



July 2019

Good News

Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran

JULY 2019

- 7-1 Grace Circle 10:00 a.m.
- 7-2 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.
- 7-3 Soup Kitchen Noon
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-4 LLL Bingo 11:00 a.m.
- 7-7 SS/Worship 11:00 a.m.
- 7-9 Centering Prayer 8:30
Quilting 10:00 a.m.
New Member Class 7p
- 7-10 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-11 New Member Class 7p
- 7-14 Council Meeting 8:45
SS/Worship 11:00 a.m.
- 7-15th through 7-19th Pastor Barb out of office for Continuing Ed**
- 7-16 Centering Prayer 8:30
- 7-17 The Oaks 10:00 am
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-21 SS/Worship 11:00 a.m.
New Member Welcome
Family Day Meal
Mutual Ministry
Newsletter Deadline
- 7-23 Centering Prayer 8:30
- 7-24 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-28 SS/Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evangelism Mtg Noon
- 7-30 Centering Prayer 8:30
- 7-31 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Independence Day...

The knock on my door was loud and confident. I expected a UPS delivery from the sound of it. But, when I opened the door, there stood my six-year-old neighbor. “Guess what?” she exclaimed. “I can ride my bike all by myself!” “Good for you!” I replied with a smile, and she hopped on her bike and wobbled down my driveway, taking one hand off the handlebars just long enough to give me a “thumbs up.”



Later that day, an elderly friend called and just needed to vent. She was frustrated that she couldn’t do all the things she used to do, and had to depend on others to do the yard work. “I’m just mad!” she said. “I want to be able to do it myself!” My mom told me that by the time I was two, when she tried to dress me or wash my face, I would push her hand away and say, “I do it by self!”

What is it about us that makes us so proud of our independence? What is it that makes it so difficult for us to accept help from others? The more things we can do for ourselves, the happier we are. We like to appear strong, and capable, and in need of no assistance. Always ready to lend a hand, it galls us to have to ask for one.

And there is the irony of the Christian life. The very thing we think makes us weak is what actually makes us strong! Our culture teaches us that we can do it all by ourselves - that we *must* do it all by ourselves - if we are to be any kind of success at all. We are bound by outcomes. But the *Spirit* teaches us that *true* independence comes when we accept that there are things we *can't* do by ourselves, and we allow God to help us do them. It is a very freeing thing to stop struggling so hard to be so self-sufficient; to stop batting God’s helping hand away, saying, “No! I’ll do it by self!” When we take God’s outstretched hand in ours, God’s strength flows through us, and we can accomplish so much more than we could by stubbornly striking out on our own!

How very like God to turn things upside down, so that it is only in our weakness that his strength is released, and that only in our surrender are we truly made free!

Enjoy the holiday, remembering to thank the One in whom your true freedom is grounded! **Happy Independence Day! Pastor Barb** <><

Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. Corinthians 12:10

Serving Our Lord in July 2019

Communion Assistant	Duck Koch
Ushers	Duck Koch and Mack McCarty
Altar Guild	Jon Coogle and Angela Cannon
Lectors	Duck Koch and Tricia Trask
Acolytes:	Sam Choppla
Kyrie:	Tommy Martin

Coffee Hour:

7-7 Jon Coogle	7-14 Arthur Jackson
7-21 Mary Jane Ethridge	7-28 Angela Cannon

Family Day Dinner: Ted & Mary Lynn Robinson; Julia Snipes;
Brenden Fitzgerald; Carl & Mary Jane Ethridge

Flowers:

7-7	Jon and Karen Coogle in honor of their daughter, Callie
7-14	George and Helen Smith in honor of their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren
7-21	Bobby Moretz in loving memory of Jan Moretz and in honor of Lelan, Ivy, Andy and grandchild, Scarlet Elizabeth
7-28	Emily Harvill in loving memory of Dan Harvill, Mr. and Mrs. J W Hammock, and Mr. and Mrs. W A Harvill

Soup Kitchen: July 3rd, Noon – Karen Hatten/Jenny Brannan

Sunday School Teachers:

K-5th Grade – Angela Cannon **6th – 12th Grade** – Katie Felker

Adult Class Lingle Room – Jon Coogle and David Haigler

Adult Class Conference Room – Wendi Martin

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

7-1	Sam Choppla	7-15	David Haigler
7-3	Carla Stuckey	7-15	Jennifer Walker
7-8	Carl Ethridge	7-17	Laura Coogle
7-8	Mary Haigler	7-24	Duck Koch
7-11	Henry Kleckly	7-24	Sharon Martin
7-12	Tony Collier		

Synod Assembly 2019

The 2019 Synod Assembly for the Southeastern Synod focused on two major events this year: saying goodbye to a beloved bishop and electing a new bishop. Bishop Julian Gordy is completing his second 6-year term with plans to retire at the end of this term. Bishop Gordy has been an extremely active bishop, visiting congregations and events within our synod as well as attending assemblies with our partners in other areas, both within and outside the United States. As a departure gift, under the direction of Jill Henning, the head dean in our synod, a commemorative quilt was developed for the bishop. The quilt contains a design showing the four states of the synod, divided into its conferences, and using fabric provided by every congregation in the synod (including MZSL). A photo of the quilt is in this newsletter and posted on the bulletin board in the Lingle Room. Members of the assembly also joined in a rousing rendition of “We will, we will miss you!” performed to the tune of the song made famous by rock group Queen, “We Will Rock You.”

Election of a bishop is done through the ecclesiastical balloting process, which begins with all assembly voting members writing the name of one candidate on a ballot. Any ordained clergy member in any synod of the ELCA is eligible. Those nominees who are not interested in continuing may drop out only after the first ballot, and 36 nominees did just that. Each ballot requires a certain percentage of the votes to elect a bishop, with that percentage decreasing until there are only two candidates, when it becomes 50%. It took five ballots to elect a bishop, with opportunities to hear from the top eight candidates, then the top three, then again from the top two. The assembly elected the Rev. Kevin Strickland, who was the top vote receiver in every ballot, as Bishop. Bishop-elect Strickland is currently Assistant to Presiding ELCA Bishop Eaton and Executive for Worship for the ELCA (in Chicago), a position he has held for the last five years. He attended Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina (there at the same time as Pastor Barb) and is rostered in the Southeastern Synod. He has pastored two congregations in our synod: Holy Trinity in Nashville and St. Paul in Maryville, Tennessee (near Knoxville). Bishop-elect Strickland will join Bishop Gordy for a one-month transition period in August and be installed as Bishop in Atlanta on October 5th. Please keep both Rev. Strickland and Bishop Gordy in your prayers as they enter this important time of transition.

The assembly ratified my election as the representative from our conference on the Synod Council and I was installed, along with several others, during the last session of the assembly. I look forward to this new role and getting to know our new bishop. As always, we had an opportunity to visit with former pastors, specifically Pastor Eric and Pastor Harry and Barbara, along with supply pastor Shirley Redmond (now in Columbus). We also attended three inspiring worship services along with about 400 others and had a great Bible study during the assembly led by Virginia Synod Bishop Emeritus James Mauney. The bulletins from the worship services are posted on the bulletin board in the Lingle Room. If you have questions about the 2019 Synod Assembly, Pastor Barb, Mary or I will be happy to talk with you.

David Haigler, MZSL Voting Member; Synod Council representative



Congratulations, David!

Pictured at left is **David Haigler** and others as they are installed at this year's Synod Assembly to the offices to which they were elected.

David was elected for a two-year term as our Conference's *Lay Representative* to Synod Council. David is looking forward to representing the more rural areas of our synod. We know you will represent us well, David, and we look forward to your reports of what is happening around the synod, especially with a new Bishop-Elect!

And the Winner Is...!!!

Our second *Annual Ice Cream Freeze-Off* was held on June 23rd at 5:30 in the Lingle Room. We had four entries for the contest, which was very close. All of the entries were delicious, and it was not easy to choose only one! Wendi Martin entered her pretty-as-a-Peach ice cream. Jon Coogle had a very flavorful Pistachio that was hard to beat, as was Mary Haigler's soft and sweet Amaretto and Tommy Martin's wonderful sugar-free Mocha treat. There was very little left for the contestants to take home!

Pictured at right is the winner of this year's *Freeze-Off*: **Wendi Martin**, holding **The Golden Cone Award**. Wendi is being congratulated by her proud nephew and niece, Landon and Laney Martin. Thanks to all who made ice cream, came out, tasted, and voted! You have a whole year to try out your recipes for next year's *Freeze-Off*! *Congratulations, Wendi!*



With Our Thanks!

Bishop Julian Gordy has been our synod bishop for the last twelve years, but now, he is ready to retire. We will all miss him greatly, and one way we thanked him was to create a synod-wide quilt. All of the churches in the synod across the four states were asked to contribute a piece of fabric, which was woven together into the shape of the synod, as shown below.

The Quilt Crafted for Bishop Julian Gordy



All four states of our synod are represented above. Tennessee is yellow, Mississippi is purple, Alabama is green and Georgia is red. The ELCA emblem is in the center.



MZSL has a piece of fabric right about where we are geographically!



The back of the quilt.

Thanks to Mary Haigler for the picture, for Joy McNutt for the fabric and to the quilter who did such a great job of hand-crafting this memorable keepsake from us to Bishop Gordy with our best wishes!



July 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 Grace Circle 10:00 a.m. Sam Choppla	2 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	3 Soup Kitchen Noon Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Carla Stuckey	4 LLL Bingo 10:00 a.m.	5	6
7 SS/Worship 11 a.m.	8 Carl Ethridge Mary Haigler	9 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m. Quilting 10:00	10 Bible Study 7:00 pm	11 Henry Kleckley	12 Tony Collier	13
14 Council Mtg. 8:45 SS/Worship 11 a.m.	15 David Haigler Jennifer Walker	16 No Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	17 The Oaks Nursing Home 10:00 a.m. No Bible Study 7:00 pm Laura Coogle	18	19	20
Pastor Barb out of office for Continuing Ed →						
21 SS/Worship 11 a.m. Family Day Meal Mutual Ministry <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	22	23 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	24 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Duck Koch Sharon Martin	25	26	27
28 SS/Worship 11 a.m. Evangelism Mtg. Noon	29	30 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	31 Bible Study 7:00 pm			

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor Barb will be holding the New Member class July 7th at 7:00 p.m. and July 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Lingle Room. Classes will cover ELCA Statements; why we Lutherans worship as we do; opportunities for fellowship and service. Classes are open to anyone who is interested in becoming a member of MZSL or members who wish to brush up on their small catechism.

Prayer List

Please Pray for Members: Jim Arnold, Al Coogle, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Mary Hammock, Emily Harvill; Mack and Nancy McCarty, Zack Martin, Tony Webb, for our college students, for all the ministries of our church and for our Military.

For Friends and Family: Matthew Anderson, John Arnold, Cuyler Barr, Gene Bradley, Charles Cannon, Trey Chapple, Chic Cole, Brian *Dietz*, Karen Drysdale, Chris Fox, Trey Futrell, Allison Greene, Langdon Harp, Freddie & Linda Hartley, Joseph Hill, Bobby Hudson, Connie Johnson, Curtis Johnson, Jenny Joiner, Nancy Joyce, Mary Lamberth, Harris Lott, , Corby McClure; Bob Melvin, Crystal Miller, Charlene Oliver, Charles Perry, Leigh Powell, Tiffany Richards, Ron Ricklef, Kim Sangster, Connie Smith, Douglas Smith, Jacob Vickers; and Pat Williams.

Serving Our Nation: *John Edwards*