

May/June 2021 Newsletter



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God."
1 John 4:7

**357 Walnut Street, PO Box 157
Denver, Pennsylvania 17517-0157
Church Telephone - 717-336-2141**

Fax - 717-336-6475

Email - faithunited@ptd.net

Website - www.faithunited-elca.org

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM:

**Pastor Marissa Becklin
Cell: 717-203-6013
pastormbecklin@gmail.com**



Updates Regarding Worship

The Church Council continues to be committed to faithful and careful discernment regarding our congregation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We invite you to pray for them as they engage in this work on behalf of God and our community. Please continue to check your email and mail regularly for updated information about our worship life as we move through this pandemic together.

We continue to offer two opportunities for worship each week: an In-Person and Online Service at 9:00 AM.

The choice, of course, for how you will worship is yours—we will continue to work to maintain the safest environment possible in our Sanctuary for public worship. **No sign-up needed.**

For specific notes about worship, please see Pastor Marissa's most recent letter.

Whether you choose to attend In-Person or not at this time, Faith United is still your church—a community that is here to support you and your faith, that is reaching into homes all across Lancaster County.

Joint Service In Denver Park With Mellingers Lutheran Church

On Sunday, June 27th we will resume our Annual Outdoor Worship Service with Mellinger's Lutheran Church. The Service will be at 10:00 AM in the Denver Park, with more details to follow. There will be no Indoor or Online Worship on this Sunday.

Ascension Day Service

Thursday, May 13, 2021 - 7:00 PM

Swamp Lutheran Church

275 Swamp Church Road, Reinholds

God Has Gone Up With A Shout!

The Cocalico Area Lutheran Churches will celebrate the Ascension Of Our Lord with a Worship Service of Word and Sacrament. The Service will be held outdoors so please bring your own lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather the Service will be cancelled. Refreshments of individual ice cream cups and pretzels will be provided following the Service.

We'll ask people to socially distance and wear masks, though the CDC and PA have modified their guidelines to allow those fully vaccinated to go maskless while outdoors. We will sing a couple of verses of some hymns as well as intoning the psalm.

Pastor Marissa Becklin of Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver will preside at the liturgy and Rev. Kurt Strause of Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds will be preaching.

COVID-19 Guidelines

As we anticipate hearing new updates from the state at the end of May, Church Council plans to review and make any necessary revisions to our congregational COVID-19 mitigation efforts at our June meeting. Stay tuned to hear updates about this in next month's newsletter.

Stewardship

Even as we meet in-person and electronically for worship, the work of the Church continues and intensifies. Please continue your giving by one of the following ways:

- 1) Mail your offering envelope to the Church Office; they will be collected regularly.
- 2) Set up "Simply Giving" which automatically remits your offering to the Church. Contact Shirley Sweigart, 717-538-1946 for more details.
- 3) Give online using checking/savings account or credit/debit card by going to our website (faithunited-elca.org) and clicking on the "Give" tab at the top.

Thank you for your continued stewardship of God's gifts!

Please continue to provide the Church Office with your email addresses (changes also) to be used for Newsletters, Schedules, etc.

**Email your changes to:
faithunited@ptd.net. Thank You!**

WANTED

Recipes, inspirational articles, poetry, gardening tips, household tips, etc. to be used in Monthly Newsletters.

Please email your recipes, articles, tips to Shirley Sweigart:

grammyss46@gmail.com

Church Office Requests

Please call the Church Office at 717-336-2141 and leave a message when:

- You are in the hospital or prior to going to the hospital (or have a relative call for you). In order for the pastor to visit, someone needs to inform the Church.
- You are confined to your home for an extended period of time because of illness or accident;
- You are going to a rehab center or a nursing home;
- There is a change in your family status (birth, death, marriage, or divorce);
- You move to a new home, move out of the area, or go away to college or graduate school.

Offering Envelopes

Generic Offering Envelopes are available for use on the table with the bulletins.

A good alternative is "Simply Giving" which automatically remits your offering to the Church. Contact Shirley Sweigart for more information:

**grammyss46@gmail.net or
call 717-538-1946**

The Upper Room Daily Devotional

May-June, 2021

Christ In Our Home Daily Devotional

April, May, June, 2021

Also, A Large Print Version Is Now Available

Devotionals are on the table with the bulletins or please call Shirley Sweigart, 717-538-1946 to set up an appointment to pick one up.

Kid's Church: Mondays On YouTube

Each week Pastor Marissa posts a video for families with a Bible story, questions to talk about together, a prayer, and an easy activity for your family to do together that week to engage your faith. Videos are posted every Monday on our church's YouTube channel, and can be watched at any time throughout the week! We hope this will be a simple and meaningful way for your family to do Kid's Church together.

Photo Use Practice

In attending church events, photos may be taken to help keep shut-ins and friends of the church aware of the life and activities of Faith United. If you do not wish to be photographed, please let us know so we may honor your wishes. As a practice, we consider the privacy appropriate to people with special circumstances, but may not know of all sensitive situations. Your help is required or we anticipate permission is given.



Staff

Pastor — Pastor Marissa Becklin

Organists — Caryll Lausch
Cynthia Kauffman
Grady Daub

Choir Director — Matthew Donley

Office Administrator and

Newsletter Editor — Shirley Sweigart
Custodian — Elizabeth Roman-Reich

From Pastor Marissa Becklin

In The Name Of God, Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Mother Of Us All

As you've noticed by now, the title of this article is how I start my sermons each week. Perhaps this caught you off guard at first, or had you wondering just what kind of preacher I would turn out to be. The truth is that many of us are not used to hearing God referred to as Mother, especially when we have come to faith relying on the words of creeds and the Lord's Prayer, which both refer to God as "our Father."

I hope that at this point in our relationship you have come to realize that I do not use this invocation of God at the outset of my sermons as a way to push an agenda, or to shock and surprise, nor do I use this reference to God as Mother to somehow undermine the idea of God as our Father. When I invoke the name of God in this way, I do so as a part of a long tradition of people of faith who have used a wide range of language to more faithfully and fully describe the nature of God.

While we might look at the translation of the Bible that we have today and think that only masculine words are used for God, this is not the case. In the original Hebrew of the Old Testament there are numerous instances where God is referred to using uniquely female descriptors. When Moses is with God on the mountaintop ready to receive the Ten Commandments in Exodus 34:6, God describes Godself as "merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." The Hebrew word for "merciful" is in fact the same as the word for "womb"—what God is telling us is that God's love for us is as one who has carried and given birth to us. Even before that we read in Genesis 1:27 that male and female were both made in God's image, that both reflect the nature of God.

Just as the Bible is filled with rich imagery of God as our father, so too is it filled with imagery of God as our mother. Hosea 11:3-4, Hosea 13:8, Deuteronomy 32:11-12, Deuteronomy 32:18, Isaiah 49:15, Isaiah 42:14, Matthew 23:37, and list continues...in these passages we have beautiful descriptions of God as a mother bear, a woman in labor, a nursing mother, a mother hen.

The truth, ultimately, is that all of this language is just that—words. This language helps us grasp at the full reality of God's unknowable and impossible to understand nature, helps us make an attempt at wrapping our heads around the divine. God does not fit in the categories that our human minds understand—male, female, human. God is bigger than it all. The truth of God's vastness is one that we will only know when we are made one with God upon our own resurrection—until then we use imperfect language to describe what is only a part of the majesty of our Lord. As Paul says in 1 Corinthians 13:12: "Now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

Only using male language for God misses part of the truth of who God is. Only using female language for God does the same. The best we can do with all of this is to trust that God is bigger than our understanding, is bigger than the boxes we have tried to capture God within, and is capable of more than we could ever imagine. Thanks be to God.

In peace, Pastor Marissa

**Faith United Evangelical
Lutheran Church Council Minutes
Wednesday, April 7, 2021
6:30 PM**

Present: Pastor Marissa, Jim Kreider, Deb Anthony, Deb Demler, Lori Stover, Janice Daub, Melissa Voler, Bruce Carpenter, Ellen Houser, Lisa Gable and Terri Kilrain.

Devotions: Lori Stover opened the meeting with Devotions, Psalm 33, verses 20 - 22.

Treasures Report: No questions or concerns.

Pastors Report: Good Friday Prayer Walk was a big success and will continue this walk yearly.

Pastor will be leaving on vacation this Sunday afternoon, April 11 until Tuesday, April 20. Pastor Tim Craven will be available for emergency concerns and Pastor Glenn Beard Jr. Will be supply Pastor on April 18 with Drive-Thru Communion being offered after the Service.

Discussed possible Picnic Service with Mellingers on June 27. At this point, food / picnic will be determined at a later date due to Covid restrictions

Roku was obtained for the TV in the Fellowship Hall.

Committee Reports

Property: Door Security System to be changed to Key System only at cost of \$310. Door locks will replace keyless system.

IT: Printers and Copiers are in need of replacement. This is for the large copier and desktop printer. Reviewed four (4) different quotes and all prices are lower than what we have already. The copier contract quote with Weaver Associates was accepted.

Old Business

Endowment and Gift Policy: Gift Policy—Council agreed to accept Gift Policy and make them in existence.

Endowment Policy—The Endowment Bylaw will be brought to the Congregation for approval.

Cozy Comforters: Cozy Comforters asked about coming back with Covid Precautions. Council agreed it is OK to return.

Sunday School: Resuming in-person is waiting until Fall.

New Business

Park Board Minutes: Mitch Arment doing minutes at the meeting. Continue with Key points.

Meeting concluded with The Lords Prayer.

Next Month's Meeting is on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 with Devotions by Ellen Houser.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Kilrain

Acting FUEL Council Secretary

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Jim Kreider - President

Bruce Carpenter - Vice President

Kelly Leshner - Secretary

Deb Anthony

Janice Daub

Deb Demler

Lisa Gable

Ellen Houser

Terri Kilrain

Lori Stover

Melissa Voler

Scott Gola — Treasurer

**Denver Borough
Upcoming Event**

**Saturday, May 8, 2021
12:00-7:00 PM**

The Denver Fire Company will host a **Food Truck Street Fair** on Locust Street between North 3rd Street and North 4th Street. The Fire Company will utilize the Fire Company parking lot and surrounding business parking lots for vehicle parking.



Denver Volunteer Garden Club (DVGC)

The Denver Volunteer Garden Club is an active volunteer garden club for Denver, whose mission is to beautify and maintain the parks and public areas in the Borough. **Please note:** to be a member you do not need to live in Denver—everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact Mindi Stoner, DVGC Chairperson, at 717-336-4885.



**The Church Office
will be CLOSED
on Memorial Day,
Monday, May 31.**

**Congregation Council
Meeting
Wednesday, June 2, 2021
6:30 PM**

Newsletter Update

Beginning with the March Newsletter and until further notice, newsletters will be sent following Church Council meetings which are held the first Wednesday of each month.

MAY/JUNE



- May 14:** Christi Purcell, Terri Macker
- May 15:** Tyler Weinhold
- May 17:** Teresa Arment
- May 18:** Melinda Anderson
- May 19:** Lauren Stricker
- May 20:** Kyle Martzall

- May 21:** Gloria Gates
- May 22:** Marissa Becklin, Ronald Worline
- May 28:** Stephanie Beiler, Lillian Arment
- June 1:** LeAnn Boose,
- June 2:** Timothy Hegeman
- June 3:** Hannah Reed
- June 5:** Michael Nessinger
- June 6:** Dawn Frees
- June 12:** June Wolf

MAY/JUNE



- May 15:** David and Kathryn McGarvey
- May 16:** Troy and Kathleen Hafer
- May 17:** Donald and June Wolf
- May 20:** Jeff and Kim Brugger
- June 4:** Terri and Thomas Kilrain
- June 13:** Luther and Doris Reinoehl
Bryan and Nikki Strohl

Communion Visits By Request

Pastor Marissa is offering to visit those who have not been able to attend Church during the pandemic in order to bring them Holy Communion. In keeping with the Synod's guidelines, she will wear a mask and remain at a distance for the visit and the sharing of the sacrament, and would prefer to make a visit to your porch or another outdoor space, if possible.

To schedule a visit, contact Pastor Marissa at: pastormbecklin@gmail.com.



**Sunday,
May 9**

Christian Symbol

Three Interwoven Circles: Each circle in this symbol represents one of the Persons of the Holy Trinity—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The circles having no beginning and no end, signify the Trinity's eternal nature. The circles' interlacing symbolizes unity. In the center is a triangle, an ancient symbol of the Trinity.



80+ May/June Birthdays

Please remember our 80+ members with a card, visit, or phone call:

- Vernon Boose - May 20** - Keystone Villa, Apartment 103, 100 North State Street, Ephrata, PA 17522
- Joanne Phillips - May 26** - 295 South Reamstown Road, Ephrata, PA
- JoAn Weaver - June 1** - 529 South Sixth Street, Denver, PA 17517
- Gloria Shober - June 9** - Apartment 112, 200 St. Luke Drive, Lititz, PA 17543
- Ralph Whitcomb - June 14** - Keystone Villa Room 224, 100 North State Street, Ephrata, PA 17522



Dear Faith United Members,
Thank You for remembering and honoring me on my 20th Anniversary of being your Office Administrator. It has been a pleasure to serve God while serving this congregation. Your gifts and well wishes brightened my day. It is a blessing to be appreciated. Thanks Again!

Blessings, Shirley Sweigart

Bible Quiz

Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: "In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach." What "former book" did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John



Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4.)

Church Office Hours

The Church Office is currently operating with irregular in-person hours. To submit information for the bulletin or newsletter, please email Shirley Sweigart at:

grammyss46@gmail.com or grammyss@ptd.net, or call 717-538-1946.

She is usually in the Church Office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 AM to Noon.



Faith United Evangelical Lutheran Church

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 Phone 717-336-2141 FAX 717-336-6475 Email: faithunited@ptd.net

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 CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM: [@faithunitedlutheran](https://www.facebook.com/faithunitedlutheran)



May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Fifth Sunday Of Easter Pauline Matthews Birthday 9:00 AM Live-Stream and In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM Drive-Thru Communion, Faith United Parking Lot, 10:15-11:00 AM	3 Kid's Church On YouTube	4	5 6:30 PM Congregation Council Meeting	6 National Day Of Prayer 12:00 PM Online Bible Study And Prayer Group	7 Deadline For Free Take- Out Community Meal, 717-336-6748 Pastor Marissa's Day Off	8 8:00 AM Peter's Porch - Lititz Mennonite Church, 165 East Front Street, Lititz - 8:00-10:00 AM
9 Mother's Day Sixth Sunday Of Easter Voting Begins For ELCA Good Gifts Contest 9:00 AM Live-Stream and In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM Drive-Thru Communion, Faith United Parking Lot, 10:15-11:00 AM 12:00 PM Online Seventh & Eighth Graders Confirmation - 12:00-1:00 PM	10 Kid's Church On YouTube	11	12	13 Ascension Of Our Lord Pastor Marissa At Candidates Committee At Synod Office 12:00 PM Online Bible Study And Prayer Group 5:30 PM Free Take-Out Only Community Meal, Trinity United Methodist Church, Denver, 5:30- 6:30 PM 7:00 PM Ascension Day Worship Service At Swamp Lutheran Church, Reimholds	14 Matthias, Apostle Pastor Marissa's Day Off	15 8:00 AM Peter's Porch - Zion Lutheran Church, 435 Main Street, Akron - 8:00-10:00 AM
16 Deadline For Red Geranium Orders Seventh Sunday Of Easter 9:00 AM Live-Stream and In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM Drive-Thru Communion, Faith United Parking Lot, 10:15-11:00 AM	17 Kid's Church On YouTube	18	19	20 Vernon Boose Birthday 12:00 PM Online Bible Study And Prayer Group	21 Deadline For Free Take- Out Community Meal, 717-336-6748 Pastor Marissa's Day Off	22 Vigil Of Pentecost 8:00 AM Peter's Porch - Landis Valley Christian Fellowship Church, 2420 Kissel Hill Road, Lancaster - 8:00-10:00 AM
23 Day Of Pentecost Deadline For June/July Newsletter Articles 9:00 AM Live-Stream and In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM Drive-Thru Communion, Faith United Parking Lot, 10:15-11:00 AM 12:00 PM Online Seventh & Eighth Graders Confirmation - 12:00-1:00 PM	24 Kid's Church On YouTube	25	26 Joanne Phillips Birthday	27 Pastor Marissa At ABX 12:00 PM Online Bible Study And Prayer Group 5:30 PM Free Take-Out Only Community Meal, Trinity United Methodist Church, Denver, 5:30- 6:30 PM	28 Pastor Marissa's Day Off	29

June 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 The Holy Trinity Voting Ends For ELCA Good Gifts Contest 9:00 AM Live-Stream and In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM Drive-Thru Communion, Faith United Parking Lot, 10:15-11:00 AM	31 Church Office Closed Kid's Church On YouTube Memorial Day Visit Of Mary To Elizabeth	1 JoAn Weaver Birthday	2 6:30 PM Congregation Council Meeting	3 12:00 PM Online Bible Study And Prayer Group	4 Online Synod Assembly	5 Online Synod Assembly 8:00 AM Peter's Porch Drive-Thru - Faith United - 8:00-10:00 AM
6 Second Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 AM Live-Stream and In-Person Worship Service 10:15 AM Drive-Thru Communion, Faith United Parking Lot, 10:15-11:00 AM	7 Kid's Church On YouTube	8	9 Gloria Shober Birthday	10 12:00 PM Online Bible Study And Prayer Group	11 Barnabas, Apostle Pastor Marissa's Day Off	12 8:00 AM Peter's Porch - Lititz Mennonite Church, 165 East Front Street, Lititz - 8:00-10:00 AM



Peter's Porch

Faith United Evangelical
Lutheran Church
357 Walnut Street, Denver, PA 17517
Phone: 717-336-2141
Email: faithunited@ptd.net

The First Saturday of Each Month

June 5, 2021

July 3, 2021

8:00-10:00 AM

Drive-Thru

Peter's Porch Volunteering

As we continue to share God's love by feeding our community through Peter's Porch, we are reinstating our tradition of having bag packing night on the last Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM.

If you are interested in volunteering by packing bags or by helping on the first Saturday of the month when we distribute, please **RSVP** first by emailing Pastor Marissa Becklin,

pastormbecklin@gmail.com

as we seek to preserve the health and safety of the community. Thank you!

Dining Out

Now here's the scoop, about gravy and soup,
it will always end up on a clean shirt.

And mustard stain, is a real pain,
If you squeeze too hard when you squirt.

If by chance you are wearing new pants,
and you wish for something to eat.

For sure, not perhaps, it will find your lap,
before it gets to your feet.

And here's how it goes, when wearing dirty old
clothes,

a spot or two does not matter.

But those little drips, that cling to your lips,
will always fall back on the platter.

So let us suppose, that food really knows,
when you are all dressed up like a dude.

And bare this in mind, it is unrefined,
if you're thinking about dining nude.

(R. Whitcomb)

Bible Study And Prayer Group Thursdays At Noon

Join Pastor Marissa and your fellow congregants in learning more about one another's lives and about the Bible. We are currently reading our way through the Book of Acts. Join here:



<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/411053586>

or by calling in to 1-929-205-6099 and enter code 411053586.



Monday, May 31, 2021

Celebrating Our 2021 Graduates

Since we are gathering in-person these days, we would like to recognize our 2021 graduates with a blessing and gifts. Part of our preparation for that celebration includes compiling a list of all of our 2021 graduates.

Please send the names of 2021 graduates from our congregation to the Church Office:

faithunited@ptd.net.



Confirmation

Confirmation for seventh and eighth graders continues online from 12:00-1:00 PM and meets on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. To join our Zoom call, click the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81817425751>

Drive-Thru Communion

The Sunday Live-Stream and In-Person Service will be followed by a Drive-Thru Communion opportunity in the Faith United Parking Lot from 10:15-11:00 AM each Sunday.



*What's
Happening at
Faith United?*

Send your pictures in for
next month's newsletter!



Springtime in the Memorial Garden



Easter Sunday Blessing



Kid's Church: "Jesus the Vine"

Follow Us On Instagram
for more photos!

@faithunitedlutheran



“The Bright Morning Star”

Powerful memories somehow surface at the most unexpected times, and those memories can be triggered by the most mundane experiences. It happened to me on a predawn, winter morning when I let our dogs outside for their first nature call of the day. As they dash out the door, the darkness beckons and I follow its call. Looking skyward I'm rewarded by the clearest night sky in months. My eyes adjust to the blackness as constellations come into view, but my mind skips back many decades to the first time I was introduced to these formations by my Scoutmaster, Ernest Crouse.

He stood before the line of boys in green uniforms looking for all the world like an ancient chieftain or holy man. The stance he took, feet apart for balance and arms outstretched toward the heavens captured our attention. Head tilted back, he gazed northward into the clear night sky. He expectantly looked back and forth at the stars as if taking inventory or like a mother hen intently checking to see that all chicks are accounted for. Like a commander at roll call, he summoned each constellation by name: Cepheus, Cassiopeia, Ursa Minor, Ursa Major. While gesturing with his calloused hands he presented each star configuration to us. Then he drew in a raspy breath and said in a voice tattered by years of smoking, "The sky is your map and the North Star is your guide. It maintains its place in the sky, never moving. All the other stars in the northern sky rotate around the North Star and tell you its location. Unlike many things in life, the North Star's position is constant and will never fail you!"

Ernie indeed seemed ancient to the young scouts in our troop. We were 11-15 years of age and not even born when World War II ended and Ernie came home. This was about 1968, a little over 20 years since the war ended, but Ernie's experiences from that time still lived fresh in his mind. In a few short years his scouts would be subject to military draft and Ernie sought to prepare us any way he could. Three urgent lessons were foremost in Ernie's mind. First, scald your mess kits with a boiling water rinse to prevent dysentery. Second, take care of your feet. If you can't walk, you can't survive. Third, know how to find your way over terrain both familiar and foreign. Hence the relevance of stargazing. In World War II Ernie was a Tank Destroyer Commander, trained to be in charge of a lightly armored track vehicle to knock out German tanks. Each Tank Destroyer and crew coordinated with other Tank Destroyers to attack, as a platoon, with speed, camouflage, and gunnery prowess. Their most essential skill to Ernie; however, was orienteering. To survive you had to know where you were and where you were going, both to engage the enemy and to evade him. At night the platoon of Tank Destroyers would park in a circle all facing outward, according to Ernie. With a predetermined rendezvous point established, any surprise attack or incoming German 88mm artillery jolted the crews into action. They would fire up their engines and scatter in every direction, as Ernie would say, "like a covey of flushing quail." I imagine that the last thing Ernie would do before closing the turret hatch was to cast a glance skyward to see the position of the North Star to double check his compass bearing that would direct him to the safe rendezvous location. This was the source of his urgency when teaching a group of fidgety young boy scouts how to use the stars to keep from getting lost.

Ernie also taught us how to find our way through life with lessons in the form of personal stories that sounded a lot like parables. One story involved a local "ne'er-do-well" who had a drinking problem and was the subject of much gossip and derision in the neighborhood. Condemned for his habit of drinking until closing time at the local bar, the gossip always included details of this supposed worthless man staggering home after the bar stopped serving. On his way home in the wee hours one particular morning, this man observed smoke coming out of a window of a house on the same street where people ridiculed him. No one else was awake to see the impending tragedy, except for this solitary, inebriated man. He pounded on the door of the house until he woke up the occupants and the fire company was called, just in time to save the house. This man, held in disdain by people in his neighborhood, prevented loss of life and property, and demonstrated his value as a human being to all. This was one way Ernie taught us that all people are valuable and have worth even if we can't see it. In telling these stories Ernie was never preachy and never wore his faith on his sleeve. His faith was private, visceral, and ground into the cracks of his calloused hands. This rough hewn, foundry working, veteran with a backwoods Pennsylvania Dutch demeanor taught his scouts that none of us are perfect, so we should be careful not to judge others. He used to say, "There was only one perfect man, no one before him and no one since." We all knew he was talking about Jesus, but Ernie rarely said his name. I wonder if he was so in awe of Jesus' power of forgiveness that he didn't feel worthy to say His name. I do know that Ernie believed that to journey over unknown terrain you need a reference point, a constant, like the needle of a compass or the North Star. In his own way our Scoutmaster showed us that there was an even more steadfast, powerful star than Polaris to guide us on life's journey. That star is the Bright Morning Star of Revelation 22:16. The most constant trusted star is Christ!

Thanks be to God!

Jim Redcay

MAY WORSHIP

Seventh Sunday Of Easter
Sunday, May 16, 2021

 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1:1-6; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19. The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Day Of Pentecost
Sunday, May 23, 2021

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. 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. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

The Holy Trinity
Sunday, May 30, 2021

 Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29:1-11; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17. When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

JUNE WORSHIP

Second Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, June 6, 2021

Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130:1-8; 2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1; Mark 3:20-35. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

Third Sunday After Pentecost
Sunday, June 13, 2021

Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17; Mark 4:26-34. The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or

a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.



Winters Scholarship

The Sara Stober Winters Scholarship is awarded annually by Faith United to students pursuing higher education in the fields of ordained ministry, medicine, teaching or other "helping and caring" fields deemed appropriate by the Church Council.

Applications are available in the Church Office by emailing the office at:

faithunited@ptd.net

for anyone interested in applying, and are due in the Church Office by Monday, June 14, 2021.

For questions or more information, please contact the Church Office at 717-336-2141, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9:00 AM - Noon or Bryan Strohl at 717-368-3062.

Interested In Becoming A Part Of Our Community?

Have you been attending worship with us online, and are looking for more information about joining our community in an official way? Membership is a mutual commitment between you and our congregation to love and support one another on our faith journey. If this interests you, please email Pastor Marissa at

pastormbecklin@gmail.com.

Our Church Council made the decision in late 2020 to install in our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall the most effective air-cleaning technology available.

This technology is called needlepoint bipolar ionization, and was recommended to us by our HVAC specialist and by other congregations in the area. The technology uses ions (naturally-occurring charged particles) to neutralize all forms of air pollution, including viruses. These ions clean the air actively, unlike most air purification, which means that pathogens are neutralized quickly. [You can learn more about how it works at the manufacturer's website.](#) This technology is paired with our other mitigation efforts of distancing and proper mask-wearing to create a safer environment for In-Person Worship.



In Our Prayers

We ask you to daily pray for the following people and those in your life you know that are in need:

For Healing:

JJ Hertzog	Kelly Leshner	Mae Raudenbush
Sally Herbst	Lillian Troutman	Mark Frees
Noah Roseboro	Andrew McDonald	Sarah Rowles
Emma Miller	Linda Swyhart	Cathy McQuate
Ashton Ochs	Maureen Latanishen	Jean Wolf

You're also invited to call and/or send cards.

Continuing Concerns

Sue Henkel, Caryll Lausch, Michael Konopka, Vernon Boose, Rob Macker, Audrey Grill, Dorothy Hoyer, Susan Means, Lorna Buehl, Arlene Slabach, Ethel Farrow, Peggy and Jack Dewald, Ronald Worline, Ethel Newman, Florence Rutt, Helen Shirk, Viola White, John and Pauline Matthews, Melvin Schmeck, Matt Donley, Susan Hartman, Jeri Yost, Ginny and Jim Stoltz, Tracy Augustine, Stan Henderson, Harriet Garber, Jeri Lynn Pickel, Pastor Sharon Blezzard, Dean Camp, Jed Weidner, Men and Women Serving in our Armed Forces.

Red Geraniums For Pentecost

Orders for Red Geraniums to decorate the Church Pentecost Sunday, May 23 can be placed until **Sunday, May 16, 2021.** The cost is \$5.00 per 6 1/2" round pot.



Order envelopes are on the table with the bulletins; at the Drive-Thru Communion; or by calling Shirley Sweigart at 717-538-1946. Please deposit completed envelopes in the red container on the cabinet at the back.

2021 Altar Flower/Bulletin Sponsor Sign-Up



The Altar Flower Chart for 2021 is in the Church Office. Sponsors for Altar Flowers may use the standing order the congregation has with Roxanne's or you may use the florist of your choice. **Cost is \$30.00 per Sunday. Open Dates: June 27; July 4, 18, 25.**

The Bulletin Sponsor Chart for 2021 is also in the Church Office. **Cost is \$25.00 per Sunday. Open Dates: May 23, 30; June 6, 13, 20, 27.**



To sign up please click here:

<https://signup.zone/o8DXjLSdanMpgCct5> OR please call Shirley Sweigart, 717-538-1946 to get your name on the Altar Flower and Bulletin Charts.



Memorial Garden Helpers

Our Memorial Garden and both sides of the Church are in need of some tending and weeding. Anyone who would like to make their way to Church and help out with weeding is welcome and encouraged to do so.

Thank You for helping keep our grounds beautiful!



Committee Contacts

Interested in getting more involved? Contact the following people:

Care of Members: Lori Stover

Finance: Scott Gola

Christian Education: Brian Strohl

Information Technology (IT): Deb Demler

Staff Support: Brad Fichthorn

Property: Jim Kreider

Worship and Music: Bruce Carpenter

Peter's Porch Feeding Ministry: Terry Burkholder

Family Ministry and Fellowship: Terri Kilrain

Social Ministry: Dawn Frees

Vacation Bible School: Ellen Houser



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania

Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Saturday, May 15, 2021 - 9:00 AM
The Wittel Farm Growing Project
PLANTING DAY & BLESSING OF THE FARM



Volunteers are needed throughout the spring planting season, the summer, and into the harvest season! The Growing Project is dedicated to growing fresh vegetables to help feed hungry people in Lancaster County.

The Wittel Farm
SUMMER ECO EDUCATION DAYS
June 5: Soil Composting
July 3: Plants And Seeds
July 17: Pollinator Gardening
**August 7: Healthy Farm,
 Healthy Foods**
9:00 AM



Join Pastor Matt and Cherie Lenahan for a morning of education, with special guests, to learn about the farming practices at The Wittel Farm and how they support a healthier ecosystem, climate, and community.
 \$5 per person. 90 minute sessions. Come to any that interest you or come to all four.

Register For Summer Camp!

It might just be the best week you've ever had! Don't wait, sign up today for a summer camp program at Kirchenwald or Nawakwa. Some programs are starting to fill up, don't wait ...reserve your spot today! Find information about [COVID-19 precautions](#) we are taking this summer.

More Information:

<https://www.lutherancamping.org/summer-camp/>



Brochures are on the table with the Sunday Bulletins.

The Wittel Farm
June 13, 2021
July 11, 2021
August 15, 2021
8:00-9:00 PM



Come to the farm for summer Campfire worship nights. Songs, stories, s'mores.

For More Information:
PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303
Phone: 717-677-8211; www.LutheranCamping.org



Hospice & Community Care and the Pathways Center for Grief & Loss are offering the following programs.



As we are taking all necessary precautions for the health and safety of our patients and families, staff, volunteers and visitors related to the Coronavirus outbreak, our support group will be held via Zoom. Call the

Pathways Center at (717) 391-2413 or (800) 924-7610 to receive Zoom credentials.

ADULT DROP-IN GROUPS

These free meetings include a presentation and an informal time to talk with others. Call the Pathways Center at (717) 391-2413 or (800) 924-7610 to register.

Coping With The Loss Of A Spouse Or Companion: Tuesdays, May 18, 25; June 15, 22, 2:00–3:30 PM; Tuesdays, May 11, June 8 and Wednesday, June 2, 6:30-8:00 PM.

Coping With The Loss Of A Child (Of Any Age): Wednesday, May 26, 6:30-8:00 PM.

Coping With The Loss Of A Parent Or Sibling: Tuesday, June 1, 6:30-8:00 PM.

GRASP (Grief Recovery After A Substance Passing): Tuesdays, May 11 and June 8, 6:30–8:00 PM.

This monthly group provides sources of help, compassion, and understanding for families or individuals who have had a loved one die as a result of substance abuse or addiction. Pre-registration for new attendees is required. For more information about location or Zoom details, or to register, contact Marjorie Paradise at mparadise810@comcast.net or (717) 951-2720.

Newly Bereaved (Three Week Series): Wednesdays, May 12, 19, 26, 2:00–3:00 PM; Tuesdays, June 15, 22, 29, 6:30-8:00 PM. If a loss was recent, this series provides an overview of common grief responses and will help attendees to begin to identify coping tools. Space is limited and registration is required. Call the Pathways Center at (717) 391-2413 or (800) 924-7610 at least one week prior to the start of the group to discuss with a bereavement counselor.

We Are Here For You: Many bereaved individuals know they “need something” but are uncertain what that is. Perhaps you have experienced several losses in a short period of time. Or, after the initial busy time of settling affairs ends a fresh wave of grief hits. Grief and loss are unpredictable so we encourage you to contact a Pathways grief counselor whenever needed, **Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM–5:00 PM**, (717) 391-2413 or (800) 924-7610 to discuss support options. Pathways services are available regardless of the cause of death or whether Hospice was involved. After our grief counselors talk with someone on the phone or see them in a support group for the first time, they often say they wish they had reached out to us sooner. Support groups or individual consultation, regardless of whether by Zoom or face-to-face, provide a safe place to express emotions you may not have felt comfortable sharing with family or friends. Most people say they are glad they called because it helped them realize that they feel less alone.

Social Dine-Out Options: Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, we have canceled all social dine-out options scheduled for the immediate future.

Call the Pathways Center at (717) 391-2413 or (800) 924-7610 to request the log-in address or phone number to participate in a Zoom group or to schedule a private Zoom meeting with a Pathways counselor. Visit our website at www.PathwaysThroughGrief.org for updated information about support groups.

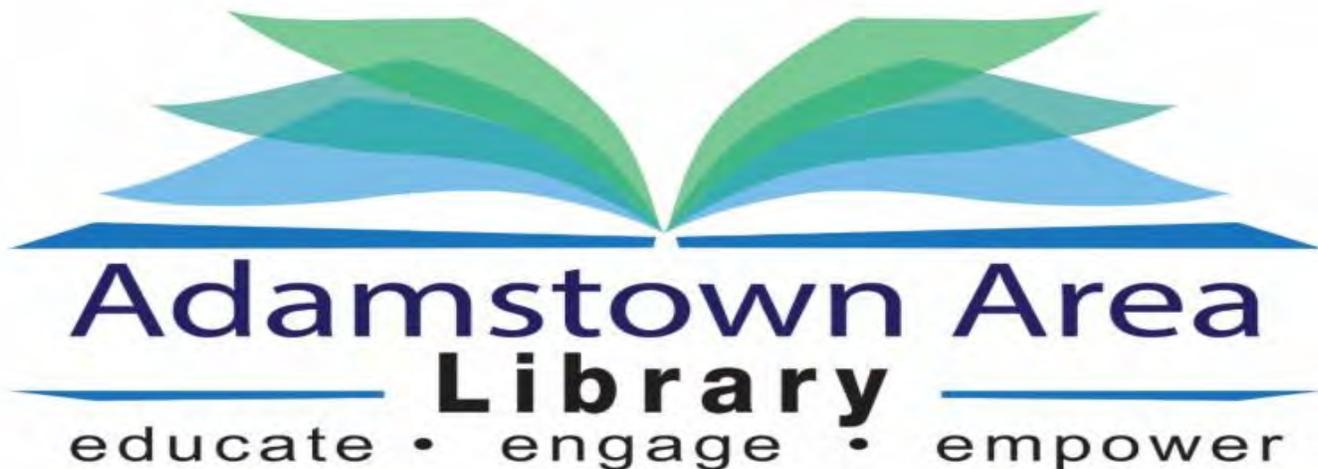
The Power Of Pentecost

Pentecost started as a Jewish festival commemorating God’s giving the Law to the Israelites 50 days after they escaped from slavery in Egypt.

Just days after the risen Jesus ascended to heaven, his (Jewish) disciples gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost. But God transformed the occasion by giving them the Holy Spirit, as he’d promised. The disciples saw something like flames among and on them, heard a rushing wind and began speaking in many languages. The pilgrims in Jerusalem heard about Jesus in their native tongues (see Acts 2:1-12).

In Christian churches, Pentecost was once as important as Christmas and Easter. Today, congregations still observe it in special ways, using the color red to symbolize the Holy Spirit’s power.





We are happy to welcome our patrons back to the Library for browsing by appointment!

Browsing hours are Monday 2:00-7:00 PM, Wednesday 12:00-4:00 PM, and Friday 12:00-4:00 PM.

You MUST schedule an appointment to be able to come into the Library. Contact-free pickup will still be available for our patrons who prefer to checkout that way. Appointments can be reserved one (1) week in advance. Schedule your appointment here: <https://adamstownarealibrary.org/browsing-appointments/>

The Library will also offer public computer appointments on Thursday afternoons from 12:00-6:45 PM. You may schedule a 45 minute appointment for one (1) person to use a Library computer inside the building. Library staff observe all safety precautions and computers are cleaned after each use. We ask that you consider utilizing computer access at this time for priority needs, such as: job search, filing for unemployment benefits, maintaining email contact with friends and family, business needs, etc. Schedule your appointment here: <https://aalcomputer.youcanbook.me>

A Friendly Reminder For Your Safety And Ours: Even if you have received the COVID-19 vaccine, please be aware that others may not have. The Library is committed to keeping everyone safe. For that reason, all of our current safety protocols, including mask wearing and social distancing, will remain in place.

Book Sale!

The Friends of the Adamstown Area Library will be selling books, plus puzzles, DVDs and CDs starting **Tuesday, May 4 and continuing EVERY Tuesday to Tuesday, June 29, except June 22.** Books of every sort will be sold at the **OLD Library, 3000 North Reading Road. Times are 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. NO MASK, NO ENTRY!!!**

Book donations will still be received Tuesdays during the hours of 10:00-11:00 AM and 4:00-5:00 PM.

Virtual Programs @adamstownarealibrary

On-Demand Programs, Posted On Facebook:

No Stress With Miss Jess - Tuesdays at 10:00 AM

Where In Your Community Is Miss Jess?
Wednesdays at 6:00 PM

Take And Make With Miss Jess - Thursdays at 10:00 AM

Friday Frolic With Hank: Book Reviews - Fridays at 1:00 PM

American Girl Doll Craft - 2nd Friday of each month at 1:30 PM

Jigsaw Challenge - Saturdays at 12:00 PM

On Zoom:

[Genealogy Group And Watch Party](#) - Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 PM on Zoom

[Almost Perfect Crimes](#) - Tuesday, May 18 at 6:30 PM on Zoom

[Digital Escape Room: Escape Like An Egyptian](#) - Tuesday, May 25 at 6:30 PM on Zoom

Library Services Information: Due to coronavirus, **Adamstown Area Library is currently offering browsing by appointment and contact-free vestibule pickup.** You may request items [online](#), by calling the Circulation Department at (717) 484-4200, by completing the online [Adult](#) or [Youth](#) Book Match form, or by emailing us at info@adamstown.lib.pa.us. Make sure to include your name, phone number, and Library card number.

When your items are ready, let us know what day you plan to pick them up. We'll make sure your items are available for pickup in the vestibule on the day you choose.

The Library is located at 110 West Main Street in Adamstown, next to the Adamstown Post Office. Curbside pickup hours are: 9:30 AM - 8:00 PM Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM Friday; 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Saturday.

The Library will be closed on Tuesdays.

Please continue to use the book drop for all returns. The book drop is open 24 hours a day. All items will be quarantined for one week and will still show as checked out on your account for a full week after you return them. You will not accrue fines while items are quarantined. Do not renew any items you've returned to the Library. Renewing your returned items may incorrectly place a fine on your account.

Call us during Library hours if you have any questions or need assistance.

The Library will be closed Memorial Day, Monday, May 31.

Adamstown Area Library, 717-484-4200; 110 West Main Street, Adamstown.

www.AdamstownAreaLibrary.org

SPRING SOCIAL MINISTRY PROJECT

We are using the ELCA Good Gifts catalog to hold a Contest among three projects; a Latrine, a Community Vegetable Garden, and Vaccinations For A Child. Descriptions of each project will be at the end. You may vote for the project of your choice with a dollar or as many dollars as you chose. There will be three fish bowls in the rear of the Sanctuary in which to place your votes. Voting will begin on Sunday, May 9th and end on Sunday, May 30th.



Latrine: When you gotta go, you gotta go. But a startling 2.3 billion people lack access to basic sanitation, including toilets. Without facilities, contamination of the local water supply and food chain make far too many people sick from preventable diseases. **A new latrine, along with training to help with maintenance and hygiene, leads to a much healthier community,** not to mention a safer way to take care of business. **Latrine - \$150.00**

Community Vegetable Garden: Start with a shared plot of land and soil, add drought-resistant seeds, and top it off with tools and training. The result? **Plenty of tomatoes, potatoes, cabbage, beans, cassava and other vegetables to go around.** Extra produce can be sold for income, with the profits shared by the members of the cooperative to reinvest in and expand the garden. **Community Garden - \$200.00**



Vaccinations For A Child: More than 4,000 children die each day from diseases such as measles, polio, tetanus and tuberculosis – all of which can be prevented with vaccines. Immunizing a child is one of the best ways to make sure that they stay healthy—and the family avoids the medical costs associated with treating these illnesses—for years to come. **Vaccinations For A Child - \$30.00**

For those who wish to vote and are uncomfortable to attend Church, you may send your votes (dollar(s) and your choice) to Church, PO Box 157, Denver, PA 17517 or call Dawn at 717-733-0240 for a pick up.

All the money will be sent to the winning project, the one with the most votes. You may vote multiple times.



**Deadline For
June/July, 2021 Newsletter
Sunday, May 23, 2021**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

REAL Smoked Pulled Pork Dinner Fundraiser



Suggested \$10 donation
Friday, May 21st
4:30 until sold out
Drive-thru at 3rd and Main
(Rain or Shine)

Supports



Meat Smoked by



2 Meals
Community Meal
No Charge

Thursday – May 13 & 27
Pick up time – 5:30-6:30PM
Trinity United Methodist Church
420 Main Street Denver, PA
(Rear Entrance)

[CALL 717 336-6748](tel:7173366748) OR

[EMAIL SWAMPCF@PTD.NET](mailto:SWAMPCF@PTD.NET)

PRE-ORDER REQUIRED

By Friday May 7 & 21

The LORD gives
strength to his people;
the LORD blesses his
people with peace.

Psalm 29:11, NIV



Trinity
SUNDAY

"Very truly, I tell you,
we speak of what we
know and testify to what
we have seen."

John 3:11, NRSV

Sunday, May 30, 2021

KID'S PAGE

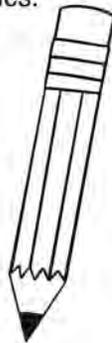


WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Jesus commands us to be his witnesses. This craft is a reminder to reach out to all our "circles."

What you need:

- 5 bowls or cups (assorted sizes)
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Brad fastener
- Crayons or markers



What you do:

1. Place the bowls and cups upside down, each on a different color of paper. Trace around the circles and cut them out.
2. With a pencil, pierce a small hole atop each circle. Layer circles on each other from largest to smallest, aligning the holes. Insert the brad through all layers.
3. Starting in the center, label the circles *my house, my city, my state, my country, the world*. Draw a picture on each one.
4. Pray, asking Jesus how you can spread his message.



A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV

FAITH UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
357 WALNUT STREET
P O BOX 157
DENVER PA 17517-0157

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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