

MNYS CONFERENCE REPORTS



HUDSON ULSTER AND DUTCHESS COUNTIES

The Rev. Sonja Maclary



THIS YEAR, "Building Bridges" in our conference meant coming together as a conference and a wider church, to share, pray, learn and grow. Significantly, we joined with the Delaware Hudson Conference to offer, with the support of a MNYS Leadership Development Grant, a series of Healthy Congregations workshops, which

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

The three congregations in Kingston are once again showing signs of working more closely and cooperatively in ministry.

Each congregation in our conference held its own form of commemoration ranging from worship, to concert, to study opportunities. Together, we sponsored a screening of the movie "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World," at the Regal Hudson Valley Mall 12 Theater. This was an exciting public event that brought together Lutherans and friends from throughout the area. Many of us also traveled on a bus sponsored by St. John's, Poughkeepsie, to attend the commemoration service at St. John the Divine.

REFLECTIONS OR CONCERNS

Every congregation in our conference is facing major change or sustainability issues in the next 10-15 years.

began in the spring at Redeemer, New Paltz, continued in the fall at King of Kings, New Windsor, and will be ongoing through 2018 and 2019. Because these workshops bring congregations together, they are an occasion in which to share joys and sorrows together, pray and learn together, and recognize those places where God is with us and calling us to be still...and grow.

Conference pastors met monthly (excluding during the summer), and in addition to sharing worship and synodical updates, engaged in a study of "Who Moved My Pulpit?" by Thom Rainer, a study that addresses the realities of leading change in the church. Again, the fact of being together in learning and prayer around an issue that does (or should!) affect all of us, helped each of us to anchor our leadership in faith, not fear.



Pastor transition was an issue that concerned many congregations in our conference discussions in 2017 and we were pleased, in May, to celebrate the ordination and installation of Pastor James Miller at The Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess.



DELAWARE HUDSON

ORANGE, ROCKLAND AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES

The Rev. Ernie Mossl

THE PASTORS of the DH conference meet each month to share parish news, joys, struggles, mutual conversation, and worship. The entire conference met on Nov. 12, 2017, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Middletown, in a Reformation 500 liturgy. Then Bishop Rimbo preached and Pastor Mossl, dean of the conference, presided. A conference-wide choir was formed and sang an anthem; musicians from across the conference added to the liturgy, and readings were offered in Spanish and German. It was a wonderful time of Lutheran worship and community.

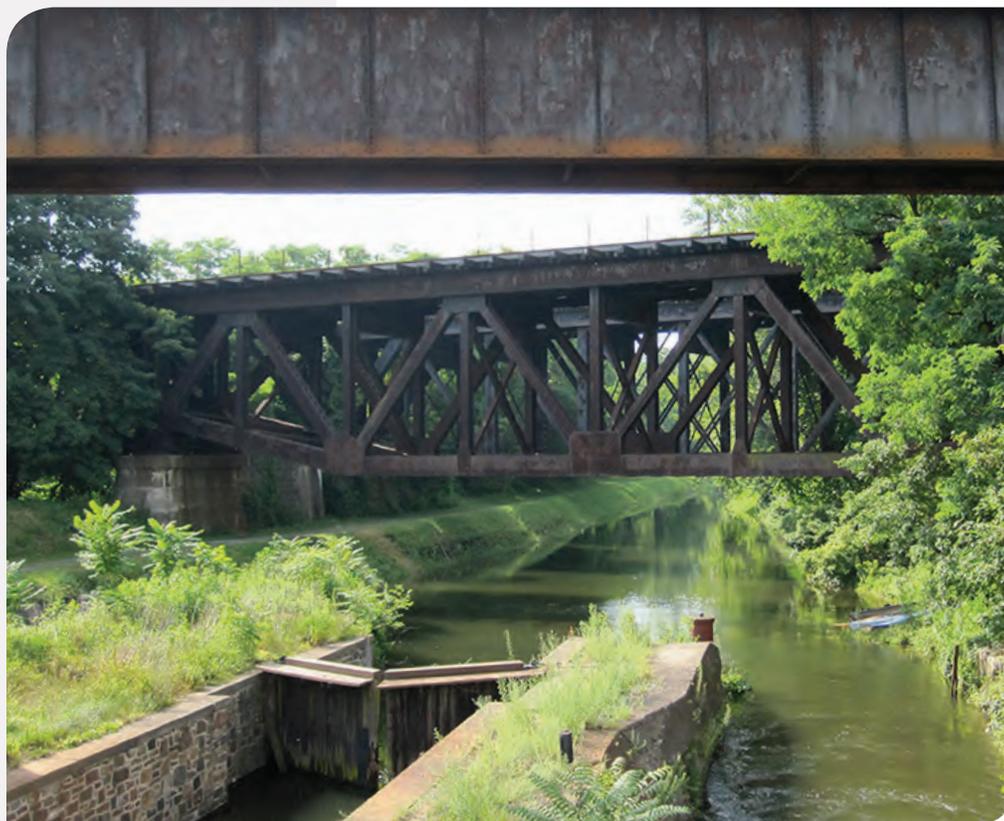
REFORMATION 500

Each congregation observed the anniversary at their local level. There were Reformation Bible studies, films, discussion groups, concerts, and forums. The entire conference observed the anniversary in worship and community on Nov. 12 (see above).

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

The 12 congregations of the Delaware Hudson conference are stable, and committed to mission and community. In a time of difficult parish variables and attitudes toward traditional faith traditions, we are grateful for stable and growing congregations. We also give thanks for our commitment to one another as a clergy group.

*We are grateful for
stable and growing
congregations*



TAPPAN ZEE

PUTNAM AND WESTCHESTER COUNTIES

The Rev. Jim O'Hanlon

AFTER DOWNSIZING A FEW YEARS AGO, Redeemer Lutheran Church in Chappaqua followed their plan to close with the retirement of their Pastor, Leigh Pezet. We thank him for his 40 years of ministry. Blessings to the members as they move on to new places to worship, and thanks to neighboring congregations that have welcomed them.

We have three new clergy this year and expect two other congregations to call new pastors in the months ahead.

Tappan Zee holds weekly Bible study for pastors and holds other periodic meetings. The conference hosts an annual clergy retreat at Koinonia, and we thank them for their hospitality.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

Several congregations in the conference coordinate youth activities, such as Koinonia retreats for confirmation and older teens. This year we had a lock-in for youth and are holding a series for teens going to Houston, using the curriculum provided for the churchwide Youth Gathering.



EASTERN NASSAU

The Rev. Emily Trubey-Weller

ON TUESDAY MORNINGS, the congregations of the Eastern Nassau Conference hold a weekly pericope group for pastors. Ten of the eleven congregations of our conference participate regularly, with six participating weekly or nearly weekly. The pastors of our conference take turns in leading the study. This time of learning, conversation, and fellowship also serves as an important opportunity for cross-pollination of ideas and sharing collegial wisdom. We also collaborate to hold monthly WELCA Bible studies that are open to all women of our conference. The congregations take turns hosting and leading this monthly study, which brings women together from many of our congregations.

Though not a conference-specific event, members of our conference worked with Long Island LARC (Lutherans, Anglicans, Roman Catholics) to craft "The Love of Christ Compels Us: A Celebration of Christian Unity and Reconciliation on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation." This large, ecumenical commemoration on Nov. 19 was held at St. Killian's Roman Catholic church and co-hosted by one of the congregations of our conference (St. Luke's, Farmingdale). One of the pastors of our conference (Rev. Laurie Cline), who is an active participant in LARC, did much to facilitate the planning and publicizing of the event. As many of us as were available attended this meaningful

commemoration, and it was a memorable experience, which included beautiful music provided by an ecumenical joint choir of three congregations, inspiring preaching by the Most Rev. James Massa, Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn, and participation by many Lutherans, Anglicans, and Roman Catholics from our communities, including members of our congregations.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

As our conference experiences changes and challenges familiar to many churches in our synod, we know we are in it together. The comradely and increasing cooperation among our congregations speaks of a hopeful future.

REFLECTIONS OR CONCERNS

I am aware that many of our congregations will be going through a time of transition as several pastors' date of retirement rapidly approaches. I am concerned about the ability of those of us remaining to provide coverage for what could be several vacant congregations at the same time.



WESTERN NASSAU

The Rev. Bob Cederstrom



SIX OF OUR CONGREGATIONS gathered for Christmas morning worship at Christ NHP. We held an Ascension Eve conference worship at Ascension Franklin Square and a Thanksgiving Eve worship at Gloria Dei, NHP. We rotated our midweek Advent and Lenten worships at our vacant congregations and held joint worship services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, at Christ NHP. We also held a joint Bible study on Thursday evenings, at Christ NHP.

REFORMATION 500

We celebrated with Reformation-based studies, movies and worship events. We look forward to the next 500 years by joining together and proclaiming the Good News.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

We are working toward uniting our vacant congregations with one another.

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SOUTHWEST NASSAU

The Rev. Ed Barnett

2017 WAS A VERY BUSY YEAR for the Southwest Nassau Conference. This was due to the usual round of activities: The Annual Meeting, monthly ministerium convocations, and our Lenten Worship Service. 2017 stretched us more than usual though, because one-third of our congregations are vacant.

REFORMATION 500

Each congregation commemorated the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation independently, mostly in and around Reformation Sunday. We also participated in the wonderful All Saints' liturgy of the synod at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine.

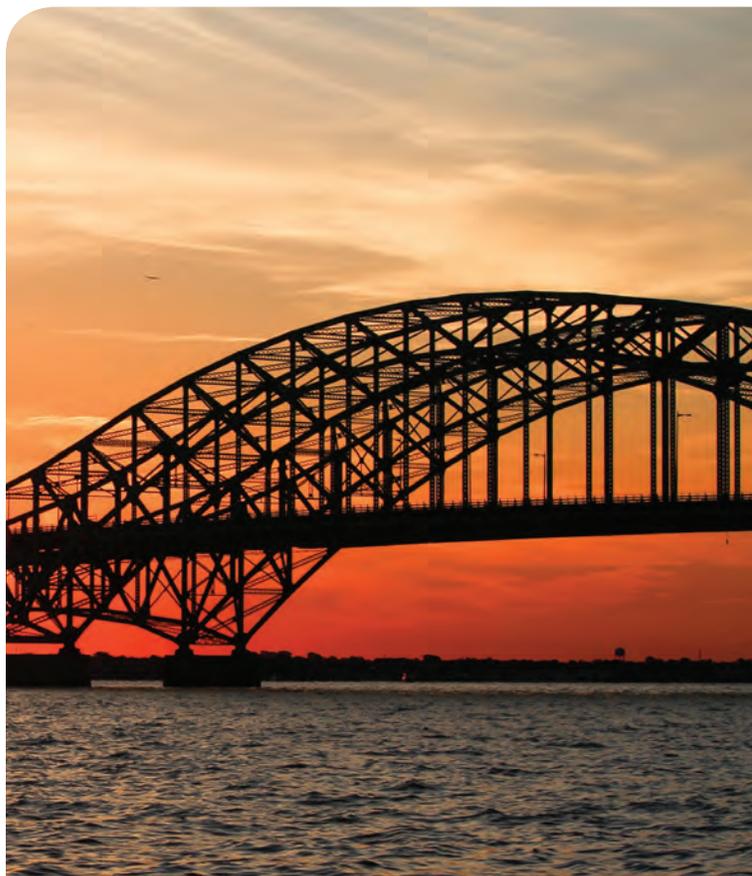
EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

The Southwest Nassau Conference is a challenging place to be nowadays. But we believe that we're rising to meet those challenges by which the Lord is seasoning us. All our people work together in the tasks that are properly theirs: pastors in shepherding and leading, deacons in serving, and congregation councils in governing their local parish. All of our situations differ; not one is the same. However, we are all connected and decisions for one congregational community impact all of us in one way or another.

THE GREATEST SUCCESS FOR US AS A CONFERENCE

in 2017 was the merger of St. John, Lynbrook, and Incarnation, Cedarhurst. This was a process that took approximately three years, but is an example of what can happen when committed Christians seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in decision-making and then are determined to go where the Spirit leads. A special thanks to Pastor Alex Kennedy of St. John, and the newly called pastor of the merged church. But above all, other than God, special thanks to Pastor Mary Chang of the former Incarnation. If she had not been an obedient servant of Christ, this process would never have worked. It was her visionary leadership that first led Incarnation to make a mature and serious assessment of their ministry and mission.

We also began exploring the possibility of sharing pastoral staff between Epiphany, Hempstead, and Grace, Uniondale. Both congregations are fully engaged in a process to see if a workable agreement and candidate can be agreed upon.



SPECIAL INVITATION!

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

"This is Jesus the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone. There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we have been saved."

Colossians 3:12-15

The Southwest Nassau Conference will be hosting a day focused on "The Power of Forgiveness - Roll the Stone Away." All are invited. **The date is Saturday, October 6, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Grace Lutheran Church and School
400 Hempstead Avenue, Malverne, NY 11565**

The day will include a healing service, and our preacher will be Bishop Donald J. McCoid.

Please join us to explore and discuss this very important part of our spiritual journey.

Thanks,
The Rev. Linda Bell

PECONIC EASTERN SUFFOLK COUNTY

The Rev. Richard O. Hill



THE PECONIC CONFERENCE is led by a Steering Committee consisting of the Dean, the Secretary-Treasurer, a pastor, two laypersons, a representative of the synod deacons, and a representative of the women's fellowship of the conference. We currently do not have a youth representative. Pastors meet once a month for prayer, mutual support, study, and discussion of synodical matters. We also joined again with the Western Suffolk Conference for a Pastors' Retreat at the Cenacle in Ronkonkoma, NY. It was organized by Dean Joanne Bond and led by Pastor Jonathan Linman. It included a Tai Chi experience. We have a Diakonia class that we initiated as a conference, and we are working on enrolling new students for September 2018. We also have a Diakonia Alumni class that meets monthly for continuing education and mutual support. We initiated a Women's Fellowship that has gathered women from around the conference, for large-group events. In June, our pastors bid farewell to Pastor Jeff Kolbo who retired after serving faithfully for nearly three decades at Trinity, Rocky Point, and as the Candidacy Committee Chair for our synod. A highlight in June was the ordination of Pastor Winston Dookram held at Ascension, Deer Park, followed by his installation the following day at Holy Cross, Commack. We were saddened by the death of Enid Lutz, wife of retired pastor, George Lutz, and by the death of Pastor Lutz the following week. I presided over both services, assisted by Pastor Dookram. Another highlight of 2017 was a 10-day Conference-sponsored Pilgrimage to the Lands of the Reformation in July. We had 36 people from four states together for this exciting visit to sites in four countries. Pastor Kevin O'Hara coordinated all the details and provided us with a devotional book for the journey. In September, we joined with St. Paul's, Port Jefferson Station, for the celebration of their

100th Anniversary. Bishop Robert Rimbo and previous pastors took part in the weekend's activities. In November, we installed Pastor George Dietrich as pastor of the Hamptons Parish (Incarnation, Bridgehampton, and St. Michael's, Amagansett). We also welcomed Pastor Rich Ajer to Trinity, Rocky Point. In December, the Steering Committee gathered for a meal to celebrate God's work among us.

REFORMATION 500

Our celebration began on Nov. 1, 2016, with two ecumenical services held at Hope, Selden, with seven Lutheran churches and four Roman Catholic parishes represented. Some congregations held book sales. Hope initiated some ecumenical events with St. Margaret of Scotland Parish, including the showing of the films "Luther," "Agent of Grace," and "Romero." Hope focused on the

Large Catechism during Lenten services. In other churches, the Small Catechism was used as a special focus for study and conversation.

Our pastors do not expect to be available for the next 500 years, so we haven't started planning for that.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

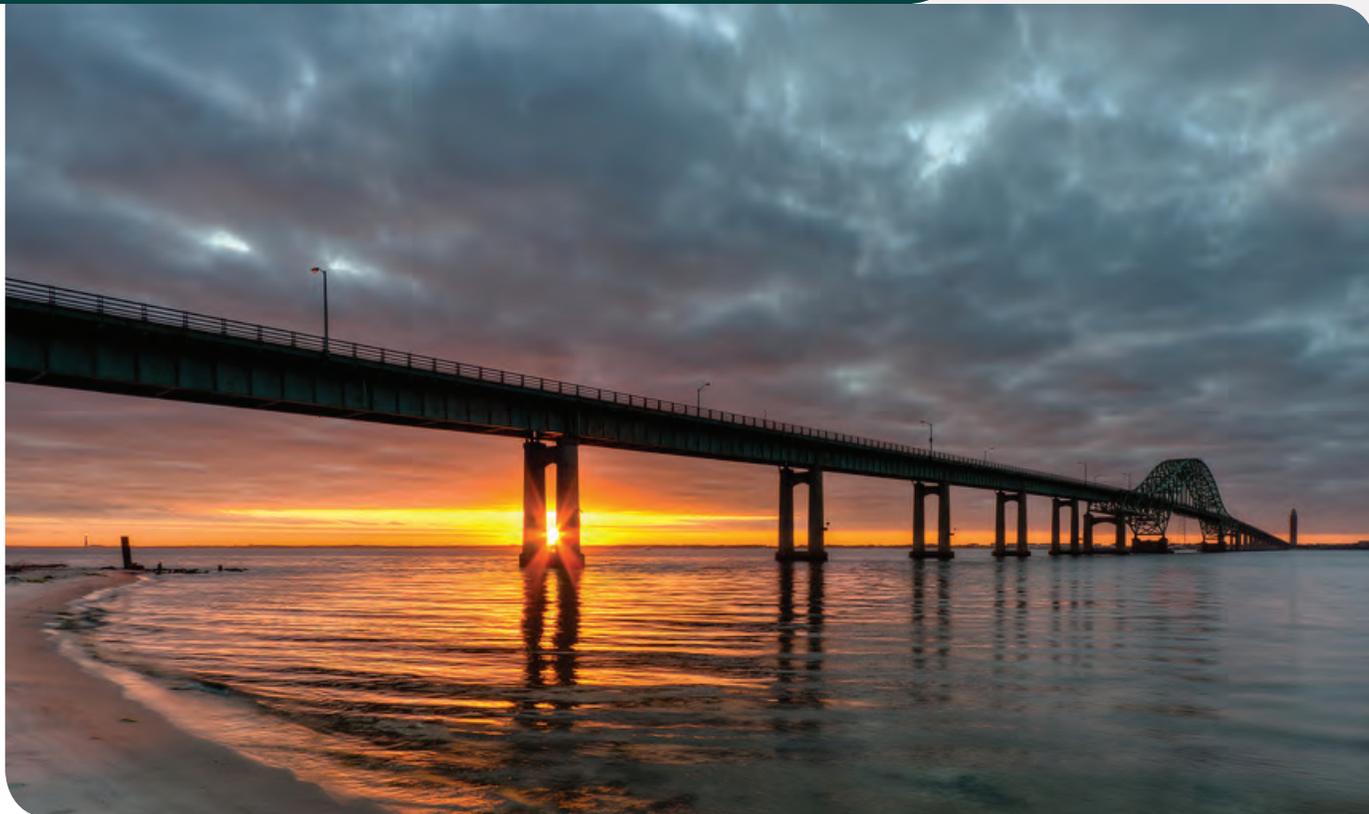
We are learning how we can bring together the resources of our congregations in ways that build up one another's ministries. Sharing ministry is the way of the future for us all. Our Lutheran understanding of the priesthood of all the baptized is the basis for a fruitful ministry.

REFLECTIONS OR CONCERNS

While we all have separate settings and issues that we face as pastors and congregations, there is a tremendous amount of power available to us for mutual up-building—by covenanting together for sharing ministry and providing mutual support. We have been saddened by the constant reminder of the decline and the closing of congregations in our synod and would like to have a more positive emphasis on making the gospel known through our ministries.

WESTERN SUFFOLK

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Bond



- Weekly periscope; monthly ministerium; annual conference meeting.
- Lenten Pastors' Conference Retreat, led by Dr. Linman, March 30, 2017, at Cenacle Retreat House, with Peconic Conference.
- Conference Ascension Worship Service at Abiding Presence, Ft. Salonga, May 25, 2017.
- Conference Farewell Luncheon for Pastor Bill Munz (retiring).
- Gettysburg "Preaching in Lent" Course, Jan. 24-25, 2018 coordinated by Pastor Joel Brandt—13 pastors attended (received MNYS grant).
- Reformation Hymn Sing, Sunday, October 1, 2017, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Lindenhurst, featuring Donald Meineke, "Celebrating Our Lutheran Heritage in Song."

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

ORDINATIONS:

- 06/03/2017 – Rev. Evelyn Patricia Avila (Latino mission developer), Ascension Lutheran Church, Deer Park
- 06/16/2017 - Rev. Winston Dookram – former member Ascension Lutheran Church, Deer Park
- 02/18/2018 – Rev. Terry Kruger – former intern at Christ Lutheran Church, E. Northport

SOUTHEAST QUEENS

The Rev. Marcia Parkinson-Harrison

PARTS OF OUR COMMUNITY have been identified by the FDNY and the American Red Cross as having some of the highest incidents of home fires. The Southeast Queens Conference helped educate our community about the importance of being prepared for fire and carbon monoxide emergencies.

Clive Dawkins, Queens Outreach Manager Volunteer for the American Red Cross, trained volunteers for three days. Volunteers were taught how to document appointments, educate homeowners and install detectors. We also had a number of volunteers who were certified drivers—these individuals drove Red Cross vehicles to the various appointments.

We had a tremendous response from the people in the community who signed up for the service. The Merchant Marines also helped with the event in October, and even more alarms were installed in November and December. In October, we were able to deploy seven teams that installed alarms. The American Red Cross of Greater New York reported 328 installed alarms that day. We are committed to the installation of alarms as an ongoing community service.

We have gathered for worship at our various churches to celebrate our cultures and attend workshops. One was the "Faith Practice Workshop," presented by Rev. Brenda K. Smith of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod. We have done leadership training together, and supported the various functions in our conference.

REFORMATION 500

I believe Martin Luther was about change. We are aware of the diversity within our conference and the need to adapt to changes within our community. As we looked back at 500 years of Lutheranism, we witnessed the church and God's people striving to touch, empower, and engage the world in the body of Christ. I believe our conference realizes that we

all have different gifts to bring to God's table, and doing ministry together makes us stronger. As we go forward in facing the challenges of immigration, financial issues, and all the "isms" facing our community, we are embracing our faith, and not the fear associated with those who have no hope.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

The most exciting thing to share about our conference is that we are a multi-cultural reflection of the synod, working in our community to strengthen, love, and charge our people to lift high the cross.

St. Peter's continues to offer voter registration each year, as well as the African Naming Event.

Our Savior provides a preschool and a focus on the Guyanese culture. On Oct. 7, 2017, Rev. John Heidgerd was installed to work in this vibrant congregation.

Redeemer caters to their young people with a nursery school that has been going for over 22 years. Each month, they provide





a community “Faith Walk” to help strengthen the faith journey in their area.

Epiphany is comprised primarily of “seasoned adults,” young adults and teenagers who serve as acolytes, etc. Epiphany has a food pantry that works in collaboration with a men’s shelter. They also have a Community Breakfast Club that meets once a week and is very popular with the community.

New Hope continued with its customary social ministry, including maintenance of a food pantry and the creation of health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Regular classes of “Gospel Aerobics” were offered, and a health fair was provided for the conference and the community. The church also provided scholarships for students in the conference.

Prince of Peace is a community church in Cambria Heights. It is comprised primarily of people of African descent from all parts of the world, who are united in faith and dedicated to being God’s hands in the world, both near and far. The church provides a no-cost Vacation Bible School, participates in the Angel Tree program to provide Christmas gifts for children of parents who are incarcerated, and provides “care packages” for a homeless shelter.

Resurrection’s foundation is built upon its diversity and commitment to social responsibility. Our food pantry opens its doors twice a month and serves over 500 people in the community each month. We are actively involved with our community board, and with the NYPD in the area of domestic and teen abuse. We are also in ecumenical partnership in the area.

I have named a few special things about each of our churches, but the best thing I can say about our conference is that we realize that we are in this together, and that the church is made up of people like you and me, sinners who have been saved by the grace of God. We are all trying to grow and mature and become what God wants us to be!

After 90 years of ministering in Saint Albans, Trinity had a closing service on Aug. 27, 2017. We met as a conference, with Bishop Rimbo and Rev. Wells. Let us never forget the faithful devotion of Trinity Lutheran Church.

We are a multi-cultural reflection of the synod, working in our community to strengthen, love, and charge our people to lift high the cross.

WESTERN QUEENS

The Rev. Joseph Mantovani

OUR CONFERENCE is continuing to grow together following the merger of Southwest and Northwest Queens into one conference. We meet two times a month for worship, study, conversation, brainstorming about challenges in our communities, and ways we can work together. There are usually six to ten rostered leaders who participate.

The meetings provide us with the opportunity to encourage each other, share experiences and find ways we can "co-operate," in order to strengthen ministries. We have been able to work together on programs such as a food pantry and cross-promote events in our individual churches.

REFORMATION 500

We held a conference-wide Reformation anniversary event on October 1. This hymn-sing, with brief reflections from six or seven pastors in our conference, was well-attended and was very representative of the diversity in our group.

It was a great opportunity for many of our members to meet, worship and share a time of fellowship. Many individual congregations had their own Reformation anniversary events, including sermon series, hymn-sings, Bible studies, and events with other churches.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

We are an active and diverse conference that includes some exciting new ministries, struggling communities, experienced leaders and people just starting out. We operate several preschools, food programs, and senior ministries, and share our spaces with many other churches and community groups. We are able to offer care and support for each other, when necessary. Our churches are centers of welcome and spiritual care for the communities we are in.

Our communities are dealing with expansions and downturns, while walking together as the body of Christ. Most of our 18 congregations and ministries are served by called pastors.

We were inspired to be a part of the ordination of Leticia Alanis. We were also glad to participate in a lessons-and-carols service with the Empire State Task Force/National Guard, whose chaplain is a part of our group.



NORTHEAST QUEENS

The Rev. I. Daniel Peter Penumaka

THOUGH IT LOOKS LIKE WE ARE A SMALL AND WEAK CONFERENCE IN THE SYNOD, THE FIVE CONGREGATIONS THAT REMAIN ARE FAITHFUL IN WORSHIPPING THE LORD. We are connected with one another in the community of believers and witnessing in the wider communities in Northeast Queens. Above all, we are faithful Lutherans serving Christ in these beautiful communities in Northeast Queens. Thanks be to God.

We have regular conference-pastors meetings for study and reflection. Last year, we didn't arrange an annual meeting, due to our anticipating the merger of the five congregations with the Western Nassau Conference and the Western Queens Conference in our synod. Last year, a good number of congregants joined in the commemoration of 500 years of Reformation, which took place at Saint John the Divine Cathedral in Manhattan on Nov. 1, 2017.

When it comes to the congregations in this conference, I am reminded of the affirmative words of the Apostle Paul, who writes in II Corinthians 8:1-2, **"And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity."** The same is true of those five remaining congregations: St. Paul's; Holy Trinity; Christ - Fresh Meadows; Christ - Little Neck; and All Saints.

These congregations have been proclaiming God's love to their communities and witnessing Christ to their neighbors, enabling us to maintain a Lutheran presence in Northeast Queens. Therefore, what matters is proclamation and witness, and it doesn't matter whether we are with a faithful

few or a lot of people. What matters is that we are committed, like the Macedonian Church, with Paul giving thanks to God for their faithfulness and dedication to God's mission, and so I too, give thanks to the Lord for keeping us faithful.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

By the grace of God and with the blessings of our partners at the Metropolitan New York Synod, we, the five churches of the Northeast Queens Conference are striving to do our Lord's will and move forward to bring Christ to all those in our communities.

REFLECTIONS OR CONCERNS

The demographics in this area are rapidly changing. There is an influx of Asians and Latinos moving into Northeast Queens, and in some areas, Caucasians are now in the minority.



BROOKLYN BRIDGES

The Rev. Katrina Foster

OUR CONFERENCE pastors meet faithfully, every week, to study and pray together. We are very blessed to have pastors from other conferences attend the weekly gathering, as well, fostering deeper relationships and support among the clergy and across conference boundaries. We worked together to support St. Lydia's in their time of pastoral transition.

The number of congregations in the conference that actively participate in the conference and in the synod is very small. I do not know what is happening in the inactive congregations, in spite of repeated attempts to make contact via phone calls, emails and going to the physical locations.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

Each congregation celebrated the 500th Reformation anniversary at their locations. Most of the pastors and several members of the congregations of the conference attended the celebration at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, walking with the clergy procession and assisting with distribution of the Eucharist.

St. Lydia's is a fantastic new congregation. St. John's is growing. St. John-St. Matthew-Emanuel just underwent an expansive renovation and is a strong, prophetic witness in its community.



SOUTH SHORE BROOKLYN

The Rev. Harriet Wieber

AS WE DO EVERY YEAR, we shared a light supper, studied and worshipped together during the Lenten season.

We were saddened when one of our congregations, the federated (Lutheran-Presbyterian) Flatbush Church of the Redeemer experienced Holy Closure on Dec. 31, 2017.

We are encouraged by the Church of the Holy Redeemer as they underwent synodical preservation and are boldly stepping into a future that God has prepared for them.

REFORMATION 500

We emphasized the Small Catechism individually and together as a conference. We encouraged our people to attend the Queens Reformation concert held on Sunday, Oct. 1, and the festive Eucharist and celebratory reception held on Wednesday, Nov. 1, at St. John the Divine.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

We are planning to participate in the Youth Gathering in Houston on **June 27 – July 1**. It is the first time any of our congregations are sending youth. We are coordinating our efforts as a conference and are thankful that our dear sister in Christ, Ruth Fehrenberg, left a legacy that enabled us to begin our fundraising, resulting in all the youth in our conference having the opportunity to attend the gathering.



SOUTHWEST BROOKLYN

The Rev. Khader Khalilia

OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS, the pastors and lay leaders of our Southwest Brooklyn Conference have been working as a team to put together a strategy for our shared ministry together. Our conference received a grant of \$10,000 from the sower project and was able to hire a consultant to do a visibility study about the possibility of having an immigrant welcoming center. The good news is that the consultant finished the visibility study and the final report will be presented to churches in our conference to vote on it in about two weeks, in order to begin to carry out this mission to the neighborhood.

I am proud to say that the churches in my conference are supportive and excited about this opportunity and it also gave us a time to pause and reflect about how our churches were started by immigrant communities and how we should continue to witness the wave of new immigrants settling in our neighborhoods especially from the Middle East and Asia.

At the same time, we continue to deal with the challenges that have been caused by many recent transitions and changes in our congregations and communities.

Our conference has witnessed a change of pastoral leaderships in some of our congregations and some can't afford to call a full time pastor.

Nonetheless, I feel that we have been growing stronger in our faith, and that this will power us through the concerns and fear that surrounds the decline in church attendance and the problems that it brings for congregations all around the city. For the past year, the Pastors of our conference have been gathering every other month for prayer and conversation. Our churches continue to faithfully support the Lutheran Counseling Center and the Healing Center, and we have been working together to see if it might be possible to establish an immigration center that can accompany the newcomers to our area, and put our faith into action.

REFORMATION 500

Each congregation held its own commemoration service for the 500th anniversary of the reformation and they were well attended. Most churches in my conference held also adult forums/studies about Luther and the Reformation. Some churches put Reformation banners outside their property. Sadly, As a dean when I proposed to have a joint Reformation Service with neighboring Catholic churches in the area my



proposal was rejected by my colleagues. My hope as I look forward to the next 500 hundred is to see a unified, diverse church.

EXCITING NEWS TO BE SHARED

Supporting Christian education through our Lutheran schools (Redeemer-St. John's Nursery School and new Universal Pre-K Programs, Leif Ericson's long-established school programs, Our Savior's long established Nursery School and Pre-K, and Lutheran Elementary School in Bay Ridge). All are also part of the Lutheran School Association.