

✧ **WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT** ✧  
**Newsletter – November 2016**

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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## **WBMD Fall Assembly Event**

**Thursday, November 3, 2016 6:30 -8:30 PM**

**Hosted by Advent Lutheran Church, 16 Telford Ave. West Lawn**

Come for a night of food and fellowship and to learn more about two new Lutheran ministries happening here in WBMD.

*Hope's Table* is a community outreach ministry that includes a free meal and a brief worship service each Tuesday evening at Hope Lutheran in Reading. We will hear ways in which the community that gathers here are being fed both physically and spiritually and learn of ways we can be involved.

*Common Ground Recovery Ministry* which now meets at two locations – Atonement and Trinity Reading - offers hope and healing through a service that combines worship and the tenets of the 12-step program for all who are broken. (And who isn't?)

We will begin the evening at 6:30 pm with a “dinner” of heavy appetizers sponsored by Thrivent, followed by worship and presentations about these special ministries. **We are asking congregations to take special offerings prior to the Assembly to help support these ministries.** We will gather the offerings that night.

Representatives from Thrivent will be there to share information on how to apply for Action Team funding to help support your congregation's ministries.

The “Order of Business” will include: a recommendation from the task-force on developing a grant program and hiring a part-time staff person; and review/adoption of the 2017 WBMD budget.

All are welcome. Please join us!



## 2016 CROP Walk a great success!

On Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> nearly 400 people walked at Gring's Mill in the annual Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk. The sun came out just as the Walk was starting and it was a beautiful day! This was our 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk and we exceeded the MILLION DOLLAR mark for money raised over the years! WOW! We have already collected over \$30,000 for this year's Walk 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 who participated** - the recruiters, the walkers, the sponsors, and the planning team – for **helping to fight hunger one step at a time!**

This year's awards went to:

***Funky Flip Flop Award*** for the most youth walking - Bern Reformed UCC with 15 youth

***Golden Sneakers Award*** for most walkers - West Lawn United Methodist with 45 walkers

***Benevolent Bling Award*** for most money raised – Bausman Memorial UCC raised over \$5,000!

**GREAT JOB!!! Congratulations!!!**

**West Berks Mission District**

**TableTalk**

**First Course: Matthew 101**

Our first **TableTalk** event, held at the McGlenn Conference Center on October 12, was attended by nearly 50 people. We heard from Biblical scholar, Dr. Audrey West, about the “who, what, where, why and when” of the Gospel of Matthew. She helped us understand the back-story, the culture of that time and the historical perspective from which the book was written. It was a very interesting evening and the conversation will continue on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Advent Lutheran Church, beginning with a meal at 6:30 pm. Come join the **TableTalk!**

### **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**

Nov. 3 WBMD Fall Assembly Event at Advent

**Mark your calendars now for these 2017 events!**

Jan. 24 WBMD Council

Feb. 17-18 WBMD Annual Youth Event

March 12 Bowl-a-thon at Berks Lanes

April 5 Lenten Prayer Breakfast