



The Messenger

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



Drive Through Holy Communion

Drive-through Holy Communion will continue on Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. for anyone wanting to receive this Sacrament.

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.

We are truly blessed here at... Living Waters Lutheran Church & Preschool

At the beginning of this serious situation we find ourselves in, we made a humble request to all of you to help us maintain our financial stability by mailing in your offerings. None of us had any idea how long this was going to last.

Now since Worship Services have resumed, we are again collecting offerings during the service as normal.

If you are away or not yet attending, PLEASE continue to mail them in as you have during the past few months.

Once again **Thanks and Blessings** to all of you,

From Pastor Lyle, your Church Council and your Treasurer!



Photo by Paul Cartwright

Resurrection Stained Glass Window

Excerpt taken from Retired Rev. Joel Olsen's sermon Jan. 22, 2017

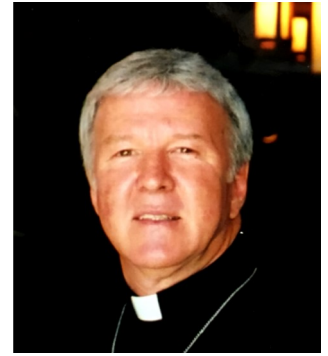
In the opposite corner of the Sanctuary from the Christmas window—at the other end of life—is the Resurrected Christ with the full sun of the east beaming **on** Him and **through** Him. Death has no power over Him; Christ has conquered. Buried with Him, all humanity is raised with Him. Alleluia. Alleluia. And, His arms are wide-spread: to welcome us in—and to send us out. No face, so we may more fully know Christ is our sister and our brother, together sharing resurrection hopes for forgiveness and reconciliation—as we depart in peace to love and serve our neighbor.

"Rejoice because your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:20

From the Pastor

By Rev. Lyle Truitt

**"Peggy, you have been sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked
with the cross of Christ."
"You belong to God."**



Greetings dear friends!

As many of you know, I was born in southern Indiana, and my parents' families were all living there as well. And we were all raised in the church, but not the Lutheran Church. It was called the Central Christian Church. And one of my lasting memories was the day that my aunt Peggy, who was 16 at the time, was baptized in one of the local rivers. It was a beautiful Sunday morning and there was quite a crowd that had gathered for this celebration. And even though there was a crowd of church folks, and I wasn't able to be real close to Peggy as she was being "dunked" in the water, I could clearly hear every word that the minister was speaking to her and to the community. But these are the words that I still remember specifically: "Peggy, you belong to God." And I still remember Peggy telling me the next day that she could still feel the cross on her forehead.

I think I was about 7 yrs. old then, and I didn't have a clue what she was talking about, but I remember looking for that cross on her forehead. Peggy belonged to God, and nothing could ever change that. Nothing! And now, whenever I baptize babies, or children, or adults, I make it a point to remind them or their parents, that WE ALL belong to God.

We don't belong to our boss at work. We don't belong to an abusive spouse, or to any of our addictions. We are not defined by our disabilities or sickness, our successes or failures. We don't belong to the advertising industry that depends upon our money. And yes, we don't belong to any political party. Even though it may feel like it, when we are gathered for a meal, or for a card game, or a cold beverage, and we end up being drawn into a never-ending and hurtful political argument. Yes, even though it might feel like, look like, smell like, or hurt like you belong to a political party....YOU DO NOT!

YOU BELONG TO GOD!!

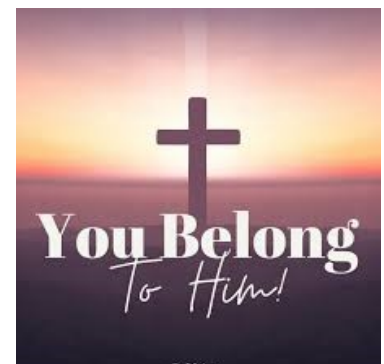
No one determines our worth in this world, or in the next world, other than God. The Bible teaches us that "God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28.

ALL THINGS! Even pandemics, even political elections! Our task, dear friends, OUR call, is to seek the will of God because we belong to Him! Our task, and it sure is a hard task, is to conform ourselves to HIS will rather than to the ways of the world.

Can YOU still feel that cross on your forehead?

Love you so much! Miss you so much! See you around town!

In Christ,
Pastor Lyle



Community Meals & Outreach Team

Community Meals continues to serve around 30 plus people in our community on a take-out basis only. You can find a list of donation items for the twice monthly meals we may be asking for in the church's weekly email. The people are anxious to resume eating inside and remark that they miss the socializing.

Over the past months we have been able to help a number of families in need of food because of your continued support (Thank You).

Clint Shantz continues to pick up the bread and pastries every Thursday. On the non-dinner nights the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, the bread is available here at the church in the mornings after 10 for anyone who would like to stop by. Any left overs are then taken over to either the AMVETS or the Homeless Coalition in Port Charlotte. The clothes ministry is still on hold.

Please remember that we still need **YOUR HELP**. Please consider donating your time to either cook or serve so we can continue to safely reach those in need. If you would like to help, please contact the church office (941) 625-8090 or Kris on her cell (941) 456-0073.

God's Blessings,
Your
Community



Thank You

From Dru Munson

I would like to Thank all of my church family for the cards and prayers during Larry's last illness and passing. It meant so much to me and greatly helped during this difficult time.

Love, Dru

Council Meeting Recap of August 19, 2020

The meeting opened with prayer. Sunday morning church service will resume this Sunday, August 23, and drive through Communion will resume at 11:15. a.m. It was mentioned that there may be a need for two Sunday services in the fall as members return and social distancing is maintained.

The financial report was given and a letter will be sent to the congregation.

Old Business: A new pictorial directory is needed.

New Business: New member installation will be in September. The assistant minister will do reading's at Sunday service. A nominating committee is needed to replace three positions on the council that will be vacated as terms expire.

A motion was made to give permission for the preschool to have their fundraiser. The preschool annual report will be sent out in January and will include all of the work done and repairs made.

The next meeting is Monday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m.

Pastor closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Prayer Shawl Yarn Available

By Barb Cartwright

If anyone is knitting or crocheting Prayer Shawls and is in need of yarn, please contact Barb Cartwright (743-4770 or email anchorstitch@aol.com) for supplies of yarn. She has come into a gift of yarn and would like it to be distributed for this wonderful cause.

Prayer Shawls are available to be given to anyone who is ill, grieving or in need of a special blessing. Shawls are located in the closet in the hallway by the women's bathroom. There are cards and gift bags in that closet, as well as, a sign out sheet.



Living Waters Lutheran Church & Preschool — September

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

Happy Birthday

Surprise someone on the list by sending a birthday greeting.



Sept. 2 John Jensen
 Sept. 4 Rick Backiel
 Sept 7 Ann Voelker
 Sept. 8 Pat Budde
 Sept. 12 Bill Carlock
 Sept. 13 Joanne Carlock
 Sept. 18 Pat Keller
 Sept. 19 Betty Drechsel
 Sept. 25 Jack Serianni
 Sept. 28 Douglas Grant

Physical Address

Living Waters Lutheran Church
 and Preschool
 12475 Chancellor Blvd,
 Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Mailing Address

PO Box 8064, North Port, FL 34290

941-625-8090

www.livingwaterslutheran.com

Church Office: Kris Dines

kris@livingwaterslutheran.com

Pastor Lyle Truitt:

plylet65@gmail.com

Deacons:

Kim Vaughan	Steve Vaughan
notmuchafraid	captainhappi
@hotmail.com	@hotmail.com

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Mon-Thurs.

Council Members:

Craig Bitler, Vice Pres/Property *Jane Fundyga, Financial Sec/*
 941-234-6311 Member Care

cdbitler@comcast.net

941-979-2041

jfundyga@gmail.com

Joanne Carlock, President/
Fellowship

941-426-5434

jcarlock99@yahoo.com

Sue Hill, Asst. Secretary
 941-255-9089

Carolann Cortese, Secretary/
Small Groups
 941-429-0422

carolanncortese@aol.com

Rich Pelto, Treasurer
 941-426-9160

randdpelto@gmail.com

Debbi Fiore, Member at Large
 941-423-3936

Debbi_fiore@yahoo.com

Bill Steen, Property Maint.
 352-445-9476

billysteen11@gmail.com

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.