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Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XVII, Issue VI

June 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Saviour Lutheran Church welcomes all people to a safe place to grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ

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Pentecost

WHAT IS PENTECOST?

Pentecost is the great festival that marks the birth of the Christian church by the power of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost means "fiftieth day" and is celebrated fifty days after Easter.

WHAT HAPPENED ON PENTECOST?

Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, the twelve apostles, Jesus' mother and family, and many other of His disciples gathered together in Jerusalem for the Jewish harvest festival that was celebrated on the fiftieth day of Passover. While they were indoors praying, a sound like that of a rushing wind filled the house and tongues of fire descended and rested over each of their heads. This was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on human flesh promised by God through the prophet Joel (Joel 2:28-29). The disciples were suddenly empowered to proclaim the gospel of the risen Christ. They went out into the streets of Jerusalem and began preaching to the crowds gathered for the festival. Not only did the disciples preach with boldness and vigor, but by a miracle of the Holy Spirit they spoke in the native languages of the people present, many who had come from all corners of the Roman Empire. This created a sensation. The apostle Peter seized the moment and addressed the crowd, preaching to them about Jesus' death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins. The result was that about three thousand converts were baptized that day. (You can read the Biblical account of Pentecost in [Acts 2:1-41](#)).

WHAT IS THE LITURGICAL COLOR FOR PENTECOST?

Red is the liturgical color for this day. Red recalls the tongues of flame in which the Holy Spirit descended on the first Pentecost. The color red also reminds us of the blood of the martyrs. These are the believers of every generation who by the power of the Holy Spirit hold firm to the true faith even at the cost of their lives.

WHY IS PENTECOST SOMETIMES CALLED "WHIT SUNDAY"?

A tradition of some churches in ancient times was to baptize adult converts to the faith on Pentecost. The newly baptized catechumens would wear white robes on that day, so Pentecost was often called "Whitsunday" or "White Sunday" after these white baptismal garments. Many Christian calendars, liturgies, and hymnals (particularly those from the Episcopal/Anglican tradition) still use this term.

WHY IS THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION OFTEN CELEBRATED ON PENTECOST?

Confirmation Sunday is the day when young people who have been instructed in basic Christian doctrine confess their faith in the presence of the church. The key to understanding confirmation is to recognize that the faith the confirmands confess is not of their own making; it is the gift of God that He gives through His means of grace. The Holy Spirit who empowered the disciples to preach the risen Christ two thousand years ago is the same Spirit who empowers the confirmands to make their confession. This is why many churches celebrate the rite of confirmation on Pentecost.

WHAT IS THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST?

Because Pentecost is the day that God poured out His Holy Spirit on Christ's disciples, the Season after Pentecost is centered on sanctification, the work of the Holy Spirit in the day to day life of the Christian. This is reflected in the liturgical color for this season: green, the color of life and growth. Through the gift of faith that comes only from the Holy Spirit, Christians are enabled to trust in Christ and proclaim Him in their daily lives by service to their neighbors.

(Pentecost cont'd on page 4)



10 Things You Should Know about the Trinity

The Trinity is something God wants us to know. The doctrine of the Trinity is not illogical. You should give up on looking for an illustration of the Trinity. The Father sent the Son and the Holy Spirit to save us; that is why we know about the Trinity. God would have been the Trinity even if nothing existed but God.

1. The Trinity is something God wants us to know.

If you believe the Bible reveals that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, then you ought to believe that God made this known because he wants us to know it. "The secret things belong to the LORD," but God's triunity is not among those secret things, or he wouldn't be talking about it and neither would we. "The things that are revealed belong to us" (Deut 29:29).

2. The doctrine of the Trinity is not illogical.

It doesn't teach that God is three persons in one person, or three beings in one being, or three in one in some abstract sense. It teaches that God is three persons in one being. Partly because there are no other examples of such a thing, God's triunity transcends our rational comprehension. But it doesn't violate logic or make a claim that it nonsensical.

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3. You should give up on looking for an illustration of the Trinity.

God's triunity is one of those divine realities that have no parallel, like "being the creator of everything from nothing," or "being omnipotent." Any illustration you think of for such realities is vastly more unlike God than like God.

4. The Father sent the Son and the Holy Spirit to save us; that is why we know about the Trinity.

God didn't make his triunity known to us by informing us of facts about it. Instead, he made it known through the incarnation of the Son and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The revelation of the Trinity took place in those acts, which God then explained.

5. God would have been the Trinity even if nothing existed but God.

The doctrine of the Trinity is a teaching about God's eternal, essential being. So even if everything we know about the Trinity is derived from God's outward works as creator and (especially) redeemer, the Trinity would have been itself even without having done these things.

6. The Trinity is always bundled with the gospel.

It's the doctrine of who God must be if salvation is what we think it is. The Father who gave his Son and Spirit to save us must be a Father who always had a Son and Spirit. If you describe the Trinity and then have to tack on the fact that the Trinity saves, you probably described it too abstractly in the first place. The Bible bundles Trinity and gospel, and so should we.

7. You're already soaking in it.

Whether you have been attending to it or not, everything about the Christian life works only because there is a Trinitarian reality underlying it. If you got saved, you got picked up by the Trinity and brought into God's own fellowship. Learning about the Trinity is a matter of learning the deeper reasons why this Christian life works.

8. Prayer and worship have a Trinitarian structure.

Every time Christians approach God, they come before God (the Father) in the name of Jesus (not in their own name) by the power of the Spirit (not by their own power). Again, this is true even if they're not consciously thinking about it.

(Trinity cont'd on page 3)

The History of Father's Day

Though Father's Day wasn't made a national holiday until 1972, the efforts of one woman in Washington sparked a movement to celebrate dads long before then.

Sonora Dobb and Father's Day.

The first known Father's Day service occurred in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 5, 1908, thanks to the efforts of Grace Golden Clayton. The service was to honor all fathers, especially those hundred who were killed during a devastating mine explosion in Moonongah (just a few miles from Fairmont) the previous years. However, the observance did not become an annual event, and it was not promoted—very few outside local areas knew about.

In 1909, Sonora Smart Dobb of Spokane, Washington, also was inspired to create a holiday honoring fathers. William Jackson Smart, her father, was a farmer and Civil War veteran who raised Sonora and her five younger brothers by himself after his wife, Ellen, died giving birth to their youngest child in 1898. While attending a Mother's Day church service in 1909, Sonora, then 27, came up with the idea.

Within a few months, Sonora had convinced the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA to set aside a Sunday in June to celebrate fathers. She proposed June 5, her father's birthday, but the ministers chose the third Sunday in June so that they would have more time after Mother's Day (the second Sunday in May) to prepare their sermons. So it was that on June 19, 1910, Sonora delivered presents to handicapped fathers, boys from the YMCA decorated their lapels with fresh-cut roses (red for living fathers and white for the deceased), and the city's ministers devoted their homilies to fatherhood.

A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

The widely publicized events in Spokane struck a chord that reached all the way to Washington, DC, and Sonora's celebration started on its path to becoming a national holiday.

- In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson and his family personally observed the day.
- Eight years later, President Calvin Coolidge signed a resolution in favor of Father's Day "to establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations."
- In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed an executive order that the holiday be celebrated on the third Sunday in June.
- Under President Richard Nixon, in 1972, Congress passed an act officially making Father's Day a national holiday. (six years later, Sonora died at age 96)

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(Trinity cont'd from page 2)

9. You don't have to choose between being Christ-centered or being Trinity-centered.

The simple reason for this is that Christ is Trinity-centered, right in the middle of the Trinity as the Son sent by the Father and filled with the Spirit. If you focus on Jesus properly, you will find yourself necessarily focusing on the Trinity—as long as you don't focus on Jesus in a Father-forgetful or Spirit-ignoring way.

10. You can be a good Trinitarian without talking about the Trinity all the time.

The doctrine of the Trinity is the vast, deep background behind all our theology, and when we explicitly talk about it we make a comprehensive claim about who God is if the gospel is true. But often the background stays in the background, and enables us to say particular things about Jesus, discipleship, the cross, the Holy Spirit, and so on, without making the big picture explicit. That's how the New Testament mostly does it, so you're in good company. Go ahead and talk about the Trinity sometimes and think about it deeply sometimes. Praise the Trinity at all times, and when necessary, use the word "Trinity." But don't feel like you have to focus mentally on this gigantic doctrine at all times in order to be a good Trinitarian.

Fred Sanders (PhD, Graduate Theological Union) is professor of theology at the Torrey Honors Institute at Biola University. Sanders is the author of *The Deep Things of God* and blogs at ScriptoriumDaily.com.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Anna Trudnak, President
May 16, 2022 Council Minutes



Meeting called to order by President, Anna Lowery

Members present: Alice Vlaservich, Melinda White, Anna Lowery, Robbie Wooten, Steve Digh

Members Absent: Becky Messick, Teri Trudnak

Minutes: March 21, 2022 minutes were reviewed; Alice Vlaservich made the motion to approve the minutes and Anna Lowery gave the second motion.

Reception of Petitions and Communications:

- a. None

Report of the Pastor: Pastor Pete attended the NALC Convocation Region meeting 5/3-5/14/22.

Report of the Treasurer: Report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Melinda White to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Alice Vlaservich.

Report of the Ministries:

- a. Property: Jeff White and friend cleaned gutters at the Activity Bldg. and sprayed roundup around the perimeter of the church. Brady Ratchford came this month and treated the grounds for the fire ants. Steve Digh will obtain an estimate for the parsonage gutters to be replaced. Anna Lowery will obtain estimates for tree trimming and grounds maintenance.
- b. Stewardship and Finance: None
- c. Worship & Music: Easter sunrise service was held, and refreshments served afterwards. Everyone enjoyed.
- d. Youth Team: No report this month
- e. Witness: Cards and prayers continue to be sent to shut ins. Alice is also sending bulletins to those unable to attend worship service.
- f. Christian Education Team: VBS meetings via email. June 19-23, 2022 at Antioch. OSLC will participate again this year and prepare the meal on Tuesday of that week. HELPERS NEEDED.

Report of Auxiliaries:

- a. Prayer Group continues to meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:30pm (note time change)
- b. The Rachel Group will meet in June at the home of Betty Clemmer for bible study and refreshments.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

Grounds workday to be rescheduled - TABLE UNTIL FALL.
 Water leak at the Activity Building needs to be addressed.

New Business:

Pastor Pete suggested having a communion table placed in the Chancel so he can be facing the congregation while preparing communion. Discussion was had among the Council and some of us will talk the details with Pastor.

General Information:

- a. Attendance: BRING A FRIEND!!
- b. Laszlo Mission Report
- c. Thank you letter from LWF
- d. Rewrite notice from Farm Bureau

The Council meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is July 18, 2022 at 7pm

Teri Trudnak-Devotions

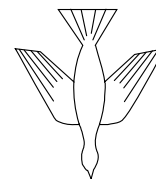
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(Pentecost cont'd from page 1)

The season after Pentecost is the longest season of the church year -- it lasts from Trinity Sunday until the first Sunday of Advent. This is the non-festival portion of the liturgical calendar during which the church stresses vocation, evangelism, missions, stewardship, almsgiving, and other works of mercy and charity as ways in which Christ empowers us by His grace to share the Gospel with others.

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE PENTECOST?

There are three "mega-festivals" commemorated in the Christian calendar. The first two, Christmas and Easter, are well known to both believers and non-believers. But it's possible that even liturgical Christians may not be as familiar with the third, the festival of Pentecost. God the Father's wonderful Christmas gift of His one and only Son, and Christ's Easter triumph over the power of sin, death, and the devil would be of no benefit to us if the Holy Spirit did not give us the gift of saving faith. Through the Word and Sacraments, the Holy Spirit gives us the power to believe and trust in Christ as our Savior. This precious gift of faith in the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ is the reason Pentecost is the third "mega-festival" of the church and why we celebrate it with such joy and thanksgiving.



NORA KATHERINE COLE

will be confirmed

on

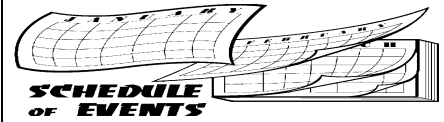
Pentecost Sunday

June 5, 2022

June 2022



Sunday School: 9:45 pm
Church Service: 11:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>Pentecost</i>	6 Team Mtg, D-Day WWII	7	8	9	10	11 Dallas Concert
12 TRINITY SUNDAY	13	14 Flag Day Prayer Group	15	16	17	18
19 Father's Day VBS	20 VBS	21 it's summer! VBS	22 VBS	23 VBS	24	25
26 3rd Sunday after Pentecost	27	28	29	30		

- June 5— 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
- June 6— Team Meetings
D-Day WWII
- June 12— **Church Workday**
Dallas Concert (p 4)
- June 12— Trinity Sunday
- June 14— **FLAG DAY**
Prayer Group will meet at Home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:30 pm
- June 19— **VBS BEGINS: JUN 19-23**
FATHER'S DAY
- June 21— *Summer begins*
- June 26— 3rd Sunday after Pentecost



FOOD FOR THE MONTH:

Soup, Mac-n-Cheese, Green Peas



CHOIR PRACTICE 4: 00 pm
On Wednesday unless otherwise noted in the bulletin,



Holy Communion Schedule:
Every Sunday

Worship Service Assistance:

Acolyte: Nora Cole
Communion
Asst: Nora Cole
Lay Reader: Teri/Bill Trudnak
Worship Asst: Teri/Bill Trudnak
Greeters: OSLC Members
Ushers: OSLC Members

Board Devotions: Board meets in July

Stewardship Collector: Jeff White



Birthdays

- 2 Yvonne Finger
- 9 Jeff Dease
- 11 Alice Vlaservich
- 12 Wayne Ann Pen
- 20 Anna Cole



Marie Robinson
Ben Finger



- 17thDan & Donna Clemmer
- 22ndGarrett & Kennedy Lowey
- 25thStephen & Kasey Digh
- 26thPete & Mary Feige

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

- June 5 Alice Vlaservich
- June 12 Nick Vlaservich
- June 19 Brady Ratchford
- June 26

Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your love ones.

MORE OPEN DATES:



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Post Office Box 475
 Dallas, North Carolina 28034
 Phone: 705-922-4648
 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com
 Web-site: oslc-nc.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



June 19-23

5:30 pm—8:30 pm
 at
 Holy Communion

“Quest for God Great Light”

“Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power”
 Ephesians 6:10

Supper: 5:30 pm-6:00 pm
VBS: 6:15 pm—8:30 pm

Programs from Nursery to Adults

Volunteers are needed...

PLEASE SEE MELINDA WHITE or call 704-968-3275

Churches involved: Antioch, Holy Communion, OSLC,
 Philadelphia and St. Paul’s

OSLC will serve Pizza on June 21.
We will need volunteers to work.
Bring drinks, desserts, and make
A donation to buy the pizza

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!



From a whimsical lighthouse on an enchanted island, Explorers are guided by a Lighthouse Keeper and Beacon the Puffin on an exciting quest to find five mysterious Infinity Lanterns to help light their way. Using map coordinates from their Reference Book (the Bible), children discover clues to finding each Lantern while learning how God’s light shines in the lives of familiar biblical characters in Old and New Testament stories.

OUTREACH MISSION

SHUT-INS
NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside at home* and send them a card

Jill Petzold*
 Brookside Senior Living Rm 44
 1680 S. New Hope Rd
 Gastonia, NC 28054



EVENTS
for
Agrape/Kure Beach

Contact Camp Agapé:
 Telephone: 919-552-9421
 e-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org

Contact Kure Beach Lutheran:
 Telephone 910-458-0783
 e-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org

Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

Please see calendars and other information on the bulletin board or go on-line

Events For
Lutheridge -
Lutherock-
Lutherspring-
Lutheranch

Web site: www.NovusWay.com



HELP! HELP!

GO OUT ON A LIMB
GET INVOLVED

BE A WORSHIP ASSISTANT

A positions are still open. Participate in the service of the Lord and sign up.

Sign up sheets for the 2022 calendar year in book on office door.



THANK YOU!

A Stewardship Minute

Making and using money is an important part of human life ... it always has been and it always will be. If the Scriptures were silent about these activities, we could only conclude that the Bible is out of touch with the human condition. But the Bible is certainly true to "the human condition."

Jesus himself often talked about the need to have the right attitude toward money and all other blessings God has given to us. Remember how he said to the rich young man that if he wished to be one of his followers he would need to get his priorities right

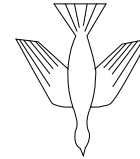
in his life, especially in regard to the use of his money. (Matthew 19:16-26)

Sadly, the young fellow could not accept the challenge Christ gave to him. He turned and walked away ... walked away from true joy and true service on behalf of God.

Jesus never said that it was sinful to have money, but he did say we were to use our lives, our money, our talents, and our time on behalf of the kingdom of God. That, in large part, is the way we prepare ourselves to have what our Lord called "treasure in heaven." Our lives here on earth should be of such quality that we are preparing ourselves for eternity with

our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Gracious and loving God, help us to glorify you in all that we do and serve you with diligence and dedication. Through Christ our Lord, we pray. **Amen**



TOLERANCE TODAY IS A ONE-WAY STREET

By D. James Knnedy

Last night I ad the opportunity to stand before a room full of cameras, television news people, newspaper reporters, and magazine reporters and answer their questions. One thing was obvious. The idea that the nation was founded as a "Christian Nation" was totally unbelievable to them. It was something that was virtually alien. It was something that was threatening to even mention. But they don't know.

Dr. Paul Vitz, Professor of Psychology at New York University, headed up a blue ribbon presidential panel to examine the history and social studies textbooks used in our public schools. The panel concluded that there is a virtual paranoia on the part of textbook writers, publishers, and editors concerning the religious founding of this county. Almost all references to it have been expurgated from our textbooks. There is virtually no mention of anything concerning the Christian involvement in founding of America. Therefore, we have tens of million of people in the country who haven't the foggiest idea where this country came from or who started it.

Since I knew my remarks to these reporters would not get into the news, I thought I would turn the room into a classroom. I told them: Remember, all of the Pilgrims were Christians. That is why they came to these shores. Even 150 years later, in 1776, 98.4 percent of the American people professed to be Protestant; 1.4 percent professed to be Roman Catholic; .2 of one percent to be Jewish.

That means 99.8 percent of the people in America in 1776 professed themselves to be Christian. I know of no other nation in the world that was founded by a group of people who so uniformly professed a single religion. Yes, I saw in the newspaper a few month ago, someone saying, "Why the very idea of one religion....that's un-American." Where has that person been? Well, I tell you where he's been. He's been to public school in America and he has been brainwashed.

The tolerance crowd chafers at these types of observations. But who is not being tolerant, my friend? We Christians do believe in and practice a tolerance, but if you remember nothing else, remember this: **Tolerance is the last virtue of a completely immoral society.** These people who have violated every single code of decency imaginable, who trample all over the law of God, who expose their wickedness before the entre public in their parades in our major cities, sodomizing in public and in parades for all to see, these people have no other virtues left except "be tolerant of my wickedness." That is their only virtue. The only virtue in America is tolerance and the only sin of a sin-soaked society is the failure to be tolerant.

But one thing they need to remember is that Almighty God is not tolerant of sin. God has said that He will turn the wicked into hel. We will either repant or we will perish. There is no gray in between.

Adapted from "The Cultural War in America," preached by D. James Kennedy, Ph. D., at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Ft. Lauderdale, on January 23, 1994.

(submitted by Brady Ratchford for the OSLC newsletter)



**FROM CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER
BABY FORMULA**

We have a shortage of baby formula. Can you believe it? First we kill our babies,, then we starve our babies. We have been able to meet the needs of the clients who have looked all over and then come here. Never has your Crisis Pregnancy Center been more important than for such a time as this. We have formula to provide for our clients and also an opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus. Feeding moms and babies.



Roe vs Wade, Formula, Security, Emergency Preparedness.... Did you ever think that in America you would be a pivotal part in advancing the Kingdom of God? We,, here we are. Roil up your sleeves, get on your knees and prepare for battle.

If Roe vs Wade is overturned, it will not be the finish line but a starting point. CPC has been serving and will rise to the occasion. At a minimum we can anticipate tens of thousands of children in America would be born who wouldn't have been under Roe. We stand ready from conception until they no longer need help in raising their (our) children.

2022 Court Square Summer Concert

(presented by the Town of Dallas)

Held on the Dallas Historic Court Square, starting at 7:00 pm, Each FREE concert will feature amazing talent (rain or shine). Enjoy the concerts,

- ◆ **Saturday, June 11th — The Catalinas**
The Catalinas Steeped in the sound of the 60s, 70s and 80s, they transport listeners to a simpler time when music spoke for a generation.
- ◆ **Monday, July 4th — Concert**
Image & G-Town (7pm-9pm)
4th Fireworks Show at Cloninger Park begins at dark.
- ◆ **Saturday, August 13th—**
Gary Lowder and Smoking
- ◆ **Saturday, September 10th—**
Daniel Jeffers

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR FOR THE
CONCERTS AND FIREWORKS

- If you need a Pastor, please contact Pastor Pete Feige at 704-516-2805 or our office at 704-922-4648.
-

CLW GROUP

will not meet during months of June and July



“PRAYER GROUP”

Will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza June 14th at 1:30 pm



LET US PRAY... *“Are any among you suffering? They should pray...The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up.” (James 5:13-15)*

PRAYER CONCERNS:



MARGARET Addington, SUSAN Aderholt, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley’s), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), BEN Best (friend of Nick Vlaservich -blood clots), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease’s), KATHY Bohanan (cancer) , MARTHA JO Bonnett (friend of Alice Vlaservich – cancer) KAREN Brady, JACKIE Carpenter (friend of Alice Vlaservich-liver cancer), BOB Clemmer (friend of Brady Ratchford), MICHAEL Clemmer (Alice Vlaservich’s brother-back surgery), SYLVIA Cloninger (friend of Nick Vlaservich), MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten’s uncle), STEVE Cloninger (friend of Brady Ratchford-cancer), BEVERLY Copeland (friend of Robbie’s-cancer), STEVE Digh (cancer), JOE Elder (friend of Nick Vlaservich), RENEE Falkenberg (shoulder), HARDY Feige (Pete’s dad – chronic back pain), GLEEN Fraizer (friend of Steve & Julie Digh [cancer]), NANCY Friday, BECKY Goodwin (friend of Brady’s – cancer), JAMES Goudelock (cancer), JASON Hames (friend of the White’s), GRACE Harbin (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JEAN Huffstetler (two broken wrist), JEFF Lineberger (stroke), JOYCE in Morganton (Nick & Alice Vlaservich’s acquaintance-cancer), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JACK Lonon (Kasey Digh’s step-father-cancer), MARINA Marazza (Shirlee Marazza’s granddaughter-Covid19), BO Messick (foot), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), JERRY Miller (friend of Vlaservich family-eye cancer operation), JASON, ALLISON & LEX Murray, ELLEN & ED Pfeiffer (Keenan Gordy’s Parents – Heart issues), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), TERI Trudnak, RONNIE Shiles (friend of Brady Ratchford-declining health), MARTHA Surratt (friend of Alice Vlaservich-cancer). TONY Trudnak (cancer reoccurring), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), JOE White (stroke), NANCY Wilson, REESE Wilson (blood cancer). MARY BETH Wright (cousin of Nick Vlaservich -cancer). Dawn Wooten (Sarah Wooten’s great grandmother-Shingles),



The term 'flag day' has two significant definitions. The first definition states that a day is decided so as to fly a flag in a certain area and the other definition signifies that a day is determined to specially honor an event involving a day, like its adoption or creation. The national law or decree can decide where and how the flags can be flown. The flag days are usually codified in the national statutes.

The flag of the United States was born on a year just after the independence of the nation. There is a special significance for differentiating the Flag Day from the Independence Day.

The declaration of America to become a country of its own was not the only reason why the flag was created. On June 14th, it was the first day that the flag of America was hoisted with recognition. In 1777, the first flag was hoisted, since continental congress did not want to use The British Union Jack. The first flag of the country, the grand union was hoisted on a flagpole.

What does the US Flag stand for?

The colors of the flag denote the struggle for freedom. The stars represent the colonies. The red color, which is separated, signifies the separation of America from the rule of Great Britain. The pointed stars represent the colonies under united governing body. The designing and colors spread over the flag, manifest loyalty, honor and essence of patriotism that kindled in the hearts of those who fought for freedom. Therefore, the Flag Day recognizes the work of those who created such an amazing piece of work that displays patriotism and independence.

Hence on every June 14th, it is every citizen's prime responsibility to show gratitude and feel the true essence of the significance of the united colors of the national flag. The Flag Day is popularly known as the National Flag Day.

How it all started?

Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation in 1916, according to which June 14 was recognized as the Flag Day. After the resolution of the Continental Congress in 1777, the day was recognized as the Flag Day. The Flag Day was not celebrated as a holiday then, but the state of Pennsylvania was the first to celebrate this day as a holiday. On the Flag Day, a long parade is held in the City of Troy.

George Balch, a New York City kindergarten teacher first conceived the idea of observing the Flag Day. He arranged activities and ceremonies for the children in the school on June 14, 1889. Next the State Board of education adopted the idea and Flag Day celebration followed one or two years later. In 1891, the Betsy Ross house held a celebration and in 1892, the New York Society of the Sons observed the day.

After this, the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America requested the mayor of Philadelphia to hoist the flag on the Flag Day and observe the significance. After two days, the Board of Managers Pennsylvania Society of the sons of Revolution voted the day as the Flag Day. Since that day Flag Day is observed on June 14th. Later, the Flag Day became a national holiday. President Truman also signed an act and designated June 14 as the National Flag day.

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS: A NATIONAL SYMBOL

The design for the current U.S. flag started out as a high school history project in 1958 when there was talk of Alaska and Hawaii becoming states.

Robert Heft, a junior in Lancaster, Ohio, decided the Flag's design shouldn't be changed radically if two more stars were added with the admission of the nation's 49th and 50th states.

He spent hours sewing the new combination of stars. His mother, more adept with a needle, refused to help because she feared her son's project would be desecrating the flag.

His grade on the project was a B-minus.

Heft's teacher, Stanley Pratt, said the idea lacked originality but promised a better grade if lawmakers would consider the design. The boy contacted his congressman, Rep. Walter Moeller, and on July 4, 1960, Congress adopted Heft's creation as the nation's 27th flag.

Heft had his grade changed to an A.

The flag "is a symbol of the countless freedoms we enjoy and the responsibilities we must maintain as caring as loyal Americans," Heft said by telephone from his home in Saginaw, Mich. "HAPPY FLAG DAY on June 14."

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress approved the nation's first official flag. Eighteen years later, more stars and stripes were added to accommodate the addition of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. The 1818 flag, however, went back to 13 strips, with only stars representing the states, which at that time total 20.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, President Lincoln refused to have stars for the Southern states removed. Union soldiers fought under a 33-star flag, a 34-star flag when Kansas became state in 1861, and a 35-star flag in 1863 when West Virginia broke from Confederate Virginia.

Flag Day was first observed in 1877 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the selection of the nation's first flag.

The original designer may have been Francis Hopkinson, who submitted a bill to Congress, payable in several casks of wine for his efforts.

These stories and others are posted on www.usflag.org, created by history buff Duane Streufert in 1994, an Illinois truck driver.

D-DAY— WWII

During World War II (1939-1945), the Battle of Normandy, which lasted from June 1944 to August 1944, resulted in the Allied liberation of Western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. Codenamed Operation Overlord, the battle began on June 6, 1944, also known as D-Day, when some 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of the heavily fortified coast of France's Normandy region. The invasion was one of the largest amphibious military assaults in history and required extensive planning. Prior to D-Day, the Allies conducted a large-scale deception campaign designed to mislead the Germans about the intended invasion target. By late August 1944, all of northern France had been liberated, and by the following spring the Allies had defeated the Germans. The Normandy landings have been called the beginning of the end of war in Europe.

Preparing for D-Day

After World War II began, Germany invaded and occupied northwestern France beginning in May 1940. The Americans entered the war in December 1941, and by 1942 they and the British (who had been evacuated from the beaches of Dunkirk in May 1940 after being cut off by the Germans in the Battle of France) were considering the possibility of a major Allied invasion across the English Channel. The following year, Allied plans for a cross-Channel invasion began to ramp up. In November 1943, Adolf Hitler (1889-1945), who was aware of the threat of an invasion along France's northern coast, put Erwin Rommel (1891-1944) in charge of spearheading defense operations in the region, even though the Germans did not know exactly where the Allies would strike. Hitler charged Rommel with finishing the Atlantic Wall, a 2,400-mile fortification of bunkers, landmines and beach and water obstacles

Did You Know?

The Normandy American Cemetery, overlooking Omaha Beach and the English Channel, was established on June 8, 1944, as the first U.S. cemetery in Europe during World War II. It holds the graves of more than 9,300 U.S. servicemen who died in the D-Day invasion or subsequent missions.

In January 1944, General Dwight Eisenhower (1890-1969) was appointed commander of Operation Overlord. In the months and weeks before D-Day, the Allies carried out a massive deception operation intended to make the Germans think the main invasion target was Pas-de-Calais (the narrowest point between Britain and France) rather than Normandy. In addition, they led the Germans to believe that Norway and other locations were also potential invasion targets. Many tactics were used to carry out the deception, including fake equipment; a phantom army commanded by George Patton and supposedly based in England, across from Pas-de-Calais; double agents; and fraudulent radio transmissions.

A Weather Delay: June 5, 1944

Eisenhower selected June 5, 1944, as the date for the invasion; however, bad weather on the days leading up to the operation caused it to be delayed for 24 hours. On the morning of June 5, after his meteorologist predicted improved conditions for the following day, Eisenhower gave the go-ahead for Operation Overlord. He told the troops: "You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you." Later that day, more than 5,000 ships and landing craft carrying troops and supplies left England for the trip across the Channel to France, while more than 11,000 aircraft were mobilized to provide air cover and support for the invasion.

D-Day Landings: June 6, 1944

By dawn on June 6, thousands of paratroopers and glider troops were already on the ground behind enemy lines, securing bridges and exit roads. The amphibious invasions began at 6:30 a.m. The British and Canadians overcame light opposition to capture beaches codenamed Gold, Juno and Sword, as did the Americans at Utah Beach. U.S. forces faced heavy resistance at Omaha Beach, where there were over 2,000 American casualties. However, by day's end, approximately 156,000 Allied troops had successfully stormed Normandy's beaches. According to some estimates, more than 4,000 Allied troops lost their lives in the D-Day invasion, with thousands more wounded or missing.

Less than a week later, on June 11, the beaches were fully secured and over 326,000 troops, more than 50,000 vehicles and some 100,000 tons of equipment had landed at Normandy.

For their part, the Germans suffered from confusion in the ranks and the absence of celebrated commander Rommel, who was away on leave. At first, Hitler, believing the invasion was a feint designed to distract the Germans from a coming attack north of the Seine River, refused to release nearby divisions to join the counterattack. Reinforcements had to be called from further afield, causing delays. He also hesitated in calling for armored divisions to help in the defense. Moreover, the Germans were hampered by effective Allied air support, which took out many key bridges and forced the Germans to take long detours, as well as efficient Allied naval support, which helped protect advancing Allied troops

(D-Day continued on page 11)

(D-Day continued from page 10)

In the ensuing weeks, the Allies fought their way across the Normandy countryside in the face of determined German resistance, as well as a dense landscape of marshes and hedgerows. By the end of June, the Allies had seized the vital port of Cherbourg, landed approximately 850,000 men and 150,000 vehicles in Normandy, and were poised to continue their march across France.

Victory in Normandy

By the end of August 1944, the Allies had reached the Seine River, Paris was liberated and the Germans had been removed from northwestern France, effectively concluding the Battle of Normandy. The Allied forces then prepared to enter Germany, where they would meet up with Soviet troops moving in from the east.

The Normandy invasion began to turn the tide against the Nazis. A significant psychological blow, it also prevented Hitler from sending troops from France to build up his Eastern Front against the advancing Soviets. The following spring, on May 8, 1945, the Allies formally accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany. Hitler had committed suicide a week earlier, on April 30.



CONFIRMATION



Confirmation in the Lutheran Church is a public profession of faith prepared for by long and careful instruction. In English, it is called "affirmation of baptism", and is a mature and public reaffirmation of the faith which "marks the completion of the congregation's program of confirmation ministry"

Scriptural background

Lutherans believe that Confirmation is based on Biblical precedents such as Acts of the Apostles 8:14-17: Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Description: *An Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism* states:

Confirmation is a public rite of the Church preceded by a period of instruction designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community. *Note:* Prior to admission to the Eucharist, it is necessary to be instructed in the Christian faith (1 Cor. 11:28). The rite of confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Holy Baptism, to make a personal public confession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ.¹

Rite

A Lutheran confirmation service,

The Rite of Confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Baptism, to make a personal public profession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of faithfulness to Christ. Confirmation teaches baptized Christians who wish to become Lutheran Martin Luther's theology on the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Confession, and the Eucharist.

Some Lutheran congregations instruct the very young (such as age 7) in understanding the Eucharist and then receive First Communion before beginning the Confirmation process several years later. (Other Lutheran congregations confirm children at about the 5th grade, or the 8th grade, if they are of the LCMS Lutheran synod, after which they make their first Holy Communion.) At the conclusion of this catechetical instruction, young persons traditionally make a public profession of their faith in a public ceremony. Students often begin taking catechism classes at about age twelve and are usually confirmed at age fourteen. Some Lutheran pastors and theologians are now beginning to ask whether it is permissible to adopt the practice of the Eastern church and to confirm/christmate at baptism, including infants.

Lutherans do not accept the belief that only a bishop can confirm, as is the custom in the Anglican tradition. Even in countries where Lutherans claim to retain apostolic succession, such as Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Norway and Sweden etc., a priest is allowed to confirm.

Nora Katherine Cole will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022

22 MISSION EMPHASIS FOR JUNE - JAARS

JAARS Day – An opportunity to visit – a great family trip

Spend a day at our headquarters in Waxhaw, North Carolina! Ride in a helicopter or a five-seat plane. See how people get Internet in the rainforest. Record your voice into the JESUS film. You'll get an up-close look at Bible translation—and why it relies on practical support like boats, 4WDs, and software.

Our museums take a close look at the heart of our work—language, culture, and Bible translation. Come trace the history of writing. Or study a Mexican president who deeply valued minority languages. Want to bring your class, club, or church group? We'll give you a guided tour. Just contact us at least a few days in advance. Every JAARS Day is different. In the past, we've hosted a NASCAR team, motorcyclists, a 5K run, and other mission organizations.

Book a Group Tour online or call 704-843-6066 - Make a Day of It. Pack a picnic, or buy lunch here. Drop by historic downtown Waxhaw for coffee, antique shopping, or a walking tour. Hike or camp at Cane Creek Park or Andrew Jackson State Park. You're also welcome to stay in our on-site housing.

Hours Monday–Saturday (Closed major holidays)

9 a.m.–noon, 1–4 p.m.

Contact: www.jaars.org Location: 6409 Davis Road Waxhaw NC 28173

The Bible is the best tool we have for becoming more like Christ. First, it's an incredible guide—a lamp for our feet (Ps 119:105). And second, the Holy Spirit can speak through it to change our hearts and minds (Rom 12:2). With God's Word, entire communities can find freedom from sin, fear, selfishness, and destructive behaviors.

JAARS sponsors Missions at the Airport. In May there is a special day at Winnsboro, SC on May 9 from 10:00 am – 5 pm. The team will offer airplane and helicopter rides at the Fairfield County Airport Wings and Wheels Air Festival. (There are three Missions at the Airport in NJ.)

JAARS staff has many qualified personnel who give training at their center in Waxhaw. Also they travel to give on the job training to missionaries, and also to those who are preparing to enter the missions field. In February, John Pepper, traveled to Cote d'Ivoire to provide rider safety and maintenance training for eight translation team members who will be using motorcycles to accomplish their daily work. They sincerely thank everyone who prayed and gave, which provided the needed resources to meet their transportation needs. Now these Bible translators have access to more independent travel within their project areas.

Museum of the Alphabet

Where did writing begin? And who created our alphabets? Trace the history of writing systems, from the ancient world to today. See maps, paintings, and sculptures. Take quizzes. Examine a copy of the Rosetta Stone, a 150-year-old Torah scroll, and a handmade lyre. (Music is a language, too!) You can also print your name in Arabic, Assyrian, Hebrew, and Punjabi (as well as other languages.) Displays include: replica of Gutenberg's Printing Press, and cuneiform archeology display. Enjoy the beautiful drawings in each room from floor to ceiling and sculptures created by various missionaries.

Mexico-Cárdenas Museum

Absorb yourself in Mexican culture with folk art, photos, artifacts, and clothing. Along the way, you'll learn about Lázaro Cárdenas, Mexico's president from 1934 to 1940. He was close friends with our founder, Cameron Townsend, who led early efforts to study Mexican languages. He even gave Townsend a 1938 Chevrolet; see it parked right in the museum.

Why is JAARS a working arm of Bible translation?

Bible translation is about giving people the best resource for knowing God—in a language that speaks to their minds and hearts. That's the simple answer. Translation impacts people in many ways, and it looks different for every community. Practical, day-to-day support can make Bible translation possible. We at JAARS have believed that and helped to provide that support for 60 years.

That's why we help our partners get the support they need most, whether that's Internet access, lifejackets, 4WD, motorcycles, motorboats, or a flight to a remote village. First, we identify their top needs and research solutions. Then we make it easy for people like you to help. And for every project, we share updates and photos on our website as work moves forward. Learn more about how you can get involved.

(JAARS cont'd on page 13)

(JAARS cont'd from page 14)

Another goal is helping people understand and relate to God more deeply. You don't need a Bible to be a Christian, of course. But without one, it's a lot harder to grasp certain concepts—or to hang onto your faith during tough times. Scriptures let people study and reflect for themselves, truly owning and growing in their relationship with God. A few examples are listed below.

1) A former shaman in Vanuatu was sent out as a missionary—before he really understood the gospel. What did he tell people? “You have to work hard to get into heaven.” Then he joined a Bible translation team. After working on Galatians, he finally understood: “There's nothing we can do to be saved. [We're saved through] the blood of Jesus.” Grace - not works.

2) Sivini was a ruthless killer. His village was in an all-out war with the Kamano-Kafe, a neighboring group in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. By chance, he wound up at a Bible translation workshop—right alongside his enemies. As they studied Cain and Abel, he saw the faces of people he had killed. Sivini repented on the spot, and later told his people not to retaliate when they were attacked

3) "I wondered if they weren't just preaching their own ideas. ... But as soon as I learned to read in Lama and could then read God's Word myself, I was convinced they were teaching the truth. When I read and meditate on God's Word, I understand it just like they do." Angèle Akonda, a woman who attended a literacy class in Togo.

4) Koti People - God is in the business of redeeming and transforming humanity. He takes special delight in doing this where all seems hopeless and impossible.

From a hilltop near the coastal town of Anfoche, Mozambique, one can see the entire area comprising the homeland of the Koti people. The view takes in Angoche town, the beautiful Indian Ocean coastline and numerous offshore islands on which many other Koti live and work as fishermen. In all, there are about 64,000 speakers of EKoti, the language of the Koti. More than 500 years ago, two languages, Kiswahile and Makhuwa, fused through speakers' intermarriage and coastal trading around Angoche to create EKoti, a whole new language distinct from both of its linguistic 'parents.'

For hundreds of years, the slave trade thrived in Angoche. The Koti became middlemen in the trade, capturing neighboring Makhuwa people and selling them to Arab and Persian slave merchants. Some Koti even sold their own difficult children into slavery.

A serious degradation of the value of human life spread through Koti culture over time. The practice of *throw-away* marriages became common – marriages discarded as easily and thoughtlessly as a soiled piece of clothing. Communication of the Good News would have to be relevant to these key elements of Koti culture, or have little impact. "Today married, tomorrow divorced" was the mindset for most Koti people in Mozambique. But the Bible is teaching people to commit to their marriages instead.

5) After hearing what the Bible says about caring for widows, a Cameroonian couple gave back the land they'd taken from a brother's widow and children. Lives were transformed.

OUR SAVIOUR congregation's mission for June is JAARS, a support for Bible translation and a working arm of Wycliffe Bible Translators around the world. This month be encouraged to pray for JAARS as part of the world wide mission to take the Word of God unto the uttermost parts of the world, as Jesus commanded his followers. It is an opportunity for a visit to see for yourself all that is available there. All the donations go to missionary work, supplies and equipment. All staff raise their own support. Consider contributing support this month. Each Sunday in June there is an opportunity for giving to JAARS through our church.

QUOTES TO THINK ABOUT

“If you want to live longer, give the other driver the right of way.”

“There will always be roses, but someone has to take care of them.”

“People who spend their time finding fault usually have little else to do.”

=====

“Fear is the drk room where the faithless develop their negatives.” Anonymous

submitted by Marie Robinson

Stewardship

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving

June 2022

A Christian steward does not dedicate time, talent, or treasure that they may become God's, but because they are God's

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Benjamin Franklin has been called "The Father of All Yankees." His practical wisdom, found in his essays, letters, and the annual Poor Richard's Almanac, have had great influence on Americans of succeeding generations. Many Americans remember such gems of advice as, "Time is money." There were many who treasured his advice on how to make money and how to use money.

For example, he advised, "The way to wealth is as plain as the way to the market. It depends chiefly on two words, industry and frugality." And he also said, "Remember, money can be get money." If the Bible had nothing to say about how to make money and how to use money, it would be negligent. Making and using money is an important part of human life ... it always has been and it always will be. If the Scriptures were silent about these activities, we could only conclude that the Bible is out of touch with the human condition. The prophet Amos has a relatively simple formula for God's people about how to make money: make it honestly. In some of the strongest language we find in the Bible, we find Amos quoting Yahweh, usually so forgiving and understanding, as saying to those who become rich by oppressing the poor: "Never will I forget a single thing you have done." In the last several years many colleges have introduced ethics courses in their programs. These schools are not all religious colleges either. Many people have felt the need for courses in ethics because professional, educated people of all kinds have come to regard making money as an end in itself. Rising to the top of the economic ladder has become so important that many are forgetful of whom they step on as they climb. White collar crime has made educators aware that it is not only important to teach others how to make money, but how to make it honestly.

After telling us how to make money, the readings tell us how to use it. St. Luke is brief: "Use it wisely." For Christians, St. Luke explains, the wise use of money means an unselfish use. Christians use wealth not simply to increase their own comfort, provide more luxuries for themselves, acquire more conveniences, or promote their own prestige. No, Christians keep in mind the needs of others and how they can with their wealth assist those less fortunate. Christians see wealth not as an end in itself, but as a way of promoting God's kingdom on earth. Acquiring wealth, according to St. Luke, is a rather small achievement. The real test of a person's worth is whether he or she can put that wealth to work ... can it be used to serve God's plans and thus achieve eternal merit?

God's Talent Search

Every year, show business presents its super stars to the world. These are the entertainers who have survived all the preliminary rounds in the search for talent. They have been chosen because they are tops in ability and charisma. God conducts a continuous talent search also, but the process is different. In this talent search all are participants; no one is merely a spectator. All performers are under scrutiny, not to see whether some are better than others, but to examine the manner in which they are using their talents. The main questions are:

- To what purpose are they devoting their talents?
- Do they thank God for giving them all their abilities?
- Do they envy the talents of others or do they thank God for these gifts also?
- Are they putting their talents to use?

Christ redeemed the human race so that every God-given talent might be rescued from the service of money and self-gratification and delivered to the sacred service of the Lord. Show business emphasizes talents as a foundation of a private career. The Lord regards them as a means of service to others. In Christ, he has given the perfect pattern for using talents correctly. Talents fulfill their finest purpose when they are used to lead people to faith in God's love. Talents have lasting value only when they are employed in God's service.

There's a place for you and your talents on God's team: your congregation!

Deacon Dave on stewardship

It seems as if nobody can get enough these days. Everywhere I go I overhear people saying: "If only I could get a \$100 raise." "If only I could have just one more dress." How many times have you heard someone make such a statement? How many times have you said it yourself? If only ... if just ... one more ... just one more. Doesn't it seem as if people never get enough? Sure there's inflation and prices keep going up, but that's not the whole story. There's something about people. They always want more. It makes you wonder. When is enough ever going to be enough? Where does the desire for more end? I was musing in this vein when I was suddenly struck by a thought: There is something that people seem to be able to get enough of! Ask them how much they should pledge

(Stewardship cont'd on page 16)

(Stewardship cont'd from page 15)

to their church. They'll come up with an idea of what is enough in a flash. Often it is token giving. Ask them how much of their time, talents and energy they should give to their church. For most people an occasional hour seems enough. Strange isn't it, how most of us can figure out very quickly, how much is enough for God. If we are to be Christian stewards we must learn to think differently. We must first consider how much God has given to us. Has God ever stopped giving because God felt he had given enough? If God did stop giving, where would we be? A steward knows that all that they have is a gift from God. So the steward is always asking if they can do more for God. The steward donates freely of their time and talent, assisting wherever and whenever they can. The steward cultivates an attitude of generous giving, because they know the importance of their gift to God's work. Instead of wanting to have more, the steward wants to do more. Because they know that they can never do enough for God!

“Making and using money is an important part of human life - it always has been and it always will be. If the Scriptures were silent about these activities, we could only conclude that the Bible is out of touch with the human condition.”

The Good Steward

A bride of a few months listened to two members of her husband's family deciding who were the happiest couple they knew. The decision for first place went to a cousin and his wife. A little surprised at first, she studied the situation. She found that the “happiest couple in the world” had the lowest income of any of the brothers and sisters in the family. She found that they lived in the smallest house; they knew the fewest big-name people; their professional work drew the least national recognition. But she also discovered that they had jobs that were their choice of any in the world; they liked their community; they lived in the part of the United States they loved most; their home was the center of informal friendly groups; they had more interests on the string than a dozen people could conquer in a lifetime; and, they instigated many community and church activities. The young bride came to the decision that this couple was happy not because of the money they did not have, and not because of the money they did have, but because the interests around which their lives centered were interests that money had no power to make or break. Their greatest happiness was found outside the realm of things.

... this couple was happy not because of the money they did not have, and not because of the money they did have ...

Dear Editor: I offer this letter as an opportunity to voice my opinion on the subject of giving. I think that tithing is the only form of church support for me because it has a spiritual motivation rather than a material one. Too long, people have given to God because their church needs it, rather than because God needs it. People should tithe even in parishes that are affluent because God's work goes far beyond parish boundaries. At one time I felt that after I had given money, I had completed my stewardship responsibilities. I noticed that quite a few of the articles in your publication, Stewardship, dealt with time and talent and this got me thinking. As time has passed I have come to recognize that I should, in addition to giving money, dedicate a portion of my time to God's service, since my time really belongs to God ... and God has placed it in my charge. The same goes for my talents. I own no talents. Talents belong to God. Those I have were not given to me. They were entrusted to my care and I am to use them as God wishes. Now I try to give more than a weekly offering to my church. My aim is to also offer my talents and time in the service of God, on Sunday, and on every day and in every hour. I hope this letter will help others to see stewardship as I now do. P. Gibbons Emporia, Kansas

God has given us many gifts and calls us to use those gifts to build up his kingdom. Our faith identifies us as stewards and gives us a relationship with God. Many of these gifts are given for our needs; others are given for the needs of others. Stewardship is a ministry by which we nurture and share our gifts.

NOTE: We are not receiving our “Stewardship Letter” as an insert in OSLC Newsletter. We are not downloading it and place it in our newsletter. It is a different format but think we can adjust.



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 457
725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
Dallas, NC 28034



June 2022



June 19, 2022