

Pastor's Page for June 2016

Dear Saints,

Everything seemed early this year ... starting with Ash Wednesday, then of course, Easter ... consequently Pentecost and Trinity Sunday celebrations. Trinity is often celebrated in June! We had the occasional early spring weather, but it couldn't seem to make up its mind. Hopefully our summer season will be more consistent. Memorial Day began our summer worship hour combined Service schedule for 9 a.m. We hope to have coffee and refreshments through the hospitality of members, so speak with Audrey Morin and Carol Hosking about dates you are willing to help provide goodies. Diane and I thank Bev Moitzfield for the birthday cake she brought for the whole congregation mid-May. I am also inviting those of you who are interested in helping with summer music ministries, as we hope to practice after worship for the following weekend.

We've had a healthy response in the first month of asking for financial and prayer support in pursuing the hire of a new music coordinator, about 75% of our weekly goal, which goes into savings for salary. We hope support will increase upon a successful hire. We've had 3 initial responses to our internet postings for the position. Thank you to Lauri Schreiber for leading the "When in Our Music God is Glorified" campaign!

I am attending the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly in Tinley Park on June 10-11. The theme is "Transformed & Transforming." As yet, we have no lay delegate.

Rachel Emken, Kim Cooley and the Christian Education committee are working hard in preparing for and promoting VBS "Ocean Commotion" on June 13-17. Help us network in our church and community!

Five children came for the First Communion class on April 30th, and we congratulate Amber Gotsch, Matthew Mildner, Grace Szczesny, Max and Cooper Zimmerman celebrating the Sacrament with us on May 1st. Thank you to Catherine Mantonya for her hospitality and co-teaching.

Thank you to those members who came for Grub Day on 4/30, as our grounds look beautiful! Also "kudos" to all the work done on the float. Note the photos of Bill Romej power-washing the float, helped by John Schoeps. Our Stewardship committee funded new tires and repair work. It is being painted, and we've registered for the Spring Grove parade at noon on July 4th. We want to have adults, youth and children riding on the float and invite you to help with its decoration and theme development!

Trinity Lutheran plans to play the bells for us either on June 12th or 19th, depending on availability of their musicians. They much appreciate the loan of our bell choir set. Look for promotion updates in our bulletins.

I met with Mutual Ministry on 4/18, sang at Paradise Park on 4/30 with 4 other members, attended the last of Phil Donner's excellent Adult Bible Studies, and attended the Fellowship Breakfast at Dino's on May 4th. Thank you to those who joined me for "Adopt a Highway" on May 18th. Our Confirmands completed the New Testament classes on May 11th. This May was busy with several hospital, nursing home, and home communion visits. Two Baptisms were rescheduled due to family circumstances. I have two pending weddings as well.

We thank Mary Beth Siddons and Bill Romej for raising a new American flag on May 15th. I appreciate the live chicks display Debbie and Ron Pett shared with us for a month in April & May. Ron has also pursued several quotes for a new road sign for our congregation, and hopefully it will soon be finalized. Keep those listed in our Prayer Concerns as part of your personal devotions. May this summer indeed be a time of re-creation and a fruitful season of praise, witness and worship!

Blessings in Christ, Pastor Nathan