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State Senators Announce Inaugural Safe2Say Something Week in Pa.

By Gary Miller

HARRISBURG – September 23, 2019 – The Pennsylvania State Senate unanimously supported a resolution from state Senators Pat Browne (R-Lehigh), Vincent Hughes (D-Philadelphia/Montgomery) and Scott Martin (R-Lancaster) designating September 23-29 as "Safe2Say Something Week" in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The resolution is to recognize the Safe2Say Something (S2SS) program and the impact it is having in its early stages to help improve safety in Pennsylvania's schools. The S2SS program was established by Act 44 of 2018 as a resource for anonymous threat reporting for unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent or criminal activities in schools or to individuals.

"Recognizing that students, parents and teachers are often the first to notice when something is not right or to hear about a potential threat, the Safe2Say Something program was developed to provide those individuals with an anonymous, safe and secure way to report potential threats, erratic behavior, bullying or a number of other safety concerns," Senator Browne said. "There is no question that this program is contributing to a safer school environment. The success of Safe2Say lies in a caller's trust that they will remain anonymous and that their tip will be taken seriously and acted upon swiftly.

"I am pleased to have worked with Senator's Hughes and Martin as well as Attorney General Shapiro to develop this essential program and to celebrate the inaugural Safe2Say Something week in Pennsylvania."

More than 23,000 reports were made between January 14, 2019 and June 30, 2019, many of which regarded bullying, self-harm suicide ideation and mental health issues, according to the Safe2Say Something inaugural report. Approximately 864,333 Pennsylvania students have been trained on the threat-reporting program, which is administered by the Office of the Attorney General, since it went live earlier this year.

"The Safe2Say Something Program is saving lives and we are proud to have this important resource in Pennsylvania," Sen. Hughes said. "We have seen a tremendous impact in the early stages of the program, which shows students and school communities have embraced taking an active role in the safety process. I am thankful for the bipartisan support of this important safety mechanism and look forward to working with my colleagues in the legislature to enact more policy initiatives that improve safety in our schools and communities."

The Safe2Say Something program is modeled after Colorado's Safe2Tell Program, created in 1999 following the Columbine tragedy. Pennsylvania is now considered a national model with this anonymous tip-line and it has demonstrated in a short time that it serves a vital need in our schools.

"It is extremely encouraging that Safe2Say Something is working exactly as intended, creating an extra layer of protection for students and school personnel," Senator Martin said. "Keeping our schools safe requires every member of the community to remain vigilant of potential threats to the wellbeing of students, and I am thankful that so many people are using this program to communicate those concerns to the proper authorities."

The legislature passed a \$1 million funding increase to the S2SS operating budget as a part of the 2019-20 budget. The funding helps ensure S2SS has all the necessary resources to help protect our schools and communities across the commonwealth.

You can view the full report release by the Attorney General on August 1, 2019 at https://www. safe2saypa.org/.

CACLV

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advantage over those banks. Without citing any specific credit union, he did specify that the largest in the region rejected applications from people of color 3 to 4 times more than rejecting white applications. "That's a problem and we plan on helping them understand that in the year ahead," he said.

The theme of the program was "Together." Acknowledging that current conventional wisdom is that our nation is too divided, CACLV Board President Wayne Barz said, "People who benefit from division, will foment that division. I believe CACLV foments togetherness."

CACLV operates a wide range of programs designed to improve the quality of life for low-income people in the region. Those programs include the Second Harvest Food Bank, the Sixth Street Shelter, housing initiatives like homeownership counseling and foreclosure mitigation, rehab and new construction. The agency operates entrepreneurial programs that make loans and offer small business training. It also does extensive neighborhood revitalization work in downtown Allentown, south Bethlehem and the Slate Belt, ranging from façade improvements and creating pocket parks to planting trees and streetscaping. Only 32% of its budget comes from government funding, a proportion without equal among more than 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the nation.

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley

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

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 Praice 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, Wor-

ship 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 Evangelical Lutheran Church 703 S. Delaward Dr. (Rt 611), Mt. Bethel (Stone Church) Every Sunday- 9am Worship, Communion offered 1st & 3rd Sundays.

610-588-7056, www.celcpa.org

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

<u>CHURCH LISTINGS</u>

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 Thurs., Oct. 3 -1:00 p.m. Bazaar Workshop -6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Sat., Oct. 5 -8:00 p.m. A.A. Meeting Sun., Oct. 6 -8:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal -9:15 a.m. Worship Service w/Childen's Church -10:30 a.m. Adult Forum -4:00-5:30 p.m. FREE Dinner Tues., Oct. 8 -7:00 p.m. Bible Study Pastor David 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

BLUE VALLEY TIMES

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. Nursery care available at all services. Rev. J. Timothy Fisher. (610) 863-4811. www.worshipatgrace.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 every other Friday. 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 Webside: 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 rampsWe 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!

Presbyterian Parish of **Bangor-Roseto** 332 Kennedy Dr., Bangor Sun.- Worship 10:30am. Rev. Albert Martin. (610) 588-4864, email presbyteri anbr@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

OCTOBER 1, 2019 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. Frank Gassler. 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 OLGC) 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 & Worrship (Cuho Evanglistico) 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 Sunday Worship 9:30 am -- No SS --

Rev. Rodney W. Wells (610-588-1989) **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.