



The Messenger

*News about our church,
our ministries and our people
JUNE 2021*

Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool

Safety Team News

On behalf of the Safety Team, I offer thanks. I thank God for being with us through the COVID-19 pandemic. He is always with us and will sustain us in all circumstances. I also thank the Council for the decisions they have made to help our congregation begin a return to normal worship and fellowship practices.

And, I thank you, the members of our church family. You have shown understanding, compassion and patience as we have tried to follow safety protocols to keep everyone safe while at church. I have observed your willingness to have your temperature taken, your seating arrangement changed, and your visits to the restroom followed up by instant sanitizing of the space.

You have not complained about hand sanitizer, mask wearing, or the inability to share the peace the way you really want. You have accepted the no singing mandate while it lasted and you have endured the lack of fellowship after service during coffee hour. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Now, praise God, with guidance from the Council, we are starting to loosen the restrictions and return to a more normal existence. The Safety Team will continue to follow the recommendations from the Council and will give that body any recommendations requested.

Blessings. Stephen Vaughan , Safety Team Chair

Fellowship Events Will Soon Return

By Karen Hoeppner

The Fellowship Committee had a meeting and have some fun events planned for the coming months. The first event will be in September and more information will come in the July and August newsletters. So watch for this

It will be so good to get back together and have a fellowship time with each other.

We would welcome anyone who would like to work on the Fellowship Committee to help plan and to help out with events. Contact Karen Hoeppner at angelrabbit6@comcast.net or Joann Carlock at Jcarlock@yahoo.com if you are interested

Blessings,
The Fellowship Committee

Farewell to Silvia and Bill Wakefield

Fond farewells go out to Bill and Silvia Wakefield as they leave us to return to their permanent home in the north. We hold fond memories of your many years here with us at Living Waters Lutheran.



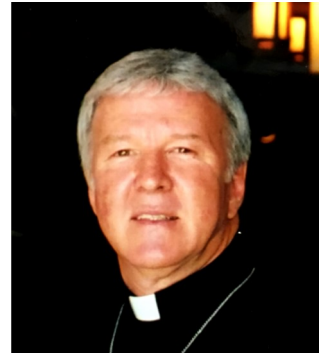
*The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.
Proverbs 4:18*

From the Pastor

By Rev. Lyle Truitt

*"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."*

Matthew 11:28



Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

It's summertime in south Florida, and the air is beginning to get hot and humid! And so what do many Floridians want to do? They plan some vacation time! It's a great time to hit the road and GET AWAY and enjoy some COOL and refreshing place 'up north'...where we can truly get some rest and refreshment!

And yes, with the gift of a vaccination, we no longer have to look like the Lone Ranger! And we can take the masks off and feel a bit normal again.

Are you taking a vacation this summer? Loni and I are still planning our retreat, but we haven't concluded, as yet, just where that might be!

Of course, there are different types of vacations. One type of vacation is the kind where you sit or lay in the sand in some tropical paradise, and you drink some mojitos and enjoy some shrimp cocktails. Gosh, lay in the sand? NOT! That sounds like a tropical paradise just 20 minutes from our home in Sarasota, Florida.

Or you hop in a motor home, or in your car, and hit the highways and byways, and stop here and there to get a taste of the local culture (and find the lowest price for gas).

Another type of vacation is the educational vacation when you're in Washington D.C. or Gettysburg, or Mount Rushmore, or the Grand Canyon, or in Israel, or Italy, or Egypt. And while you're vacationing, you're learning about history, and geology, and art and literature. But, is that really getting some rest?

There's another kind of rest that Jesus invites us to experience, and that is rest for our souls.

There's an old nursery rhyme that goes like this: "This is the church, and this is the steeple, open the doors and see ALL THE PEOPLE." Folks, this summer, (and throughout all the seasons of the year) Jesus is inviting ALL THE PEOPLE to find some rest in their personal relationship with Him. So, WHEREVER it is that you are vacationing this summer, I hope you will hear the voice of Jesus inviting you with these words:

"Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Whether you're on the beach, or in the mountains, or in a kayak in a river, or in a museum, or at a roadside stand buying some lemonade or a corn dog.....remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

A personal relationship with Jesus Christ is the most RESTFUL vacation!!

God's blessings!

See you around town!

Pastor Lyle



Council Meeting Recap—May 10, 2021

Submitted by Barb Cartwright, Council Secretary

The meeting opened with prayer. Minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Financials going into the summer are OK, but actual dollars received toward pledges are behind.

Most small groups are suspended through the summer, however, the Cut-ups continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday morning.

Please notice that the curbs have been painted and more flowers have been planted.

Home communion can be requested. Call the church office.

The Council had a retreat on May 22 to reconsider safety guidelines based on CDC's new recommendations. (See the complete text of the guidelines on page 4.) There will be no council meetings in July and August unless specifically requested.

A small garbage dumpster will replace individual garbage cans to accommodate the volume of waste between both the church and the pre-school. Additional handicap spaces near entrance doors will be addressed by the property committee.

The next meeting is Monday, June 14, at 1 p.m. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Prayer Shawl Update

By Char DeWitt

Here is wishing everyone a wonderful summer! There was a tremendous response to the Mission Minute recently. So much so, that we are running low on prayer shawls. So if you have some time to knit or crochet, please consider making a shawl. Also, if you know someone who is handy with needles or a hook, you might encourage them to make a shawl.

We haven't been meeting at church since the pandemic began, but we will revisit how we meet in the Fall. If you hear that we have disbanded, please know that is not the case.

If you need a shawl and don't know where they are, if you need yarn to knit or crochet, a pattern suggestion, etc., contact Pat Dinges, the summer contact at radtech36@yahoo.com.

Blessings to all of you!
Char



Pictures from the May 30 Coffee Hour



Kim and Steve Vaughan, Pat Bardshar, Karen Hoepfner, Kris Dines, Pat Dinges.



Cliff Walz, Vickie Hill and daughter visiting from Pensacola



Pastor Lyle, Babe Hillegass, Loni Truitt, Joe Ann Hillegass.

Message from Council President Craig Bitler to the congregation on Sunday, May 23

The Church Council met and discussed the Safety Team's recommendations for resuming Church activities. From these recommendations, the Council made the following decisions:

The Church exterior doors may remain closed to conserve on air conditioning for Sunday service. As a courtesy, greeters may open the exterior door to the narthex upon the approach of attendees. Attendees may again enter the building through the fellowship hall doors.

There is no need to continue taking temperatures of those attending services.

The ushers may close the sanctuary doors to the Narthex during service.

There is no need to sanitize restrooms after each use. Sanitizer will remain available in the pews, Narthex, and fellowship hall for those who wish to use it.

Attendees are no longer required to wear masks. However, masks may be worn by anyone who wishes to wear one. Masks will remain available in the Narthex.

We will continue social distancing in the sanctuary by continuing to have every other pew blocked.

The congregation may sing fully, unmasked, with appropriate number of songs and verses as set by

the Worship and Music Director. The choir will resume activities as set by the Worship and Music Director.

Hymnals have been returned to the pews.

The Sharing of the Peace will continue as currently set. The Council will address the Sharing of the Peace at the June Council meeting.

The offering plate will remain on the pedestal at the entrance of the sanctuary. An usher will bring the offering plate to the Pastor during the worship service.

Distribution of communion will be by host and individual cup. Communion may be served at the rail on the last Sunday of the month.

Coffee fellowship may safely return.

Water fountains may be open for use.

The Pastor will end the service and dismiss the congregation. Attendees may exit the pews without direction from the ushers. The Pastor may meet and greet attendees in the Narthex or any other appropriate location of his choice.

We will continue to follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC and discuss these changes at our upcoming Council meetings.

Blessings.

Living Waters Lutheran Church & Preschool — June 2021

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

Coffee Hour Photos Continued



Ray and Jane Fundyga



Jose Hernandez and Tesha Godshall, Susan Freese, and Dave Bozich.

Happy Birthday



Surprise someone on the list by sending a birthday greeting.

June 1	Theresa Bowman Kathy Rybicki
June 2	Shirley Finney
June 3	Katherine Grant
June 11	Bill Wakefield
June 17	Jose Hernandez
June 21	Kari Reece
June 26	Barbara Bruno
June 28	Dru Munson

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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.