

The Luther Memorial News

May 2017

A community committed to making Christ's disciples, dedicated to worship,
study and prayer while serving all in need.

We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

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FROM OUR PASTOR...

*"The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but Spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead." (ELW 729)*

On the first Sunday of this month, students completing their formal catechetical instruction will take part in the "Affirmation of Baptism" rite. In the old days we called this "confirmation." By whatever name, this is a spiritual milestone for these youth. Unfortunately, we have often treated this day as a *pro forma* rite of passage, something you do (or have done to you) just because you have reached a certain age. At its best, it means much more than that.

When we are baptized, God and the church make some amazing promises to us. We do not ask for those promises; we do not understand them, we do not deserve them. God promises to love us unconditionally and calls us to live in a way that reflects the distinctive way of Jesus. The people of God promise to nurture those baptized in the faith. The water is not magic and, at some point, we need to say, "Yes, this is how I want to live my life; that which someone said for me, I now claim as my own confession." If we are paying attention, the day is as momentous as our wedding day—and for the same reason. At each a significant commitment is solemnized.

Pray for those young people as they come to this day. But I invite you to also use this day as a time to reaffirm your own identity as a disciple of Jesus. Ponder what it means to be loved beyond measure. Reflect on how that changes how you live each day. As the hymn cited above understands, each generation has to figure out how to make the faith speak to its own time. Each community has to claim the promises and the call for itself. Ultimately, each of us as to decide what it means to say, "I believe..."

Pastor King

MEETINGS IN THE MONTH OF MAY:

The Photography Group will meet at 9:00am on Friday, May 19.

The Congregational Council will meet at 7:00pm on Sunday, May 21.

The Committee on Campus Ministry will meet at Noon on May 24.

The Christian Education Committee will meet at 5:30pm on Tuesday, May 30.

Confirmation Students

Recently Confirmed and current confirmation students along with Matt Zeiger will be working with Ann Hess in clay to create gifts for the spiritual mentors in their faith walk on Saturday, May 13, 1-4 pm in her home studio at 70 Crescent Drive in Christiansburg. Students will be forming items that day. Ann will fire and glaze them. Final products should be available to the student by May 24. For more information: contact Ann Hess at: annhesspottery@gmail.com or 540-382-8235.

Explaining Water Infiltration Project, May 21

At its April meeting the congregational council voted to proceed with plans to deal with water infiltration issues in the main building. Water infiltration has caused chronic dampness in the fellowship hall, blistering of paint, and the growth of mold in the electrical room. Council deemed it necessary to deal with this issue before undertaking other elements of our capital campaign, such as the renovation of the kitchen and fellowship hall. **On May 21, following each of the services, there will be informational sessions in the fellowship hall to explain why the project is being undertaken and what will be done.**

Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry

The Interfaith Food Pantry offers basic food supplies, once a month, to low-income Blacksburg residents or those in emergency situations, including homeless individuals and families. The Pantry is currently serving approximately 400 families for a total of over 800 people of which approximately 300 are children. Potential recipients are screened for eligibility by New River Community Action in Christiansburg and by trained volunteers at the Food Pantry. While the majority of the Pantry's clients work, minimum wage jobs do not always enable recipients to feed their families.

Currently two food drives a month are being held: one at the Kroger on Main Street and the other at the Kroger on University City Blvd. Luther Memorial is scheduled **for July 15th from 10:30 to 2:30**. Please contact Sandy Hagman at (540) 951-0270 or sandy.hagman@comcast.net if you are interested in volunteering.

Food items can also be dropped off in the collection baskets at church. We also recycle paper grocery bags.

Pantry Shopping List:

Canned Vegetables, Fruit, or Soup
Cereal
Peanut Butter
Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
Canned Meat
Bagged Rice
Jell-O / Pudding
Other Boxed Goods

Spaghetti Sauce and Noodles
Sugar (2 lb. bags)
Jelly
Tuna
Tea or Coffee
Dried Beans
Hamburger Helper
Bar Soap

CHANGE FOR CHANGE IN MAY

WILL BE DONATED TO:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – CITIZEN SUPPORT GROUP

The **Citizen Support Group** (CSG) for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) was formed in April 2016 to provide support and recognition to the deputies and support staff and to increase awareness of the many areas that the MCSO supports the citizens and businesses of Montgomery County and its communities. The CSG currently provides support by sending cards for birthdays, retirements, and life events which are greatly appreciated.

In May, they are organizing several events for National Police Week to recognize the service and dedication of the department. The Change for Change donations will go towards two projects: (1) Meals served during National Police Week and stocking a supply closet with water and snacks for the times when deputies are on duty at locations where breaks are not available. For example, in the event of a missing child search.

Members of the CSG also assist the deputies at several community events such as the MCPS Transition Fair, Wheels & Wagons, E.F.F.O.R.T, Christiansburg Street Festival,

Steppin' Out, and Wilderness Trail. Activities and Event information is posted frequently on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CitizenSupportGroupMCSO/>. For additional information, the organization can be contacted at mcsocsg@gmail.com.

NOTES OF THANKS

To the members of Luther Memorial,

We are so grateful that you chose our group as your focus for the month of February's Change for Change. We received your donation in the mail today and we are overwhelmed by your generosity.

We will be very thoughtful about what we use this money for. We will make sure that it helps to make our community a better place. Thank you for helping us continue Louie's legacy of Kindness and Service.

Captain Louie's Future Leaders: Delaney, Audrey, Harmony, Madison, Robbie, Kailyn, Aidan, Luke, Ellie, Riley, Araryn, Sarah and Mrs. McPherson

Thank you to Kayla Hansbrough, Keli Lichty, Jim and Lois Lang, Marti Larson, Barb Straub, Kathy Parrott and Matt Zeiger for preparing and serving dinner for the NRV Cares parenting class over the winter.

LMLC Members, Thank you for your prayers, words of comfort, flowers and cards that were sent at the death of our little Hazel Grace Smith. Her parents, grandparents and Cliff and I want to thank you for your kindness and prayers.

Austin & Autumn Smith, Aaron & Katrina Walker, Cliff & Sharon Walker



Lutheran Campus Ministries At Virginia Tech

Our Mission Statement: *Because God loves us and calls us to love, we welcome and invite others to engage and grow in faith. Through discipleship and active service in our community, we are able to intentionally deepen our relationship with God and one another.*

IS THE SEMESTER TRULY OVER

Apparently it is! We've elected new leadership for the next school year. We celebrated with our graduates on Sunday, April 30th and with students on May 2nd. We've got students entering the work force, graduate school, and serving with the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission. The semester's end leads to all sorts of new beginnings.

Indeed, that's the nature of our faith in this Easter season. What appears to be an end leads to the opportunity for new life. Death leads to resurrection. The last day of school leads to the first day of a new vocation. God's constantly giving new birth to us and our communities.

As we bid Godspeed and farewell to those departing, we also pray fervently, both for those returning in the fall and for the new students God's preparing for VT and The Well. We also give thanks for the support from the congregation. The vitality of our ministry with students, faculty, and staff is immeasurably strengthened by your commitment to provide lunches for L-Cubed, your donations to the ministry, but most importantly, the relationships you develop with these people.

Please join us in prayer for the graduates, the incoming students, and the community that God continues to form at The Well.

***The seniors of The Well would like to thank Luther Memorial
for their support throughout their time at Virginia Tech.***

FINAL EVENT FOR THE WELL

The Grems will host L-Cubed on May 7, and the study snack bags should be available on April 30. We'll have the finals food drop-in opportunities on May 4 at noon and May 9 at 7:00pm.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 8:30AM SERVICES IN MAY 2017

8:30	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28
Communion Assistant	Mary Grems	Charlie Harris	Everett Warner	Danny Knott
Lector	Jay Crone	Ed Vigen	Chris Skogen	Ed Vigen
PW Greeter	Mark Barrow	Congregation	Mark Barrow	Congregation
Ushers	Jim Westwood	Jim Westwood	Jim Westwood	Jim Westwood
	Marcia Barrow	Marcia Barrow	Marcia Barrow	Marcia Barrow
	Glenn Buss	Glenn Buss	Glenn Buss	Glenn Buss
Tellers	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss
	Janet Buss	Janet Buss	Janet Buss	Janet Buss
	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson	Kevin Carlson

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 11:00AM SERVICES IN MAY 2017

11:00	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28
Communion Assistant	Mike Neeble	Ben Anstrom	Gwen Barnes	Linda Libey
Lector	Anna Schmitt	Tammy Neeble	Stephanie Valencic	Ann Hess
Greeter	Xavier Barnes	Teresa Cassell	Ann Hess	John Hess
PW Greeter	Irmtraut Hartenstein	Betty Segar	Congregation	Betty Segar
Ushers	Barb Straub	Barb Straub	Barb Straub	Barb Straub
	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub
	Katya Grant	Katya Grant	Katya Grant	Katya Grant
Tellers	Teresa Cassell	Teresa Cassell	Teresa Cassell	Diane Catley
	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub	Joe Straub
	Elaine Belay	Elaine Belay	Elaine Belay	Elaine Belay

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO THOSE CELEBRATING
BIRTHDAYS IN MAY!**

May 1

Jim Lang
Donald Sunshine

May 2

Katya Grant

May 4

Beth Weyers

May 5

Betty Everett
Terry Hagman
Addie Zeiger

May 8

Millie Wiggert

May 9

Nick Brians
Cam Buss

May 10

Ann Hess

May 11

Drew Graham

May 12

Asher Quesenberry,

May 15

Lily Golusky
Gladys Smeal

May 16

Daniel Schroeder

May 17

Kathy Elich

May 18

Steve Janosik

May 22

Scott Elich
Nancy Wolfe

May 27

Lizzie Barrow
Maria Westcott

May 28

Julie Kinter



Birthday Fellowship
Volunteers needed for the
May 14th Birthday Fellowship
9:45am- Brad and Mary Grems
*11:00am – **OPEN** need volunteer*
Please contact the office.

Lay Communion

May 21, 2016 Jim and Lois Lang

Proofer for the June 2017 Newsletter

Proof on May 24

Jenny Akers

Proofer for May Bulletins

Brad Grems

Bulletin Preparation for May

May 5

Nelda Buss & Jan Spahr

May 12

Betty Segar & Betty Jo Prater

May 19

John Hess & Rob Myers

May 26

Irmtraut Hartenstein & Betty Segar

Lawn Care Schedule for May 2017

May 5

Glenn Buss, Andy Hansbrough
Kevin Carlson

May 12

Tim Larson, Danny Knott

May 19

Neeble Family
Zeiger Family

May 26

Everett Warner
Fred & Dianne Rencsok
John Anstrom
Betty Segar

Thank you for your service!

LUTHER MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MAY 2017

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00am Parents Morning out 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Mtg. SS 7:00pm Wilderness Road Chorus	2	3 7:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parents Morning out 10:30am Get Moving Exercise	4 10:00am Faith Discussion Group 6:30pm AA Mtg FH	5	6
7 8:30am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship 12:00pm L-Cubed	8 9:00am Parents Morning out 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Mtg. SS 7:00pm Wilderness Road Chorus	9 9:00am Newcomers	10 7:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parents Morning out 10:30am Get Moving Exercise	11 10:00am Faith Discussion Group 6:30pm AA Mtg FH	12	13
14 8:30am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship	15 9:00am Parents Morning out 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Mtg. SS 7:00pm Wilderness Road Chorus	16	17 7:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parents Morning out 10:30am Get Moving Exercise	18 1:30pm FCA Mtg. 6:30pm AA Mtg FH	19 9:00am Photography Group	20
21 8:30am Worship 9:45am Christian Formation 11:00am Worship 7:00pm Congregational Council Mtg. <i>WIP informational sessions following each service today</i>	22 9:00am Parents Morning out 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Mtg. SS 7:00pm Wilderness Road Chorus	23	24 7:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parents Morning out 10:30am Get Moving Exercise 12:00pm Campus Ministry Meeting	25 6:30pm AA Mtg FH	26	27
28 8:30am Worship 11:00am Worship	29 9:00am Parents Morning out 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm AA Mtg. SS 7:00pm Wilderness Road Chorus	30 5:30pm Christian Ed Meeting	31 7:30am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Parents Morning out 10:30am Get Moving Exercise	Notes:		

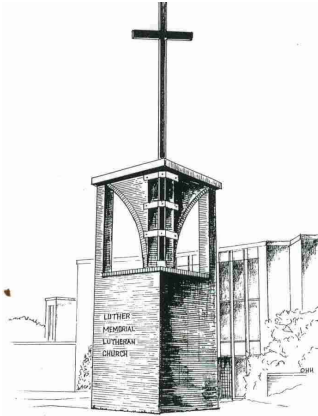


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Luther Memorial Lutheran Church

600 Prices Fork Road

Blacksburg, VA 24060



Stewardship Nugget for May

To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us – and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His Love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him.

Thomas Merton