

## E-News for the Week of Sunday, September 18

### 18th Sunday After Pentecost

#### Readings

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113

*The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes. (PS. 113:7)*

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

#### Worship Participants

**Celebrant:** Pr. Nancy Wright

**Altar Guild:** Cheryl Couillard

**Communion Assistant:** Julia Valliere

**Liturgical Assistant:** TBD

**Lector:** Bob Bergesen

**Organist:** Gil Mathys

**Greeters:** Karen & Peter Grant

**Ushers:** Peter Grant, Charlie Cutting & Jake Hansen

**Coffee Hour:** The Hampsons

#### Upcoming Week

##### **Wednesday, 9/14**

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

6:15 p.m. Choir Practice

7:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting

7:15 p.m. Bell Practice

##### **Thursday, 9/15**

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Quilting Group

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

##### **Saturday, 9/17**

8:30-10:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast

9:00-11:00 a.m. St. Timothy Catechesis Training (rental)

##### **Sunday, 9/18**

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. "Get to Know Your Handbells" in the Sanctuary (ALL welcome!)

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

##### **Monday, 9/19**

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

##### **Tuesday, 9/20**

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

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

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

6:30 p.m. Financial Stability Team Meeting

##### **Wednesday, 9/21**

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

6:15 p.m. Choir Practice

7:15 p.m. Contemporary Choir Practice

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

#### Upcoming Birthdays

9/15 Carol Fiore  
9/16 Aaron Fiore  
9/17 Rex Forehand  
9/17 Jacob Hillemann  
9/17 Tawnya Kiernan  
9/21 Heidi Western  
9/22 Greta Krag  
9/23 Rosine Snook  
9/23 Catherine Wisloski  
9/24 Brian Dreibelbis

Also, please wish a very happy 65th wedding anniversary to Claire Anderson and her husband Richard tomorrow, 9/15!

### Pastor's Message

God's Work Our Hands was a beautiful sharing and working together (see Richard Butz's description below and Kelli's photos).

As we joyfully felt last Sunday, God's love for the world is practical. It is lived out in our lives and bodies, and in our hands.

Over the next several weeks, we will learn together sign language for the Lord's Prayer.

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCMfJn7Xnts> to begin. We will learn "Our Father, who are in heaven..." this Sunday.

What better way to grow toward the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation than learning the Lord's Prayer not only in our minds and hearts, but also in our bodies?

Blessings, Pr. Nancy

### Lay Leaders Needed!

Pastor Nancy has a study weekend coming up soon, and we will need 1 or 2 people from our congregation to lead a Service of the Word on Sunday, October 16. Pastor will help prepare you, and will provide a sermon. Please contact Pastor Nancy ASAP if you are interested!

### From the Office

*There will be a*

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th**

*to share the annual committee reports.*

*This will be the only business at this meeting.*

For Council summary of reports from the last Council Meeting, [CLICK HERE](#).

### Sunday School News

Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Friends,

Rally Day last Sunday was a great time, with buffet continental breakfast, and kids and adults mixing to greet each other. We circled for our first opening service, during which we discussed using our hands to do God's work, and what that means. We sang a few songs, including "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" for which Kate Peake accompanied us on her new ukulele (very cool, thanks Kate!). We made a new bulletin board for "God's Work Our Hands", with each of us tracing and cutting out one of our arms and hands, and writing our name on it, to add to the board. Then each child was given a "God's Work Our Hands" T-shirt. (We were short a few, but have them for this Sunday). We encourage parents to allow the kids to wear these shirts, but know where they are, for use later when we do community activities. After church, seven children joined adults from Ascension and Good Shepherd to pack 12,000 meals for area food shelves. That was an amazing feat, completed in less than two hours! Truly using our hands for God's Work!

This Sunday, September 18, we will go into our class groups and begin our studies for this year. All kids will meet in the Sunday School wing for the opening, Pastor Nancy will lead us in learning the Lord's Prayer, orally and in sign language. The ROCK Stars, will then leave for their class, in the library. This year we are using the divider wall in the main Sunday School wing to separate the Rising Stars and the SuperKidz classes, who will meet in the SS wing spaces.

Teaching the classes are the following teams, into which we separate after Opening:

- Little Lambs (under three, or small child needing help) In the Nursery with parent of adult who brought them
- Rising Stars - Sarah Peake and Katie Huggett
- Super Kidz - Lydia Wisloski and Bill Huggett
- The ROCK Stars - Bonnie Lombardi and Beth Dreibelbis

Other occasional helpers, substitutes, special music, and extra hands who have also volunteered are:

Leah Burke, Donna Pittman, Suzanne Furst, Jim Wilhite, John Fritche, Barbara Fritche, Cheryl Coulliard, Bill Valliere,

Music is an area which could use improvement, if we expect to raise singing Lutheran kids, who like Wobegone folks, are also strong and good-looking. We encourage kids and adults who play instruments and might be able to accompany us on anything, to offer to help as they can.

See you all on Sunday!

Warmly,

Lydia Wisloski

SS Supt

238-5206

### **HARK! IMPORTANT NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Men's Breakfast—THIS SATURDAY, THE 17th!**

Coming soon to a breakfast table near you... the Men's Breakfast! We'll be starting again soon, on the 3rd Saturday of the month, just as before. Our first gathering will be at Ascension on September 17th, 8:30 a.m. Questions? Contact Jake!

#### **"Get to Know the Handbells" coming Sept. 18 right after the service!—THIS SUNDAY!**

Ever wanted to pick up and ring one of those beautiful handbells? Well, now is your chance!

Bells of Ascension will hold a "get to know the bells" event right after the church service on Sept. 18. Handbells have been a part of Ascension's worship service since 1982, when the first two octaves of bells were purchased by congregational members. Most people in the congregation have never had a chance to ring a bell to see how much fun it is to play this beautiful instrument. Of course, we want everyone to consider becoming a member of Bells of Ascension, but please don't let that stop you from the chance to ring the bells.

There really are no specific requirements for joining Bells of Ascension. Basically we need people who have an interest to learn the instrument, who will always come to rehearsals, and who want to make beautiful music for our worship services. That's it!

#### **Mac and Cheese Challenge—A HUGE SUCCESS!**

Thanks to the Social Action Committee and all who made our Mac and Cheese Challenge a success.! You can see Kelli's pictures of the event in her note below. Over the next few weeks we'll distribute the boxes, so If you have suggestions regarding possible recipients, please contact me or the office.

Some notables from the event:

- We had 66 participants ranging in age from 4 to 85+.
- We packed 12,000+ meals in less than two hours.
- Representatives came from our congregation, Ascension Lutheran, Church Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Jericho, VT and the Colchester Rotary Club.

- 8 boxes have already been sent to the Milton Food Pantry where we're told the shelves were really bare.
- Other food pantries will receive distributions include, the Chittenden Food Shelf, the Joint Urban Ministries Project, both in Burlington and several others.

-Richard Butz

**[Pictures Coming Soon!](#)**

Hi Everyone! It's been a busy week in the Tylenda Household, so I only have a very, very few pictures edited and posted of our Mac & Cheese Challenge here:

<https://flic.kr/s/aHskDsujfw>

These photos were shared with the Outreach Program Northeast Regional Manager, Matthew Martin, to show him what a wonderful time we had! The rest of the photos (because yes... if you participated, there's a 99% chance I got you in a picture in all of your hair net glory) will be posted next week, along with pictures from our Sunday School Rally Day!

-Kelli

**[Join Barbara and John Fritsche on the Camino de Santiago!](#)**

As you all know, Barbara and John Fritsche are walking the Camino de Santiago Trail in Spain! If you would like to follow along on their amazing journey, please subscribe to their blog at [www.bfonthecamino.wordpress.com](http://www.bfonthecamino.wordpress.com).

**[Meeting for Families](#)**

If any family has suffered the loss of a child, and is interested in an informal gathering, please let Pr. Nancy or Donna and Gary Pittman know.

**[Travel to Germany for the 500th?](#)**

Many people will be traveling to commemorate the Reformation. If anyone is interested in talking about this and gathering ideas, please speak to Pr. Nancy

**[Women of the ELCA](#)**

The New England Biennial Convention will be held **Oct. 27 to 29** in Biddeford Pool, Maine. <http://www.newelca.org/tenth-biennial-convention.html>

Please speak to Pr. Nancy if you wish to attend. We hope to keep up our relationship, established so well through Denise Puisto, with the Women of the ELCA. (A draw back to our attending this year is the Octoberfest dinner on the 29th here at Ascension.)

**[Ripple Dinner Sign-Ups](#)**

Ripple dinners start soon! Help plan dinners for the few Ascension youth that participate in Ripple and the rest of the crew! If you would be willing to take on a dinner or two through the year, it would be a tremendous help. Click the link below for the sign-up sheet, and contact Rachel Fraumann (Stampul) if you have any questions at all at [clergychick@gmail.com](mailto:clergychick@gmail.com).

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tPWpNs2oPEHyHUFNimL8LeHxwfDRhHgSAMhBA2qvyUE/edit?usp=sharing>

Also, click [HERE](#) to view the full Ripple schedule!

**[Quilter's Group—STARTS TOMORROW, 9/15!](#)**

Lutheran World Relief has informed us that the 43 quilts made by Ascension quilters this past season were shipped to Angola in July for distribution. On September 15 we will begin making more quilts for LWR, hoping to make at least as many or more than we did this past year. We appreciate donations of fabrics suitable for making quilts. Won't you join us at ALC to tie quilts the first and third Thursday of the month, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Many hands make light work.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the letter we received from Lutheran World Relief!

**[Join us on our Walk to Bethlehem!](#)**

Yes, that's right...the members of Ascension Lutheran Church are going to "Walk to Bethlehem" this fall! Our journey will begin the week of October 2nd and end twelve weeks later, arriving in Bethlehem just in time for

Christmas. The goal of the program is to motivate people to become more physically active and to also encourage spiritual growth by focusing on weekly Bible verses and devotions.

Miles will be earned by actually walking or running a mile or doing 20 minutes of aerobic or chair exercises. (Taking Elizabeth's Tai Chi class or walking our lovely meditation trail would be perfect ways to do this!) Bonus miles will be awarded for families who walk or exercise together. Everyone can participate... whether you are involved in a sport at school, want to just walk for good health, or can participate from a chair 1 day a week or 7 days a week! Everyone's miles will be totaled each week to see how we are progressing.

You can get more information and sign up starting September 18th...look for the map in the social hall!

### **[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 Schedule](#)**

The sign-up sheet for September/October is on the Property Committee bulletin board.

### **[Coffee Hour](#)**

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

## **[Additional News and Opportunities](#)**

### **[Holy Hikes: Vermont](#)**

Join Rev. Kim Hardy for another edition of Holy Hikes-Vermont: Hike at Old Red Mill Park, Route 15, Jericho, TOMORROW, 9/15.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

### **[19th Annual Run/Walk for JUMP—THIS SATURDAY!](#)**

Join us for a 5K run, 1K run for kids, or a 1K walk, with lots of prizes and fun for all to benefit the Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP)! **Saturday, September 17th.** Registration at 9:00 a.m, Race begins at 10:00 a.m. at the North Beach in Burlington. Free parking! For more information, visit [www.jumpvt.org](http://www.jumpvt.org) or call 802-862-4501.

### **[Chamberlin School Harvest Festival—THIS SATURDAY!](#)**

**Saturday, September 17th from 1-4pm** at the Chamberlin School (Henry and Stephen Wisloski's school!), 262 White Street.

Free family event including face painting, bounce house, photo booth, games, and snacks! A bake sale and raffle will raise funds for enrichment programs that will benefit all Chamberlin students.

### **[Author Tolan and Dal'Ouna Musical Ensemble at Middlebury College September 21](#)**

On Wednesday, September 21, award-winning author Sandy Tolan, author of *Children of the Stone: The Power of Music in a Hard Land* and *The Lemon Tree*, will read from his recent work *Children of the Stone* at Middlebury College. The free, public event will take place in Mahaney Center for the Arts, Robison Concert Hall, at 12:15 P.M. A light lunch will be available after the event.

Touring with Sandy Tolan are Ramzi Aburedwan and his Arabic-French Dal'Ouna Ensemble, with Moroccan singer Nidal Ibourk. They will perform at Middlebury College on September 21, in Mahaney Center for the Arts, Robison Concert Hall at 7:30 P.M. Dal'Ouna presents a dynamic fusion of Palestinian Arab folk, classical, jazz, and world music. The concert is free and open to the public.

A number of Ascension members read and discussed Tolan's book *Children of the Stone* in October 2015. It tells the dramatic story of Ramzi Aburedwan, a young Palestinian growing up in a refugee camp in the Occupied West Bank, and his transformation to a talented musician. Ramzi Aburedwan is the founder of Al Kamandjati, a nonprofit organization seeking to bring musical education to impoverished Palestinian children. In a Vermont connection worth noting, celebrated musicians Michael Dabroski and Michael Arnowitz performed several concerts in the fall of 2015 to benefit Al Kamandjati.

### **[Tai Chi to Benefit Ascension](#)**

Every Wednesday, Everyone Tai Chi ... 5-6 p.m. All are welcome, beginners and long-time practitioners alike. With practice, tai chi has been shown to help people of all ages improve balance, posture, and coordination of

movement, increase mental awareness and focus, and enhance a sense of relaxation and spiritual serenity. Medical research has proven that tai chi, in combination with mental calmness, can help to relieve arthritis, lower back pain, ulcers, hypertension, insomnia, chronic fatigue, obesity, and heart disease. And it's fun! Enjoy playing together and log miles for our community "Walk to Bethlehem." (A one-hour class logs 3 miles.) Instructor, Elizabeth Wirls, is certified through Tai Chi Vermont and the Tai Chi for Health Institute. Drop-in or become a regular. Classes are on a pay-as-you-can basis and all proceeds will benefit Ascension Lutheran Church. For more information, you may contact Elizabeth in the church office (862-8866).

### ***Peace and Justice Fall 2016 Programs***

Sponsored by the Saint Michael's College Edmundite Center for Peace and Justice. All programs free and open to the public.

#### **Vermont Sings for Peace**

**Sunday, 9/18, 2:30 p.m.**, Saint Michael's College Chapel

#### **Is War Necessary? Annual Peace Pledge Ceremony**

**Wednesday, 10/5, 7:00 p.m.**, McCarthy Recital Hall

#### **Chronicling the Other America: A Twenty-Five Year Retrospective**

**Wednesday, 11/2, 7:00 p.m.**, McCarthy Recital Hall

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information on each of these programs.

### ***Household Goods Needed!***

Jennie Davis from the Burlington Housing Authority let us know that she has 7 homeless families being newly placed this month. They are in need of sheets, towels, dishes, utensils, pots/pan, window shades/blinds as well as some bigger items, such as beds and dressers. We greatly appreciate all that the congregation has done before and would welcome any of these things which you might have and no longer need. We can pick up at church in the next 2 weeks or could pick up bigger items from your home if that would be of help. Thank you very much! Karen and Peter Grant (802-372-0123 or 973-214-9849).

### ***Deep Change for Climate Justice: Coalescing a Transformational Movement***

**Oct. 15 – 16**, White River Junction. VT Interfaith Power & Light and Our Children, Climate, Faith Symposium are collaborating on this great conference. Come and join with people from all over the state and beyond to connect and draw courage to do the work that's needed, and to engage others to take action on global climate change! If you can't attend both days, come Saturday. For detailed information and on-line registration go to [www.dc4cj2016.org](http://www.dc4cj2016.org). Register by Oct. 1 for lowest rate. Contact: [info@vtipl.org](mailto:info@vtipl.org) or [802-434-3397](tel:802-434-3397).

### ***Start off the school year with free courses!***

As we move into the 500th anniversary celebration of the Reformation, aware of all the issues related to poverty, governance, democracy, and ecological healing that comprise our world, it is important that we are informed and studious Lutherans. Here are some possibilities for study that are free and online:

On-line noncredit courses from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary: "The End of Adam and Eve: Theology and the Science of Human Origins," and "Violence in Scripture," These courses are taught by excellent theologians and would be well worth taking.

Dr. Mary Evelyn Tucker and her husband, Dr. John Grim, joint professors at the Yale School of Forestry and Theological Seminary, offer excellent free on line courses in science and religion; go to <http://environment.yale.edu/news/article/fes-online-courses-on-cosmology-and-ecology-offered-as-yales-first-mooc-specialization/>