



Philadelphia  
Lutheran  
Ministries

# Proclaiming Liberty in Christ in the City

NEWSLETTER | TRINITY 2018

## Your Labor is Not In Vain In Memoriam: Donald Frueh

by Rev Robert Kieselowsky  
Executive Director



As I reflect upon the life of Don Frueh, a longtime board member of Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries, I cannot help but think of the words of St. Paul: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Phil. 1:3-5).

Don had been a part of PLM as an organization from its earliest days in the late 1990s, and although a partnership with the gospel can take many different forms, Don seemed to encapsulate them all.

When Don passed away in March, I had the great honor of serving at his funeral and committal, days before the start of Holy Week. Don, always organized, had chosen hymns and Scripture to be included in his funeral, and he proved to be encouraging of our work in Philadelphia to the very end by choosing I Corinthians 15:54-58, which concludes, "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord *your labor is not in vain.*" With these words echoing in my ears, we committed Don to the ground on a hill overlooking Philadelphia, where he will rest until Christ's return.

Don Frueh lived according to his confirmation verse: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (II Tim. 4:7). He worked tirelessly and strove to

encourage others in the race. Throughout his life, he reflected his faith in Christ's work on our behalf by supporting pastors as they proclaimed the gospel to sinners.

Don was a native of the Philadelphia area, so he understood the true need for the gospel in the city. He was unfailingly gracious in his financial support of the work and in the time he invested, serving as chairman of the board over the years and overseeing a number of labor intensive projects. Even more, he personally invested himself emotionally to the end goal of proclamation of liberty in Christ.



Don Frueh addresses the PLM Board of Directors

He encouraged pastors to be busy about Christ's work, carrying His atoning message to sinners. The same grace he received from our Lord he showed to pastors as they proclaimed Christ's Word in an area underserved by the LC-MS.

Don's wife Wilma kindly let us borrow Don for all sorts of things. He would meet me in coffee shops to talk things over, to such an extent that Wilma called Starbucks his other office. She and Don had already made plans to watch the Concordia St. Louis Seminary vicarage placement service, excitedly anticipating the next vicar that would assist us in Philadelphia. Being able to host vicars and see future pastors being formed was a special joy to him.



We share the same confidence Don held, that "he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6). On that day of Jesus Christ, we will be reunited in the resurrection with our brother and friend.

## Casting Nets

by Vicar Joe Schlie



The first sermon that I ever preached during my time as Vicar for Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries was on Luke 5:1-11. The text reads, “[Jesus] said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.’ And Simon answered, ‘Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.’ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking.”

Jesus’ words to Peter stand at the heart of the mission and work of PLM. He commanded Peter to do two things. First, he is to put his boat out into the deep. The Church is to go out into all the world. It is to be among all people wherever they may live. Our nation’s cities are not to be neglected. Second, Peter is to let down his nets for a catch. From the Church, the nets of the gospel go forth through the preaching of the word and the administration of the sacraments to bring all who are called safely into God’s kingdom. It is not enough for Peter to put his boat out into the deep. He must also cast the nets. The gospel must be proclaimed in the city.

This task of bringing in a catch is not easy; we cannot accomplish it on our own. Peter’s response to Jesus encapsulates the fear and stress of many working in the mission field: “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing.” We as individuals are not capable of converting anyone to the faith. This is the work of the Holy Spirit, who, as Luther put it in the Small Catechism “calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it in the one true faith.” All Peter can do is trust in the word of Jesus, that the gospel will not return void but accomplish the purpose for which it was sent. At Jesus’ bidding the Church goes into the deep of the world and proclaims the good news. No matter how foolish or impractical it may seem, through the proclamation of the gospel the nets are filled.

I am very grateful for my time in Philadelphia and the opportunities given to me by Pastor Kieselowsky to preach God’s word. It seems only fitting that Luke 5:1-11 will also be the text for my last sermon as my time in the city comes to a close. Please continue to pray for the work being done in Philadelphia, that the nets of God’ word may bring many safely into the boat, the church.

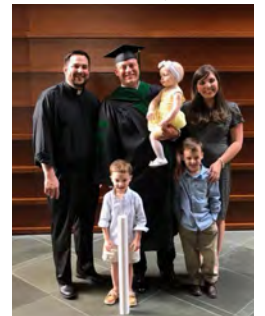
## Godspeed to Graduates

This summer, we wish Vicar and Kristen Schlie godspeed and farewell as they move back to Indiana so that Vicar can finish his final year of his seminary training. It has been a joy to serve with them both and to have them as a part of our work in Philadelphia.

Pastor Kieselowsky enjoys very much his ministry to students who come to the area to study at local universities. He had the joy of attending the graduation ceremony of a parishioner, Tyler Walker, from medical school and rejoices with those who are beginning new chapters in their lives.



Vicar and Kristen Schlie (above) at her graduation from Villanova University in May.



Pastor Kieselowsky with Dr. Tyler Walker and his family (above) at Tyler's graduation from Jefferson Medical School.

## Welcome, Vicar Einertson

At the same time graduates prepare to leave the city, Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries welcomes another year-long vicar, **Christian Einertson**, who studies at **Concordia Seminary, St. Louis**. He is a native of Marietta, Georgia and has degrees in Modern Foreign Languages and Music-Voice with Sacred Music Emphasis from Augustana University (Sioux Falls, SD).



Vicar Einertson accepts his vicarage placement paperwork in April at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

An avid traveler and student of languages and cultures, he has been blessed to study in a number of countries. During his travels, he has enjoyed getting to know some of the churches in fellowship with the LCMS in other countries, and he is

passionate about the spread of the gospel and the promotion of sound Lutheran doctrine throughout the world.

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## Your Labor is Not in Vain

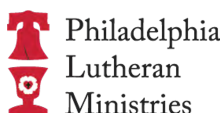
It is a privilege to be involved in Christ's work in the city. All of the projects highlighted in this newsletter happen through prayer and Christ's people giving in response to His goodness. **So thank you to all who give to Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries.** Together we labor, doing Christ's work in Philadelphia.



*Pastor Kieselowsky and his family (right) after Easter service at Logos Lutheran*



*On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrated the confirmation of Timothy (left), a gentleman who has been faithfully attending Logos for a year, regardless of a number of challenges he has faced.*



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*Thank you for your continued support!*

**Please Pray For . . .**

- **Vicar Joe Schlie and his wife Kristen** as they return to Concordia Seminary, Ft Wayne
- **Pastor Kieselowsky and his family**
- **Marriage** of a young couple who have been attending Logos Lutheran
- **Vicar Christian Einertson** as he moves to Philadelphia

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