

...centered in Christ we worship, we hope, we create, we connect



SPIRIT OF PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
God's Love Includes All

Watchword for the Year

1 Corinthians 15:58: "Be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

Newsletter, June 2016

Pastor Tim's Message - Lawn Care and other Spiritual Endeavors

This past week I gave in and tuned up my lawn mower. That roughly entailed putting gas in, checking the oil and checking to see if it would start. I am not great at lawn mower maintenance and usually try not to fix it if it doesn't seem broken. An hour later, a sore right arm and...after the overwhelming smell of gasoline subsided, it started. I proceeded to get right to the mowing.



I soon realized two things; that I should have surveyed the lawn to pick up any bits of dog doo before mowing and I should have changed into old shoes. So, now that I have a new pair of old shoes for the lawn mowing season and have spread dog fertilizer about, I am ready for a summer of mowing.

I realized as I was mowing that I kind of miss tending to the yard. I love the way the grass smells and looks after it's freshly cut. It is easy to get dis-connected from the beauty of growing things like grass and flowers. God has created us to enjoy the beauty of nature. I think I forgot that.

Peace and joy and green rings around your shoes.

Pastor Christie's Message

What a wonderful Lovefeast celebration and fundraiser last month! Thanks to all who participated and gave of their resources. The music, food, and variety of people were delightful.

Tricklebee Café is progressing towards becoming an official nonprofit pay-what-you-can community café. Our aim is to be open by the end of August. (That will happen if there is continued smooth progress with our plumber, electrician, the City code enforcers, and the health department.) Hopefully, you will be able to participate in our "soft opening" the week before our official public opening. More details forthcoming.

Thank you all for your continued prayerful and physical support as we strive to be sure that all are fed, regardless of their means to pay.

Here are our upcoming café renovation work days for June (stop by to say "hi," even if you can't stay to work):

Saturday, June 11: 9am-12pm & 1-5pm

Sunday, June 12: 1-5pm

Monday, June 13: 8:30-11:30am

Saturday, June 25: 9am-12pm & 1-5pm

Sunday, June 26: 1-5pm

Monday, June 27: 8:30-11:30am



President's Report -

by Brandon Koltz

Our guests are coming. Are we ready?

June will be a busy month. We anticipate completing the improvements needed to host groups overnight during the next month. This includes shower construction, modification of the rest rooms to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and installation of the fire sprinkler system.

We will need volunteers to help install the plumbing and build the walls at the direction of our plumbers and Erich Gross, who will direct construction of the walls. If you have the time and can provide skilled or unskilled labor, let Brandon or the office know and we will let you know when help is needed.

The parsonage sale should close in early June, providing much of the funding for the Urban Retreat Center. However, the sale will not provide full funding. We will also need some funds for operations. Spirit of Peace will receive payment from groups participating in our programs – about \$20,000 this year.

The congregation approved borrowing up to \$25,000 from the ELCA Mission Loan Fund at the May 15 congregational meeting. We will borrow only enough to complete construction. The Mission Loan Fund requires a capital funding campaign. What this means is a pledge, above and beyond regular giving, to help repay the debt. Please consider a commitment to help secure the loan.



At the same time, Tricklebee Café is nearing completion with expected opening late summer. Pastor Christie also needs help with construction. Please consider volunteering to help there as well.

We had an enjoyable and spiritually uplifting service with our Moravian brothers and sisters on May 22. Thanks to Pastor Christie, Pastor Dawn, our musicians, other participating pastors and our soul food providers. Spirit of Peace is breaking new ground in collaborative ministry.

A recent addition to our outreach ministry is Game Night, organized by Scott Dercks. Young and not so young people meet to enjoy fellowship through playing board games. It is growing in numbers and we thank Scott for having this idea and organizing it.

So, why are we doing all this? I believe that Christ calls us to serve our neighbors. Part of that service is seeing a need and filling it. Worship is a given, but service also involves providing food, providing a safe place for people to enjoy fellowship, and to provide education to those outside our neighborhood. Spirit of Peace has said we are in the City for Good. There is a great social divide between urban, suburban, and rural folks, and folks from different geographic areas. Among different denominations. We can be the bridge, facilitating understanding, breaking down barriers. So, it takes a little sweat equity. Spirit of Peace is ready for the challenge.

Meet our Member Feature

by Sandy Krause

I'd like to introduce you to Ralph and Anneliese Haeselich. Anneliese was a seamstress and Ralph a cartographer (mapmaker). They met through his cousin when they were in their forties. Both divorced with children, they had second jobs at the pet food factory packing. They fell in love, married and will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on June 18th. They have been retired for 35 years.

They started as members of St. Thomas Church, which merged with Washington Park Lutheran, which became Divine Word that is now Spirit of Peace. Their son, Ken, is deceased. Their daughter, Pat, lives in Milwaukee, and their daughter Caroll lives in North Carolina. Anneliese sang in choir, sewed for church making quilts and altar cloths and helped in the kitchen. Ralph helped around church wherever needed, specializing in bringing the roasts, the 'slow cook food'.



They have a history of baking cookies and taking them to doctors, neighbors and friends. Recently on a doctor's visit they were asked 'where are the cookies'. These things are not forgotten. They have always connected with the 'forgotten people, people who are alone or shy'. Anneliese said, "If you talk to people you gain their trust and we become friends, sometimes it takes a long time but people bring such joy. Using prayer helps a lot to get people on the track."

The past few years they have had a few health challenges and have not been able to physically get to church but are with us in spirit.

Urban Retreat Center -

by Betty Streng

The Urban Retreat Center received over \$2,000 from our Lovefeast offering. We would like to thank all of the generous donors who are making this mission possible.



Prayer Requests

Alex Babaian & Family, Barbara Bartsch, Gloria Belling, Jeanne Boldt, Sandra Cotton, Wes Crusous, Anneliese & Ralph Haeselich and granddaughter Tara, Carl Kjer, Dennis N., Christy Romanuck, La Vance and Kay Johnson, Sherry Vollriede, Jean Waagen, Erin Kopan, Betty Kjer, Carol Krimmer, Michelle, Russ Haberman, Ashley, Sue Zakrzewski, Mary Evelyn (J. Chubbuck's sister), Pat Kellogg, Sue Pajunen & Family, Chuck Ruehl, Diane Zayecheck, Colleen Phillips, Janet Buchen, Mary Jacob (Sister of Alice Whaley), Extended Family/Friends of Beatrice Witt, Naomi Schade (Sister of Sarah Kubetz), Gloria Jarosa (Wife of C. Muszynski's co-worker).

May Events

- May 1 – 10:30** - Service, Last Confirmation class
May 4, 11, 18, 25 – 6:30 PM – Creativity Night at Pastor Christie’s home
May 7 – 6:00 – Drop in game night
May 8 – 10:30 –Moravian Service
May 14 – 2-4 PM – Confirmation Class Program/Celebration at Good Shepard/Trinity
May 15 – 10:30 – Service & Confirmation Celebration
May 20 – 6:30 –Movie, Aspergers Empowerment Group, Public event
May 21 – 6:00 – Drop in game night
May 22 – 4:00 PM- Moravian Love Feast Service
May 23 – 6:00 PM – Council Meal/Meeting
May 29 – 10:30 – Service, Baptism of C. Romanuck's **Great** Grandson, Jack Alan Jansen

June Events

- June 4 - 6-9:00 PM** - Drop-in Game night
June 5 – 10:30 – Service
June 8 – 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Hi-Mount Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
June 10-12 – Pridefest events at Lakefront
June 12 – 10:30 –Moravian Service
June 18 - 6-9:00 PM - Drop-in Game night
June 19 - 10:30 – Service
June 23 – 6:00 PM – Council Meal, **6:30 PM** Council Meeting
June 25 – 9:30 AM – Morning of Mentoring, Aspergers Empowerment Group, Public event
June 26 – 10:30 – Service

Church Staff

Tim Tahtinen, Lutheran Pastor
Christie Melby-Gibbons, Moravian Pastor
Sue Pajunen, Isaiah Adams, Judson & Sharon Chubbuck, David Melby-Gibbons, Music Team
Sue Zakrzewski, Financial Administrator
Elaine Farber, Volunteer Secretary

Spirit of Peace

5505 W. Lloyd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53208
414-476-3189