

My Sisters and Brothers of the Risen Christ,

During the month of May we continue to celebrate the season of Easter. Yes, we will hear Easter hymns of victory over death and joy and hope and love. But then such good news is often included in the hymns we sing. May includes Mother's Day which we celebrate as we offer tea and donuts at 9:30 am to celebrate all the women who have nurtured us throughout our lives. The youth are planning a drama as the sermon message and will be worship leaders during our worship service. We only have one more confirmation class this year. We are finally welcoming spring. Did you notice that blossoms suddenly appeared after two warm days!! Finally!

May 20 is the day of Pentecost. None of our students are ready to be confirmed this year, but I encourage everyone to wear red to celebrate the birthday of our church.

May is also the month for primary elections. We'll be glad when the ads end (for a few months). I would like to ask each and every candidate and each and every voter, "*How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?*" [1 John 3:17] this question often helps me filter issues of compassion and justice in our nation and throughout the world. Many candidates "talk the talk" but their voting records do not show support for causes they talk about.

We live in a nation that promotes democracy and strives to abide by the U.S. Constitution. That is reassuring as I hear of civil strife throughout the world. But any man made institution has limits, the church on earth, congregations in Zelenople, and our state and federal government. Even congregations who proclaim Christ's victory over death and forgiveness of sins struggle to be in the world but not of the world. The question for us Christians is always "*Who is my neighbor?*" [Luke 10:29] We don't ask this question to justify ourselves as did the lawyer standing before Jesus, but to search our hearts to see how we can respond to those in need as did the Good Samaritan.

As Christians we ponder and debate how to find workable solutions for feeding the hungry, providing jobs with just wages and benefits, offering educational opportunities, being brave enough to reach out to strangers. As voters, we struggle with the same issues, wondering what would Jesus have us do.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us. [1 John 3:23-24]

Often what is missing in political debates and even our own political discussions is the values of the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. In the months ahead as you contemplate the news, the elections, your response to everyday situations, consider who is your neighbor and how your response reflects the love of Christ Jesus.

Christ has been raised from the dead
God gifts us with the Holy Spirit.
May God, whose power working in us
Can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,
Grant each of you the gifts of faith and hope, AMEN

Shalom,

Pastor Bev+



Only new prayer requests will be in the weekly bulletins.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST: The family of Rose Schuring on her death Thursday, April 19.

CONTINUED PRAYER REQUESTS: Baby Landon Pennell, Tom Baker, Brad Bartley, Ann Boben, Landon Brewer, Carol Bulger, Nancy Bulger, Samantha Bulger, Nellie Chmara, Kim Christy, Jake Dietrich, Rick Dickerson, Don, Emma [child suffering from viral meningitis], David English, Mark Fox, Bernie Fedorka, Barbara Frantz, Brett Greenhill, Andrienne Haegg, William Loveridge, Anita Lynch, Bobbie Marchlenski, June Marshall, Nolan Nachriener, Newborn Conrad, Don Nielsen, Terry Oakes, Verna Patscko, Lois Peebles, Mark Pollack, Jax Ramirez, Erin Roman, Dawn Swidorsky, Louise Spithaler, Dr. Mark Tarter, Bud Weber, John Wherry, Lilly Wolfe, Ruth Wolfe and Ron Zinkham.

Please keep the church updated on your prayer request. All updates and request may be emailed to splcofzelie@gmail.com Also if you would like to be notified of any needed prayers, please email the church office, with your email address.



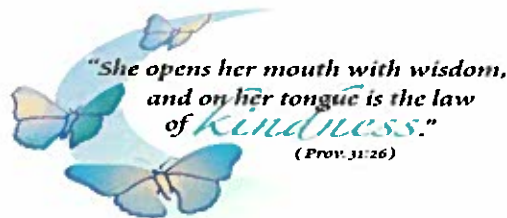
In the early Christian church, especially in the East, it became customary to adorn the heads of the newly baptized with flower garlands. The practice was likely borrowed from secular society, in which such wreaths symbolized victory and joy. Just as the winners in sporting events wore wreaths to celebrate their triumphs, new Christians donned them to represent the “crown of life” promised to those who love God (James 1:12).

In athletics, all participants must work hard and only one wins. But Christ won the victory of salvation and bestows it on us as a free gift. Even our ability to love God is a gift of the Holy Spirit. And there’s no limit to how many people can “win”!

Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. “I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life,” he said. “She’s a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice.”

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. “It’s really hard to read my mom’s handwriting,” he said.



*Join us in Strobel Hall, May 13 9:30 AM for Muffins/Donuts
Coffee and Tea as we honor all the women of St. Paul!*

Dear members of St. Paul's,

I would like to welcome our two new council members who have volunteered to fill the unexpired terms of Becky & Mary Tomei who resigned due to health reasons. Council is pleased to welcome Janet Silvonik and Bev Brosenitsch. They both attended their first council meeting this month and were installed by Pastor at that time.

Our Call committee has completed our church profile and has submitted it to the synod for final approval and posting on the web site. We certainly need to thank this committee for all their hard work in getting this large undertaking completed in a timely manner.

As I informed you in last month's newsletter, Luke Wilson is preparing his proposal to build a storage shed in our parking lot for his Eagle Scout project. He will be submitting this to his scout troop for final approval. He hopes to begin building this project on June 23rd. As part of his job Luke will be seeking to secure funds for the construction of this shed. If you are approached by Luke about donating to this project, please help him out with whatever donation you are able. I know it will be greatly appreciated by Luke and the church will benefit by receiving a much needed storage shed for our lawn mower, snow blower and other various items to be kept in when not being used.

Willing Workers will be hosting their smothered chicken dinner (a well-known favorite) on May 3rd (Thursday). Please help to support this group by attending the dinner. Remember all proceeds they make always help to support and beautify the church. They are currently installing new window treatments in the freshly painted Strobel Hall as well as previously purchasing new ovens and refrigerators for the kitchen. They are always looking for volunteers to help out with any of their dinners and Horse Trading Days luncheons.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about what is going on here at our church, please feel free to ask. I am sure any of our council members would be more than happy to speak with you.

Think positive I am sure we will see nice weather soon. I hope that is not just my wishful thinking.

Linda
Council President

WILLING WORKERS

Join us for our Smothered Chicken Dinner on Thursday, May 3, from 4:00 to 7:00. Dinner will include Smothered Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Dessert and Beverage for only \$10 for Adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. Take out will also be available. **When you drop off your food donation, please remember to check your name off the list located on the counter in Strobel Hall.**

Mark your calendars for Horse Trading Days, July 19, 20 and 21. We will need lots of help starting with the Spaghetti Dinner on Thursday, July 19 from 4:00 to 7:00 and then for the lunch/dinner on Friday from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm and lunch on Saturday from 11 to 2:00 PM. Help will also be needed all three days for parking. More information will be in the June newsletter.



Marty



MUSSIG TICKETS

Luke Wilson is selling Mussig Greenhouse tickets to support Troop 457. They must be used during the month of May and \$17 gets you a beautiful hanging basket, but they can also be used on everything except mulch and bulk products. Flats of flowers, plants, veggies, herbs, etc. Who wants some? See Alicia Wilson for tickets 724-712-1013.



SWPA SYNOD ASSEMBLY – JUNE 14 – 16

THIEL COLLEGE

A Pre-assembly meeting for Conference will be held May 29, 7:00 pm at Nativity in Allison Park. If you are interested in attending the conference, please see Pastor Bev. Deadline to register is May 21.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – 9:00 AM
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

Come and see what you will learn next in the Bible with stories and crafts! Sunday school is for all ages! The Sunday School children will be leading us in worship on Mother's Day, May 13.

The Adult Sunday school class has started a new series called *I Am – Discovering Who Jesus Is* by Douglas Connelly. We will also be hosting the Mother's Day Muffins/Donuts Tea and Coffee on May 13 starting at 9:30 am.



REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP 2018!

Visit www.lutherlyn.com or contact the camp office
724-865-2161 for summer brochures.

\$100 off for FIRST TIME campers!

Enter coupon code: ELCA18

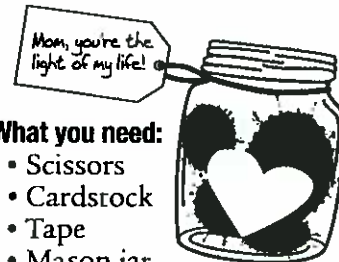
Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp,
Day Camp or Small Fry Days.

Brochures and registration forms also available on the table by the office door and upstairs in the narthex.

If you have a child interested in attending a camp and is in need of financial help, please see Pastor Bev about the campership program.

HEART LIGHT

This Mother's Day, make a bright gift for someone special in your life.



What you need:

- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Tape
- Mason jar
- Primer paint
- Acrylic paint (3 colors)
- Paintbrushes
- Battery-operated tea light
- Paper and pen
- Hole punch
- Twine

What you do:

1. Cut out two cardstock hearts and tape them to the jar sides, near the bottom.
2. Paint the entire jar with primer paint. Let dry.
3. Paint splotches of acrylic paint over the primer. Let dry. Remove the heart shapes.
4. Place the tea light in the jar.
5. Write a note that says, "Mom, you're the light of my life!" Punch a hole in one corner of the note, thread twine through the hole and tie the note around the jar's neck.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018

Mark your calendars for July 23-26 for a combined VBS with English, Seaman Chapel and Zion Lutheran. VBS will be held at Zion Lutheran Church. More information will follow in the June newsletter.

**LUTHERLYN
WILL SERVE MORE THAN
—— 1,000 ——
CHILDREN
THIS SUMMER.
AND YOU CAN HELP!**

Lutherlyn promises to never turn a child away from summer camp for financial reasons. Lutherlyn depends on the financial support of friends like you to keep this promise. It is thanks to the many individuals, families, congregations, foundations, and businesses that support camp with prayers, participation, volunteering, and financial gifts, that Lutherlyn can continue to be a God-given place to be accepted, challenged, and sent.

You can make a tax deductible contribution at lutherlyn.com/donate, by mailing your gift, or by contacting the Development Office at 724-865-2161.

www.lutherlyn.com
PO Box 355 - Prospect PA 16052





MAY


2018

CASHIOWA LEAVES 2018

ASSISTING MINISTER: Christian Muthler
 LECTOR: Christian Muthler
 USHERS: Jeff and Marcy Miller
 GREETER: Eileen Saunders
 BELL RINGER: Tom Fingian

Office hours: Mon., Wed., Fri 9:00-12:00 splcofsele@gmail.com www.splcoz.com 724-452-8832

SUNDAY
 PESH-GRV-GR-30357

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion			6:30 Call Committee Meeting 7:00 Call Committee, Council meeting with Zion Lutheran and Synod	9:00 Help in Kitchen for Smothered Chicken Dinner 4:00 to 7:00 Willing Workers Smothered Chicken Dinner 7:30 to 8:30 Grace Church of Harmony National Day of Prayer Community Prayer Breakfast		
9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion 5:00 Confirmation at St. Paul			6:30 Worship Meeting			
9:00 Sunday School Join Us at 9:30 for Muffins and Donuts in Strobel Hall 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion <i>mother's Day</i>	7:00 Council Meeting		Office on Vacation			
9:00 Sunday School Last Day of Sunday School PENTECOST 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 Third Sunday Fellowship	10:00 June newsletter info due Deadline to register for Synod Assembly (June 14-16) at Thiel College					
No Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion	 Memorial Day	7:00 PM Pre-assembly Conference meeting at Nativity in Allison Park			Remember to wear RED for Pentecost Sunday - May 20. Join Us for Worship Sunday mornings at 10:15 Sunday School - 9:00	

"PEACE to you!
AS the Father has sent Me, I also send you."
And when He had said this,
He breathed on them, and said to them,
"RECEIVE the Holy Spirit."
 (John 20:21,22)

