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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Celebrates 150th Anniversary



Anniversary Service and Reception

The oldest existing church in Lawrenceville, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary on Sunday, April 22 at a 2:30 p.m. worship service at its location, 237-37th Street.

Guest preacher Rev. Eugene Reddel, retired as a chaplain for V.A. will preach the message. Rev. Dr. Dan Hahn, pastor at sister congregation St. John's Lutheran Church in Millvale will be the lector. Both have been guest preachers during the church's current vacancy. Two hymns which were sung in German at the first anniversary celebration will be part of the service.

A dinner reception will follow for invited guests at Highpointe at Rebecca, Concordia Lutheran Ministries' (CLM) newest retirement community located in Allison Park. Zion is a member church of CLM.

Several congregants will be recognized according to Zion's president Terry Miller. Currently, the oldest member is Stella Hughes, a resident at a local care facility. The oldest member who attends services is Robert Kuepper, age 92 of Hampton Twp. who has been a member for 63 years. At 90 years of age, Mildred Molkenthin of Glenshaw is the oldest lifelong member and her great grand-daughter Quinn Freyer is the youngest. She is almost four and lives with her family in Allison Park.

All are welcome to join us at our worship service of thanksgiving.

Regular Sunday services are held at 11:30 a.m.

History of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Zion was named Third German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Pittsburgh, PA in 1868 where services were held in German until 1928. Rev. C. Engelder accepted the call to be Zion's first minister in 1868. Zion also called Mr. A. Mueller, the first schoolteacher, for the school. The Deed dated April 16, 1868 was purchased by the men of the congregation to secure land on which to build a Lutheran Church. A small wooden frame church building and school were erected. Within a few years the congregation outgrew the church structure and an adjacent lot with a house was purchased. On March 8, 1874 a new brick church was dedicated and is today's worship site. A day school, which started with 60 pupils, also prospered. In 1886 a brick building was erected to house the school. The year 1897 boasted the highest enrollment of 155 children. This Christian day school continued to operate for 55 years. The current pipe organ was built for the church's 60th Anniversary in 1928. Women's suffrage was introduced in 1970.

Sixteen pastors have been called to served Zion. Serving the longest tenure with 26 years was Rev. Martin Hein from 1880 until 1906. The church organist, Ruth Molkenthin Miller has "been on the bench" since 1975. A total of 3,069 baptisms, 756 marriages, 1,695 confirmands and 1,498 funerals have been conducted.

This history was excerpted from a booklet about Zion's history compiled by Rebekah Johnston using information gathered from the 100th Anniversary Celebration booklet, the 125th Anniversary Celebration booklet and the church's records, updated for subsequent events.

Mark your Calendar

April 1 – Easter Sunday Services

Ascension, McCandless: 9:30 a.m. Concordia, Brentwood: 10:30 a.m.

April

- 2 Nar Anon, Bethel, Glenshaw, each Monday at 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Free Seminar, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 7 Kick the Tires Missional Living and Disciple Living Workshop, Good Shepherd Lutheran, State College, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 8 Concordia Haven Apartments Open House, Cabot, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- **8** Stations of the Resurrection, Concordia at Rebecca, 2:30 p.m.
- **8** Stations of the Resurrection, Concordia at Highpointe, 4:00 p.m.
- 9 Concordia Haven Apartments Open House, Cabot, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 10 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.
- 14 Program "Everyone His Witness" Redeemer Lutheran Church, Oakmont, 9:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **15** Good Samaritan Hospice Memorial Service, St. Luke Lutheran, Cabot, 3:00 p.m.
- 15 Open House, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- 16 Open House, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 17 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m
- 19 Pittsburgh Banjo Club Concert, Concordia Haven 1, Cabot, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Dinner and a Movie Nite, Concordia, Brentwood, 6:30 p.m.
- **20-21** Beauty and the Beast, Redeemer, Penn Hills, Tickets available
- 22 Good Samaritan Hospice Memorial Service, Prince of Peace Lutheran, Cabot, 3:00 p.m.
- 22 150th Anniversary Celebration, Zion Evangelical Lutheran, Lawrenceville, 2:30 p.m.
- **24** 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.
- 27 Informational Session and Happy Hour, Highpointe at Rebecca, Allison Park, 3:00 p.m.
- 29 Martin Lutheran Hymn Festival, Heinz Chapel, 7:00 p.m

May

- 1 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.
- 5 Concordia Fishing Derby for Kids, Saxony Farm Estate in Saxonburg, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **8** 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.

- **12** Concordia Fashion Show, Butler Country Club, 10:00 a.m.
- **15** 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.
- **22** 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.
- **29** 500 Years of Lutherans, Concordia, Brentwood, 1:00 p.m.

June

1 Strawberry Festival, Redeemer Lutheran, Oakmont24-29 Vacation Bible School, Zion Lutheran, Bridgeville

July

9 CLM Golf Classic, Treesdale Country Club, 8:30 a.m.

See individual articles for details.

Mission Spotlight: Martin Luther - Punxsutawney

by Pr. Bob McCanless, PALM Mission Director

First, a brief mission update from PALM.

Several mission grants were approved last September, prior to the PALM Annual Meeting, but we did have to wait for funding to come through to award them. Those monies did arrive after the beginning of the year, and the approved grant checks have now been sent to the following mission efforts:

- Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind: \$500
- Pittsburgh Campus Ministry: \$600
- All Saints Slippery Rock, Campus Ministry: \$500
- Redeemer Lutheran School (two different projects, totaling): \$900

We look forward to putting them "in the spotlight" in future issues, to see how their ministries are bringing Christ to the world in their locale.

Another of our grant recipients this year, was Martin Luther – Punxsutawney, who received a grant to assist in installing an elevator in their congregation.

Like many of our homes, offices, and churches in western Pennsylvania and Maryland, Martin Luther Church is built on a hillside. This provides ground floor access to their basement, but to get into their sanctuary, one needed to climb either steps from the outside, or steps from the inside, an impossible feat for many of their physically challenged members.

It can be hard to do outreach in our aging communities these days, if folks can't physically get INTO the church. Martin Luther has now addressed this; their elevator project is complete and is up and running.

Pastor Ken Zitsch of St. John's, Munson, who serves as the vacancy Pastor of Martin Luther, notes that, "members and visitors who could not navigate the stairs, had to stay in the basement, and watch and listen to the

(Continued on page 3)

Devotion

by Rev'd Brian Westgate

"Therefore, my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol or let Your Holy One see corruption." – Psalm 16:9-10

It's Easter. Rejoice! This is no joke, no prank, no trick. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! What great and precious blessings we receive! When God died on Good Friday, the devil thought he had won his war with God finally. He had declared war a few thousand years before when he fell and led Adam and Eve into sin. Mankind became utterly sinful and headed to death and hell. But God still sat on His throne. The only way to overthrow Him was to kill His Son. He pulled it off. He convinced the leaders of the Jews and their Roman lords to kill their God. But He didn't stay dead. He rose early on the third day.

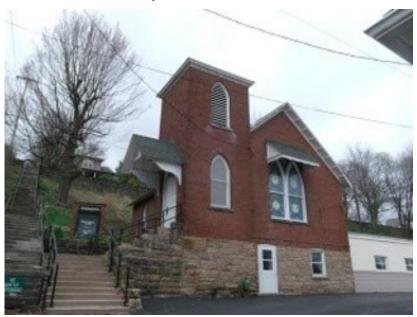
What does this mean? It means the effects of Adam's fall is reversed. Sin is forgiven. Death is killed. As we approach the end of our lives, we have nothing to fear. Jesus shows us that death is not the end. He will come again to raise us. Our sins are forgiven. They cannot condemn us. Eternal life is ours and nobody can take it from us. Paradise is our eternal home. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

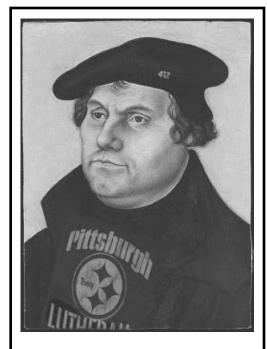
(Continued from page 2)

service on closed circuit television. They could observe the service, but they were physically cut OFF from the service, and their brothers and sisters in Christ."

PALM was happy to provide the "seed money" to get this project rolling. Now that ALL worshippers, regardless their physical abilities, can worship TOGETHER at Martin Luther; we pray this furthers their mission in Jefferson County of bringing Christ Word and Sacrament LITERALLY to people who have previously been cut off from their own sanctuary.

Letters explaining PALM grant requests, and the necessary forms to apply for a grant, will be going out to every congregation in early June. Be on the lookout in the mail for this letter. We look forward to sharing other mission stories and successes with you and pray that if your mission needs guidance, help, or funding, that we will hear from you because PALM's success, is your success.





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A Martin Luther Hymn Festival

by The Rev. S. Cyril Hurnyak, Chaplain Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Having a Martin Luther Hymn Festival is the ultimate way to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, for the hymns of Luther provided the grass roots momentum for the Reformation. Practically all movements have a song, and the hymns of Luther catapulted the Reformation throughout all of Europe and beyond.

A very strong case can be argued that without the hymns of Martin Luther there probably would be no Reformation, because Luther believed very strongly that if the Reformation was going to be successful, it had to be proclaimed in the pew. Chances are, without his hymns, Luther's thoughts and reforms would have probably simply been placed on the shelf as one more example of dated Scholastic thought.

We think nothing about the singing of hymns, possibly with little awareness of how they came to be. However, Luther out of a sense of desperation, created a new theological art form. He bemoaned the fact that there were no decent poets in his land who could write hymns in German verse. He was deeply troubled by the deaths of two Augustinian priests who were martyred because of encouraging the Faithful to sing the vernacular hymns they wrote. In his desire to have his soul express the Joy of the Gospel he picked up the pen and did it himself. His creativity was prolific, for in 1524 there were 5 hymnals, a new medium in and of itself, which were launched in little Wittenberg, the center of the Reformation.

Our Festival will be Sunday, April 29, at 7:00 p.m. to be held in Heinz Chapel. In addition to commemorating the articulation of the Faith of our Beloved Reformer, this Festival will be celebrated among the three major Lutheran denominations on the soil of Western Pennsylvania. Seven Choirs will represent these three major denominations: ELCA, NALC, and LCMS. The Theme: "Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice" is most appropriate for our excitement. It is the second Hymn which Luther wrote.

In addition to "Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice", the full extent of the German Lutheran practice of "Alternation" between congregation and choir will be used. The other Luther Hymns to be featured are: All Praise to You, Eternal Lord; A Mighty Fortress; Savior of the Nations, Come; Out of the Depths I Cry to You; To God, the Holy Spirit, Let us Pray; and Isaiah in a Vision Did of Old. There will be over 100 voices participating in the Festival. You are most cordially invited.

Mileposters News

There were more than five times as many miles ridden in February than in January, but it was still a quiet month. Repairs are needed before the weather stays warm for good. The yellow tandem needs new tires, and the chain on a single bike came off, jamming between the crank and the frame. Kick bikes, of course, never have that problem, and the seat never needs adjusted, because there is none.

Rides will continue to be on paved trails until early April (when you read this). It takes that long for crushed limestone surfaces to dry out, there is always mud underneath at the beginning of the season. Because of its central location, the Riverfront Trail is used most often during this time of the year, although it is fairly short and congested on the northeast end. A popular spot is the fish pond at the Branchport Boat House (pictured), where the inhabitants have returned after being indoors for the coldest part of the winter. That lighthouse is illuminated at night. The section of the Steel Valley Trail from the Hot Metal Bridge to McKeesport is also paved (it connects to the paved Eliza Furnace Trail), and is much longer as well as mostly free of obstructions, although there are some steep hills. A mixed section past the McKeesport Marina connects to the main line limestone surface at Dead Man's Hollow, where the original rail line still exists parallel to the trail for a distance. This is the gateway to Cumberland, MD and Washington, DC. The third choice for early spring riding on pavement is the Arrowhead Trail in McMurray, PA, but it is farther away.



Additional Times to Talk about the Bible

by Augusta R Mennell, Campus Ministry Director

Rev. Larry K. Loree, Jr., All Saints Lutheran Church's campus pastor, happened to pass by the student office and commented that it looked like a party was going on. He saw Akelah, Isuri and Galela smiling, talking and laughing. It really was a party. These three Slippery Rock University students had once again dropped in to visit.

Until recently, I had assumed that the only way to share the Gospel was in a Bible class or at church worship. Visits like the ones from the students showed me that these impromptu get-togethers are an important way to share God's Word.

As the four of us visited, we talked about Akelah's challenges in raising her beautiful children, Love and Liam. Then we talked about how hard it is to stop procrastinating about homework, and how stressful it is to wait weeks for official papers to arrive so that Isuri can start working. We went on to talk about the wisdom of signing up for a class which is taught with an openly atheistic point of view. Will such a class destroy faith? I pointed out that from experience I know this has happened. We emphasized that if a Christian takes classes bent on destroying his faith, he needs to know God's Word well enough to stand against fake teaching. We spent some time considering the importance of studying the Bible, so we cannot be deceived.

A former student told an SRU friend that she is desperate for help; but emphasized that no one was to learn of her situation. Because she trusts campus ministry we were told that this former student is pregnant, but not married. In her culture she will be disowned. This turned out to be a God-given chance to provide Christian help. We contacted a missionary in the country where the girl lives, who immediately said he would get help for this young woman: find a place to live, and medical help delivering the baby. He will help with placing the baby in a Christian home, too. Imagine the sheer relief when she was able to call this missionary and received his comforting assurance that she will not go through this alone. She is a Christian and is afraid and ashamed, but she is no longer alone. What joy in being used by God to share His love with her through campus ministry.

Many international students find it difficult to be direct. Shazz from Kenya asked if I would take her to the Social Security office because she needed the card to be able to work with children in her education class. I calculated that I had the time to take her provided it was there and back. But as we headed out from the church she asked if we could "pass by" Walmart for groceries and take two student friends with us who needed to shop there too. One of the things we have learned about internationals is that their cultures lead them to be very non-direct in making requests. Americans are much more direct; it saves a lot of time and makes for more precise calculations of the time involved filling requests. We ended up adding a trip to the Salvation Army thrift store because it is so inexpensive.

Campus Ministry adjusts to circumstances. The trip was just perfect for listening to them describe their determination to make the most of their time in Slippery Rock. Shazz, who is Catholic, and the friends who came with her are Christians. Shazz listens to her Sunday service online. Shakelah, who is Pentecostal, does also. Because they don't come to our church services, it is special to use time in the car together to include God's Word in our discussions. That time in the car is golden for a campus minister.



The young woman on the left is Shazz from Kenya and the young woman on the right is Shakelah from the British Virgin Islands.

It is only March, but the end of the college semester will soon be here. During lunch with my student buddy, Morgan, I shared how important it is to be spiritually ready to face the challenges which will come, after graduation in May. I encouraged her to keep on reading Portals of Prayer; and explained how necessary it is to come to worship, where we are close to God. She and I won't have many more times to have these chats, so it was sweet to be together sharing friendship and faith.

The Bible is being shared through campus ministry, in worship, in Bible class, and most especially through all the countless times we visit with each other. Even a visit from Aru, who brought his beloved pet dog, Bella, is an open door to talk. Aru is not interested in the Gospel, but does love sharing the love of his life, his dog. I share the love of my life as well.

Just as I was finishing this article I noticed that two students were waiting in the Lutheran Student Center to talk to me. At first, they said everything was fine and that they only needed a ride to the bank, but that was not true. They were deeply troubled by unfair treatment from family which was very hurtful. They are Christian students who need help dealing with this situation as Christians. We spent the afternoon together talking. We closed with prayer and then did the banking. This is campus ministry at work for the Lord, and it is a joy and privilege.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN

McCandless

On February 25, 2018, Ascension Lutheran Church welcomed into membership 24 new members, some of whom are pictured. The new members were welcomed during the worship service and a reception was held following the service.



Ascension Lutheran Church is completing an eight-week personal and congregational journey to Whole Life Stewardship. This journey has been based primarily on examining one chapter in the Bible, Romans 12, where we focused on Worship, Prayer, Reading the Word, Service, Relationships, and Giving. Over 50 people have participated in this program during the weekly Education Hour. Many more participated during the Sunday worship services and Wednesday evening Lenten services. This program will conclude with a Celebration Luncheon on April 8.

BETHEL LUTHERAN

Glenshaw

In March, Bethel held a Benefit Spaghetti Dinner to raise money for the White Family who lives next to the church and recently suffered a house fire. Close to 100 neighbors, family and friends gathered around a plate of spaghetti and helped raise over \$1,300 in a free-will offering for The Whites.



Thanks for the financial help from Thrivent and the time and talent from The Action Team: Al Todd III, Fred Heintz, Rev. and Marie Litke, Paul, Kristin and Kevin Litke, Gary Swanson. Also, Adam Todd and Heidi Todd (not pictured). The fire happened earlier this year and the White family hope to get back into their home sometime in June.

Stations of the Resurrection - On April 8, 2018, a Christian devotion meditating on the Resurrection of Jesus based on Scripture incidents in the four Gospels and Acts using Scripture readings, songs and musical pieces by area Lutheran church participants will be held at Concordia at Rebecca at 2:30 p.m. and at Concordia Highpointe at 4:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION



A Christian devotion meditating on the Resurrection of Jesus based on Scripture incidents in the four Gospels and Acts using Scripture readings, songs and musical pieces by area Lutheran church participants.

SUNDAY APRIL 8, 2018

2:30 p.m.—Concordia at Rebecca 4:00 p.m.—Concordia Highpointe

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN

Brentwood

Concordia members enjoyed a Palm Sunday brunch, following the Divine Service on 3/24. Headed up by Sandy Murphy and the women of Concordia, breakfast casseroles & "trimmings" were served potluck style, as members enjoyed fellowship in the undercroft that day.

Our Tuesday afternoon (1:00 p.m.) class on "500 Years of Lutherans: But are we still Lutheran" resumes on April 10, as we explore our heritage in the Augsburg Confession, and what it means to us today. Our class will run through early June, and once we finish, we'll explore Luther's "Table Talk" next.

On Friday, April 20, we'll host our next "Dinner and a Movie (and maybe a Bible study while we're at it) Nite." We'll be watching Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ," with a roundtable discussion/study to follow. Munchies and drinks will be provided - participants may also bring their own, as we'll meet in Room #15 at 6:30 p.m. for the film.

CHRIST LUTHERAN

Forest Hills

The time change didn't deter the adult bible class from attending at Christ, Forest Hills. For the season of Lent, Pastor Breight has lead the study of the book of Job. Members have even brought visitors to the study. We've been enjoying the breakfasts, also. Too bad Lent isn't longer, there is so much to cover!





MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN

West View

Thomas Hoover, Sr. loved music, and when he passed away a couple of years ago, his family asked that donations made to Mt. Calvary in West View be used to purchase a set of bells.



Since that time the newly formed bell choir, under the direction of organist and music director Sharon Pritchard, has been practicing and performing for the congregation on special Sundays. A plaque with the list of donors has been finalized and was recently placed in the church sanctuary.



REDEEMER LUTHERAN

Oakmont

Redeemer to Present Evangelism Speaker

Redeemer Oakmont invites the members of all our Pittsburgh area LCMS congregations to mark Saturday, April 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., on your calendars! Pastor Derek Mathers, who serves as assistant to Bishop Hardy and as the English District's Mission Executive, will be at Redeemer to take us through the new personal evangelism program from our Missouri Synod, called "Every One His Witness." If you would like to come, please RSVP by April 4 so we can order materials and plan for lunch. Please call the church office at 412-828-9323 and leave your name and phone number. A free will donation will be accepted. Learn more at https://www.lcms.org/how-weserve/national/witness-and-outreach-ministry.

Save the Date

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Oakmont is having their annual Strawberry Festival on Friday, June 1st, 2018. Details will be available in the May issue.

ZION LUTHERAN

Bridgeville

Calling VBS Leaders!!! - Vacation Bible School, June 24 to 29.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

KIDVID CINEMA – help children write Bible verses on their hearts

GAMES – incorporate Bible learning through energetic movement

NURSERY CREW LEADER CREW HELPER



THE CONGREGATION OF

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

237-37th Street Lawrenceville, Pennsylvania invites you to share in our

150th Anniversary

Celebration

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Worship Service of Thanksgiving 2:30 P.M.

Rev. Eugene Reddel, Guest Preacher

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Penn Hills / Oakmont

As always, February was Open House month at Redeemer. Our doors were open to interested families every Thursday morning, with our Penn Hills campus also holding two Thursday evening sessions. Visitors were able to take a stroll through our annual upper elementary Science Fair during the evening Open House on February 8 and view all the projects. During our February 22 evening Open House, visitors attended a scholarship info talk, and those with older students attended the special informational session focused on our high school programs. We appreciate all of the teachers involved in the preparation of these special evening events, as well as all of our volunteers for every Open House session. We continue to pray for those families that are considering new educational options for the fall, that they would follow the Lord's leading wherever He may guide them.

On February 13, our 8th graders became thespians for a day, as they participated in the 2018 Shakespeare Scene and Monologue Contest at the O'Reilly Theater in Pittsburgh. Students performed a Shakespearean scene from memory onstage before their classmates, family members, and a panel of judges. As one might guess, it is a challenging experience, and our students performed very well. Thank you, as always, to Mr. Driscoll for arranging this annual experience, and to those at the O'Reilly Theater for organizing this event.

For Valentine's Day, RLHS National Honor Society members and high school students once again provided the opportunity for the Redeemer school family to purchase flower and candy grams. Students, parents and school staff sent encouraging notes with flowers and candy to friends, classmates and colleagues. A portion of the proceeds from the grams will be shared with mission projects in the Dominican Republic and Sri Lanka. One of our seniors, Zach Pugliese, also offered a Valentine "treat bag" for students and staff to give as part of his senior project.

On Friday, February 16, Redeemer hosted our biennial Father & Daughter Hoedown. Preschool-4th grade girls and their dads or dad "subs" (grandfather, uncle, big brother, family friend, etc.) took part in a wonderful night



Boot-scootin' fun at the Redeemer Father/Daughter Hoedown

of boot-scootin' fun. Dances were led by a real square dance caller. Girls and their "dads" were also able to have their pictures taken in a fun photo session and enjoy some delicious root beer floats.

The final weekend of February was wonderfully busy for our middle school students. Our middle school boys' basketball team entered the championship tournament at the end of February with an undefeated record in league play. On February 24, they won their tournament and became South West Christian Athletic Conference regular season Champions and also the Champions of the SWCAC playoffs. They are headed to the LBAA National Lutheran Basketball Tournament in Valparaiso, Indiana, on March 22. We are so proud of these boys and so thankful to Coach Nathan Loewe for working diligently with them to develop excellent character as well as athletic skills. Go RAMS!



Redeemer Rams middle school boys' basketball, SWCAC Middle School Champions.

On Friday, February 23, our middle school robotics team participated in the VEX IQ competition at North Allegheny High School in Wexford. They won the Excellence Award and earned the chance to participate in the State Competition on March 10 at Keystone Oaks High School. The next day, two of the robotics team members, Nathan Jackson and Peter Vanwyk, participated in the IEEE NXT car competition at Carnegie Science Center and took 3 place.



Redeemer Robotic Rams win the Robotics VEX IQ Excellence Award.

The weekend of March 10 was yet another jam-packed time for our basketball and robotics teams. Our 7th and 10th grade basketball players took part in an invitational tournament at Portersville Christian School. They finished 1 and 2 for the tournament, with freshman Alain Tamo Noche putting up 68 points over the 3 games.

The robotics team participated in the VEX IQ state competition at Keystone Oaks High School on Saturday, March 10. They worked diligently throughout the competition and tied for second place. We appreciate Mrs. Carol Schumacher for her tireless work with these students to help them reach this new milestone in Redeemer robotics. Upcoming events:

April 20 & 21: Redeemer presents the musical "Beauty and the Beast," tickets are available to the public May 11: Mother's Day Event

ZION LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Bridgeville

Have you ever seen an armadillo? The children were amazed. Our friend from the Pittsburgh Zoo explained how a rabbit uses her ears for hearing and sensing what is around her. The children could pet each animal with "two fingers". They loved how soft "Daisy" was. She just decided to come out of the ball that she curls into as a protective mechanism. Even a



milk snake was seen slithering around in the sanctuary. YIKES!!



The Pittsburgh Banjo Club Returns to Concordia Haven

Concordia Retirement Living residents invite the public to a free performance featuring The Pittsburgh Banjo Club at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 19 in the Haven I Dining Room, 112 Marwood Road, Cabot, Entrance 2A. Parking is available across the street.

The Pittsburgh Banjo Club, founded in 1988 includes banjos, trumpets, tubas, and bass playing music from the 1920s and 30s, polkas and Dixieland. The men and women dress in bright, colorful uniforms and have performed at most venues in the greater Pittsburgh area.

Registration is preferred, but not required. Contact Lynn Turner at 724-352-1571, ext. 8518.

For more information on retirement living at Concordia visit www.concordialm.org.

Concordia to Host 2018 Free Fishing Derby for Kids at Saxony Farm

Concordia Lutheran Ministries will host a free fishing derby for kids 14 and under on Saturday, May 5 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Saxony Farm Estate in Saxonburg

Concordia will provide bait, a few fishing rods to borrow (attendees should bring their own if they have one), hot dogs and refreshments, prizes, and parking – all free of charge. An adult must accompany all children.

There will be volunteers on hand to help measure fish, detangle fishing lines, teach the basics and more. A tent will be set up with some tables and chairs for those in need of some shade. Guests should bring their own lawn chairs or blankets, if interested.

Last year's event drew close to 700 guests. Lake Saxony is fully stocked with hundreds of blue gills, bass, catfish and more Since the lake is private, kids have a good chance of catching something.

Registration is requested to help with planning, but walk-ins will be accepted. To RSVP, visit www.concordialm.org/events-news/fishingderby2018. You can also call Concordia Public Relations at 724-352-1571, ext. 8268 for more information.

Informational Session and Happy Hour at Highpointe

On Friday, April 27, Concordia leadership will present "The Benefits of Retirement Living" at 3:00 p.m. followed by Happy Hour until 5:00 p.m.

You won't want to miss the pertinent information you will glean from seasoned professionals who have vast experience in retirement living and can illustrate to you the economics and lifestyle of a retirement community. Friday Happy Hour will provide an opportunity for guests to meet current residents and learn from the experts.

Tours will also be provided, and parking is available. Registration is required as seating is limited. To RSVP call 724-444-1521.



Concordia Retirement Living Hosts Open House Events

Concordia Haven Apartments is hosting Open House on Sunday, April 8 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Monday, April 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.at Haven I located at 112 Marwood Road (Entrance 2A).

Interested persons are invited to learn more about the Concordia Haven Apartments. 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. And take advantage of our special discounts during this limited time.

Refreshments will include a biscuit bar on Sunday. Visit www.concordiahaven.org for more information. To register or to schedule a personal tour, call Peggy Trettel at 724-352-5378.

Good Samaritan Hospice to Hold Memorial Services in Cabot, Freedom

Good Samaritan Hospice (GSH), a mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries, will hold two memorial services in memory of those who spent their final days under hospice care at its Wexford facility, Cabot, or Heritage Valley inpatient units or with Good Samaritan Hospice home care.

The first service will be held at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 330 Hannahstown Road in Cabot on Sunday, April 15 at 3 p.m. The second service will be at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Rochester Road in Freedom on Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m. Concordia Chaplain Rev. Duane Voorman will conduct the services.

These memorial services are open to all who are dealing with grief, even if they did not have a loved one in GSH care. A reception will follow both memorial tributes.

The services will be a time to pray and give thanks – to celebrate the lives of those no longer with us, look to God and within, and begin the healing process. It will also be a time to understand that the journey through grief is different for every person.

Registration is recommended. To register or receive more information, call 724.933.8888. Visit GSH on the Web at www.good-samaritanhospice.org.

Martin Luther Hymn Festival

Calling on all Lutherans to share in God's grace through the gift of music that moves the soul. "Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice- a Martin Luther Hymn Festival" will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 29, 2018 in Heinz Chapel at the University of Pittsburgh.

As a continuation of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, the Festival will be celebrated among the three major Lutheran denominations in western Pennsylvania. Religious leaders have invited their congregations to the gathering to sing hymns composed by Luther. They are: The Rev. Kurt Kusserow, Bishop of the Southwestern PA Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; The Rev. Carl Johnson, Dean of the Mid-Northeast Mission District of the North American Lutheran Church; The Rev. Jamison Hardy, Bishop of the English District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS); and The Rev. Chris Wicher, President of the Eastern District LCMS.

As you know, Luther was both a great hymn writer and musician. A music committee has selected six of Luther's hymns to be sung at the Festival. Invitations are being sent to choir directors representing Lutheran congregations in various communities across western Pennsylvania. All music leaders interested in singing for the Festival should contact The Rev. Cyril Hurnyak at revcyril@aol.com. The Pittsburgh Area Compline Choir also will participate.

Pastors and church leaders please inform your congregation of the April 29th event. This will be a great day for everyone to enjoy God's gift of music in the light of the Lutheran Reformation!

Open House Events Held at Concordia Newest Retirement Community

Our newest location, Highpointe at Rebecca in Allison Park will feature three model apartments – one bedroom, two bedroom and large two bedroom – to the public. Public Open House events will be held on Sunday, April 15 from 1:00p.m. to 3 p.m. and Monday, April 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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:

- 1) A 6% discount on your Entrance Fee, Monthly Fee and Second Person Fee. Effective March 31, 2018 this discount will decrease to 4%.
- 2) A 3% veteran's discount on your Entrance Fee for veterans/spouses who meet eligibility requirements.
- 3) A 10% discount on future health care services at Concordia at Rebecca Residence, located on the same campus.

For more information or to RSVP, call 724-444-1521 or visit us online at www.HighpointeRebecca.org. Come and meet our founding residents to learn more about the community and why they chose Highpointe at Rebecca.

Free Seminar Scheduled at Highpointe at Rebecca

How to Make the Move Easier" will be the topic of a free seminar on Thursday, April 5th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of learning about the benefits of transitioning to the lifestyle our retirement community offers as well as the services our guest speakers can provide to make the move to our retirement community an easier process.

The agenda for the day will feature a 20-minute presentation by three experts each representing the areas of real estate, downsizing, and moving companies. Topics include Downsizing Tips and Resources by Roxann Tyger, Certified Relocation and Transition Specialist; Advantages of Using a Realtor with Senior Certification featuring Janet McKay from ReMAX Realty and The Benefits of a Full Service Moving Company presenting Mary Anne Oshnoch of Weleski Transfer Inc.

Light refreshments and tours will be provided, and parking is available. Registration is required as seating is limited. To RSVP call 724-444-1521 by Monday, April 2. Please provide your name and phone number and how many are in your party.

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

Concordia at Cabot Resident Turns 100

Concordia at Cabot Personal Care resident Esther Galbraith Kroh celebrates her 100th birthday on March 8, 2018.



Born in the Northside of Pittsburgh, she married Dr. Dean Kroh on September 2, 1949 in her home in Bellevue. They had four children - David who lives in Wexford, June Kershner of New Mexico, Dean Keith of Pittsburgh, and Daniel who is deceased. The couple has three grand-daughters, Junilla, Alexi and Brittany who are twins.

As Christian Missionary Alliance congregants, they served as missionaries in the Belgian Congo and Cambodia before moving to Haven I retirement living. Esther moved to Lund Care Center in October of 2016.

Among her favorite things are reading, sewing, and walking, roller skating, sports and traveling. She especially enjoyed family vacations at the ocean.

She attributes her longevity to eating healthy well-rounded meals and provides this advice – always do God's will, live a life that God wants and look to Him for guidance.

The family and friends will join her to celebrate at a party on March 10 in the Concordia Porch Lounge at the Cabot campus.

Concordia of Franklin Park Resident Turns 100

Concordia of Franklin Park resident Ruth Harm Musser celebrates her 100th birthday on March 7, 2018.

Born in Harrisburg, PA, she was married to the late John (Jack) Musser on April 14, 1942 in her uncle's church in eastern PA. The couple had two sons - John who lives in Wexford and Larry of Cherry Hill, NJ. She has four grandchildren.

Ruth worked for Harrisburg Steel making eight-inch rifle shells for the U.S. Army.

A member of St. John's Lutheran Church and Longview Women's Club she claims she joined whatever church organizations her husband belonged to.

She loved going dancing with the servicemen and wishes she could still dance and always enjoys spending time with her family. Ruth moved all over the country with her husband before, during and after WWII. Beside Harris-

burg, she lived in New York, Oregon, Texas, Cleveland and finally settled in the Pittsburgh area. She lived in the Camelot Condominium in Ingomar until she moved to Concordia two years ago. Her husband, a sales manager for PPG passed away in 1991.

She said she had wonderful siblings who spoiled her and taught her everything from driving to dancing and everything in between. She has a zest for life and is a naturalborn story teller according to her friends at Concordia.

Her secret to longevity – "There's no million-dollar answer to this question; I have been very blessed throughout my whole life, and good genes help," she said.



Concordia Announces New Director of Outpatient Therapy

Tony Geitgey, PTA was recently named Director of Outpatient Therapy according to Natalie McKay, Administrator, Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Services at Concordia at Cabot.

A graduate of Penn State University with a B.S. in Exercise and B.A. in Physical



Therapist Assistant, he has been working in the field of Physical Therapy for 27 years. For the last 10 years he has served in the Inpatient Therapy Department at Concordia at Cabot Lund Care Center. Prior to coming to Concordia, he spent 16 years at an outpatient clinic.

In addition to treating patients who come to Concordia for physical therapy to get them back to their normal routine, Geitgey is certified to teach Silver Sneakers classes at one of Concordia retirement living communities two days a week.

"Concordia is a growing company that has a good reputation for being the gold standard in skilled nursing facilities," said Geitgey. He and his wife Alisa and daughter Bailey live in Butler. He enjoys traveling, softball, exercising, running, hiking, biking, and watching Penn State football and the Penguins and Steelers.



