



MAY 2024

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Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May. A day where we honor the brave men and women who have died while serving in the United States military. Their sacrifices ensure our liberty - a debt we can only hope to repay by living up to our American values: helping our neighbors, being kind to one another, celebrating our nation's diverse identity, practicing our own ways of worship, and loving our families.

God Bless you, God Bless the men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedoms, and God Bless the United States of America.

Jason Cilento, Mayor of Dunellen, New Jersey (2020)



High School Graduation Recognition

June 2, 2024

Burke Lutheran Church will be holding a Graduation Recognition on June 2, 2024 for any graduates who would like to be recognized. Please let either Pastor Bryan or the church secretary know if you know of any graduates that would like to be recognized so we can plan for their attendance.



DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION?

If you've changed your contact information in the past few years — if you've moved, dropped your land line, changed your email to get rid of all that annoying spam you were getting, got a new job, etc., please let the church office know at 244-8486 or burkelutheran@att.net. Thank you for helping us stay in touch!

Dear friends,

Last month, I wrote about starting a game of stumping the pastor. I have put some pages on the large table in the entryway. Go ahead and take one and start thinking about all those complicated questions that have been burning in your heart. Along with these pages, you can also just pass me notes or e-mails.

A couple of weeks ago, I was asked about my opinion on the movie "Noah" from 2014, starring Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly, and Anthony Hopkins. There are certainly some things that I liked about that movie, probably the biggest one was the depiction of the ark as a giant box instead of a boat. An ark, by definition, is a box with a lid, not a boat. I've always wondered why we imagine Noah's ark as a boat. Wouldn't it get flooded and sink by all the rainwater if it had an open top?

But there are other aspects of that movie that weren't so great. According to the Bible, one of the instigating factors for the flood was the appearance of "Nephilim" or the children of angels and humans. That's kind of a weird idea, but the Bible sums it up by telling us that "These were the heroes that were of old, warriors of renown" (Genesis 6:4). In other words, this is how our ancestors understood all the myths of other cultures and religions that surrounded them, that these famous ancient heroes were "Nephilim." Unfortunately, God did not like this attempt at human beings trying to save themselves, and so God wanted to rid the world of these creatures. However, in that 2014 movie, the Nephilim were depicted as weird rock monsters, which is very different from the story that we have received.

This movie also troubled me with the depiction of Noah being quite fatalistic about the whole proposition. It seems he never did trust that the ark would save him, his family, and the animals, and Noah was portrayed in that film as wanted to eliminate all of humanity. But the Noah of scripture trusted in God to save and salvage humankind from the violence of the earth brought about by the Nephilim. So all in all, it was a weird but interesting depiction of this Biblical story, and no matter how close or far the film deviated from the Bible, both versions of the story encourages us to think about the meaning and significance of life, and how all life, whether ours, our neighbors, or the plants and animals that surround us, must be protected and cherished because God is a creator God, and a God of life.

Here in May, we will conclude the Easter season by remembering the promise of Jesus' ascension so that he can be with us everywhere and at all times, and then move to Pentecost, the celebration of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We will conclude our worship in May with the Holy Trinity Sunday, that annual celebration of the God who is a living, loving relationship who invites us to join into that relationship.

I'll start taking a little bit of vacation time here in May and through the summer. We're not planning any big trips this year, just some time off to see family and friends and have a couple small adventures that I will tell you all about later.

God bless,
Pr. Bryan

Youth & Kids Corner

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All children ages 3 to 6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday School. You will begin in the sanctuary for the first part of the service and will be dismissed following the children's sermon. Come and see what exciting things the teach board has planned for you!



WOMEN'S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, May 15 at 11:30am. They will be meeting at Roadside Grill. Please join us for the monthly celebration. Happy Birthday to all that month.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is Wednesday, May 8 at Gus' Diner, Hwy 19, Sun Prairie, at 9:00am. Stop in for a cup of joe, a hearty breakfast and connect with brothers in Christ.



FOOD PANTRY

May Food Pantry Focus: May focus is "Household Supplies," such as paper towels, foil, plastic wrap, paper plates, baggies, plastic cups, toilet paper, etc. Please place your non-perishable goods in the 'Donations' basket in the Narthex & it will be delivered to the pantry.

BIRTHDAY BAGS FOR RIVER FOOD PANTRY.



List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.

QUILTING

Every Wednesday at 9:00am. Everyone is welcome, no experience needed.



DORCAS CIRCLE

The DORCAS Circle is looking for **new members**. We meet the fourth Thursday of the month at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Gloria Lundquist.

PRAISE CHOIR

Do you like to sing or do you play an instrument? If so, come join the Praise Choir. Please contact Chris Grefe or Gloria Lundquist if interested. Practices are Monday mornings at 10:30am.

Burke Lutheran Bags
\$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00

Burke Lutheran bags are now available for purchase. We have approximately 75 bags. They will be sold on a first come, first serve basis.



BIBLE TRIVIA (answers on last page)

1. True or False: The Bible is the most popular book ever written. (by copies sold)
2. Who were Adam and Eve's three sons listed in the Bible?
3. What was God's sign to Noah that he would never destroy the earth again?
4. How many brothers did Joseph have?
5. Where did God give Moses the Ten Commandments?
6. Name the place where Jesus walked on water.
7. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?



Reverend Nancy Boettcher McClurg

June 19, 1939 - April 10, 2024

The Rev. Nancy Boettcher McClurg passed away unexpectedly on April 10, 2024. She married the Rev. James McClurg from Wauwatosa on June 23, 1962. They had two children, David and Luanne. She served ELCA parishes in Plymouth and New Berlin, WI as well as several interim ministries after.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 4th, at Burke Lutheran Church, 5720 Portage Road, Madison, WI 53718 with a visitation beginning at 12:00pm until the time of service at 2:00pm. A luncheon will follow the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to ELCA World Hunger and Wartburg Seminary.

PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of May we remember the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Lisa Thompson
Virginia Steward
June Chadwick
Martha Dallman
Sonja Nielsen
Steve Chappell

Mark Gehrke
Patricia Wisner
Marie McCoy
Jean Lothe
Peter Taylor
Carol Bean



We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional.

LIGHT OF LIFE & SUNDAY BULLETIN ARTICLES

If you have news you'd like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

1. Email your submissions to burkelutheran@att.net (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or
3. Turn it into the church office .

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Tuesdays LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 20th of the month

MAY 2024 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Quilting, 9am Bible Study, 1pm	2 Teach Board, 6pm	3	4
5 Worship, 9am Sunday School 9am Coffee Hour, 10am	6 Reach Board, 6:00pm	7	8 Quilting, 9am Men's Breakfast, 9am Bible Study, 1pm	9	10	11
12 Worship, 9am Sunday School 9am Coffee Hour, 10am Mother's Day	13	14 Council Meeting, 6:30pm	15 Quilting, 9am BLCW Meeting, 10am BLCW Birthday Lunch, 11:30am Bible Study, 1pm	16	17	18 Synod Assembly at First Lutheran in Janesville
19 PENTACOST Worship, 9am Sunday School 9am Coffee Hour, 10am	20 Preach Board, 9am	21 Foundation Board, 7:00pm	22 Quilting, 9am Bible Study, 1pm	23	24	25
26 Worship, 9am Sunday School 9am Pot Luck	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30 DORCAS Circle, 10am	31	

Save the Dates: May 1 - May Day
 May 5 - Cinco de Mayo
 May 7 - Teacher's Day
 May 18 - Armed Forces Day
 May 27 - Memorial Day

May 2 - National Day of Prayer
 May 6 - National Nurses Day
 May 12 - Mother's Day
 May 19 - Pentecost

Happy Birthday!

May 3	Amber Brown	May 19
May 3	Amber Kirchstein	May 19
May 4	Jean Schnick	May 21
May 8	Roland Frye	May 21
May 9	Taylor Olson	May 22
May 10	Diane McFarlin	May 24
May 10	Marcus Hung	May 24
May 10	Ron Hennings	May 25
May 12	Jon Lothe	May 25
May 15	James Housner	May 27
May 15	Michell Hanson	May 31
May 18	Susan Rittmann	May 31

Adam Kittleson
Lyn Martin
Emma Dobbs
Kristin Kalhagen
Kyle Krisher
Deb Buss
Emily Taylor
Larry Cutler
Vicki Cutler
Rose Haney
Mike Housner
Tim Wachs

Happy Anniversary!

Tim and Melissa Dobbs	May 3, 2003
Adam and Stacey Kittleson	May 8, 2010
Charlie and Diane Hung	May 13, 2000
Richard and Linda Hughes	May 15, 1971
Lynn and Linda Martin	May 19, 1996
Alan and Lisa Romeis	May 25, 2002



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MAY WORSHIP LEADERS

	May 5 9:00am Service	May 12 9:00am Service	May 19 9:00am Service	May 26 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore
Music Leader	Chris & Dave	“The Band”	Chris & Dave	“The Band”
Communion Asst.	Sharon Hughes	Julie Clark	Dave Hanson	Barb Hennings
Communion Prep	Gloria Lundquist	Jennette Gehrke	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke
Lay Reader	Cheryl Beckman	Deb Brown	Barb Hennings	Julie Clark
Ushers	Bob Lenzendorf David Hanson	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Steve & Donna Frederick	Karl & Shari Patzer
Coffee Hour				Potluck
Counters	Gloria Lundquist Rose Haney	Gloria Lundquist Rose Haney	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson Cheryl Beckman	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson

ANSWERS TO BIBLE TRIVIA

1. True
2. Cain, Abel, Seth
3. A Rainbow
4. Eleven
5. Mt. Sinai
6. Sea of Galilee
7. John 11:35 Jesus wept.