

Christ Lutheran Church ~ 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209 ~ 412-821-4300 ~ eMail: christlutheran917@gmail.com www.clcmillvale.com



CLC WEEKLY UPDATE The Day of Pentecost May 23, 2021

IN PERSON WORSHIP This Sunday, May 23, at 9:30AM Pastor Erin Evans presiding

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WORSHIP WITH US

This Day of Pentecost!!

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:2-34,35b Second Reading: Acts 2:1-21 **Gospel:** John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 Pastor Erin Evans preaching Hymns: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" "There's Faith in Millvale"

"One Spirit, One Church" "Go Make of All Disciples"



Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd

The following students have completed the Confirmation Program and classes with Mr. Leonard Jansen and are ready to affirm their baptism: Caitlyn Cahoo, Troy Leas, Gavin Smallwood, Tyler Vogel, and Logan Weiher. (Due to a scheduling conflict, Troy Leas will be confirmed on another Sunday this summer.)

Please congratulate our young people on their accomplishment and continue to pray for them and support them in their faith journey! Thank you especially to Lennie Jansen whose commitment to this ministry enabled the program to continue through a pandemic, and the parents of our young people for encouraging them to attend and participate virtually. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the



Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world. ~

Millvale Counseling Center News

We will soon reopen our counseling center with two counselors from Anchorpoint Counseling! This will begin with one evening a week as we renew our partnership in serving this community. More info TBA!

Sign-up to be a Greeter!

As we ease back into in-person worship, we need volunteers to greet people at the door, take temperatures, and provide assistance or information to visitors. Sign-up in "The Welcome Place" or talk to Linda Thens (412)487-0840 to add your name to the volunteer list and pick a date.



Volunteer for the Food Pantry!

Volunteers greet clients, pack food bags, pick up food, put donations away, and unload trucks and cars. Contact Dorie Budzik for more information (412)874-0083. Food Pantry hours are 9:30am-11:30am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. but our food



CLC Cemetery News

THANK YOU! What a beautiful day at the Cemetery!! We had almost 20 church members, neighbors and community members come out to help us with some serious work hauling brush, weed whacking, and clearing trash. Look for new updates soon and another Work Day with our neighbors!

This Changes Everything

On Pentecost, we celebrate the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and guide us, bringing understanding and unity. However, for those present for the events described in the reading from Acts, in which the Holy Spirit descended and rested upon them, celebration wasn't exactly what those gathered were thinking about. Terror might be a more appropriate word. Shock, perhaps. Mystery. It felt like anything but a celebration; it was disruptive and frightening! After such an experience, your life is changed forever. Once you have lived through something so monumental, you are never the same.

And that is the point. That is why we celebrate. Because on this day, the church was born. On this day the apostles—students of an itinerant rabbi who had taught his followers for only a few years—were filled with the Holy Spirit, turned upside down and inside out, changed utterly. On this day, not only the apostles but also three thousand others (Acts 2:41) were filled with the Spirit that transforms us and enables us to see others as our siblings in Christ. Often, the aftermath of crisis makes strangers into friends.

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This Changes Everything continued

Several thousand people who had been turned inward, thinking of themselves, their needs, and their concerns, were made a community, turned outward, thinking of their relationships, their neighbors, and the needs and concerns of others. "When the Spirit of truth comes," Jesus had said, "he will guide you into all the truth" (John 16:13). The Holy Spirit, blowing through a diverse group, signals a formation of community, a binding together to make a new way of living. And this is what God showed the apostles, the others gathered in that room, and the several thousand who were baptized: when the Holy Spirit blows into your life, nothing is ever the same. And that's a cause for celebration. ~

Happy Birthday (Pentecost) Joseph Imhoff

"Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you". "For he's the jolly good fellow, for he's the jolly good fellow". "Should Old Acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind". There are songs for many special occasions such as birthdays, a job well-done, and, of course, New Year's Eve. How does the Church sing for its special occasions? There are seasonal hymns for all occasions, Advent, Carols for Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, rousing ones for Easter, and some for other events in the life if the Church, many quite popular.

Searching the hymn books, I have a fair number, there wasn't just one that encompassed the Festival of Pentecost, the first real event in the life of the Church. **Each** hymn, carol, song, all are part of a grand mosaic that make up the music for the Birthday of the Church, Pentecost.

Pentecost was already a Jewish festival, Shauvot, fifty days after the Passover. It was the celebration of two things, the first was the end of the grain harvest which takes place around that time in the Middle East, the second was the giving of the Law on the mountain fifty days after first Passover. That was the old days . . . with Jesus a new understanding was born.

By the power of the Holy Spirit the disciples spoke in the Temple, the planting of the seed, God's Word, in anticipation of the harvest to come, the dead grain needs to be planted in soil for the plant to grow and yield an abundance. Then too was the new Law, the New Commandment to "Love one another as I have loved you!"

It is fitting that Confirmation be celebrated this day as part of the yielding of abundance. During the late Middle Ages, especially in England and Ireland the catechumens on this day would wear white robes, 'hwitte', leading to the day being named, Whitsonday, thus the alternate name for Pentecost in English is Whitsun. Just a whitty remark! ~

UPCOMING on the Calendar at CLC . . .

Sunday, May 23 - CLC Worship onsite @ 9:30am - Confirmation Sunday Monday, May 24 - Foodbank 9:30-11:30am, Pain Clinic 7-9pm @Library Tuesday, May 25 - Foodbank 9:30am-11:30am May 26- Girl Scouts 6-8pm Thursday, May 27 - Foodbank 9:30-11:30am, Boy Scouts 6-8pm,

Choir Practice 7pm-9pm with Ed Kapsha Friday, May 28 - Foodbank 9:30-11:30am, NA 6-8:30pm May 29 - AA 8-10am, NA 6-8pm May 30-CLC Worship Onsite@ 9:30am Sunday, May 30 - CLC Worship onsite @ 9:30am May 31 - Happy Memorial Day NO FOODBANK The Office will be closed.

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