



THE MESSENGER

" Abide in me, as I abide in you. " John 15: 4a

May 1, 2018

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"Abide in me as I abide in you."

God continues to nurture faith in our families. So we are blessed to celebrate the Rite of Confirmation again this Pentecost. Our confirmands will make a public confession of their faith through the words of the Apostles Creed. They will also renounce all the forces that defy God, renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God, and then renounce the ways of sin that draw us from God. Then they will promise "to continue in the covenant God with (us) in holy baptism", more specifically saying they will:

- live among God's faithful people,
- hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- and will strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

This is a tall list of commitments, one that I'm not always sure I fulfill so well! I know that our young people will need to grow in order to follow such promises. Fortunately, they'll have some help, because the people of Christ Lutheran will also promise "to support these young men and women and pray for them in their life in Christ."

More basically, Jesus promises us and calls us to such supportive relationships in the Gospel of John. The first and central relationship comes through God's love in Christ Jesus: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15)

Let's celebrate that growing presence of God's will and steadfast love in our community. God is actively nourishing life and new growth that bears much fruit around and through us. We rejoice, work and rest in the knowledge that God's Word continues to bring abundant life to us and to creation all around us.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen,

Pastor Paul

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - WORSHIP SUNDAY APRIL 29th 10 a.m.



**This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life
with us is the image of the vine.**

**Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other,
in the mystery of mutual abiding that we read of in the gospel
and the first letter of John.**

**Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living
and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life.
As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table.
We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.
(Sunday and Seasons.com)**

Prayer of the Day -

*O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live.
Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love
and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

Gospel Reading - John 15:1-8



LEARNING COMMITTEE

Congratulations to Our Confirmands!

Sunday, May 20th is Pentecost and Confirmation Sunday. Two teens have completed their two years of instruction including attending retreats and confirmation camp. Congratulations Cassandra Garrison and Daniel Young! Please join them as they affirm their baptism on this special day. To celebrate their accomplishments, there will be a reception in their honor following the worship service.

Attention All Graduates!

We'd like to recognize those in our congregation who are graduating from high school, college, or receiving a post-graduate degree. Please contact the church office with the information (name, school, degree, and future plans) so we can share the good news with everyone! The deadline is May 20th in order to have the information ready for the June Messenger.

Deep Blue Kids Sunday School

Our 3-year-olds through 6th graders will complete this Sunday School year discussing followers of Christ who helped spread the gospel. Our last class for this year will be May 20th.

Adult Forum Classes For May

Join us in Adult Forum this Sunday to discuss "**The E Word**" from the *Living Lutheran* April cover story. Should we still call ourselves "evangelical"?

VBS - This Changes Everything

Do you know the Bible verse Ephesians 2:8? (If not, ask a confirmation student who knows it by heart!) This verse is the theme for VBS this year because what it says does change everything for a Christian. Our week of camp (July 30th - August 3rd from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) will include new adventures, games, outdoor activities, Bible study, projects, songs, and snacks - all led by the counselors from Mar-Lu-Ridge! The registration forms for this all day camp are in the information center and online.

Soon we will be asking for volunteers so check your calendars and plan on being part of this great VBS week.

Preschool Year Will End With a Busy Month

The children celebrated Donuts for Dads in April, and now they will have the chance to honor their mothers with a Mother's Day Luncheon. The event will include making lunch for the moms, singing some special songs, and giving them gifts.

The older students will enjoy a field trip to Frying Pan Park where they will see the animals and enjoy a picnic at the park.

Kindergarten Day is an exciting day for the rising kindergarteners. They celebrate with a video about kindergarten, have a kindergarten snack, and practice riding on a school bus. These children are excited about getting ready for "the big school!"

The school year ends on May 25th with the annual preschool picnic. The preschoolers and their families celebrate the accomplishments of the year, enjoy being with their friends and look forward to the excitement of next year. Our congregation is invited to join us that day and meet our wonderful preschool families!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

CHRIST HOUSE DONATIONS PLEASE!

We are in need of the following items to refurbish our Christ House:

Bedroom furniture - full or queen bedroom set - or bed, or mattress and boxspring.

Living room furniture - love seat, a chair, lamps & end tables,

Household - wash cloths, bath & hand towels, Blankets (twin, full or queen size), sheets, area rugs, shower curtains, bath mats, and toiletries.

Please talk with Allen Griffith & Joyce Skoglund!

BUTTERFLY WAY STATION - Thank you to everyone who helped planting last Sunday April 22nd. Joyce Skoglund.



GARDEN PLOTS

Garden Plots available! Talk with Allen Griffith!

PHOTOS PLEASE

Tired of the same old photos on the TV powerpoint in the church lobby?



Are you active here at Christ Lutheran? Pause a moment and take a photo and send it to Connie or Pastor Paul so we can refresh & renew our multimedia photos.

Committee Chairs, please share your committee activities with our church membership through this E-Newsletter and our Friday E-Announcement emails. To have your article

published in the next monthly issue of ***The Messenger***, please send Connie text and/or pictures by email by **MAY 25th**.

The deadline for articles to be included in the JUNE issue of ***The Messenger*** is MAY 25th. Pastor Paul and staff.

NEW MEMBER PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

New Member Picture will be taken sometime within the next few months. If you wish to have your photo taken or retaken for the photo directory, please see Chris Rossbach.

Evangelism Committee

SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Service Committee made dinner for FACETS clients and delivered food to Britepaths families.

English classes (ESL) for the community on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. continue attracting new students. We are currently evaluating how to keep the momentum as we enter the summer months. Join the fun if you'd like to substitute teach, share refreshments or help with childcare. You are always welcome to drop in about 8 p.m. to meet our neighbors!

Phyllis Herrington, Committee Chair

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Sanctuary Flowers may be purchased weekly at a cost of \$59.00

Sign-up sheets are available at the Information Center, so sign-up early to commemorate your special occasions. Flowers may be taken home after the Sunday worship service. If the flowers are left at the church after Monday they will be shared with shut-ins.

ETERNAL FLAME

The Eternal Flame is available and may be purchased weekly at a cost of \$45.00
Our new 2018 sign-up poster has been placed at the Information Center.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Join Our Monthly Prayer & Bible Study, May 1st & 15th at 6:15 pm



Please join our CELC prayer/Bible Study group every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:15 p.m. in the Pastor's Office or Sanctuary. If you would like to add someone to our monthly prayer card please email the church office at admin@fairfaxchristlutheran.org

Prayer List

We pray for health and healing +

Zoey Angelo, Nadia Appel, Beverly and Robert L. Boulis, Jr., Rita Brice, Elizabeth Ann Crider, Lois Culler, Barbara Diehl, Brandi Dellinger, Tara Dove, Rudy Drechsel, Ken Dugan, Souzan Elmarghi, James Estep, Patricia Fieber, Alexandra Fresen, Cliff Geisbert, Alison Grohman, Olivia Immerman, Chawky Jabaly, Luba Kakovitch, Sally Kaplan, Janice Keck, Rhonda Kelly, Bryan McCoy, Carolyn Phillips, Lueanne White, & Allison Graves Wilson, Lueanne White, & Allison Graves Wilson.

+ For The Homebound +

Evelyn Dise, **Betty Mangler**, and **Rutha & Jeff McGinnis**.

Prime Timers Will Meet on Wednesday, May 2nd at 9:00 a.m.

Prime Timers meet at First Watch Cafe (Fair City Mall) on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM. No reservations are necessary.

Prime Timers also meet on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall for Balance Class. The cost for the class is \$5. Join in the Fun!

Upcoming Events!

WOMEN! A day of celebration, fellowship, workshops, shopping and exhibits awaits you at the annual Spring Convention of the Metro D.C. Synodical Women's Organization. This event is a do-not-miss opportunity for all women of the church for a day to remember. (A workshop and the plenary sessions will be in English and Spanish.) "Take Heart - Getting to Wholeness" Depression and Suicide Prevention, **Saturday, May 5th, 2018. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 8 a. m. - 4 p.m.**, 5800 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22150. (Nursery provided, if needed) Registration Fee \$35 (\$40 after April 28) Discounted registration: women under the age of 40 or first-time attendees \$15. A continental breakfast and lunch are included. For more information and to register call Pat Nau @703-281-6288

Fairfax Interfaith Friendship Walk. On Sunday, May 6th, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., a walk will be held in the City of Fairfax, linking eight places of worship. You are invited to join your neighbors for all or part of this 3.5 mile walk, intended to bring faith communities together, help us learn from each other, and develop friendships along the way. We want to appreciate each other and feel part of the same whole, despite our differences. For more information: <http://rumiforum.org/fairfax-interfaith-friendship-walk>

Welcome Walt Rossbach guest organist Sunday, May 6th at 10:00 a.m.

On May 6th, please welcome Walt Rossbach as our guest organist, while Steve Beck takes a Sunday off.

WELCA Meets on Thursday, May 10th at 11:00 a.m.

Will be held on **Thursday, May 10th** at 11 a.m. in the conference room. Please contact Pat Nau at 703-281-6288 with questions.



Men's Ministry Breakfast Meets on Saturday, May 12th at 8:00 a.m.

Will be held on **Saturday, May 12th** at 8 a.m. in the conference room.
Please contact Allen Griffith at griffith99@verizon.net with questions.

Welcome Rev. Paul Opsahl guest pastor Sun., May 13th at 10:00 a.m.

On **May 13th**, please welcome Rev. Paul Opsahl to Christ Lutheran, as he preaches and presides while Pastor Paul is away. Pastor Paul Opsahl will also be on emergency call May 8th -16th, while Pastor Paul C-S takes a week of vacation.

METRO D.C. SYNOD ASSEMBLY - Saturday, June 16!

We still have space for a woman to be our 2nd Lay Voting Member at the METRO D.C. SYNOD ASSEMBLY. Talk to Pastor Paul if interested. We'd initially like to give preference to a woman who has not previously attended the Assembly. Pastor Paul and Ric Fisher will also attend. **Saturday, June 16, 2018**, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. "Connecting - Up In Out" at Lord of Life Lutheran Church - Fairfax Campus.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FALL YARD SALE - Saturday, September 15!

Save your things. We'll have a Fall Yard Sale!



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

May 15 Gloria & Walt Rossbach
May 22 Jeff & Maggie Kohne
May 26 Jeff & Monica Garrison
May 29 Linda & Larry Spring
May 30 Cliff & Judy Diehl



BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY



May 04 Sandy Calabria
May 05 Adam Barber
May 07 Betty Mangler
May 07 Hannah Eaton
May 10 Jeff Garrison
May 11 David Olson
May 14 Sabra Rupe
May 14 Daniel Young
May 17 Linda Bell
May 18 Jonathan Gessert
May 20 Justin Nash
May 28 Peter Roszbach
May 30 Ardis Morton

THOSE SERVING FOR MAY

April 29th 10:00 a.m. Service (5th Sunday of Easter)

Acolyte - (1 is needed); Altar Guild - **Candy Miihlhouse**; Assisting Minister - **Len Skoglund**; Coffee Hour - (1 is needed); Communion Assistant - **Joyce Skoglund**; Counter - **Phyllis Herrington**; Greeter - **Sarah Skoglund**; Lector - **Jackie Evans**; Ushers - **Stretch Grohman, Gary Keck, Diane Lim & Courtney Scott**

May 6th 10:00 a.m. Service (6th Sunday of Easter)

Acolyte - **Jonathan Munuo**; Altar Guild - **Candy Miihlhouse**; Assisting Minister - **Mary Ann Roszbach**; Coffee Hour - **Miihlhouses & Kohnes**; Communion Assistant - **Ginny Trygstad**; Counter - **Ernie Nau**; Greeter & Lector - **Julie Christensen**; Ushers - **Annette Munuo, (3 needed)**

May 13th 10:00 a.m. Service (7th Sunday of Easter / Mothers' Day)

Acolyte - **Dylan Curry**; Altar Guild - **Karen Barber**; Assisting Minister - **Alton Miihlhouse**; Coffee Hour - **Moyers**; Communion Assistant & Counter - **Ed Calabria**; Greeter - **Barbara Page**; Lector - **Diane Lim**; Ushers - **Karen Barber, Sandra, Zach, & Jacob Adams**

May 20th 10:00 a.m. Service (Pentecost)

Acolyte - **Eleanor Habinowski**; Altar Guild & Assisting Minister - **Cliff Diehl**; Coffee Hour - **Confirmation Reception**; Communion Assistant & Counter - **Allen Griffith**; Greeter - **Judy Diehl**; Lector - **David Sukites**; Ushers - **Steve Moyer, John Munuo & Barbara Page, Donna Yee**

May 27th 10:00 a.m. Service (Memorial Day Holiday Weekend)

Acolyte - **Emma Garrison**; Altar Guild & Assisting Minister - **Phyllis Herrington**
; Coffee Hour - (**volunteers needed**); Communion Assistant & Counter - **Jeff Garrison**
; Greeter - **Ric Fisher**; Lector - (**1 is needed**); Ushers - (**4 are needed**)

Thank you for your service!

Pastor Collinson-Streng's Office Hours

Pastor Paul's generally works Monday afternoon to Thursday at CELC, with Friday as his Sermon Day when he works from home and, with Saturdays as his off day.
In case of a pastoral emergency please contact his cell phone 410-258-7603.

The Messenger via E-mail

If you have e-mail but didn't get this Messenger please call Connie in the Church Office.

Deadline for articles to be included in the May issue of The Messenger is **MAY 25th**. If you prefer to receive "*The Messenger*" by post rather than email please let Connie know. Thank you.

CHURCH WEBSITE CALENDAR

A complete listing of church activities can be found on our church google calendar at our website www.fairfaxchristlutheran.org

| Sun. MAY 2018 | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| | | 1 5:15pm Confirmation Class 6:15pm Prayer Meeting | 2 | 3 7pm ESL Registration & Class | 4 | 5 |
| 6 8:45am Adult Forum & SS 10am Worship 6th Sunday of Easter 11:15am Coffee Hour | 7 7:30pm Bell Choir | 8 6:30pm Finance Committee | 9 9am Prime Timers 3pm FACETS 4:30pm Learning Committee 7:15pm Choir | 10 11am WELCA Bible Study & Prayer 7pm ESL Class | 11 | 12 8am Men's Ministry Breakfast & Bible Study |
| 13 8:45am Adult Forum & SS 10am Worship 7th Sunday of Easter 11:15am Coffee Hour | 14 6:00pm Worship Committee 7:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Property Committee | 15 6:15pm Prayer Meeting 7pm Council | 16 7:15pm Choir | 17 FFXHS Cooking 7pm ESL Class | 18 8:30am - noon FFXHS Cooking | 19 6pm Confirmation Dinner |

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 20 8:45am Adult Forum & SS 10am Worship Pentecost 11:15am Coffee Hour / Confirmation Reception | 21 7:30pm Bell Choir | 22 7pm Evangelism Committee | 23 7:15pm Choir | 24 7pm ESL Class | 25 Last Day of Preschool Newsletter Deadline- if you wish to place an article in this newsletter please send today! Thank you! | 26 |
| 27 10am Worship 11:15am Coffee Hour/ Worship Greeter Training | 28 Memorial Day Holiday Church Office Closed 7:30pm Bell Choir | 29 | 30 7:15pm Choir | 31 | | |
| | | | | | | |

Council Members Phone Numbers

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Marilyn Short
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2018 CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

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Parish Staff

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Custodian:

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Preschool Director:

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Dana Candido

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Trustee

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703-273-4936

2018 PARISH COMMITTEES

Meeting Dates

*Chair & Council
Representative*

COUNCIL

3rd Tue.

at 7:00 pm

Evangelism

4th Tues.

at 7:00 pm

Fellowship

(As Needed)

Learning

2nd Wed.

at 6:30 pm

Preschool

(meets quarterly)

Property

2nd Mon.

at 7:30 pm

Service

(As Needed)

Worship

2nd Mon.

at 6:30 pm

*Chair: Chris Rossbach
Council: Ric Fisher*

*Chair: Melissa Moyer
Council: John Foster*

*Chair: June Bloedorn
Council: Marilyn Short*

*Chair: Mary Ann
Rossbach
Council: Jennifer Nau*

*Chair: Allen Griffith
Council: Dick Alfors*

*Chair: Phyllis
Herrington
Council: Mila Cobos*

*Chair Cliff Diehl
Council: Alton
Miihlhouse*

Four-Year-Old Teacher
Judy Olson

Four-Year-Old Teacher
Lynda Falkenstein

Connie Hepler, Administrative Assistant
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