



St. Luke Lutheran Church
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St. Luke Lutheran Church

Connect, Grow and Serve.

Parish Times *June 2022*



The Pastor's Perspective..... 

The Newness of the Spirit – Pastor Bristol Reading

We begin the month of June with the celebration of Pentecost, the culmination of our Easter season. Throughout the weeks of Easter, we have heard over and over again the promises of Jesus made real in the resurrection. Toward the end of his life on earth, Jesus repeatedly told his disciples that his death would take him somewhere that they could not follow, but that his presence would stay with them in a new way. “God will give you another Advocate to be with you forever,” Jesus said to his disciples. “The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.” (See John 14:8-27 to read more of that conversation.)

There’s an interesting tension to the way Jesus describes the Holy Spirit. On one hand, the Spirit is an advocate: a supportive, comforting presence. On the other hand, the Spirit is a teacher that will open the disciples up to new insights and fresh understandings. The Holy Spirit will provide Jesus followers with security *and* challenge.

Pentecost marks the day Jesus’ promise of the Holy Spirit comes true for the disciples. The gift of the Spirit is not subtle: it arrives like a rushing wind and sparking fire. The Spirit is not limited to one language but seems to speak to them all, even speaking to them all at once! (See Acts 2:1-21 to read that story.) Other people who witness the disciples receiving the Spirit aren’t even sure what they’re seeing. “What does this mean?” they ask. This is a new thing that will push them to understand God and one another in new ways. It may have been a comfort to know God’s presence was still with them, even after Jesus was gone, but keeping up with the Holy Spirit would still keep the early church on its toes!

We might experience God’s Spirit that way, too. When we try to understand what the Spirit is up to, sometimes we are left shaking our heads and wondering, “What does it mean?” But even when the Spirit’s lead leaves us nervous or confused, we can trust that the Spirit is our advocate, just as Jesus said. The Spirit is God’s presence still with us, just as Jesus was God’s embodied presence on earth. It’s here to support us and comfort us, even while teaching us new things.

Where is the Spirit leading you now? What is it teaching you? How is it supporting you? May we have the openness to receive the Spirit’s lessons and the courage to follow where it leads us next.

Here’s a prayer from Walter Brueggemann’s *Awed to Heaven, Rooted to Earth*:

We name you wind, power, force,
and then, imaginatively, “Third Person.”
We name you and you blow—
blow hard, blow cold, blow hot,
blow strong, blow gentle, blow new—
Blowing the world out of nothing to abundance,
blowing the church out of despair to new life...
blowing to make things new that never were.
So blow this day, wind,
blow here and there, power,
blow even us, force,
Rush us beyond ourselves,
Rush us beyond our hopes,
Rush us beyond our fears,
until we enact your newness in the world.
Come, come Spirit. Amen.

June Worship Assistants



Readers

5 Wendy Bjorklund
12 Christine Olson
19 Julie Gaarder
26 Kay Reich

Communion Assistants

5 Wendy Bjorklund
19 Julie Gaarder



LOAVES AND FISHES

Our heartfelt thanks to our May Loaves and Fishes volunteers: Christine Olson, Bev Gause, Claudia Melbye, David Tews and Larry Litzkow.

June Ushers

In Person:

First and Second Sundays: Judy Salaba
Third and Fourth Sundays: Mary Jo Brandt, Carol Vigdal

Online:

First Sunday: David Tews
Second Sunday: Sue McNeill
Third Sunday: Raulie Ruiz
Fourth Sunday: David Nedrelow

BUN RUN



Many thanks to our Bun Run volunteers for June: Larry and Junella Litzkow, Julie Ellingson, Mike and Nancy Hegdahl, Volker Landenberger.



June Birthdays

2 Lynda Mathison
3 Arlene Drier
8 Phroah Mathis
10 Andrew Stadem
11 Marie Elfritz
16 Evan Nelson
18 David Tews, Alex Grzywinski
21 Pastor Dave Person
22 George Heriot, Diane Nelson
24 Christine Olson
25 Jenifer Drier, Carter Alcenot
30 Karl and Charles Gaarder



June Anniversaries

8 Roger and Dianne Diestler: 1963
15 Jane and Ken McGrew: 1991
23 Patricia and Mark Stadem: 1990

We need volunteers for the Farmers Market at St. Luke, Saturdays, June 11 through Oct. 1. You may work a **single shift**: 730am to 1030am OR 1030am to 130pm, OR a **double shift**: 730am to 130pm. Most of the work is in the first and last half hour--just setting up tables and signs, etc.--the rest of the time you mostly sit and greet the shoppers, bask in the morning sun and take in the wonderful sights, sounds and aromas of our small but lively, thriving market! The open dates are:

7/16, 7/23, 7/30

8/13, 8/20, 8/27

9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24

10/1

If you are willing and able to help on a Saturday--or two or three!--please let Wendy Bjorklund know asap at

wlbjorklund@stcloudstate.edu. We really

hope to get the July dates filled first!

THANKS IN ADVANCE for your support! We can't do this without you!



A big thank you to our offering counters for the month of June:



June 5 Katy Eggert
June 12 Wendy Bjorklund
June 19 Julie Gaarder
June 26 Sue McNeill



Mark your calendars and join us at 6:00 pm on the last Wednesday in June, July, and August (6/29, 7/27, 8/31) for an outdoor summer worship service. Details to follow!

Join us for Book Club on Sunday, June 5, 6:30pm via Zoom to discuss "All The Light We Cannot See": "From Anthony Doerr, a highly acclaimed, multiple award-winning author, comes the beautiful, stunningly ambitious New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize." The Zoom invite will be emailed to you a few days before the meeting. All are welcome!



All are invited to Game Day at St. Luke, the first and third Fridays of the month, June 3 and 17, at 12:30pm. Bring a snack to share and your favorite game and settle down to an afternoon of fun...join us!



Notes from the Music Director

It's the end of the choral season and I want to give a really, really big **THANK YOU** to the choirs! Your work and dedication were, as always, tremendous. I appreciate all of you for your talents, effort, time and all the fun we had. I look forward to next year and am excited to use the summer to plan and write for it!

With summer rolling around, it's a great time to change up the service and have some fun. Starting on June 19th, we'll be using Setting III in the hymnal. Many of you will recognize it as one of the settings from the LBW (previous hymnal). On non-communion Sundays, we'll continue using the Service of the Word.

Also this summer, Instead of a prelude before service, we're going to "Hymnsing Backwards Through the Hymnal!" Starting at 9:20 am we will sing through the hymnal and close with a hymn request at 9:28am. By doing it every Sunday, it'll be easy for everyone to join as often as they want! If we sing a hymn you really like, or would like to sing again, I'll have my Music Note Box in the Fellowship Hall with slips of paper for anyone to jot down that hymn number and drop it in the box. I am looking forward to singing with you this summer!

-Rebecca Ruiz



Greetings!

Can you believe it is already June? The Farmers Market will be starting soon, June 11. And Pastor Bristol will have been with us for six months. We will be having new member Sunday with many new members joining us. As I have said before, this year the council has been working on refreshing and renewing our logo, our tri-fold brochures, visitor packets, and updating our technology. I just wanted to call your attention to the new logo that the council will be rolling out. We have business cards, letterhead, and envelopes with the following logo:



The steeple of our church and the green hue of our roof have been incorporated into our logo. Please be sure to thank David Tews for all his expertise in designing and getting this printed for us. We have such talented people in our congregation, staff, and on our council; I feel I cannot say thank you enough.

I would also like to thank those that have served, and still serve, our country during this Memorial weekend.

Blessings,
Nancy Hegdahl



Ah, warm weather at last! Many thanks to **Christine Olson**, our devoted resident expert gardener at St. Luke, for our lovely garden that blooms all spring, summer and fall!