

## Fighting for Rural Health Care

By Rep. Joe Emrick

**BANGOR** - In pursuit of a #HealthierPA for all, the House recently approved landmark legislation to help rural hospitals continue providing quality care to their patients.

The Pennsylvania Rural Health Redesign Center Authority, now Act 108 of 2019, will help expand upon a successful pilot program that has provided participating hospitals with more stability and predictability in their reimbursements and operating budgets. It allows rural hospitals to transition from fee-for-service to set monthly budget payments, making it easier to plan to meet financial obligations and keep their doors open.

Another challenge facing rural hospitals is unpredictable delays in the credentialing of health care providers. Credentialing is done by insurance companies to determine if the provider is eligible for reimbursement for services.

Under current law, hospitals, physician practices and community health centers are losing money, and access to care is being limited because they are sidelined by a credentialing process that can take up to six months. House Bill 533, now pending action in the Senate, will limit the process to no longer than 60 days.

## Get Your Flu Vaccine Today

By Department of Health

**HARRISBURG** - With more than 2,600 laboratory-confirmed cases of flu statewide, the Department of Health is urging residents who have not already gotten a flu vaccine to do so.

Guidelines recommend everyone 6 months of age and older should get the vaccine each season. It takes about two weeks for the antibodies from the vaccine to develop protection against infection.

Influenza is a contagious disease, caused by the influenza virus. It attacks the nose, throat and lungs and may include the following symptoms: fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion and body aches.

To further prevent the spread of flu, Pennsylvanians are also encouraged to practice healthy habits such as covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, frequently washing your hands during flu season, and remembering to disinfect commonly touched objects such as door knobs, light switches, countertops, cell phones and computers.

If you do become sick with the flu, it is important to stay home and rest. If you are at risk for developing serious complications from the flu, or feel extremely ill, you should see a medical professional immediately.

## Unity Bank

Continued from page 1

Pantry of Clinton from Clinton Branch; Readington Area Starfish from Whitehouse Branch; St. Paul Food Pantry of Ramsey from the Ramsey Branch; Samaritan Homeless Interim Program of Somerville from Somerville Branch; Sacred Heart Social Concerns Ministry in South Plainfield from South Plainfield Branch; Alliance Center for Independence Food Pantry in Edison from Edison Branch; Union Food Pantry from Union Branch; Helping Hands Food Pantry of Hillsdale from Emerson Branch; Washington Community Food Pantry from Unity's Washington Branch; Northampton Community College's HOPE Food Pantry from the Bethlehem, Pennsylvania Branch; and Salvation Army Easton Corps Community Center from Forks Township, Pennsylvania Branch.

## SLATE BELT MEN'S QUOIT LEAGUE

December 12, 2019

Pen Argyl Legion 34 Rescue Fire Co. 22 – Kraig Kuster 13-1, Steve Pfeiffer 9-5, John Albanese 9-5, Ben Rea 8-2 Bangor Jax 40 Roseto Legion 16 – Eric D'imperio 12-2, Ron Andrews 11-3, Rob Tiburzi 11-3 Oxford Fire Co. 31 Liberty Fire Co. 25 – Bob Winter 1 2 - 2 , Ken Hagan 10-4, Tim Steele 10-4; Evan Senay 12-2, Ryan Dentith 9-5 Hillside Rod & Gun Club 34 Second Ward Fire Co. 22 – Dave Flick, Jr. 11-3, Nate Flick 9-5, Don Ascani 9-5; Dan Lucas 9-5 East Bangor Fire Co. 37 Columbia Fire Co. 19 – John Pene 12-2, Rich Pohl 11-3; Brian Palmer 8-6 O'Neill's Place 33 Roseto Rod & Gun Club 23 – Paul Freeby 10-4, Gerald Kinnaman 9-5, Leonard Thomas, Sr. 9-5.; Zack Clark 8-6 Bangor Elks 32 Bangor VFW 24 – Ryan Kreider 11-3, Jody Zengulis 9-5, Wayne Hill 9-5, Jerry Bubba 9-5; Ryan Comunale 9-5, Jeff LaBar 9-5

### 2019-2020 SBMQL SECOND HALF STANDINGS

Division 1 – Hillside Rod & Gun Club 1-0, Bangor Elks 1-0, O'Neill's Place 1-0, Oxford Fire Co. 1-0, East Bangor Fire Co. 1-0, Pen Argyl Legion 1-0, Bangor VFW 0-1

Division 2 - Bangor Jax 1-0, Columbia Fire Co. 0-1, Second Ward Fire Co. 0-1, Liberty Fire Co. 0-1, Roseto Rod & Gun Club 0-1, Rescue Fire Co. 0-1, Rescue Legion 0-1



**January 6**

Portland Fire Co  
Starts 7pm

**January 7**

Bushkill Twp Fire Co  
Doors 5pm  
Starts 7pm

**January 3**

Wind Gap Fire Co  
Doors 5pm; Starts  
6:45pm

**January 4**

Immaculate  
Conception  
Doors 11am;  
Starts 1pm

**January 5**

St. Elizabeth Church  
Starts 1pm

**January 2**

Kunkletown Fire Co  
Progressive  
Jackpot - 7pm

## MT. BETHEL ABSTRACT

A FULL SERVICE TITLE INSURANCE AGENCY

3013 N. Delaware Dr., Mt. Bethel, PA. 18343

SEARCHES

REAL ESTATE

CLOSINGS

SETTLEMENTS

TITLE INSURANCE

NOTARY PUBLIC

PHONE

570-897-9047

FAX

570-897-9048

TOLL FREE

888-325-2433

[www.mountbethelabstract.com](http://www.mountbethelabstract.com)

## Now Hiring School Bus Drivers Bangor Area School District



STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA®

Experienced or Interested (Free Training)

20-30 hours per week  
(AM and PM Routes)

Competitive Wages

Must pass all clearances and background checks

STA is an Equal Opportunity Employer

800 S. Main Street  
Bangor, PA 18013

(610) 588-3590

**NOTICE**

**ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE EMAILED ONLY TO BVTIMES@RCN.COM BY FRIDAYS NOON**

10:45am Worship; Wed- 7pm Prayer/Bible Study. Rev. Jay VanHorn, Pastor (610) 588-3966, www.crossroadbaptistbangor.org

**The Lady's Guild of Our Lady of Victory R.C. Church,** Tannersville will hold a Chicken Cordon Blue Dinner on April 28th. We would appreciate your help in advertising this year's event without cost to the church.

**The East Bangor United Methodist Community Church**

Sat., Jan. 4 -8:00 p.m. AA Meeting Sun., Jan. 5 -8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal -9:15 a.m. Worship Service w/Children's Church -4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Free Dinner Tue., Jan. 7 -7:00 p.m. Bible Study Pastor Dave Goss (610) 588-4453 Dial-A-Message (610) 588-3896 www.ebumc.org

**Faith Alive Community Church 10 Mechanic St, Wind Gap**

Tues- 6pm Ladies Prayer Meeting (2nd Tues); Wed- 6:30pm Revival Prayer, 7:15pm Adult Bible Study; Sat- 10-2pm Prayer Stop (1st Sat); Sun- 9:15am Family Fellowship, 9:30am Intercessory Prayer, 10am Worship, 10:45am Children's Church, Communion at 10:30am (1st Sun). Pastor Matthew Whistler. (610) 863-6911, www.faccpa.org

**Faith United Presbyterian Penna & Heller Aves., Pen Argyl**  
Sun.- 9am Choir, 10am Worship/Communion/Food Bank/Church School. (610) 836-4447

**Family Life Community Church 1115 Richmond Rd, Bangor**

Wed- Kidz Night Out at The Hub 6:30-8pm (kids 6 thru 6th gr.); Thurs- Teen Night Out at The Hub 6:30-8pm (gr. 7-9); Sun- 10am Celebration Service. Pastor Mike Poppa. 610-588-3736, www.flccbangor.com.

**First United Evangelical 25 S 2nd St., Bangor**

Sun. - 7pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study; Jan 20- 9am Prayer Meeting, 9:30am Church School, 10:30am Worship. Pastor Ronald Shipman at (610) 588-3226

**First United Methodist Church 55 N. Third St., Bangor**

Worship every Sunday at 11am, Adult and Children Sunday Schools 9:45am, Communion first Sunday of month, Wednesday evening Bible Study 6:30pm. Pastor Chris Hardy (610) 588-4673.

**First United Methodist 19 West & Water St., Wind Gap**

Sun.- 9am SS, 10am Worship/Communion, 11am Fellowship on 1st Sunday of each month. Pastor John Vidal (570) 426-0645

**Flicksville United Church of Christ 1337 Lower South Main Street Bangor, PA 18013 Pastor Ken Hess**

610-588-4648  
www.flicksvilleucc.com  
Sunday School at 9:30 AM  
Worship at 10:45 AM  
All are welcome!

**God's Missionary Church of Northampton 4965 Nor. Bath Blvd (Rt 329), Northampton, PA**

Sun- SS 9:30am, Service 10:30 & 7pm, Youth Service 6:30pm; Wed- Prayer Meeting 7:30pm. Rev. Rodney Keister. (610) 262-4412. http://GMC-N.com

**Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church,**

**2904 Church Rd, Martins Creek PA**  
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 am. Adult Bible Study Following Worship. Pastor Louise Williams. www.goodshepherdmc.com

**Grace Lutheran Church 5907 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth**

Tue. - 6:30pm Choir; Jan 20- 9am Service/Communion, 10:15am SS, 10:30am Confirmation/Adult Forum. (610) 759-9080, www.gracebelfast.org

**Grace United Methodist 404 Mountain Ave., Pen Argyl**

Sun.- 8:30am Contemporary, 10am Blended, 10am SS. Rev. J. Timothy Fisher. (610) 863-4811. www.worshipat-grace.org

**Holy Trinity Orthodox Church 1501 Trinity Court, Stroudsburg**

Divine Liturgy Sundays 9:30 AM; Vespers Saturday 6:30 PM. (570) 421-4455, www.holytrinitypoconos.org.

**Hopesprings Community of Faith 301 Market Street, Bangor**

Sun-Services 10am. Jonathan Almanzar, Lead Pastor. 855-INFO-HOPE. www.hopespringscommunity.org.

**Hope UCC**

**2nd & Cherry St., Wind Gap**

Sun- 10:30am Worship (Communion 1st Sunday of the month). All are welcome! SS 9:30 Sunday Morning. Pastor Emily B. Hall. (610) 863-4474

**Living Waters Christian Church**

**396 Sterling Rd. Unit D, Tobyhanna**  
Thurs- 6pm Christian Edu Sun- 9:15am Christian Edu, 10:30am Worship. Rev. Dr. Jacqueline R. Walters 570-350-4710

**Mt. Bethel Church**

**A Church of the Lutheran Brethren 1270 Belvidere Cr. Rd, Mt. Bethel**  
Sun.- 8:30am Traditional Service , 11am Contemporary Service Visit our website www.mountbethelchurch.org or call (570) 897-7142 for info.

**Our Lady of Good Counsel**

436 South 2nd Street Bangor, PA 18013 Rectory (610) 588-5445 Parish Website: www.ourladystvincent.com Mass Schedule Weekdays 8AM excluding Thursdays (See Church Website)

Saturday 4 PM Sunday 8:30 AM  
Holy Days (See Church Website)  
Saturday Confessions 3:25-3:45 PM

**Our Lady of Victory R.C. Church,** Tannersville, PA will hold a Free Community Dinner on Sunday, July 21st from 3pm to 4pm. They would appreciate your assistance in advertising this dinner without cost to the Church.

**Portland Baptist Church**

**601 Delaware Ave., Portland**  
Sun- Sunday School 9am, Service 10:30am; Wed- Bible Study 10:30 with Prayer Meeting to follow. Elevator and ramps We are handicap accessible with automatic doors, elevator and restroom. (570) 897-6866 www.portlandbaptistchurch.com

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2445 Lake Minsi Dr., Bangor**

Saturday Worship: 1st & 3rd 5:30 pm. Sunday School starts at 8:30am (September-May ) Sunday Service- 9:45am Holy Communion is served weekly. All are welcome!

**Christ Presbyterian Church of the Slate Belt**

332 Kennedy Dr., Bangor  
Sun.-Worship 10:30 a.m. Rev Albert Martin (610)588-4864  
e mail - presbyterianbr@frontiernet.net  
www.facebook.com/Presbyterybr

**Richmond United Methodist Church 8538 Delaware Dr, Bangor**

Sun.- Service 10am; 4th Sunday Fellowship Hour; Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 4pm and 7pm. Pastor Ed Van Arsdale. (610) 588-7317

**The Roseto Independent Presbyterian Church**

**210 Garibaldi Ave, Roseto**  
Sunday Worship Services 9:15am Greeting/Welcoming, 9:30am Service. All Welcome. Rev. Barry Eng. (610) 599-9949, www.RIPC-OnlineToday.org.

**Slate Belt - Nazareth Baptist 1620 Church Rd, Pen Argyl**

Sun.- 9:30am SS, 10:30am Worship & Children's Church (nursery provided), 5:30pm Bible Study. Pastor Scott J. Davis. (570) 664-4603.

**St. Brigid's Episcopal Church, Nazareth.**

Delete Sunday school  
Holy Eucharist @ 9:30 a.m.  
St. Brigid's Episcopal Church  
310 Madison Avenue  
Nazareth, PA 18064  
Phone: 610-746-3910  
Fax: 610-746-4515

**St. Elizabeth's Parish**

**300 West Babbitt Ave., Pen Argyl**  
Sun.- Masses 8am, 9:30am & 11am. Rev. Msgr. Vincent P. York. 610-863-4777

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran 12 N. Westbrook, Pen Argyl**

Sun.- 8:45am SS, 10am Worship/Holy Communion. (610) 863-4332

**St. Joseph's Episcopal**

**1440 Verona Dr., W. Bangor**  
Jan 20- Eucharist 11am; Christmas Eve Service 4pm. Rev Joel Atkinson. Coffee hour after service.

**St. Luke's U.C.C. Belfast**

**471 Belfast Rd., Nazareth (Belfast)**  
SS 9am, Worship 10:30am. Rev. Cecelia Baxter and Rev. Jameson Baxter. 610-759-0244. www.stlukesuccbelfast.com

**St. Mary's Episcopal 340 Lehigh St., Wind Gap**

Sun.- service 9am. Coffee hour follows service. Rev. Joel Atkinson. Maundy Thursday Service will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Wind Gap at 5:30 P.M. Easter Morning Service will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Wind Gap at 9:00 a.m.

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran 1422 Church Rd, Pen Argyl**

Sun.- Bible Study 11am, Praise Band 7pm; Jan 19- Youth Choir 6pm, Adult Choir 7:30pm; Jan 20- Services 8am and 10:15am, 9am SS. (610) 863-6859

**St. Vincent dePaul**

720 Delaware Avenue  
Portland, PA 18351  
Rectory (610) 588-5445  
Mass Schedule Weekdays (at OLCG)  
Saturday 6 PM Sunday 10:30 AM  
Holy Days (See Church Website)  
Saturday Confessions 5:40-5:50 PM

**The Pentecostal Christian Church the Truth**

**(Iglesia Pentecostal La Verdad) 4 Jory Ave Pen Argyl**  
Sun.- Prayer 14- Sunday School (Escuela Dominical) 12 noon, Praise & Worrrship (Cuho Evangelistico) 1pm.

**Temple Israel of the Poconos Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue 660 Wallace Street, Stroudsburg**

Sabbath Services: Friday evening 7pm followed by a Traditional Oneg Shabbat. Saturday morning 9:30am followed by a traditional Kiddush. Dr. Sandra Alfonsi 570-223-7062.

**Trinity United Church of Christ**

632 S Delaware Dr.  
Mt Bethel Pa 18343  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am SS and Confirmation 9:00 am Rev. Rodney Wells pastor

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran 404 Broadway, Bangor**

Thur - Christian Ed 6:30pm, Choir 7:30pm; Jan 20- SS 9am, Worship/Communion 10am. Pastor Laine. (610) 588-2023, www.tlcbangor.com.

**Zion Presbyterian Church Water St., Wind Gap**

Sun.- Rev. Albert Martin will be speaking at the 9:30am service. Children SS during the service. Visitors welcome. (610) 863-8896.

**Ackermanville United Methodist 1410 Ackermanville Road, Bangor**  
Sun 10am Worship. Rev. Sukja Bang (610) 588-7818, www.ackermanvilleumc.org

**Bangor Church of the Nazarene 150 Bunny Trail, Bangor**  
Sun 9:30am SS, 10:40am Worship (Children's Church to grade 2), 5pm Powerhouse Praise Practice, 6pm Teen Straight Talk & Small Groups. Kenneth L. Bean, Pastor (610) 588-6929

**Belfast Bible 483 Belfast Rd., Belfast**

Sunday School (all ages) 9:30am, Worship 10:45am, Evening Service 7pm. Pastor Michael Yaworski.

**Belfast Wesley United Methodist 607 School St., Belfast**

Children's SS & Adult SS 9am, Worship 10am, coffee fellowship following worship. Pastor Paul Milligan. (610) 746-3652.

**Benders Mennonite Church 975 Benders Church Rd., Pen Argyl**

Sun Worship service every Sunday at 10:10am; Food Bank 3rd Saturday of the month 9-11am. 610-863-9114.

**Bethel Bible Church of Mt. Zion 7742 N. Delaware Dr. (Rt. 611), Martins Creek**

Free Bread Every Saturday, 3eryone welcome, questions 908-483-8231; Sunday School 9am, Sunday Morning Worship 10am. Pastor Rick Tunis, 610-250-9890. Learn about us online www.bethelbiblechurchofmtzion.org.

**Christ Ev. Lutheran Church 703 South Delaware Drive Mt Bethel, PA 18343**

610-588-7056  
The Rev. Larry Laine  
Worship at 9 AM  
Sunday School 10 AM

**Clearfield Bible Holiness Church 1502 Bushkill Ctr Rd, Wind Gap**

Sun- SS 10:15am, Worship 11:15am & 3pm. Pastor Donald Herrick. (812) 653-3975.

**Community Baptist Weona Park Center, Pen Argyl**

Sun - Bible study 7pm. Separate class for age 10 & under.

**Community Presbyterian 1755 S Delaware Drive, Mt. Bethel**

Sun. - SS 9:15am, Worship service 10:30am, Coffee hour on last sunday of every month following service. www.mtbethelpresbyterian.org, (570) 897-6766.

**Cross Road Baptist Church 201 Second St., Bangor**

Sun- 9:15am Praise Sing, 9:30am SS,