

E-News for the Week of Sunday, August 7

12th Sunday After Pentecost

Readings

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalm 33:12-22

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Worship Participants

Celebrant: Rev. Nancy Wright

Preacher: Rev. Nancy Wright and Steve Snook

Altar Guild: Antje Mann

Communion Assistant: TBD

Liturgical Assistant: Kathe Bruno

Lector: Steve Carter

Organist: Ann Gnagey

Greeters: Joyce Gallimore and Sam Swanson

Ushers: Peter Grant, Charlie Cutting, and Jake Hanson

Coffee Hour: The Valliere Family

Upcoming Week

Wednesday, 8/3

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

Friday, 8/5

Meals on Wheels

Sunday, 8/6

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

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

Monday, 8/8

Pr. Nancy begins Study Leave and presenting at Churchwide Assembly through 8/13

Tuesday, 8/9

6:00-8:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting

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

Wednesday, 8/10

5:00-6:00 p.m. Tai Chi

6:30 p.m. Financial Stability Team Meeting

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

[Upcoming Birthdays](#)

8/5 Nate Tylenda

8/5 Katherine Hill

8/6 Curt Puisto

8/6 Ellen Wilhite

8/7 Gail Butz

8/10 Sarah Peake

[Pastor's Message](#)

Dear Ascension Parishioners,

Three points:

First, our Sunday texts include Hebrews:

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

What is the assurance of things hoped for? The love of God, the grace given through Jesus Christ, and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit—all are given in order that all might have “life abundant.”

I hope that this summer time is one of rest and abundance and joy, as we spent more hours than other times of the year in the beautiful out-of-doors, communing with the world God has made.

Second this is a momentous time for our country and the world. Bishop Hazelwood has suggested that at issue is the United States Constitution. He and I ask that each of us reads it in the next few months.

Third, upcoming schedule:

August 8 to August 11 I will be traveling to Boston University School of Theology to begin the second year in the Doctoral of Ministry Program. I have also been invited to present at a workshop on the Eco-Reformation at the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in New Orleans, as part of the first ever Grace Gathering. Grace Gathering is a series of excellent workshops, to “help prepare Lutherans for the observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It will be held in partnership with the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in New Orleans.” (For more information and a listing of the excellent workshops go to <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7800>.)

Upcoming Sunday schedule:

August 7 Dr. Steve Snook has returned from Haiti for three weeks’ vacation leave. He and I will co-preach this Sunday.

August 14 I will celebrate and Pr. Ann Larson will preach.

August 21 Chuck Ross, Secretary, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets is the invited preacher. He has worked hard to reconcile the views of varied groups of people in Vermont to care for our common heritage, including soil, water. Please welcome him to ALC. It is an honor to have him with us that day.

Blessings, Pr. Nancy

Sunday School News

Sunday School for Children AND Adults will be on break from now until September 11. We will kick-off Sunday School with “God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday.”

After the 10 AM service, our congregation (and others helping us) plan to pack 12,000 mac and cheese meals for the local food shelf. Each meal costs 25 cents. Please consider having your children save quarters from their allowance or their money, to contribute to this effort. Quarters might be placed in an envelope labeled Macaroni money, or GWOH. Bigger checks are welcome as well for this important and monumental undertaking. Think about it like this: \$25 make 100 meals and feeds 100 people. It is like the story of the fishes and loaves...a little gift offered can make a lot of meals! Please plan to help in contributions and in planning to set aside time to pack meals on September 11. A tall macaroni thermometer to gauge our giving progress is in the narthex. On this 15th anniversary of 9/11, bring the family and friends and do God's work for others.

Warmly,

Lydia

HARK! IMPORTANT UPCOMING NEWS AND EVENTS

[FUNDRAISER for Ascension Lutheran Church: Project Life Photo Album](#)

Please join us on Saturday, August 27th for a morning of fun and fellowship at Ascension Lutheran Church!

Most of us carry a cell phone full of photos, but wouldn't it be nice to have a beautiful album filled with our favorite photos that could be set on the coffee table? At this event we will be putting together photo albums. Mine will be of my grandchildren (of course) but you can make it anything you want, like your pets, your vacation, your family, or a mix of everything... so bring your favorite photos!

The price of \$35 for the event includes all of the materials to make your album plus a ticket of the Grand Prize drawing and the possibility to earn extra tickets. There will also be a \$5 raffle to win other prizes.

Click [HERE](#) for the information sheet and registration form.

Hope you can make it!

France Leblanc

[Meal Packaging News](#)

Flash!!! The members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Jericho have joined us in this project, and they are even interested in hosting in the future with us helping them. Awesome!

Last week we described the process, now is the time for action:

1. We need to raise \$3,000 to pay for the meals and we're on our way with about \$1250 collected so far.
2. On Sunday there will be sign-up sheets on the Social Action bulletin board for the various jobs that will need to be done. Please sign up where you think you can help.

[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.

[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

Film "Oriented" to Be Shown August 3 in Waitsfield--TONIGHT

We recently joined Peace and Justice Center staff to preview the film *Oriented*, a feature documentary that explores the lives of three gay Palestinian friends confronting their national and sexual identity in Tel Aviv. As the *Variety* review stated, "The result puts a uniquely Middle Eastern spin on a classic coming-of-age tale." In making the film, first-time director Jake Witzenfeld followed the trio of real-life friends for a year and a half; the resulting 80-minute documentary has screened in festivals including the prestigious Sheffield Doc/Fest and Los Angeles Film Festival.

Press reports and the film's trailer can be accessed at www.orientedfilm.com.

When we saw the film, we were struck by its honesty and the integrity of the people whom we meet—the three protagonists, their lovers, friends, and families. Full of humor and insights grounded in reality, this is "probably the first film about gay Palestinians that is blissfully free of clichés" (+972). The documentary does not present clearly defined answers to the ambiguities that swirl around the young men at its heart; rather, it offers us space for exploration and conversation.

The Peace and Justice Center, with a number of cosponsoring organizations including Outright Vermont, Pride Center of Vermont, and Vermonters for a Just Peace in Palestine/Israel, will show the film at the Big Picture Theater and Cafe in Waitsfield on Wednesday, August 3, 2016, at 6:30 P.M. For more information and tickets, please call 802-863-2345 x 6.

---Mousa Ishaq and Kristin Peterson-Ishaq

THIS WEEKEND: Main Street Landing Black Box Theatre presents:

Bob Stannard & Those Dangerous Bluesmen

All Proceeds Benefit JUMP (Joint Urban Ministry Project)

Saturday, August 6, 2016 at 8:00 PM (Doors Open at 7 PM)

Main Street Landing Black Box Theatre at 60 Lake Street, Burlington, VT 05401

All tickets \$21.75 (Ticket prices include a Box Office Surcharge)

Every individual, regardless of age, requires a ticket.

This production is exempt from VT Sales Tax – documentation in show folder.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the direct link to purchase tickets.