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PASTOR'S COLUMN

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*"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind,
 and it filled the entire house where they were sitting."
 Acts 2:1-2d*

May is such a wonderful month. For those of us living in the Northern Hemisphere, the grass turns green, the buds on the trees open, and a whole array of flowers come into full bloom. But it's not just the earth that is filled full. This is the month of Mother's Day, proms, graduations, and the first picnics of the summer season. It is a month full of good things. I especially love the years when Pentecost falls in the month of May. I love it because Pentecost is about fullness. The wind of the Spirit sweeps into our life as a church and fills us. If you imagine the church as a boat crossing the sea of life then, it is the wind of the Spirit that fills our sails. The Holy Spirit is what makes it possible for us to move forward. When we are filled with the Spirit, we have the gifts needed to fulfill our mission to share Christ's love with all.

The question is: do we believe it? Do we believe God is indeed actively providing all that we need to be an active, vital congregation in this time and place? Long before the pandemic, many churches became more focused on what they did not have than on what gifts God had provided for this time in their life as a congregation. That tendency to focus on what we don't have instead of what we do have reminds me of an old story. A man who was visiting his uncle took him for breakfast at the uncle's favorite diner. The waitress brought coffee and the uncle took the three sugar packets on the saucer and emptied them into his cup. He tasted the coffee, waved the waitress over, and said, "more sugar." She gave him a couple more packets and hurried off to another table to take an order. The uncle emptied the packets, tasted his coffee, and motioned to the waitress again. As he said, "more sugar," she put down two more packets. By now the restaurant was filing up and as the waitress tried to zip by their table, the uncle stopped her again and said, "more sugar." She turned and said, "Stir what you've got."

Stir what you've got. Pentecost is about the wind of new life – a resurrection wind – blowing into our congregation and helping us to use what we've got. Our cup is full of sweet things. It's time to stir what we have. A place to begin is by coming together on May 19th for our church picnic at Willoughby Farm. This is the first all church picnic since before the pandemic. It will be a great time of seeing one another, sharing food, and having fun. Come catch the Spirit.

--Pastor Darla Ann

Mayor's Prayer Dinner -- May 2, 2024

Hosted by First Baptist Church, Maryville
 Tickets are \$10.00. You may pick up a ticket at the church office or from Pastor Kratzer.



OUR LORD'S
 LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Called to share Christ's Love with all."

THE SPIRIT OF OUR LORD'S NEWS

May, 2024 | Volume 58, No. 5
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www.ourlords.org

May 4 & 5

6th Weekend of Easter
Mother's Day
 "Types of Love"
 Acts 10:44-48
 1 John 5:1-6
 John 15:9-17

May 11 & 12

Seventh Weekend of Easter
 "Responsible"
 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
 John 17:6-19

May 18 & 19

Day of Pentecost
 "Holy Chaos"
 Ezekiel 37:1-14
 Acts 2:1-21
 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 25 & 26

The Holy Trinity
 "Loved, Rescued, and Led"
 Isaiah 6:1-8
 John 3:1-17



Saturdays at 5 pm & Sundays at 9 am
 2nd Sunday at 10:45 am



Listen to services using your phone or tablet!

Scan the QR code or download AudioFetch on Google Play or iTunes.

**CATCH THE SPIRIT ON PENTECOST SUNDAY
 MAY 19 AT WILLOUGHBY FARM!!!**



**Our Lord's is having a picnic at Willoughby Farm in Collinsville on Pentecost Sunday!
 May 19th from 10:30 am - 1:00 pm**

The Willoughby Farm and Conservation Reserve encompasses over 30-acres of wildlife preserve. The property is inspired by 1940's farm life, complete with tractors, barns, a 1930's Craftsman style farmhouse, and even live animals such as donkeys, a heifer, chickens, and goats!

We will be serving a picnic lunch under the pavilion at 11:00 am with hotdogs, hamburgers & turkey burgers (drinks & tableware provided). You are welcome to bring a side or dessert to share. The park opens at 9:00 am. Explore the hiking trails before lunch! Many areas on the farm are accessible to people with disabilities including parking and restroom facilities.

631 Willoughby Lane, Collinsville, IL 62234
 (or Google "Willoughby Farm")

Go to WilloughbyFarm.org to see what's happening at the farm!



SERVING HOTDOGS, HAMBURGERS & TURKEY BURGERS!



**SUNDAY, MAY 19TH
 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

MAY GIVING EMPHASIS: MADAGASCAR COMPANION SYNOD



Companion synod relationships of the ELCA connect Lutheran churches throughout the world with ELCA synods and congregations. These relationships are concrete expressions of the communion and fellowship with the more than 140 Lutheran member churches of The Lutheran World Federation.

Through the program, companion churches and ELCA synods nurture and strengthen one another for life and ministry through prayer, study, communication, exchange of visitors and sharing of resources.

The companion synod for the Central/Southern Illinois Synod is the Malagasy Lutheran Church (two synods). Each year at the Synod Assembly an offering is gathered for our companion synod. This year, our Giving Emphasis Team is inviting members of our congregation to contribute to this offering in May. It will be taken to the June 6-8 assembly.

Once again, like all special giving, this is an "above and beyond" offering. Please do not take funds away from your commitment to support this congregation. But, if you are able to share beyond what you have pledged, we invite you to note that on your envelope, your check, or online.

MADAGASCAR COMPANION SYNOD- CON'T



This Living Lutheran article captures some aspects of our synod's partnership with the Malagasy congregations:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2018/09/a-new-way-of-living/>

The Malagasy Lutheran Church is over 3 million members and was formed in 1950. Prior to the official formation of these churches, mission outreach from the U.S. & Europe had started in the 19th century.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



SERENDIPITY BOOK CLUB

May 20 at 11:30 am

We will discuss "The Art Of Deception" by Leonard Goldberg. The June 17th book is, "West with Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge. Bringing your lunch is optional. Zoom will be available on request. New members ALWAYS welcome



TUESDAY TEA

3:00 PM Central Time - every week on Tuesday.

All are welcome to join us!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86839398550>
pwd=cTZUVi8ycjNJS296ZnZ4U3ErTGtwQT09
Meeting ID: 868 3939 8550 Passcode: 511171

CRAFTS & LAUGHS

Next meeting will be May 14 at 6:30 pm
Look forward to a spring craft in April. Contact Cindy Pugh (618-334-1046) with questions. Cost for each session is \$10.



OUR LORD'S CRAFTERS

Crafters will meet May 22 in Fellowship Hall, 12pm - 3pm. Please contact Kathy Nehrt with any questions.



OLLC EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Last Day of Sunday School (PreK-5)
OLLC Picnic May 19 at Willouby Farm
(High School Class concludes May 5)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL & QUESTIONS BIBLE STUDY

Sundays 10:15 AM Mondays 10:00 AM
"The Historical Jesus"

Last session before summer break: May 19/20

FEEDING THE SOUL

Wednesdays at 3:00 pm Chapel of the Pines if weather permits, otherwise LC Conference Room
Group is discussing *Godbreathed: What It Really Means for the Bible to Be Divinely Inspired* by Zack Hunt

MORNING GLORIES BIBLE STUDY

May 9 @ 11:00 am

2nd Thursday in May is our Spring Luncheon at Josephine's Tea Room in Godfrey, IL. *Morning Glories will not meet on May 23.*

CONFIRMATION

The confirmation class will conclude its Christian education year on **May 19** at Willoughby Farm as they participate in the church picnic. Our May topics for study include the apostle Paul and the Early church, the book of Revelation, and how we use scripture in worship. Our class looks forward to welcoming six more students when we resume in the Fall.

OUR LORD'S YOUTH GROUP

Our Lord's Youth will end the year with a **May 5** meeting from 11:30 am -12:45 pm. (This is one week earlier than our usual monthly meeting due to both Prom and Mother's Day activities on May 11 & 12.) Since May 5 is Cinco de Mayo, we will have special food and party decorations to celebrate the day (along with our regular cheese pizza), devotions, the OLY Senior recognition schedule, and a sending into the summer.

OLLC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"Jerusalem Marketplace"

June 10-13

Registration now open!

Registration form, donation list & volunteer opportunities listed on page 4.

Come to the Marketplace as it was in days of old... Smell the fresh, warm bread; weave a basket of reeds; make clay pots... Can you hear the music echoing through the Marketplace? Engage all senses as you transport back to a different time and a fresh experience—and walk with Jesus today!

Please join us at Jerusalem Marketplace from June 10th-13th, 2024. Last day to register is Friday, June 7th. VBS is open ages 3 to 10 (Pre-K to 5th)! Bring your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, neighbors and anyone who you think may enjoy a fun week with us!

This year's VBS will feature: Light supper served nightly from 5:00-5:50 at the Oasis Café (Fellowship Hall) Become a member of a Tribal Family Participate in tie dyeing, jewelry making, carpentry and toymaking. Visit the Synagogue School Be entertained by the daily dramas and music.

Many hours of planning go into creating this adventure for young and young-at-heart. Any and all help would be greatly appreciated. For information and questions, please contact Lisa White at 618-972-6594 or Kathy Nehrt at 618-304-0473.





We seek assistance in the following areas:

someone to cut wooden crosses and dreidels (to be used in the shops); shopkeepers to lead crafts in the areas of carpentry, jewelry, tie-dying, and toy making; tribal leaders (leading a group of four or more children to the various activities); music/song leaders; game leaders; storytellers; assistants to help where needed. Lastly, we will need adults to decorate, promote publicity, assist with costumes, and set up/clean up. *The VBS staff is grateful for any assistance and time our congregation can offer.*

Volunteers Needed for Preparing & Serving Meals

Volunteers are needed to help prepare, serve, and clean up with the nightly meals at VBS. Date of VBS is June 10-13. Sign up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. Contact Cindy Pugh for questions or information.

**Our Lord's Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School Signup
June 10-13, 2024**

(Family meal at 5:00 PM, VBS at 6:00 PM)

Please fill out one form per child. Return completed form to the office.

Child's Name: _____

Child's Age: _____

Child's Date Of Birth: _____

Child's Gender: _____

Child's Last School Grade: _____

Child's T-Shirt Size (optional): _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Phone: _____

Parent's Email: _____

Parent's Home Address: _____

Who Can Pick Up My Child? _____
(You can list yourself, spouse, family members, friends, or any other authorized individual to whom we can release your child to at the end of the day.)

Please list any known allergies or medical concerns:
If none, please put "none."

Does Our Lord's Lutheran Church have permission to take video footage and/or photos of your child for the purposes of publication to the congregation through the monthly newsletter and/or weekly announcements?

Yes or No (please circle one)

Donations Needed

The Vacation Bible School staff needs the following items:

- Clorox wipes
- Water Wipes brand hand-wipes;
- plastic tablecloths;
- buttons;
- clothes pins;
- old pieces of jewelry;
- paper towels;
- small paper plates (white);
- washable paints (Crayola box of 6 containers);
- tie-dye kits;
- small individual packets of chips, goldfish, and cookies;
- boxes of packaged juices (preferably Kool-Aid packets);
- small bottles of water;
- scraps of wood (to cut out dreidels and crosses);
- fine sandpaper;
- artificial flowers/fruit/greenery;
- clean used rugs, bedspreads, and blankets;
- monetary donations to purchase t-shirts for tie-dying (please make checks payable to Our Lord's Lutheran Church and write VBS in the memo).

Drop off your donation(s) at the wishing well in the back of the church.

Thank you for contributing to the success of "Jerusalem Marketplace"

ELMWOOD PROJECT - BINGO PRIZES

Prizes for BINGO at Elmwood Nursing Home are needed.

- Here is a list of potential prizes:
- Jewelry (used is fine)
- Toiletry items
- Crossword and other game books
- Coloring books
- Colored pencils



In effort to minimize cost, food for SOS will be purchased through a local wholesaler, therefore, **rather than donating specific items, we are asking anyone interested in supporting this ministry to provide cash contributions.** Donations can be given via check, cash, or through Vanco online giving, please note S.O.S. in the memo line. **Assistance with preparation and serving the meal is still needed.** Please contact Gail Jorgensen or the church office with questions.

**Thursday
May 9
St. John UCC**

**Worker Bees: Saturday, May 4
breakfast at 7:00 am, church at 8:00 am.**

If you plan on attending, please confirm by email or text to Chuck Pugh. Your assistance with mowing and trimming is needed! Contact Chuck or the church office to be included on the mowing/trimming schedule.



Saturday & Sunday Hospitality Hosts needed!

Contact Kay Chaffee (618-210-9876) or Cindy Pugh (618-334-1046) with any questions.

To FAIR TRADE Friends & Supporters

May is here. Think about sitting down to a nice cup of Equal Exchange Organic Tea or Coffee on a Spring, Afternoon or Evening. So many choices to choose from. Every purchase helps a Small Farmer to a better way of life.

Transforming the Tea industry

We are proud to support the Potong Tea Garden in Darjeeling, India. Once a colonial plantation, Potong is now collectively run by its workers, paving a stronger, more democratic path forward for the community. This revolutionary model generates significant improvements for the garden's 350 workers and their families, and is helping to spark a badly needed transformation of the tea industry. Most teas—even those that are certified as fair trade—come from large plantations where workers have little say and are trapped in a system of dependency. The small farmers who grow our teas control their land and their livelihoods. Together, we're building an alternative tea model and a farmer-led future for the tea industry.



Investing in Regenerative Agriculture

Human life on earth depends on healthy soil, abundant with nutrients and living microorganisms. Cooperatives like Manos Campesinas in Guatemala prioritize regenerative practices like building organic fertilizer production centers in the community, so farmers can use these resources to "feed" their land with the nutrients the soil needs, rather than depleting the soil through conventional farming methods. The co-op is also investing in farmer-to-farmer training programs, so neighbors can teach and learn regenerative practices from each other.

But, as always, don't forget the GREAT Artisan items available in the Shop and on the Website!



You are invited to an

Evening
at the
Outlet

MAY

TUESDAY	07	6-8 PM
	2024	

RSVP at 618-288-7695 or email at info@africanvisionofhope.org

Edison's Entertainment Complex
247 S State Rte 157
Edwardsville, IL 62025

SOS COORDINATOR NEEDED!



Gail Jorgenson has been OLLC's coordinator for our work in the Collinsville Spirit of Sharing Soup Kitchen. After 7 years leading the team, Gail has decided to step back from the leadership role and will instead be serving in a more supporting capacity. Therefore we will need a replacement, or a team of replacements to continue our work with Collinsville SoS Soup Kitchen.

The position will requires the coordinator to announce the serving schedule to the church

membership, solicit volunteers for meal preparation and serving, set the menu, obtain the supplies needed for the meal, and lead the preparation and serving of the meal. OLLC normally serves on the second Tuesday or the second Thursday. While not every month, we do serve 8-10 times a year. There is a Coalition Member meeting every two months. For the interim Gail will take the meetings as the new coordinator(s) get their bearing working the serving effort. The SoS mission needs your prayerful consideration to meet this vacancy in our mission outreach efforts. Please feel free to contact Gail Jorgenson if you have questions regarding this request.

Gail, thank you for your dedication and service as SOS Coordinator!

SOLAR UPDATE!

During the Congregation Meeting held April 20 & 21 with a total of 65 members present, the vote to engage in solar energy for OLLC **passed**.

47 yes, 9 no, 3 abstain, 6 did not cast votes

The next steps include: contact other churches in the area and within the synod that previously installed solar energy; contact references from each solar company (Day & Night Solar and Straight Up Solar); identify the solar energy installer--Materials used, installation processes, warranty coverage, and recommendations will be taken into consideration before a specific installer is awarded the contract; review and sign contracts--before signing contract(s) discussions with individuals experienced in contract language and negotiation and with church attorney Randy Steele will occur.

The Federal Tax Credit through a direct-pay process and Recoverable Energy Credits are anticipated to cover nearly 70% of costs. Project costs will not exceed \$122,000 (the cost identified by the Day & Night Solar proposal received mid-March). To recover the costs not covered by the tax credits, we will run a three month capital campaign. The goal of the campaign is to increase giving beyond regular benevolence giving by \$35,000 during June, July, & August. OLLC will be 'selling' solar panels! More information regarding the capital campaign will follow in the June newsletter.

OLLC MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

The Mission, Vision, & Values (adopted 2021) explains the beliefs, values, and purpose of Our Lord's and are used as a guide when making decisions for future actions and experiences within the church. After three years it is time to revisit and re-imagine OLLC. Although the essence of who we are as a congregation has not changed, the congregation has evolved. Life in the church is different than it was three short years ago. Revisiting and re-imagining the Mission, Vision and Values of OLLC will begin in June.

Be a part of the discussion! Contact Pastor Darla Ann or a council member.

Mission: "Called To Share Christ's Love With All"

Vision Statement: *To be a Christ-centered place of belonging.*

Value Statements:

Based on our belief that Jesus is Lord and Savior, we value:

- *Worship that celebrates our hope through Jesus' resurrection*
- *Relationships that manifest God's grace*
- *Compassion for all*
- *Christian education that encourages faithful questioning and exploration*
- *Inclusive decision making*

Priority Areas & Action Items:

- *Nurture young children, youth, emerging adults, and young families*
- *Serve one another, our communities, the wider world, and God's creation*
- *Engage in diverse worship rhythms that engage participants and inspire spiritual growth*
- *Develop Caring and Connected Relationships*



E-GIVING

OLLC now offers multiple ways to give. Simply scan this QR code with your smart phone. The QR code takes you directly to the OLLC giving page. On the giving page you have the opportunity to identify if your contribution is for Benevolence (church expenditures) or for one of the designated funds. Of course, cash or checks are always welcomed. No matter how you choose to give, donations received will help us sustain our ministries throughout the year.



Thank you for all you do to support the mission of Our Lord's Lutheran Church!

ST. LOUIS JOB CORP OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG ADULTS 16-24

The St. Louis Job Corps Center is committed to empowering young people with the skills, training, and resources they need to succeed in today's workforce. Our center provides comprehensive vocational training in various fields, including healthcare, construction, culinary arts, and information technology, among others. Weekly tours are held every Friday at 10:00 AM. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about our programs, meet our staff, and see firsthand the impact of Job Corps on young people's lives. If you know of any young adults who could benefit from the services offered at the St. Louis Job Corps Center, please encourage them to reach out to us or visit our website for more information. <https://stlouis.jobcorps.gov/> For enrollment and questions about the program, please call 314-679-2021.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY: HHH

HHH Volunteers Needed!

St. John Church will again be hosting a free summer lunch program for children 4 years to 18 years of age.

Building Up STEAM!

June 3-July 25

Monday-Thursday, noon-2:00 pm

Along with a free hot lunch, the children receive a variety of activities including cooking & nutrition, arts & crafts, P.E., music, science, reading, & math.

This year we need help with VOLUNTEERS to:

- Assist the cook one or more days a week, 10:30-1:00.
- Assist the cook (clean-up) one or more days a week, 11:30-1:00.
- Lunch Room Monitor 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 M-TH as children arrive until lunch.
- Work with youth camp counselors to guide and mentor students.
- Encourage and listen to students read on Wednesdays, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- Lesson plan and teach a Life Skills Class.
- TEACH THE KIDS A HOBBY THAT YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT! We will work to accommodate your schedule.

It takes about 100 volunteers to staff this huge outreach ministry!

homework help & hoops



Become an HHH Sponsor!

Summer is coming! Sadly, for some kids, no school means no lunch. For these kids, food insecurity is a reality and they do not look forward to summer break like most kids do.

Through the St. John HHH Summer Camp program, we have been able to provide a free lunch for children 4 to 18 years old. The same Tote Me Home program from the school year continues to provide a free kid-friendly bag of food for over the weekend.

Here is how you can help! Become an HHH Sponsor!

- **Bronze - Donate up to \$99**
- **Silver - Donate \$100-\$249**
- **Gold - Donate \$250 or more**

Checks should be made out to St. John Church - HHH. You may drop off or mail your check to St. John Church, Attention Dana, 307 West Clay St., Collinsville, IL 62234.

If you have ideas, would like to volunteer to help, are interested in becoming a sponsor, or would like more information, please contact Dana at 618-344-2526.

CENTRAL/SOUTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD NEWS AND EVENTS

June 6-8

Decatur Conference Center and Hotel



MANY GIFTS ONE MISSION
2024 CENTRAL/SOUTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD ASSEMBLY

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO
the table

BE

MYLE
Young Adult Gathering

ELCA Youth Gathering

July 16-20

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center Summer Camp

Registration for summer camp at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center is now open. Five weeks of faith experiences are available for children and youth in early elementary, elementary, middle, and high school, plus Team Camp for congregational groups.

Learn more and register at LOMC.org/summercamp.



FOR YOUR SAFETY

If you find yourself alone in the Worship Center or Life Center, please keep all exterior doors locked. Due to our location, unknown individuals have come to the church looking for assistance. **ALL** members have key access to the buildings. If someone does approach you seeking assistance, direct him/her to the Maryville Police Station.

CONGREGATION MEMBERS

Dan Homes	Joyce Tatjenhorst	Nicole Williams
Linda Spencer	Kendyll Pugh	Chad Baczewski
Brian Kassing	Sarah White	Greg Perkins
Don Simonson Sr.	Dave Chaffee	Sue Perkins
John Nehrt	Chad Baczewski	Peggy Pick-Sutton
Sonja Cheatham	Dean Lackey	
Rod Orr	Tony DiBartollo	

PRAYER CONCERNS

Mary & David Findley	Donna Fisher	Rose K
Diane Daubs	David Dow	Julie
Rosy Park	Burk Bruninga	Kathy
Fran Baker Black	Shelley Bruntjen	Grace
Yvonne Tritt	Wyatt Owens	Teresa
Aryan & Trinity Spurgeon	Ken Hedger	Anne
Greg Beaver	Pearl & Sean	Elisha
Tammy Green	Jim Kilgore	Dianne
Barb Carver	Barbara & Joyce	Marg L.
Janet Borowitz	Beverly Boewen	Jamie
Sheryl McBride	Dave Galyon	Dean
Dale & Carole	Jamie Moravec	Jim R.
Larry Estal	Gunnel Magneson	Mary Jean
Richard Henderson	Jason Carle	Justine F.
Dave Robicheau	Dave Robicheau	Margaret
Stuart Sticksel	Ollie	Jan Ward
Megan		Stu

FAMILY & FRIENDS

PRAY FOR THOSE THAT HAVE DIED AND FAMILIES THAT ARE GRIEVING

KC (daughter of Keith Jensen)
 Carol Gendron (mother of Lori Messina)
 .Autumn Owens (submitted by Caryl Kassing)



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Zach Huff	Lance Cpl. Clayton Campbell
John Meyer	Major James Carmichael
Zachary Neubauer	Airborne Ranger Keegan Crosby
Amador Ochoa	Staff Sgt. Tyson Crosby
Capt. Blake Crosby	Erica Webb, US Private E-3
Josh Pace	SrA Paul Kampwerth
Scott Prengel	Staff Sgt. Skipper Smith
Jake Randall	Sgt. Matthew Spencer (Ret.)
SPC Bill Homes	Staff Sgt. Stephan Spencer

MAY CELEBRATIONS

MAY Birthdays

Dora Clawges	Aidan Truckenbrod	Eric Sutton
Adam White	Devon Sallee	Kristen Gunderson
Kirby Orr	Andrew (AJ) Wieser	Kurtis Nemsky
Claire Blind	Deb Perry	Elizabeth Kinney
Cindy Pugh	Terry Ackerman	Anya Cvjianovic
Alison Messina-Hancock	Becky Fremder	Cindy Diggs
Ed Foppe	Jeff Scheiter	Linda Eakin
Adam Rimar		

MAY Anniversaries

David & Lisa White
 Brad & Lisa Bush
 Billy & Diana Huster
 Bryan & Nicole Soehnlin
 Kelvin & Susan Peterson
 Erik & Stacie Kirk
 Cynthia & Chuck Jorgenson
 David & Sharon Schroeder
 Andrew & Jodie Nehrt
 Julie & Jacob Preston

REMINDERS

PRAYER LIST

Please let the office know if you would like to add a new person, remove a current person, or change the status of anyone on our prayer list. OLLC practice include removing individuals from the prayer lists **after 8 weeks** unless an update is received

PRAYER VENTURES

Two pages of monthly prayer support for ELCA ministries are available at: <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>

WHEN YOU HAVE CHANGES

Please let the church office know of changes to e-mail address, mail/resident addresses, telephone numbers, job, college, graduations etc.

OTHER INFORMATION

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America -- <https://www.elca.org/>
 Central Southern Illinois Synod -- <https://www.csis-elca.org/>

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

OLLC STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Darla Ann Kratzer,
Pastor

Cynthia Haggitt,
Administrative Assistant

Cady Thomas Potts,
Director of Worship Music for
Sundays & Special Services

Olivia Cross,
Leader of Non-Traditional
Worship Music

Dr. Rhonda Comrie,
Organist

Matt Gross,
Streaming Tech

Benjamin Maynard,
Worship Tech

CHURCH COUNCIL

Dr. Karen Cummings-Larson,
President

Dr. Emily Truckenbrod,
Vice President

Jeanette Goetter,
Secretary

Dr. Laura Schoenecker,
Treasurer

Linda Hester,
Member At-Large

The Rev. Dr. Darla Ann R. Kratzer,
Pastor

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM

Kathy Nehrt: Education

Cindy Pugh: Fellowship

Ed Foppe: IT

Carol Orr: Service

Dr. Rhonda Comrie: Worship

Sunday School:
Lisa White

Fair Trade Store:
Mike Williams
vablu2@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:
K. Cummings-Larson

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Spring is here! Sunshine, warm breezes, flowers blooming, birds singing, the beauty of nature surrounds us. Each morning I notice a difference in the air as sunlight shines through the windows—the sun seems brighter, cleaner, more vibrant than before (and I try to ignore the dirt on the windows!). I enjoy spring and all that comes with the season. After the long cold, dark, damp days of winter I awaken each morning to bright sunlight and with a lighter mood.

Spring at OLLC seems lighter and brighter as well. During the April Council meeting discussion topics focused on past accomplishments but greater emphasis was placed on opportunities for the future. There was a great deal of excitement shared during the discussion of the Solar Energy Project, the lower than expected property/liability/workmen's comp insurance premiums for the upcoming year, the proposed landscaping project for the Life Center designed by Alivia Kirk, and the new Young Adult Ministry Groups developing at Our Lord's.

As spring starts to surface and the trees begin to bloom, help us to see spring as a reminder of how beautiful change can truly be. Let us embrace all the "new" God has in store for us in our daily lives and in the life of Our Lord's.

Yours in Christ,
Karen Cummings-Larson

If you would like to become involved in the leadership at OLLC, (serving on church council or as part of the ministry support team) please contact Pastor Darla Ann or a council member. If you are interested in attending a meeting, contact the church office for access information.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Provided by OLLC Treasurer Laura Schoenecker
If you have any questions, please contact Laura at lswanso@siue.edu.

General Benevolence Income

March 2024..... \$24,408
Average March 2021, 2022, 2023..... \$20,983

1st Quarter 2024..... \$98,528
Average 1st Quarter 2021, 2022, 2023.. \$89,724

General Benevolence Expenses

March 2024..... \$41,268*
Average March 2021, 2022, 2023..... \$24,097

1st Quarter 2024..... \$90,003*
Average 1st Quarter 2021, 2022, 2023.. \$76,075

*These numbers include \$13,214 paid for Property Insurance. In 2021-2023 Property Insurance was usually paid in April.

Cash - Unrestricted \$22,245
Cash - Designated \$60,218
Total Cash **\$82,463**

During March,

- **\$3,794.74** was given to Kahok Strong from the proceeds of the Souper Bowl of Caring and the Spaghetti Supper to pay off lunch debt for students at Collinsville High School.
- **\$370** was given to Homework Help and Hoops at St. John EUCC in Collinsville
- **\$370** was applied to the SOS Soup Kitchen Fund toward buying supplies when our congregation hosts meals.
- **\$3,958.11** was given to Synod Benevolence for a total of \$6,658.11 year to date.

Thank you for sharing your financial resources with this congregation in support of the mission we share.

LOOKING AHEAD

JUNE

- June 1 - First Day Of LGBTQ+ Pride Month
- June 6-8 -- Synod Assembly
- June 10-13 - Vacation Bible School @ OLLC
- June 16 - Father's Day
- June 19 - Juneteenth -- Office Closed

Giving Emphasis:
Vacation Bible School

JULY

- July 1-7 -- Pastor on Vacation
- July 4 - Independence Day - Office Closed
- July 15-21 -- National Youth Gathering

Giving Emphasis: "Back to School"
School Supplies for Caseyville Elementary & financial donations to St Andrew's Campus Ministry

AUGUST

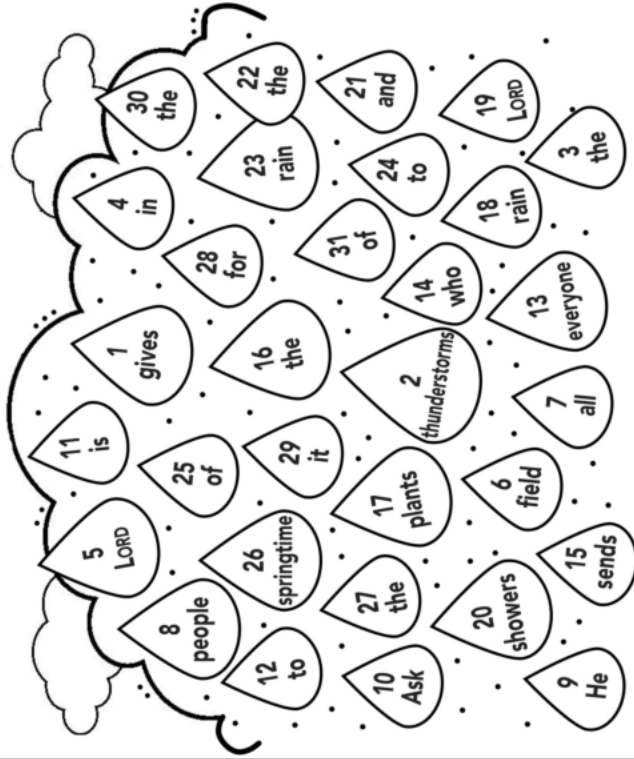
- August 25 -- Orientation Event for Confirmation students and their families

Giving Emphasis:



Puzzle!

Complete a Bible verse about spring by writing the word from each raindrop on the correct numbered line below.



10 _____ 16 _____ 5 _____ 28 _____ 18 _____

_____ 4 _____ 22 _____ 26 _____

29 _____ 11 _____ 3 _____ 19 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____

_____ 27 _____ 2 _____

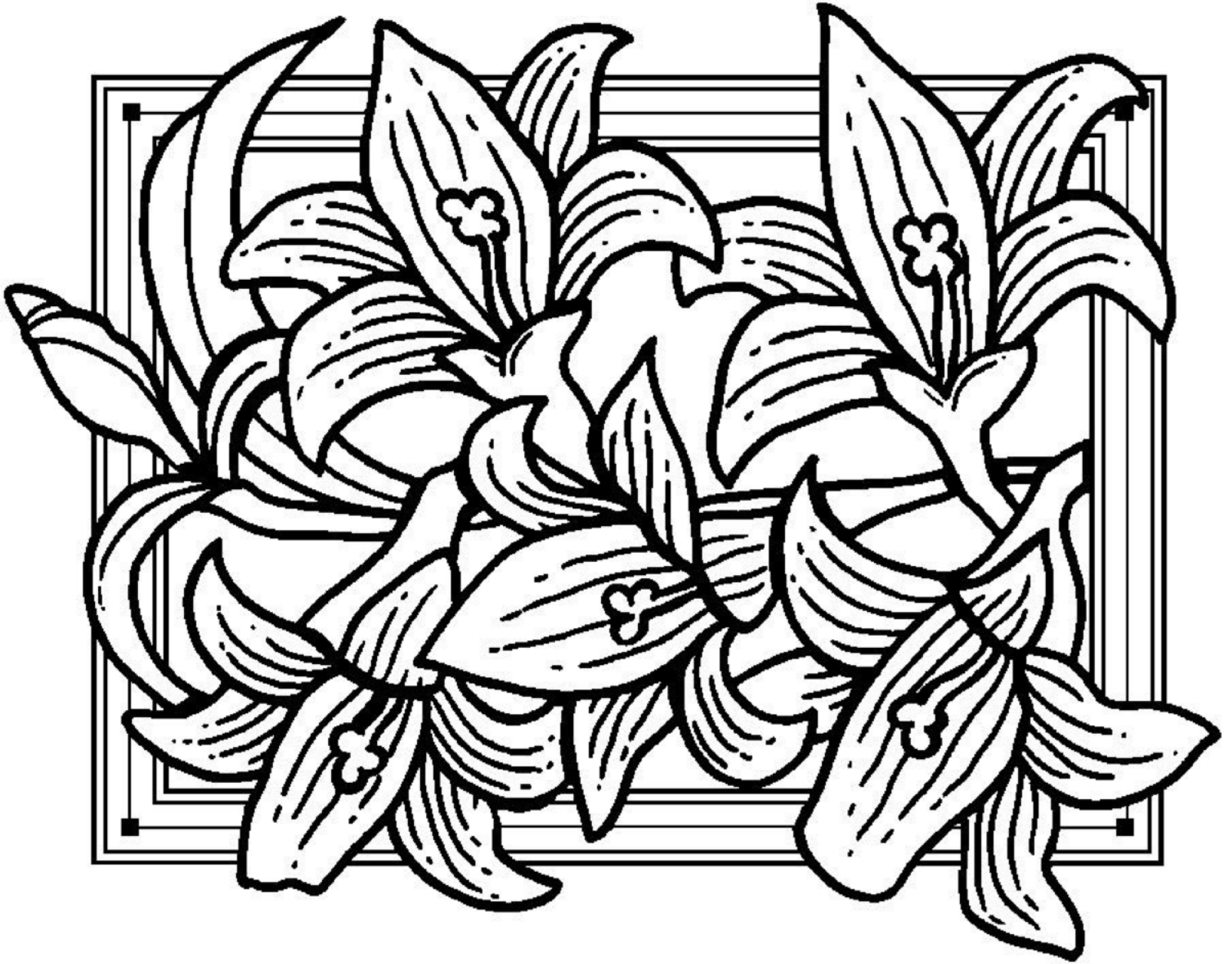
9 _____ 1 _____ 20 _____ 31 _____ 23 _____

12 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 21 _____ 17 _____ 25 _____

30 _____ 6 _____ 24 _____ 13 _____

Zechariah 10:1, NIV

Answer: Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. Zechariah 10:1, NIV



MAY 2024 CALENDAR

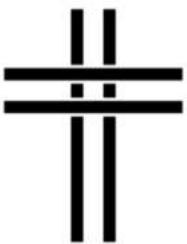
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts	2 Maryville Mayor's Prayer Dinner 5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	3 Pastor's Sabbath 3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	4 7:00 AM Worker Bees breakfast 8:00 AM Worker Bees @ OLLC 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service
5 Sixth Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service 10:15 AM Pre K - HS Sunday School Classes 10:15 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Adult Bible Study 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM Our Lord's Youth Meeting Cinco de Mayo	6 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	7 3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	8 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts	9 OLLC serves SoS @ St. John 11:00 AM Morning Glories Luncheon 5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 - 8:30 PM Member Inquiry Class 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	10 Pastor's Sabbath 3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	11 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service
12 Seventh Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service 10:15 AM Pre K - 5 Sunday School Classes HS class will not meet 10:15 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Adult Bible Study 10:45 AM Worship: In-Building Traditional Service Mother's Day	13 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting	14 Pastor out of the office for PD! 3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom 6:30 PM Crafts & Laughs - WC 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	15 Pastor out of the office for PD! 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts 7:00 PM Lakeview Garden Club Meeting - WC	16 Pastor out of the office for PD! 5:00 PM Music Lessons, Thomas Potts WC 6:00 PM MOC Comm. Mtg. @ New Rivers 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 - 8:30 PM Member Inquiry Class 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal	17 Newsletter Deadline Pastor's Sabbath 3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	18 10:00 AM La Leche League - WC 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service
19 Pentecost 9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service 10:15 AM Adult Bible Study 	20 10:00 AM Questions Bible Study 11:30 AM Serendipity Book Club 3:00 PM Music Lessons, Thomas Potts -WC	21 3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	22 12:00 PM Our Lord's Crafters - WC 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts 6:30 PM Steering Team Meeting	23 5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - WC 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal - WC	24 Pastor's Sabbath 3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	25 3:30 PM Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service
26 The Holy Trinity 9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service Education Classes on Summer Break (except as identified)	27 Memorial Day 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	28 3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom 7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room 7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement	29 3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting 3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts 7:00 PM Giving Emphasis Team via ZOOM	30 5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - WC 7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal - WC	31 Pastor's Sabbath 3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC	



When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind,
and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
Acts 2:1-2d

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May 2024 Newsletter

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED