



The Messenger

News about our church,
our ministries and our people
August 2020
Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool



Drive Through Holy Communion

Starting August 2, at 11:15 a.m. Pastor will be offering Drive Up Holy Communion.

Drive to the front of the church and proceed to the end of the parking lot and follow direction to be served under the covered entranceway. Please remain in your vehicle and roll down your window to receive communion.

Holy Communion will be offered, as usual, during the regular church service each Sunday morning for those attending the service. God's blessings.

Prayer Service

Come join us for an evening of prayerful meditation and music on Wednesday, **August 5, at 7 p.m.** in our sanctuary. In this difficult time of racial tension and dealing with Covid-19, come let us lift our voices to God! Anyone with a specific prayer request please email me at notmuchafraid@hotmail.com.

I hope to see you there. Kim Vaughan

Safety Team News By Steve Vaughan

In recent days a survey was sent via email from the Safety Team to all members and friends of Living Waters. The purpose of the survey was to determine what steps can be taken to make you feel more comfortable and safe about attending church. There was also a question about what time you would like to attend church when we see the need to start having two services to accomplish social distancing. Please look at the survey and send your responses and other comments to me at captainhappi@hotmail.com. You are also welcome to call me at (443) 690-4678. Blessings.

A copy of that email follows ...

Friends in Christ,
On Sunday, May 31' we re-opened our doors for corporate worship for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to close. Since we have re-opened many safety procedures have been instituted to keep our congregation as safe as we can. (A complete list is attached). Although many have returned to church, some have chosen to remain at home on Sunday mornings and watch the service on YouTube. The following questions are being asked to learn if there is more that we can do that would make you feel more comfortable returning to church to

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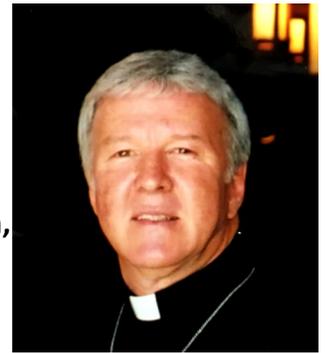
"Come to me all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28"

From the Pastor

By Rev. Lyle Truitt

“As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.”

Colossians 3: 12



Greetings Dear Ones!

When it came time for me to sit down and reflect upon the subject of this newsletter article, my mind and my heart continued to draw me back to the subject of friendship. A friend is someone who thinks you’re a good egg, even though you’re a little cracked. A friend is one who multiplies joys, and divides grief; one who understands our silence.

My mind and my heart are still dwelling upon the recent losses of dear friends who were a part of our church family. As I was reflecting upon these dear ones: Paul Cartwright, Bill Wecker, Joyce Donley, Pat Kralle, and Larry Grimard; I remembered how they all had a common gift, gentleness. Gentleness allows us to be caring and nurturing to others. It helps us to stay calm and not escalate problems or push people’s buttons. It helps us to be an encourager and to build others up. These brothers and sisters truly exhibited gentleness....a gentleness that was always framed with compassion and kindness, and with humility and patience. We miss them!

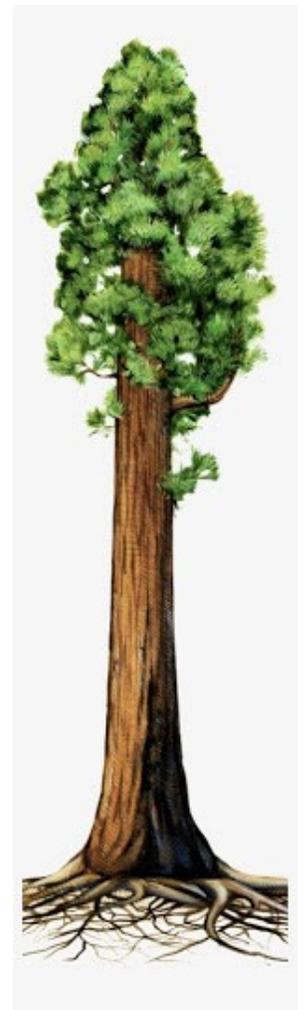
Jesus said, “I am the vine and you are the branches.” Indeed, as the pastor of Living Waters Lutheran, and as members of our church, Jesus is the vine, He is the very trunk of the vine, and we all branch off of Him. As Christians, Jesus is that main connecting piece, which connects us to one another. Jesus says that the bond that holds us is love, and connecting in Christ’s love moves us from servants to friends. A great example for us to build strong connections to friends is the redwood trees which grow in California. These trees can be 18-20 feet in diameter on their trunk. And to support a tree like that you would think that the roots would need to be just as big, if not bigger. However, the redwood’s roots only go down ten feet or so; but they spread horizontally up to hundreds of feet. So what begins to happen is that the roots of the other trees around that tree begin to interlock with each other. They are holding hands underground. What a beautiful picture! They grab on to each other for support, so when the strong winds and storms come they hold each other up. They need each other for survival.

When we connect to Christ through our faith, we are then connected with one another.

This month, I encourage you to think about who YOUR friends are, and how you can bless them. Find ways in which you can intentionally bless them as your friend. I want to invite you to make the decision to have healthy and whole Christian relationships with others. Like those redwood trees, become interlocked with others as friends; as sisters and brothers in Christ. You will be blessed and you will be a blessing to others as you walk together in faith.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “The only way to have a friend is to be one.”

See you around town!



(Continued from page 1)

worship in person. Anticipating an increase in attendance during the Fall and Winter months, we require this information from the following survey, to better plan for your safety. Please send your responses to Steve Vaughan at captainhappi@hotmail.com.

1. Are there any additional safety procedures we can institute to make you feel more comfortable to return to Church?
2. Would the availability of a vaccine make you more confident to return to Church?
3. If attendance increases to a point where a second service is necessary, what time would you prefer?
4. Would you like the pastor or a deacon to visit and bring communion to you?
5. Please provide your preferable contact information (phone, address, email).

Camera Update

By Kim Vaughan

Our new camera has been installed in the sanctuary! I would like to thank everyone for their support. We applied for and were fortunate enough to receive a grant from the Florida Bahamas Synod in the amount of \$2000.00! This went toward helping pay for the camera. What an unexpected blessing! Thank you God!

While the camera was being installed, the men from Pro Audio were kind enough to take down the old organ speakers that were still up on the ledge in the back of the church! Thank you Pro Audio!

Kris and I have been working weekly to make sure you have the best recording possible. We are still working out some kinks in the sound of the video. This week the speaker volume was good but the music volume is still a work in progress. We hope to resolve this issue this week. Let us know if you still have trouble hearing the service at home.

Blessings,

Community Meals Needs Volunteers

By Kris Dines

If you would like to volunteer to cook or serve for an upcoming dinner please contact Kris at the church office at 941-625-8090. Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Community Meals Program.



Council Meeting Recap of July 7, 2020

The meeting opened with devotion and prayer. The financial report was given and approved. The insurance was paid. A motion was made to increase the salary of Susan D'Amico and made retroactive from January. In addition, staff salaries will be reviewed in July each year.

Gayle Backiel will be setting up pictures for a new directory with a target date of January 2021. The Safety Team will be sending a report to parishioners. The next Council meeting is scheduled for August 10.

Living Waters Lutheran Church & Preschool — August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Worship Service 10:00 AM Drive Up Holy Communion 11:15 AM	Council Reports Due Preschool Board of Directors 5:15 PM		Prayer Service 7:00 PM	Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Worship Service 10:00 AM Drive Up Holy Communion 11:15 AM	Church Council Meeting 1:00 PM			Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Worship Service 10:00 AM Drive Up Holy Communion 11:15 AM				Community Dinner 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Worship Service 10:00 AM Drive Up Holy Communion 11:15 AM				Bread & Pastry Ministry 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM		
30	31					
Worship Service 10:00 AM Drive Up Holy Communion 11:15 AM						

Fellowship Committee Still on Hold

From Karen Hoepfner

There is still nothing new to report from the Fellowship Committee. Everything is on hold for now, but we hope we can schedule something soon. We're looking forward to the day when we can all get together and enjoy each other's company again. We have a lot of time to make up.

Until then, take care and God Bless You All!

Happy Birthday



Surprise someone on the list by sending a birthday greeting.

Aug. 3 Lu Ann Wegener
Aug. 4 Carmine Tortora
Aug. 9 Pat Dinges
Aug 19 Barbara Eriksen
Aug 25 Joni Anderson
Val Biassi

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Kim Vaughan

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Steve Vaughan

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The Messenger is published monthly by Living Waters Lutheran Church with printed copies distributed the last Sunday of each month. Copies are also available at: www.LivingWatersLutheran.com and via email distribution.

To have information included in the newsletter, please write your content and send it to Barb Cartwright, editor and publisher: anchorstitch@aol.com or phone 941-743-4770. Articles must be submitted by the 21st of each month. Articles may be edited.

If you have questions about our church, its ministries or about becoming a member, please email Pastor Truitt at plylet65@gmail.com or call 941-625-8090.