



THE PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN

VOL 93, NO 6, August 2023

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PALM DEVOTION

by The Reverend Dr. Douglas H. Spittel, PALM President

*"In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and **there was no man to till the ground**; but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground." - Genesis 2:5-6 emphasis added*

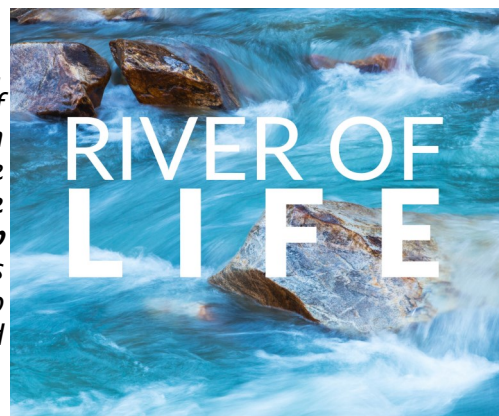
Gardens and garden tending themes are found throughout the Bible. In Genesis, the creation of humanity was integral to the completion of the universal ecosystem. The Old Testament prophets refer repeatedly to the Word of God as water that comes down, pools, nourishes, and refreshes God's people. In the New Testament, Jesus sows the seed of the Word. He sets the mob in garden plots of fifties and hundreds to nurture them with the Word in fishes and loaves. Mary assumes that her risen Lord is the gardener. At the culmination of all things, New Jerusalem is revealed to be a walled garden fed by living water with the Tree of Life at its center.

Holy Scripture casts a picture of the Church in several ways – the Body of Christ, the Bride of Christ, and the Household of Faith. But it is in the imagery of the garden that we see the order and beauty that our Lord brings to a disordered and ugly world through the Church. Christ, the Gardener, removed the disease of sin and death from the garden by His death upon the tree. Jesus sows the seed of the Word and nourishes it with living water that it may grow. God's Law prunes and cultivates the garden that it may flourish and bring forth abundant fruit. Man remains integral to the existence of the garden.

The Garden is created for us and we are the reason for its existence. Christ is the vine and we are the branches that bear good fruit. Each Christian has a God-given calling that is crucial to the continued health of the garden. Each new generation is the fruit of the one previous as the Gospel is preached, taught, lived, and shared. It is our privilege and joy to "till the ground" in the garden of the Church for this is the essence of life eternal.

Go to Church. Hear the Word. Receive the life-giving Sacraments. Pray without ceasing. Care for one another. Have mercy in outreach to the community. In all things, give thanks unto the Lord. All these things are aspects of our life in Christ and a manifestation of the eternal, engaging, beautiful nature of that Life.

*"And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. **And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.**"*
- Revelation 22:1-5 emphasis added



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August

10. Adults Only Open House, Redeemer Lutheran School, 121 Dawn Drive, Verona, Pa. 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

20. Free Concert featuring The Pittsburgh Belairs at Concordia Haven Apartments 4:00 p.m

26. Annual Concordia Hospice of Washington Butterfly Release, Valley View Farm (102 Orndorff Rd., Waynesburg, PA 15370, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

30. Free Concert, Concordia at the Orchard, Butler, PA. 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

September

1. Concordia at Villa St. Joseph Community Day, Concordia at Villa St. Joseph, Baden, Pa, 2:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.

17. Sixth Annual History Event, "Artists of Lawrenceville" Zion Lutheran, Lawrenceville, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

17. PALM Delegate Meeting at First Trinity, Shadyside, 2:30 p.m.

29. "Power of the Purse" bash, The Mansion, Butler, Pa, 6:00 p.m.



The Pittsburgh Lutheran

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Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries 2023 Annual Delegate Meeting

Important News and Business for Our Missions and Congregations

17 September 2023

Registration—2:30 PM

Meeting Begins—3:00 PM

First Trinity Evangelical-Lutheran Church—Shadyside

First Floor—McKinney Hall

**Each Member Congregation is asked to send
1 Pastoral and 2 Lay Delegates**



Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries

Let us do good to all, especially to
those who are of the household of faith.
- Galatians 6:10

535 N Neville Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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412-407-3306



An Annual Report Booklet and Delegate Packet will arrive at each parish office by mid-August.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

SRU CAMPUS MINISTRY

by Vicar Zachary Wessel, Campus Ministry

Introduction and First Month as Vicar

When I was assigned to serve All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center as vicar back in April, it came as a complete surprise to me. Campus ministry was a facet of church-work that I had never considered before. Although this year will bring plenty of challenges, I am honored and excited to have these opportunities for growth and service. The environment here at Slippery Rock is quite different from anything I have experienced before, coming from a small town in the Midwest. Although Slippery Rock is not much bigger than my hometown, the fact that it is a university town changes the dynamic quite a bit.

Even the university dynamic here is a bit of a new area for me to explore, since I attended Bethany Lutheran College, a school associated with the small confessional Lutheran church body of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. As a secular university Slippery Rock is very different, but that is only all the more impetus for campus ministry, to bring the gospel and Christian fellowship to a place that otherwise lacks it completely. Although my college experience was quite different, it will nonetheless prove helpful, I think. I especially enjoyed my final year at Bethany, during which I researched and wrote my bachelor's thesis on fourth century bishop Ambrose of Milan's theology of nature. This interest in the theology of the first article, of creation, has stayed with me. It is particularly important and relevant to confess God's authorship of, work in, and lordship over the created world in a society that strongly questions fundamental parts of the natural world, such as what a man or woman is or what marriage is. In a secular setting, presenting Christianity will often need to start with elements of the first article, as we see exemplified by Paul in Acts 17 and Romans 1.

Over the summer, there has not been a lot of work to be done with the campus ministry, but even beyond looking forward to the coming year, some things are underway. Pastor Deal and I were able to attend a couple orientations for students incoming this fall at SRU, as were a few of our members here at All Saints. They were wonderful opportunities to have that ever-so-important first interaction with students, to let them know that there is a church community that is ready and waiting to welcome them and to provide for their needs of body and mind and, God willing, soul, even if they do not recognize this final need at the time. Over the course of these orientations, we were able to invite students to our student meals and various activities, and we received a good response, with more students than ever asking us to contact them with updates and reminders during the school year. We all eagerly await getting to know these students and returning students as well.

In addition to the orientations, plans for a Bible study at Grove City College are underway, and I have also begun to work towards establishing a presence at Westminster College as well. Between these three colleges, there will be no shortage of opportunities to serve and to share the gospel. I am particularly looking forward to working with international students, due both to my love of travel and interest in international mission work on the one hand, and also to the increased need for a caring community among those who are so far removed from their homes.

Although this vicarage was a bit of an unexpected surprise, it has already proved an amazing and fruitful experience. I have already learned so much from Pastor Deal and have loved getting to know the congregation and community a little bit so far. I am looking forward to the remainder of my time here, and pray for God's blessing upon the congregation and the campus ministry with all of the challenges and opportunities it will bring.

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Pictured: Vicar Wessel attended orientations at SRU, along with Pastor Deal and three members from the congregation, to establish contact with incoming students.





News and Upcoming Events from Redeemer Lutheran School

Please contact us for more information and
follow us on Facebook: Redeemer Lutheran School

Please keep Redeemer Lutheran School in your daily prayers.

Redeemer Lutheran School is overjoyed to announce that high school students will start the 2023 - 2024 school year at a new campus. Redeemer Lutheran Church has acquired the former St. Gerard Catholic Church in Verona, and will be allowing Redeemer School to use the 31,000 sq. ft. facility for classes and Chapel services. We are pleased to receive this blessing from the Lord as an opportunity to serve more students and families and bring them His message of hope and salvation.

We want to express our appreciation to Keith Frndak and the Concordia Lutheran Ministries team for providing their time and expertise during the process. There is much to be done, and we hope for volunteers to offer their support to prepare the building.

This is the start of a growth plan for the school, and we invite members from our LCMS community to attend an Open House to see the facility and learn of our plans for expansion. This will be an adult only event, Thursday, August 10 from 6-8PM.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ADULT ONLY

Open House



HOSTED BY
REDEEMER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL
THE FORMER ST. GERARD MAJELLA PARISH
121 DAWN DRIVE
VERONA 15147

THURSDAY
AUGUST

10

2 0 2 3

6 UNTIL 8 IN THE EVENING

Appetizers, Beer, Wine
Compliments of Concordia Lutheran Ministries

RSVP

Click Here: [open house](#)

School@redeemer-oakmont.org

or Call 412 793 5884

HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

By Shirley Freyer

Zion Lutheran Church

209 N. Main Street, Accident, MD 21520

301/746-8170

Rev. Benjamin D. Hertel, Pastor

Worship Services: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.;

Sunday School for all ages @ 9:30 a.m.

“Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news. . .” -Isaiah 40:9

In his message for the 150th anniversary celebration in 2013, Rev. Robert Riebau explained that Zion is “in Accident on purpose”. In this small town, nestled in the mountains of Maryland, this eternal city is being built by the election that takes place each time another person is baptized. This “city on a hill” is being built upon the frail faith strengthened by the feeble uttering of the powerful Word of God. It is a city with a foundation laid by our forefathers who were fed with the Rock of ages in the foretaste of the Feast to come. It is a glorious place – not just this building, not just these people – in this place we inhabit Zion, the city of our God.”

A decade later, current pastor Rev. Benjamin Hertel reiterates remaining faithful to Scripture as the key to the future. “The Word of God doesn’t change,” he reminds his 80 congregants. “People want the truth. We are going to continue to be a baptizing community where the doors are open for all people to hear the forgiveness God gives us freely.”

Pastor Hertel arrived with his wife and four children three years ago in the middle of a worldwide pandemic. “The landing zone was hot,” he described “what do we do?” His advice was to come in hard against it, open up a little, and generate the confidence to take the next step. Having spent nine years at a smaller congregation in the farmlands of Indiana, Pastor Hertel experienced an easy transition to what he called this city church in a rural area.

Accident is home to about 350 people. The state highway runs right through the town and its location is nine miles from resort areas and million-dollar homes. A huge Mennonite population as well as a “Big Box” church are part of this close-knit community.

While Zion’s membership is aging and composed of generations of family, he has seven in the confirmation class and 40-60 at VBS. “A good place to raise children,” he explained. “I have my boys in local sport and Trail Life Christian Scouts,” he added, emphasizing the need for involvement in this hamlet. Meeting families outside of church, interacting with the local fire department and America Legion post, simply taking a walk through the town to the ice cream shop and the library, are avenues to get more familiar to this smorgasbord of people, he stressed.



HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

Dr. Walter Naumann, president of the congregation, agreed. "We are supremely confident in the truth of the Bible and of the Lutheran confessions as being its proper interpretation. We can use this confidence as a foundation for further and deeper interaction with our neighbors and fellow Christians," he mentioned. "We pride ourselves in our own financial solvency. We could use this as a basis for doing good to all people, especially those that are of the household of faith," Dr. Naumann added.

One of those generations of families, Rev. James Oester, became a second career pastor, having worked for several years in banking. It was during his tenure in July 2018 that the formation of a committee carried on discussions with St. John's concerning a dual parish arrangement whereby each congregation would remain independent yet be served by one pastor.

"As a first-year seminarian, I preached my first sermon at Zion on Palm Sunday in 1992. Rev. Wilfred Karsten was the pastor then. At my ordination in 1995, Pastor Karsten referred to me as a 'Grandson' of the congregation." He was the fifth generation to have roots at Zion where his Grandmother Bowman was a lifetime member. Pastor Oester accepted the call to come home to Accident and minister to his church family on January 20, 2013. The membership at Zion is a very kind and understanding group of people, he noted. "I remember on Sunday, August 9, 2020, my sister joined the Church Triumphant about two hours before the service was to start. I began the service by announcing her death and advised the congregation that I did not know where my emotion might take me that morning." He asked that they bear with him as he did not get to do his final "rehearsal." Since his retirement, he attends worship at Zion and conducts services when Pastor Hertel is away. Also, he has substituted in the absence of the church organists, with the announcement that his being at the organ is to make them appreciate the "official" organists more fully!

Also, a "grandson" of Zion is the current pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Oil City, Rev. David Oester, a cousin of Pastor Jim, who was ordained at Zion July 13, 2008.

Longtime member Lois Kolb became acquainted with her late husband, Harvey Gurney Kolb, at Zion. He came to Accident to help at the family store, and she was living in a nearby town when she answered a call from a large family looking for a high school girl to help with cooking and cleaning. "He saw me in church after choir practice and asked to take me home. His brother talked him into taking me to the Strawberry Festival at The Cove and together we raised two daughters and two sons," she said. Despite the many family relationships at Zion, Lois claims she and Gurney were the only members who met and married each other there. Lois is looking forward to her 90th birthday in November when her family, which now includes four granddaughters and seven great-granddaughters, gathers together. "My son, who is a professor in New Zealand, will be making the trip."

One of her greatest joys was serving as vice president of the LWML. "When I joined 69 years ago, we counted 30-40 members. We were a very active chapter," she reminisced. "I remember when Helen Harmon was president of the Pittsburgh Zone." But the numbers have dwindled, and an evening women's group has formed. "We work together for our big bazaar in October and still make 75 gallons of sauerkraut," she revealed.



HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

The Quilts of Valor project was introduced during Pastor Oester's ministry, where members of the congregation who had served in the nation's military were recognized with a specially designed quilt made by the ladies of the church. Lois added that the ladies also made more than 2000 comfort tops for Lutheran World Relief, and she lost count of the number of cot comforters they send overseas each year.

"Lois was the sacristan for 45 years," said Dr. Naumann. When she retired, the year of the 150th Anniversary, she was honored with a visit from the ever-popular Dr. Paul Maier. "It took four or more people to do what she did. Even now, she loves to be asked to help," declared Dr. Naumann.

She remembers the German custom before WWII where women sat on the left and men on the right side of the church. The last German service was held the Sunday before Christmas, 1941.

History records that the first Zion congregation was formed by German-speaking Lutherans in 1854 under the pastorate of Rev. Charles A. Scholegel. Ten years later, Zion called Rev. H. Krebs as a candidate from the seminary in St. Louis. A fire in 1901 destroyed the first church building and the cornerstone was laid for the current building the next year at a cost of \$5,680, plus \$200 for the lot. In 1908, St. John became a separate parish. The church school was discontinued in 1936. A new organ and tower chimes were dedicated in 1959 by Carl Schmidt, director of the Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus, at a cost of \$3500, and were replaced by a pipe organ in 1987 to the tune of \$48,000.

In 1992, during the 22-year-long ministry of Rev. Dr. Wilfred Karsten, an addition was built to include offices, classrooms, a fellowship hall, and a commercial kitchen. This addition bridged the parish house to the church, forming a narthex between the two buildings and allowing ground-level access to the entire building.

Current president, Dr. Naumann, [we already mention at the beginning that he is the president] related his first experience with Zion 43 years ago. He and his wife, Sandra, opened a medical office in Accident through a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission. He had just finished his training as a family physician at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.



"What made Zion so special was that the very same LCMS church we were involved in for years had a local congregation right next door! And Pastor Fred Illick was a gregarious, outgoing, welcoming community leader."

Walter, like his father, was born in India, where his grandparents were LCMS missionaries who migrated from Saxony.

Grandfather George and Grandmother Helene Willkomm Naumann reared 12 children, eight boys and four girls. The girls became deaconesses, teachers, and nurses. Each of the boys went on to the ministry in LCMS, including his father, John, who served for 35 years as a missionary in India. (He and Rev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann, former pastor at Redeemer in Oakmont and currently a missionary in the Dominican Republic, are second cousins. Their ancestor, Heinrich Immanuel Naumann was the book dealer in Leipzig who promoted CFW Walther's teachings and writings)

Sandra became office manager while he kept office hours in town and had admitting privileges at Garrett County Memorial Hospital in Oakland, Md. He was the first medical director of the Hospice of Garrett County and medical director of two nursing homes before his retirement 15 years ago.

"Through the years there have been a succession of pastors at Zion, and vacancies were short. I was president under five of them and was exposed to a variety of styles and personalities - dogmatic, academic, sincere, gentle, compassionate, dedicated." All were good with children; all were orthodox confessional Lutherans, according to President Naumann.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

“The people of Zion have been welcoming and supportive. They always rise to overcome the challenges to progress –for example, the fellowship hall which greatly enables our community presence. The people of Zion are committed to their own presence and facilities and take great pride in doing things well. They are committed to their special position as keepers of the teaching and practice of confessional Lutheranism. They take pride in what they see as uniqueness in the community. They are confident of their role as defenders of the faith. They are involved in community outreach and are helpful with Vacation Bible School, sponsoring Red Cross blood drives, allowing uses of their facilities by fishing rodeos, for example,” he continued.

People who choose to worship at Zion. where they hear the Gospel preached in its purity and completeness and the sacraments administered according to God's word, appreciate the value of a stable and traditional form of worship.

“We value tradition not for its own sake but because it provides stability, predictability, and correctness in worship. Special programming takes place in the setting of worship at church. A pipe organ with a new oboe stop is a major contributor in this respect.” A major accomplishment, as Walter said, has been the practice of the weekly celebration of the Lord's supper and fellowship after divine services.

“Zion is a beautiful gothic design,” Lois described. Dr. Naumann added, “The architecture greatly enhances the worship experience. The tall, vaulted ceiling and the stain glass windows pointing upwards draw one's attention to heavenly beings and things. The risen Savior in the chancel bears the marks of His suffering. The acoustics complement the congregation's singing.

“To worship here, there is no better place,” she concluded.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

ASCENSION LUTHERAN

McCandless

Ascension Lutheran Church's Annual Pumpkin Fest & Flea Market

Saturday, October 14, 2023, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

For the ninth year, Ascension (8225 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237) will be holding our Pumpkin Fest & Flea Market. 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.

Many 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. It's a great way to spend a crisp, fall morning.



Join us for our **FREE** seminar

RUN HARD. Rest Well.

Saturday,
September 16th
9:30-11:30am

**We know how to run hard.
Do you know how to rest well?**

Is your schedule overloaded?
Are you frustrated that your your rest isn't truly restful?

Come hear speaker, Stacey Dumbacher,
Director of Programs of Run Hard Rest Well, walk us
through how we can create a daily rhythm that is biblical,
transformative, and sustainable.

**Ascension Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall, Entrance in back
8225 Peebles Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

Questions? Contact us at secretary@ascensionpgh.com

Run Hard.  Rest Well.

Sponsored by Ascension Lutheran Church
& First Trinity Evangelical-Lutheran Church

CHRIST LUTHERAN

Forest Hills



CHRIST LUTHERAN CELEBRATES 90TH ANNIVERSARY

Christ Lutheran Church in Forest Hills celebrated their 90th anniversary on April 16, 2023. The Reverend John Pingel, the Eastern District President, was the concelebrant for the special occasion. Vicar Vincent Mroz was signing for the deaf community in attendance. A catered reception followed the service. Approximately 100 people joined in the celebration.



CONFIRMATION

On May 7, 2023, three young people were confirmed into the church by Pastor Ronald Breight. Mikayla Schriver, Conner Schriver, and Madeline Stoner were welcomed by the congregation. A reception was held in their honor following the service.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN

West View

The April work day scheduled at Mt. Calvary was postponed because of inclement weather. However, May 20 – the makeup day – had worse weather than April. Nonetheless, a hardy group of workers chose to ignore (as much as possible) the pouring rain to install an ADA-compliant handrail to the stairway landing access door along a path running outside a portion of the church.

In addition, landscaping projects to the front and side of the building were completed. The wall at the basement door was rebuilt and extended into terraced segments beside the steps where previous efforts to grow grass had not been successful. Flowers were planted, and stones painted by the Girl Scouts were added to complete the project.

While this was going on outside, others were working indoors to scrub tables and chairs – all 100 of them! – and do other clean-up. Then the following week, Tim Yagatich and Ray Badurich removed, built level bases, reinstalled, and charged two air conditioner units. With all of this activity, the church was clean and ready to host summer events.

Organist Sharon Pritchard had a busy couple of weeks during the spring. She missed the church service on Memorial Day weekend as the family celebrated the marriage of son, Brandon, in Cleveland. Mt. Calvary enjoyed having friend and neighbor Carlene Bensch take over the musical duties for the service.

Then the afternoon of June 4, Sharon's music students held a program in the church, featuring songs and musical selections. Sixteen young ladies – 6th to 11th grade – were involved in the program, although some were not able to participate that afternoon. Many of the piano and voice students participate in the chorus, band, or orchestra in their school districts' musical programs. Sharon is the pianist for North Hills' musicals.

Rather than pay an admission price, attendees were asked to bring non-perishable food or health and beauty items for Mt. Calvary's Blessings Box.

In July, Vacation Bible School returned to Mt. Calvary after a three-year hiatus. The program was titled "Rainforest Explorers" and the dates were July 24 to 28 in the evenings, with a light dinner offered before the program for children and parents/sponsors. Tom and Mechele and Jon Hoover, with help from the Outreach Group, spent the weeks prior turning the VBS area into a rainforest setting, complete with a "bamboo" hut, leafy vines hanging from the ceiling, and a hand-painted background. Pictures and more details will be provided in the next issue.

The annual church picnic will follow the service on Sunday, August 6, in the Sunday School auditorium. The event will include a catered lunch, games, and lots of gifts and other items donated for the raffle.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN

West View

Right: Mt. Calvary's workers relax against the railing they just installed around the church path



Below: The terrace at the side of the church was finished with flowers and painted stones.



Below: Most of the work during Mt. Calvary's work day was completed in the rain



Below Left: Sharon Pritchard with Ella Niemi, one of the students who participated in the recital. Ella, who will be a senior at North Hills this fall, was in last spring's musical "9 to 5."



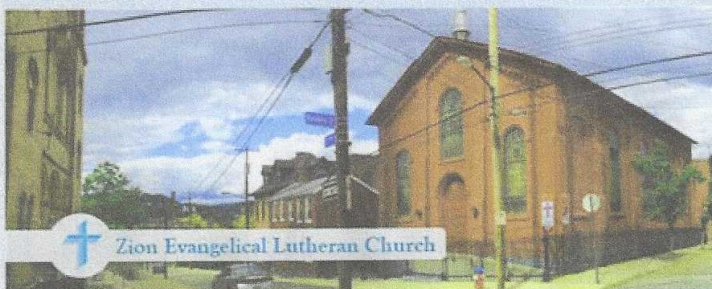
Below Right: Sharon Pritchard's musical students participated in a recital at the church



ZION LUTHERAN

Lawrenceville

6th Annual History Event “Artists of Lawrenceville” September 17, 2023 ~ 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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

1:30 p.m. - Melanie Groves, lecturer in Museum Studies at the University of Pittsburgh will be discussing and highlighting Romare Bearden, an African-American Artist who lived in Lawrenceville. Bearden, a painter, depicted and celebrated everyday African-American life.

2:30 p.m. - Ron Donoughe, full-time professional artist, will be engaging the audience in the life and art of Henry Bursztynowicz. Bursztynowicz, a sculptor, was a native of Lawrenceville and was a faculty member of the University of Missouri and Pittsburgh Center for the Arts.

3:30 p.m. - Gary Grimes, a local art historian who has lived in Pittsburgh since 1976, will be speaking on Lawrenceville’s two leading artists of the nineteenth century, Olive Turney and Clarence Johns. Turney, a painter, eventually became a teacher and principal of the Pittsburgh School of Design. Johns was also a painter, whose notable works include “Taubal Cain” and “Ruins in Paris”.

Free to the public

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Butterfly Release

The annual Concordia Hospice of Washington Butterfly Release will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26 at Valley View Farm (102 Orndorff Rd., Waynesburg, PA 15370). This public event offers free admission and releasable butterflies at a cost of \$10 each. Walk-ups are welcome, but pre-registration is highly encouraged by July 13 to guarantee a butterfly. Those in attendance are invited to honor and celebrate the memory of their loved ones through this unique Memorial Event. All proceeds benefit Concordia Hospice of Washington's mission to provide care and offer emotional, social and spiritual support for patients and their families. To register by phone or learn more, call 724-250-4500. Learn more about Concordia Hospice of Washington at [ConcordiaHW](#).



Alzheimer's Support Group

Alzheimer's Support Group will be on the last Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at Concordia of Fox Chapel. 931 Route 910, Cheswick 15024. Please RSVP to Kelly or Sharon at 412-767-5808.



Spousal loss support group

Good Samaritan Hospice, a mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries, invites all to attend grief support gatherings at Concordia of Cranberry (10 Adams Ridge Blvd, Mars, PA 16046). Spousal loss support group sessions will be every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. beginning May 2nd and will last 6 weeks. For more information and registration please contact: Family Support Services Admin Assistant: Brittany Foy 1-800-720-2557 Registration is now open!



Caregiver Support Group

The Caregiver Support Group on the Cabot campus meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. Call Stefanie Dietrich for more information at 724-352-1571, ext. 8271.



TOPS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Meetings every Thursday at the Cabot campus. Weigh-ins at 4:30, meeting at 5 p.m. Open to all staff, residents and community. Call or email Sara Beth Swain for details at 724-352-1571, ext. 8045 or sswain@concordiavn.org

Concordia's Highest Employee Honor Awarded

On Saturday, June 24, 2023, Concordia Lutheran Ministries announced that Dianna "Dian" Callen, receptionist manager at Concordia at Rebecca Residence, was named the 2023 recipient of the organization's highest employee honor, the Stephen W. Johnson Mission Award, at a banquet and ceremony held in celebration of the award's 36 finalists.

The award was created by an employee-led committee to honor Concordia's late Chairman of the Board of Directors Stephen W. Johnson, who served at Concordia for 19 years before passing away in 2020.

He was a visionary man of great faith and wisdom who guided Concordia in keeping its mission the top priority, and the award will preserve his memory and promote the recognition of employees' Christ-like hearts.

Dianna has the choice to go on a mission trip funded by Concordia or a \$15,000 charitable donation made in her name. Charitable donations of \$5,000 will be made in the name of the four honorable mentions, and charitable donations of \$500 will be made in the name of the distinguished nominee.



Award Recipient: Dianna Callen, Receptionist Manager, Concordia at Rebecca Residence (pictured above with Concordia at Rebecca Residence Administrator Phil Ricci, Tracey Johnson and President and CEO Keith Frndak)

2003 Golf Outing

More than 180 golfers participated in Concordia's 2023 Golf Classic at Treesdale Golf & Country Club on July 10. While final figures have not been calculated, preliminary reports show the event raised over \$140,000! All the day's proceeds will support one of the most important and historic pieces of Concordia's mission, the Good Samaritan Endowment Fund, which underwrites confidential charitable care for residents and patients who have limited or exhausted financial means.

Congratulations to first-place winners, who turned in an impressive 14-under-par: Ron Dorazio, Mike Urban, Mike Diaddigo and Robert Bubarth from Performance Foodservice! Taking second place was Noel Dente, Theresa Hametz, Matt Lewis and Rich Zabinski. Coming in third was Dan Harris, Danny Harris, Chad Simendinger, and Arnie Moser.

SEI Investments once again served as Signature Sponsor for the event, and Mike Kelly from SEI was on hand as a guest of honor. A special thank you to SEI for their continuous and generous support and to all of our sponsors, including:

Platinum Sponsors: Truist and McGriff

Gift Sponsor: Martik Brothers Construction

Gold Sponsors: Concordia Visiting Nurses, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh-Cranberry, Independence Health System, Gordon Food Service and St. Clair Health

We also thank the dozens of other sponsors and donors who helped make this event a success. Concordia is incredibly grateful for their support of our mission and those we care for every day!

Below: Bob Schmidt, parent Board member from Zion, Brdigeville and his foursome



Right: Representing signature sponsor SEI, Mike Kelly with president and CEO Keith Frndak and COO Brian Hortert. Keith Frndak is a member of St. Luke and Paul Brand is a member of St John's, Millvale.



Below: Senior Vice President Paul Brand emcee for dinner.



Right: The Greygor Family from Zion, Lawrenceville



7th Annual Good Samaritan Hospice Butterfly Release



Sunday, August 20, 2023
2 - 3:30 p.m.

Registration begins at 1:15 p.m. with the program starting promptly at 2 p.m.

Cranberry Township Community Park, Lions Shelter

111 Ernie Mashuda Dr., Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Past the Kid's Castle Park and the Baseball Fields.

Seating is limited, so please bring your own chairs or blankets to the event.



You are invited to honor and celebrate the memory of your loved ones through a unique memorial event. The event is free to attend, with butterflies to be released at \$15 each or 2 for \$25. Walk-ups are welcome, but pre-registration is high encouraged by July 7 to guarantee a butterfly.

Activities include: Welcome & Announcements, Opening Prayer, Choral and Musical Performances, Release of Butterflies, Refreshments and Children's Activities.

To register: Go to www.GSHButterflyRelease.org, call 724-352-1571, ext. 8355, or complete front and back and return the form at the bottom of this flyer to: Good Samaritan Hospice c/o CLM Foundation, 134 Marwood Road, Cabot, PA 16023



**Good
Samaritan
Hospice**

A mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Butterfly Release Form

Name: _____

Number of Live Butterflies to be released at \$15 each (or 2 for \$25): _____ Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ *Make checks payable to CLM Foundation.*

I will be attending the event on Sunday, August 20, 2023 at the Community Park.

Number of people attending in your group: _____

I cannot attend, please release my butterflies for me.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone [home] [cell] [work]: _____ Email: _____

Names of those attending: (Please list ages if children are attending. We want to be sure we have enough activities and refreshments for all.)

Names of those in whose memory or honor you are releasing the butterflies: _____



Power of the Purse

A purse bash to benefit Good Samaritan
Hospice Youth Bereavement Care

Friday, September 29, 2023
6 p.m.

The Mansion, Butler, PA

141 Mansion Lane, Butler, PA 16002

\$45 per admission ticket

Each ticket includes chances to win one of 10 designer handbags

Additional drawings for:

- **Spotlight Designer Bags worth \$2,000+**
- **High-end purses, wallets and baskets!**

Light appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages provided.
Outside snacks and alcoholic drinks are permitted.

Call 724-352-1571, ext. 8363 or visit
pursegala.com to reserve your tickets.