

THE PANORAMA

The Newsletter of The Lewistown Presbyterian Church

JUNE/JULY 2019

Awaiting the Spirit



Pentecost might just be my favorite holy day. How exciting it must have been when the Spirit came into that place where the disciples were all together! But also how unsettling it must have been—what with all the howling wind and flames of fire and strange languages. No wonder the disciples were surprised and bewildered.

We can take comfort then, if sometimes we are surprised and bewildered. When the Spirit moves

things change; and that's always unsettling. But that is the church disciples gathered to hear dreams and visions spoken in different tongues; disciples gathered to wonder together what it all means; disciples gathered to unsettle the world in the name of the risen Christ.

"When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak." (Acts 2:1-4)

~Pastor Cindy Carlisle

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 5 11:30 AM Presbyterian Women Lunch & Fellowship Honey Creek Inn

June 9 Pentecost Sunday New Member Reception

June 16 Lemonade on the Lawn 11:30 AM

> June 23-27 Community VBS ROAR!

<u>July 3</u>

11:30 AM Presbyterian Women Lunch & Fellowship Honey Creek Inn

July 9

Church Picnic, 6:00 PM Kish Park, Green Pavilion

July 15-19 Traveling Day Camp (overnight July 18-19)

July 28 Lemonade on the Lawn 11:30 AM

KEEP ON PLOWING

Rev. Robert Zorn, Minister of Visitation



Late winter snows and recent heavy rains have turned many of the farm fields at this end of the valley into almost semi-liquid condition. This being the case, our Amish neighbors have a distinct advantage over the traditional "English" farmers. The condition of the wet soil in the fields will not allow heavy motorized equipment to cultivate the fields in preparation for the planting. Thus we are seeing many of the farm fields being plowed and tilled by horse drawn plows, harrows and grain drills. We often see plows being pulled by two, three or even five horses. These scenes take me back in my memory to the small Zorn farm in Fayette County where I lived for the first twenty-three years of my life. Admittedly, my attempts to help with the spring plowing were woefully inadequate, but necessary. My two older brothers had enlisted in the military service and my younger brother was too young to do anything but light chores. Our two plow horses were named Duke and Dan.

So when I see any our neighbors working their fields, I can almost hear the popping of the roots and the grating of the stones as the plow turns seemingly endless furrow after furrow in succession across the fields. There were two ways by which a field could be plowed. We could start in the middle of the field then turn the team around and a second furrow onto the first and so on. A second plan would be to start at the edges of the field and throw the furrows to the outside of the field. This was in alternate years to provide adequate cultivation.

An amusing incident happened one year as my father was plowing a field near one of our neighbor's home. A little boy named Tommy, who lived there, came out and followed Daddy twice around the whole field. On the second round, as the horses rested little Tommy asked my father, "Aren't you going anywhere, Mr. Zorn?"

Somehow it seems that we are like little Tommy. We want to go someplace. We forget to appreciate where we are now and what we are doing. While it may seem that our lives are monotonous and boring, we should remember that God has placed us where we are to fulfill the purpose for which He has given us the opportunity.

Jesus gives us the following lesson for discipleship:

"As they went along the way, a man said to him, 'Lord, I will follow you wherever you go.' Jesus aid to him, 'Foxes have holes and birds of the air nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.' He said to another man, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' Jesus said, 'Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But you go and preach the Kingdom of God.' Yet another said, 'Lord, I will follow you, but first let me go and bid farewell to those at my house.' Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back at things is fit for the Kingdom of God.'" Luke 9:57-62

Our mission......Changing Lives with Change



During the month of June, we will be collecting loose change (of course bills are welcome too!) for two worthy causes. We are once again participating in the Baby Bottle Boomerang, sponsored by **Crossroads Pregnancy Center** of Lewistown. If you wish to participate in this collection, please pick up a baby bottle in the Narthex, fill it with your loose change and return it church on Father's Day, June 16. All monies collected will be donated to Crossroads.

What will your donation provide:

- **\$20** Keeps the phone lines open for one frightened caller
- **\$30** cover one ultrasound that can rescue a child
- **\$40** provides a pregnancy test and two appointments of counseling for a client
- **\$140** means our client can receive a new crib and mattress for her baby
- **\$310** covers 3 months of resources for our Reaching Destination Program (abstinence education)
- \$700 covers medical supplies for our clinic for one year

Have you noticed the wheelbarrow in the Narthex?? The wheelbarrow is our collection point for our second loose change drive. During the month of June, we are asking you to bring in your loose change and place it in the wheelbarrow in the Narthex. Did you know that the average wheelbarrow will hold \$500.00 worth of pennies?? Money collected will be given to **Habitat for Humanity** to support the Faith Build that is currently well underway in our community. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that helps families build and improve places to call home. Affordable housing plays a critical role in in the life of families and in creating strong and stable communities. Lewistown is building a home this summer for a qualifying family.

Habitat for Humanity®

Volunteer opportunities are also available for anyone who wishes to donate some labor to the project. If you would like to help, please contact Jeff Bell (717-348-5161) or Mike Spahr (717-242-2027) to volunteer. The Mission and Evangelism Committee will also be working on organizing a group to assist with the project. Please watch the bulletin for further details.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Please keep our Pastor Nominating and Congregational Nominating Committees in your prayers. <u>Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)</u> Carole Auker, Lynn Curry, Ruth Fisher, Sue Garner, Diane Griffith, Carl Haldeman, Kathy Hardin, Lisa Snyder, Larry Welshans with COM Liaison Rev. Scott Andrews <u>Congregational Nominating Committee</u> Elder Lisa Snyder (Chairperson), Elder Ed Curry (Vice-Chairperson), Deacon Doug Knudson At-Large: Kari Cullen, David Eichenlaub, Kris Hill and Ginny Westover

COMMUNITY VBS

ROAR into fun at VBS! LIFE IS WILD-GOD IS GOOD

Community Vacation Bible School June 23–27, 2019 6:00 PM–8:30 PM First United Methodist Church (200 E. Third Street, Lewistown)

> Ages 3—thru 5th grade Registration Sunday, June 23 at 5:15 PM Light Supper included each day at 5:30 PM



Day 1–When life is unfair...God is good! Day 2–When life is scary...God is good! Day 3–When life changes...God is good! Day 4–When life is sad...God is good! Day 5–When life is good...God is good!

Singing! Games! Snacks!

VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE

Children's Chat

- 2 Rev. Jeanette
- 9 Kari Cullen
- 16 Susan Ferguson
- 23 Elaine Siddons
- **30 Maryann Haines**
- **Children's Church**
 - 2 Communion
 - 9 Ginny Westover
 - 16 Elaine Siddons
 - 23 Griffiths/Cunningham
 - 30 Griffiths/Cunningham

Deacon for the Month Kris Hill

Infants and Nursery

- 2 Zoe Finan
- 9 Mercy Westover
- **16 Annalise Haines**
- 23 Brett Buchanan
- 30 Leah Riden

June Community Luncheon June 30—Mission & Evangelism Cakes: Lisa Snyder, Joyce

Dixon, Elaine Siddons, Leah Riden, Mercy Westover, Lynn Curry, Kathy Hardin Maryann Haines, Maggie Creighton Susan Ferguson

Counters

- 2 Lonnie Griffith & Ed Curry
- 9 Bill Sisson & Maryann Haines
- 16 Dave Noss & Lisa Snyder
- 23 Kari Cullen & John Gregory
- 30 Bill Sisson & Jack Wilson

Liturgists

- **2** Doug Garner
- 9 Danny Garner
- 16 Alex Garner
- 23 Mercy Westover
- 30 Kari Cullen
- Ushers for June
- Ruth Fisher (head usher) Harold & Gerri Aitkin Bill Sisson Karen McCurdy Amy Smith

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Ginny Westover, Christian Ed Director

The motivation might have come from the phone conversation I had with my mom. Maybe the impetus was Bill Sisson's spectacular photographs of the night sky replete with innumerable stars. Yet again, the phrase from a devotional reading added a new insight and further piqued my interest...

"It's just a glorious spring day here!" my mother had joyfully announced. One look at Bill's pictures of the Milky Way over Ferguson Valley or the star-studded sky above Rickett's Glen was all it took to bring to mind the words of Psalm 19:1; "The heavens declare the glory of God." And then there was the commentary on Exodus 16:9,10; "The glory of the Lord means the presence of the Lord." Come to think of it, only a few weeks ago I had planted a packet of Morning Glory seeds. There it was again - I **just had** to find out the meaning and use of this word, "glory"!

We've read, spoken, prayed and sung "glory" hundreds of times. In the reformed faith we have often used a derivative as we've collectively affirmed the answer to the first question of the Westminster Shorter Catechism: "What is the chief end of man?" – "The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." But just what do these glory words mean and why should we care?

Understanding "glory" and all of its related parts is not a simple task. I quickly affirmed what others who had undertaken the task had discovered – the picture of "glory" in scripture is multi-faceted; commentators have likened the word to a diamond with its many sided features. So I will attempt to scratch the surface of one side and hopefully expose its transforming purpose. We are probably most familiar with the picture of God's glory that the Old Testament gives; that of smoke and fire and blinding brilliance that brings people to their knees. Think Moses in Exodus 33 and the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 6. God's glory is so awesome that when Moses asked to see it, the Lord told him he could not see its fullness and live. After covering Moses with his hand and hiding him in the cleft of a rock, the Lord answered Moses' request by revealing himself as compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, loving, forgiving and just. Moses' response to this glory? He "bowed to the ground at once and worshiped." When Moses came down from Mt. Sinai after this encounter, his face glowed with God's glory; but the glory faded. In fact, Moses put a veil on his face to keep the Israelites from seeing its passing.

Flip to the New Testament book of Hebrews where we read these words in verse three of chapter one: "The Son (Jesus) is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being." God's glory is defined best in Jesus. Paul adds in 2 Corinthians 4:6, "God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ." The wonderful thing about this? The glory of God in Christ never fades away! In fact, (here's the best part) God's glory (compassion, grace, patience, love, forgiveness, justice, etc.) in the face of Christ transforms us! 2 Corinthians 3:18 says, "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

The more we look to Jesus, the more we spend time enjoying his presence, the more we become like him in all of his glorious character! Our often calloused hearts are changed with love for Jesus and compassion for those who don't know him. It is with changed hearts that we have the motivation to live out the words of 1 Corinthians 10:31 "Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." Let's have a glory-filled summer!

SPECIAL THANK YOU!



Thank you so much for all of your positive thoughts and prayers during a very difficult time in my life. I am truly blessed to have the love of my family and support of so many people in the community. I go forward with the strength that God gives to me every day, and with gratitude to all those who show His love through their words and actions. **~Heather Creighton**

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!





ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Ladies, YOU are invited to the Honey Creek Inn every first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 AM for good food and fellowship. We would love to have you come out and join us! Lunches for June and July are: June 5 and July 3.



NEW MEMBERS RECEPTION: We will be welcoming three new members to the congregation. Plan to stay after Worship on June 9 for a Reception in Baraca room for Hannah Griffith, Tara Merry and Derek Warke.

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN: Summer seems to be here and so are the LOL's. Take advantage of the sun (we hope), some treats and the chance to catch up with your brothers and sisters in Christ after worship on June 16 and July 28.

SECURITY PRESENTATION: Chris Shade will be offering a security presentation focusing on the Church on June 13 at 5:30 PM. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

VACATIONS: Pastor Cindy will be on vacation and at a continuing education leave May 27—June 3 and July 22—28. If you have an urgent pastoral need, please contact the office or Rev. Zorn.

CHOIR VACATION: The adult choir will be taking a well-deserved break for the summer. We are so grateful for their talent and hard work. Many thanks to Doug Garner for his leadership and Joan Loewen for her expert accompaniment (and sometimes singing). When you have a chance, say a special thanks to our choir members: Harold and Gerry Aitkin, Carole and Scott Auker, Pat Brown, Cole Cullen, Susan Ferguson, Ruth Fisher, Danny and Sue Garner, Dan McClenahen, Carol Sanderson, Miranda Shoop, Elaine Siddons and Jimmy Zagurskie. The special music lined up for the summer season looks wonderful so far.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will also be recessing during the summer months. Thank you, Leah Riden, and children's choir members: Lucas Garner, Abi Siddons, Evie Merry, Norah Griffith, Liam Griffith, Landon Cunningham, Blake Cunningham and Ainsley Cunningham for blessing us with your music!

VOLUNTEERS FOR JULY

Children's Chat

- 7 Rev. Jeanette Mater
- 14 Leah Riden
- 21 Ginny Westover
- 28 Kari Cullen
- 28 Karl Cullen

Children's Church

- 7 Communion
- 14 Griffiths/Cunningham
- 21 Griffiths/Cunningham
- 28 Griffiths/Cunningham

Deacon for the Month

Gerri Aitkin

Liturgists

- 7 Sue Garner
- 14 Annalise Haines
- 21 Bailey Cullen
- 28 Elaine Siddons

Infants and Nursery

- 7 Elaine Siddons
- 14 Zoe Finan
- 21 Leah Riden
- 28 Amy Smith

July Community Luncheon

July 28—Fellowship Committee **Cakes:** Joyce Dixon, Larry Welshans, Elaine Siddons, Leah Riden, Mercy Westover, Kathy Hardin, Donis Zagurskie, Maryann Haines, Susan Ferguson

Counters

- 7 Lonnie Griffith & Ed Curry
- 14 Kari Cullen & Dave Noss
- 21 Bill Sisson & Lisa Snyder
- 28 Jack Wilson & John Gregory

"Busy is a choice. Stress is a choice. Joy is a choice. Choose well." ~ Ann Voskamp



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Address Correction Requested





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