



*Lehigh*  
PRESBYTERY

*Strengthening & Supporting Congregations*

*News*



710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd, Allentown, PA 18104  
610-391-9020 ~ <http://lehighpresbytery.org>

*September 1, 2015*

## ***WHAT MIGHT OUR FUTURE BE . . .***

On Tuesday, August 25, 2015, Dave Duquette opened the Moderator's forum with prayer. There were eight people attending and since a few were Luther Crest residents, what Lehigh Presbytery is and its mission were described. It was mentioned that in reading the notes of previous forums, some small churches expressed anger at the Presbytery for not helping them enough. This could be tied to grief of what had been in the past.

Because of financial concerns, perhaps it is time for Lehigh Presbytery churches to join with either Lackawanna (northern tier) or Philadelphia Presbyteries (southern tier) keeping in mind the model of the joining of Camp Brainerd with Camp Kirkwood. At the General Assembly level of the Presbyterian Church (USA) there was talk of having fewer Synods; would that impact Lehigh Presbytery?

In looking at the 2016 budget, the per capita monies will fund the Administrative budget and the Mission budget will fund new, renewal projects such as 1001 worshipping congregations or COM studying yoking of smaller congregations. These funds would be easily accessed so they can help congregations.

Ideas for Presbytery Meetings:

- More time for getting to know and trust each other by making dinner time longer
- Continue Bible study, but with a shorter time frame
- Put important issues earlier in the agenda
- Appoint a worship planning team

With changes in numbers attending Sunday services and giving patterns (younger members not pledging), pastors need to learn new skills to deal with these events.\* The Presbytery also has to learn to deal with changes that are occurring with staffing and funding. It is hoped that the Presbytery can bring peace to all its member churches.

Dave Duquette closed the forum with prayer.

**\*Diane Kareha, member of Lehigh Presbytery and Chaplin of Luther Crest highlighted an October 3, 2015 program "Why Don't Our Kids and Grandkids Go to Church and What Can We Do about It?" Brochures will be at the September Presbytery Meeting.**

*Please note the next Moderators Forum will take place on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, 1129 Shawnee Church Road, Shawnee on Delaware, PA.*

## HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

We are seeking prospective candidates who wish to contribute to the building of God's kingdom through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) by serving as a Teaching Elder Commissioner, Ruling Elder Commissioner, or Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD) to the **222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly**.



You may nominate yourself or you may be aware of an individual whom you believe to be a qualified candidate. That person may only need a word of encouragement to get them to take the first step. Do not feel obliged to recommend or encourage anyone, but be prayerfully open to how the Spirit might be guiding you.

As Presbyterians we believe that any one person might be the instrument through whom God will work at a particular time. Thank you for taking the time to help us, in word and prayer, as we seek to be as faithful as we can.

We are seeking two Ruling Elder Commissioners, two Teaching Elder Commissioners, and one Young Adult Advisory Delegate to represent the Lehigh Presbytery.

**The 222nd General Assembly (2016) will be held  
in Portland, Oregon - June 18 - 25, 2016**

If you are interested in representing Lehigh Presbytery as, [please click here for more information and an application.](#)

The deadline for receiving applications is the September 22, 2015 meeting of Lehigh Presbytery.

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The September Stated Meeting of Lehigh Presbytery is called for

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M.**

**at**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**2344 CENTER STREET, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017**

If you plan to attend and/or if you need child care, please notify the Presbytery office by 11:00 A.M.,  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014** by phone or email.

## *It's time to Celebrate New Beginnings!*

The Kirkwood-Brainerd Camping Ministry Transition Team met on August 27th to take next steps in our joint camping ministry. Based on input from this year's campers, the name of our camping ministry will be:

### *Camp Kirkwood: A Ministry of Lehigh and Philadelphia Presbyteries*

The sign outside the camp will be updated to reflect this change as will future correspondence.



To celebrate this new beginning, we will hold a **dedication worship service** in camp style with food from Ben Hooper on

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2015 AT 3:00 P.M.**

*Come enjoy the fall foliage and a new beginning!*

[www.kirkwoodcamp.org](http://www.kirkwoodcamp.org)

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## *Help our Youth go to the next great place*

The 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium will take place **July 19-23, 2016**. But to get this off the ground, the Lehigh Presbytery needs a volunteer to serve as Registrar for this event. The registrar is the key to getting information out and putting together a delegation of youth from our presbytery.

The registrar serves as the point person. The registrar would put together a team to help with the process. A full list of duties can be found on the Presbytery website at.



*Triennium is a life giving, life changing, and faith moving experience for the youth. As the world changes, society shifts -- and the church expands -- the need for vibrant young Presbyterians grows.*

**Help our youth go to the next great place in their faith  
by volunteering to be the registrar for this event.**

If you are interested in being the Triennium registrar, please contact the office by September 15, 2015.



## ***ORGANIST WANTED***

Community Presbyterian Church of Mt. Bethel and Portland is seeking an organist to lead the congregation with music for Sunday worship.

Please submit your letter of intent/resume to:

Community Presbyterian Church  
1755 S. Delaware Drive, Mt. Bethel, PA 18343

or email to: [cpcmbp@gmail.com](mailto:cpcmbp@gmail.com). You may also call the church office at (570) 897-6766 and leave a message.

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## **Genuine Relationships: Emotionally Healthy Living**

*How do we foster genuine relationships in a time dominated by social media?  
How does your family of origin contribute to your (in) ability to have healthy interactions?  
Are you feeling frantic, exhausted, overloaded and hurried? Did Jesus live that way?  
Do unmet expectations cause conflict in your relationships?*

**Do you want to learn more about Emotionally Healthy Living?**

---Then this conference is for you!

**The conference will be led by Steve and Jan Lucas, part of the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality team founded by Peter Scazzero. Peter is the author of the best-selling book Emotionally Healthy Spirituality.**

Saturday, October 3, 2015

8:00 am-3:30 pm

Presented by the Emotional Wellness Ministry  
First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem – Fellowship Hall  
2344 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA

Price: \$15 before September 15, includes continental breakfast and lunch; \$20 for late registration.

Childcare: Available with early registration.

Online registration <http://www.fpc-bethlehem.org/adults> or contact Yovita Wooden at First Presbyterian Church, 610.317.6162, ext. 206, or [ywooden@fpc-bethlehem.org](mailto:ywooden@fpc-bethlehem.org) or Trish Fritz [fritz.trish@gmail.com](mailto:fritz.trish@gmail.com).

## SPEAKERS AVAILABLE



Luther Crest has a variety of speakers available to speak to congregations, adult Sunday School classes, organizations such as women's and men's groups, Bible studies, seniors groups, and youth groups.

Topics include: Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia, Depression, Elder Care, Caring for the Caregiver, Senior Housing Options, Continuum of Care, Living with Loss/Grief Support, Communicating during Times of Conflict, Prayer, and Scripture Studies.

For more information or to schedule a speaker, please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest at 610-391-8210.

## CHURCH COUNCIL RETREAT OR MEETING AT LUTHER CREST



We invite your congregation's church council or committee to hold a retreat or one of its meetings at **Luther Crest**.

To learn more or to schedule your church council or committee retreat or meeting at **Luther Crest** (with meals optional), please contact Rev. Dianne Kareha, Diakon Chaplain for Luther Crest (610-391-8210).

Luther Crest is located at 800 Hausman Road, Allentown, PA.

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## Scarcity in the Church

*The following is an excerpt from blog post of Nathan Ealy. Nathan is a Ministry Strategist with Horizons Stewardship. The Presbyterian Foundation partners with Horizon's stewardship to enhance financial stewardship at Presbyterian congregations.*

It's almost a weekly occurrence in my ministry. I'll look at a church's bulletin and/or newsletter to see how finances and giving are communicated to their members. The communication is unfortunately predictable. For instance; "Total giving this month \$10,000, total needed \$12,000." Oh no, what are we going to do! Will missions be cut? Or staff let go? How will we make up the difference?

Many churches will also communicate this information on a Sunday morning. The finance chair or business administrator will announce the church is not meeting the budget so far this year, and giving needs to pick up or else. Is this really the story you want to tell?

Church members need and want to know where the church stands financially. However, the message generally communicated is the church never has enough, and members are never giving enough. This message does little to inspire generosity? Maybe in the short term, but it doesn't work in the long term.

Back to basics...Why do people give? In his book *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate*, Clif Christopher suggests people give for three reasons; belief in the mission, trust in the leadership, and fiscal



Ministry Strategist,  
Nathan@horizons  
stewardship.com,  
336-608-0042

responsibility of the institution. They aren't giving generously because there isn't enough or to just keep the church running for another week.

Think about how a non-profit would communicate if giving to their organization was behind pace. They would share a great story of the work they are doing and express exactly how much more they would be able to do with more resources. But instead, the church describes how much of the budget has been cut and how little will be accomplished if the giving remains the same.

Want to communicate something about finances in your bulletin? Being aware of historical trends can be very helpful. How much normally comes in during the month of June, for example? What percentage of the budget is generally funded by this time of the year? Now communicate those numbers. If finances are behind where they should be, tell specific stories of the great things going on in the church, and then invite the people to be a part of this great mission. Share how the money was used to change lives in your church and community. Then watch your giving go up.

*Taken from the Presbyterian Foundation  
Stewardship Ministry Newsletter – August 2015*

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## Tools to Aid Effective Supervision



Whether children are at school, daycare or church, they need a safe and secure environment. In order to ensure the proper duty of care is taking place at your facility, it is important to understand how to plan for and supervise groups of children.

As a ministry, it's imperative that all areas accessible to children are safe, free from hazards and have enough caregivers to oversee the activities happening. Be at ease during your next church activity by following these three simple tips below:

1. **Actively Supervise** – Effective caregivers are constantly watching and attending to children and their environment. This can be achieved through careful positioning of adults, so they are in close proximity and can anticipate what may happen next. It's important for your caregiver to regularly scan the area where children are playing and intervene when a dangerous situation arises.
2. **Conduct Safety Checks** – According to the [Safe Kids Worldwide](#) website, your church's child care environment should be inspected and monitored for hazards that could lead to poisoning or injury before and during children's play. This includes checking for insects, foreign objects that may be harmful and items, such as broken glass. If one of these items is spotted, report and remove the hazard as quickly as possible.
3. **Position Equipment** – A well-designed environment will help supervisors view playing areas with ease. An open floor plan will allow for lines of sight that make your caregiver's job simple and effortless. Adults should have enough space to move freely around the room and equipment without being distracted by clutter.

By effectively supervising children, your church can help reduce the number of injuries that take place while children are at play. For more information, visit the **Children and Youth Safety** section of [SafeChurch.com](#) or [SafeKids.org](#).

*Taken from the Guide One Safety Watch Newsletter – August 26, 2015  
Safety Watch is a FREE twice monthly e-newsletter of risk management ideas from SafeChurch® and GuideOne Insurance.*



THE  
PC(USA)  
STORE

Resources for Presbyterians

The **FALL CURRICULUM** quarter begins **Sunday, September 6, 2015**. Haven't ordered your church's curriculum? Don't worry! At the PC(USA) Store you will find downloadable curriculum for children, youth, and adult. Purchase, download, and print today!



### [Growing in Grace & Gratitude](#)

Bible Story Based  
Ages: 3–5, 5–7, 8–10,  
Multiage

Format: Download or Printed; Quarterly or 9-Month Plan

With *Growing in Grace & Gratitude*, the new PC(USA) children's curriculum, transform the lives of children and those who love them, shaped by grace and gratitude.



### [Presby Youth](#)

Bible Story Based  
Ages: Younger Youth, Tweens, Older Youth

Format: Download; Quarterly

The best of *We Believe* and *Faithfully Asking Questions*, *Presby Youth* downloads are à la carte to meet your church's needs.



### [We Believe Workshop](#)

Thematic  
Ages: Multiage

Format: Download; Individual Workshops  
Provide a solid foundation for your rotation with *We Believe Workshop*.



### [Feasting on the Word Curriculum](#)

Lectionary Based

Ages: Children, Youth, Young Adult, Adult  
Format: Download or Printed; Quarterly, 9-Month Plan, or 12-Month Plan

Based on the best-selling commentary series; explore lectionary passages in ways suitable for all ages.



### [INformed: Adolescent Development Resources](#)

Issue Based

Ages: Younger Youth, Tweens  
Format: Download; Stand-Alone Lesson Plans

Comprehensive lesson plans and articles for parents, leaders, and youth; talk about subjects that are sometimes difficult to discuss.



Shop all PC(USA) curriculum [here](#).

#### **Our mailing address is:**

PC(USA) Store  
100 Witherspoon Street  
Louisville, KY 40202

**Please note: We can currently only ship to customers in the United States.** For our international distributors, please contact us at [support@pcusastore.com](mailto:support@pcusastore.com).



# JUST FOOD

September 24–26, 2015

Come to Princeton Seminary for a conversation about theology, sustainable agriculture, and ways to change the way we relate to food.

## LEADERSHIP INCLUDES



Norman Wirzba



Will Allen

BONUS! You'll have a chance to see our newest project—the Farminary!

Details and registration at [ptsem.edu/justfood](http://ptsem.edu/justfood).



KIRKRIDGE



## "A Taste of Italy"

September 23, 2015

*Join us for a full course Italian dinner in the Nelson Lodge dining room*

*3501 Valley View Drive  
Upper Mt. Bethel Township*

*Dinner served at 6:30pm  
Doors open at 6:00pm*

### Menu

*To start: Melon wrapped in prosciutto  
& Pear w/ Gorgonzola  
& A sample of pickled eel*

*Italian dressed salad w/ bread*

*Stuffed squid braised w/tomatoes*

*OR*

*Pan seared veal chop w/ rosemary butter sauce*

*OR*

*Vegetarian Lasagna With Pasta Faggioli*

*& Broccoli Rabe w/ garlic sauce*

*For dessert: Assorted petite Italian pastries*

*\*Please choose your main dish  
when making your reservations.*



*\*BYOB*

*Dinner is by reservation only at Kirkridge ~ \$45 per person plus tax*

*Limited seating, Reserve early*

*Call Stacey at 610-588-0249 or the office at 610-588-1793*

[WWW.KIRKRIDGE.ORG](http://WWW.KIRKRIDGE.ORG)

*2495 Fox Gap Road, Bangor, PA 18013*

## VCR and VHS Video Camera

The Lehigh Presbytery has three items available to any interested church in the Lehigh Presbytery.

1. Hitachi VT-M121A VCR
2. Dual-Deck VCR (DDV9490)– This VCR can also be used to make copies of VHS tapes.
3. Panasonic AG-456UP S-VHS Movie Camera

These are available on a first come, first served basis. So if you are interested or would like to take a look at it, please contact the Presbytery office at 610-391-9020 or [office@lehighpresbytery.org](mailto:office@lehighpresbytery.org).



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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.** – **Committee on Shared Gifts** in the Conference Room of Lehigh Presbytery, 710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA.
- **Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 9:15 a.m.** – **Helping Hands Care Team** in the Conference Room of Lehigh Presbytery, 710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA.
- **Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 4 p.m.** – **Installation of the Rev. Kari Anne Olson** at the Hope of Christ Presbyterian Church, 44 West White Street, Summit Hill, PA 18250.
- **Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.** – **Worldwide Ministries Care Team** in the Conference Room of Lehigh Presbytery, 710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA.
- **Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.** – **Stated Meeting of Lehigh Presbytery** at the First Presbyterian Church, 2344 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA.

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

### NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES:

The Presbyterian Church of Catasauqua - [churchoffice@cattypresbyterian.com](mailto:churchoffice@cattypresbyterian.com)

Rev. Doug Cronce – [doug@cattypresbyterian.com](mailto:doug@cattypresbyterian.com)

Marianne Kitzmiller, Lehigh Presbytery Treasurer – [lehightreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:lehightreasurer@gmail.com)

**PLEASE NOTE: The Presbytery office will be CLOSED on Monday, September 7, 2015 for the Labor Day Holiday.**