more about our preschool, please contact Tracey Harris at tharris@zlcb.org



CONCORDIA NEWS

Concordia Salutes 40 Year Employee for Dedicated Service

President and CEO Keith E. Frndak proclaimed the week of August 25 as Patty Baker Week at Concordia in recognition of 40 years of service to the Cabot community.

Patty Baker lived on Cooper Road in Saxonburg and after high school she decided to try her hand at finding a job at Concordia. "It was close to home, I liked the hours and I had a ride with my parents who both worked at nearby Duco Ceramics," said Patty.

She soon found that talking to the residents about their families and what they did when they were young was what she liked best about her work in the housekeeping department at Concordia. The fondness she developed for those who lived in Oertel Care Center and then in Lund plus the people she worked with is what caused her to stay for four decades. Looking back, she believes that her decision to come to Concordia was a wise one. "It worked out good for me," she expressed over and over again.



Concordia Celebrates Seven Centenarians in 30 Days

Concordia Lutheran Ministries is home to 55 residents who are 100 or more years old. Seven of those enjoyed birthdays between August 10 and September 9.

James B. Talman began the celebrations on August 10, when he turned 103 having moved to Concordia at Villa St. Joseph this past April. Concordia at Sumner skilled nursing resident **Merle Payne DeGazon** observed her 100th birthday on August 13. Having lived at Concordia Haven III for the past 18 years, former Butler resident **Kathryn Bish McNutt** reached centenarian status on August 17. On August 18, Concordia at Cabot skilled nursing resident **Helen Welsh Ward** celebrated her 100th birthday. **Jennie Pontano Meledandri** was 101 on August 22 at Concordia at Ridgewood Place. Concordia at Cabot personal care resident **Helen Denny Cypher** celebrated her 107th birthday on September 5. **Mary Rodgers Duryea** who has lived at Concordia of Fox Chapel since last December enjoyed her 100th birthday on September 8.



Mary Rodgers Duryea



Helen Denny Cypher



Merle Payne DeGazon