

Blue Valley Times

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Allentown Rescue Mission Invites Community Support to Those in Need



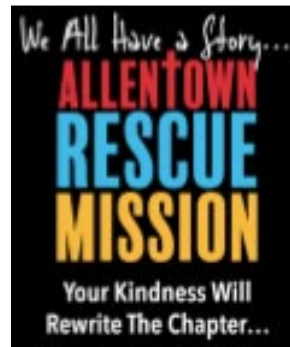
By Stefanie Appel

ALLENTOWN – The Allentown Rescue Mission is asking the community to help them bring Christmas joy to the homeless men in its shelter. Financial and in-kind donations will provide a family-like celebration complete with presents and holiday meals for the men in its care.

“After all they’ve been through, many of our guests find it hard to believe anyone cares enough to provide them with gifts of any kind,” said CEO, Stuart Smith. “We help them understand that our Christmas festivities are a demonstration of the gift of love God offers to every one of us through the birth of His Son.”

Individuals, churches and organizations who wish to donate material gifts for Allentown Rescue Mission guests can visit allentownrescuemission.org/needed-supplies for a list of items needed to ensure everyone who is living at the Mission during the holidays feels comfortable and loved. Financial donations towards the Allentown Rescue Mission’s special meals and holiday activities can be made on the site as well.

“The community’s extra compassion and generosity this time of year mean so much to those in our shelter who, before coming to the Mission, so often felt no one cared about them,” said Smith. “As we continue to welcome more homeless individuals through our doors, the support of friends and partners is deeply appreciated, not only for our special holiday activities, but also for year-round outreach.” Information on the Allentown Rescue Mission’s full range of programs and services can be found online at allentownrescuemission.org.



St. Luke’s Vaccinates 2,000 Health Care Workers

By Sam Kennedy

BETHLEHEM- With 5,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses safely tucked away at -70 degrees Farenheit, St. Luke’s University Health Network is working with urgency and diligence to vaccinate a monumental 2,000 health care workers through the weekend to prepare for an even larger shipment of vaccines next week. The FDA’s overnight approval of the Moderna vaccine has cleared the way for the 12-system health network to receive more doses for it’s 16,000+ health care workers.

“I received my shot on Thursday,” states St. Luke’s Senior Vice President of Medical & Academic Affairs, Jeffrey Jahre, MD. “It felt no different than any other vaccine, and I strongly encourage everyone who can to receive this vaccine. It will help end this pandemic.”

Employees at three of St. Luke’s hospitals – Anderson, Bethlehem and Sacred Heart – are receiving their vaccines over the weekend, with nurses administering 6 shots every 10 minutes. Nursing home employees and EMS personnel were also able to receive the vaccine at St. Luke’s this week.

St. Luke’s may be the largest supplier of the vaccine locally, as state officials credit the hospital network for its organization, logistical planning and efficiency.

“We have been working hand-in-hand with the Department of Health since this



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