

Pastor's Ponderings

Pastor David Eisenhuth



In the course of one recent week I twice attended mass at Saint Joseph Roman Catholic Church on Virginia Avenue. The first time was Monday, September 16, for the funeral of John Gildee, the father-in-law of our parish administrator, Colleen. The second time was the following Friday, September 20, again for a funeral mass. People gathered to celebrate the vital life of Mary Barbara Dagliano, mother of our own Kevin. Both times I sat in the same pew looking directly at a statue of Jesus with a fiery red heart. This image brought back some memories.

I grew up in Minersville, Pennsylvania. Once a thriving coal town, Minersville had already fallen on hard times when I came along. However, its heritage as a magnet for immigrants who came to the U.S. looking for work, and their attraction to the coal mines surrounding the town was seen in the 10 Catholic and Orthodox parishes that dotted the landscape. Although membership in the churches was challenged even in the 60s and 70s, grand buildings with magnificent furnishings attested to the proud ethnic communities who had built and supported them: Lithuanians, Poles, Russians, Germans, Irish, to name a few. My favorite was Saint Barbara's Italian, which was right around the corner from our house. Stepping into it was going baroque in a big way for a little town like Minersville.

One of the prominent features of the sanctuary was a large statue of Jesus with a flaming heart. I'm speaking literally: the life-sized heart was illuminated by a red bulb that flashed on and off as if it were alive and beating. You can imagine how this caught the attention of a small boy. Anti-Catholic prejudice was afoot in my family, so I shouldn't have been in there to begin with, but a sneak peek never consigned me to Hell. Flash-flash, on-off. Get the picture?

The statue at Saint Joseph is in much better taste, but the image of a heart exposed on the chest of Jesus still captures my attention. It's foreign to most Protestants. It is a peculiar Catholic devotion to the *Sacred Heart of Jesus*. Prayers, novenas (prayers said for a specific period of time, that is, nine days), litanies, Mass intentions, all emphasize the heart of our Lord. But why his heart?

It's not all that long ago in the grand scheme of things that science came to realize that the brain, not the heart, is the center of emotion. Ancient Egyptians embalmed the heart, but threw the brain away. We still hold onto this idea with the hearts that grace Valentine cards. It's to be found in expressions like "heartfelt" or "heart broken."

To emphasize the heart of Jesus and bring it to mind in prayer is to acknowledge the great love God has for God's people. It is a redeeming love that finds its fullest expression in Jesus Christ. Moreover, Jesus loves us so much that his heart aches because of the sinful condition of humanity into which he was born. That love propels him to the cross. His death and subsequent resurrection restores us to that place where we are once again called God's daughters and sons. His heart is filled with pride over this new creation.

I am not suggesting we get a Sacred Heart of Jesus statue, but I do think it might be helpful to keep in mind the depth of God's love for us. Sometimes the sacred heart image is crowned with thorns. That's another reminder of the great price at which our redemption was secured. When you go into a Catholic church, look for this image. Know what it means. Feel in your own heart that power love. Indeed, maybe a flashing red bulb is not even enough to acknowledge the point that we are loved with great passion. That sacred heart of Jesus beats for *you!*

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From the Organ Bench

Pastor Greg Shook

Dear Flock,

As we approach the final stretch of our 150th Anniversary celebration, I wanted to write something about music in the life of Trinity. Let's start with some bible verses about music:

2 Chronicles 5:13: *The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison to give praise and thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals, and other instruments, the singers raise their voices in praise to the Lord and sang "He is good; his love endures forever." Then the temple of the Lord was filled with the cloud.*

Psalm 95:1: *Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our Salvation.*

Psalm 98:1-7: *Sing to the Lord a new song for he has done marvelous things, his right hand and holy arm have worked salvation for him. The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music for the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the rams' horn—shout for joy before the Lord, the King.*

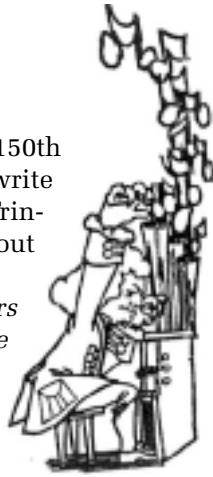
Psalm 101:1: *I will sing of your love and justice, to you, Lord, I will sing praise.*

Psalm 105:2: *Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.*

Ephesians 5:19: . . . *speaking to one another with psalms, hymn, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord. . . .*

I have been following a new series on PBS hosted by concert violinist Scott Yoo. The first program highlighted the works of Baroque period composer Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). Vivaldi started out as a priest and turned musician and may have been lesser known had it not been for the discovery of his manuscripts in the early 1920s. Vivaldi was influenced by the well-known violin maker Antonio Stradivari who, with his incredible craftsmanship, enabled musicians to reach toward higher levels of musical prowess. Vivaldi, in turn, influenced J.S. Bach (1685-1750) who, in some way, influenced everyone after him.

Trinity, through its rich musical heritage, has influenced and nurtured a great many musicians over the years, especially through the mentoring of Dr. Clair Johannsen. Clair's mere 45 year legacy brought musical programs to the area. I will even go one to say that his presence in Hagerstown set a new standard for musical excellence,



both in sacred and secular music. He was the consummate musician at the keyboard. To this day, I don't know of any organist who can play Bach's chorale prelude "In Thee Is Gladness" quite the way Clair played it. Once the Antietam Choral Society stopped, he resurrected choral music for the area with the Saint Cecilia Choral Society. This influence continues today with Hagerstown Choral Arts.

My first recollection of involvement in the musical life here was when my parents brought me to hear a "new wiz-kid organist" back in the mid-1960s. It was (then) Mr. Clair Johannsen, and he was new to Trinity and became a welcome musical presence in the community. Through Clair I met Pastor Mohr, and other local musicians and contacts. He not only mentored us in music, but in church music, liturgy, and theology.

His influence gave young musicians a chance to sing and play for worship services and in the orchestras for Saint Cecilia program. I know of an oboist whose first public performance was in a performance of Handel's Messiah at Saint Ann Catholic Church in (I believe) 1973. There were many further oboe times with Clair during worship at Trinity, for Saint Cecilia orchestra, and in the Saint Cecilia Bach Festival in 1976. Organ lessons were started in 1975, and I am honored to serve as your musician today. (An interesting note: Asher Edelman, Sr., who served Trinity as organist in Trinity's early days, had a son, Asher Edelman, Jr., who played and taught violin and performed in the old Potomac Symphony Orchestra. Asher Jr. had a daughter, Emily. I taught Emily Edelman oboe for several years.)

Trinity's organ went through several phases, including three separate places that housed pipes. The two chambers at the front each housed "separate organs." Then there was the chamber above the south transept, above where the baptismal font now sits. Clair referred to it as "fun to listen to but a nightmare to play." During the 1996 renovations, the organ chamber over the transept was removed, and the two front chambers were deepened so the organ would speak directly into the church. The organ was Clair's "baby," and he was so excited for its completion and that he was here to play it and share it with the musical community. Trinity's acoustics are, if not the best, certainly one of the best in the area. The church has hosted choral performances over the years, such as the boy choir from Wesel, Germany, several college choirs, Saint Cecilia Choral Society, Hagerstown Choral Arts, Westminster Choir College, and the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts.

I remember once asking Clair what we would do if not many showed up for a concert. In his dry voice he very calmly said, "we offer our music to God's glory and that's all that matters." He printed Bach's words *In Nom-*

Continued next page.

ine Jesu (In Jesus' name) and *Soli Deo Gloria* (To God alone be the glory) in every program he performed. When the new hymnal came out in 2008, Clair's favorite new hymn was #878, "Soli Deo Gloria," by Marty Haugen. Stanza 3 says, "All praise for music, deep gift profound, through hands and voices in holy sound; the psalms of David, and Mary's praise, in wordless splendor and lyric phase, with all creation one song we raise: Soli Deo Gloria!"

—To God alone be the glory!
Pastor Greg

**ALUMNI CHOIR FOR OCTOBER
150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

We will assemble an alumni choir for the October anniversary service on Sunday, October 13. If you've sung over the years in a children's choir or the Youth or Parish Choirs, consider joining us for the anniversary alumni choir. How? Talk to Pastor Greg! There is no audition. I have chosen music for the day and we will rehearse it. If you need a little extra help, that can be arranged. Let's fill the loft (and then some!) for this service.



If you have children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren who like to sing, we invite them to be part of this community children's musical experience, Mondays, 4:30-5:15 p.m. Young people grades three through six are welcome at the Elgin Station Community Center, 40 Elgin Blvd., Hagerstown. See Pastor Greg or Jane Drawbaugh for more information!



Mummers Parade

Fritz Bowers

Believe it or not, it is time to prepare for the 94th Mummers' Parade, which takes place at 6 p.m. Saturday, October 26. Trinity's Boy Scouts of America Troop 10 will again sell reserved seats: front row = \$6 each & back row = \$5 each. Reserved parking in Trinity's upper lot is \$5 per vehicle. Contact Fritz Bowers at (704)650-1594 (cell), (301)790-0980 (home) or fbowers@myactv.net for tickets. Alternate contact is Zach Repp at 240-513-5623 (cell) or zrepp2@gmail.com.

Be sure and visit our concession stand in front of the church on parade night. Thank you for your support for this annual Troop 10 fundraiser and throughout the year.

**150th Anniversary
Service and Dinner**

Our final celebration of our 150th Anniversary will take place Sunday, October 13, beginning with a Unity Service at 10 a.m., upstairs. Bishop Bill Gohl will be our guest preacher. We will highlight our rich music history. We will have a reunion choir, and anyone who has been a member of a Trinity choir—Cherub, Junior, Young People's or Senior—is welcome and encouraged to participate. Please contact Greg Shook at (301)733-2878 ext. 6, or gshook@tlchag.org. Rehearsals are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 2 and Wednesday, October 9 in the Choir Room.

Our celebration will conclude with a catered dinner in Fellowship Hall following the service. The dinner is a gift to the congregation from the church, but reservations are required. To make a reservation, sign up on the sign-up sheet at the church services or call Colleen Gildee at (301)733-2878 ext. 5, or Judy Conrad at (301)992-5855.

The deadline to reserve your spot at the catered dinner is Sunday, October 7. This has been a great year of memories and reflection. Let's end in celebration!

**Potter's Bowl Is
November 10**

In November, Trinity will assist the Potter's Bowl fundraiser, to benefit the Community Free Clinic. We need volunteers to bake desserts, do other food prep, set up, wait tables, serve soup, help in the kitchen, auction, and clean up. The Potter's Bowl is now managed by the Community Free Clinic; representatives from Congregation B'nai Abraham, Trinity, and the Free Clinic make up the core team. If you can help in any way, please contact Sue Stull at (301)302-3761 or Judy Conrad at (301)992-5855. This is a wonderful, fun event that supports a great need in our community. Please come and help!!



The annual
Potter's Bowl
Dinner and Auction
benefiting the
Community Free Clinic, Inc.

Sponsored by:
Congregation B'nai Abraham Synagogue
Trinity Lutheran Church
Supported by:
innovative
INCORPORATED

**5:00 - 8:30 p.m. Sunday,
November 10, 2019**

Church News

Judy Conrad

PROPERTY TEAM UPDATE

The new Fellowship Hall gate is in process and they should be starting soon! We are very excited to improve the safety, ease of function, security and looks of that busy entrance to our worship space. If you presently need a key to the existing gate, please let Ralph or Judy Conrad know and when the new gate is ready we will be sure you get a new key.

The baby changing room is still in progress, but almost done. We will let you know when it is ready.

By the time you read this, there should be a new railing on the left side of the Randolph Street entrance and the center railing up to the altar in the sanctuary should be polished and sealed. They will both look great and be a huge help to many of us.

We have been reviewing maintenance contacts for our two boilers. One in Memorial Hall and one in the Education Building basement. We decided to award to contract for the main boiler to Control Systems and the Memorial Hall boiler will stay with Freidinger Ritchie.

We have also been reviewing bids to resurface and restripe our upper parking lot. The lower lot was redone and paid for by Turning Point. After review, we awarded the contract to Antietam Paving Company. We do not have a start date yet but will communicate that to everyone when we get it.

It was requested that we “beef up” our recycling program here at Trinity. We have ordered three new blue cans. One each for Memorial Hall, The Parlor and the main kitchen. The city will pick up containers weekly for a cost of \$100 a year! That is a good deal. We will be letting you know what is recyclable as we move along. Just think of the clear punch cups we have thrown away that can now be recycled!

The carpets in Memorial Hall, the narthex, and the center aisle of the sanctuary will be professionally cleaned soon in preparation for the big 150th Anniversary finale. We want things to look good.

SOUP AND SANDWICH SALE

Fellowship and Parish Life has decided to renew our ever-popular Soup and Sandwich Sale.

We will begin on October 6 and have a sale every first Sunday until March. This year we have two wonderful seminary students, Maggie Stone and Alex Knepper. Scholarships can help a great deal, but there are always incidentals that are needed. We would like to donate all the proceeds, after expenses, to be divided equally between them. We hope this helps a little with the huge task they have ahead of them. You will find an order blank in this

newsletter. Please fill it in and drop it in the collection plate or give it to Scarlett Michael or Judy Conrad. You may pay when you pick up your order.

“THE BIG LEAK”

As Fellowship and Parish Life was preparing for our regular Civitan Dinner on August 12, we discovered a large leak of nasty brown water from above our storage room behind the kitchen!

It was truly a mess. Everything from the left side of the room was removed and washed in the dishwasher after the dinner dishes were done. What needed to be hand washed was rinsed in a bleach solution. We had to find temporary storage for everything from tea cups to coffee packets. We put a large fan in the room and called a plumber. Freidinger Ritchie came quickly the next morning and repaired the plumbing for two toilets behind the Parlor. It soon became clear that some of the ceiling plaster would need to be removed before it fell in on us. That was done and we waited for things to dry. Craig Robinson came in quickly and had the sealing patched and ready for paint. Junior Michael gave it two coats of Kilz primer and we were getting close to being done. All the cabinets, walls, and ceiling have been scrubbed and repainted. We sorted out and reduced all the things that were stored in that room and now it is easier to find things and much cleaner and brighter.

Many thanks to Debbie Shank, Scarlett and Junior Michael, and Judy and Ralph Conrad for all their work in such a messy situation.

NEW PLANTINGS IN OUR COURTYARD

We have been working to revive the plantings and grass in the courtyard all summer. Rodney and Michelle Nearchos volunteered Michelle’s Master Gardener skills to gather plants and shrubs that were on sale as the summer progressed. She chose plants that would enhance all four seasons, and nourished them in her own garden at home until it was time to plant them here. On September 6 and 7 that yard was totally transformed. All of the stumps from the dead arborvitae were removed. The soil was nourished, and over 20 new plants and shrubs were planted and mulched. The crepe myrtle was trimmed and looks wonderful. Many, many thanks to Rodney and Michelle for all of their hard work. And also to Junior Michael and Ralph and Judy Conrad for their assistance. Please take a walk outside after services and thank Rodney and Michelle for their hard work and dedication. By being smart shoppers, they kept the cost of the entire project to approximately \$350! Thank you so much!

Outreach

June Habeck-Holler

WHAT TO SAY WHEN . . .

Here are suggestions of what to say with a suffering or grieving person, from Stephen ministries.

Instead of saying . . .

- "I know how you feel."
- "Keep a stiff upper lip."
- "It's for the best."
- "God doesn't give us more than we can handle."
- "You should _____!"
- "You'll get over this in no time!"
- "You'll be fine."
- "It's God's will."

Say . . .

- "How are you really feeling?"
- "I can see you're hurting."
- "Wow, that's really hard."
- "Can I pray for you?"
- "I don't know what to say. How can I help?"
- "Give yourself time to heal."
- "I'm here for you."
- "I'm so sorry this has happened to you."

Next month I will have suggestions for conversation when we talk with neighborhood folk.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The Food Pantry will be getting new flooring that will be easier on the feet and will cover the worn asbestos flooring that has been there for decades.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The Food Pantry needs fresh vegetables and fruits from the overflow of your gardens!

The Clothing Bank needs all sizes of bed sheets, towels, wash cloths, and mens' boxer shorts, all sizes.

PONDER THIS

"God does not need your good works. But your neighbor does."—Martin Luther



Celebrating 150 Years of Great Food at TLC!

Judy Melby-Robinson

Our last recipe highlighting our 150th Anniversary celebration is a good recipe for the coming chilly fall evenings. The recipe is from Judy Melby-Robinson, another long-time member of Trinity, who first came here as a child with her mother, now deceased, Mrs. Helen Funkhouser. Judy brought her children and grandchildren over the years to celebrate the life events of Trinity. As a member of the Anniversary Team, she hopes everyone has enjoyed the recipes submitted this past year. Bon Appetit!

GLAZED AUTUMN MEDLEY

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 6 large yams | 1 tsp. cinnamon |
| 8 carrots, cut into 3 in. pieces | 2 c. mini marshmallows |
| 1 c. fresh orange juice | 2 mangoes, peeled, pitted, 1" chunks |
| ½ c. light brown sugar | juice of 1 lime |

Preheat oven to 350. Place yams in oven and bake for 30 minutes. Cool, peel, set aside. Pour 3 cups of water into a medium saucepan, add carrots, cook over medium heat for 15 minutes until cooked but still crunchy. Drain, cool, set aside.

In another saucepan mix orange juice, brown sugar, and cinnamon and cook over medium heat until well blended. Gradually whisk in marshmallows, and continue to stir until the sauce is smooth. Cut the cooled yams into large chunks and place into a 9 by 13 inch baking dish. Add carrots and mangoes. Add sauce and toss to coat. Bake for 30 to 45 minutes until the veggies are tender and golden. Sprinkle with lime juice and serve.

Cold Weather Shelter

It's not too soon to think about helping out! Right now, we are looking for groups who will commit to providing an evening meal to about 60 people.

Other volunteer slots will be filled later.

Please let Scarlett Michael at (301) 491-2935, or Judy Conrad at (301) 992-5855 know if you can volunteer to help to feed the hungry in our community.

Trinity Now Recycles

Judy Conrad

According to the Hagerstown City website, here is a list of do's and don'ts for recycling pickup. This may be different than how things are handled at your home. Please remember to empty your drink containers before putting them in the bin and rinse any plates or containers that may have food on them. You can find containers in the Memorial Hall kitchen, the Parlor, and Fellowship Hall. Many thanks to the Social Ministry and Property Teams for this important initiative!

MATERIALS TO BE RECYCLED

Residents of Hagerstown can now enjoy single-stream recycling. All of your recyclables can be placed together in the same container, no sorting is required. The following materials can be collected:

- Aluminum food and beverage containers with food debris removed, to include aluminum foil and pie/baking tins. Labels do not need to be removed.
- Natural and pigmented plastic narrow-neck containers with symbols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (milk bottles, water bottles, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, bleach bottles, et cetera). Lids and food debris should be removed. Labels do not have to be removed. (All plastic drink cups are recyclable.)
- Ferrous (iron, steel, tin) cans with food debris removed. Labels do not need to be removed.
- Newsprint: black and white or pigmented (please do not place newsprint items in plastic bags), construction paper, and craft paper.
- Fiberboard items such as cereal boxes, shoe boxes, or similar items.
- Printer paper, computer paper, copy paper, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, and phone books.
- Corrugated cardboard.
- Empty gable-top milk and juice containers (quick rinse please).
- Aerosol cans.

The following are not accepted at the recyclable processing center and we will not collect as a "recyclable":

- As of January 1, 2018, glass is no longer accepted for recycling. Residents should dispose of glass containers with their other household waste.
- Wax coated paper (milk boxes *are* acceptable)
- Any material with substantial food debris (small trace amounts of food residue are okay).
- Plastic bags or films of any kind.
- Batteries of any kind.
- Household or appliance wiring, cell phone chargers, A/C adaptors, Christmas tree lights.
- Styrofoam of any kind.
- Light bulbs of any kind.

Continued next column.

- Mirrors, window, or auto glass, porcelain, ceramics, glass cookware/bake ware, microwave oven trays, drinking glasses, perfume/cologne bottles.
- Wood or yard waste.
- Unnumbered plastic items.
- Wire coat hangers.
- Household items such as toasters, cookware, bake ware, electronics, appliances, et cetera.
- Hazardous or toxic substances.
- Items containing or having debris and residue containing hazardous or toxic substances such as paint cans with liquid paint, motor oil containers, gasoline cans, glue, petroleum products, et cetera.



Thank you!

My birthday bouquet is lovely for my 93rd birthday. Thank you. I am honored to be included in this kind tradition.

—Alleen Carl

What a wonderful surprise to receive a bouquet of red roses and carnations for my 80th birthday! Red is my favorite color as were the beautiful flowers. God is so good! Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely, Willa Kay Bowers

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Best wishes always as you enter the next 150 years of service to the community and thank you for all your help to our organization.

—Tri-State Civitan Club

Trinity Members,

Thank you for the lovely flowers given to be on my birthday. They are just beautiful in my family room.

God bless all, Kirklynn Kline



Soup & Sandwich Sale on the First Sunday Each Month

Fellowship and Parish Life would like to restart our monthly Soup and Sandwich Sales. This time we would like to share the income with our two seminary students, Maggie Stone and Alex Knepper, to cover incidental costs of their education. We have planned six months of sales and will take orders for two months at a time. Please fill in your name and contact information and what you would like. Orders can be picked up after both services in the kitchen. Please indicate how many of each in the space provided.

- * Indicates 75 and over
- ** Indicates under 10
- 2 Katherine Wilson*
- 5 Kate Brashears**
Jena Staley
- 6 Natalie Allen
Kevin Dagliano
- 7 Abigail Angles
- 8 Lindsay Williams
- 9 Gary Carter
Watson Rasey*
- 12 Betsy Norgard
- 13 Sarah Wright
- 15 Tony Howell
- 18 Alexandra Paddack
- 22 Catherine Melby
- 23 Adam Griemsmann
Diana Prior
- 26 Sue Fiedler*
Kyler Whitmore
- 27 Matthew Gorsuch
- 28 Eddie Morris
- 30 Dolores Shaw*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Bowl \$2.50 Pint: \$4.50 Quart:\$6.50

Sunday October 6th:

Hamburger Macaroni Soup

Chicken Noodle

Sandwiches are \$3.00

Egg Salad

Ham Salad

Sunday November 3rd:

Potato Leek

Sausage Tortellini

Sandwiches are \$3.50

Turkey and Cheese

Ham and Cheese

Thanks so much for supporting our Seminary students!



- * Indicates 40 years or more
- 1 Michael and Lisa Conrad
- 4 Hunt and Peggy Hardinge
- 7 Fred and Phyllis Garrett*
- 15 Norman and Pamela Bradford
- 25 Thomas and Katherine Wilson*

Literacy Council Needs Volunteer Teachers

The Literacy Council of Washington County needs volunteer tutors to teach adult basic literacy and/or English as a second language.

The two-day tutor training workshop will be 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, November 2 and November 9, at Benevola United Methodist Church, 19925 Benevola Church Road, Boonsboro.

For registration or more information, see Brenda in Room 106 at Trinity Lutheran Church any Tuesday or Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., or call (301-739-4208), email office@literacycouncilofwashingtoncounty.com, or register via website, www.literacyofwcmd.org. Your new student can't wait to hear from you!

Trinity Lutheran Church
15 Randolph Avenue
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Phone: (301)733-2878 www.tlchag.org

Sunday Worship at 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages at 9:55 a.m.
Church Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

MAKING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST

Food Pantry and Clothing Bank: (301)733-5651
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Washington County Literacy Council: (301)739-4208
Tuesday and Thursday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Non-Profit Org.
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21740

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



OCT2019

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|--|--|--|----------------------------|---|
| | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 |
| | | 10am Bible Study 1:30pm Sr. Ministry 7pm Property | 10am Social Ministry 6pm Crochet Group 7:30pm Parish Choir | 5:30pm Mission Envision 6:30pm Praise Band | | |
| 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 8:45am Praise Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Service | 1pm Parish Life 6pm Boy Scout Court of Honor | 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Mutual Min 6:30pm Personnel 7pm Anniversary Team | 5:30 Civitan Karaoke 6:30pm Christian Ed 7:30pm Parish Choir | 5:30pm Mission Envision 5:30pm Exec Team 6:30 Praise Band | | 10am Worship and Music 10am Christmas Child Packing Party |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Reformation Sunday 10am Unity Service with Bishop Gohl 11am Catered Meal | 5:30 Civitan 7pm Boy Scouts | 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council | 6pm Crochet Group 7:30 Parish Choir | 5:30pm Mission Envision 6:30 Praise Band | Newsletter Articles Due | 4pm Community Dinner 6pm Trunk or Treat |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 8:45am Praise Worship Service 10am Chat w/Pastor 10am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Service | 7pm Boy Scouts | 10am Bible Study | 7:30pm Parish Choir | 6:30 Praise Band 7pm BISFA Concert | | 6p Mummers Parade |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| 8:45am Praise Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11:00am Traditional Service | 7pm Boy Scouts | 10am Bible Study | 7:30pm Parish Choir | 7pm Jazz Vespers | | |

25 With humility and gratitude, give thanks to God, the creator of all that exists, for being our sure and trustworthy help throughout life.

26 Give thanks for musicians, composers and writers who share their gifts and skills to help us give expression to our faith and worship and to praise God together through hymns, music, songs and liturgies.

27 *Reformation Sunday* Praise God! Give thanks that Jesus – the light and truth given for the world – sets us free from sin and the bondage of death, and transforms us for lives of love, mercy, peacemaking, serving our neighbor and sharing the good news with everyone.

28 Pray that our church's relationships with the Lutheran World Federation, the World Council of Churches and the National Council of the Churches of Christ will continue to grow, and that we will share resources and utilize people's diverse voices and gifts to do God's work in the world and serve our neighbor.

29 Give thanks for the message of the apostle Paul – which had a profound impact on Martin Luther and the foundational beliefs of our church – that we are all flawed and broken human beings yet are reconciled to God by God's gift of mercy and love in Jesus Christ.

30 Pray for the witness of the nine young people serving alongside the Lutheran Church of Australia as part of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program; the Rev. Kim Crawford and Rev. Henry Martinez, YAGM country coordinators; and the Rev. Sara Bishop, ELCA missionary serving in parish ministry.

31 *Reformation Day* Remember the reforming work and teachings of Martin Luther, who sought to re-center the church, its theology and its practices in Scripture and the gospel. Pray that the church today will always discern how best to participate in God's work in the world, to share the gospel in changing contexts and to reform our church, its practices and its traditions in response to the stirrings of the Holy Spirit for the sake of mission.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

PRAYER VENTURES

OCTOBER 2019

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Give thanks for ELCA Disability Ministries and its work of connecting and assisting congregations, ministries and members to invite all people into full participation in this church and in the world. Pray that the Spirit will enrich and further the work and advocacy of intellectual and developmental disabilities ministries, mental illness ministries, deaf ministries, and blindness and visual impairment ministries.

2 Give thanks for the reelection of Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton and pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen her faith and will grant her wisdom, compassion and vision for the ministry of leadership to which she has been called.

3 Pray for our congregations that serve neighbors in need through food and clothing pantries, community meals, homeless shelters, community gardens, employment assistance and partnerships with local churches and organizations.

4 *St. Francis of Assisi, 1181-1226* Pray that our faith and lives may exemplify Francis' simplicity, service, respect for others and care for creation and all creatures.

5 Remember in prayer the Rev. Elizabeth Johnson, the Rev. Brian Palmer, the Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo, Elie Sanda, Arnie and Willibroad Langdji, and James and Lorreva Foster – ELCA missionaries serving in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cameroon, the Lutheran Church in Liberia and the Lutheran World Federation in health care, development, women's and youth ministries, Bible translation and literacy, and primary, secondary and theological education.

6 Pray that, as people of faith and disciples of Christ, we may demonstrate through our words, actions and service a spirit of humility that expects no reward, recognition or repayment.

7 Praise God for the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association and the Christian Education Network of the ELCA, organizations that support, advocate for and equip Lutheran schools, educators, professionals and volunteers involved in faith formation ministries through our congregations and partner organizations.

8 Pray for the people of Puerto Rico, that their hope will be renewed and sustained; that they will have good, just governance and smooth transitions between political leaders; and that they will experience progress in their economic recovery and their long-term recovery from Hurricane Maria. Ask God to bless the ministry, service and witness of the Iglesia Evangélica Luterana en América Sinodo del Caribe (Caribbean Synod), its leaders and its congregations.

9 Consider how our faith in Jesus Christ, God's grace, the word of God, the witness of other people of faith and the calling we have through our baptism has influenced and changed us – and give thanks!

10 Thank God for the ways our church engages its members and leaders in discernment, biblical study and reflection, prayerful decisions and commitments, and teachings that help us grow in understanding of how our faith intersects with daily life and society. Pray that the recently approved social statement *Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action* will guide and inspire us to act on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.

11 We are a church that believes the God-given gifts of science and technology should be used to respect and promote communities, life and human dignity. Pray that the Spirit will guide us in conversations about how faith and science intersect and that we will be mindful of the impact of technology – intended and unintended – on humanity and creation.

12 Ask for God's help to resist the temptations of envy and greed that draw us away from trusting God and committing our lives and endeavors to God.

13 Just as the one leper returned to thank and praise Jesus for healing him, we pray that we, too, will be eager to thank, praise and worship God for God's miraculous, awesome love and healing presence in our lives.

14 Remember in prayer our ELCA missionaries working in education, evangelism, parish ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership development with our companions in Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Norway and the United Kingdom.

15 *St. Teresa of Ávila, 1515-1582* St. Theresa was known for her life of contemplation and prayer, her theological reflection and writing, and her

strong identification with people suffering poverty and illness. Remember the people who have helped shape our faith, values and life, and pray that, through the work of the Spirit, our faith, example and service will have a positive influence on our neighbors, the church, society and the world.

16 Pray for the members who serve on their congregation councils, that God will help them lead with wisdom, vision and compassion as they guide and manage their communities of faith for mission.

17 Remember God's just and merciful works throughout history, the help and compassion we receive, the gifts and resources that sustain our lives, and the new covenant made with us in Jesus Christ.

18 Pray for the countries of Central America, especially for children and youth who are traumatized by violence and have fled to other countries; for an end to gang violence and drug trafficking; for a more just distribution of wealth; and for Christians and communities of faith to have courage and persistence in living out the gospel.

19 Pray that we will seek ways of supporting and affirming youth and family ministers in their work of faith formation, equipping young people with life skills, engaging young people in service, supporting parents and inspiring and encouraging new leaders.

20 Pray that the Spirit will make us persistent and fearless in our prayers, especially on behalf of people who long for justice, mercy, peace and relief from suffering.

21 Look around and listen to the people you have encountered today. Remember in your prayers their joys, struggles, questions and sorrows.

22 Pray for the Lutheran World Federation's global study of contemporary Lutheran identities as they are lived in the local contexts of Lutheran churches, and for the leaders now gathering for "We Believe in the Holy Spirit: Global Perspectives on Lutheran Identity," a global consultation hosted by the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

23 Pray that we will be bold witnesses, evangelists and teachers inspired, equipped and sent by the Spirit and our sisters and brothers in Christ to proclaim the gospel and to counsel, encourage and help people to discern truth from falsehood.

24 Give thanks for the ELCA's long-standing commitment to interreligious and ecumenical relations that promote understanding among Christians and greater unity among Christ's people.