

God's Work - Our Hands: Transformational Ministry Process

On Saturday, September 10, Helen Dungan and Pastor Deal joined pastors and lay members of three other congregations for the first module of a process which hopefully will change individual baptized members in congregations and the congregations as a whole. What's it all about ???

We read Acts 1, 2, and 3 in preparation for the workshop. And we learned that Jesus' Apostles, the 120 of his followers gathered in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, and more than 3,000 people also in Jerusalem, were transformed. They were transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the words and actions of Jesus' disciples. Everything changed - the purposed and focus of their lives, their decisions, they they spent time, talent and possessions. The transformation of those early Christians led to the transformation of countless others. We read in Acts 2:47: ... day by day the Lord added to their numbers."

Men and women and children wanted to become a part of Christ's Church, to hear the Gospel and be changed by it. Two thousand years later, here we sit, confused and discouraged by the events of the world and the seeming lack of influence the church has. But it doesn't have to be that way. As we worship, praising God with our hearts, minds, and souls, as we study the scriptures, as we act as those early followers in Acts acted, we can be transformed and become an important part of God's transforming purpose in the world. That is what each of us is called to do to be open to the Spirit's transforming power and to become conduits of that power to those around us. Let's get over our timidity at talking about what God has done. Let's share the Good News with at least as much passion as we share experiences in sports, music, hunting, gardening, etc.

I will be focusing on this "transformation" theme in my preaching from the scriptures this fall. Come worship, grow, and be transformed with me. After all, our hands **are** an important part of God's work.

~ Pastor David Deal

In October ...

- **Saturday, October 1** - Fall Gathering of Upper Bucks WELCA 8:45 AM, St. John's Richlandtown
- **October 6,7,8** - Olan Millis Portrait Sessions
- **Saturday, October 8** - Durham Community Day
- **Sunday, October 9** - Harvest Home Sunday
- Tuesday, October 11 @ 6:30 Church Council Meeting
- **Saturday, October 13** - **LYRA Concert** - Palisades HS Auditorium - tix \$10
- **Sunday, October 30** - Reformation Sunday, Confirmation of Alaina Apgar

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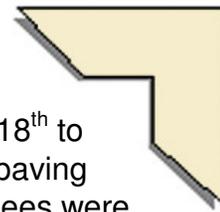
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Durham Community Day - Saturday, October 8 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, down by the historic mill and Durham Post Office. Pastor Deal and Helen Dungan are seeking other church member to join us for the afternoon as we listen to our neighbors who attend the event. We will not be trying to **sell** the congregation to anybody, Rather, we will seek to find ways to be a more faithful presence in the community.

LYRA - Russian Vocal Ensemble of St. Petersburg - CONCERT

The Palisades Cluster of Lutheran Churches is sponsoring a concert by Lyra, a Russian *a cappella* singing group who will perform at **Palisades High School on Thursday October 13, 2011 at 7:00**. The first half of the program will be music from the Russian Orthodox Church; the second half Russian folk songs. The Madrigal Singers from Palisades High School will also perform. **Tickets are \$10.00; proceeds will help finance the Parish Nurse Ministry.**

Council Corner



From your Council President ...

A congregational meeting was held on September 18th to discuss the need for, and estimated cost of, parking lot repaving and possible expansion. It was apparent that most attendees were in agreement that repairs were necessary, but there were many opinions about how much to do and, of course, how to pay for it. As the meeting did not provide Council with a clear mandate on how to proceed, with Autumn closing in, we won't be able to do anything before Spring.

While the estimates will no longer be valid, they do provide some guidance for planning. Stay tuned for further information as Council and the Finance Committee wrangle with the subject.

Barb Naska and I welcome input, especially photos of activities, or of any of our shut-ins, for the 2012 Directory. Hopefully, we'll see all of you during the photography sessions October 6th-8th. Smile, God loves you.

Val McGinn

Next Council meeting - October 11th, at 6:30 PM, with food

Council assignments for November: Barb Naska and Dave Sauter

New Large Print Worship Resources become available, beginning on October 2, 2011. Purchased through the generous memorial contributions in memory of Dorothy Metzgar, special hole-punched binders with large-print pages of the liturgy and hymns for each Sunday will be available. Look for these large-print worship helps where you receive your bulletin from the greeter each Sunday.

There will be a meeting of the 200th Anniversary Committee on Sunday, October 16th, right after church.

Community Health Ministry (Parish Nursing) Submitted by: Lois Altomose RN BS

The Community Health Ministry is a faith based nursing program in Upper Bucks County as an outreach to the sick and homebound. The purpose is dedication to the promotion of mind, body and spiritual well-being through health prevention activities and visitation to the homebound and ill under established faith community nursing guidelines. (from By-Laws of Upper Bucks Community Health Ministry)

Parish nursing is based on the assumption that we care for self and others as an expression of God's love. The goal is to integrate the practice of faith with the practice of nursing so that people can achieve wholeness.

The parish nurse does not provide "hands on" nursing care. The role does include health education by providing written information and/or programs to promote wellness. He/she may be a coach or personal health counselor, assist in referrals to professional care or assistance agencies, serve as an advocate for congregational members navigating the complex health care system, and integrate faith and health.

This program is in the developmental stages in this area although parish nursing is a longstanding phase of nursing in many communities. The Tinicum Lutheran Church has a Faith Community Nurse, Mary Hurley who has been instrumental in promoting the program in Upper Bucks. Any person can be a member of the health ministry team. It requires a heart for caring, listening skills, therapeutic communication and spiritual presence. As the program develops others are encouraged to join the nurses on the Health Ministry team.

For further information interested people may contact Mary Hurley at 215-766-8730, Pastor Deal, or Lois Altomose. The next meeting of the Upper Bucks Community Health Ministry will be on October 11, 2011 at 7PM at St. John's Catholic Church.

Our September meeting began with supper, moved to a devotion centered on the early church. Then we remembered **Irene Fox** and **Mildred Seifert** who particularly mirrored two of the themes we discussed in our devotion: community (caring for those in the church) and service (caring for other people in Jesus' name).

We remembered Irene's home made bread which she baked for the Easter Dawn breakfasts, the soup suppers, and the early beef roasts (which she and George started). We have mental pictures of her peeling potatoes as we made the potato soup. Milly was a visitor to our shut in members. At one point in time she and Earl **were** our Friendly Visitors. Both of these women had a wonderful outlook on life – they were both positive and appreciative. We want to thank them for giving to the Lord.



Helen Dungan

During our brief business meeting, we discussed working on a heritage cookbook for our anniversary (and were divided – some of the cooks whose recipes we'd love to have, don't use any!) We also talked about having a program on our Chrismons (the symbolic Christmas ornaments which decorate our trees). The consensus was Christmas was too busy a time to do this. We'd like to know if you would be interested in learning about them, and perhaps making some, and when would be a good time.

We set our next meeting date for **Wednesday October 20, 2011 at 1:30** where the discussions will continue.

Food ministry: We will be collecting **jelly and juice** for the food banks during the month of October. I spoke to the folks at Project and they are low on everything.

Outreach - Helen Dungan

Harvest Home: Will be held Oct. 9th. Please bring non perishable food items – everything is needed. The money collected in our Harvest Home envelopes will be split between the two food banks.

Evangelism: During the Transformational Ministry workshop we did a Bible study on the first four chapters of Acts. And using this text for a basis discussed the question "What is the church?" We were telling our "coach" that we would be celebrating our 200th anniversary next year; and he said while we are looking back and celebrating our legacy, we should also look forward and ask ourselves what is our legacy to be?

Durham's Community Day is an ideal opportunity to meet members of our community; and we'd like to take this opportunity to ask them what they like about our community and what if anything they feel could be improved. The ultimate goal is to know the community and to think about our church's role in it. We need volunteers to meet and greet (and to cart and set up) Please speak to Pastor or me if you can help. Date is Saturday October 8th.

Friendly Visitors: We will be having a revise and reassign visitors meeting. Please watch the bulletin for the date.

Palisades Cluster News

Linda Frey is working with Lutheran Disaster Response on flood cleanup. She is looking for volunteers to do cleanup, but also some folks to serve on the Long Term Recovery Committee helping her evaluate requests for help. There is more paper work now, because we are helping with unmet needs (things the insurance company, FEMA and PEMA didn't cover.) If you can help in either way, please contact her at Linda Frey [lwfrey@epix.net]

Dean Hopcke announced the Bishop's gatherings for the synod; the closest will be at Trinity Lansdale on November 6, 2011. Time is 2-5; the theme is God is doing a new thing. This is always an inspiring event; if you would like to attend, tell Pastor. We will try to carpool.

Palisades Cluster
of
Lutheran Churches

October Worship Assistants

	2 *	9	16 *	23	30*
Youth Acolyte & Communion Assistant	Alaina Apgar	Katie Aquino	Corinne Ashmore	Clayton Leichter	Alaina Apgar
Greeter(s)	Helen Ballek	The Pyne Family	The Phillipps Family	Althea Crouse	Betty Kreitz
Lector(s)	Carolyn Williams	TBA	Lois Altemose	Jayne Miller	TBA
Council Communion Assistants	George Kreitz Val McGinn		George Kreitz Val McGinn		George Kreitz & Val McGinn
Counters	George Kreitz & Val McGinn				
Head Usher	Helen Dungan				
Altar Guild	Serena Ashmore & Barb Naska				

* Asterisk indicates that Holy Communion will be served.

	October Birthdays		October Anniversaries
1	Ed Haney Jessica Lehr Scott Lehr	4	Beth and Tom Ross (3rd)
2	Austin Apgar	5	JoAnn and John Thaler (48th)
3	Clarence Fox (89th)		
5	Pastor Deal Conner Aquino		
6	Virginia Hager		
7	Lois Altemose		
		11	Tara and Felix Grzymala (3rd)
		13	Lisa and Bruce Crouse (21st)
		15	Valerie and Paul McGinn (17th)
21	Lee Ann Kressman	20	Linda and David Sauter (30th)
21	Ed Xander Steve DeWalt		
22	Tara McMullen Grzymala	22	Diane and Steve Dewalt (28th)
25	Cheryl Mesko		
30	Benjamin John Naska		
31	Nicole Crouse		

Notes from the Special Congregational Meeting on Parking

A special congregational meeting was held on Sunday Sept. 18th to discuss the condition of our parking lots, and the cost and feasibility of having them resurfaced.

George Kreitz had gotten bids from three contractors, dividing the project into four sections and also including the total bid if done at one time. The four sections were: 1. the front of the church 2. the side of the church 3. across the road from the church and 4. to gravel the area between the church office and the cemetery. One bidder gave a \$3,000 discount for doing all at once. Bids ranged from approx \$33,000 to \$43,000. We then discussed paying for the project.

There is approximately \$44,000 in the memorial fund, and there was (before we filled the oil tanks) approximately \$13,000 in the building fund. After much discussion on means of paying for the project, we adjourned with the stipulation that a motion would come before the congregation at its annual budget meeting in December.

Please look at the parking lots (and your wallets) and tell members of council members what your advice is. For more details, speak to George Kreitz

~ Helen Dungan, Council Secretary

PRAYER

Please speak to the pastor before the service if you have someone you would like him to lift up in prayer. To place someone on the Prayer List, call the Church Office. For urgent prayer needs, start the Prayer Chain by calling Virginia Hager. Please make updates to Prayer List in the Narthex on the condition of anyone you've placed on the list. If you are on the Prayer List and are ready to be removed, please let us know!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

FOR HEALING: Jim Beerer, Leo Fox, Virginia Hager, Johnny Hesser, Bryant Hlavaty, Michael Kempf, George Kreitz, Kim Litzenberger, Nick Litzenberger, Elfriede Marschewski, Barbara Naska, and Silas Rodenbach.

FOR THOSE IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY: Corporal Michael Hesser (USMC, Camp Lejeune), Private Nicholas Squartino (USMC, Okinawa), Private Blake Rodd (US Army, Afghanistan), Sergeant Jamie Newcomb (US Army Reserves), Ensign Randall Reichenbach (US Navy, USS Preble), and Sergeant Jimmy Apgar (US Army, Ft. Richardson, Alaska).

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Susan Ackerman, Ruth Anderson, Alexa Bailey, Al Boorse, Pat Butler, Sophia Capus, Jack Conrad, London Dalley, Rev. Harold & Miriam Deal, George Gallop, Betty Helm, Betsy Kressler, Phyllis Monesmith, Dave Morrell, Judy Nelson, Elfriede Newcomb, Linda Wolfe Pursell, Alex Senft, David Spiegel, Alex Ulrey, Vincent Viscomi, & Jane Wong.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE HOMEBOUND: Judy Barron, Ruth Behm, Madlyn Chasar, Virginia Fisher, Clarence Fox, Gene Gibbin, Jean Haas, Betty Kiefer, Marcella Krager, Lillian Melchior, Evelyn Peterman.

FOR THE GRIEVING: The families of Ellen Cooke, Clarence Berger, Mary Wolfinger, Irene Fox, Mildred Seifert, Dorothy Metzgar, Betty Hahn, Sue Kehler, Sharon Walker, and Betty Kirkpatrick.



~ *October Worship and Learning Highlights* ~

Return to ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship) Hymnal on October 2. We will return to the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal. We will be using Communion Setting 2 on Communion Sundays and Service of the Word on non-Communion Sundays. Communion will be celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month, and Service of the word on the second and fourth. The fifth Sunday of October is Reformation Sunday, and Communion will be celebrated. In 2011, we are celebrating the Confirmation of Alaina Apgar on Reformation Sunday

Spark Sunday School continues its exploration of the Old Testament story of Abraham and Sarah, and begins a new story, David. Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. All children and youth ages 3-14 are invited to "SPARK."

The Fall Gathering of Upper Bucks WELCA will be held on Saturday, October 1 in the Fellowship Hall of St. John's Lutheran Church in Richlandtown. Registration begins at 8:45 AM, with devotions at 9:15 AM. The theme is hospitality, "Being a Welcoming Church." The guest speaker is Pastor Carolann Hopcke, Dean of the Upper Bucks Conference. The women of St. John's will host a light luncheon to conclude.

Photography Sessions for the 200th Anniversary Pictorial Directory will be held on October 6 and 7 from 2:00 to 9:20 PM and on October 8 from 9:30 AM to 5:10 PM. Please make an extra effort to have your picture included for the sake of the whole congregation -to help us get to know each other better.

Harvest Home Sunday – October 9 at 10:30 AM Bring your non-perishable foods to share, especially peanut butter and jelly, cereal, and juice. Also, place a monetary contribution in the special "Harvest Home" offering envelope, located at the end of the month of September in your envelope box. Food and money will support The Lord's Pantry and Project Easton community food pantries.

Confirmation of Alaina Apgar on Sunday, October 30 at 10:30 AM For more than two years now Alaina has participated in a program of learning and service in the church. She has studied the scriptures, Luther's Small Catechism, and the liturgy of worship. She has served the congregation and community in a variety of ways. We will affirm her faith with her on October 30th. A reception in Alaina's honor will follow worship.

Welcome fall! October brings us changes in the feel of our weather as well as what we see around us. This is a perfect time to examine our Five Senses. This month, we will touch, see, hear, smell and taste the world around us as we visit Trauger's Farm Market for a hayride and flower and veggie experience.



Care-~~A~~-Lot

We will also talk about how we are Curious About Safety. We will be visited by the Upper Bucks EMS so the children can see an ambulance up close and check out what's inside. We will also have a visit from or go to the firehouse and talk about Fire Safety. We will talk about signs and signals related to being safe and those that we see every day and what they mean.

In Math, we will learn about shapes and more about numbers. Pastor Dave will talk to us about Treating Others As You Want To Be Treated. Our Halloween parade/party and pumpkin decorating will be on the 27th at 9:30. Come and see the children in their costumes as they parade around the room while the parents give them treats.

Love, Mrs. Naska, Mrs. Pason and Mrs. Hower

ANNOUNCING ... A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

As part of our 250th Anniversary celebration, we're going to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. We are asking each member and family to participate! All you need to do is have your picture taken by the professional photographer and meet with a portrait consultant at the church. **For the first four weeks of September, we will be making appointments at the church after worship. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule. The photos will be taken on October 6th and 7th from 2 PM to 9:20 PM and Saturday, October 8th from 9:30 AM to 5:10 PM.**

- Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free church directory and a \$25 Portrait Gift Certificate, no purchase necessary.
- You will only need to come to the church once for photography and for portrait viewing.
- The program is available at no cost to the church budget.
- You will have the opportunity to purchase portraits and frames on the same day of photography. All portraits come with a 100% unconditional guarantee.
- Whether you decide to dress formally or casually, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

If you have questions, please contact Val McGinn or Barbara Naska, who are putting the Directory together. We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory. Our new pictorial directory just won't be complete without you!



God Said NO ...

I asked God to take away my habit. **God said, No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.**

*I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. **God said, No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.***

I asked God to grant me patience. **God said, No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned.**

*I asked God to give me happiness. **God said, No. I give you blessings; Happiness is up to you.***

I asked God to spare me pain. **God said, No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.**

*I asked God to make my spirit grow. **God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.***

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. **God said, No. I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things.**

*I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me. **God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.***



October 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Upper Bucks WELCA Fall Gathering
Time After Pentecost 2		4 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	5 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	6 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 2-9:30 PM Dian Mills picture appointments	7 2-9:30 PM Dian Mills picture appointments	8 9:30 AM - 5 PM Dian Mills picture appointments Durham Day 1-5 PM
9:00 AM Spark Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion						
Harvest Home Sunday 9		11 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM light supper followed by Church Council meeting	12 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	13 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 7:30 PM LYRA Concert at PHS	14	15
9:00 AM Spark Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Bring food to share with the hungry						
Time After Pentecost 16		18 St. Luke, Evangel	19 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	20 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	21	22
9:00 AM Spark Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion						
Time After Pentecost 3		24	25 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	26 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	27 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	28 3 PM wedding rehearsal
9:00 AM Spark Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship						29 Emily Vire and Joel Miller Wedding
Reformation Sunday 30	Reformation Day 31 Halloween 					
9:00 AM Spark Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion & Confirmation of Alaina Apgar Reception to follow						

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
"The church on the hill, lighting the way to God's love"
821 Durham Road - P.O. Box 100 - Durham, PA 18039-0100
Phone: 610-346-8500 e-mail: evangel@durhamlutheran.org
Web site: www.durhamlutheran.org



EVANGEL

October



2011