

E-News for the Week of Sunday, May 22

The Holy Trinity

Readings

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16: 12-15

Worship Participants

Celebrant: Rev. John Lemkul

Altar Guild: Suzanne Furst

Communion Assistant: Marcia Gustafson

Lector: Richard Butz

Organist: Ann Gnagey

Liturgical Assistant: Audrey Stone

Greeters: Beth & Doug Dreibelbis

Ushers: Harriet Richards, Doug, Lauren and Noah Dreibelbis

Coffee Hour: Karen and Red Martin

Nursery: TBA

Upcoming Week

Wednesday, 5/18

5:00-6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (rental)

Sunday, 5/22

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

2:00-3:30 p.m. Trans-Youth Family Support Group (rental)

4:00-7:00 p.m. St. Timothy Worship Service (rental)

Monday, 5/23

3:00-6:00 p.m. Music Lessons (rental)

Tuesday, 5/24

3:00-5:00 p.m. Music Lessons (rental)

6:00-9:00 p.m. Nunn's Men's Group (rental)

Wednesday, 5/25

6:30 p.m. Contemporary Practice

Click [HERE](#) for a long-range calendar.

Upcoming Birthdays

5/18 Beth Hoehn

5/21 Elizabeth Hill

5/22 Maria Dreibelbis

5/22 Harriet Richards (95!!!)

Pastor's Message

Trinity Sunday

"The whole life of a good Christian is a holy desire. Tell the lover and he will know what I mean. Tell the one who desires, the one who hungers. Tell the wanderer in the desert, tell the one who thirsts and yearns for the fountain of his eternal country. Tell such a one and he will know what I mean. But if I speak to the cold of heart they will not understand." –Saint Augustine (354-430)

It seems to me that "holy desire" is a wonderful phrase for the feelings behind worship of God and being in a Christian community. Most human beings have a desire for love, for a sense of deep meaning and connection, for families of nurture and joy, and for a world at peace. All these are holy desires and are part of the church's life of worship, education, fellowship, and ministry as we follow Jesus Christ.

Trinity Sunday is a church feast in which we celebrate what might be described as God's holy desire. The Trinity may be expressed in varied ways, such as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Mother, Lover, and Friend; Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

Some of the best descriptions of the Trinity are artistic. The famous icon by Rublev, The Trinity (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_%28Andrei_Rublev%29) expresses delight, friendship, equality, and love as three persons within God.

Another wonderful image for the Trinity is that of dance. The term used is *perichoresis* (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perichoresis>), meaning "around," or "to contain." Whenever, we feel love flowing through the cosmos, through the church, within ourselves or our families, we are welcoming the love of the Trinity. We are invited to live lives of zest, wonder, joy, and costly service in response to the Trinity.

Blessings, Pr. Nancy

Sunday School News

Sunday School and KidzKamp Schedule

Sunday School will not be held on May 29. Sunday School will be held on June 5, the last day of our regular school year, and at church we will celebrate Children's Day. The children will participate in many of the assisting roles during the service, and will receive certificates of attendance. We will not have a breakfast or picnic, due to the Big Spring Fling Dinner to be held the prior Saturday night, to which all are encouraged to attend.

Summer KidzKamp will be held during church services on June 19, 26, and July 10, 17, 24, and 31. The theme this year is "All God's Critters".

More Updates:

Children: <http://alcv.org/education/children.html>

Adults: <http://alcv.org/education/adults.html>

From the Office

We are beginning to work on the Summer Church Mouse, so please send in your submissions no later than **Friday, June 3**—pictures, articles, anything you have! If you have any questions, email church.office@alcv.org.

Our 50th Anniversary celebration is coming up on June 26! Bishop Jim Hazelwood will be joining us for worship, followed by a special catered luncheon and FUN! Please let the office know if you have any photographs of the church in its early years!

HARK! IMPORTANT UPCOMING NEWS AND EVENTS

Vacation Sunday

J. S. Bach in his beautiful music describes holy desire for God, desire that is fulfilled in love. I have the privilege of attending the Bach Choir of Bethlehem this weekend (my family is professionally involved as musicians). Pr. John Lemkul has graciously accepted being celebrant and preacher. At the congregational meeting, the 2016 budget did not include funds for Supply preachers, so we are grateful for pastors who give their time, gratis. Thank you, John. ~Pr. Nancy

Hunger Appeal

For the next couple of weeks, we will be taking a special collection for the Hunger Appeal. The Synod has challenged each church to take at least \$100 to the Synod Assembly for the Hunger Appeal.

Come as you are. Start ANEW.

This Sunday we welcome Michelle Omo from ANEW Place (formerly the Burlington Emergency Shelter). Michelle is the Development and Marketing Director and will be with us for a Temple Talk during worship and with more information during fellowship hour, including a compelling 3-minute video about the guests at ANEW Place.

Mowing Sign-ups

Two weeks ago I put up a sign-up sheet for lawn mowing and only got one person's commitment. Perhaps you didn't see it or forgot to sign up, so this is a reminder that we are trying to ease stress on our budget by doing some of our maintenance tasks ourselves. So, if you can take on a week of lawn mowing now and then it would be a great help. The sign-up sheet is on the Property Committee bulletin board in the fellowship hall. ~Richard Butz

New Fellowship Group

If you are a Millennial or Gen-Xer connected to Ascension in any way, please mark your calendars and come to an evening pot-luck on **Monday, June 13th**. This will be a backyard potluck, place TBA. Bring your family and a dish! 6 pm to 8 pm.

50th anniversary team

A Team to plan the 50th anniversary (Sunday, June 26, worship and celebratory luncheon with Bishop Jim Hazelwood) is in formation. Wish to join? Please do give your name to council president, Kelli Tylanda. Team members include Karen Martin, Vicki Lemley, Johanna White, Kelli Tylanda.

New Member Sponsors

The Social action team is reintroducing the New Member Sponsor program.

As the Pastor and congregation welcome and get to know newcomers and they wish to become members, the Pastor will ask a specific congregation member to be a new member sponsor. The sponsor will contact the new member by phone, seek him/her out each Sunday prior to their reception as a member, be available to answer any questions about Ascension, and offer to sit with the new member in church if appropriate. During the Service of Reception, the Sponsor will stand with the new member at the front of the church. In the weeks immediately following their reception as a member of Ascension, the sponsor will keep in touch by phone and in church, will encourage attendance at church events, and, as appropriate, participation in any committee activity.

Seeking Animal Knowledge and Info.

The summer programs we are planning for our children, "All God's Critters" are based on six types of God's Critters: **Insects, Birds, Fish, Forest Animals, Farm and Working Animals, and Pets**. We are developing the programs ourselves, and it is a work in progress. We are focusing on critters found locally, to help the kids develop an understanding and appreciating of all living things, especially

those in their immediate surroundings, and their roles in the natural order. For example, the importance of bees (which kids might fear), to the pollination of foods they eat. We are soliciting help, with information on any of these specific areas, from members of the congregation who have specific knowledge on any of these. We are also interested in anyone who may wish to share a craft we might do related to these areas. Obviously the children don't need college level info, but we adults are in need of any supplemental expertise you can offer. We are open to big things, such as bringing in a pony or orse, or bee keeper equipment, etc. We'd love to have Ascension grownups sharing stories or doing show-and-tell of life experiences (meeting a bear or rattlesnake in the woods) in connection to the critter categories listed. Please contact Lydia Wisloski at 238-5206, or lwisloski@aol.com.

Names tags are important

To make it easier for members to find their name tags, there is new storage box on the table right outside the library in alphabetical order. Please find your name tag and wear it each Sunday, and then return it to the box. Lauren Dreibelbis will be maintaining the box.

Spring Fling Dinner!

Why did the chicken cross the road? To come to the 1st Annual Spring Fling Dinner at Ascension, of course!!

Join us on **Saturday, June 4 at 5:00 p.m.** for drinks (BYOB) and appetizers. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. (Grilled BBQ Chicken, Salads, and Desserts). 7:00 p.m. is when the program and more FUN begin!

Childcare provided. Please RSVP for childcare to Beth Dreibelbis at edreib2@comcast.net

A sign-up sheet will be posted at church. Please sign up to bring salad or dessert. Chicken will be provided. We also need volunteers to set up, clean up, servers, etc. Please see the sign-up sheet for those spots as well!

Come and join us for a fun, family picnic. RAIN OR SHINE!

Proceeds will go to reduce the budget deficit.

Church Service Childcare

The Educational Ministry Committee is going to provide childcare during the regular worship time. We need help from the congregation to fill this important need. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex now! We are looking for 2 adults to cover each Sunday service. This is a great chance to sign up with a friend and spend some time together while providing childcare so that parents and caregivers can have a more focused worship experience.

New England Synod Assembly

The New England Synod Assembly takes place in Springfield, Mass., **June 10 to 12**. The theme, "A Place at the Table for Everyone," includes presentations, workshops and hands-on-experiences and features: Mikka McCracken, Director Planning & Engagement, ELCA World Hunger Appeal, U.S. Rep. James McGovern (D-MA), known for his work to end hunger, Bishop Claire Burkat, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, The Rev. Dr. David Lose, President, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and Pr. Peter Boehringer, New England Synod Board Member.

Kelli Tylenda, Council President, and Pr. Nancy are attending (they will return Saturday night), and we are invited to include another voting member. Please consider joining them at synod Assembly.

Bible Study Group

Pr. Nancy would love to start a weekday Bible study group. She has posted a sign-up sheet as to what days and times might be possible. Please consider whether you would enjoy and learn from this group.

Hymnals

The Worship and Music committee invites anyone to make a memorial donation to purchase a new hymnal. To accommodate all worshipers, we need to purchase about twenty new hymnals. The cost for each ELW hymnbook is \$22.50. The name of the person in whose memory the book is given will be placed inside the hymnbook. Please inform Pr. Nancy by email if you are interested.

Coffee Hour

The 2016 coffee hour list has been posted. Please sign up!

Additional News and Opportunities

Benefit Concerts May 21-22 for Syrian Refugees

On May 21 and May 22, celebrated pianist Michael Arnowitt will present, with a number of fellow performers, two concerts of Syrian music and literary readings to benefit Syrian refugees and welcome them to Vermont.

The concerts are:

- **Saturday, May 21, at 7:30 P.M.**, First Congregational Church, Burlington
- **Sunday, May 22, at 3:00 P.M.**, Montpelier High School Auditorium, Montpelier

Half of the funds raised through these benefit concerts will go to humanitarian aid efforts at a refugee camp in Turkey one mile from the Syrian border through the U.S.-based Karam Foundation. The other half of the donations will be temporarily placed into a "Vermont Fund for Syrian Refugees" whose funds will be given out to Syrian refugees being resettled in Rutland, Vermont, this fall, and to the USCRI/Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program which will provide these refugees English language classes and help them find housing and employment.

For more information about the concerts--which are cosponsored by the Vermont Council on World Affairs, the Peace and Justice Center, and the USCRI/Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program--and the Vermont Fund for Syrian Refugees, please visit <http://www.mapiano.com/syriaus.htm>.

Vacation Bible School

June 20-24, 2016, First United Methodist Church, Burlington

Deep Sea Discovery! Grab a friend and dive into service, games, snacks, songs, Bible stories, and so much more! 3 years old through 5th graders. To read more and to register, visit the website here: <http://www.umcburlington.com/VBS/>

Questions? Contact Rachel Fraumann (Stampul) at clergychick@gmail.com. Pastor Nancy will assist at this wonderful VBS.

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