Prince of Peace

THE BELLS

JULY/AUGUST 2023

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THE LUTHERAN HOUR 5

The Highest Expression of Love

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you."

John 15:12-15

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School 9AM
Worship Service 10:15AM

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On July 4th we will celebrate our nation's 247th Birthday of independence from Great Britten. And this past May 29th we remembered all who gave their life in defense of our nation, ensuring that we remain free from tyranny. We are truly blessed by God to live in a free country. God has given us government with the authority to create and maintain a national military in order to protect our country and its way of life from all enemies, both foreign and domestic. America has the largest volunteer fighting force in the world, but not everyone can serve. The military has established criteria in order to ensure a healthy and strong fighting force. Some can serve because they are to young, to old, or they have medical condition. But someone has to go and fight for us and if need be die in defense of our nation.

But we are threatened by more deadly enemies than the nations of this world. Our greatest enemies are sin, death, and Satan. After the fall of humanity into sin, God still requires us to be holy and perfect as He is holy and perfect. But we can't be holy no matter how hard we try. We're weighed down by sin due to our disobedience of God's loving commands. Since we can't be perfect, we need someone to go & fight for us on our behalf. But in order to make us holy, they will have to pay for everyone's sins, past, present and future. But who is willing to suffer and die for our wrongdoings? You already know the answer – Jesus Christ.

In John 15:13 Jesus is saying that there is no higher expression of love than to give up your life for someone else. When Jesus says, "*for his friends*," the Greek word "*hyper*" is used, which means, "*On behalf of*." And so V13 isn't just dying for a friend, but sacrificing oneself, by taking the person's place. Amazingly…

(cont. on page 2)

(cont. from page 1)

the God of the universe calls us friends. A friend is a person whom one knows well and is fond of, an ally, supporter or sympathizer. We don't become Christ's friend through obedience to the Law of God, but we obey Him because we cherish our relationship with Him.

Jesus told His disciples that, "*all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you." (Jn 15:15)* This is a reminder that Jesus didn't act independently from the Father. Jesus consulted and followed His Father's Will at every moment. Jesus fulfilled all the Laws of God and was sinless in every way. Jesus was the only One who was able to take our place on the cross and be sacrificed on our behalf, paying for all the sins of the world. Jesus paid the ultimate price to set us free and He is risen defeating our greatest enemy – death. And so we are truly free from sin, death & the power of the devil. America is not our home. Because God has made us His own through the waters of holy Baptism, we're heirs and citizens of God's heavenly kingdom. When Christ returns all evil will be defeated for good and we will live free, forever in a kingdom that will never end. Amen.

Pastor Sean

John H.✞Arlene, Emma's Mom✞

Debbie✞Bill Hewlett✞Patrick✞

Don & Betty✞Darryl✞Joan✞Larry✞

Katarynia✞Carmie✞Karen Doerr✞

Amy W. & her unborn child✞Kelvin✞

Joan✞Larry✞Genevieve✞Betty H. ✞

Roxanne Clayton✞Don & Betty✞Bonnie✞

Dorothy, Larry W.'s mom✞

JULY/AUGUST SERVANTS IN MINSTRY

ACOLYTES

7/02 Brooke Lehman

7/09 James Shibata, JR

7/16 Noah Schweikert

7/23 Grace Shibata

7/30 Brooke Lehman

8/06 James Shibata, JR

8/13 Noah Schweikert

8/20 Grace Shibata

8/27 Brooke Lehman

ALTAR GUILD

July – Bonnie Keen

August – Tara Dulski

WE ARE IN NEED OF READERS FOR SUNDAYS DURING SERVICE

Pastor Cwynar and his wife Cindy are hosting an Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 30 from 2-6 pm, at their home, 104 Mowry Road, Monaca PA 15061.

The members of Prince of Peace along with the members of Mt. Olive are invited!

If attending, please contact Pastor Cwynar (630-453-4846 or paulcwynar@gmail.com). Bring your favorite Oktoberfest food and/or drink to share with others.

There are still a few spots left in our classrooms for the upcoming school year. If you know someone who has a preschool aged child, please send them our way!

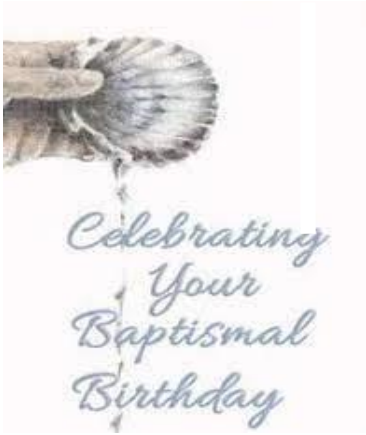
724-728-2405

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Tyler Borgman	1
Karl Borgman	2
Scott Lehman	2
Brett Mohney	3
Kari Mohney	3
Grace Shibata	3
John Hamara	9
Ed Morgan	9
Heather Nuerge	13
Mary Lehocky	15
Linda Weimer	16
Tammy Eckstrom	21
Noah Weedon	24
Rachel Eckstrom	25

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Lilly Rachuba	13
Susan Szabo	17
Cari Skuse	26



JULY

Brad Weedon	1
Alice Davis	9
Karl Borgman	31

AUGUST

Mary Lehocky	2
Scott Lehman	3
John Hamara	4
Dan Helkowski	22
Rachel Eckstrom	23

ANNIVERSARIES

JULY

Ron & Mary Lehocky	5
John & Elizabeth Russler	8
Amy & Bill Rachuba	17
Karl & Lawrie Borgman	20

AUGUST

Sam & Kathy Osten	5
Alex & Ann Remmers	14
George & Linda Volkov	21

KIDZ CLUB RETURNS

September 16TH

5:30-7PM

SEE YOU THERE!

Station	City, State	Freq	Band	Day	Time
WWCH	Clarion, PA	1300	AM	Sun	7:30 AM
WWNL	Pittsburgh, PA	103.9	FM	Sun	3:30 PM
WWNL	Pittsburgh, PA	103.9	FM	Tue	12:30 PM
WWNL	Pittsburgh, PA	1080	AM	Sat	3:30 PM
WWNL	Pittsburgh, PA	1080	AM	Tue	12:30 PM

July 2
"Give Me Life?!"
Guest Speaker: Pastor Keith Haberstock
Finders, weepers; losers, keepers: Pastor Keith Haberstock talks about finding life by losing it, for the sake of Christ.
(Matthew 10:39)

July 9
"Lean Into the Villain's Story"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Jesus changes the way we see ourselves and others, even our villains. He died and rose for them, too.
(Romans 7:24)

July 16
"Two Mindsets"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The Law of God is a test that judges all who take it. The Gospel is the Good News that Jesus passed the test, in our place.
(Romans 8:1-7)

July 23
"Pulling for Others"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
How did two young men start out with similar circumstances but end up in such different places? Was it the choices they made or the pull that others had on their lives?
(Romans 8:31-39)

July 30
"If It Seems Slow, Wait for It"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Some ideas spread slowly. That doesn't make them bad ideas. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about God's slow solution to setting a broken world right.
(Habakkuk 2:3 Romans 10:9)

*August sermon schedule was not available at the time this newsletter was published. Schedule can be found at https://www.lutheranhour.org/programguide.asp *

Announcing The Raleigh Ringers

North Catholic High School

Friday, July 14, 2023, 7:00PM

Dear Friends of Ring Pittsburgh,
Get your tickets now before they sell out! For details and tickets please visit https://ringpittsburgh.org/event-ticket
We are sponsoring this show by one of the premier handbell ensembles in the country, so we hope that you are able to join us for this great event on Friday, July 14 at 7:00pm at North Catholic High School, 1617 Route 228 in Cranberry Township, PA 16066.
Thank you to all of you who have already purchased tickets! We greatly appreciate your support and know you will thoroughly enjoy this wonderful concert.
The Raleigh Ringers is an internationally acclaimed, advanced community handbell choir based in Raleigh, North Carolina. Since its founding in 1990, The Raleigh Ringers has been dazzling concert audiences with unique interpretations of sacred, secular and popular music, including famous rock 'n' roll tunes arranged just for handbells. The group has performed in 39 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, England and France during its tours.
Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there!

A Christmas miracle

"We can all be part of changing a child's life simply by packing a shoebox full of fun, quality gifts," Elizabeth Groff told Fox News Digital in an emailed comment, noting in particular her amazing connection to these acts of generosity and thoughtfulness.

Elizabeth Groff lived in a Ukrainian orphanage as a child — and was eventually adopted by an American family. Today, she is giving out gifts to children all over the world through Operation Christmas Child. (Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child / Fox News)

Such a gesture, she said, "may seem small — but it is powerful when delivered with a message of love and hope! It changed my life." Groff added, "Eighteen years ago, a shoebox gift opened my heart to God's word, and now I have the opportunity to personally demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to a Ukrainian child."

Elizabeth Groff is shown at age 11, when she received a shoebox gift in Ukraine. That gift had a big impact on her life, she said. (Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child / Fox News)

Elizabeth Groff was born and raised in eastern Ukraine. She grew up in a broken family and wound up in an orphanage when she was only 7 years old. She was later adopted into an American family.

She grew and then attended Virginia Tech — and led her fellow students, even the football team — to pack shoeboxes on campus.

Elizabeth today lives in Texas.

Elizabeth Groff, a 2017 graduation of Virginia Tech, will this year give out the 200 millionth shoebox gift from Operation Christmas Child. (Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child / Fox News)

"Delivered into the hands of children through local churches, every shoebox gift is an opportunity to share about Jesus Christ and God's love," said Samaritan's Purse.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD AMAZON WISHLIST QR CODE

142nd Annual Summer Festival

Sunday, July 30, 2023
12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Lund Care Center Backyard, 134 Marwood Road, Cabot, PA 16023

Kids Fishing Derby & Activities

Pittsburgh Doo Wop Big Band 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Haven Apartments Open House, 1-3 p.m.

Car Cruise (weather permitting), 12:30-3 p.m.

Worship Service at 4 p.m. featuring
Rev. Dr. Edward Grimenstein, Member, Concordia Lutheran Ministries Parent Board of Directors; Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Bridgev~~ille, PA~~

Summer Picnic Themed Menu

Concordia
Lutheran Ministries
We put our Faith in Caring

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Sunday School 9AM Service 10:15	3	4 	5 **NO BIBLE STUDY**	6	7	8
9 Service 10:15 Elder's Meeting	10 COUNCIL 6:30	11	12 BIBLE STUDY 11AM	13	14	15
16 Service 10:15	17	18 	19 BIBLE STUDY 11AM	20	21	22
23 Service 10:15	24	25	26 **NO BIBLE STUDY**	27	28	29 **NEW SEWICKLEY COMMUNITY DAYS**
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 BIBLE STUDY 11AM	3	4 Sight & Sound Theatres Moses	5
6 Service 10:15	7 **Operation Christmas Child Meeting 6:30**	8 	9 BIBLE STUDY 11AM	10	11	12
13 Service 10:15 Elder's Meeting	14 COUNCIL 6:30	15	16 BIBLE STUDY 11AM	17	18 	19
20 Service 10:15	21	22 	23 BIBLE STUDY 11AM	24	25	26
27 Service 10:15	28 	29	30 **NO BIBLE STUDY**	31	30	