

E-News for the Week of Sunday, June 19

5th Sunday After Pentecost

Readings

1 Isaiah 65:1-9

Psalm 22: 19-28

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

Worship Participants

Celebrant: Rev. Nancy Wright

Altar Guild: Julie Valliere

Communion Assistant: Bob Furst

Lector: Bob Furst

Organist: Gil Mathys

Liturgical Assistant: Lois Helland

Greeters: Karen & Red Martin

Ushers: Richard Butz and Jake Hansen

Coffee Hour: Donna and Gary Pittman: *Coffee hour is in celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary, and they would love to share the occasion with all of us!*

Nursery: TBA

Upcoming Week

Wednesday, 6/15

1:00 p.m. Anniversary Planning Meeting

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

Sunday, 6/19

10:00 a.m. Worship Service and Kidz Kamp

Monday, 6/20

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, 6/21

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

6:30-8:30 p.m. Financial Stability Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, 6/22

1:00 p.m. Anniversary Planning Meeting

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

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

Upcoming Birthdays

6/15 Fred Weunsch

6/19 Ann Larson

6/23 Steve Carter

6/29 Ariel Carter

Pastor's Message

Christian Values and the Common Good

We are horrified by the tragedy in Orlando and many other instances of violence in the past months in our country and around the world. Christian values and virtues should be foundational in our prayers, thoughts, and actions. These values (many basic to our country's Constitution) include compassion, justice, fairness, inclusivity, respect of people's religious commitment, and trust in the public good. For Christians, trust in a loving God, who sees each person as a child of God, is basic to our spiritual life.

By contrast, those who create fear or bias against people, whether related to gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, or ethnicity are acting against Christian values.

Jesus' kingdom called all people to wholeness, selfhood and solidarity. His ministry reached out to people on society's margins, as he described in his first sermon (Luke 4:18-19), bringing to them the Good News of the love of God, and he included all creation in that love. Some people were scandalized at his inclusivity (out of many instances, see Luke 4:28-29; Luke 7:23). But many others were overjoyed, and they followed him. From that small group of people around Jesus, the Christian faith, in which we all are often still beginners, grew.

May we remember with gratitude all people who work for justice, peace, and civil, respectful discourse. May each of us use this time to evaluate how we act, pray, and serve for the common God, humbly following our Lord.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read Bishop Hazelwood's response to the Orlando tragedy.

New Member

This Sunday we will welcome Aulis Lind as a new member by transfer. Be sure to check out her bio in Sunday's Bulletin. Please welcome her to our church fellowship.

50th Anniversary

The 50th anniversary is next Sunday! For every Ascension parishioner in town, we will rejoice to see you in church and at the luncheon that day. As we have worked on a 50th anniversary time line, I am struck once again by the faithful ministry so many at Ascension expressed in so many ways. You are a gift of God.

Vacation Bible School

I will be helping Rachel Fraumann with Vacation Bible school each morning of the week of June 20th. It is held at Burlington's First United Methodist Church. In order to have Ascension's morning office hours covered, I will be enlisting parishioners who have volunteered previously. If you can help out in the office, please let me know.

From the Office

We are getting ready for our kick-off celebration of Ascension's 50th Anniversary! Our big celebration is coming up on June 26 (keep an eye out for your invitation--they've been sent!), and the celebration will continue the rest of the year. If you have any photos or written memories to share, please send them in ASAP. church.office@alcv.org.

Thanks for your help to make this event extra special!

Sunday School News

Sunday School and KidzKamp Schedule

Sunday School was held on June 5, the last day of our regular school year, and at church we celebrated Children's Day.

The children participated in many of the assisting roles during the service, and received certificates of attendance. [Click here for photos!](#)

Summer KidzKamp will be held during church services (at 10:00 a.m.) on June 19, 26, and July 10, 17, 24, and 31. The theme this year is "All God's Critters".

HARK! IMPORTANT UPCOMING NEWS AND EVENTS

Baseball Tickets Have Arrived!

Tickets for the Monday, 6/20 Monsters' game have arrived. Beth Dreibelbis will bring them to church for distribution on Sunday, but if you are not coming to church and would like them delivered directly to you, just let her know!

JUMP NEWS

That time of year has come again - yes, it finally feels like summer has arrived, but also the time for the JUMP bags is fast approaching!

Our July JUMP bags will begin being collected next Sunday. You can bring in the bags anytime from now 'til the end of July. Last year we donated 60 bags of food. This year hygiene items are the most needed so the list has changed. Please note the items on the list and fill'm up!

Bags, lists, and encouragement will be available at church. As always, if you would like a personal shopper, the Dreibelbis Jr. Ushers are on the job! You give us your donation and Lauren, Noah, and I will shop til we drop!

Thank you so much for your continued support for our neighbors in need. Questions? Contact Beth Dreibelbis, 899-4557 or edreib2@comcast.net.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see the list!

Mowing Sign-ups

A few weeks ago, a sign-up was posted for lawn mowing, and now several people have already mowed the lawn! 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 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.

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 care givers can have a more focused worship experience.

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.

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](#)

Introducing Holy Hikes, Vermont

See attached flier for this excellent new ministry run by the Rev. Kim Hardy, focused on “ways of experiencing God, through worship as we connect deeply with nature through regular outdoor celebrations of Christian holy communion.”

The first hike is **June 16 at 6:15**, in which Pr. Nancy will participate.

This is a ministry in which congregations are invited to collaborate, which I will bring to the attention of the Care for Creation committee.

Rev. Hardy has asked to please RSVP if possible so she has an idea of numbers...” but if for some reason you are not able to decide until the last minute she says, ‘please do join us anyway!’”

[CLICK HERE to view full flier.](#)

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.