

✧ WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT ✧

Newsletter – November 2017

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.

WBMD Director – Dawn Baxter

Dawn@westberksmissiondistrict.org

Office Staff/ Bookkeeper - Jane McClellan Renner

Jane@westberksmissiondistrict.org

Office Phone – 610-375-8303

Website: www.westberksmissiondistrict.org

WBMD Fall Assembly Event

Thursday, November 9, 2017 6:30 -8:30 PM

Hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Tuckerton

Please join us for a night of food, fellowship and education as we share information on some new ministry opportunities. Come hear how our community is working together to help an asylum seeking family from Nigeria as they came to our country to find a safe environment for their family. You will have the opportunity to meet some of the Johnson family.



We will also hear from Georgia Suranofsky, Director of our synod's *Mission Interpreter* program. Hear how this program is sharing the stories of mission and ministry happening across our synod! Learn how you can invite a Mission Interpreter to visit your congregation and how you (or someone you know) can become a mission interpreter!

Another ministry you will hear about is *Congregational Care Teams*. What are they and what do they do??? Come and learn.

We will begin the evening at 6:30 pm with fellowship and appetizers, followed by worship and the program. A free-will offering will be collected to support our Lutheran Pantry. The primary "Order of Business" will be to review and adopt the 2018 WBMD budget.

Each congregation should send their rostered ministers and two lay voting members. But all are welcome to join us for good company and fellowship!

WBMD – Witnessing Boldly – Making a Difference!



Hey look! Is that Flat Luther on Pastor Jen's hat???

2017 CROP Hunger Walk a great success!!!

On Sunday, October 8th about 300 people walked at Gring's Mill in the annual Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk. It was another beautiful, sunny day – well, not really... it was cloudy and hot and humid and very buggy but the predicted rain and thunderstorms never came so it was a wonderful day!

This was our 36th annual Walk and we have already collected over \$24,000 and donations continue to come in. 75% of money raised goes to Church World Service to help feed people around the world and 25% goes to the Greater Berks Food Bank to help feed our hungry neighbors locally.

Special thanks to all for helping to fight hunger one step at a time! GREAT JOB!!!

This year's awards went to:

Funky Flip Flop Award for the most youth walking - St. Paul's UCC in Fleetwood

Golden Sneakers Award for most walkers - West Lawn United Methodist Church AGAIN!

Benevolent Bling Award for most money raised – so far it seems to be West Lawn UMC!

Looking forward to seeing you next year!

2018 CROP Walk – Sunday, October 7th

My Neighbor is Muslim Exploring the Islam Faith

Our second **TableTalk** event was held at the McGlinn Conference Center on October 11 and was attended by 32 people. We heard from Ms. Tahara Akmal, a member of the Islamic Center of Reading and Director of the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at the Reading Hospital who was our Speaker for the evening. She helped us understand what Muslims and Christians have in common, how we differ and how we can work together for the common good.

“My Neighbor is Muslim” study materials are available electronically by contacting the WBMD office.

PSST... HEY YOUTH!!!

Plan to join other youth from the WBMD for an awesome, night-time scavenger hunt at Gring's Mill on Sunday, December 3rd from 6:30-8:00 PM.

Watch for more information coming soon!!

PLEASE NOTE:

The WBMD no longer has a designated fax line so we can no longer receive faxes!

Please scan and email any information you may have previously faxed. Thanks!

WBMD Calendar of Events

November 2	Installation of President United Sem.
November 4	Youth Leaders meeting at Grace
November 9	WBMD Fall Assembly
December 3	Youth Scavenger Hunt @ Gring's Mill

Mark your calendars now for these 2018 events!

Jan. 23	WBMD Council
February 24	WB Annual Youth event at Robeson
March 11	Bowl-a-thon at Berks Lanes
October 7	CROP Hunger Walk