



- The Council meeting is on Monday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please contact the church office if you are unable to attend.
- The Council Retreat is Friday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at CLC.
- Remember to mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 10:00 service. A light brunch will be served.

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**Acolyte Training** - There will be an Acolyte Training Session on Sunday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary during the Sunday School hour from 9:00-10:00 am. All children who have celebrated their First Communion are invited to serve as acolytes for our worship services.



**Congratulations** to Joseph Lasher, Max Martin, and Josh Zimmerman and the Franklin Regional High School band. The band has been chosen to represent Pennsylvania on Inauguration Day in Washington D.C. Please keep Joseph, Max, and Josh in your prayers this week.

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The next **Men's Breakfast** will be held on Saturday morning, Jan. 21st at 8:00 am in the lower social hall. Bring a hearty appetite and enjoy hanging out with the guys.

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### **ALL FAMILIES AND YOUTH WELCOME**

Please join us for a Family Snow Tubing Event Sponsored by the Youth Ministry Committee

**Date:** Saturday, January 28th

**Time:** 5:00-7:00 pm

**Where:** Boyce Park Ski Lodge

675 Old Franks town Road Pittsburgh, PA 15239

**Cost:** Junior/adult (13-59) \$17.00; Child (1-12) \$13.00

**Youth admission cost will be paid for by our Youth Group Fund**



### **RESTRICTIONS:**

-All participants must be at least 42 inches tall to participate

-Participants between 42-50 inches tall must be attached to a parent.

-Participants 9 years old and younger must be with an adult

**RSVP no later than 1/21** if attending (as tickets are purchased in advance), by either replying to this message, call/text Trish Lasher at 412-956-2294 or sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Please also indicate if you'd be available to assist with transportation if needed. Looking forward to seeing you there! Please bring a friend!

## **Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "Life Together" – A Discussion Group**

We will begin our celebration of "Reformation 2017," and our reflection upon the rich heritage that we share, as Lutherans, with an engaging and lively discussion of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Life Together. This book, written by Bonhoeffer during a time when he was participating in an underground seminary, has become a Christian classic that offers us practical advice about how "life together" in Christ can be sustained in both families and groups. This wonderful book speaks about how our personal prayer, common worship, everyday work, and Christian service work together. This is bread for all who hunger for the real life of Christian fellowship!

**Monday, Jan 16 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Jan 19 @ 7:00 pm**  
"Living Together as a Community in Christ"

**Monday, Jan 23 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Jan 26 @ 7:00 pm**  
"Christian Community – Built and Sustained by the Love of God in Christ"

**Monday, Jan 30 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Feb 2 @ 7:00 pm**  
"Receiving God's Gifts"

**Monday, Feb 6 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Feb 9 @ 7:00 pm**  
"What Unites Us as a Christian Community?"

**Monday, Feb 13 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Feb 16 @ 7:00 pm**  
"Personal Meditation and Prayer"

**Monday, Feb 20 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Feb 23 @ 7:00 pm**  
"Justification by Grace and Christian Community"

**Monday, Feb 27 @ 1:00 pm – Thursday, Mar 2, 2017 @ 7:00 pm**  
"Confession and Forgiveness: The Heart of Christian Community"

Since this is a discussion group, participants will be required to purchase the book – "Life Together" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer – and will be expected to read about 15 pages of the book before each meeting. Participants can purchase the book at a local bookstore, or by ordering the book online.

**Please be sure to sign the Discussion Group sheet that's been placed in the hallway at Christ's Lutheran Church as soon as possible.** We have, also, placed copies of the Discussion Guide that we will be using to guide our time together beside the registration sheet. Please, only take a copy of the Discussion Guide if you are planning to take part in the Discussion Group – so that we have enough copies for those who want to join in these engaging and lively discussions.

### **Lutherans and Roman Catholics on the Way in Southwestern PA**

Almost 500 years ago, the movement known as the “Reformation” was launched in Germany by Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic monk, priest, and scholar. The 16<sup>th</sup> century Reformation, a movement which continues today, had some very positive results, including: The encouragement of the laity to read the Bible in their own language, promoting the dignity of all vocations (not just those to the priesthood and religious life), and nudging the late medieval Roman Catholic Church towards reforms instituted by the Council of Trent, including ending abuses associated with practice of indulgences, and the institution of the modern seminary system. The Reformation also had the unfortunate, unintentional result of giving rise to the fracture of western Christianity. Today, in many homes, extended families, workplaces and communities, people experience misunderstanding, mistrust, hurt, and division among the followers of Jesus Christ.

This year, the Catholic Church and the churches of the Lutheran World Federation have joined together to mark the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of the Reformation. This joint commemoration is also being embraced in local Catholic dioceses and archeparchies, and in the local synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Bishop Edward Malesic of the Diocese of Greensburg, Bishop Kurt Kusserow of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA, Archbishop William Skurla of the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, and Bishop David Zubik of the Diocese of Pittsburgh have set forth in a joint letter their shared hope for and commitment to “an increase in mutual understanding, reconciliation, and a more visible unity of the Church”. They call upon all of us to pray both personally and communally that the gospel of Jesus Christ will result in efforts towards common prayer, demonstration of mercy and the desire for peace with justice. As part of this commemoration, the bishops encourage our participation in three special events.

#### **An Evening of Repentance - March 14, 2017 – 7 p.m.**

St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral, Munhall

Evening Prayer, followed by dinner

Theme: REPENTANCE

#### **An Evening of Witness and Thanksgiving – June 29, 2017 – Time: TBA**

St. Kilian Roman Catholic Church, Mars

Theme: TESTIMONIAL AND THANKSGIVING

#### **A Day of Commemoration of Hope – October 29, 2017 – Time: TBA**

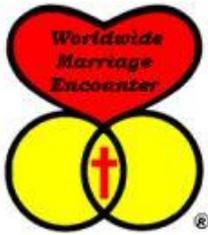
Fred Rogers Center, St. Vincent College

Theme: COMMEMORATION OF HOPE (with prayer in St. Vincent Basilica).

Look for more information about these events and other collaborative opportunities during the coming weeks and months. As we prepare to we seek to journey together “on the way” to our unity in Jesus Christ, let us remember the words of Saint Paul: *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.*

(Ephesians 4:4-6)





### **ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES:**

Have you signed up for your 2017 Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend? Marriage Encounter invites married couples on a journey—a deepening of your love. The program allows husband and wife to eliminate all distractions and focus solely on each other for the weekend. A \$100 per couple registration fee gets you signed up; plus, toward the end of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward continuation of the program. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included. The 2017 Northeast US Weekends are:

- **March 24-26, 2017** at Toftrees Golf Resort Conference Center -- a peaceful resort nestled in 1500 wooded acres in State College, PA.
- **April 28-30, 2017** in Lancaster, PA, at the all newly-renovated Heritage Hotel Lancaster, home of the unique tree-house-inspired restaurant, “Loxley’s.”
- **September 15-17, 2017** at Spruce Lake Retreat Center, Canadensis, PA, a new hotel-style facility on Spruce Lake in the heart of the Pocono Mountains – an hour north of Allentown.
- **October 6-8, 2017** at the Black Swan Inn in Lee, Massachusetts. Nestled in the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains, a hidden gem overlooking Laurel Lake – an hour north of Hartford, CT.

To sign up online, go to: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) and pay the \$100 registration fee using your credit card, or mark the option to mail in a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or email: [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net). Registrations are limited, so act TODAY to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice!

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
Sunday 1/15/17 through Sunday, 1/22/17

**Sun. 1/15**

9:00 am  
10:00 am  
6:30 pm

**2 Epiphany**

Sunday School  
New Sound Worship  
Narcotics Anonymous

**Mon. 1/16**

1:00 pm  
7:00 pm  
8:00 pm

Life Together Discussion Group  
Council Meeting  
Alcoholics Anonymous

**Tues. 1/17**

9:00 am

Sewing Group

**Weds. 1/18**

7:00 pm

Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts

**Thurs. 1/19**

7:00 pm

Life Together Discussion Group

**Fri. 1/20**

7:00 pm

Council Retreat at CLC

**Sat. 1/21**

6:00 pm

Come as You Are Worship

**Sun. 1/22**

9:00 am  
10:00 am  
11:00 am  
6:30 pm

**3 Epiphany**

Sunday School  
Worship  
Coffee Fellowship  
Narcotics Anonymous

