

2018 MAY & JUNE NEWSLETTER

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May & June Newsletter 2018



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Mount Calvary Family & Friends,

From the Pastor's Desk...

If you haven't heard, we are going to bi-monthly newsletters on a regular basis beginning with this issue. May and June are months of transition as the young people of our families, friends and community graduate from pre-school to kindergarten, kindergarten to elementary school, elementary to high school, high school to college, and college to graduate school . . . graduate school into the working world. Not all will choose to make that particular educational journey; it depends on our life's goals and the tasks for which God has gifted us. Some will choose to pursue trade schools or on the job training at an earlier point. Some will abandon education early and step into the realities of adult life with little preparation. Whenever and however someone chooses to make the transition to the working world, it generally includes a few unexpected surprises. Like our generation before them, they will discover that it costs more to live than expected and income will be smaller than expected. Those dreams of freedom to live life as they see fit will soon be overwhelmed with the responsibilities of "life in the real world."

The "real world" is a world of sin. It is a world filled with the challenges and struggles, temptations and consequences that sin creates. Fortunately, we have help from One who has experienced our world and overcame the darkness that threatens to overwhelm us, the darkness of sin and its impact on our world. We celebrate the victory of Jesus through the 7 weeks of the Easter season. Jesus shares the fruits of His victory with us in the promise of resurrection to eternal life, and in the assurance that God continues with us as we carry His Mission forward.

On the 50th day after Easter we will celebrate Pentecost and God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church, God's gift of the Holy Spirit to us. Baptism shares the Spirit with us. We receive the Holy Spirit without the powerful expressions of His presence seen on that first Pentecost, but with the power to overcome our doubts and unbelief, the power to lay hold of the promises of God's forgiving grace through faith in Christ Jesus. The Holy Spirit calls us, as God's

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faithful ones, to carry the message of Jesus' victory "to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the world!" . . . for us that might translate to "the 9th Precinct, Detroit, our suburban neighbors, and beyond!"

That responsibility is the driving force behind our Camp Restore Detroit ministries. It is all about extending the love of God in Christ Jesus to our neighbors who are struggling to rebuild their lives in Detroit's difficult and deeply distressed urban context. We've had a few growing pains and unexpected challenges along the way (right now we are awaiting word from the City on the building requirements for proper licensing for our endeavors) but that is to be expected. Big changes are in the winds for Mount Calvary and that doesn't come easily.

Change is never easy. There are always unexpected challenges. As we navigate the waters of change, whether it is a student stepping into adult responsibilities or a congregation stepping up to challenges in mission, it is good to know that God is with us to guide and direct us. Please pray for these young people taking on life's challenges and pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and direction. Please keep Mount Calvary and our Camp Restore Detroit efforts in your prayers as well, as we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit directing our way forward. Whatever changes and challenges are coming to your life, be assured that God has the future in His hands, just as He has had the past. Trust in His grace and pray for His guidance.

God bless you as you serve Jesus in your work and in your play!

Pastor Carrier

WORSHIP NOTES FOR MAY

"Crown Him with Many Crowns." This most beloved hymn, written in the mid-nineteenth century, summarizes the hopes of Christians throughout all centuries as they look to Christ as the Almighty King who has brought them salvation for eternity.

Imagine that you are in an assembly hall and there was a contest, like King Arthur pulling out the sword stuck in the rock.

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Only the winner will get to wear the crown. The first contest is to determine the best birth. Jesus Christ wins because He was the only person born of a virgin. God the Holy Spirit literally came upon Mary and she conceived. Jesus is the only one who gets this crown.

The second contest is to determine who has shown the greatest love. This crown goes to Jesus because He lived a perfect life and then died the most cruel death on the cross, taking upon Himself all the sins of the world. No one has ever shown this much love.

The third contest is to determine who has power over death. Again, Jesus is the winner because He triumphed over the grave. Yes, the Bible tells us about Jairus' daughter, the young man from Nain, and Lazarus, who were brought back to life by Jesus. They later died and, like all believers in Christ, will await their arrival in heaven. Jesus, starting from eternity, died, was resurrected, and then lives eternally.

The final crown belongs to Jesus as the Lord of Heaven. He sits on the eternal throne with a countless number of the redeemed people praising God. What's most unique is that He has given these people their "crowns of life" ; they didn't earn this place in heaven, but through His mercy, they were received into His eternal grace.

The hymn encourages us to "sing boldly", because Jesus wants us to proclaim His love to others.

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER **MAY 6**

In the First Reading, Peter preached the Gospel message to the Gentiles and they received the Holy Spirit. Earlier in the chapter, Peter had received a vision three times to eat "unclean" animals (foods that the Gentiles ate); then there was a voice asking him to follow three men who would knock on his door. The next day, when this happened, Peter was led to the home of Cornelius. When that entire household believed the message, Peter baptized them. The Epistle and Gospel Readings ask us, as Christians, to love God by following His commandments and to love one another like Jesus did. Of course, we can do this only with the power of the Holy Spirit. Hymns for this Sunday will include Easter hymns and hymns that tell us about God's Love.

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THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD.

MAY 10

Since Mt. Calvary will not be holding a service at our facility, we encourage you to attend a service at one of our fellow Lutheran congregations.

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 13

The Paschal Candle, which reminds us of Christ's resurrected body while on earth, has been removed to the area near the baptismal font. Jesus had ascended into heaven, but before He left, He instructed the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit. In the First Reading, the disciples chose Matthias to replace Judas, who had killed himself. In the Epistle Reading, we are reminded that the testimony of God is greater than that of men. If we believe in God, we have His testimony and eternal life. In the Gospel Reading, Jesus prays for His disciples that they will be kept in God's unity and protected from the power of the evil one. Hymns for this Sunday include:

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

"On Christ's Ascension I Now Build"

"Beautiful Savior"

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

PENTECOST

MAY 20

The birth of the Christian Church is foreshadowed in the Old Testament Reading, which tells about a pile of dry bones being assembled into a skeleton and receiving the breath of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel Reading contains Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit, who will guide you in the truth.

The Second Reading, Acts 2:1-21, describes the day of Pentecost. Little tongues of fire appeared on the disciples' heads and the people present heard the Gospel message in their own language! Hymns for the Feast of Pentecost include:

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"Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord"

"O Day Full of Grace"

"Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

"Come Holy Ghost, Creator Blest"

THE HOLY TRINITY

MAY 27

We worship God, who has revealed Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and are so thankful that He has created, saved, and preserved us in the true faith. In the Old Testament Reading, the prophet Isaiah received a vision of the Lord. The seraphim angels were worshiping the Lord and singing, "Holy, holy, holy." The Second Reading is Acts 2:22-36, in which Peter preached to the multitude at Pentecost, telling them that God brought the crucified Jesus back to life and has Him seated at His right hand in heaven. Finally, the Gospel Reading tells us that Jesus was God's plan to save the world (John 3:16). Hymns for Trinity Sunday include:

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

"Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old"

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

"We All Believe in One True God"

WORSHIP NOTES FOR JUNE

Welcome to the world of appreciation and growth in God's Word! Whether we are old or young, a seasoned veteran or a new member in God's kingdom, we will always need to grow. Failure to grow will result in a slow death, dragging us away from God's love. Let us keep our eyes and our hope on Jesus, the giver of life.

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 3

God created us with the ability to work, but more importantly with the ability to worship Him. The Old Testament Reading reinforces the observance of the Sabbath by commanding the Israelites to observe a day of rest for contemplation and worship of God, reminding them that they worked hard as slaves and should thank God

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for deliverance from this bondage. Although the command of the Sabbath as a day of rest was abolished by Jesus, He asked us to set aside time for worship, reflecting on His Word. In the Gospel Reading, Jesus, when confronted by the Pharisees for "working" on the Sabbath, reminded them that He is Lord of the Sabbath. The Apostle Paul, in the Epistle Reading, reminds us that our bodies are earthly jars of clay and can easily break. Hymns that call us to worship God include:

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

"O Worship the King"

"Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing"

"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 10

This is a special Sunday in which we thank God for the blessings and protection He has given us through our government. We especially remember policemen, firemen, and the military who work to protect us from foreign enemies, fires, natural disasters, and criminals. We look to the American flag as a symbol of freedom and justice God has given us, allowing us to be a free country. We also look to the Christian flag as a symbol of one faith, providing salvation by the cross of Jesus. The readings for this day are a sharp reminder that we need protection. The Old Testament Reading tells us about Adam and Eve's fall into sin; we need God to give us a Savior. The Epistle Reading tells us that sin destroys the body and that we will be given a new one when we reach heaven. In the Gospel Reading when the scribes accuse Jesus of being the devil, Jesus responds that the devil would not cast out demons. In all these readings, one sees the harmful and destructive effects of sin; therefore God instituted governments as a means of protection for his creation. Hymns for this special occasion include:

"God Bless Our Native Land"

"Before You, Lord, We Bow"

"America, the Beautiful"

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

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4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 17

God gives us a new life and uses images from nature to show how it will be done. In the Old Testament Reading, God promises to take a new sprig from the top of a cedar tree and plant it into the ground. This will result in a new tree which will provide shade and allow birds to dwell. He will also make healthy trees and cause them to die, thus, in this figurative language, all trees will know that He is God. Likewise, in the Gospel Reading, the mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds, will grow into the mightiest plant, housing many birds. Thus the kingdom of God will become the greatest entity. Similarly, in the Epistle Reading, our souls, which are housed in temporary breakable jars of clay, will one day be given new bodies, which will last for eternity. Hymns that proclaim the power of the Word of God include:

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

"Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure"

"We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

"Almighty Father, Bless the Word"

THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

JUNE 24

This special festival day, falling on June 24, is the celebration of the birth of John the Baptist, the last prophet and the announcer of our Lord and His ministry. Readings for this celebration include Isaiah's prophecy concerning the voice in the wilderness, Paul's preaching in Antioch that John the Baptist was the forerunner of Jesus, and the story of John's birth. Hymns for this festival service include:

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

"When All the World Was Cursed"

"Sing Praise to the God of Israel"

"Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

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CHURCH



Bill Buchanan shared these items and thoughts about the recent Church Council meeting.

Lots of things have been happening with Camp Restore Detroit. The campers have come and gone in recent weeks. The committees and boards have been hard at work planning new activities and new directions for the ministry of Mt. Calvary.

At the recent Church Council meeting, several items were discussed by the various boards. Due to many conflicts, the May Voters meeting is cancelled.. Personally, I am excited to see that we are so busy carrying out the mission of Mt. Calvary and its programs. The Elders reported that they're not recommending any changes in our worship schedule at this present time. Recent confirmands who were welcomed into membership include Sanquise Powell and Philonese Lanier-Walker.. The Elders also reported that Pastor Carrier and his wife Lori have transferred their membership to Mt. Calvary.

The Board of Education reported that the food bank continues to be blessed with food donations from Historic Trinity. They are also working with Ms. Simms of Head Start and Jerry Roy in building three planting beds in the children's playground for the children of Head Start to experience the process of planting and watching things grow.

The Trustees reported that everything is going smoothly and all building systems are functioning properly.

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I also want to make a few comments about our Camp Restore activities. Everyone is extremely busy as we experience growing pains building this ministry. The various board members have been working with their committee members in planning and implementing various programs and activities. Because of a generous grant, we have been able to hire an intern to work with the board.

Our most recent group of campers came from St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, Duxbury, Massachusetts. They had 23 students and 7 talented and well organized adults. They shared their daily email reports of their activities. There were some comments that really made an impression upon me. Here is one.

“The hospitality of the members of Mount Calvary has been above and beyond anything we have ever experienced on our trips and we are truly grateful.”

The following is the team report from Day Two, “Breaking Down Walls”.

A common theme seems to be popping up around here and it is the breaking down of walls.

With the decision to come to Detroit this year and the team saying “YES” to the change - we broke down a wall.

By cleaning up the houses, we are creating space for hope and a future for this neighborhood - we are breaking down walls...literally!

Spending the afternoon with 30 + kids ages 5-15 who need so much love, our presence begins to break down walls.

After a delicious dinner in Greektown, a team meeting and mail call, day two came to a close.

This message is the one that defined our purpose, “BREAKING DOWN WALLS.”

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Mt. Calvary has been so blessed with the many volunteers and workers. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Bill Buchanan,
Chairman

SCRIP NEWS

Several low denomination gift cards are available for order through May 25, making them perfect for gifting purposes. They have been added to the current order forms, marked with an * and WSL (While Supplies Last). Whenever two or more denominations are available, simply circle the denomination you wish to order. The list includes Amazon.com (\$10), Applebees (\$10), Barnes & Noble (\$10), CVS (\$10), Darden (\$10), Home Depot (\$10), IHOP(\$10), Meijer (\$10), Outback (\$10), Panera (\$5), Red Lobster (\$10), Target (10), Starbucks (\$5), and Walmart (\$10).

No SCRIP order will be placed on May 6 as Daryl & Lucie will be enjoying some quality granddaughter time out in AZ, but weekly orders will continue every other week. Route your order to Daryl if Lucie is not available due to her grandchildren commitments.

ELDERS REPORT

The Sunday schedule will continue to be as follows:

9:00 a.m.	Worship Service with fellowship time immediately following
10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study

We welcome into our membership the following individuals:

Transfers in:	Pastor and Lori Carrier
Confirmants:	Zachery Gammerath
	Luke Gammerath
	Cindy Lundgren
	Philonese Lanier-Walker
	Sanquise Powell

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The Board of Elders is looking into the possibility of adding a family oriented service, possibly in the late afternoon of Christmas Eve.

Pastor Carrier will conduct a home visitation training session with the Elders on May 22 so that more frequent visits can be made to our shut-in members.

FOOD BANK

Dates for the Food Bank are May 9, May 23, June 6 and June 20. Heartfelt thanks to Historic Trinity for the large donation of food we received and also for the generous gift card to Meijer! We are blessed to have their assistance throughout the year! Your donations of plastic grocery bags would be appreciated.

HEAD START

The children have been enjoying using the playground on days when the weather cooperates! The last day of classes for the children is June 13, with the Transition Breakfast for those going on to Kindergarten scheduled for June 14. The staff will be packing up the rooms the week of June 16 and their last day will be June 20. We have enjoyed having them with us this past school year and wish them a safe and happy summer!

SUMMER CAMP (VBS)

Our camp this year will be held June 25-29 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will be using the “*Splash Canyon*” lessons from CPH, and we are blessed to have the youth and adults from St. Paul in Des Peres, MO helping us this year!

The lessons will cover Moses, Naaman, St. Paul and the baptism of Jesus. In addition to the lessons, music and crafts in the morning, we will be adding a sports camp in the afternoon. If you are able to help us with the lunch preparation (lunch is at 12:00 noon), please let Sue Riske know. If you would like to make a contribution to this important outreach ministry, please place an envelope in the offering plate or give to Ron Varty, Treasurer. Thank you!

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PAINT DAY

On Saturday, May 19 starting at 9:00 a.m. we will gather together to get some much needed painting done in the areas of the building that Camp Restore Detroit uses. Please join us in helping us make these improvements.

PLANTING SEEDS, REAPING THE HARVEST

Planting a seed. That's all it takes. Each and every "seed" invested with the Church Extension Fund (CEF) serves a ministry purpose. While providing financial opportunities for our investors, these funds help ministries and church workers in the Michigan District. Learn how you can invest in CEF. For more information call 800.242.3944 or visit www.mi-cef.org.

CAMP RESTORE DETROIT

Camp Restore Detroit now has t-shirts and raglan sleeve jersey shirts. The colors they come in are gray, blue, black and royal blue. The sizes are small to XXlarge. The suggested donation is \$15.00 for the t-shirts and \$25.00 for the jersey shirts. If you would like one, please see Lori Carrier or Pat Fritz.

Camp Restore Detroit is also looking for people who can help in the mornings to prepare and serve breakfast. Also, we need help in preparing and serving dinners in the evenings. The interns will be helping with this also. Please see Pat Fritz if you can help.

CAMP RESTORE DETROIT SCHEDULE FOR MAY AND JUNE

The following churches will be with us through May and June for Camp Restore Detroit:

May 5 - May 10	St. Peter Lutheran Church (Ferris State), Big Rapids, MI
June 1 - June 2	Guardian Lutheran Dearborn, MI

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June 3 - June 9	Liberty Presbyterian Church Delaware, OH
June 18 - June 22	Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Greenville, MI.
June 21 - June 25	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Saginaw, MI
June 24 – June 29	Faith Lutheran Church Bridgeport, MI
June 24 - June 30	Bethel Lutheran Church, Westmont, IL
June 25 - June 30	Messiah Lutheran Church Sartell, MN

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MAY BIRTHDAYS

12 Brian Vietzke

20 Casey Grammens

20 Margaraet Locricchio

28 Patricia Fritz

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Daryl Witte

4 Beverly Fritz

8 Bonnie Gammerath

18 Brian McNally

24 Lori Carrier

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Reading Program 10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	3 No Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:15 a.m. Pancake Breakfast	7 CRD Meeting 9:30 a.m.	8	9 Food Bank 11:15 - 12:45	10 No Choir Rehearsal	11	12
13 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with the Installation of Elizabeth Parrish 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time		15	16 Reading Program 10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	17 Last Choir Rehearsal of the Season 7:00 p.m.	18	19 Paint Day 9:00 a.m.
20 9:00 a.m. Worship Service With Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	21	22 Elders Meeting at the Roys 7:30 p.m.	23 Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Food Bank 11:15 - 12:45 Reading Program 1:30 p.m.	24	25	26
27 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	28 Memorial Day	29 Church Council 10:00 a.m.	30 Reading Program 10:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	31		

JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	4 CRD Meeting 9:30 a.m.	5	6 Reading Program 10:00 a.m. Food Bank 11:15 - 12:45 Reading Program 1:30 m.	7	8	9
10 9:00 a.m. Flag Raising and Special Worship Service for Veterans/Fire/Police 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	11	12	13 Last Day of classes for Head Start Children	14 Head Start Transition Breakfast	15	16
17 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	18	19	20 Food Bank 11:15 - 12:45 Last Day for Head Start Staff	21	22	23
24 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	25 Summer Camp (VBS) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	26 Summer Camp (VBS) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Church Council 10:00 a.m.	27 Summer Camp (VBS) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	28 Summer Camp (VBS) 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	29 Summer Camp (VBS) Last Day 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	30