



THE PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN

VOL 93, NO 8, October 2020

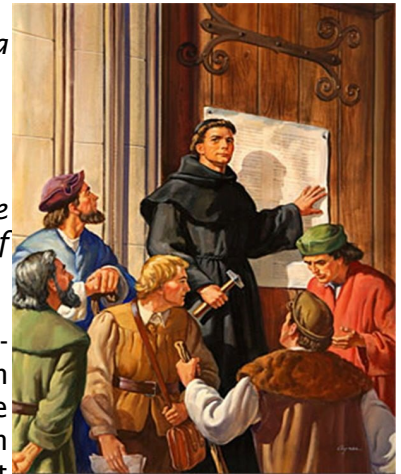
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PALM DEVOTION

by The Reverend Dr. Douglas H. Spittel, President, Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries

“Unending Reform – Constant Grace”

“All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of the Lord endures forever.” – 1 Peter 1:24-25



At the end of October our churches will once again gather to celebrate the Lutheran Reformation. We will recall the history of Martin Luther and the other reformers and give thanks that the saving grace of God in Christ continues to be given preeminence among us and in our pulpits. Of course, the Lutheran Reformation, as important as it is to us, was not the only time of reform in the Church. Throughout our history there have been times when false teachings or practices had crept into the Church that needed to be corrected. Each week we recite the Nicene Creed which was the result of Church Councils in the Fourth Century that were called to define orthodox Christianity and defend against heresy. Notable figures such as St. Gregory, St. Francis, and John Huss called the Church to reform. Even our own beloved Missouri Synod had to deal with difficult theological struggles in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries that called us back to our central doctrines and mission. *Ecclesia semper reformanda est* “the church must always be reformed” is a phrase that the theologian Karl Barth popularized based on a saying from St. Augustine.

Every Christian faces a greater need for reformation every day. If we examine ourselves by the rule of the Ten Commandments, we quickly find that we daily sin much and need repentance. Doubts, self-justifications, vices, and other false doctrines of our own making creep into our lives and, left unchecked, would lead us to ruin and despair. The faith once given to us by God’s Word and Sacraments is tested every day through an unending assault by the devil, the world, and even our own flesh. As Luther put it in his explanation of Holy Baptism, “the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.”

There is the promise. While our sinful selves need unending reform in this life, the promise of God is sure. He is ever faithful and always comes to save us. Based on the passage in 1 Peter, the Lutheran reformers held to the belief that *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum* “the Word of the Lord remains forever.” Even though our sins be as the sands on the seashore, the promises and grace of God in Christ Jesus are greater and stronger. Jesus Christ died for all of our sins and comes to us in Word and Sacrament not to simply reform us, but to save us, to recreate us, and to deliver us from death into life eternal. What is impossible through our own works, is made complete in the gracious and loving work of Jesus on our behalf. When the daunting task of reformation seems to have no end, we see the blessed end of sin in the death and resurrection of Jesus and the constant beginning of our new life in Him every day.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October

3. Concordia Oktoberfest, Cabot Campus, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **canceled**

3. Fireworks display, Concordia Campus, Cabot, 7:45 p.m.

23. Redeemer's Evening at LeMont, Mt. Washington, Redeemer Lutheran School, 7:00 p.m.

24. Tri-Parish Drive through Oktoberfest, Bethel, Glenshaw, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

November

8. The Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

TBA. Camp Erin Purse Gala, fall 2020



CALENDAR NOTE: DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT ANY OF THE SCHEDULED EVENTS MAY BE CANCELLED OR POSTPONED. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH FOR UPDATES.WE PRAY THAT ALL OF YOU ARE SAFE AND HEALTHY.



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SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

GOD'S WORK MATTERS

by Augusta R. Mennell, Campus Ministry Director

I had always wondered what had happened to Paul (not his real name), an international student from Africa. I had come to believe that the time he had spent with campus ministry at All Saints had not really meant much. This week I realized I was wrong. Seeds of faith and friendship had actually been planted.

As usual, I sit in my office with the door open so I can say hello to whomever walks in. The church door opened and I looked up. To my astonishment and complete amazement, in walked Paul. It had been several years since he had come to visit. I had thought our campus ministry work had not mattered; I found out just how much it actually had.

Paul came back for more than one reason. He came to say that he missed All Saints and wanted us to know how thankful he is for all the time and love we gave him while he was a student at Slippery Rock University. His eyes shone as he recalled happy holiday meals at our home; how he felt so accepted, along with the many other international students who came to All Saints activities; how he deeply appreciated our nonstop encouragement during all of his struggles to survive financially, emotionally and spiritually.

Paul also came in to say that he was sorry. He apologized for just dropping out of our lives. He knew we cared. He knew that we were worried about him. He knew that every time we would see him at the annual SRU International Dinner, where he voluntarily promised he would be back soon, we worried because he did not. He apologized because he knew All Saints loved him like family and really wanted to be sure he was okay. We especially missed time with him in worship.



Paul went on to describe his present life. He's been married but that did not last. He is full of regrets. He now lives with his family. He stays in touch with many former international students who had come to SRU and ASLC. He is also in contact with his former best friend, who now lives back home in Africa. As he talked about his broken marriage, and his deep care for his former girlfriend, his eyes welled up with tears. Pain filled his face. Guilt and remorse were almost too much to bear.

Paul said he has not been in church. Instead, he listens to services on his smart phone. He wants to listen to God's Word. He is searching for the "right" church. He listened to the words we shared: that he become a member of a church no matter how busy his job keeps him; that he needs to go to his church for confession and absolution, because his whole soul is hurting with the pain he carries – pain he could take to Jesus. He said he would do that. He realizes he needs forgiveness.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

GOD'S WORK MATTERS (CONT.)

Just when it seemed that campus ministry did not matter, Paul's visit showed that it does. We held hands before he left to drive South to his job. He and I prayed together. He said he will stay in touch, he will go to church, and he will ask God to give him His strength.

As he drove away, he laughingly and smilingly called out that he'd tell all the "boys" he stays close to from the old days when he was a student. He will tell them to call us to say hello. We know that this won't be his last visit. He had driven all night to pick up belongings he had kept in Slippery Rock. He wanted to see his old campus. Most of all, he wanted to share from his heart with my older All Saints – the place where he became family. I believe he will return. It's especially priceless to have Paul's visit. This visit is a reminder that God's Word matters. It grows no matter what the challenges are in a student's life.

All Saints will greet this year's college students with Welcome Boxes. Since we cannot serve student meals due to the virus, we can give the students a treat, which says we're here for them. Now, and in all the years to come.

We thank God that His Holy Spirit keeps them forever. His Word matters.



Greeting students with welcome boxes.

LOCAL MISSION

MILEPOSTERS NEWS

A stoker-forward tandem was added to the stable on August 13, pictured at Milepost 25, Dravo Landing. With reversed positions, the stoker is in front, allowing the captain to observe all that is going on, and for the stoker to have a better view. A linkage takes motion from the captain's handlebars to the front wheel. Training rides have been taking place with two captains. It is the first Mileposters bike to have removable pedals, which are in the stoker position.



A ride on the Eliza Furnace Trail on September 5 saw three captains out with four stokers, plus an adult single rider, pictured where the trail crosses Grant Street in downtown Pittsburgh. It was the third trip for the mother and daughter on the left, who started this season.

The Miles to Go 2020 campaign to support LCMS ministry in Puerto Rico stood at 2,066 miles as of September 9, over twice as many as the same time last year. Although Laura did minimal damage to Puerto Rico, mostly missing the island, the damage from Maria three years ago is still not close to being repaired. Some 30,000 homes are still missing their roofs, making do with the familiar blue emergency tarps, which are beginning to get very ragged, and the territory has been further shaken by earthquakes and the coronavirus. Puerto Rico's debt is now \$74 billion, and it is not protected by Chapter 9 of the U. S. Bankruptcy Code.



OUR HOUSES OF WORSHIP

By Shirley Freyer

OUR HOUSES OF WORSHIP— The second of a series featuring our area churches.

Ascension Lutheran Church
8225 Peebles Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412/364-4463
ascensionpittsburgh.com



Paul’s letter to the Romans, chapter 12 is personified in the congregation at Ascension in McCandless Twp. “For as in one body, we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function ... having gifts that differ ...” Even President Jennifer Ciccone has chosen Romans 12: 12-13 as part of her e-mail signature ... “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”

According to her, “We’re all part of the body and every role and function is equally important. God puts us where He wants us to be and I hope we all discern what we should be pursuing for His glory, then get to it.”

She believes the single factor that draws people to Ascension is the people. There are warm and supporting relationships among members from all ages and experiences. Most recount feeling very welcomed from the moment they walked in,” she said.

Church secretary since 2008, Barb Marcellus who with her husband, Bob, and daughters Lisa and Emily, transferred to Ascension from St. Matthew’s in 2001 agreed, “We are truly blessed at Ascension. We have a lot of members who do a lot of things! Humbly she notes that her family is “just a small part of the body of Christ.”

They list 23 outreach ministries including a weekly Prayer and Praise on Wednesday mornings having held their 90th meeting. It’s a time to share devotions, laugh, make music, pray and cry together. Elder Bob Booth, the current facilitator, is a Navy veteran who uses his gift of storytelling to engage others, share his heart and his faith. The group has been meeting on Zoom and by phone through the pandemic.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

The SOAR (Special Opportunities, Abilities and Relationships) ministry, provides respite care to families of differently-abled children, ages 2-10 once a month for playing games, creating crafts, making music and forming relationships with a buddy and the group (Not meeting during the pandemic).



How did they get there? Articles of Incorporation are dated May 18, 1965 but Bible classes began in the Philips home in 1951 with services beginning in 1952 in a temporary chapel that was formerly a hot dog stand on Babcock Boulevard in the North Hills. According to a history written by Theresa Klein, led by the newly ordained Rev. Elmer Thyr, the group of 28 charter members officially established a congregation in April of 1953 and on December 18, 1955 a unique diamond-shaped building designed to enhance the hilly landscape was dedicated. It was described in the news media as unusual and the most modern Protestant Church in the district.

Only one charter member remains, Gail Brent, who wrote in her early memories of the original church, “I remember the cry room where children would smudge their faces against the glass to look at the congregation below, or bang their bottles against the windows for attention. .. and sitting in the church and the chairs would slide out of alignment on the slanted floor so that our skinny heeled shoes would sink into the crevices of the floor boards.”

They say that history repeats itself so this bears telling the story of the early days as it seems Ascension is reliving those times now. December 1956 the pastor took a call back home to California and the pastor at St. Matthew in Northside served the vacancy, Rev. Walter Koenig, current member Cristen Fiffik’s grandfather. The next several years marked numerous periods without a shepherd “but the past only encouraged the congregation to cling together and strive harder to do the work of the Lord.”

A new pastor and a groundbreaking for a new church on the present location made 1969 a stellar year for the growing Ascension church. Since then four pastors have served with Rev. Paul Rist having the longest tenure with 18 years prior to his call to Concordia Lutheran Ministries as a chaplain and eventual retirement. In a letter dated March of 1997, he reiterated what has been a mantra for the people of Ascension – “Over the past several years, we have prayed so many times, ‘Lord, we want to do what you want us to do.’ “

An educational wing was added during this time. Music held a top priority culminating in the call of a Minister of Music, Rev. Richard Burk in 1985. Currently the Praise Team consists of keyboard, guitar, drums and vocals to lead the congregation in both traditional and contemporary music each week. An adult choir meets weekly led by Vanessa Candreva, music director since 2013.

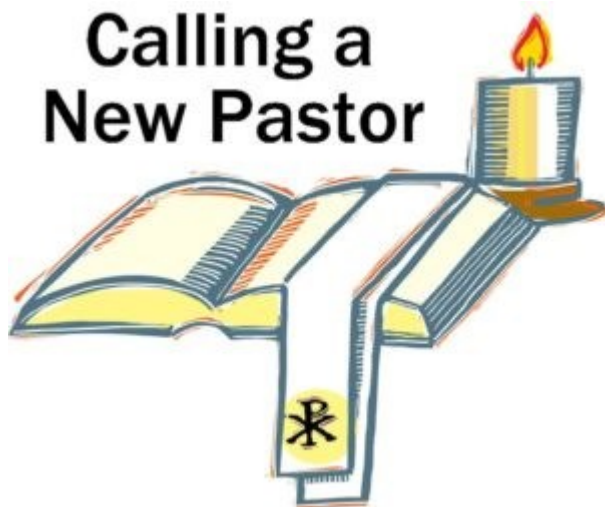
HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

Two years ago, Ascension found themselves without a pastor once again. The congregation worked with Rev. Marti Lee from Michigan last year as an intentional interim who helped them understand two key prongs to adopt during this time of vacancy – “to be an educational resource to youth and adults in our community and to reinvigorate our youth ministry.” Head Elder Mike Fiffik, along with his team of elders, Cooper Blake, Bob Booth, Pete Candreva, David Dille and Darryl Gunther lead worship via messages writing by other pastors.

“Through our period of vacancy, my team of Elders and I have come to a greater appreciation for Luther’s concept of the ‘priesthood of all believers’ “ noted Mike Fiffik. “We’ve had to take on expanded roles and responsibilities and push the limits of our personal comfort to lead worship and minister to our fellow members,” he continued. “We’ve counted on the Holy Spirit to walk with us during this challenging time and it has been a blessing to us personally as well as to all members of the congregation who have taken on new and expanded responsibilities,” Mike said.

Pastors at St. Luke are the vacancy team of record.

“Strong lay leadership has enabled the church to continue on with ministry in so many different ways,” Rev. Barry Keurulainen, Senior Pastor at St. Luke in Cabot said. “Ascension is truly a church that is an example of the priesthood of all believers to the glory of God.”



Calling a New Pastor

Ascension’s website states “We are actively in the process of calling a new pastor. This is a very exciting time for us to imagine and plan for our future. We believe that the Holy Spirit is active in this time of leadership transition.”

Please pray for them as they wait on the Lord to send them a good shepherd.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Oakmont/Penn Hills

Redeemer’s two campuses opened the doors for the first day of school on Wednesday, August 26. While the “outer” things of school might look a bit different this year due to COVID precautions, the “inner” foundations of RLS’s commitment to quality Christian education continue!

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 around the greater Pittsburgh area. Redeemer’s middle school soccer team brought home their first win on September 10, and the middle school girls volleyball team netted two wins in the same week! The high school cross country team brought home some personal record times during their first invitational at Harrison Hills Park.



Families, faculty, and friends of Redeemer took part in the 25th Annual Golf Outing on September 13. Golfers braved the rain for a day of golf and fellowship to support the work of RLS. Thank you to everyone that participated.



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. Sarah Stanley.

On the calendar: Redeemer’s Evening at LeMont, October 23, 7:00 p.m. Contact the school office for more information and tickets!

Above: Supporting Redeemer at the 25th annual Golf Outing

Right: High school students enjoying some outdoor time during art class.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

McCandless



On August 16, 2020, Anna Fiffik was Confirmed at Ascension Lutheran Church by Pastor Barry Keurulainen. Anna shared her Statement of Faith with the congregation during the worship service. The Confirmation Verse that Anna connects with and chose (with the help of her grandfather, Pastor Cliff Koenig) is Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Forest Hills

The prayer mound at Christ Lutheran is undergoing a facelift. The outreach committee is heading up this project. The walkway stones to the mound were uncovered. A new cross fashioned by one of the members is the focal point of the mound. Stay tuned for more improvements.



NEWS FROM AREA CONGREGATIONS

CALVARY LUTHERAN

Murrysville

On September 30, Pastor David Weeks retired from full time ministry at Calvary Lutheran Church in Murrysville where he has served for the last 14 years.



After graduating from Concordia Theological Seminary in 1980, he served Concordia - McKeesport until January 2001. He was then serving the LCMS Eastern District as Mission Executive until 2006. David has spent his entire career living in the Pittsburgh area. Along with his pastoral duties, he served as LWML Zone Counselor, Pittsburgh Southeast Circuit counselor/Visitor, Vacancy Pastor in Monroeville and Lawrenceville, Board member for Concordia Lutheran Ministries, startup team forming Southeast Area Lutheran School/Christ Lutheran School, board member of Luthercrest, The Eastern District's Social Ministry and Human Care board, and team member of The Sunshine Kitchen while in McKeesport. By God's grace, he has enjoyed serving God's people for 40 years.

By God's grace, he has enjoyed serving God's people for 40 years.

The Lord willing, Pastor Weeks will continue to serve Calvary as their Vacancy Pastor through end of year or until a new Pastor arrives. He will continue to offer pulpit supply and volunteer time to congregations and agencies having need and remain in the area.

Calvary will celebrate Pastor's retirement on Saturday, October 10. "Thank you" to my Savior Jesus, my family, Calvary - Murrysville, The LCMS Eastern District, Concordia - McKeesport, and western PA for an exciting 40 years of serving the Lord. There was never a dull moment!

God is good! Ephesians 2:8-10

MT. CALVARY

Westview

Several things are in the thinking stages at Mt. Calvary, but with the current conditions, nobody is sure how many will actually take place. As of now:

The Hoover family is discussing whether or not to hold the annual Oktoberfest festival at the end of the month.

Members of the Outreach Group will pass out Halloween treat bags to children (and coffee and hot chocolate to adults) if conditions allow.

Mt. Calvary will donate cookies to Meals on Wheels during the month of October (this is definite).

The church Christmas party is being planned for Sunday, December 6, following the church service.

Check in next month to see what did and didn't happen.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN

Oakmont

Naumanns Home Service - Every few years, our foreign missionaries come home to give presentations to congregations about what they are doing in the field and to raise funds for their mission work. Pastor & Deaconess Naumann were scheduled to do this again this fall, but the pandemic is keeping them in the Dominican. However, they will be giving presentations for congregations via Zoom, the platform we have been using for Bible Classes and Voters Assemblies.

Pastor Westgate invites you to join Redeemer Oakmont via Zoom on Sunday, October 11, at 7:00 p.m. for the Naumanns' Home service presentation for the Pittsburgh region. If you have Zoom on your computer, a few minutes before the presentation begins, you will click the "Join Meeting" button. Then you will be asked to provide the meeting ID number: 424 346 2194 and then the Passcode: 766666.

TRI-PARISH (BETHEL- *Glenshaw*, ST. JOHN'S- *Millvale*, ZION- *Lawrenceville*)

ZION HISTORY DAY "SOLD OUT"



Both sessions for Zion's 3rd Annual History Day were filled Sunday afternoon, September 13. The three and a half hour lectures on the Cemeteries of Lawrenceville featured Jude Wudarczyk discussing The Lawrenceville Burying Ground followed by Dr. Elisabeth Roark, Chatham University, who talked about the Allegheny Cemetery, the largest in Pittsburgh and Jim Wudarczyk presented St. Mary's Cemetery, one of the earliest Roman Catholic cemeteries in the area.

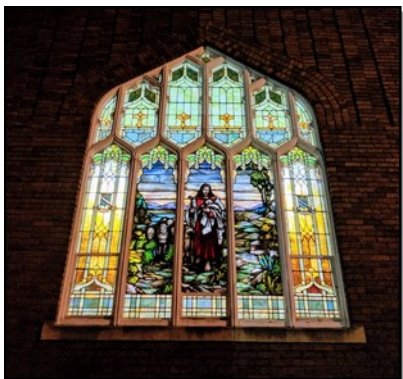
History Day was created and coordinated by Zion lifelong member, Rebekah Johnston Wudarczyk as a preamble to Zion's 150th anniversary celebration in 2018. Last year's event hosted musical entertainment followed by two historical presentations about Butler Street and Penn Avenue.

Pictured left to right Jim Wudarczyk, Dr. Roark and Jude Wudarczyk.



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Good Time to Plant: A One Year Reflection on Our Mission Plant in Clarksburg, WV



It is quite difficult to express just how much has happened at St. John's since it's reception into the English District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) and the installation of her first full-time Pastor in October and November of 2019 (respectively). Suffice it to say, God has truly blessed this little mission plant parish and has turned it into a true house of prayer and beacon of light in the community.

Since the reception and installation services, St. John's has set it's mission-al vision on two objectives: 1.) Be the Church, and 2.) Do Church.

To *be the Church*, it was vital to establish our Lutheran identity in Clarksburg, distinguishing our parish from the other denominational houses in the area, particularly the Immaculate Conception RC parish (which is one block West of St. John's) and the St. Mark's ELCA parish (the only other "Lutheran" presence in Clarksburg). The closest LCMS congregation is 1 hr 15min West in Parkersburg. So, as far as the Clarksburg community was concerned, there was no knowledge of LCMS doctrine or practice. So, it became important to address the "Who We Are."

In order to achieve this objective, we looked inwardly to our worship life, then at our catechetical life (not necessarily in this order). These two things in particular would be foundational to distinguishing "us from them." As we turned inwardly, we looked at our house of prayer. As new tenants of this building (which we currently rent), it was necessary to shape the space around us to reflect our liturgical theology. Previous tenants reimagined the place, and this needed changing. And, so the first thing needed was a sanctuary (and undercroft) makeover.



A baptismal "tub" was replaced with an actual Altar. Pointless pieces of architecture were removed. Images and other vessels were added. Undercroft rooms were rearranged and painted. A brand new Pastor's study was created. In just a few months, proper Lutheran aesthetics were restored. If ever someone were to walk through the doors of St. John's, they would not envision the décor of its previous tenant, but will encounter a Lutheran house of worship. As renovations were made, we established daily prayer offices Tuesday through Friday, catechetical Vespers on Wednesday, and a Bible Study multiple times a week, all of which fostered the catechetical life of the congregation. In order to share our faith with others, we must first have a right understanding and a unified voice so as not confuse any visitors, guests, and future members.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Good Time to Plant (cont.)

That being said, our catechetical life is nothing new to Lutheranism. It was key for establishing the rhythm of our mission plant, as well as to show the neighbors that we are very much open and active. Visitors, guests, and future members will see just how important understanding our faith is at St. John's. In addition to our physical presence, we also needed to establish our identity and presence online—social media, website, and the like. Pictures were taken, social media pages were created, a website was made, and finally our virtual identity matched our real-life identity. Since its creation, our social media presence has been a wonderful tool for sharing the life of St. John's with the world and any traveling visitors. Having made significant process with these objectives and with the first part of our vision, we were ready to address the second part of our vision.



With a well-grounded identity as Church, it was natural to move externally to the way we *do Church*. This was a natural transition, as the personality of the congregation was that of service to neighbor. Worship life on Sunday was meant to bleed into our daily life outside of Sunday. In this sense, we wanted to establish our presence in the community—so that our neighbors would know that we exist within their community and desire to have an integral part of the future together. First, we shared and encouraged others to share all our social media, YouTube channel, and website with friends, families, and coworkers. Second, we canvassed, made banners and brochures, and began initial planning to be present at various local venues, i.e. local festivals (which were ultimately cancelled due to COVID-19).

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, was to build the awareness of our parish by networking in the community, connecting our desire to serve with those organizations and agencies in the community who would welcome our support. We were blessed to see how much we could do together, even as small as we are. Our networking and community outreach has allowed us to build very impressionable and lasting relationships. In just this past 6 months, our social media presence has exploded, connecting us to the community around us and the whole world, including other LCMS parishes and the Synod. In the same 6 months, we've supported multiple food drives—local and statewide, hosted community meals, established a lasting Devotion & Bible Study presence with the local Homeless Shelter, made and donated over 400 cloth masks (supporting our neighbors, hospitals and nursing homes, military members, and students returning to school), and would have done more if not prevented by COVID-19.



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Good Time to Plant (cont.)

Even still, we are looking at more ways we can *do Church*. Our daily office of Matins, prayed Tuesday through Friday at 8am, had regular attendance of 20+ local, non-charter members, but was untimely shutdown because of COVID-19. It now continues online for all to watch. But, as that door closed, another door open and now Pastor Gandy hosts a one-hour block of devotion and catechesis at the Homeless Shelter. Indeed, just about every Sunday, God has opened our doors to new and frequent visitors desiring to learn more about us and what we preach (Christ crucified, of course!). In the next few weeks, God



-willing, we will have three baptisms and one new convert. We are staying busy with the many ways God has enabled us to *do Church*.

The next big steps for our mission plant parish is to find a permanent home—whether that is buying the place with currently rent, or find another location, or even building a new site. We pray for God's wisdom and guidance as we continue to build His Kingdom in Clarksburg, WV. Additionally, with the success of our latest outreach initiatives, we are still looking for continued guidance into what new missions and outreach endeavors will impact us

and our community. We are truly blessed to be doing this wonderful work and living out our mission vision in an area craving to learn more about the Word and Sacraments our Lord offers through this humble little parish in Clarksburg, WV.

As we continue to do God's work in Clarksburg, WV, we ask for your support. Prayers and financially. \$1 goes a long way in the work of this mission plant congregation. Your prayers go even further, strengthening us and encouraging us to remain steadfast in our faith and our Lutheran Heritage. Please "like," "follow," and "subscribe" to our social media, YouTube channel, and website to stay connected and up to date on all the latest activities. To the Glory of God!



Vicar Donn and Debbie Woolweber invite you to join us
EVERY TUESDAY AFTERNOON AT 3 P.M.
for inspired and powerful prayer simultaneously with others
throughout the world!



ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
237-37TH STREET, LAWRENCEVILLE
412/621-2720

Worship Services every Sunday at 11:30 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Daniel Hahn Jr., Pastor

Everyone is invited to our Tri-Parish
(Bethel, St. John's Millvale, & Zion, Lawrenceville)

DRIVE-THRU



Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church

301 Scott Avenue, Glenshaw 15116

Saturday, Oct. 24 3 – 7 p.m.

Freewill Offering - All proceeds will benefit Redeemer Lutheran School.



Oktoberfest Canceled, Fireworks Show Still On

The Annual Concordia Oktoberfest, which was scheduled for October 3 on the Concordia at Cabot Campus, has been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we still plan to have the Oktoberfest fireworks display for our residents that evening – and the community is invited to the campus for a safe drive in viewing opportunity!

Saturday, October 3 at 7:45 p.m.
Parking lots behind the Lund Care Center
(134 Marwood Rd., Cabot, PA 16023)

Cars will be parked in every other spot to allow spectators to get out of their vehicles and watch the show. Once the spots are full, we will be closing the entrance, to ensure proper social distancing is followed and a safe distance from the fireworks display is maintained. The fireworks begin promptly at 7:45 p.m. and last approximately 15 minutes. The event is weather permitting and guests are asked to arrive between 6:30 – 7:30.

The Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting

The Concordia Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, Nov. 8 at 3:00 p.m.**

Due to the restrictions caused by the pandemic the meeting will be held in three locations – the Haven Dining Room at the Cabot campus will accommodate Concordia leadership and the nominees as well as those delegates who select this location.

Two other locations – the Harmony Room at Concordia of the South Hills, 1300 Bower Hill Road, Mt. Lebanon and the Chapel at Concordia at Rebecca Residence, 3746 Cedar Ridge Road, Allison Park will be available to delegates via ZOOM.

Registration will begin at 2:30 p.m. at each location with dinner being served following the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Retired Pastor Discovers A New Hobby at Concordia Haven

For the past two years, the customized calendar that Concordia Lutheran Ministries publishes featured amazing resident artists – some who studied art in college and made a career out of it, some who won awards for their paintings and even those who always enjoyed art but didn't truly get to paint until making their home at one of Concordia's communities. September's artist is Rev. Ken Hoener of the Concordia at Cabot Haven Apartments.

Like many of our resident artists, Rev. Ken did not truly discover his affinity for painting until he moved to Concordia. Unlike many of our artists, the retired minister has been involved at Concordia for almost 60 years – as a volunteer pastor, member of Concordia's Board of Directors and now as a resident.

"It's a calming activity that is very rewarding," Ken said. "You can start something and bring it to fruition."





Concordia Lutheran Ministries Ways to give during COVID-19

As we continue to combat this pandemic together, we at Concordia have been so grateful for the tremendous support we've received from the community. Many people have asked how they can make a difference during these challenging times.

Here are a few ways that you can help Concordia while still maintaining social distancing:

Participate in our card/video campaign for our residents and patients.

To send cards for our residents to enjoy, please contact the Activities Department at the location you are interested in sending them. To send a video message, email us at SendASmile@concordialm.org.

Make or donate any type of masks or other personal protective equipment (PPE). There is no shortage of PPE for daily use at Concordia, but if you would like to help us prepare for our long-term supply needs, please contact our purchasing director at: 724-352-1571, ext. 8374.

Give the gift of a companion.

Some people have chosen to give toward our acquisition of lifelike robotic pets that help our residents cope with loneliness – especially during this time of social distancing. Please call our Foundation office at 724-352-1571, ext. 8363 for more details.

Making a tribute gift in honor of your loved ones.

Tribute giving is a heartfelt way to recognize, honor and celebrate your loved ones or the staff that are helping to care for them. With a tribute gift, you continue to support our mission of providing faith-based, quality care to those who need it most. You can give online at Give.ConcordiaLM.org and click the "GIVE NOW" button or mail to the CLM Foundation at 134 Marwood Rd, Cabot, PA 16023.

If you are interested in helping with any of these initiatives, please contact the Foundation Office at 724-352-1571, ext. 8363 or giving@concordialm.org.

For the most up-to-date information on Concordia's COVID-19 response, visit www.ConcordiaLM.org

Your Dream for Free:

Let Concordia pay for your nursing degree!



recently forged a partnership that will provide amazing opportunities for our community members interested in earning a degree in nursing!

How it works:

- ◆ Apply and earn acceptance into BC3's Nursing Program
- ◆ Apply for Concordia's BC3 Tuition Assistance Program by visiting www.concordialm.org or scanning this QR code to the right
- ◆ Graduate in two years
- ◆ Begin your new career as Registered Nurse with Concordia, debt free!

Quick Q & A:

Q: Will Concordia pay for all of my tuition or a portion of it?

A: In the program, your tuition is FULLY PAID by Concordia!

Q: Do I have to work for Concordia while in school?

A: No, however, if you do commit to 5-6 days a month, Concordia will also reimburse the cost of your books!

Q: What kind of nursing position will I have with Concordia?

A: Concordia has 16 locations across western Pennsylvania that offer inpatient care or residence, and our home health, hospice, and private duty service lines serve 13 counties – so we have a wide variety of nursing positions available!



Interested in a closer look at Concordia?

Call 724.352.1571 x8372 to schedule a personal appointment with a safe distance tour of the Concordia at Cabot campus! Concordia is blessed to be able to give back to our local community members with this amazing opportunity! Email BC3NursingProgram@concordialm.org to learn how you can turn your dream into a reality!