

The Messenger

Called by God, we are Christian gathered and sent to serve our church, community and the world in the name of Christ.

A Message from Pastor Brenda

Dear Friends,

The month of May is upon us! How many of you realize that May is full of church festivals? While we usually think of this as graduation time or the start of summer with Memorial Day, there are plenty of things to celebrate within the church. Ascension of Jesus, which always falls on a Thursday, is 40 days after Easter Sunday. On this day we celebrate Christ ascending to God to reign over life and death. As you can imagine this was a scary day for the disciples. They were told not to gaze up to heaven and look for Jesus but to find his presence among the people. We too long for the advocate to comfort us and to send us out in mission.

The other major festival in the church is the Day of Pentecost which falls on May 23 this year. This is fifty days after Easter. Sometimes this is called the birthday of the church and we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Sundays and Seasons explain the Day of Pentecost as crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth.

These two festivals aren't within the secular culture like Christmas and Easter so sometimes they get less attention. That doesn't mean that they are unimportant. One of the questions is why is this important for us today? Well, as we are starting to reopen the church to more activities and we are getting closer to the 80% of people vaccinated against COVID 19, the council and committees are looking at what is our mission in the world? The questions about our priorities as a local church and the national church will also be coming up. What are we going to spend our time and our money on? A couple of local churches are undergoing staff changes as well. How can we partner with each other to maximize our work in the world? We already do this with Family Promise and Ruby's Pantry.

The annual meeting will look back at where we were in 2020 and will be the spring board to 2022. The annual report will be hitting your email inbox soon. We will have printed copies available at the meeting as well. Since I was only here for a month of 2020- if you have specific questions about the report, please let us know ahead of time so that we can research the answer for you. You can email/call the church office with those questions.

Pastor Brenda

Inside this issue

Vicar Andrew.....	2
Save the Date	2
Sponsorships	2
New Directory	3
Mothers Day	3
Bread	3
CWU Update.....	3
Birthdays	3
Chapter a Day.....	4

Special Point of Interest

- Congregational Meeting May 23rd
Rain Date June 6th
- New Congregational Directory Information
- LWR Mother's Day donations

Scan to financially support



A Message from Vicar Andrew

“Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!” is the refrain for the Easter season, one of joy and celebration. There is another element of this refrain that should be highlighted, that of remembrance. Consider how we put away the alleluia from our liturgy during the Lenten season and then, come Easter Sunday and after the 40 days of Lent, we *remember* the alleluia and our liturgy is stuffed with it. Consider, also, how near the end of Luke’s Gospel it states how, “When [Jesus] was at the table with [the disciples], he took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they *recognized* (or remembered) him” (Lk 24:30-31). In this resurrection appearance, these disciples recognize not only the one standing before them as Jesus (their friend and Lord), but they remembered this Jesus standing before them as the One who said he would die, be buried, and be raised again – the promise had become the reality, alleluia indeed!

Moreover, notice how Jesus’s actions in this appearance mirror his actions in instituting the Lord’s Supper in Luke 22: “Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in *remembrance* of me” (Lk 22:19). There is remembrance in much of our liturgy and much of our faith practice, because the reality is, we forget. However, when we come to worship together – in a community of faith that is established by the Spirit of God in the love of God we receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ – we remember what God has done, in the reality of bringing our own memories to the table.

There is significance in remembrance being attached to our weekly practice of communion at the Lord’s table. This significance is in the process of our coming to partake of the bread and the wine that are transformed into the body and blood of Christ, and we too are transformed in our continual becoming like Christ by the power of the Spirit. Remembrance is key because it is what allows us to bring ourselves, just as we are. We remember the good things in our lives, and the bad things, and we bring it to the table conjoining it with the remembrance of Christ’s body is that is given for us, and Christ’s blood that was shed for us.

As stated above, we do forget and often forget very important truths concerning our lives. There are certainly times when forgetting is a blessed practice, such as when the Lord forgives our iniquity, and *remembers* our sins no more (Jer. 31:34). Remembrance, however, is an important Christian practice that I would encourage you to exercise this Easter season. May we each have our eyes opened this season and *remember* the Lord.

Peace to you, Vicar Andrew

SAVE THE DATE

The congregational meeting will be May 23rd with a rain date of June 6th.

We will have an outdoor church service preceding the congregational meeting.

Please bring lawn chairs to sit on.

SPONSORSHIPS

Help needed:

There are plenty of open weekends for Altar Flowers, Sanctuary Candle, radio broadcasts and bulletins. If you would like to sponsor any of them, please call or email the office (or sign up on the kiosk).

Altar Flowers

May 2	Jack & Janice Popple
May 9	No Sponsorship
May 16	No Sponsorship
May 23	Dick & Mary Doeringsfeld
May 30	Jack & Janice Popple

Bulletins

May 2 Ken & Jessie Killian In Honor of Clara Killian 16th Birthday
Need sponsors May 9, 16, 23, and 30

Children’s Bulletins

Month of May Brooke & Joci Grinde-In Honor of
Taya & Waylyn Leix’s 4th Birthday

Sanctuary Lamp

May 2 Ken & Jessie Killian In Honor of Clara Killian 16th Birthday
Need sponsors May 9, 16, 23, and 30

Radio Broadcast

May 2	Kerwin & Melissa Killian
May 9	Kerwin & Melissa Killian
May 16	Jack & Janice Popple
Need Sponsors	May 23, 30

New Congregation Directory Contact Information

Please help us update your information by filling out the insert included this month and return it to the office by **May 7th**. The plan is to have a new phone directory at the congregational meeting on **May 23rd**.

Mother's Day Donations for LWR

LCW is wanting your help to honor mothers this month by donating items used to make Bab Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. If you are a garage sale/thrift store shopper, keep an eye out for bargains. Don't want to shop? Cash donations are welcome, and we will do the shopping for you. If you would like to make a gift in honor of someone special, enclose the flyer with your donation. Above all, shop only if you are comfortable doing so. **We want you to stay safe!**

Thanks for helping with the donations to honor our mothers on this Mother's Day!

Items in Baby Care Kits (New or gently used clothing or blankets is acceptable)

- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirt or onesies (up to size 24 months)
- 2 long-sleeve or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (up to size 24 months)
- 2 receiving blankets
- 4 cloth diapers (flat fold preferred) we can recycle your old t-shirts into diapers; this includes shirts with screen printing on them in any color.
- 2 diaper pins
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt (preferably with a hood)
- 2 pairs of baby socks
- 1 hand towel
- 2 bath size bars of soap, in original wrapper

Donations can be made anytime and dropped off at church.

On behalf of mothers everywhere, thank you.

Bread

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered and made the bread for the services.

- Dates are open after *May 16th* to volunteer.
- Please call the office at 608-348-3022 to volunteer. If you need a recipe, we can get one for you.

Church Women United Update

This message is for all of the women of your congregation.

Because of the pandemic, Church Women United has not met in the past year. We hope to celebrate our "May Friendship Luncheon" later this summer following public health guidelines. Tentative plans will likely include bringing a your own lunch, eating outside, social distancing, etc. You will receive more information in your church newsletter as we have more information.

It is necessary for each of our groups to discuss our ability to continue.

To keep going, we need to have one-two representative from each congregation to serve on the board to plan our celebrations. The board members have served many years and deserve a break from service, attendance has been low at our programs. Therefore, at our annual meeting in November, we will make a decision about the future of our Church Women United group.

Contact Joyce Miller, (608) 348-9904,

if you would be interested in serving on the board or have any questions.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Britton Leix	5/1
Dave Andersen	5/2
Pat Flynn	5/2
Megan Schlueter	5/3
Vincent Cummins	5/4
Jessamyn Jones	5/5
Grace Cummins	5/7
Cheryl Schober	5/7
Julie Walter	5/8
Bruna Pelucchi	5/9
Sofie Ramel	5/9
Judy Reddy	5/9
Adriano Ayres	5/10
Doug Hartz	5/12
Annette Hooks	5/12
Mary Johannesen	5/12
Jeremy Schober-	5/15
Jordan Schober-	
Lange	5/15
Darcy Tracy	5/15
Brooke Buch	5/17
Kerwin Kilian	5/17
Tucker Leix	5/17
Gloria Schumacher	5/17
Candy Flynn	5/20
Jessie Kilian	5/20
Karen Bausch	5/22
Nicholas Johannesen	5/22
Jan Mergen	5/22
Becky Schambow	5/22
DAVID WOLF	5/22
Scott Kramer	5/23
Angie Meylor	5/24
Brian Wagner	5/25
Sara Ayres	5/27
Dick Doeringsfeld	5/27
Dick Klinger	5/27
Kathy Udelhofen	5/28
Garrett Jones	5/29
Michael Kliebenstein	5/30
Jared Pick	5/30
Julia Wehnke	5/30
Caroline Grinde	5/31



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April 2021

Chapter A Day

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Luke 12	2 Luke 13	3 Luke 14	4 Luke 15	5 Luke 16	6 Joshua 1
7 Joshua 2	8 Joshua 3	9 Joshua 4	10 Joshua 5	11 Joshua 6	12 Joshua 7	13 Joshua 8
14 Joshua 9	15 Joshua 10	16 Joshua 11	17 Joshua 12	18 Joshua 13	19 Joshua 14	20 Joshua 15
21 Joshua 16	22 Joshua 17	23 Joshua 18	24 Joshua 19	25 Joshua 20	26 Joshua 21	27 Joshua 22
28 Joshua 23	29 Joshua 24	30 Luke 17				