

## E-News for the Week of Sunday, July 17

### 9th Sunday After Pentecost

#### Readings

Genesis 18:1-10a

Psalm 15

Colossians 1:15-28

Luke 10:38-42

#### Worship Participants

**Celebrant:** Pastor Nancy Wright

**Altar Guild:** Johanna White

**Communion Assistant:** Bob Furst

**Liturgical Assistant:** TBD

**Lector:** Rob Hondal

**Organist:** Ann Gnagey

**Greeters:** Suzanne Furst and Marilyn Johnson

**Ushers:** Doug Dreibelbis and Harriet Richards

**Coffee Hour:** Heyerdahl Family

#### Upcoming Week

##### Sunday, 7/17

10:00 a.m. KidzKamp and Worship Service

##### Tuesday, 7/19

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

##### Wednesday, 7/20

10:00 a.m. Organ Repair (3 hours)

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

#### Upcoming Birthdays

7/14 Abigail Fisher

7/22 Anna-Marie Mattson (Carter)

7/23 Margit Sirgo

7/24 Sally Norton

#### Pastor's Message

As I wrote last week, summer is a wonderful time to experience God's presence in creation, as our children are doing in KidzKamp.

One biblical reading this Sunday, Col. 1:15-29, builds on that awareness: "For in Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, ... all things have been created through him and for him...and in him all things hold together [1:15-17]."

To me, this is a deep, biblical view of incarnation, which I would paraphrase as "the loving Spirit of Jesus Christ, known in his ministry on earth, is living in all things." I believe that the early Christians loved Jesus so much and were so inspired by the resurrection that they now understood the Spirit of Jesus Christ as woven throughout creation, as expressed in Colossians and the Prologue to John's Gospel, among other parts of the New Testament.

There was a precedent for this understanding. The Israelite people believed that Wisdom was the first born of all creation and that she rejoiced as God created (this delightful passage is in Proverbs, especially 8:23-31). The early Christians, who

of course knew the Hebrew scripture, had the startling and grand idea that Jesus of Nazareth, who taught, healed, died, and whom God raised from the dead, is Wisdom, woven through all created things. That is the background to Colossians 1:15-17.

Doesn't that awareness affirm that when we study or wonder at the creation, we are close to Jesus Christ? The early Christians and many Christians since then have believed so.

Let us take time to listen, look at, spiritually learn from, and wonder at God's human and nonhuman creation.

Blessings,

Pr. Nancy

PS I will be on vacation from Monday July 11 to Sat. July 30. Pr. Ann Larson will be the preacher and celebrant on July 24. (In line with our expenditure trimming, Pr. Ann is giving us her worship leadership gratis. Thank you, Pr. Ann!) I will return from this Vermont stay-cation in time to celebrate and preach on July 31.

### Sunday School News

#### *Sunday July 17 KidzKamp will be Farm and Working Animals*

What a Summer we have had with All God's Critters!

We started with **Insects, Bugs, Creepy Critters** and made a terrarium habitat, and learned a lot about the way even critters we don't absolutely love, play a big role in our food chain and food supply. And they are amazing in their structures and industrious manner of survival. Pretty interesting stuff! Thanks Sarah and Steve Peake.

Then we learned about **Birds of Vermont**. We identified and learned the calls of a lot of very pretty little cheerful friends who greet us with songs every day. Stuffed little tweeting birds were fun and a real help at learning the calls. We learned that birds have very varied appetites, and eat some of the same things we do. We filled and hung a bird feeder and spread foods birds eat all around the church. Savannah located a bird's nest in a bush near the kitchen door. Great eyes and ears kids! Thanks Lydia

Last Sunday was quite damp, but nonetheless we learned about **Fish of Lake Champlain**, who love and live in water. We received pages with pictures and facts about fish that thrive in Lake Champlain. Fish need clean habitats to thrive and grow and to spawn, we learned to cast a fishing line with lure on the end (thankfully with no hooks, though) We also got to design fishing lures, which we could take home. What a cool thing to do on a gray and rainy day! Thanks John and Kelli Magnier.

Next Sunday we learn about **Farm Animals**. What does Kelli Tylenda have in store for us? Some surprises I'm sure!

If vacation plans don't take you far away, KidzKamp is where you'll want to be on Sunday at 10 AM.

**Coming up:**

**July 24 - Pets**

**July 31 - Woodland Animals**

**We break for August, returning on Sunday September 11** with new programs and classes for all ages. The Rock Stars begin a pre-confirmation course. We'll meet during August to refine classes and plans, and are seeking additional teachers to class share, and to expand our class offerings as our Sunday School grows. Please prayerfully consider your role in God's plan.

September 11 we will join a great mission opportunity for all family members as we help feed the hungry by bagging thousands of meals, at church, after church. This is a congregation-wide mission, "God's Work, Our Hands" and Sunday School is on board to help. Money is being collected in advance to purchase the needed food components, so be sure to donate generously.

Warmly,

Lydia Wisloski

Sunday School Supt.

## HARK! IMPORTANT UPCOMING NEWS AND EVENTS

### **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 has arrived!

Our July JUMP bags are being collected now! 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'em 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](mailto:edreib2@comcast.net).

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

### **The Property Committee Needs Your Help!**

The Property Committee has a number of projects ahead of us. Some more urgent than others. Some are beyond the scope of our members and will require professional help. Others are "in-house" jobs doable by the committee or volunteers from the congregation. Check out the list of projects on the "Property Committee" bulletin board in the fellowship hall. We welcome any and all help!

### **Mowing Sign-ups**

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to mow the lawn! We have someone for the week of the 10th, but so far no one has signed up for the rest of July or into August. We've done a great job so far of helping to ease stress on our budget by doing some of our maintenance tasks, like mowing, ourselves. If you can take on a week of lawn mowing (or even team up with a friend), it would be a great help! The sign-up sheet is on the Property Committee bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Questions? Contact Richard Butz.

### **September 11 is "God's work. Our hands." Sunday**

Please save the date to help feed the hungry by packaging 12,000 mac and cheese meals for area food shelves. Everything we need for packaging will be provided by our contributing 25 cents per meal, so a total of \$3,000. Please make your check out to Ascension Lutheran Church and write "Outreach Project" on the memo line (or you could turn all your quarters into cash!). Contact Alison Hampson or Richard Butz with ideas and questions.

Want to see what it's all about? Watch a video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGANKsERJRg>

### **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](#)

**Next Holy Hike is Tomorrow, 7/14!**

**Thursday, July 14 meeting at 6:15 p.m.** at Five Tree Hill Country Park, 690 Sunset Hill Rd, Williston, VT. Hikes last about 2 hours. Join us! We hike rain or shine! (other than when there is a weather advisory) All weather speaks words of wisdom. Please bring appropriate gear for the weather, hiking shoes/boots, a water bottle, insect repellent, and if needed, medication for allergies such as bee stings – all ages welcome!

We encourage carpooling! You can sign up to carpool here: <https://www.groupcarpool.com/t/53cbha>

Please contact Kim if interested: [revkimhardy@gmail.com](mailto:revkimhardy@gmail.com)

**Global Food Security Act**

After months and months of hard work, on Wednesday afternoon the House passed the Global Food Security Act and now it's on the way to the President's desk to be signed into law!

**The GFSA will provide the tools we need to end global hunger and malnutrition in our lifetime, and your calls and letters of support to Representative Welch helped to make this possible.** Thank you so much to all of you for using your voices and organizing the voices of others to help those living in extreme poverty.