

# Religion

be held Tuesday, September 25 at 7 p.m. in the Ebst Room. The program explores the teachings of the church and also the Catholic Formation way of life. Anyone looking for a church or faith community is invited to attend.

Landings ... Catholic and been away for a while and want to explore the possibility of reconnecting with the church? Landings is a safe, non-threatening forum to discuss your concerns, what caused you to leave and what is calling you back. The next session begins Tuesday, October 9 at 7 p.m. in the chapel.

## St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Obelisk)

The Rev. James A. Shelly, pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Route 73 and Neiffer Road, Obelisk, will present a sermon entitled "Thank God for the Gift of Life!" at the 8 a.m. Holy Communion and the 10:15 worship services on September 23. You are welcome. Members participating in the 10:15 a.m. service are: Meghan Heller, acolyte; Dorothy Richard and Kathy Young, greeters; Randy and Sandy Huth, ushers; and Joe Langton, layreader.

A celebration of harvest will be observed with gifts of food for the Schwenksville food pantry. Please bring boxed or canned food or other necessary consumable household items, preferably on Saturday.

The Junior Choir will offer an anthem during the 10:15 a.m. worship service.

## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Services will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1809 Hoffmansville Road, Sassamansville, on Sunday, September 23 at 10:15 a.m. The Rev. George M. Harpel will conduct the service. During the service, Robert Owen Renninger, son of Robert and Jennifer Renninger, will be received into Christ's church through the sacrament of baptism.

Also during the service, the teachers and aids for the 2001-2002 Sunday school year will be installed. This Sunday is also designated as Harvest Home Sunday. A table has been placed in the foyer to receive gifts, which are used to help supply food and staples for the Boyertown Multi-Service pantry. The drive is under the supervision of the Social Ministry Committee of St. Paul's. The committee is chaired by Cleora Shellaway.

## Shepherd of the Hills

Rev. Larry Pickar will speak at the 8:00 and 10:15 a.m. Sunday services on the topic "The Place of Prayer in the Church." Bible Video Church will be held for elementary children at 10:30 a.m. A congregational fellowship luncheon will be held at the conclusion of the second service.

Sunday school for all ages is held every Sunday from 9-10 a.m. Children's classes are bygrade, from Crib Room to Grade 12. There are also five classes for adults to choose from: Marriage Builders, Singles, Young Adults,

Discussion Class and Spiritual Growth Class. Also Sunday the River Service will be held at 7:00 p.m.

MOPS will hold a fall clothing Rummage Sale Friday and Saturday, Sept. 21-22, opening at 9 a.m. each day. Men's, women's and children's clothing will be available.

"Stepping into Freedom" - a Christ-centered 12 Step Program will start Tuesday, September 25, 7:00 p.m. The group is open to anyone who is serious about regaining godly control of life-controlling problems. Contact the church to register.

Youth Club meets Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. The Women's Bible Study meets every Thursday from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Child care is available for pre-school children.

Support groups currently meeting include: GriefShare, Monday (9 a.m. and 7 p.m.); DivorceCare, Thursday, 7:00 p.m.; B.I.L.Y. (for parents of rebellious teens) Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Alcoholics Anonymous, Tuesday (8:30 p.m.), Wednesday (8:00 p.m.), Thursday (12:15 and 8:30 p.m.), Saturday (8:30 p.m.), and Sunday (1:00 p.m.); AlAnon, Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m.

Shepherd of the Hills Church is located at 527 Hoffmansville Road, Bechtelsville.

## Christ Lutheran Church in Niantic

Christ Lutheran Church will celebrate the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost on September 23 with two worship services at 7:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. At both services Pastor Paul Bartlett will preach the adult sermon entitled, "Dirty, Rotten Scoundrels," and will present a children's message at the 10:15 a.m. service.

At the late service, Victoria Lynn Eisenhard and Alan Dean Bauman will receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Victoria is the daughter of Rodney Eisenhard & Staci Fisher of

Honeybrook and her sponsors are Kyle Kennedy and Stephanie Oshinski. Alan is the son of Brian Bauman & Alice Schoenly of Barto.

Disaster Relief Funds for the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks will be collected at both services.

Following the late service, a coffee and fellowship hour will be held.

The church is located at 222 Niantic Road between Routes 663 and 100 about a mile east of Bally. Sunday worship is held year round at 7:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. A nursery for preschool children is available at each 10:15 a.m. service. Sunday School for all ages is held at 9:00 a.m., including an adult class. Visitors are always welcome, the church is handicapped accessible. The church website is www.christniantic.com.

## St. Paul's Church (Stowe)

Saturday, September 22: 8:30 a.m. men's brotherhood breakfast at Brookside Restaurant.

Sunday, September 23: 8:30 a.m. prayer in the sanctuary; 9 a.m. worship service - fellowship time follows the service; 10:45 a.m. Sunday school for all ages.

Monday, September 24: 7 p.m. prayer meeting - all are welcome.

## Most Blessed Sacrament Church

Congratulations to the family of Darian Ruyak, daughter of James and Marcy Ruyak, who was baptized recently at MBS Parish.

A welcome is extended to the following families who recently joined our parish family: Mrs. Margaret Nowrey; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Buehner; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stavish; and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buchsbaum and family.

Our pastor, Msgr. Edward Coyle, who is a chaplain in the reserves, has been called to active duty for 30 days due to the current crisis. We would appreciate it if local priests are willing to cover for him during this time. Deacon Tom Murphy will be in charge of the parish in absences of the pastor.

## Calvary United Church of Christ

On Sunday, September 9, Tyler Randy Allen Reigner was baptized into the family of Calvary Church.

Tyler is the son of Randy and Marion Reigner of Barto. The Reigners also have two daughters, Kira and Heather. Serving as Godparents for Tyler were Malika and James Eck.

Saturday, September 23: "Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost - Sacrament of Baptism." 8:30 a.m. Junior Choir rehearsal; 9 a.m. Sunday school; 10:15 a.m. worship.

Tuesday, September 25: East Berks Association Fellowship banquet at 6 p.m.; Girl Scouts at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 26: Senior Choir rehearsal at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 28: Baking begins at 6 a.m.

Saturday, September 29: Fall craft and flea market from 8-2 p.m.

## Morning Star Fellowship

On Sunday, September 23, Children's Dedication Day will be held at Morning Star Fellowship. The following children will be dedicated to the Lord: Cassidy Neuman, Kevin Frey, Zachariah Shunk and Kiara West. Pastor Steve and Liz DeFrain will host a picnic for Valley Forge Christian College students who attend our church. The picnic will follow the

see RELIGION on 23

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

For information call (610) 367-6041 or (610) 689-9558.

Deadline is 12 Noon on Friday.

## ASSEMBLY OF GOD

**Morning Star Fellowship, 100 Limekiln Rd., Bechtelsville.** Rev. Steven R. DeFrain, Senior Pastor; Rev. Bruce Borgard, Assistant Pastor; Rev. Paul Willman, Youth Pastor; Rev. Liz DeFrain, Administrator. Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children's Ministry and Nursery provided. AGX Youth Group (7th-12th grades) meets on Sunday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. L.I.F.E. Groups (small groups) meet throughout the week. Please call (610) 369-1960 for more information or look us up on the web at www.mstar.org.

## BAPTIST

**Grace Independent Baptist, 1204 Montgomery Ave., New Berlinville.** Rev. Greg Wasser, pastor. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Services: 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting: Wednesday, 7 p.m. Awana Clubs (kindergarten thru sixth grade) Wednesday 7 p.m. Small group Bible studies for men and women meet throughout the week. For more information call (610) 367-5955. www.GIBCHURCH.ORG

**New Covenant Baptist Church, N. Hanover & Prospect Sts., Pottstown.** Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 8:30 and 11 a.m. Youth group 4 p.m. Tom Brokaw, pastor, 610-323-0385. Family night Wed. 6:45 - 8 p.m.

## CHARISMATIC

**Harvest Fellowship, 584 Colebrookdale Road, Boyertown.** Pastors Barry Parsons and Bill Wilson, Sunday: 9:30 a.m., Corporate Prayer: 10 a.m., Worship Service with Children's Ministry; Tuesday: 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts; Wednesday: 8 p.m. AA; Thursday: 7 p.m. Family Ministry for all ages; 2nd Saturday: 9 a.m. Food Pantry. Call the church at 610/367-2853 Mon-Thurs. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. for information regarding monthly Youth, Adult and Women's Fellowship events, special events, directions or other information.

## NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**Mechaya Mission**, a non-denominational group. Welcomes you to their contemporary service on Saturday night at 7 p.m. Location 911 Sweinhart Road. Watch for our sign on Rt. 100 and Grosser Road.

**New Passion Church.** Our purpose is to connect people to the passion of God! Join us on Saturday night at 6:30 p.m. Our Saturday Night Services are held at The Salvation Army, 409 S. Reading Ave., Boyertown. Please call 610-367-2255 or visit www.newpassion.com for more information.

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

**First Church of Christ, Scientist, Evans & Prospect St., Pottstown.** Sunday school and worship service at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday service includes Testimonies of Healing 7:30 p.m. Reading room open to the public Monday and Friday 1-4 p.m., Wednesday 7-7:30 p.m. 610-323-7388. www.spirituality.com

## EPISCOPAL

**St. Gabriel's Episcopal, Rt. 422 East, Douglassville.** 610-385-3144. Summer Schedule: **Saturday:** Informal Holy Eucharist (Communion) in air-conditioned 1801 Chapel at 6 p.m. **Sunday:** Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10 a.m. Nursery care available during 10 A.M. service. Summer Sunday School for ages 3-9. **June 24-Aug. 26** at 10 a.m. Liturgy for people in recovery programs at 5:30 P.M. **Wednesday:** Healing Service with Eucharist, refreshments and Bible Study at 9 a.m. The Rev. Canon Calvin C. Adams, The Rev. Faith J. D'Urbano, The Rev. John Harvard and the parishioners of St. Gabriel's invite you to join them!

## EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL

**Trinity Evangelical Congregational Church, Swinehart Rd. & Second St.** Rev. Kevin Leibensperger, Pastor. Sunday: Morning Worship Services 8, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m., with staffed nursery. Sunday School 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. Junior & Senior High Youth Group, Sunday 6 p.m. & Wednesday 6:45 p.m. Also Wednesday staffed nursery, Pioneer Clubs for ages two through 6th grade. 7 p.m. Adult Prayer & Bible Study.

## INDEPENDENT

**Grace Chapel, Megan Lane, Gilbertsville.** Lord's Supper for believers, 9 a.m.; Bible ministry and Sunday school, 10:30 a.m., Sunday evening service, 6 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. For more information call 610-369-1307.

**Colebrookdale Chapel, Farmington Ave. and Greshville Rd., Boyertown.** Pastor Raymond Leslie. Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School for all ages; 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Worship Services. Wednesday, 7 p.m., Midweek Prayer Service. Thursday, 7 p.m. Word of Life Teen Club; all 7th thru 12th grades welcome. Nursery for all services, 610-369-1111.

**Hope Community Church.** We desire it to serve you wherever you are in life, so come as you are to Boyertown Jr. High East Center, Route 73, Gilbertsville, for age-appropriate ministry and service at 10:30 a.m. Office: 2732 N. Charlotte St., Gilbertsville, 610-327-3722. Pastor Rick Knarr. All students grades 6-12 are welcome to join us on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army, Boyertown for activities, music and life-relevant teaching.

**Mountain View Chapel/Pastor Eshleman, Douglassville.** Services 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Sun. Call 610-326-5856. S.S. Avail. 68 Old Douglass Dr.

## LUTHERAN

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, 45 N. Reading Ave., Boyertown.** Rev. John G. Pearson, Senior Pastor, Carl A. Wenzel, Associate Pastor, Sunday services, 8, 9:20 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday school 9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship Sat. 6 p.m.

**New Hanover Lutheran, 2941 Lutheran Road, Gilbertsville.** Rev. Richard H. Elliott, S.T.M., Pastor. Susan P. Lynch, Associate Pastor. 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. Worship Services 7:45 & 10:15 (nursery care avail. during 10:15 service). Bible Study Thurs. at 9:30 a.m. For more information e-mail pastorric@fast.net or call 610-326-1335. www.newhanoverlutheran.org.

**St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran, 244 Koch Rd., Boyertown.** Rev. Vicki L. Keller Pastor. Sunday service: 7:45 & 10 a.m.; Sunday school 8:45 a.m. Day-care and preschool call 610-367-1980. Church office 610-369-0990.

**St. Luke Lutheran Church, 35 Wilson Avenue, Gilbertsville.** Pastor Christopher L. Weidner. Worship service: 7:45 & 10:15 a.m. Sunday School: 9 a.m. Call 610-367-9738.

**Christ Lutheran Church, 222 Niantic Rd. Barto (1-1/2 mi. off Rt. 100 from Longacre's Dairy).** Sunday Worship, 7:45 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.\*; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; \*Nursery for preschoolers. (610) 845-2583. Website: www.christniantic.com

**St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Route 73 and Neiffer Road, Obelisk, (5 mi. east of Gilbertsville)** Rev. James Shelly, 610-754-7762. **September 23:** Holy Communion Service, Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship, 10:15 a.m. (nursery provided) You are welcome! St. Luke's website is: www.stlukesobelisk.com.

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 325 Covered Bridge Rd., Oley.** Rev. Robert R. Mitchell, Jr., pastor. Sunday church school, 9 a.m.; worship, 10:15 a.m. Nursery available. 610-689-5296, parsonage.

**Trinity Lutheran Church, 1749 S. Main St., Bechtelsville.** Rev. Eugene C. Zaiser, Pastor. 9 a.m. Sunday School and 10:15 a.m. Worship. Service. Church office. 610-369-1281.

**St. Paul's Lobach's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lobachville Road, (on top of hill overlooking Lobachville).** The Rev. Charles A. Adami Jr., Pastor. Church office ph. 610-987-3321. Sunday School for all ages 9 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 10:15 a.m. Everyone welcome.

## MENNONITE

**Oley Valley Mennonite Church, (Rt. 662 nr. Oley Tnkp.), Oley, S.S.** 9:30 am; Worship 10:30 am. Call for caring activities: 610-987-3315. Pastor Dave Bartow: DAVEWINB@AOL.COM.

**Boyertown Mennonite, 275 Mill St., Boyertown.** Pastor Nelson Shenk. 610-369-1974. (on the hill with WBYN Radio Station). Sunday School 9 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m. Wednesday Youth Club (Grades 1-12), 5:15-7:30 p.m. Monthly Youth (8th-12th Grade) meetings. Monthly small group activities.

**Hereford Mennonite Church of Bally.** Bob Gerhart, pastor. The brick church with the oak trees. Sunday School at 9; Worship at 10:15. Call 610-845-2429 for other activities.

**Ark Bible Chapel, 88 Woodchoppertown Rd., Boyertown (Earl Twp.).** Karl Glick, Pastor. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible Study for all ages. Phone 610-689-5862.

**METHODIST**  
**St. Andrew United Methodist, Swamp Creek Road, New Berlinville.** Rev. J. Donald Zeiter. All Sunday School classes, 9 a.m. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

**New Hanover United Methodist, 2211 Swamp Pike, Gilbertsville.** Rev. David M. Lewis. Worship Services 8, 9 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. Phone (610) 323-2353.

## PRESBYTERIAN

**First Presbyterian Church, 750 N. Evans St., Pottstown.** 610-326-0620. Rev. W. Carter Lester Jr. and Rev. Karen Pidcock-Lester, Co-Pastors. Sunday School: 9:15 a.m., Worship: 10:30 a.m.

## ROMAN CATHOLIC

**St. Columbkil, 200 Indian Spring Road, Boyertown.** Father Robert C. Quinn, pastor; Father Edward Essig, parochial vicar. Weekends Masses: Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays at 7:30, 9 and 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon. 9 a.m. in the chapel. Confessions each Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m. Baptisms on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

**Most Blessed Sacrament, 610 Pine St., Bally.** Msgr. Edward Coyle. Father Michael Briggman, Pastor Emeritus. Sunday Masses: 6, 7:30 and 10:15 a.m.; Saturday 4:30 p.m. (preceded by Rosary at 4 p.m.)

Daily masses 6:30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday & Friday; 7 p.m. on Tuesday & Thursday; 8 a.m. on Saturday. First Friday Mass at 6:30 a.m. Reconciliation: Saturdays 3-4 p.m. and before weekday evening masses. Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Sundays, 1 p.m. (arranged in advance).

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1565 South Keim Street, Pottstown.** **September 23: How does a fellowship really operate?** Worship Service at 10 a.m. Minister Greta Brown. Religious education for all ages including nursery. For more information call 610-327-2662 or visit our web site at: members.aol.com/uupottstown

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Good Shepherd UCC, 35 W. Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown.** Rev. Dr. Merlin Conrad, interim sr. pastor; Rev. William E. Harner Jr., Pastor of visitation. Sunday services: 7:45 a.m. & 10:20 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. 610-367-2842.

**Shepherd of the Hills UCC, 527 Hoffmansville Rd., Bechtelsville.** Rev. Vernon Stoop. Sunday services: 8 and 10:15 a.m. Sunday Church School 9 a.m.

**Salem UCC, 307 Covered Bridge Rd., Oley.** Rev. Maureen Duffy-Guy, pastor. 610-385-8895. Worship 10:15 a.m.; Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Mondays: Quilters & Crafters Group, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Calvary UCC, 1231 Route 100, Barto.** 1-1/2 miles south of Bally, Rev. Homer E. Royer Jr. Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship, 10:15 a.m.

**St. John-Hill UCC, RD #4, (Pike Township), Boyertown.** Rev. James W. Rogers. Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Historic Church, serving today's people.

**Falkner Swamp Reformed Church of the United Church of Christ, 2077 Swamp Pike, Gilbertsville.** 610-323-4053. Rev. Dr. Donald E. Moyer, Pastor. 8 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Church School; 10:30 a.m. worship.

# Thoughts for this moment



## Lord, Guard Our Hearts



The Rev. Karl Glick, Pastor of Ark Bible Chapel, Oley

*The emotional surges of anger we've all felt since September 11 are not wrong, but hatred is always wrong. On September 11, we saw the true face of hatred.*

*When seething hatred reaches certain critical mass, it will erupt. Researcher and futurist, George Barna, said, in a book published this year: "One of the more amazing things about the last ten years is not the number of terrorist acts in the world, but the relative lack of terrorist incidents in the U.S. That good fortune is not likely to continue." He was right!*

*In contrast to some religions, the teachings of Jesus and the Bible call us away from hatred. "Be angry, and do not sin;" (Eph. 4:26) "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you:*

*Love your enemies." (Matthew 5:43-44).*

*Christians may follow these teachings poorly or not at all, but they are still there. Ingrained in our society's fabric, they keep our anger from becoming hatred that produces terrorism.*

*In recent days, however, I've heard the voice of our enemies in some of our own words - in stirrings of unbridled hatred and calls for annihilation of whole races of people. Hopefully those hateful words reflect the unedited anger of the moment and will give way to a saner, more Christian, response that will stop at punishment of evil-doers and not even consider wholesale vengeance.*

*Lord, guard our hearts, lest we become like those who hate us!*

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