

MESSIAH MESSENGER

June 2022

Volume 43 Issue 6



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

The father of a righteous child has great joy;
a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him.
(Proverbs 23:24, NIV)

Worship Schedule

Sunday 10:30 am

Services are broadcast on YouTube, search for
MessiahCamrose or find a link on our website
messiahcamrose.ca.

We also broadcast on Eastlink TV channels

10, 310 and 610 on Sunday at 10:30 am

If you have any questions or concerns
call the office at 780 672 3444 or email
office@messiahcamrose.ca

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

9:00 am to Noon

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

(Closed for lunch from
12:00–1:00 pm)

Masks are not required but
you are welcome to wear a
mask if you wish.

Minister's Message

O God, You are Indeed Here



I have been noticing the past few days that things seem to be coming alive in nature. The grass is suddenly growing and is green, (except of course the grass in our back yard that seems to never grow without a lot of coaxing). The buds are now finally leafing out.

The sky is a beautiful color and down by the creek where we walk there are sounds everywhere as the creatures come to life. There is something about Spring that wakes us all up. It is like hope. It is like new life. It is like a resurrection that takes place every Springtime.

I find that being near nature is one of the most powerful ways I am touched by God. I hear that from so many of you. It's hard to miss the message of God's love in creation. It is not unlike a new birth or an awakening. God's presence comes in all the seasons of nature, but in the spring-time we seem to notice something fresh and new in the air. Creation sings out God's praises as things come to life and the birds seem to lead the choir. It is a symbol I think, evidence perhaps and a reminder that God is still present, for without God there would not be life or breath. Nature is like God's breath into the world creating anew just as God did when all this was first created.

When I look at nature I am completely blown away by its intricacy and the way so much of nature is unique and different and so beautiful. There is really nothing on this earth that compares to the incredible beauty of God's creation. It brings me to marvel and it brings me closer to our maker. Nature is also never stagnant. It is always shifting and changing with the seasons. It is easy for me to recognize God's presence when I see the incredible beauty of creation.

I find it much harder when things do not seem to be moving at all in the moments of life. I think you know what I mean, those moments where God seems to be silent or absent. We know in our heads and hearts somewhere that God has not abandoned us. Yet it is those moments our faith is challenged.

There is something in nature that we don't think about. It is the spaces between the growth. There are simple silent moments while things change and grow. This is also where God's breath is, where God lives in the stillness of each and every moment. Even when we do not see growth happening, there is God in that breath, always breathing new life.

Sometimes in our lives we can find it hard to see the growth or anything taking place but without our noticing God is moving... God is present. Nature teaches us all about this. Sometimes the green grass does not come up for quite awhile. We are reminded through nature to trust the growth... to trust the movement of the Spirit even when we cannot see it with our human eyes... God is always and ever moving in our lives and ever and always growing our hearts and souls. It takes a bit of faith to know that God is there at work in those moments we cannot see or feel God.





O God You Are There

In your still small voice of silence
 O God... you are there.
 In the places where growth is happening and I
 cannot see it, you are there.
 When I struggle to know it.
 O God... you are there
 When I see the evidence of your Spirit
 ...only after the fact.
 O God... you are there.
 When all around me feels stagnant and dead
 ...like the winter's cold.
 O God... you are there.
 Creating
 Loving
 Growing
 Bringing new life.
 O God ... help me to trust what I do not see
 your breath
 ...and know your presence in the unknown.
 Bev Swanson

This song comes to mind when I think of God's
 ever constant presence with us...

**"Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God my
 Father Morning by Morning new mercies I
 see Thou changest not, thy compassions they
 fail not Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto
 me."**

Psalm 136:5

**"To Him who made the heavens with skill,
 For His loving kindness is everlasting.**

This loving kindness we can most surely trust.
 Listen carefully, it is there in the gentle
 breath of the spirit.

**Help us O Lord to trust in your quiet breath
 ever and always with us even when we do not
 see or feel it.**

Peace to you as you explore and let nature
 teach you of God's love.

Ps. Let me know if I can join you for a walk or
 some moments outdoors in nature together.

Pastor Bev

Contact me at 780-678-7830 cell
 or email bev@breatheopenlove.com



Synod of Alberta and the Territories

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada



Dear Beloved of God –

While on Sabbatical I experienced the prompting of the Spirit to enter a time of listening across our Synod. I wasn't sure of the shape that this would take, but I was committed to engaging in some sort of listening exercise.

For several days in March and April and 1 day in May I met one-on-one with each active rostered pastor and deacon in our Synod, as well as a handful of retired pastors – nearly 80 conversations.

Each listening exercise lasted 30 minutes and I took copious notes (I typed with fury) as each responded to 3 questions:

Now, following 2+ years of COVID:

- 1) How are you feeling in body? in your mind? in spirit? in your place of ministry?
- 2) What is/what has been life-giving for you... sustaining your hope and resiliency? Both in day-to-day living and in ministry?
- 3) As you consider the near future what is your greatest concern/challenge for yourself? for ministry?

I was privileged – honored – to hear from pastors and deacons. Thank you to each for your time, for your sharing, for your vulnerability, for your frankness.

My next step is to prepare a report for our Synod Council who will meet in September. I anticipate that they will want to share this report, perhaps in an abbreviated format, with our Synod. I also anticipate that as the Synod Council receives and is in conversation regarding this report that they will consider future ministry within our Synod based on the report and shaped by our Synod's mission priorities, including the prioritizing of ministry.

Next, I will be entering a listening exercise with lay members of our Synod. Those who have been a part of our Synod's monthly Zoom conversation with lay members across our Synod will be invited to meet with me for a one-on-one conversation.

Other lay members will be invited to respond to a brief survey which will be made available to all who are subscribed to our Synod's e-newsletter, *Wednesday's Word*. Please feel free to forward the link to the survey to other lay members of your congregation's council, congregational committee members, etc., all who are in leadership roles in your congregation.

Won't you participate?

A report will be prepared from this listening exercise (the one-on-one conversations and the survey responses), shared with Synod Council, and, I anticipate, shared in an abbreviated version with our Synod.

As with the report from the listening exercise with rostered pastors and deacons, this report will inform our Synod Council's consideration of future ministry, shaped by our Synod's mission priorities, including the prioritizing of ministry.

Please join me in prayer:

Holy God, we pray for our church as we continue to engage in renewal: that the Spirit would guide us and enlighten us, and that in living into a renewed vision of the church we may all be strengthened for ministry in and for our church, and in and for our world. We give you thanks for the gift of being called through baptism. Bless the church with faithful pastors, deacons and laity. Inspire us all to pattern our lives on our Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to you and in service to others. Grant us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others. Amen. (Adapted from EvLW, pg 74)

In Christ Jesus –
Shalom, +Larry


"The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13

Council Highlights

Council met twice in the past few weeks to prepare a budget and recommendations for the annual meeting. Thanks to everyone who participated in the discernment and visioning processes. There will be an extensive report on the good news coming out of that experience. You won't want to miss it.

Our glorious organ is in need of work on its facade pipes. We are grateful that we have funds from a bequest available to use for that purpose and that the music will continue to uplift us and glorify God.

There are still two positions available on the Service Committee. This is a very vibrant group with lots of ideas about how to share Jesus' love with others. Contact Agnes Hoveland or the office if you would like to be part of this committee.



Creator of love and life, as we prepare for our Congregational Meeting we pray to you for wisdom, for a listening heart, for the flourishing of Christ's holy church in this place, for the increase in our love for others in the name of Christ, and for the light of Christ to shine brightly in this local community to folks who may never enter our doors. This I pray with a humble heart. Amen.



Meals on Wheels History

Meals on Wheels are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year.

Frieda Ness from Messiah was involved with Meals on Wheels at the beginning and sent me a note saying that Pastor Henry Haugen was president of Meals on Wheels 50 years ago.

The United, Catholic and Messiah Lutheran were involved at the very beginning each taking 4 weeks at a time for deliveries. Smaller congregations at Grace Lutheran and the Baptist Churches delivered two weeks at a time.

CDSS has a framed picture of a news clipping reporting about the first annual meeting. It has been a much-appreciated service for many years.

Marie Brager,
Messiah Meals on Wheels Coordinator



Campfire on the Lawn of the Church



Kid's Campfire on

May 29 at 6 pm

(Hot dogs and games to celebrate
the end of Sunday School)

Regular Campfires

June 5 & 26 at 7 pm

Everyone Welcome to all Campfires!



Father's Day Service

June 19, 10:30 am

Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate will be served

Bring your own go cup if you wish



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Messiah Lutheran Church

Sunday, June 12, 2022

1:00 pm



This will be a hybrid meeting.

You may attend in person

or



join the meeting on Zoom (contact the office if you did not receive the Zoom link)

Arrangements are being made to have lunch in the Fellowship Center after the worship service and then we will proceed to the Sanctuary for the meeting.

- **Visioning Presentation**
- **Election of Officers**

• **Budget
Proposal**

and much more.

See you there!!



News on the World Mission Scene

1. When the World Mission Group met on May 2, our attention was drawn to an event coming up in June:

Papua New Guinea Stone Age to Independence

Hear the amazing story of Erhard Pinno's eight years of mission service while teaching in Papua New Guinea, empowering students and teachers to become leaders in an independent nation.

This event on **Saturday, June 11**, has two parts to it:

11:30 Lunch at the Camrose Heritage Railway Station
(with viewing and sale of artifacts from PNG)

2:00 p.m. Audio-visual presentation at Messiah
hosted by Messiah's Learning Committee

As a fund-raiser for the Camrose Heritage Railway Station, tickets at \$20.00 are available at the Station or from Erhard Pinno.

2. **Rev. Brian Rude**, while officially in retirement, carries on as before with his witness of service in Jesus' Name in El Salvador. We at Messiah continue to pray for him as he goes about whatever Jesus calls him to do in word and deed.
3. The **Watts family**, (George is the son of Cece Watts, an active member at Messiah) are still getting used to living and working in Kigali, Rwanda after taking a transfer from Burundi, both countries of which are in Africa. With one son studying at King's College in Edmonton, one child being home schooled and two studying at the high school level in Kenya, life is quite complicated. No wonder we pray for them!
4. **Lutheran Schools in Colombia** continue to benefit from donations received from Messiah (and from other sources) so that children who need extra support for attending these schools may do so.
5. **Ryan and Shiv Cole** are currently on a well-deserved leave from their service in Papua New Guinea where Ryan is a pilot with Mission Aviation Fellowship. As Shiv's parental home is in England, that is where the Coles visited first. But this month, June, they are scheduled to be in Canada, and particularly in Alberta, because Ryan's home is in Brownfield. The Coles intend to visit Messiah later this month. Watch for announcements of that visit.

To God be the Glory

Submitted by Ray Blacklock, Chairperson
World Mission Group



NEWS BRIEFS



Canadian Lutheran
World Relief

UKRAINE CRISIS RESPONSE



The situation in Ukraine continues to be the place of greatest need. CLWR continues its appeal to raise funds and rush emergency assistance to the millions of refugees who have fled or been displaced. CLWR supports the work of the Lutheran World Federation inside Ukraine and in neighboring countries preparing for a long-term response helping refugee populations in locations throughout Europe.

Sadly, there continue to be other trouble spots around the world, and the on-going support of CLWR is also needed in various other places as well.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

When communities are devastated by disaster, drought or conflict, gifts to CLWR provide life-saving support to help families get through the crisis and begin to recover.



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Together with Canadian FoodGrains Bank, CLWR is giving families the food they need today plus the skill and supplies to grow their own food tomorrow.

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

In regions facing extreme poverty and unemployment, CLWR is providing education and skill training for people who face unjust barriers in accessing education and work.



REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

Through the Government of Canada, CLWR helps churches in Canada participate in refugee resettlement, providing a new start in Canada for families in urgent need.

THE KNOT PRAYER

Dear God, please untie these knots that are in my mind, my heart, and my life:

Remove the have nots, the can nots, and the do nots that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots, may nots, and might nots that find a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots, would nots, and should nots that obstruct my life.

Most of all I ask that You remove from my mind, my heart, and my life

all the am nots that I have allowed to hold me back,
especially the thought that I am not good enough.

Amen

(author unknown)

GOD BLESS YOU AS YOU GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL



Karlee Brosius
Willis Didriksen
Brandon Fletcher
Hannah Hasselbohm
Wyatt Mowat
Rylee Scheck
Molly Schulmeister

Neighbor Aid needs ice cream pails and lids to prepare for Martha's Table which is being served at Messiah on Tuesdays. You may leave them in the Fellowship Center kitchen for our use. Thank You!



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP AFTER CHURCH HAS RESUMED



Please join us in the Fellowship Centre after the Sunday Service for coffee and goodies.

EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

Reminder:

There is a debit machine at the Welcome Centre at the back of the sanctuary. Instructions are available on the desk, please follow them carefully to make sure that both the Church and your records will have a receipt for proper recording.

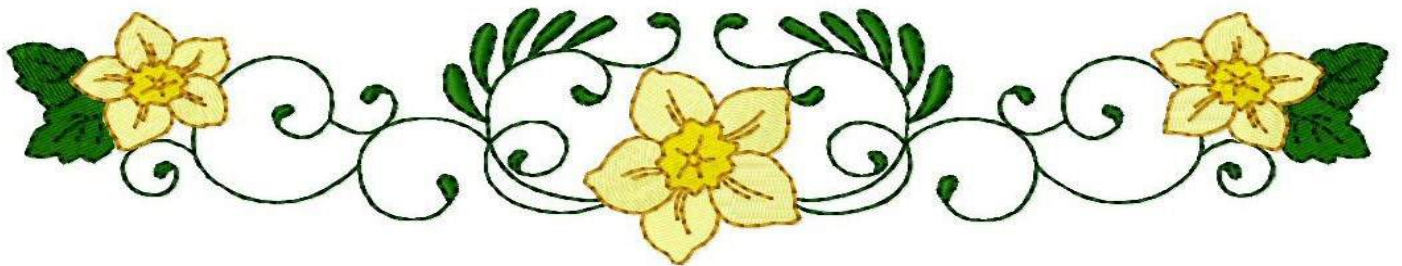


Volunteers are needed to help with mowing the church lawn.

We need a couple of backup lockup persons for when the regulars can't be there over the summer.



Please contact Carl Hoybak at 780-662-4747 or 780-208-9481 to volunteer!



*Pastoral
Acts*

Funeral

Tage Pedersen



*Special Gifts
Received*

*In Honor of
Pastor Bev*

CONNECTING IN THE WORD

Check out our brief recorded inspirational messages with Pastor Bev! Go to messiahcamrose.ca to connect to the link called "Connecting in the Word". Join us in this time of making safe connection with one another around God's word.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP BY ZOOM

Wednesdays at 10:00 am

Phone the office for the Zoom link

780 672 3444

(We will not be having Wednesday coffee in the church for June, but will resume on the lawn in July.)



Food Bank Sunday - June 12

Food Bank donations are still needed and can be left in the grocery cart in the Church foyer during the week or at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings or dropped off directly to the Neighbor Aid Food Bank located at

4524 54 Street in Camrose,

Monday to Friday from 9:00 am - Noon &

Tuesday to Thursday 1:00-4:00 pm.

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be made online at

atbcares.com by entering

CAMROSE NEIGHBOR AID CENTER INC.

in the Find A Cause search area.

HASTINGS LAKE BIBLE CAMP 2022

Join us for an unforgettable summer!

Youth Camps

Kids 1	July 3—8	Ages 8—11	\$470
Jr. Youth	July 17—22	Ages 12—14	\$480
Kids 2	August 7—12	Ages 8—11	\$470
Sr. Youth	August 21—26	Ages 14—18	\$490

Family Camps

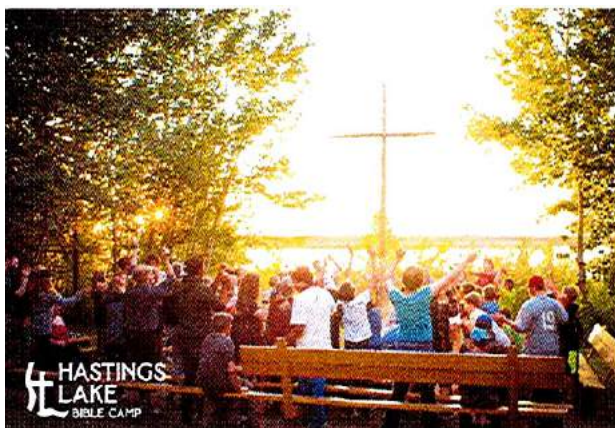
Dates

Price

		Price	
		Family 1,2 & 4	Family 3 for 3
Family 1	July 10—15		
Family 2	July 24—29		
Family 3 for 3	August 2—5		
Family 4	August 14—19		
		Adult (19+)	\$350
		Ages 15—18	\$280
		Ages 10—14	\$195
		Ages 5—9	\$115
		Ages 0—4	Free

Phone: (780) 662 2557

info@hastingslake.com



HASTINGS LAKE BIBLE CAMP'S *Heritage Day* June 30, 2022



Heritage Day: a one-day camp for seniors.

We want to show our appreciation of your support and commitment of Hastings over the years! Experience all of the classic camp activities like chapel, games, crafts, nature walks and campfire, with a dinner banquet fully catered by our staff.

Heritage Day begins at 11:00 am with a chapel service and concludes in the evening after campfire.

Designed for ages 50+

Cost: By Donation

Starts at 11:00am, June 30th

Speaker: Rev. Lee Woolery

Please RSVP! *Register online, email us, or call us.*

info@hastingslake.com // 780-662-2557 //





Sahakarini Annual General Meeting

June 6th @ 6:30 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church 4810 50 Street, Camrose

Come for a Beverage and Dessert prior to our speaker and the AGM meeting.

Guest speaker – John Pattison-Williams

Topic. “ Hope in the midst of despair: navigating the challenges of surging global food prices in a changing world”

Successful On-line Auction Bids to be announced at 7 p.m.

The link for the Auction is:

<https://event.auctria.com/0c80dca9-1470-475e-8bdb-0b9ab453f1b7/a780d600ec2e11e9ae081db830846aa5>

These are items donated by Camrose people!



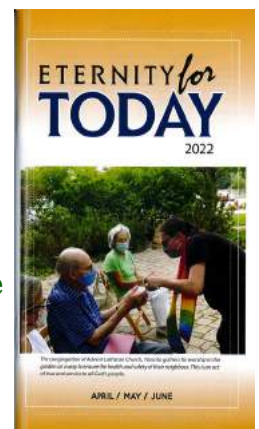
A great big THANK YOU to Mary Broen for organizing the Garage Sale and all the volunteers that assisted! Over \$8600 was raised with many extra donations for the Ukrainian Refugee Fund. CAN WE MAKE IT \$10,000?

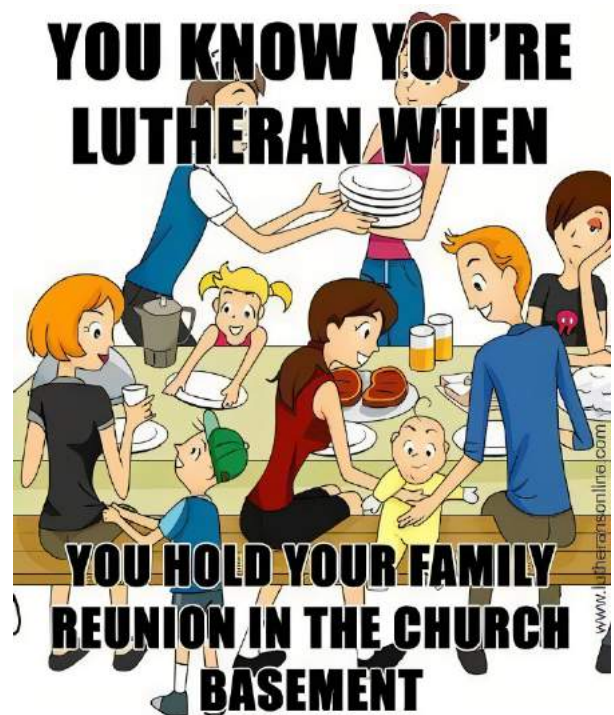
We are able to accept E-transfers set up from your online banking, that deposit directly, at the following email address:
offering@messiahcamrose.ca



Eternity for Today

devotional books for April to June 2022 are available in the office, or at the Welcome Desk at the back of the sanctuary, for a suggested donation of \$2.00.





MESSIAH'S AUDIO-VISUAL TEAM NEEDS HELPERS

We need help - please consider joining Messiah's Audio-Visual Team!

1) Screen Operators

Skills needed: concentration, mouse and keyboard operation.

2) Camera Operators

Skills needed: multi-window use, attention to visual detail, mouse and keyboard operation.

3) Sound Board Operators

Skills needed: attention for aural detail.



If you don't have the skills listed, really the main thing we need is someone with a strong desire to learn and serve. We will provide training.

Please contact Rosanna if you are interested or have any questions: rosannas@telus.net.

CAN WE HELP?

There is a volunteer group of people at Messiah who are available to help you or do tasks for you...



To do small household tasks (e.g. move a heavy box, change a light bulb)

To run small errands for you around town, or

Give you a ride to an appointment



If there is small job that you would like help with or would like done, please phone

Messiah Lutheran Church at 780-672-3444

and leave a message with the receptionist.

You will receive a call back to set up a time to get together & make a plan.



Messiah Lutheran Church

Sharing Jesus Christ with All People

4810-50 St. Camrose AB T4V 1P5
 Phone: 780-672-3444 Fax: 780-672-3716
 Website: messiahcamrose.ca
 Email: office@messiahcamrose.ca

Acting Senior Pastor: Bev Swanson
 Administrative Coordinator: Lori Mokry
 Part-Time Administrative Assistant: Shirley McFall
 Audio Visual Ministry Coordinator: Lowell Dahlman
 Bookkeeper: Sheila Becker
 Custodians: Carolyn & Lloyd Olson
 Music Ministry Coordinator: Tova Olson

Messiah Church Council

David Dahle, President
 Agnes Hoveland, Vice-President
 Gail Stolee, Secretary
 Dave Stolee, Treasurer

<u>Members at Large:</u>	<u>Liaising With:</u>
Dena Grue	Worship Committee
Donny Loewen	Learning Committee
Dave Larson	Support Committee
Carolyn Andersen	Witnessing Committee
Vacant	Service Committee

If you know someone who does not have access to Eastlink TV or the internet, but they have a DVD player, please contact the office at 780-672-3444 and we can make arrangements to deliver a DVD of any of the services to them!



We will continue to broadcast on Eastlink channels 10, 310 & 610.

Our services are on YouTube. Search for MessiahCamrose.

There is also a link for on our website messiahcamrose.ca.



Previous Sunday's services may also be found on YouTube or on our website at messiahcamrose.ca and under the Worship Service tab you will find "Worship Services Archived."







Messiah Messenger

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 September to July
 Also available online at: messiahcamrose.ca
 under the Communications tab.
 To request email delivery or to submit articles by email,
 Write to: office@messiahcamrose.ca
 Messenger Editor: Dena Grue

Members, staff, committees and groups are encouraged to submit articles so that we are aware of what is happening in our congregation.

Summer Issue: July/August
Material due: June 21
Delivery date: June 30

JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 Wednesday Workers 10:00 Coffee Fellowship by Zoom 	2 12:00 Staff Gathering 2:00 Gentleness Circle	3	4 9:00 Men's Bible Study by Zoom 
5 Pentecost 10:30 Communion Worship Service  11:45 Coffee Fellowship 7:00 Campfire 	6 2:00 World Mission Group by Zoom  6:30 Sahakarini AGM	7 12:00 Martha's Table 	8 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Wednesday Workers 10:00 Coffee Fellowship by Zoom  2:00 Grace Circle 7:00 Faith Circle by Zoom	9 11:45 Staff Meeting 5:30 Witnessing Committee by Zoom	10	11 9:00 Men's Bible Study by Zoom  2:00 Papua New Guinea Presentation
12 Holy Trinity Food Bank Sunday 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Luncheon <div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px;"> 1:00 Annual Congregation Meeting In Person and on Zoom </div>	13	14 11:15 Service Committee by Zoom 12:00 Martha's Table  7:00 Joy Circle	15 9:00 Wednesday Workers 10:00 Coffee Fellowship by Zoom  7:00 Church Council	16 11:45 Staff Meeting	17	18
19 Pentecost 2 10:30 Communion Worship Service  11:45 Coffee Fellowship	20	<div style="border: 2px solid purple; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Messenger Articles Due </div> 12:00 Martha's Table 	22 9:00 Quilters 9:00 Wednesday Workers 10:00 Coffee Fellowship by Zoom 	23 11:45 Staff Meeting	24	25
26 Pentecost 3 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship 7:00 Campfire 	27	28 12:00 Martha's Table 	29 9:00 Wednesday Workers 10:00 Coffee Fellowship by Zoom 	30 11:45 Staff Meeting <div style="border: 2px solid purple; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Messenger Delivery </div>	July 1 Office Closed 