



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
 725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 P.O. Box 457
 Dallas, North Carolina
 702-922-4648
 oslcdallas@aol.com
 Website: dallas-nc.org



Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XIX Issue VI

June 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Inside this issue:

- **Father's Dignity** 2
- **Father's Day History** 3
- **Some Humor** 4
- **From Humble Beginning** 4
- **Calendar & Events** 5
- **Worship Assistances**
- **Flower Calendar**
- **A Stewardship Minute** 6
- **Tolerance Today-I Way**
- **Church NEWS** 7
- **Summer Concerts**
- **Agrapel/Kure Beach**
- **Prayer List**
- **Help Wanted**
- **Women's Group**
- **Prayer Group**
- **D-Day** 8
- **Flag Day** 9
- **June Mission** 10
- **Some Humor** 11
- **VBS** 12
- **Stewardship** 13
- **Poems to Fathers** 17

The Green Period

We have celebrated Easter, welcomed Pentecost, and sung the “Holy, Holy, Holy” of Trinity Sunday. Now we enter what is known in the liturgical calendar as the “*Green Season.*” All kinds of good things come to mind about this time of the year.

First, the “*green*” Sundays after Pentecost focus on the teaching and healing ministries of our Lord as he nurtured his disciples and followers regarding the Kingdom of God. We travel down the dusty roads with Jesus, encountering people with all kinds of needs and circumstances. He tells parables of judgment and grace. He offers hope to the down-trodden.

Second, the “*green season*” reminds me of God’s good creation. Our gardens burst forth with good things—vegetables, flowers, and yes, weeds. Creation is clothed in green and the summer showers nourish the plants. Also, it is a time for recreation as we enjoy the beauty of nature around us. We take trips to the beach, the mountains and other destinations in the Piedmont and beyond seeking renewal and refreshment from our routines. A friend of mine just told me that they were going to the North Carolina mountains to camp, take hiking trails and explore waterfalls. He said they would not be taking cell phones, blackberries, or laptops on the two week trip. However, he was thinking about taking his watch. Getting away and getting in touch with God’s good creation is so necessary for our well being and our sense of stewardship of what God has given us.

Third, it is a time to remember the church when we are away from home this summer. Please keep up your commitment to the church over these months. The support of mission and ministry does not take a vacation over the summer months. Commitments need to be fulfilled and bills need to be paid. Before you leave for vacation, take time to deliver or mail your pledge or commitment to nurture your church.

Above all, give thanks to God and enjoy his creation

David Martin
 Former Pastor



“STOP DOUBTING AND BELIEVE!”
 JOHN 20:27, NIV

Fathers Dignity is under heavy attack in the United States

As families across America celebrate Father's Day, this year they will be honoring a right that our Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized as the "oldest of fundamental liberty interests." More than a freedom protected under the American Constitution, it is an inalienable right that derives from a time immemorial, a unique human relationship that has produced the very civilization we take for granted today.

Unfortunately, the proud heritage of fatherhood has undergone severe and undeserved disparagement in modern times. As our world morphs itself into an institutionalized mindset that supports a growing variety of parental substitutes, fathers are increasingly viewed as superfluous, dispensable and even antiquated.

The consequence of this is already being felt in our communities. A "Fatherless America" has been directly linked to increases in teen pregnancies, pathological behavior and a variety of social ills that have combined to reduce the productivity of this nation on a grand scale. Parents today are spending more time in domestic relations courts than they are in schools, churches and workplaces.

This can be traced to a multi-billion dollar industry that feeds upon the demise of parent-child relations. Statistically, fathers and children have been most victimized as the Census Bureau continues to report that between 80 and 90 percent of all parents paying "child support" are fathers.

In any other civil rights context, such reports would produce extreme outrage. However, in a leadership environment where one political party is able to demean the other as a group of "angry white men," needful reform becomes remote. Fatherhood has become a suspect class of gender discrimination and the last vestige of institutionalized prejudice remaining unchecked in America today.

True reform begins not with a politically correct speech that one year ago laid the blame predominantly upon absentee fathers. Policymakers at all levels and branches of government must unravel the draconian measures undertaken to locate, stigmatize and criminalize countless mainstream fathers that have been arbitrarily removed from meaningful relationships with their children.

This silent practice comes from domestic relations policy that continues to embrace long discredited socialist philosophy. A state-created "custodial parent" is "awarded" with formula-driven welfare payments that have no child-based accountability. The payer, typically a male parent, is marginalized to "visitor" status and suppressed as a "non-custodial" creature of "law" in order to maintain a regular flow of money payments.

Such payments are necessary to support a growing bureaucracy of lawyers, forensic specialists and service providers. Title IV-D of the Social Security Act provides tremendous incentive payments for the states to increase the number and magnitude of "child support" orders mass produced in our state courts. A full range of protections under our Bill of Rights is trampled in the process. Meanwhile, the principal protectors of our Constitution in federal court remain dormant under a host of abstention, deference and state immunity doctrines.

Collectively, this has resulted in a barbaric process unknown to common law. A long-term monetary "award" is offered and potential "custody war" thrust upon all parenting cases regardless of any joint capacity to rear children in a separated environment. A custodial parent is given no incentive under this oppositional framework to involve the other parent meaningfully in his children's lives out of fear of losing the same children to a "custody transfer."

Above quoted phrases denote the propaganda employed to sustain this multi-billion dollar child industry. The "best interests" of our children are actually being promoted under a language scheme historically committed to prisons, funerals and lawsuits. Indeed, it influences otherwise model parents to conform to this institutional framework in a manner wholly foreign to a natural order of childrearing.

While it may take a village to strengthen our resolve as a nation, it takes a committed family unit of diverse types to properly raise our children. This requires our leadership to restore the dignity of fatherhood so that men are not fleeing those same villages.

In the words of one progressive Family Court judge, this custodial framework has "outlived its usefulness." Debtor prisons and parent locator services will not justify the resulting oppression any more than slavery and an underground railroad did in a not-so-distant past.

Leon R. Koziol is a civil rights attorney with a practice in Utica, legal counsel to the National League of Fathers, Inc., and a father of two. (Note: This was written in 2009 but holds true today)

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)

+++++

SOME HUMOR

If you are over 50 at least SOME of these apply to you. Enjoy (or lament).

Repairing Hearts & Getting Older

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a Harley motorcycle when he spotted a well-known heart surgeon in his shop. The surgeon was there, waiting for the service manager to come and take a look at his bike.

The mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey, Doc, can I ask you a question?" The surgeon a bit surprised, walked over to the mechanic working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I open its heart, take the valves out, fix 'em, put 'em back in, and when I finish, it works just like new. So how come I get such a small salary and you get the really big bucks, when you and I are doing basically the same work?" The surgeon paused, smiled and leaned over, and whispered to the mechanic.

"Try doing it with the engine running."

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS, A NATIONAL SYMBOL

Flag Day, June 14, 2024

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 and 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 stripes, 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.

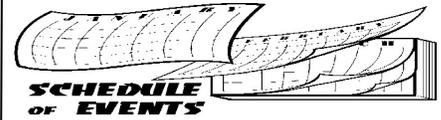
These stories and others are posted on www.usflag.org, created by history buff Duane Streufert in 1994, an Illinois truck driver.



June 2024



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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 2nd Sun aft Pentecost	3	4	5	6 D-Day WWII	7	8 Dallas Concert TED
9 3rd Sun aft Pentecost	10	11	12	13	14 	15
16 VBS 	17 VBS	18 VBS Prayer Group	19 VBS	20 VBS	21	22
23 5th Sun after Pentecost	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 6th Sun aft Pentecost						

- June 2— 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
- June 6—D-Day WWII
- June 8— Dallas Concert — TED
- June 9— 3rd Sunday after Pentecost
- June 14— FLAG DAY
- June 16—**VBS BEGINS: JUN 16-20**
FATHER'S DAY
- June 18—Prayer Group will meet at Home of Shirlee Marazza at 2:00 pm
- June 20— Summer begins
- June 23— 4th Sunday after Pentecost
- June 23— 5th Sunday after Pentecost
- June 30— 6th Sunday after Pentecost

FOOD FOR THE MONTH:
 **Soup, Green Peas**
Mac-n-Cheese.



Holy Communion Schedule:
Every Sunday

Worship Service Assistance:

Acolyte: Nora Cole
Communion Asst: Nora Cole
Lay Reader: OSLC Member
Worship Asst: OSLC Member
Greeters: OSLC Members
Ushers: OSLC Members

Board Devotions: Board meets July 15
Devotions: Teri Trudnak

Stewardship Collector: Steve Digh



Birthdays

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



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY

Marie Robinson
Ben Finger



17th**Dan & Donna Clemmer**
22nd....**Garrett & Kennedy Dease**
25th**Stephen & Kasey Digh**
26th**Pete & Mary Feige**

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

June 2 Alice Vlaservich
June 9 Nick Vlaservich
June 16
June 23
June 30 Nick Vlaservich

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:

Cost: \$35.00

A Stewardship Minute

A pastor was serving a struggling church in a large city. He had become a close friend of a sixty-plus-year-old unmarried man who was a member of the church. As the friendship developed, one day they began to discuss the subject of personal wills. For some reason this parishioner had never made a will!

Of course, failing to make a will was not wise because upon his death, his estate would be dispersed by government officials and possibly in a manner in which the man would not

have approved. The pastor explained the importance of having a will, if for no other reason than to legally assure that the man's possessions would go to chosen relatives, friends, or worthy causes. The outcome of the discussion was that the man left half of his estate to his beloved church. Some two years after the man did have a will made, he was in a terrible automobile accident and died at age 67. His estate was worth two million dollars! Imagine the joy that surged through the hearts of the pastor and fellow parishioners. They were all given new hope.

Many of you may be thinking, "So

what? That story is not relevant for me. I don't have a large estate. I don't need to make a will." We may know the worth of what we have right now and maybe it is not much, but none of us know what we may possess when our time on earth is over. It certainly would be wise to put in print our desires of where our goods are to go upon our death.

Prayer: Gracious God, help us to remember that every good and perfect gift comes from you. And encourage us to honor you with whatever we have. Through Christ our Lord, we pray. **Amen**

TOLERANCE TODAY IS A ONE-WAY STREET

By D. James Krnedy

Last night I had 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 country. 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 repent 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 for June 2022)

THIS ARTICLE IS WELL WORTH READIN AGAIN

Church News



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.

**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: kurebreach@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

2024 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 8th—TED**
- ◆ **Thursday, July 4th —Concert Ben Gatlin (7pm-9pm)**
4th Fireworks Show at Cloninger Park begins at dark.
- ◆ **Saturday, August 10th— Caleb Davis**
- ◆ **Saturday, August 24th— 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.**
- ◆ **Saturday, September 14th— Chris Taylor and The Rumor**

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.
-

WOMEN’S GROUP

will not meet during months of June and July



“PRAYER GROUP”

Will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza June 18th at 2:00 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 LIST: MARGARET Addington, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley’s), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), NORMAN Bever (Brother-in-law of Brady Ratchford-stroke), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease’s), KATHY Bohanan (cancer) , KAREN Brady, MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten’s uncle), BARRY Clemmer (Alice Vlaservich’s brother), STEVE Cloninger (friend of Brady Ratchford-cancer), ROB Curley (cancer), STEVE



Digh (cancer), JULIE Digh (Thyroid), BAILEY Drummond (Becky and Chris Messick’s daughter), JOHN Finger (friend of Brady Ratchford), GLEEN Fraizer (friend of Steve & Julie Digh -cancer), BECKY Goodwin (friend of Brady’s – cancer), JASON Hames (friend of the White’s), GRACE Harbin (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), NIC Harkey (friend of Marazza’s family -16 yr old had tumor removed, awaiting treatment options), LESA Huges (friend of Robbie Wooten-throat cancer), JEFF Lineberger (stroke), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JACK Lonon (Kasey Digh’s step-father-cancer), MARINA Marazza (Shirlee Marazza’s granddaughter-Long Haul Covid19), CARL Martin (friend of Pattons-multiple myeloma plus chemo) BO Messick (foot), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), JASON, ALLISON & LEX Murray, ELIZABETH Mustin (rare breast cancer), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), JOHN & MARSHA Patton – 2 embryos successfully transferred- pray for full term, ANDY Peeden (cancer), SON-DRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), BRADY Ratchford, LEON Rawlinson (growth in brain), JAN Splawn (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), TERI Trudnak, TONY Trudnak (cancer reoccurring), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), JEFF White, KENT Wilborn (friend of Robbie Wooten-heart surgery) NANCY Wilson.

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 2024 calendar year in book on office door.

THANK YOU!



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 9)

(D-Day continued from page 8)

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.



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 1977, 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 1977, 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.

2024 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 11)

(JAARS cont'd from page 10)

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.

SOME HUMOR

GETTING OLDER? ME TOO.

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?" "Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked '**NO REFILLS**'."

+++++

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. This is so true. I love to hear them say "you don't look that old.."

Vacation Bible School June 16-20, 2024

at Philadelphia Lutheran Church
5:30pm—8:30 pm



A Summer Camp Adventure With God !

Theme: *Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in You.* Psalm 56:3



The Bible is full of stories about God and God's relationship with humanity. The first part of the Bible, the Old Testament, is about a group of people who were descendants of a man named Abraham. Genesis, the first book of Old Testament, mostly centers on Abraham's family through its first few generations: Abraham's family; the family of his son, Isaac; and the family of Isaac's son, Jacob. Although this family had a special relationship with God, its people were far from perfect. Genesis 28:10-22 tells a story about Jacob running away from home after tricking his father and stealing from his brother. Jacob was the second-born of twin boys and was therefore not entitled to the privileges that were customarily passed from a father to the eldest son—in Jacob's case, his older twin, Esau. Jacob's father, Isaac, was nearing the end of his life and wanted to pass along a blessing to his oldest son. With the help of his mother, Rebekah, Jacob tricked his father into blessing him instead of Esau. Esau was angry about Jacob's deception, and Jacob fled his home and ran into the unknown. Genesis 28 is the first time Jacob appears by himself in the Bible. This is a new beginning for him, and an introduction into a larger story. One night, while traveling to a new home, Jacob had a dream of a raised staircase—perhaps like a staircase on the ziggurats found throughout ancient Mesopotamia— with “its foundation on earth and its top touching the sky” (28:12). Jacob saw messengers from God ascending and descending this heavenly staircase, but the messengers did not speak to Jacob. Instead, God spoke directly to him. God did not condemn the underhanded way Jacob treated his family and obtained the blessing his father intended for his older brother. Instead, God repeated to Jacob the same promises made to his grandfather, Abraham, years before: promises about land, descendants, blessing, presence, protection, and more. God told Jacob that despite living a life that has, so far, been defined by deception, God still loves him, is present with him wherever he goes, and will be his God—just as he was the God of his father and grandfather. Jacob's dream confirmed to him that this place was sacred ground. When he woke up from his dream and divine message, he made his own covenant with God and marked the spot of this divine encounter with a stone pillar. Jacob named this special place Bethel, meaning “God's house.” Despite venturing into the unknown, Jacob was not alone. God was always with him, even if Jacob did not realize it all the time. And God would keep the promises made to Jacob, even if Jacob did not realize that, either. We can trust God to keep the promises made to us, as well—like the promise to be with us, even when we travel to our own unknowns! Whenever we are afraid, we know we can Trust God to Go with Us!



The following churches will be participating: Antioch, Bethel, Holly Communion, Our Saviour, Philadelphia and St. Paul's.

Stewardship

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving

June 2024

As I relax in the hammock under a tall shade tree enjoying a cool drink, with a refreshing breeze ruffling my hair after an afternoon of my favorite pastime, I begin to reflect on the wealth of gifts that are surrounding me.

God has given all this and so much more to each of us. Have we opened our hearts, our minds and even our eyes to the Lord?

Ah! The joys of Summer are all around.

Ah! The gifts from God are all around.

Ah! My gratitude is evident all around.

Wait a minute. Why should I be grateful for all these things that I have earned? I deserve them, right?

Yes, we all deserve the gifts God has given. But, we need to remember that they are from God and they are gifts. We have countless opportunities to express our gratitude. As you take time to reflect on your faith this summer, remember the source of all good.

Summer seems different these days

Summer is often connected with vacations, relaxing, slowing down, and generally taking a break from the norm of the rest of the year. In recent years, however, Summer seems to have become simply a weather-related time. Summer used to offer a real slowing down of the amount of tasks to accomplish at home, at work, and at church. It



appears there have been many changes. Work is usually more hectic so we can produce the same amount in less time and take a vacation.

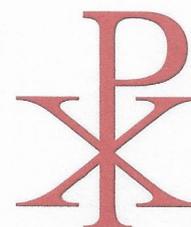
Home is usually more busy with schedules that would make most air traffic controllers nervous. The number of people attending church functions during this time drops significantly, while the amount of tasks remain the same.

Summer stewardship ideas

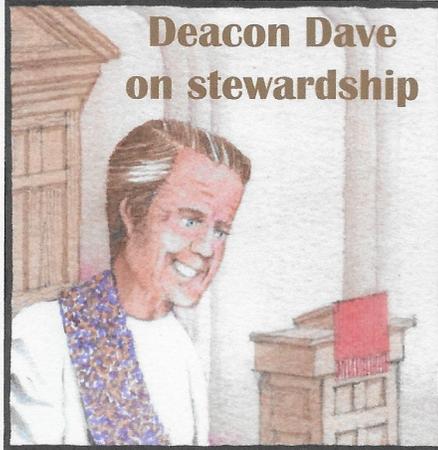
Where has summer gone and how

...Continued on page 4

We are trustees of what God has put into our care and keeping, and we are responsible to God for the use that we make of these gifts.



Deacon Dave on stewardship



I have a book entitled, "The Pocket Promise Book" (800 promises from the Word of God). I will quote No. 698, "In everything you do, put God first and he will direct you, and crown your efforts with success." Proverbs 3:6.

How many of you have ever run short of money between paydays, leaving nothing left for the church? "Oh well, we'll make it up next Sunday." Doubling up becomes a chore and you will probably settle for less.

Early in life I found the answer to that and I gladly pass it on. On payday, simply fill up your offering envelopes first. Your life will be even easier still if you budget for all your expenses.

I've never been very wealthy. but God has supplied me with all I need. God delivers on his promises!

Once while in the Navy, our ship arrived in Honolulu. It happened at a time when we hadn't been paid for weeks. We were offered shore leave, but few cared to go without money. 'I was anxious to go and promptly hitched a ride into town. While walking up a street, I saw what looked like a dollar on the sidewalk. Before I got to it, an officer stooped down and picked up the \$10. (I bet you thought it was meant for me!) God had a different lesson in mind. I ate at the USO and slept at the

YMCA. I even got a ride to "the Pali," a very beautiful spot high in a valley between the mountains and the sea.

After 45 years, I still remember it as a special day. One in which the Lord taught me ... you don't have to have money to be happy! I repeat the promise: Put God first and God will crown your life with success! 

In 2008, a pastor of a city church became acquainted with one of his parishioners. During the pastor's conversation with this parishioner, he discovered that the man owned a considerable amount of property and that he had no will. The pastor told the parishioner that he wasn't so much concerned as to where he left his money, but he should have a will. The parishioner was not married nor did he have any known relatives.

Two years later, at age 67, the parishioner was in an automobile accident and died from the injuries he sustained. The pastor was given a copy of this man's will during the probate and in the will it stated that he had left one-half of his estate to his parish. The estate was valued at more than 2 million dollars.

This city parish, struggling to maintain its programs and buildings, received over one million dollars because the pastor had encouraged his parishioner to consider making out a will.

Christians, even of modest means, realize that the worth of the possessions they've accumulated during their earthly lives can do no greater good after death than to assist in the work of the Lord and to continue to give glory to his name. 

God promises to reward generosity that springs from faith. "He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us" (2 Corinthians 9:10).





Every day, we have many opportunities to use the gifts God has given us. As the parable of the talents shows, two servants took risks with the money they were given; they invested it and earned a good return. The third was afraid to take any risks, and so he hid the money safely and returned it to his master at the first opportunity (Matthew 25:14-30). Like the first two servants, we are also called to take risks for the Kingdom of God, stepping out in faith and watching to see God move as we trust in him.

You are unique

God did not give us gifts and talents so that we would hide them or turn them to selfish ends. Every one of us has a role in the advancement of God's kingdom, using all the resources God has given us. Whether it is money, abilities or time, nothing is irrelevant. We can be assured that personal encounters with God's love, as well as our convictions based on scripture and the church's teaching, we will learn to integrate the two, drawing on both when we are tempted to doubt his love, or when we are called to love others.

"Father, we thank you for your love for us. By your Spirit, make your love real in our hearts and our minds so that we can follow our love and witness to it through our words and actions." 

God, Creator and Giver of all that is good, we thank you for our many blessings. Mindful of your generosity, we acknowledge that all that we have is from you. Daily, we offer you thanks and praise for the beauty of the earth, our work, our family and our loved ones.

In the dawning of a new day, you are with us. In each dark hour, you are here. Blessed by your grace, we show gratitude by sharing what we have. By serving our brothers and sisters, we serve you.

As you protect and guide us on our journey, we, your stewards, remain ever grateful for your constant love. Amen.

Remember that you are a steward of your talents. God has equipped you with just the proper talents and commissioned you to serve him in this world and in your church family. Develop the talents inherent in yourself. The talent that is used to the best of your ability grows and will bring light into your life.





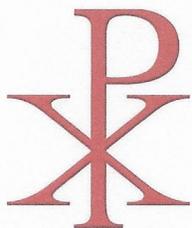
“In everything you do, put God first and he will direct you, and crown your efforts with success.”

...Continued from page 1

As I relax in the ...

can we regain some of the “old ways” of “being” relaxed? Some stewardship ideas you can try are: read a book of the Bible weekly; spend an extra hour a week giving time to the church for its needs; take a family walk and talk to your children about the gifts that surround us from God; forget about yourself and do something for a neighbor in need; put more money in the Sunday collection in remembrance of those who are away.

As you lovingly perform one of these tasks, you will find yourself “being” faithful to the Gospel and your sense of summer relaxation should increase.



On this FATHER'S DAY, spare time to pray to the Lord. Prayer is in many ways, the supreme expression of one's faith in God. Here are some of the poems to greet one's father spiritually.

The essence of the FATHER'S role
Is to mirror God's own heart
And to value instruction in God's ways
With the grace that God imparts

Every father needs God's wisdom
To carry out his role
As the tower of strength and support,
For each fragile heart he holds

And there's no greater reward in life
For a father to take his place
And uphold the values of the Lord
With integrity and grace.

Fathers are wonderful people,
Too little understood,
We do not sing their praises
As often as we should.

A father struggles every day
To live up to his image
As protector and provider
The hero of the scrimmage.

Perhaps that is the reason
We sometimes get the notion
That fathers are not subject
To the thing we call emotion.

If you look inside a father's heart,
Where no one else can see,
You'll find he's sentimental
And soft as he can be.

Fathers are just wonderful
In a million different ways,
They merit loving compliments
And accolades of praise.

The only reason Dad aspires
To fortune and success
Is to make his family proud of him
And bring them happiness.

Just like our heavenly Father,
He's a guardian and a guide,
The person we can count on
To always take our side.

Be kind to thy father,
for when thou were young,
Who loved thee so fondly as he?
He caught the first accents that
fell from thy tongue,
And joined in thy innocent glee.

There in every memory
See his love and care
Strength and hands to count on
Freely he does share
Provider, toil so faithfully
To make our dreams come true
Give strong and tender discipline
Though it is hard to do
A Father is God's chosen one
To lead the family
And point it to His will for life
Of love and harmony...



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



June 2024



June 16, 2024