

✧ WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT ✧
Newsletter - October 2009

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.

Director – Dawn Baxter *Mission Associate* – Dick Kleinsmith *Bookkeeper* – Susan Rigby-Moore

Phone – 610-375-8303 Fax – 610-375-6445 E-mail – info@westberksmissiondistrict.org

Now on the web at www.WestBerksMissionDistrict.org

Dear Western Berk mission Distnet,

Thank you for the bookbag. I hope you can give more bookbags to other people that need them. If you would not have given me this bookbag I would have been carrying my math books and reading book an all my other books without something to hold them and protect them. Thank you for the bookbag an the other supplies to that are in my bookbag.

Your friend,

Brandon *(a student at Thomas Ford Elementary School)*

OPERATION BOOK-BAG 2009 - another great success!

(It seems Brandon would agree!)

At least 26 of our WBMD congregations participated in this special ministry by collecting school supplies and backpacks, making monetary donations, sending volunteers to help assemble the bags, and delivering them to the schools. In addition, a Care in Communities grant from Thrivent's Southwest Berks Chapter allowed us to purchase 140 backpacks in addition to those that had been donated.

Volunteers packed 526 backpacks with an assortment of school supplies and others delivered them to the Reading elementary and middle schools. The school staff will distribute the book-bags to the students they have identified as having the greatest need.

What a wonderful way to help young students succeed. Truly a blessing in these challenging times!

Thanks for your support of this important cooperative ministry of the WBMD, one way we are...

Witnessing Boldly; Making a Difference!

WBMD Fall Assembly

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Hosted by Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, 250 Church Lane Road, Jacksonwald.

Registration – 7:00 PM

Call to order – 7:30 PM

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**WBMD Bowl-a-Thon
Sunday, November 1
at Bowl-O-Rama**

Route 422 in Reiffton

Get a group together to have fun, win prizes, and support our Summer Day Camp! This is our major fundraising effort for the Love for Children Day Camp. This year, more than 250 children were able to enjoy a week of camp thanks to the support of the WBMD, and grants from Thrivent's Southwest Berks Chapter and the NEPS Witness & Service Ministry Team!

Registration and Sponsorship forms were sent to all churches and can also be found on our WBMD web-site. Teams can request to bowl from either 1-3 PM or 3-5 PM. All bowlers bowl 2 games at no charge, (shoes included) and will also enjoy a hot dog & drink. We ask each bowler to try to raise \$15 in sponsorships.

Come join us for this day of fun, fellowship, food, and fundraising for a great cause! Thanks to Jackie Grauel and tyna Kaltenbaugh for helping to organize this event.

November 7 – “The Great Give Away!”

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
4th & Windsor St., Reading
10 AM – 12 noon

FREE! FREE! FREE!

Clothing, household items, toys, books
Will accept donations of new or gently used items
until November 6th.

Call for information – 610-376-0825

RETIRED LEADERS EVENTS

BREAKFAST – first Thursday of each month at Heidelberg Restaurant, Rt 422 just west of Robesonia. Join us at 9:00 AM. No reservations needed. Come enjoy the food and fellowship!

FALL LUNCHEON – Thursday, October 8th at 1:00 PM at the Crossroads Restaurant on Route 61 (formerly Arner's). No reservations needed.

Worship & the Arts

*A Ministry Event presented by
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Southwest & Northwest Berks Chapters*

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Registration begins at 9:00 AM

Program begins at 9:30 AM

Calvary Lutheran Church,

1009 Elizabeth Avenue, Laureldale, PA

Cost is \$10 per person – includes lunch

Special Guest Musicians

The Philadelphia Handbell Ensemble

**All are invited to the worship service beginning at
2:15 p.m. that will incorporate many of the
ministry arts learned during the day.**

**A free will offering to benefit the Greater Berks
Food Bank will be received.**

**Hands-on workshops on bell ringing as well as
other ministry arts will be presented.**

**Check with your Parish Musician or see the WBMD
web-site for more detailed information. Please
take advantage of this wonderful opportunity
offered right here in West Berks!**

WBMD Calendar of Events –

- October 8 – Retired Pastors Luncheon at
Crossroads Restaurant on Rt. 61
- October 24 – Thrivent Worship and the Arts
Event at Calvary, Laureldale
- October 27 – WBMD Council Meeting at
Atonement
- November 1 – WBMD Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser for
Day Camp at Bowl-O-Rama
- November 7 – “Great Give Away” at Holy Spirit
- November 12 – WBMD Fall Assembly at
Schwarzwald
- February 19-20, 2010 – Annual Youth Event with
Captive Free at Grace, Shillington