

The Luther Memorial News

May 2018

*We are a
Reconciling in Christ Congregation.*

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

Pastor Bill King
luthercm@vt.edu
(540) 951-1003

Gail King, Organist

Tom Wilson, Choir Director

Michael Spencer, Custodian

Church Contact Information

Phone: 951-1000

Fax: 951-0820

Email: luther@lmlc.org

Web: <http://www.lmlc.org>



FROM OUR PASTOR...

“Christians are made not born. The church is always one generation from extinction.” During seminary I remember hearing that observation from a famous church historian, as an exhortation for us budding pastors to understand the importance of preaching, teaching, and sharing the gospel. During May two things will happen in the life of our congregation which emphasize the truth and urgency of that statement.

On Pentecost Sunday (May 20) we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism of two young people in our congregation, Aaron Howard and Katie Widner. This is a day when they confirm, that is, take as their own, the promises and responsibilities given them in baptism. I hope you will be able to share in this milestone with them.

All during May we will be promoting the synod’s Forwarding Faith initiative to endow programs related to Christian formation. Folks sometimes complain that they have a hard time seeing where their offerings go. Through a series of brief temple talks you will hear how synodical programs such as youth events, Power in the Spirit, campus ministry, and ACTS courses are actively gathering, exciting, and empowering people of all ages to be the church now and into the future. We sometimes bemoan the loss of status which the church has experienced in recent years. Forwarding Faith is a concrete step we can take to make our witness as strong as possible. Plan to support this initiative—and while you are at it, think about being a participant in some of the best synodical programs in the ELCA!



MEETINGS IN THE MONTH OF APRIL 2018

Church Council Meeting, May 27 following service in the Parish Life Center.
Evangelism/Communication Committee Meeting, May 4 @ 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center
Christian Education Committee Meeting, May 15 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Life Center
Social Ministry Committee, May 20 following service

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MICAH'S BACKPACK DELIVERY: Luther Memorial is delivering Micah's Backpack to Kipps Elementary School during the spring. The sign-up sheet is posted on the mailboxes. If you need more information on what this involves, talk to Pastor King.

THE 2018 FLOWER CHART - only three openings left! If you want to honor or recognize someone, or just communicate your faith, take the opportunity to select one of the three available dates (see the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Narthex). Remember that if you choose to go with a florist other than Angle's, please contact the church office so that Angle's will not prepare an arrangement. Contact your florist with the date the flowers will be needed and the type of arrangement you would like. Let them know that they can deliver the flowers to the church on the Friday prior to the Sunday that the flowers will be in the Sanctuary.

NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS FOR LUTHER'S LUNCH AT 12:05 P.M. We need your help with our Friday lunch program. We provide a hot meal and conversation for anyone in need and would like to encourage congregation members to join as well. We are asking for at least one volunteer each Friday. The volunteer will be the food prep person who can either heat up soup provided by the congregation or provide soup or a casserole. We are asking that you provide a dessert (either store bought or homemade). We will have an experienced set up person to help you. We are asking volunteers to be at the campus center at 11:30 am for a noon lunch and you should be done no later than 1:30 pm. Friday Lunch has gone to using an electronic signup sheet instead of a paper one. The link for sign up is: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4da8a828a3fa7-luthers> If you prefer, I can sign you up by a phone call to 540 818-1438. If you have any questions, please feel to contact me by phone or email at teresa.cassell@comcast.net.

In peace, Teresa Cassell

BLACKSBURG INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

We are continuing to collect spaghetti sauce for the Interfaith Food Pantry. Either canned sauce or plastic bottles are preferred.

Some congregational members who have visited the Food Pantry see the cans of sauce on the shelves. Those cans of sauce are part of an ongoing purchasing effort by the Pantry. Not just Luther Memorial but several churches in the area have pledged to support the Pantry by buying a particular food staple such as potatoes or cereal. Luther Memorial's decision to provide all the spaghetti sauce assures that a supply is always available and the Pantry can use its donations for purchase of other food items.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Parents's Morning Out Has Open Slots

Luther Memorial hosts a mother's morning out parent co-op which gives parents a bit of respite and the children an opportunity to socialize. There are some openings right now. If you know of someone who might benefit from this program have them fill out the interest form on the congregation's website. Trish Downs, the program coordinator will be in touch with them.

NRV Cares

Thank you Gail and Bill King, Lois and Jim Lang, Keli Lichty, Jennifer Freeman, Dianne Rencsok and Kathy Parrott for preparing and serving dinner for the NRV Cares parenting class over the winter. These meals offer an extra welcoming touch to this group of visitors and they are much appreciated. -- Mary Hansbrough

Share the Peace with Everyone

Some of our young children are eager to share the peace with adults. Adults, let's remember to extend a friendly greeting or fist bump/ handshake to everyone including our youngest members. They may greet you back (or not), and they will know you care.

DEATH CAFE COMING

Death Café is a global movement that brings people together for “lively” conversations about death. Congregation members are invited to join the next Death Café at Zeppoli's on Sunday, May 6, 2018, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm at Zeppoli's Restaurant located at 819 University City Blvd, Blacksburg. The Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge (FCAVBR) is sponsoring this free event. This organization, which meets in Luther Memorial's Parish Life conference room the third Thursday of each month, is a non-profit whose mission is to educate and encourage people to talk and make decisions about end-of-life issues. Relaxing over a coffee and dessert with a group that has no agenda but death is a good way to address feelings and facts. Zeppoli's has graciously made space available, the conversation is free, food and beverages are not, so bring your wallet and join us.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY: Can you help members who are recovering from surgery or need rides to clinics? The Congregational Care Ministry is developing a list of helpers who could be called when a need arises. The tasks will vary, from in-home assistance to picking up prescriptions to staying with a person while the caregiver runs errands. Many medical appointments require a driver because the patient will receive sedation, eye dilation, etc. If you would like to be on the contact list, please sign up with Carol Reynolds, 540-204-1094 or Lois Voss, 952-927-0448.

PICTORIAL PHOTO DIRECTORY POSSIBLE

Some members have expressed the desire to have an updated pictorial directory of the Luther Memorial congregation. We have explored several options and the most feasible seems to be one prepared commercially. The cost of the congregation would be nothing (the company hoping to sell pictures). We cannot proceed until we find someone is willing to be the overall coordinator of the project. Below is the job description provided to us by LifeTouch. If you would be willing to be the coordinator (or would like to discuss this) please contact Pastor King.

Overall Coordinator: This person oversees the program, keeping the team on track. This person will be responsible for overseeing the directory program and be the primary contact person representing the organization and working with the local Lifetouch representative. They also serve to keep the project moving forward on time and as planned and outlined at the organizational meeting.

Volunteers are needed to check-in families during the photo sessions each day. This person will be responsible for helping folks schedule an appointment, before/after church services and major events. These sign ups can be done online, or by printing schedules out, scheduling families, and then insuring the appointments are entered into the online schedule.

Directory Designer: Also needed is someone to work on the design of our church directory using Storybuilder software provided by the company. This software makes the actual design of your book a quick and easy process for anyone who is relatively comfortable using a computer.

May 2018 - CHANGE FOR CHANGE

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

A program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is one of the most respected relief organizations in the world. It gets supplies to victims immediately following a disaster, and long after the event fades from the headlines, LDR is still offering long-term assistance as people rebuild their lives.

In Texas, Lutheran Disaster Response assisted ELCA synods and pastors after Hurricane Harvey in August, 2017. The aid continues for damaged churches and communities.

Hurricane Irma devastated communities in Haiti and Cuba. Lutheran Disaster Response replaced lost tools for farmers, cookware and blankets for households. In Florida and Georgia, LDR offered disaster case management, construction management and volunteer management. These services will be extended over the next several years.

Then Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. In addition to emergency supplies, Lutheran Disaster Response renovated a Lutheran camp to accommodate volunteers for years to come. Major support of local Lutheran Social Services has been established.

You can make an offering by putting funds in the Change for Change container, placing a check in the offering, or by going to the LDR website: <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/>



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.

All students are invited to participate in weekly meetings, informal gatherings, and service projects associated with The Well.

REGULAR EVENTS

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Our regular Tuesday meetings occur every Tuesday that class is in session. They include a meal made by students and time in discussion and prayer with one another. Different weeks emphasize worship, Bible study, guest presenters, service opportunities, and community building activities.

The Campus Ministry has started meeting on Wednesday evenings for a student-led Bible Study. We start at 6:15pm in the campus center and there is a campus pick-up in the Owens lot at 6:00pm. It will probably last until 7:30pm each week and anyone is welcome to join!

Luther's Luscious Lunch - Please gather with students to enjoy lunch on Sunday, May 6. Ann and John Hess will be hosting lunch, L-Cube in the Campus Center following worship. Please invite students who are unable to worship and assure them that they are welcome to join everyone at 11:30am. Persons are free to pick up other Sunday schedules by 12:30pm but lingering conversations are always welcome.

UPCOMING:

*Are you a member of Luther Memorial that wants to know more about The Well?
Please contact John Hess, Chair of the Campus Ministry Committee or Pastor Bill.*

<http://www.lsmvt.lmlc.org/>

Find us on Facebook: Search for The Well (Lutheran Campus Ministry @ VT)
Contact LCM Secretary for more information - Anna Schmitt at annaschmitt@vt.edu

SERVANT PARTICIPANTS FOR MAY 2018

10:00	May 6	May13	May 20	May 27
Greeter	Jennifer Freeman	Amy Roeder	John Hess	Teresa Cassell
Communion Assistant	Glenn Buss Kathleen Parrott	Mandy Wilson Everett Warner	Charlie Harris John Anstrom	Janet Buss Mara Knott
Lector	Stephanie Valencic	Jay Crone	Leah Wechtaluk- McFarren	Anne Devenport
PW Greeter	Kevin Carlson	Irmtraut Hartenstein	Elaine Belay	Everett Warner
Ushers	Betty Segar	Betty Segar	Betty Segar	Betty Segar
	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota	Virginia de la Mota
	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota	Daniel de la Mota
	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss	Gary Buss
Tellers	Diane Catley	Diane Catley	Diane Catley	Diane Catley
	Mark Barrow	Mark Barrow	Mark Barrow	Mark Barrow
	Tim Larson	Tim Larson	Tim Larson	Tim Larson



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE BORN IN May

May

1 Jim Lang
Rebecca Pettit
Donald Sunshine
2 Katya Grant
4 Beth Weyers
5 Betty Everett
Terry Hagman
Addie Zeiger
8 Millie Wiggert
9 Nick Brians
Cam Buss
10 Ann Hess

May

11 Drew Graham
15 Lily Golusky
Gladys Smeal
16 Daniel Schroeder
17 Kathy Elich
18 Steve Janosik
22 Scott Elich
Nancy Wolfe
27 Lizzie Barrow
Maria Westcott
28 Julie Kinter

May 2018 Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:30 am – Men’s Bible Study 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 9:00 VT Faculty Women 10:30 am – Get Moving Exercise 7:00 pm – Choir Practice	3 10:00 am Thursday Morning Faith Discussion 6:30 pm – AA Meeting	4 9:00 am Evangelism/Communication 12:05 pm – Luther’s Lunch	5 10:30 am Sanctuary Rehearsal
6 Sixth Sunday of Easter 9:00 am – Christian Formation 10:00 am - Worship	7 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 6:00 pm – Boy Scouts 6:30 pm – AA Meeting 7:00 pm – Wilderness Rd. Chorus	8 9:00 Newcomers Meeting	9 7:30 am – Men’s Bible Study 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 10:30 am – Get Moving Exercise 7:00 pm – Choir Practice	10 10:00 am Thursday Morning Faith Discussion 4:30 pm – Dialogue on Race 6:30 pm – AA Meeting	11 12:05 pm – Luther’s Lunch	12 10:30 am Sanctuary Rehearsal
13 MOTHER’S DAY Seventh Sunday of Easter 9:00 am – Christian Formation 10 am – Worship	14 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 6:00 pm – Boy Scouts 6:30 pm – AA Meeting 7:00 pm – Wilderness Rd. Chorus	15 5:30 pm Christian Ed Committee	16 7:30 am – Men’s Bible Study 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 10:30 am – Get Moving Exercise 7:00 pm – Choir Practice	17 10:00 am Thursday Morning Faith Discussion 1:30 pm FCA Mtg 6:30 pm – AA Meeting	18 12:05 pm – Luther’s Lunch	19 10:30 am Sanctuary Rehearsal
20 PENTACOST 9:00 am – Christian Formation 10:00 am – Worship Confirmation	21 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 6:00 pm – Boy Scouts 6:30 pm – AA Meeting 7:00 pm – Wilderness Rd. Chorus	22	23 7:30 am – Men’s Bible Study 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 10:30 am – Get Moving Exercise 7:00 pm – Choir Practice	24 10:00 am Thursday Morning Faith Discussion 6:30 pm – AA Meeting	25 12:05 pm – Luther’s Lunch	26 10:30 am Sanctuary Rehearsal
27 The Holy Trinity / First Sunday after Pentacost 9:00 am – Christian Formation 10:00 am– Worship 11:30 Congregation Council	28 9:00 am – Parents Morning Out 6:00 pm – Boy Scouts 6:30 pm – AA Meeting 7:00 pm – Wilderness Rd. Chorus	29	30	31		

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Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
600 Prices Fork Road
Blacksburg, VA 24060



STEWARDSHIP NUGGET FOR May 2018