

✧ **WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT** ✧
Newsletter – September 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.

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**Join the 36th
Reading-Berks CROP Hunger Walk on
Sunday, October 8th at Gring's Mill**

Registration begins at 12:30 PM

Walk starts at 1:30 PM

Choose from a 1, 3 or 5-mile loop

**Isaac's Fundraiser / Kick-off Event
Thursday, September 14, from 4-9 PM.**

Bring a group of family and friends, dine in or take out at the Isaac's in Wyomissing. Isaac's will contribute 25% to our CROP Hunger Walk! (Coupons are needed and can be found on the WBMD website.)

All walk materials will be available for pick-up that evening at Isaac's as well.

SEE YOU THERE!



**Family Promise fund-raising event
with a goal to raise \$50,000**

Taste of Hope is an annual fundraiser that provides critical operating funds for programming. FP is celebrating many years of success in lifting Berks County families and youth out of the unimaginable circumstance of homelessness. This year's event will be held at the **Doubletree Hotel** at 701 Penn Street, Reading on **Thursday, September 28th** from 5:30-8:30 pm. The event will include a sit-down dinner, cash bar, live testimonials, auctions and more. We would be honored to include you in our evening of celebration. Together we can make a difference!

Tickets \$65.00/person

For tickets call Family Promise at 610-373-3323
or order online at www.familypromiseofberks.org

WBMD Fall Assembly Event – Thursday, November 9, 2017

Hosted by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Tuckerton

Plan to join us for a night of fellowship and education, as we share information on how our community is working together to help a "refugee" family, as they seek a safe environment to raise their family. We will gather at 6:30 pm for a light dinner, followed by the program. The only "Order of Business" for the evening will be to review/adopt the 2018 WBMD budget. Plan now to attend.

TableTalk II –

Wed. October 11 at 7:00 PM

at Alvernia's McGlenn Conference Center

My Neighbor is Muslim

Exploring the Muslim Faith

What do Muslims and Christians have in common?
How are we different?
How can we work together for good?

Our invited speaker will be Ms. Tahara Akmal, a member of the Islamic Center of Reading and Director of the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at the Reading Hospital.

All are welcome to come and learn and be part of the conversation!

Did you know???

WBMD helps support 8 Lutheran Pantries

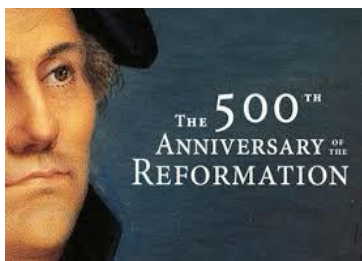
Your financial support for the Lutheran Pantry through the WBMD, and your donations of food to these 8 pantries has helped to feed **23,613** individuals so far this year! More than 13,000 of them were either children or elderly. 5770 households have been served. But donations to the Lutheran Pantry have been less than usual this year. Your continued support helps your neighbors in need!

Please consider a special offering or a food drive to support the city pantries.

We know many other community pantries have opened and our congregations help them as well, but Reading continues to have the greatest need and the least local resources.

Thanks!

Together in Hope: A Reconciling Reformation



Sunday, October 22 at 3:00 PM

A special ecumenical Worship Service of Word and Music will be held at St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church in West Lawn. Our worship together will focus on the themes of Thanksgiving, Repentance and our Call to Common Mission. The liturgy is built around the words of reformers from different denominations, celebrating our common faith in a loving and reconciling God. You are invited to be part of this special service.

Information regarding singing in the festival choir can be found on the WBMD website.

More than 60 singers have already registered!

For more information contact
Rev. Mark Rigg at 610-678-2411

Women of Atonement invite you to a luncheon on Saturday, September 16 at Noon

The Speaker is **Julia Coffin** of Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services and she will be sharing information about issues facing refugees seeking asylum in the US.

Cost for the luncheon is \$10. You are also welcome to just attend the speaking event beginning at 1 pm if you cannot attend the luncheon.

To register for lunch or for more information contact: jsturgis@atonementwyo.org or call 610-372-1131.

WBMD Calendar of Events

- Sept. 14 Isaac's fundraiser for CROP walk
- Sept. 28 Family Promise Taste of Hope event
- Oct. 8 CROP Hunger Walk at Gring's Mill
- Oct. 11 TableTalk – My Neighbor is Muslim!
- Oct. 16 Giant Lutheran Potluck Dinner
- Oct. 22 Reformation Service – Together in Hope
- Oct. 24 WBMD Council – Advent 7 pm
- Oct. 25 Table Talk follow up event
- Nov. 9 WBMD Fall Assembly Event