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The Messenger

May
2022

Pastor

The Rev. Paul Herter

Youth/Family Life

Becky Martinal, DCE

Worship

Sundays

9:00 a.m.

Bible Study

Sundays

10:30 a.m.

Mondays – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays – 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays - 6:30 p.m.

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Dear Ones in our Risen and Reigning LORD and Savior Jesus Christ,

A couple of months ago Carol and I were in Holland, Michigan. Holland is a delightful town although at the time of our visit not even frozen tulips were in evidence. We walked in the downtown area and, as you may know, Hope College takes up many blocks in Holland. Hope College is, ostensibly, a Christian college, although I don't know how much it holds to its Christian confession anymore. One thing I did notice, to my dismay, as we were walking along is that Hope College has an Office of "Diversity, Equality (or is the word equity?), and Inclusivity." Sounds pretty good, doesn't it? Of course, if you take a closer look, you might see a completely different understanding and meaning of those terms.

As a student of history, I was reminded of the "battle cry" from the French Revolution: "They took as their slogan the famous phrase, 'Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité' – Liberty, Equality, Fraternity. Equality, or doing away with privilege, was the most important part of the slogan to the French revolutionists. For equality they were willing to sacrifice their political liberty." (Emphasis mine) During the French "Reign of Terror" (1793-1794), some 300,000 citizens were arrested, 40,000 were murdered, including 17,000 that were beheaded via the guillotine! The Church and its ministers suffered greatly due to attacks and killings because the French turned to worshipping "the Goddess of Reason!" ("It's the Science," after all.) How different from our American Revolution, which was concluded a few years earlier, when colonists who opposed the new America were left in peace instead of being lined up for execution!

My main concern is that our institutions, including colleges and universities, even down to our kindergartens and elementary schools, are teaching an anti-American, anti-Church, anti-nuclear family philosophy to their students. It may be called "Critical Race Theory" (or some cleverly disguised version of it) which teaches kids to regard their skin color and gender as the most important features of their identity as persons.

You might think, "Well, that's not happening in my child's school." Don't be so sure; I was talking to a doctor friend living in Lenawee County who said his grandson was being taught that there are four genders! Maybe it's time to attend your child's school board meeting to find out what they are being taught?

It seems to me that both Church and Nation are being adversely affected with this redefinition of what once was completely valid terminology. I mean, who wouldn't support "Diversity, Equality, and Inclusivity?" Actually, it is the Church and we Christians, holding to the teachings of Holy Scripture, who can embrace God's desire for real diversity, not the "lockstep" demanded by secular diversity, equality and inclusivity which, frankly, fails in every area. Secular diversity is a demand for strict adherence to only one way of thinking. Secular equality disparages any individual achievement, instead it divides people by skin color or group identity. Secular inclusivity includes only those who fully (and loudly) ascribe to the politically/culturally correct viewpoints.

A portion of the poem, "The Second Coming," by William B. Yeats, comes to mind: "Turning and turning in the widening gyre – The falcon cannot hear the falconer; Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world, the blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere The ceremony of innocence is drowned; The best lack all conviction, while the worst, Are full of passionate intensity."

(continued on page 2, column 2)

Stewardship Corner

Channels of God's Amazing Love

Because God is love, His nature is to love. Love is not merely an attribute of God; it is His character. "God is love," (1 John 4:8), and His love to us is a gift. From the time that He created the world, God has never stopped pouring out His love. He gives us His complete and perfect love not because we are worthy or attractive people, but because He is a God of unfathomable love. That love moved Him to give His Son to rescue us from sin that entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating the forbidden fruit. Out of obedience to His Father and love for us, Jesus gave His life for us. Through His birth, life, death, and resurrection from that death, we through faith have received the forgiveness of our sins and life eternal.

We often find it very difficult to love someone we believe does not deserve our love or who does not reciprocate our love. God's love overcomes those barriers that each of us has. He loves us even though we are unworthy of His love. He doesn't love us because we please Him. He loves us simply because He is love. His love is unconditional. This is the difference between God and us. Since "God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8), we must realize that we, too, are undeserving. How can we withhold love from others when we ourselves have received such abundant, undeserved love from our Father in Christ?

God charges us to share His love. As the Holy Spirit leads and directs us, convicts and encourages us, the command to love others becomes a joy, not an obligation. It is God's love flowing through us to others that makes loving others natural and joyful. Throughout God's Word, He calls us to love everyone which includes not only our families and friends but our enemies, neighbors, and strangers. Jesus tells His disciples that, when they feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit those in prison, they are really doing it for Jesus (Matthew 25:35-40). When we love our neighbors, God's love is perfected and shown in us and through us.

God's love to us in Christ is that power that enables us to love Him and others. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). By God's grace, we become people responding out of love to serve those He places in our lives. When needs arise, Jesus opens our eyes and hearts so we can respond to those needs. The Apostle John wrote, "But if anyone has the world's goods and (continued in next column)

Channels, cont.

sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God love abide in him?" (1 John 3:17). Are others seeing God's love through us?" May God help us all be channels of God's amazing love.

Pastor's Article, cont.

What we are witnessing, dear ones, is the result of a nation, a people, who have cast off the gentle yoke of God and His Word, in favor of the chains of despair, hopelessness, and evil. As in any other times, our only Hope is in the LORD.

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity." (Joel 2:13-14)

May God grant us revival for Jesus' sake.

Pastor Paul

Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5. Please make an extra effort to make time to pray for our church, our community, our nation, our world that day. Our Heavenly Father invites us to talk with Him and loves to answer our prayers.

We thank:

- 1) Lowell and Linda Oberhaus, for weeding and beautifying the entry flower mound;
- 2) All who brought things to the Rummage Sale;
- 3) All who worked to set up, clean up, and at the Sale;
- 4) Everyone who has and continues to give towards the 50th Anniversary celebration as well as helping with the planning!

HOW CAN WE
Thank
God
ENOUGH FOR YOU?
- 1 Thessalonians 3:9, NIV -



Ascension Worship Thursday, May 26

Ascension Day 2022 is Thursday, May 26. Ascension Day is forty days after Jesus rose from the dead and celebrates His glorious return to the throne of heaven. He reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit. One day, soon, He will return in the same way He left. When He returns, He will raise everyone from death and take those of us who believe in Him home to heaven with Him! That will be a fantastic day and a fantastic celebration – going on forever!

This is why we celebrate Ascension Day every year.

This year we, the redeemed people of God, will gather – together or virtually -- **at 6:30 p.m. on Ascension Thursday, May 26**, to give Jesus thanks and praise for all He has done and continues to do for us. If we *can* meet together, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper.

See you Thursday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m. – in person or via Facebook!

Card Shower

Myrna Sheldon will celebrate her 89th birthday on May 30. Her daughters, Karen and Anne, are asking that we help Myrna celebrate by sending her a birthday card. Myrna's address is:

Myrna R. Sheldon
c/o Aspen Grove
7515 Secor Road Room #702
Lambertville, MI 48144

Secret Sisters

Are you remembering your Secret Sister? Pray for your Sister daily and remember her regularly with a note. This pleases our Lord and strengthens our relationship with Him and with our fellow believers.



Vacation Bible School

St. John's Lutheran Church and Hope are planning to provide the community with Vacation Bible School this year from **June 20 – 23** and Hope will be hosting the event! The theme is "Make Waves" from Orange.

Orange is a non-profit organization that creates resources and experiences that promote the alignment of the church and the home. Two combined influences make a greater impact than just two influences. When the light of the church (yellow) combines with the heart of the home (red), you get a stronger, more vibrant impact in the life of a kid (orange).

We encourage you to watch for more information on this year's Vacation Bible School, to volunteer to help, and to invite others to join you!

Meals on Wheels

Volunteers are needed to deliver a hot meal to homebound seniors. Drivers are asked to come to the Frank Street entrance of the Adrian Senior Center by 10:15 a.m. to deliver the meals. Routes take about 60 minutes to complete and you can have lunch afterwards at the Center. You will also receive money towards gas.

If you will help with this ministry, contact the kitchen, 517-263-4529, and ask for the Route Coordinator.

Special Sunday Schedule

May 29, 2022

9:00 a.m. - Bible Classes for All Ages

**10:30 a.m. - United Worship with
Communion**

**12:00 – 1:30 p.m. – Faith, Food &
Fellowship**

Baby Bottle Drive

May 8-June 19, 2022

As we seek to change hearts and lives by providing Christian care, TOGETHER we will continue to elevate God's plan for the sacredness of life, sexuality, and the family in our community.



In honor of Mother's and Father's Day, we are humbly asking for your help in supporting the moms, dads, and children who needs us most, with a tax deductible gift to CPC of Lenawee. All of our services are offered free of charge to our clients. To see the many services we offer visit our website at:

<http://cpclenawee.com/>.

Ways to Give:

1. On our website @ cpclenawee.com. Scroll down and click on the orange DONATE NOW box.
2. Mail a check or money order designated for CPC Virtual Baby Bottle Drive, payable to CPC, 308 N. Broad St., Adrian, MI 49221.
3. Click on the DONATE TODAY Baby Bottle below.
4. Use your credit by calling us at 517-263-5701 to make a donation or to set up a recurring payment.

OR:

Pick up a baby bottle at church, fill with money or a check payable to CPC, and return before June 19.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Staff, Volunteers and Clients, thank you so much for whatever you might do to help support CPC by keeping the Campaign alive and growing from Mother's Day through Father's Day.

Together for LIFE,

Roxanne Meeks, Executive Director



Sharron Sheridan, Mary Martinal and Susan Muck will be attending this convention. They will gladly take your donations to the 2022-2024 Mite Goal or to our offering recipients:

Mother/Daughter Event

Our Mother/Daughter Event for this year has become a Ladies' Luncheon to be held at Aubree's Pizzeria and Grill on South Main Street in Adrian. The date is Saturday, May 7, the day before Mother's Day. The time is 11:30 a.m.

Ladies of all ages are invited. We will enjoy soup, salad, and the pizza buffet for \$12.95 (plus tip). Ladies ages 5-10 eat for ½ price; under 5 eat for free. And, if you would rather, you can order from Aubree's menu.

Call the Church Office, 517-263-4317, and let us know you are coming and how many you are bringing no later than Friday, May 6.

Mighty Mites at Work

We praise and thank our mighty God for His love and His grace so we can reach the Michigan District Mite Goal for 2020-2022 and the National Mite Goal for 2021-2023!

This month as you put money into your mite container, say a prayer for Lutheran Association of Missionary Pilots (LAMP) Ministry, Inc..

LAMP Ministry Inc.'s mission is to go "...to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8b) and LAMP envisions the day when nations walk together in the light of Christ (Revelation 7:9).

There are nearly one million Indigenous people, half of whom as children living in the remotest areas of northern Canada, who have limited access to biblical education and Gospel proclamation. This is why LAMP sends missionaries to them.

LAMP requires small, well-equipped airplanes to transport staff and volunteer missionaries to teach the Scriptures and proclaim the Gospel in remote northern communities. LAMP aircrafts currently require a significant avionic instrument upgrade to ensure safe and efficient flights for pilots and missionaries.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, meeting in convention in June 2021, granted the sum of \$65,000 to help fund LAMP Ministry, Inc.'s "Propelling the Gospel."

*Happy Mother's Day
May 8*

May Celebrations

Happy Birthday

Vikki Ritzert	2
Jonathan Henzi	14
Darlene Fink	17
Norman Knight	18
Ron Gentz	20
Carol Herter	20
Kathy Brevoort	24
Kevin Giroux	27
Margaret Parker	27
Brendan Holmes	29
Nicklas Holmes	29
Presley Holmes	29
Myrna Sheldon	30
Haley Wetzel	30
Bill Posten	31

Wedding Anniversaries

Paul & Judy Theung	4
Dick & Judy Kuntz	5
Paul & Becky Martinal	5
Tom & Jennifer Sande	20
Jim & Kay Logan	25

Congratulations!

... to Paul and Becky Martinal, on their 15th wedding anniversary on May 5!

Baptismal Anniversaries

Erika Lewis	1
Hilda Cortez	3
Mary Martinal	4
Phyllis Johnson	6
Bill Posten	6
Otto Bilkey	7
Mikaela & Philip Starr	12
Elaine Stevenson	13
Judy Parros	18
Paul Theung	22
Jan Wuebben	23
Dianne Wrase	24
Janice Powers	28
Brendan, Nicklas, Presley Holmes	29

We Pray This Month:

- For the Nations of the world for peace and the end of war, & spread of the Gospel
- For Our Nation – that God would guide and protect all government leaders in all our states and our military
- For His Church – that God would move us to rejoice always in the victory Jesus won over evil & has given us by grace through faith in Him & share His message of reconciliation with those who do not know Him
- For Hope – that God would guide our Administrative Board as they do their work & our future plans
- For those who grieve: family of: Jim Merrild
- For those who struggle with illness or injuries –

HOPE
PRAYS

Myrna Sheldon	Margaret Parker	Maynard Howard
Patti Vergiels (knee replaced)	Dave & Dee Weisenfelder	Chuck Presley
Jeremy & Penny Filber	Marcia Albain (headaches)	Krista Ziegler Allen
Arleen Jacobsson (knee)	Bob & Joann Wachter	Jane Stevens (A-fib)
Mike Griffith (eyes)	Marnella Lafferty (knee)	Betty Prielipp
Stephanie Butler	Thomas Groh	Mary Jane Hull
Brad Housman (pain)	Annette Miller	Graelyn Neal
COVID sufferers	Ed Carr	Sarah Holmes' Mother
Rev. Daryl Etheridge	Richard Sande	Marti Hudelston
Tim Allwardt (crushed foot)	Jada Korsman	Kristie Smith (eye issues)
Jon Willett	John Parlier	Mike Weisenfelder
Bob Beagle	Jeff Moyer (stroke)	Micheal Thiel
Bill & Jeanie Landry	Don Smith, Jr.	Mary Ellen Moyer
Ralph & Wanda Saylor	Casey Muck (concussion)	Norma Fidler
Melissa Morton (stroke)	Jamie Murphy (cirrhosis)	Ryan Bachman
Kathy Sparks (cancer)	Nick Dudee (cancer)	Dan Smith (cancer)
Marge (cancer)	Mary Caroline (cancer)	Barb (cancer)
Lisa Cable (cancer)	Denver Parker (cancer)	Josh Etheridge (leukemia)

Contact the Church Office, 263-4317 or hopelcms@tc3net.com, with new requests and/or

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 3 rd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship [C] 10:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:45am Youth Gathering 3:30pm Confirmation	2 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	3 9:30am Gentz Sm. Gr.	4 6:30pm Bible Study	5 Nat'l Day of Prayer	6	7 11:30am Ladies' Luncheon at Aubree's Pizzeria
8 4 th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship [C] 10:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 3:30pm Confirmation	9 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	10 9:30am Gentz Sm. Gr. 6:30pm Elders	11 6:30pm Bible Study	12	13	14
15 5 th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship [C] 10:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 3:30pm Confirmation	16 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	17 9:30am Gentz Sm. Gr.	18 6:30pm Bible Study	19	20	21
22 6 th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship [C] 10:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 3:30pm Confirmation	23 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	24 9:30am Gentz Sm. Gr.	25 6:30pm Bible Study Newsletter Deadline	26 Ascension 1pm Admin Bd. 6:30pm Ascension Eve Worship [C]	27	28
29 7 th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship [C] Noon Food, Faith, Fellow. 3:30pm Confirmation	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31				[C] = Communion

May 2022 Servant Schedule

May 1	9:00 a.m.	ELDER: Jim Logan; READERS: Youth, Jim Logan; USHERS: Tom & Jacob Sande; COMMUNION: Hilda Cortez, Presley Holmes, Amelia Martinal; ACOLYTE: Presley Holmes; GREETER: Judy Theung
May 8	9:00 a.m.	ELDER: John Butler; READERS: Jennifer Sande, John Butler; USHERS: Tom & Jacob Sande; COMMUNION: Sande Family, Cambria Stevens, Amelia Martinal; ACOLYTE: Nicklas Holmes; GREETER: Judy Theung
May 15	9:00 a.m.	ELDER: Rick Wetzel; READERS: Sue Muck, Rick Wetzel; USHERS: Tom & Jacob Sande; COMMUNION: Sue Muck, Sara Hackney, Allison Wetzel, Brendan Holmes; ACOLYTE: Brendan Holmes; GREETER: Judy Theung
May 22	9:00 a.m.	ELDER: Ron Gentz; READERS: Judy Theung, Ron Gentz; USHERS: Tom & Jacob Sande; COMMUNION: Finks, Nicklas Holmes, Cambria Stevens; ACOLYTE: Allison Wetzel; GREETER: Judy Theung
May 26	6:30 p.m.	ELDER/READER: Ron Gentz
May 30	10:30 a.m.	ELDER: Bill Kohn; READERS: Carol Herter, Bill Kohn; USHERS: Tom & Jacob Sande; COMMUNION: Sharon Shulters, Presley Holmes, Allison Wetzel; ACOLYTE: Amelia Martinal; GREETER: Judy Theung