

✧ **WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT** ✧
Newsletter – February 2019

The West Berks Mission District is a coalition of area Lutheran churches working together to do effective, cooperative ministry. YOU are a member of the West Berks Mission District!
The WBMD office is located in St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1015 Windsor Street, Reading PA 19604.

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WBMD Bowl-a-Thon Sunday, March 3rd at Berks Lanes



Get a group together to have fun while supporting our WBMD Youth Ministries!

Bowl-a-thon Registration and Sponsorship forms have been emailed to church offices and are posted on our website; or, you can call the WBMD office and we will send them to you.
Teams can request to bowl from either 1-3 PM or 3-5 PM

All bowlers bowl for 2 hours at no charge, (shoes included) and will also enjoy a snack & drink.
We ask each bowler to try to raise at least **\$15 in sponsorships.**

This event is open to youth groups, Sunday School classes, Seniors groups, etc. - **ALL ages are welcome and encouraged to participate!** Bumper bowling is also available. Come join us for this day of fun, fellowship, and fundraising for a great cause! Lanes are limited! Call WBMD to register!



**WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT
Annual Lenten Prayer Breakfast**

**Wednesday, April 17 at 8:00 AM
at The Inn at Reading**

1040 Park Road Wyomissing PA 19610

The Inn at Reading offers easy parking and is handicap accessible.

Cost is **\$18** for a breakfast buffet including:
breakfast pastries and biscuits, fresh fruit, scrambled eggs,
cinnamon French toast, red potatoes, bacon, coffee, tea and juice

**Please encourage members of your congregation to attend this special event. Invite your friends!
We will be seated at tables of 8 or 10 – and we will reserve tables for groups of 6 or more people.**

More information coming soon...

WBMD Annual Youth Event POSTPONED

We have decided to let our typical February youth event "lie fallow" for a year, hoping that great ideas and new life might spring up for a newly energized event in 2020!

HOWEVER, we are currently working with Allegheny Lutheran Church on the possibility of bringing **AGAPE*** to our area in May for an event still in the planning stages. Watch for next month's newsletter for more information!

AGAPE* (DAVE SCHERER) HAS INSPIRED YOUTH FROM BROOKLYN TO BOSNIA WITH HIS RELATIONAL MINISTRY—HIP HOP OUTREACH.

Combining rapping, dancing, storytelling and his fluency in Spanish, AGAPE* connects with his listeners in a way that they really "get it". His energy is contagious, and his stories of faith transcend differences. Even those who do not normally enjoy hip-hop, find themselves dancing to his music and captivated by his unique presentation of the Gospel. AGAPE* brings an authentic approach by translating the theological depth of his seminary training into simple songs and stories that can be understood by every listener. His passion is to bring together people of all backgrounds and let them know about God's love for the whole world. This is "AGAPE*!"

Upcoming Event for Rostered Ministers!

On **May 2** we will have our annual gathering with Bishop Zeiser as we worship together and hear what he has to share. We will have time for Q&A and then there will be a lunch option as well. Please save the date!

Johnson-Agiri family update – the day before their scheduled December 11 asylum hearing it was postponed. It has now been rescheduled for October 8. The family is currently seeking a used **mini-van** so that they can transport their family when they get their driver's licenses. Any leads? Please call Dawn.

Sharing some information from our brochure...

Lutherans in Action

What is the West Berks Mission District?

The WBMD is a ministry partnership of the Lutheran congregations located in the western portion of Berks County, and including Reading.

What is the mission of the WBMD?

- † Multiply congregational effectiveness by fostering partnerships, sharing resources, and providing a communications focal point.
- † Strengthen the impact district congregations make as they serve those in need.
- † Feed the hungry.
- † Help all people realize their potential, embrace diversity, and grow as people and communities of faith.
- † Provide opportunities to experience education and fellowship beyond individual congregations.

WBMD 2019 Calendar of Events

- March 3 Bowl-a-thon at Berks Lanes
- March 26 WBMD Council at Atonement
- April 17 Lenten Prayer Breakfast
- May 2 WB Rostered Ministers w/ Bishop Zeiser
- May 30? Ascension Service & Spring Assembly
- June 1 NEPS Assembly
- June 24-28 WBMD offers Bear Creek Day Camp
- October 13 Reading-Berks CROP Hunger Walk

Please plan now to attend these events! Check our website for more information.