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**July 2016**

**Volume 60, Issue 7**

**Pastor Pam’s Pennings**

***Jesus said to them, ‘Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Mark 6:31-32***

**We said *Godspeed* to Kenny last month; we say *Welcome* to Pastor Carole and Tom Parmeter-Dyer as our Interim Directors of Worship and Music. They will be with us through the summer and the search process (and yes, they will be part of the process as candidates), including a summer pick-up choir on Sunday mornings. Also, they will be arranging special music/offerings each Sunday this summer. If you have an instrument you play, or a poem or dramatic reading you would like to do, please contact them and they will get you on the schedule!**

**By the time you read this, Vacation Bible School will be up and going. It will be a fun adventure for the 60+ kids who will be experiencing *Surf Shack!* Many thanks to everyone who will make this experience a success!**

**Independence Day is one of those holidays that I enjoy so much. I’m a nut for fireworks! So, I can’t wait to see the displays up and down the coast again this 4th. I often wonder what life would have been like here in the United States if our founding mothers and fathers hadn’t fought for our independence from England’s monarchy.**

**Dave and I will be joining our family this month for our annual vacation in Florida. Though I’m not looking forward to the heat, I am looking forward to the playtime, the laughter, and catching up with all the adventures and antics of the four grandkids! Each summer gets more and more special since Dave’s parents still come over from Oviedo to enjoy the family as well. Someday, they will be unable to do this. This year, we will also get to spend time with my sister and nephew, too! Love family time!**

**As you do the things that make the summer season special, I pray that you will find time to rest a while. Jesus knew its importance for his disciples, and as disciples of Jesus, we should follow his lead! Rob Bell said, “The way of Jesus is more compelling than ever!” He found this to be true as he learned to live in the moment and not be fretting about the future or frustrated by the past. This moment is the only one we get – so savor it and make the summer moments count – spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally.**

**+Blessings+**

***Pastor Pam***

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**The Campbell Soup Label program will be discontinued on**

**July 31, 2016. The Lutheran Navajo Mission receives labels from all over the country. Over the years the piles of carefully clipped labels have added up to at least 8 new vehicles, along with tables, chairs, school supplies, and much, much more. Labels received and recorded prior to July 31 can still count toward valuable resources for the Mission and School. The Campbell Soup Label program has been a God-send to Navajo Lutheran Mission. The benefits to the Navajo people are more than can be numbered. Please accept our sincere gratitude for the many dedicated individuals who have participated.**

**P.S. You can still bring in the “Box Tops for Education” from General Mills.**

**Dear Christ Lutheran Church Family,**

**Thank you SO much for your many expressions of love and friendship at my Godspeed celebration. Words will never completely express the ways your gifts have touched my heart. As I begin my pastorate at Metropolitan Community Church in Richmond thoughts of you will be with me as I wear the beautiful stoles you created and gave to me. I love each and every one of them and can hardly wait to share them with others.**

**Many thanks also for your cards, messages on the stones, the quilt, the monetary gift, cards, memory book and kind greetings. All of them are wonderful and I will cherish them forever. Mostly, thank you for your love, all we have shared together as a congregation and your overwhelming acceptance. Rarely have I felt so much love and kindness so strongly in my life. Each of you has a special place in my heart.**

**Please be sure to come visit me in Richmond. I’d love to show you around the many historical sites as well as giving you a tour of my new church.**

**Koinonia Prison Ministry will continue collecting new/used greeting cards for inmates. Donations may be left in the basket in the narthex. Kim Croes will mail them to the Chaplain at California Men’s Colony for distribution. Thanks so much for all the cards we have sent to inmates the past two years.**

***Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.***

 ***Philippians 1:2-6***

**Many blessings and much love,**

**-Kenny Callaghan**





**ELCA presiding bishop issues letter in response to Orlando shooting**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*“So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them.” Genesis 1:27*

We are killing ourselves. We believe that all people are created in God’s image. All of humanity bears a family resemblance. Those murdered in Orlando were not abstract “others,” they are us. But somehow, in the mind of a deeply disturbed gunman, the LGBTQ community was severed from our common humanity. This separation led to the death of 49 and the wounding of 54 of **us**.

We live in an increasingly divided and polarized society. Too often we sort ourselves into like-minded groups and sort others out. It is a short distance from division to demonization. Yesterday, we witnessed the tragic consequences of this.

There is another way. In Christ God has reconciled the world to God’s self. Jesus lived among us sharing our humanity. Jesus died for us to restore our humanity. God invites us into this reconciling work. This must be our witness as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The perpetrator of this hate crime did not come out of nowhere. He was shaped by our culture of division, which itself has been misshapen by the manipulation of our fears. That is not who we are. St. Paul wrote, “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ” (II Corinthians 5:17-20).

Our work begins now. We need to examine ourselves, individually and as a church, to acknowledge the ways we have divided and have been divided. We must stand with people who have been “othered”. We must speak peace and reconciliation into the cacophony of hatred and division. We must live the truth that all people are created in God’s image.

This morning your churchwide staff came together to mourn and to pray. We prayed for those killed in Orlando and remembered the Charleston Nine killed only a year ago. We prayed for the family of the shooter, for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters and for our Muslim brothers and sisters who now face the threat of retaliation. And we prayed that the Prince of Peace will bring us to the day when we stop killing ourselves.

Your sister in Christ,

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

 **Preschool News**

**Dec. 6 Youth and Parent Planning Meeting (10:45)**

**Dec. 13 Advent Party (10:45am-1pm)**

 **Homemade Gift exchange**

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**In June we had free Elk's vision screenings.**

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**We celebrated father's day a little early with**

**Dads could come and enjoy coffee, donuts, fruit and juice as well as participate in some fun activities that included a putting green, getting a shave from their kids, tattoos, coloring, and building with Legos. We had a great turn out and everyone had a lot of fun.**

**Our last day of the school year was Wed, 6/22/16. We had a Graduation for our 11 students going on to Kindergarten. We enjoyed a special ceremony that included sharing what the students liked best about their time at CLP, a story called, "Let Me Hold You Longer", and a slide show. The children sang a couple of songs and we sent them off with the gift of a Spark Bible from the church. We then moved over to the Social Hall for our End of the Year Program where we enjoyed Webby dance and classroom performances and then a cake reception on the playground.**

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**Our Summer Session began on Monday, 6/27/16. Our theme is "Exploring the Wonders of Nature". The weekly themes will be VBS-Surf Shack, Colors in Nature, Things to do in Nature, Forests, Seasons, Nourishment from Nature, Water, Creatures, and Flowers & Seeds. We will have our Bike-a-thon on Wed 7/13 to raise money for back to school supplies. Our special activities will include: a field trip to El Dorado Park, Foam Party, Pump N Splash, Blue Submarine, Jurassic Parties, a gardener, and a bounce house. We will also have The Scripture Lady come once in July and once in August to do a special Chapel.**

**Have a wonderful summer!**

***Lisa Clinton***

“*Loose Threads"* 

Loose Threads is a small group of sewers and quilters, who meet once a month, bring their sewing machines and a wide assortment of projects to work on. It’s having that dedicated time to work on a sewing project free from distractions that is not only nice, but fun when in the company of friends!   We welcome all age levels and all degrees of sewing abilities to join us.  Our next meeting date is **July 10 at 12:00pm in the Social Hall.**  Call Chris Panos (562)986-4393 for more information.

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**Men’s Bible Study will be taking a break for the summer. Watch the church calendar, newsletter and website for fall startup date.**

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**Christ Lutheran Youth News is now a separate attachment to the church newsletter. If you did not receive it, please contact the church office. 562.598.2433**

**The Sons of Norway meet in CLC’s Social Hall at noon on the second Saturday of each month. Everyone is welcome to attend their meetings to see what this cultural group is all about. Sons of Norway take a break in July and August. Please plan to come to their fall meeting on September 10.**

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**Pray for Peace in the Middle East**

**Join Pastor Pam in the Sanctuary on the 24th of each month at 7pm to pray for peace in this fragile and volatile area of the world. Raising our voices together in hope for respect and resolution is one way that we can support our brothers and sisters in this region.**

**Updates to the church directory coming**

**Please contact the office with any changes to your email address, home address and any phone numbers you want to add or update. We will be providing updated contact information in early July. Please get us your changes by July 10.**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Members at Home or in Care Centers:** Anne Bruner, Coleen & Spud Fenton, Velma Fischer, Jean Johnson and Mikki Nemnich.

**Those struggling with illness or other concerns:** Justin Bartlow, Laurie Ennen, Judy Haenn, Dorothy Henriksen, Ione Marchael, Chris Nelson, Bary & Janice Schlieder and Maggie Sutton.

**Family & Friends:** Ellen Benner, Anthony Callaghan, Dan Cameron, Edi , Anna Delgado, Nancy Dionne, Rich Ducar, Kathy Goodwin, Alberta Gray, Saul David Haase, Anne Harrington, Bobbie Hoenig, Helen Horner, Mary Horner, Leslie Hoskins, Ted Howard, Kylie & Crystal Huber, Doris Jung, Katrina Lahr, Nana Leomiti, Doris List, Barbara McKinney, Mabel Manzur, Arlan Mitchell, Gabriela, Denny Morrill, Steve Nelson, Kristina & Scott Randolph, Nohemy Ruiz, Don Seymour, Jake Tackett, Perry Taggart, Rev. Paul Theiss, William Thomas, Janette Velarde, Dick, Jenny & Steve West.

**Those serving in our nation's military:** Samuel Brown, Rachel & Victor Colon, Ethan Cordle, Michael Cote, Aaron Crayton, Nicholas Flournoy, Richard Gallegos, Zachary Krog, John Lamberton, Brittany Graham, Davis McElwain, Morgan Llewellyn, Haley Fessenden, Johnny Luna, Shawn McRae, Emily Merritt, Michael Joseph Navarro, Jim Reeder, Douglas Steelhammer, Jonah Westcott, Joshua Wauchope.

**We pray for the ongoing work of:**

Linda Gawthorne among the Kogi people of Colombia.

***Happy Anniversary***

***7/14 Coleen and Spud Fenton***

***7/18 Ann and Rich Williams***

***7/28 Rebecca and Matt Green***



***7/4 Ken Yliniemi***

***7/9 Coleen Fenton***

***7/11 Noah Timney***

***7/11 Matt Weisel***

***7/12 Ben Elliott***

***7/14 Tim Biel***

***7/17 Callie Biel***

***7/19 Kaiaunna Smith***

***7/20 D’Jesus Trujillo***

***7/22 Ann Bruner***

***7/22 Jennifer Ostergren***

***7/24 Velma Fischer***

***7/28 Joyce Rothrock***

***7/29 Sydney Nichols***

***7/30 Rebecca Green***