



*September 10, 2015*

## **THE CALL FOR THE STATED MEETING OF LEHIGH PRESBYTERY**

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, please notify the Presbytery office by 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 15, 2015 by phone or email. You must make a reservation if you wish to be counted for dinner. The cost of dinner will be \$8.00 per person.

Requests for Child Care should be made through the Presbytery Office by Tuesday, September 15, 2015.

Commissioners are asked to bring a can of food to the presbytery meeting for the local food bank. A collection basket will be at the Registration table.

If any Teaching or Ruling Elder Commissioners wish to be excused for all or part of this meeting, you must notify the Stated Clerk in writing.

All documents for this meeting will be posted on the Presbytery website.

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## **Helping Hands 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



This fall marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Helping Hands which was founded following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The Lehigh Presbytery will be honoring the Helpings Hands Care Team and volunteers at its September 22, 2015 meeting and during the worship service. The meeting is being held at the First Presbyterian Church, 2344 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA.

We wish to invite all who have served on the care team or participated in any of the mission work trips to attend. You may come for the whole meeting or just the part where Helping Hands will be honored and the worship service. The Helping Hands Care Team and volunteers will be honored at 5:05 p.m. and the Worship Service follows the recognition.

**If you wish to stay for dinner (cost \$8.00 per person), we would need your RSVP to the Presbytery office (610-391-9020, [office@lehighpresbytery.org](mailto:office@lehighpresbytery.org)) by Tuesday, September 15, 2015.**

If you are only attending the recognition and worship service, please let us know by Friday, September 18, 2015. We look forward to seeing you there.



*The Lehigh Presbytery and the Hope of Christ Presbyterian Church  
of Summit Hill cordially invite you to attend the Installation of*

***the Rev. Kari Anne Olson***

*as Pastor on Sunday, September 13, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.*

*At the Hope of Christ Presbyterian Church  
44 W. White Street  
Summit Hill, PA 18250*

*There will be a dinner reception directly after the service.  
Please plan on joining them to share food and fellowship!*

*Please RSVP to the church if you will be staying for the dinner by Wednesday, September 9, 2015.  
570-645-5524 or [prespv@ptd.net](mailto:prespv@ptd.net)*

Clergy are asked to robe and wear **red stoles**. Thank you.

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## RETREAT FOR TEACHING ELDERS...ROUND TWO!

The second retreat scheduled for 2015 will take place on **Wednesday, October 28, 2015.**

Tillie Chase will lead a presentation on

***“Celtic Spirituality & The Iona Community:  
How are they similar? How are they different?”***

The retreat will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Hokendauqua, 3005 South Front St, Whitehall.

Lunch will be provided by Ben Hooper, and the cost is \$10.00.

If you plan to attend, please contact RC Smith at 610-253-4792 or [revrc5@aol.com](mailto:revrc5@aol.com).



## *Join Us on a Mission Work Trip to the Jersey Shore*



A mission work trip from **October 4-10, 2015** is planned to help with the recovery efforts in **Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ**. The Helping Hands Care Team is looking for volunteers. No specific skills are required, just a willing spirit. Those with skills in plumbing, electrical, roofing, dry wall installation, tiling, etc. are always welcome.

Volunteers will be staying at the Pt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Bay & Forum Avenue, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ. There are bunk beds for sleeping and showers and bathrooms are available on site. Meals will be provided as part of your registration fee of \$125.00 per person.

Visit the [Helping Hands webpage](#) for more information and registration forms.

**The registration deadline is September 25, 2015.**

There will be an orientation meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in Room #118 of the First Presbyterian Church, 3231 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA.

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## **MODERATOR'S FORUM**

Join us for the next Moderator's Forum on **Tuesday, October 27, 2015** at 1:00 p.m. at the Shawnee Presbyterian Church, 1129 Shawnee Church Road, Shawnee, PA.

The purpose of this form is to discuss what our challenges are and what our future might be as a Presbytery.

Let us come together and discover what God has in store for us!

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## **BOUNDARY TRAINING**

**October 22, 2015 ~ 9 A.M. – 3 P.M.**



In conjunction with our ecumenical partners, the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ is hosting a Sexual Misconduct Prevention Workshop. This all-day event is planned to help church leaders and members address topics that arise in your settings.

This workshop will also fulfill the every-four-year requirement for Lehigh Presbytery Teaching Elders, and be good education for others in your congregation.

The workshop will be held at the First UCC, 110 Route 61 South, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Cost is: \$20.00 per person (includes lunch and fees to help pay for the facilitator)

Register online at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/boundary-training-2015-tickets-14445188949>

# EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR MINISTRY

*"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."*

Galatians 6:2

Imagine how much more ministry could happen if your congregation had a team of well-trained lay caregivers equipped to provide one-to-one Christian care to people who need it. **Stephen Ministry** is a proven system for training and organizing people in your congregation to provide quality Christian care.

Want to know more, come and attend an introductory workshop on Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 3231 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA. This half-day workshop will introduce you to **Stephen Ministry** and show how to get this life-changing ministry started in your congregation.

Each workshop is composed of three sessions.

Session 1: Ministering to those experiencing grief

Session 2: An Introduction to Stephen Ministry

Session 3: How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way

**Who should attend?** Pastors and church staff; lay leaders and decision makers; and caregivers.

**Cost:** \$15 per person; or \$50 for a group of four or more from a congregation.

Bring a team and benefit from the group rate.



**To register** log on to [www.stepheministry.org/workshop](http://www.stepheministry.org/workshop) or call 314-428-2600

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## Consignment Sale



On **September 19, 2015**, Faith Presbyterian Church (3002 N. Second Street, Emmaus, PA) will be hosting a **Consignment Sale** featuring fall/winter clothing for children, in addition to maternity wear and toys. This will mark their 4th sale, and after every sale they have donated over \$1,000 to local mission ([Neighbors Helping Neighbors](#)).

They need some help!

1) Do you or anyone you know want to consign some of your goods? Registration and information is available on the [Consign for Good page](#) of the church website. Further questions can be directed to Blair Dooner at [consign@faithchurchemmaus.org](mailto:consign@faithchurchemmaus.org).

2) Do you like to shop for quality goods at bargain prices? Please encourage your family and friends to come out between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on September 19th.

## ADVENTURES IN MISSIONS



Over the past eleven months Christopher and Margeaux Cronce have been working with Adventures in Missions. Chris is the son of Doug and Roberta Cronce. Doug is the pastor at the Presbyterian Church of Catasauqua.

Adventures in Missions provides an “*eleven months in eleven countries*” opportunity to be partners in mission around the world. Chris and Margeaux were one of the few married couples on the mission. They served in partnership with churches and ministries in local communities to preach the Gospel, plant churches, work in orphanages, fight human trafficking, and bring the restorative hope of God’s love to many.

Here is a look at where Christ’s mission has taken them on what has been called “The World Race”: Guatemala, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal (in February before the earthquake), India, Swaziland, Botswana, Bosnia, Slovakia. Their last mission in Slovakia has been ministering to the Roma; a persecuted ethnic people.

Christopher and Margeaux felt led to give a year to mission after graduating from Messiah College in Grantham, PA. They both gave up good jobs in Pittsburgh to respond to this call from God.

In October and November they will be in the Lehigh Valley. If you would like to extend an opportunity for them to come and share their experience with your church group you may contact them at [margeaux.cronce@gmail.com](mailto:margeaux.cronce@gmail.com).

Visit their blog at <http://croncemc.theworldrace.org/>. Pray for their transition back to life here in the U.S.A.

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## Luther Crest Hosts “THEOLOGY, LITERATURE, AND COFFEE”



Luther Crest will host a Moravian Theological Seminary-sponsored course, “**Theology, Literature And Coffee**” (TLC), which will be held 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Luther Crest, 800 Hausman Road, Allentown.

Enjoy a time of learning and fellowship as theological themes in selected literature are presented and discussed. Cost for the series is \$20 with early registration discount before September 28 (\$25 after 9/28/15), and beverages will be provided.

To register, please contact Moravian Theological Seminary (610-861-1516) or Luther Crest Chaplain Dianne Kareha (610-391-8210).

Books to be discussed are:

- Oct. 12:**      **“Pigeon Feathers” (a short story) and poems by John Updike** ISBN B009SG68MG  
                  Leader: **Nelvin Vos**, St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown
- Oct. 26:**      **Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson** ISBN 0199536228  
                  Leader: **Nelson Quinones**, St. John Lutheran Church, Fogelsville
- Nov. 9:**       **The Fall of a Sparrow by Robert Helenga** ISBN 0140277048  
                  Leader: **Ruth Marcon**, First Presbyterian Church, Allentown

## APARTMENTS AVAILABLE



The **N. Milton Wood Home for Presbyterian Ministers** has **two apartments available**. The basic qualification is that the tenant be a retired Presbyterian (USA) minister. The apartments are provided **rent free**, but tenants will be asked to contribute toward the heat and utilities.

The available units are two of three located in an historic stone dwelling in Paradise Township, Lancaster County, PA. The Home is situated on a four-acre parcel with a maintained lawn and mature trees. Tenants may, if desired, establish flower and vegetable gardens.

The ground-floor apartment has one bedroom, a bathroom with shower, a large living room, and an eat-in kitchen. The second-floor apartment (with stair lift) is comprised of two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, a dining area, and a bathroom with shower. Included with each unit is one bay of the garage storage with automatic garage door opener.

If you are interested in learning more about these apartments, or know of someone you believe may be interested, contact Edwin Margerum (717-442-4027) or David Homsher (717-687-6469).

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## KEEP KIDS SAFE PA

Taken from the <http://www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov/index.htm> website

**\*Governor Wolf waived background check fees required by the Child Protective Services Law for volunteers and reduced the cost of clearances for employment purposes from \$10 to \$8. \***

Protecting Pennsylvania's children from abuse and neglect is a shared responsibility. It requires collaboration from the formal child protective services system, community partners and our citizens to provide local safety nets for children and families that are facing challenges within our communities and neighborhoods.

Recently, 24 pieces of legislation were enacted, changing how Pennsylvania responds to child abuse. These changes significantly impact the reporting, investigation, assessment, prosecution and judicial handling of child abuse and neglect cases.

### Clearances

*Reminder: Background checks fees for volunteers have been waived and the cost of clearances for employment purposes was reduced from \$10 to \$8. These fee changes have been in effect since July 25, 2015.*

*Please keep this in mind as you submit clearance requests to the Department. If you have questions regarding the clearance process, please visit [www.KeepKidsSafe.pa.gov](http://www.KeepKidsSafe.pa.gov).*

*Individuals seeking clearances can go directly to [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis) to create an individual account and apply for their child abuse clearance electronically. Thank you for your continued commitment to keep Pennsylvania's children safe.*

Certain individuals, in order to work or volunteer with children, are required to obtain clearances which may include the following:

- Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance;

- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check; and
- Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Check.

Who needs child abuse clearances?

- [Employees having contact with children](#)
- [Foster/Adoptive parents](#)
- [School employees governed by the Public School Code](#)
- [School employees not governed by the Public School Code](#)
- [Volunteers](#)

Information regarding the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance is contained below, as well as a link to additional information regarding the Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Check.

The Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance can be submitted and paid for online through the Child Welfare Information Solution (CWIS) self-service portal, [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis).

Submitting an application online allows individual applicants to receive their results through an automated system that will notify the applicant once their results have been processed. Applicants will be able to view and print their results online. The self-service portal also provides the ability for organizations to create business accounts to prepay for child abuse clearances and have online access to the results.

For more information about the electronic submission of child abuse clearances or for information on obtaining the Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check or Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Check, please go to:

<http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/findaform/childabusehistoryclearanceforms/index.htm>.

**To learn more visit the *Keep Kids Safe PA* webpage at**  
<http://www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov/index.htm>

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## Get Ready for a Road Trip



Where is your church on the road to financial health? Do you have all the resources you need? Is there room for improvement in the areas of stewardship and generosity?

Use this free and confidential assessment tool from the Presbyterian Foundation to help answer these questions.

The resulting report provides customized recommendations of best practices and other identified opportunities will help your congregation maximize giving through tithes, offerings, and other means of support for your mission and ministry.

[Complete the Assessment Tool.](#)

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

## Awakening to Mystery

Participants are invited on a journey toward ever deeper “Spiritual Awakening” drawing on practices from Christianity and other traditions.

This class provides an environment for intensive experiential learning in various spiritual practices, such as praying in the body, praying with sacred music, meditation, and classical Christian practices. Participants will have an opportunity to hear people from non-Christian traditions share what “Spiritual Awakening” means to them in their own faith journey.

Our primary texts will be *“The Science of Enlightenment”* by Shinzen Young, *“The Resurrected Jesus”* by Adyashanti, *Wisdom Jesus* by Cynthia Bourgeault, and the *Gospels*.

One can read more about the course here: <http://www.kairosjourney.org/awakening-to-mystery/>

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **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.
- **Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.** – Committee on Ministry in Room #118 of the First Presbyterian Church, 3231 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA 18104.
- **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.
- **Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.** – Helping Hands Care Team in the Conference Room of Lehigh Presbytery, 710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA.
- **Thursday, October 1, 2015 at 7 p.m.** – Orientation for Helping Hands Work Trip in Room #118 of the First Presbyterian Church, 3231 W. Tilghman Street, Allentown, PA.
- **Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.** – Presbytery Lead Team in the Conference Room of Lehigh Presbytery, 710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA.