



The Parishioner

Volume 28 Issue 05 A Publication of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2023

From the Pastor's Desk:

I don't know about you, but I'm having a hard time "getting my mind around" a lot of things going on in the world. Just consider some of those things:

- Terrorism and the possibility of another world war
- Illegal immigration
- Very dangerous illegal drugs
- Violence in many of our cities
- Hatred of police officers and the military
- Heated debates about gender orientation, the hyper-sexualization of our society and its devastating effects on our children
- Systemic corruption in many government agencies
- Rampant inflation and the banking crisis
- The development and implementation of Artificial Intelligence
- The possibility of Digital Currency
- The possibility of imposing ESG and Social Credit Scores
- The World Economic Forum and "the Great Reset"



Some of you may not be familiar with everything on this list. And some of them (like the last four in the list) may seem to you like "just talk", and not real possibilities. I ask you to investigate these things – search far and wide – and you will discover that nothing in this list is hypothetical. The one thing they all have in common is that they all present significant dangers. As Christians, how should our faith shape and inform how we respond to these and many other issues?

The Christian faith is not just what we think about in the calm comfort of our homes or just as we gather for worship; it is about how we live and act. The Christian lives as he or she believes. As we have seen, especially over the past few Sundays, being a Christian means having been baptized into Christ and set out on a new life, a life not determined or controlled by sin. When we receive the life of the incarnate, crucified, risen and ascended Jesus, we are empowered by Jesus through the Holy Spirit. We are not commissioned and sent out on our own; Jesus promises to be with us always, even to the end of the age.

The distressing thing about life in the United States at this time is that a very, very vocal and very, very small minority of people are doing everything they can to muzzle or silence people of faith, especially those who hold firmly to their faith and its values and principles. Despite the fact that we live in a country founded on freedom of speech and freedom of religion, those freedoms are at risk.

As I read the Scriptures, I am struck by the truth that we are called to be unique people in the world. That is not new; it lies at the heart of God’s call of Israel to be his people, chosen out of all the nations. God chose and blessed them so that they may be a blessing. In the same way, Christians are called out of the world to be sent back into the world for the sake of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Paul refers to the community of believers in Philippi as “a colony of heaven”, set in the midst of this great Roman city. When God calls us to be his sons and daughters in Christ, he brings us into the fellowship and ministry of the Church.

Wherever we are we are part of the Church, sent out into the world for the sake of Christ. We do that best when we begin with our life together – life of worship, fellowship, service, and sacrifice – our life as the church. We are called to be a holy people, a people wholly devoted to God in Christ. In our daily lives of discipleship, the Holy Spirit continues to transform us more and more into the image of Christ – the process that the New Testament writers refer to as sanctification.

Many of us are familiar with the following statement (usually attributed [probably wrongly] to 18th Century Irish philosopher, Edmund Burke):

All that is necessary for evil to triumph, is for good [people] to do nothing; and most good [people] nowadays can be relied upon to do precisely that. Where a reputation for intolerance is more feared than a reputation for vice itself, all manner of evil may be expected to flourish.

Christians are not called to sit back and watch the world deteriorate and “go to hell”. We are called and empowered to confront in the name of Jesus the powers of evil at work in the world. It would benefit us if we would take time to pay close attention to what is happening to our brothers and sister in Christ who are suffering and giving up their lives around the world. Things have changed. Many things about which ten or fifteen years ago we would have said, “That will never happen”, are becoming commonplace and tolerated. How much are we, as Christians, willing to tolerate? When will it be too late?

What can we do? What does God call us to do?

With you in Christ, *Pastor Phillips*

+++++



Join Us! Ascension Day Worship Service, Thursday, May 18 @ 7:00 pm.

The Season of Easter ends on May 21, with the seventh Sunday of Easter. The following Sunday (May 28) is Pentecost Sunday, followed by Holy Trinity Sunday (June 4). But there is another feast before that: the Ascension of Our Lord (Thursday, 26 May). We will hold a service of worship at 7:00 p.m. on Ascension Day. While it is permissible to celebrate the Ascension on the following Sunday, I believe it is much better to give this celebration the “time and attention” it deserves. At the ascension, the incarnate, crucified, and risen Jesus was enthroned as Lord. It is precisely because of the Ascension/Reign of Jesus that the Holy Spirit brings His life to those who come to faith in Him. Pentecost is an extension of Ascension. Each of these is part of the whole story of God’s redemptive work in Christ and by the Holy Spirit. With the celebration of Pentecost, we move seamlessly from “all that Jesus began to do and teach until the day he was taken up to heaven” (Acts 1.1-2) into the coming of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus’ followers, so that Jesus would continue in and through them what he began to do and teach.

Please join me and your brothers and sisters in Christ in observing and celebrating this powerful and necessary act of grace. Let us, with this celebration of Ascension Day, renew our faith in the incarnate, crucified, risen, and ascended Jesus. Let us obey the words of St. Paul: “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10.9), remembering that “no one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit” (1 Corinthians 10.3).

Congregational Council – Next meeting, Tuesday, May 9, 2023 @ 6:30pm

Please have your reports into the office by Thursday, May 4.

Envelopes will be available for pick-up in your mailboxes, Saturday, May 6.

Please keep our Church Council in your prayers as they make decisions for our church family.

3T- Wednesday,
May 3 @ 9:00 am

*please
join us*

Time of talk, task & tea
lunch @ 11:30am, bring a dish to share)

Our plastic bag collection for making mats has really been busy and we can use more hands to help prepare the bags for mat making.

We are expanding the collection of recyclable plastics

NexTrex® Plastic Bag & Film Recycling - Plastic bags and film packaging are important durable and lightweight protection for food and merchandise in transit.

Trex® is proud to sponsor local recycling programs in universities and communities throughout the country. If your team can collect more than 500 pounds of plastic refuse in a six-month span (about 40,500 plastic bags), we will donate a high-performance composite bench to your school or community.

*Our collection bins are located at the bottom of the steps coming in from the parking lot. We need 500 pounds of plastic in a 6-month time window to turn that plastic into a bench that will be placed on the church grounds.

*Find the list of acceptable plastic items that qualify on the insert page in this newsletter or on the table near the elevator and start recycling today!

NexTrex

St. Mark's Financial Overview

March 2023

\$27,838.19 Receipts

\$36,631.51 Expenses

(\$8,793.51) Deficit

Prayer Shawl Group

meets

Wednesday, May 10 @ 1:00 pm.

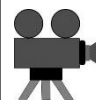
If you are unable to join the group at the church, but would still like to add your talents, please reach out to Elaine Walker.

Afternoon @ the Movies

Thursday, May 4

Thursday, May 18

@ 1:30



>NOW SHOWING<

The Chosen

Episodes 5 - 8

Join us to experience this amazing movie series. You do not have to have seen previous episodes to enjoy the upcoming showing.

Stay Connected

We are working hard to continue reaching out, serving and "being witnesses" through a variety of old and new ways. Find us, "Like us" and Share us! ❤️

- Website – stmarksbutler.org / Facebook – St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Butler, PA)
- YouTube – St. Marks Butler PA / Radio Broadcast – WBUT 1050 AM, Sunday mornings @ 10:30 am
- Newsletter – "The Parishioner" - sent monthly to your mailbox and found on the website
- Email – Parish Administrator, wendy.holt@stmarksbutler.org / Phone – (724)-287-6741
- Mail – 201 West Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001

Help us stay connected to you. Share and/or update your contact information so that we can keep you informed.

"If it's drama that you sigh for, plant a garden and you'll get it. You will know the thrill of battle fighting foes that will beset it. If you long for entertainment and for pageantry most glowing, plant a garden and this summer spend your time with green things growing."

- Edward A. Guest, Plant a Garden



2023 Spring Concert

Sunday, May 21 @ 4:30 pm



St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Mark's Butler and St. John's Kittanning Choirs
The New Bells and The St. John's Senior Bell Choir

All under the direction of Rebecca Veith

Come celebrate the joy of spring and join us for an uplifting selection of sacred and popular music.

The concert is free and refreshments will be served following the concert.

For more information, call the church office (724)287-6741



Weekend of May 13 & 14

Give your Mom the gift of worship with family!

The Christian Education Department will have a gift for all Moms in attendance.



Tuesday, May 23 @ 3:00

Eve Bible Study

Eve Bible Study will meet in the Good News Classroom. The study that day is Habakkuk from "The Minor Prophets, The Divine Call".

Bible Study



80+ Luncheon, Wednesday, May 24, 2022

Cheers to 80 Years

- Fellowship, Food, Friends!
- Communion will be shared **before** lunch @ 12:00 pm.
- Make sure to invite your 80+ St. Mark's friends.
- Please call the church office before May 16 to make your reservations (724) 287-6741

let's do lunch

Hope to see you there!



Monthly Baked Goods for Butler Meals on Wheels

June is St. Mark's month to collect desserts for Butler Meals on Wheels.

Some items the B.M.W. group can always use:



- * Cookies or Brownies- no nuts
- * Pies – any kind except cream pies
- * Gingerbread
- * Angel Food cakes – for diabetics
- * Cupcakes – no icing on top (can be filled)
- * Sugar Free Desserts – for diabetics
- * Bundt cakes – no icing
- * Breads – banana, pumpkin, etc.

All items should be labeled & packed ready for the freezer in non-returnable containers.

Please drop off your donations by Tuesday, June 6.

We are in need of a volunteer to deliver the baked good items to Meals on Wheels @ St. Peter's Anglican Church; our faithful servant George Bonnett has "retired" from the dessert delivery responsibility. Please contact the church office if you are able to help with this important service.

Katie's Kitchen Newsletter for May 2023.....

Oh, the scent of green grass & the flowers of Spring are such a joy as I sit on my back porch enjoying this lovely warm afternoon! These days are so welcomed & refreshing after the dreary days of winter. It reminds me of the fasting & somberness of the Lent and the Tridium that evolve into the joys of Easter & the glorious Resurrection. Our lives are never without pain & sorrow (I blame Adam & Eve for that!). But they will pass, and happiness & joy are sure to follow thanks to God's mercy & His grace.

Notes from the Kitchen.....

- Katie's Kitchen is serving between 160- 205 meals per week. We are averaging about 175 Meal a week!
- Linda Pink & her crew spent time cleaning the ovens & fans in April & we appreciate their hard work.
- BFM- Panera continue to be generous and weekly provide food that we share with our neighbors. Please thank them for their generosity when you are shopping at these local stores!
- Several of our volunteers are experiencing some health issues. Please pray that our dear Lord will take away their pain & quickly heal them.


One of the big events of the month that we can't forget is Mother's Day. I have been so blessed by my mother, grandmothers, & great grandmothers who have gone before me & sacrificed so much. Their strong faith in God, selfless giving to their families & community have been wonderful examples for me & my daughters to follow. They worked hard to provide a good quality of life & joy for their families and that has been MY motivation — to improve the quality of life for those around me in anything I do. Take time this month to remember all of the mothers in your life & give thanks for them! They have shaped us in so many ways♥

As this month of May unfolds, take time to thank the Lord for all that He blesses us with- our families & friends, our health, a great country to live in, for wonderful volunteers, great community support and the joy that surrounds each of us.

There are blessings & joy in every moment & in every flower if we take time to look! - *justine*

Happy Mother's Day



Happy
100
Daryl!
You are a
wonderful
blessing to your
family, church &
community!
Thank you for sharing
your special
day with us 

Ingredients - For the Strawberry Bars:

- 1 cup old-fashioned rolled oats *gluten free if needed*
- 3/4 cup white whole wheat flour *or substitute all-purpose flour or 1:1 baking flour to make gluten free*
- 1/3 cup light brown sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter *melted (or substitute melted coconut oil to make vegan/dairy free)*
- 2 cups small-diced strawberries *about 10 ounces, divided*
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice *from about 1/2 small lemon*
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar *divided*



For the Vanilla Glaze (optional but delicious, especially if you prefer a sweeter bar):

- 1/2 cup powdered sugar sifted
- 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon milk any kind you like

Instructions

1. Place a rack in the center of your oven and preheat to 375 degrees F. Line an 8x8-inch baking pan with parchment paper so that the paper overhangs two sides like handles.
2. In a medium bowl, combine the oats, flour, brown sugar, ginger, and salt. Pour in the melted butter and stir until it forms clumps and the dry ingredients are evenly moistened. Set aside 1/2 cup of the crumble mixture, then press the rest into an even layer in the bottom of the prepared pan.
3. Scatter half of the strawberries over the crust. Sprinkle the cornstarch evenly over the top, then sprinkle on the lemon juice and 1/2 tablespoon of the granulated sugar. Scatter on the remaining berries, then the remaining 1/2 tablespoon sugar. Sprinkle the reserved crumbs evenly over the top. You will have some fruit showing through.
4. Bake the bars for 35 to 40 minutes, until the fruit is bubbly and the crumb topping smells toasty and looks golden. Place the pan on a wire rack to cool *completely* (you can speed this process along in the refrigerator).
5. While the bars cool, prepare the glaze: In a medium bowl, briskly whisk together the powdered sugar, vanilla, and milk until smooth. Feel free to add more milk if a thinner consistency is desired. Using the parchment-paper handles, lift the bars from the pan. Drizzle with glaze, slice, and serve.



Prayers of Discernment

The North American Lutheran Church (NALC) will elect a new Bishop at its 2023 Mission Convocation in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; therefore, the Executive Council of the NALC is calling for prayer to discern this position. Electing a Bishop is one of the most important responsibilities in the life of the Church and a key responsibility of the biennial Convocation. As an election, it is a process governed by the constitution of the North American Lutheran Church; however, it is also a call process. As such, it involves discernment from the perspective of both the individual potential nominees and the NALC as a whole. Engaging in prayerful reflection and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit are indispensable aspects of the process of nomination and election of the Bishop of this Church.

*The church office has a copy of the “Prayers of Discernment” booklet containing material, collected from different worship resources, that is intended for use in public worship, prayer, small or large groups, and individual devotions. We would be glad to share these resources with you.

=====
"A swarm of bees in May Is worth a load of hay; A swarm of bees in June Is worth a silver spoon;
A swarm of bees in July Is not worth a fly." - Rhyme from England



" The impression that a praying mother leaves upon her children is life-long. Perhaps when you are dead and gone your prayer will be answered."

- Dwight L. Moody

Giving thanks for special happenings at St. Mark's

First Communion student
Harlan Rae Barron-Fowler



New members: Diane Kernicky,
Marjorie Kollinger,
Diana & Clyde Crispen

Birds of the Northeast - American Goldfinch

Source: <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/american-goldfinch>



A typical summer sight is a male American Goldfinch flying over a meadow, flashing golden in the sun, calling "perchickory" as it bounds up and down in flight. In winter, when males and females alike are colored in subtler brown, flocks of goldfinches congregate in weedy fields and at feeders, making musical and plaintive calls. In most regions this is a late nester, beginning to nest in mid-summer, perhaps to assure a peak supply of late-summer seeds for feeding its young.

Feeding Behavior - Forages actively in weeds, shrubs, and trees, often climbing about acrobatically on plants such as thistles to reach the seeds. Except during breeding season, usually forages in flocks. Commonly comes to feeders for small seeds.

Eggs - 4-6, sometimes 2-7. Pale bluish white, occasionally with light brown spots. Incubation is by female only, about 12-14 days. Male feeds female during incubation. Young: Both parents feed nestlings. At first male brings food, female gives it to young; then both parents feed; role of female gradually declines, so that male may provide most food in later stages. Young leave nest about 11-17 days after hatching.

Diet - Mostly seeds, some insects. Diet is primarily seeds, especially those of the daisy (composite) family, also those of weeds and grasses, and small seeds of trees such as elm, birch, and alder. Also eats buds, bark of young twigs, maple sap. Feeds on insects to a limited extent in summer. Young are fed regurgitated matter mostly made up of seeds.

Nesting - Nesting begins late in season in many areas, with most nesting activity during July and August. In courtship, male performs fluttering flight display while singing. Nest: Usually in deciduous shrubs or trees, sometimes in conifers or in dense weeds, usually less than 30' above the ground and placed in horizontal or upright fork. Nest (built by female) is a solid, compact cup of plant fibers, spiderwebs, plant down (especially from thistles); nest is so well-made that it may even hold water.



Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

~Romans 15:7



St. Mark's Children's Hour

Easter Walk

"He is not here, but is risen"

(Luke 24:6)



St. Mark's Kids stuff

Youth Page May 2023



KIDS CHURCH

Games! Lessons!
Studies!

Puppet Skits! Crafts!

Takes place at the 9:00
Sunday Service during the
Sermon

The kids start in the
Sanctuary, before the
Sermon they head down-
stairs to the room by the
elevator with the leader.
They will come back up for
Communion.

Parent pick up is in
Schramm Hall before or
after Sunday School.

Children's Church.—
takes place every Sunday
in the Month of May.



Children's Hour

End of the Year Program

When: Wednesday night,
May 3rd at 6:00 PM

The kids are excited to
show their Parents,
Grandparents, neighbors,
and friend what they have
learned at Children's Hour.

We are ending the **49th**
Year of Children's Hour on
this night and will be
kicking off our **50th**
Celebration year!

You are all invited to
come on the 3rd and enjoy
a great show while
supporting the kids at
St. Mark's Children's
Hour!



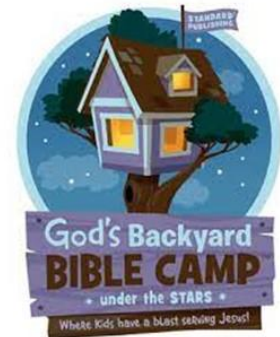
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Its been a great Sunday
school year. Sunday mornings
at 10:15. Classes for all ages
(including two year olds and
adults).

Kids Sunday School has been
doing God's Backyard Bible
Camp to finish the year. In
April the kids learned they
can follow Jesus by Serving
their family, their friends,
and their neighbors.

5/7 Serving our Community

5/14 Serving Jesus



*** Last class before summer
break will be Sunday, May
21st.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, NALC 201 West Jefferson Street
Butler PA 16001

Darcie Pomykata, Youth Director
(724) 996-9245 cell/text

Email: Darcie.Pomykata@stmarksbutler.org

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Q: What do you call a girl with a frog on her head????????????????????
????????????????????????????????????
????????????????????????????????????
????????????????????????????????????
A: Lily!????????????



Trivia for the month of May

1. Which sweetly scented, highly poisonous woodland flowering plant is the birth flower of May?
2. How long is the lifespan for the adult female Mayfly, *Dolania Americana*: 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days?
3. What is the more common name for the Mayflower shrub?
4. According to a 1732 traditional saying, what should you never cast till May be out?
5. In the nursery rhyme 'Nuts in May', on what sort of morning are the nuts gathered?




Answers can be found on the insert page
Source: <http://www.freepubquiz.co.uk/may-quiz.html>

**Butler Community @ St. Mark's Church
Co-Sponsored by Brandy Kight,
Keller Williams Realty**

Blood Drive Stats for April 18, 2023

# Scheduled	Whole Blood & Power Red Units	
37	23	3 (6)

Blood Drive	Deferred/QNS/First Time Donors		
	3	0	3

Total Units Collected/Drive Goal	
29 units	/ 25

One single blood donation can help save more than one life. Thank you for supporting our lifesaving mission.

**Next Blood Drive
Tuesday, August 15, 2023**

Dear Friends, This comes with grateful appreciation for your recent gift to Meals on Wheels. Donations help us provide food for the homebound of Butler. Thus your mission of "feeding the hungry" helps us with our mission as well. Thank you!!

Sincerely, Kathleen Ruikoski, MOW Board



"Thank You So Much, In a world full of takers, you're a giver. And I'm an appreciator of you."

Thanks so much for the cards. Love, Bertha Barnes

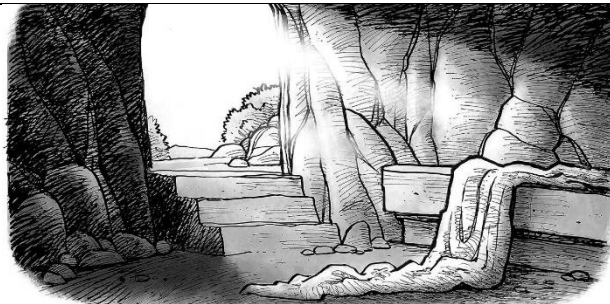
Dear Friends, From all of us at The Lighthouse Foundation, we want to thank you for your generous donation. Your support helps us intentionally care for, serve, and encourage individuals in our communities of Butler and Northern Allegheny County.

This is a month of joy for us to serve others as April brings with it the Easter season. We are reminded in this month of the hope that we carry in all we do. We remember the stone rolled away, our Savior who defeated death, and the empty grave. We recognize that Jesus Christ, to this day, reigns on high, and through His Spirit, we are empowered to serve. We seek to walk as salt and light to all those around us who need the light of Christ, the love of a neighbor, and the encouragement of a friend.

Paul writes in Second Corinthians, "For the love of Christ controls us because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised."

By the death of Christ and the hope of His resurrection, we are free to live for others as we seek after Christ. What a glorious hope we have in loving everyone through the work at the Lighthouse Foundation and all our programs. Again, we thank you for your donation and for being part of all our efforts to shine a light on the individuals, families, and communities around us.

In Christ, Victoria Spreng, Executive Director



The LIGHT at the END of the TUNNEL

MAY 2023



SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

01 02 03 04 05 06

9:00 am 3T
9:30 am Children's Hour
6:00 pm Children's End of Year Program

1:30 pm Afternoon at the Movies
5:00 pm Katie's Kitchen
6:00 pm Bible Study

5:00 pm Worship

07 08 09 10 11 12 13

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am S. S.

9:30 am Children's Hour **LAST DAY!**
1:00 pm Prayer Shawl

5:00 pm Katie's Kitchen
6:00 pm Bible Study

5:00 pm Worship

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am S. S.

HAPPY Mother's Day

1:30 pm Afternoon at the Movies
5:00 pm Katie's Kitchen
7:00 pm Ascension

5:00 pm Worship

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am S. S.

4:30 pm Spring Concert

3:00 pm Eve Bible Study

12:00 80+ Luncheon

5:00 pm Katie's Kitchen
6:00 pm Bible Study

5:00 pm Worship

28 29 30 31

9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Adult S. S.



Fun dates to celebrate: May 4- National Orange Juice Day, May 10 – National Clean up your room Day, May 16 – International Pickle

Scripture "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." ~Matthew 5:14-16

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Butler, Pennsylvania 16001
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Website: www.stmarksbutler.org

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BUTLER, PA

Parish Office Hours:
9:00 AM -- 1:00 PM
Tuesday – Friday
WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Sunday School: 10:15 AM

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Learn more about The North American

Lutheran Church



www.thenalc.org

Christ Centered

Mission Driven

Traditionally Grounded

Congregationally Focused

St. Mark's Staff

Rev. David Phillips, Senior Pastor
Wendy Holt, Parish Administrator
Darcie Pomykata, Youth Director
John Lingenfelter, Custodian
Larry Rettig, Custodian
Rebecca Veith, Director of Music
Sherry Young, Treasurer
Toni Tasse, Financial Secretary

May Scriptures and Prayers

May 7 – Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

** O God, form the minds of Your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what You command and desire what You promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through Your son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

May 14 – Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

** O God, from whom all good things come: Lead us by the inspiration of Your Spirit to think those things which are right, and by Your goodness help us to do them; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

May 18, Ascension of Our Lord – Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1:15-23,
Luke 24:44-53

** Almighty God, Your only Son was taken up into heaven and in power intercedes for us. May we also come into Your presence and live forever in Your glory; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

May 21 – Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

** Almighty and eternal God, Your Son our Savior is with You in eternal glory. Give us faith to see that, true to his promise, He is among us still, and will be with us to the end of time; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

May 28 – Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, John 20:19-23

** God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, as You sent upon the disciples the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, look upon Your Church and open our hearts to the power of the Spirit. Kindle in us the fire of Your love, and strengthen our lives for service in Your kingdom; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Answers from page 10 May Parishioner: 1)Lily of the Valley, 2)5 minutes, 3)Hawthorne, 4)a clout (an old piece of clothing, 5)On a cold and frosty morning

What can be recycled?

- Bread bags
- Produce bags
- Newspaper sleeves
- Pallet wrap & stretch film
- Salt & Ice bags
- Grocery bags
- Case overwrap
- Bubble wrap
- Wood pellet bags
- Plastic shipping envelopes
- Dry Cleaning bags
- Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags

- ✓ **See if the package will stretch when you pull it. If yes, it can be included. If it tears like paper, then please don't put in the bin.**
- ✓ **Is the package shiny or does it make a crinkly/crunchy sound in your hand? If yes, do NOT recycle in the NexTrex® bin.**

DO NOT INCLUDE

- Frozen food bags
- Candy bar wrappers
- Chip bags
- Net or Mesh produce bags
- Pet food bags
- Meat wrap packaging
- Six-pack rings
- PPE-protective wear, gloves
- Pool covers
- Bedding packaging
- Shiny, crinkly films

1. Most clean and dry polyethylene (PE), labeled as #2 or #4, plastic film and bags are recyclable at participating retail and local drop-off locations.

2. Trex® purchases returned consumer bags and film from the majority of grocery and retail stores in the U.S., making Trex® the largest PE film recycler in the United States.

3. Trex's premium composite decking is made from recycled grocery bags and other plastic film.

Collection bins are located at the church; bottom of the steps coming in the glass doors from the parking lot. Our goal is 500 lbs. in 6 months!