



We had a great Vacation Bible School!!
We had 18 children in attendance with several parents staying to help.

Special **thank you** to Brenda Daly for designing and coordinating VBS this year and thanks to all who helped us learn about the "Fruits of the Spirit"—Greg Byrum was a great Goliath, Debbie Neagle and Pastor Mike provided a great pizza meal on Friday night, Greg Cline provided moving musical lessons and Grey Seal Puppets was a big hit!! Thank you to all the parents who assisted as needed and who brought your children to VBS.

It is my sincere hope that every one is enjoying their summer and taking the time to relax and recreate. Even though we don't have Sunday School for children and youth during the summer, there are lots of opportunities for education and growth... **Camp Agape** is the next big opportunity for elementary age children and the youth are meeting regularly through the summer on Wednesday evenings.

Sunday School notes:

Save the Date—Rally Day is August 26 at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. We will have a *back-to-Sunday School* breakfast and have some fun as we prepare for the new Sunday School year.

Sunday School begins in earnest on September 2 with all classes meeting at 9:30 am.

Prospective Sunday School teachers are needed. If you taught last year and are willing to teach again, please contact Beth Brittain ASAP. We need teachers in all age groups—Pre-K, Elementary, youth, and adults. Please prayerfully consider your contribution to the education program of our church. There will be a **teachers meeting on Sunday August 19 at 9:30 am** for all teachers of Pre-K, elementary and youth classes. **Shalom, Beth**



"The Star-Spangled Banner" is the **national anthem** of the United States of America. The lyrics come from "Defense of Fort McHenry", a poem written in 1814 by the 35-year-old lawyer and amateur poet, Francis Scott Key, after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry by the British Royal Navy ships in Chesapeake Bay during the Battle of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812.

The first and last verses of 4 verses written appears below:

O say can you see by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,

Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,

O're ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was trill there;

O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,

O're the land of the free and the home of the brave?

O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand

Between their loved home and the war's desolation.

Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O're the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Holy Comforter Comment

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Dr. K. Michael Varn, Pastor
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education



⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Communion Opportunities For July

July 1 The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
July 22 St. Mary Magdalene Sunday

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager
Jane Deaton, Reporter
Volume 33, No. 7

SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service
Church Office Hours Monday-Friday
8:30 am—3:00 pm



We're back from *Campfirmation*, our study retreat with the pastors and rising 9th graders in our cluster of 11 churches. This year at *Campfirmation* (where we teach a year's worth of confirmation in one week at our camp Lutheridge) our kids got a chance to act out an important Baptismal teaching.

The scripture comes from 1st Peter:

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.
(3:21-22)

Our confirmands were offered an opportunity to jump into a mud pit where, as you can imagine, they got filthy dirty. The mud symbolized our sins. So after sliding around in the wet, black dirt, they were hosed off with “baptismal” water as a way of reminding them of the saving power of our Baptism. As Martin Luther says in his small catechism: *Baptism brings about forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it, as the Word and promise of God declare.*

It was a great learning tool for **Aaron, Cooper, Madison, and Noah! And for me...**until they decided to give me a MUD hug after they frolicked in the pit! (Pictures below)

There will be pictures of the entire week’s activities posted outside the church soon. I am so proud of the group that went this week --- for their willingness to participate in all our learning events and in all the camp’s activities including games, swimming, crafts, etc. Yes, we feel a bit cleaner, somewhat transformed, closer as maturing individuals, but we also have explored together the way to renew ourselves again and again through God’s gift of conscience.

Pax, Pastor Mike

Madison taking a mud bath



Aaron, Conner, Noah, P. Mike & Madison



CHURCH SCHEDULE:

- Sunday, July 1** The 5h Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
- Saturday, July 7** *Staying Connected*
7:00 pm Meet in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, July 8** The 6th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service
Church Council meets after
- Wednesday, July 11** Holy Comforter Youth Meet
6:00 pm Meet in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, July 15** The 7th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service
- Monday July 16** Agape Day Camp Begins
8:30 am –3:00 pm Fellowship Hall
(Tuesday-Friday Agape Day Camp continues)
- Saturday, July 21** Kids' Club
11:00 am Pool Party & Hotdogs at Misty's home
- Sunday, July 22** St. Mary Magdalene Sunday
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
- Wednesday, July 25** Holy Comforter Youth Meet
6:00 pm Meet in Fellowship Hall

- Sundays:** 10:10 am Choir
8:00 pm Nar-Anon
- Tuesdays:** 7:00 pm Nar-Anon

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Treasurer's Report (Warren Heller)		
<u>Report for Month</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Year-To-Date</u>
Budget Expenses:	\$18,559.25	\$92,796.25
Actual Receipts:	13,915.65	83,839.61
Actual Expenses:	<u>17,661.47</u>	<u>88,546.94</u>
Loss for Month:	\$ 3,745.82	
Loss Year-to-Date:		\$ 4,707.33

Deadline for all articles and information for the August newsletter are due July 23. Please email or give to Dianne in the church office.

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye + **Volunteers**

ACOLYTES: Claire Mitchell
Aaron Nault

CRUCIFERS: Hannah Carnes
Noah Rogers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)
Fran Holland, Co-Captain
Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain
Tracey Nault
Courtney Gatlin

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team A)
Cindy Braddy Greg Garrison
Monique Estelle Gisela Stone

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:
July 1: Need Volunteers
July 22: Need Volunteers

GREETERS:
July 1: Denise Taylor, Cathy Allen
July 8: Gisela Stone
July 15: Pat Long
July 22: Bill Hollar
July 29: **Need Volunteer**

USHERS:
Need Volunteers for each Sunday

FLOWERS:
July 1: Daphne Hansen
John & Sonja Kreitzer
July 8: De Nicholas Family & Dianne Lail
Jack, Sarah, Elizabeth & Khloe Tench
July 15: Chris, Natalie & Zac Hullander
Lucy Mitchell
July 22: Paul, Tracey & Aaron Nault
Gisela Stone
July 29: Phil & Carol Posey

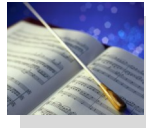


Birthstone: Ruby
Birth Flower: Larkspur



- 1: 1st vote on Declaration of Independence. 1776
- 1: US postage stamps go on sale. 1847
- 3: Michael Keens exhibits 1st cultivated strawberry. 1806
- 3: 1st civilian passenger car built since February 1942 was driven off the assembly line at the Ford Motor Co. plant in Detroit, MI. Automotive production had been diverted to military production for the war (WWII) effort. 1945
- 4: American colonies declare their independence from Great Britain. 1776
- 4: 1st US tariff act. 1789
- 7: European colonization of the Americas: first known exchange between Europeans and natives of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in New Brunswick. 1534
- 10: Nikola Tesla, Croatian physicist, electrical engineer and inventor, developed alternating current and the Tesla Coil. 1856
- 10: Indelible pencil patented by Edson P Clark, Northampton, Mass. 1866
- 10: The first police radio system operated, Eastchester Township, NY. 1933
- 14: Jerusalem captured in First Crusade. 1099
- 14: 1st public demonstration of ice made by refrigeration. 1850
- 14: 1st US World's fair opens (Crystal Palace NY). 1853
- 18: First edition of *Mein Kampf* is published. 1925
- 18: Intel incorporates. 1968
- 26: Post Office is established by the Continental Congress with Ben Franklin as postmaster general.. 1775
- 30: 1st rocket attains 100 mi (167 km) altitude, White Sands, NM. 1946

MUSIC NEWS

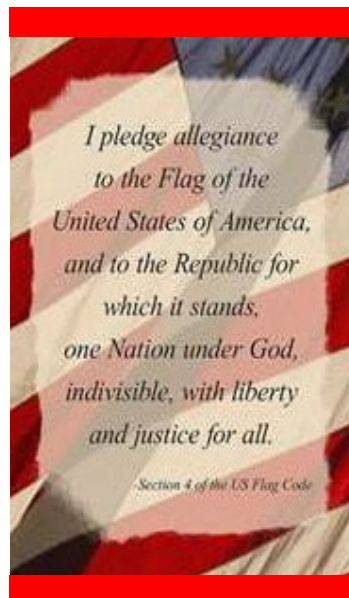


Greg Cline will be representing Holy Comforter at Lutheridge during the 3rd week in July. During this month we offer opportunities for any member of Holy Comforter who wishes to share a musical offering. Contact Greg if you have an instrumental/vocal solo, duet, group ensemble to share during the service of worship.

Our choirs are enjoying Sunday and week day evenings off for the summer. We will continue to meet on Sunday mornings at 10:10 am to prepare for worship.

Parents interested in having their child participate in the music life of the church, contact Greg Cline. We would like to have the children involved more in the life of the church. Due to the cost of funding and supporting such a ministry we need to know the level of commitment/interest. Send replies to: gcline440@aol.com.

Greg Cline



The Pledge of Allegiance was developed for children in the late 1800's and published in a magazine for children called *Youth's Companion*. The purpose of the Pledge was to teach children, from a young age, the commitment to their country and it was also to unify the country under one Union and one flag after the Civil war.

The pledge is a promise to both the United States of America and to the American national flag – one of unswerving loyalty and dedication.



In The Spotlight

My family and I have many good memories of Pastor Mike's 33 years at Holy Comforter. I look back to February 1979. His excitement at being ready to preach his first sermon at his new church, and introducing his young family, only to have to wait another week because of a heavy snow storm. He took it all in stride and pressed on. A good quality I saw in him many times.

A couple years later, we started a church softball team and played in the Belmont Recreation Softball League. We had a lot of fun. Pastor Mike was a good ball player. (Well, we let him think he was)

My children had many happy times growing up in the church. Except for the few stressful times during catechetical classes and Christmas plays, they still talk about the many good times they had at Holy Comforter and how much they appreciated the way Pastor Mike handled them as children. I still love watching Pastor Mike engage the little ones during the children's sermon. A labor of love.

I am sure Pastor Mike had some interesting baptisms, but I will never forget our first granddaughter's baptism. A very cold December Sunday morning. The church had no heat or power because of an ice storm. We had family members in for the special occasion. It was so cold I thought the water in the baptismal font was going to freeze. But Pastor Mike did not cancel church services that day. In fact, about 30 church members also showed up. This is one of the many, many reasons we love Pastor Mike and the Holy Comforter family.

Holy Comforter Lutheran Church has truly been blessed to have had Mike Varn as its Pastor.

I will always cherish the honor, and joy, to have had the opportunity to assist Pastor Mike all these years. I am going to really, really miss Pastor Mike.

Billy Joye, Jr.



July 2★12

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Adult SS 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	2	3 Nar-A-Non 7:00 pm Meeting	4  Independence Day!	5	6	7 Staying Connected Group 7:00 pm In Fellowship Hall
8 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Adult SS 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service Church Council 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	9 Music Week at Lutheridge	10 Music Week at Lutheridge Nar-A-Non 7:00 pm Meeting	11 Music Week at Lutheridge Holy Comforter Youth 6:30 pm Meeting	12 Music Week at Lutheridge	13 Music Week at Lutheridge	14
15 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Adult SS 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	16 Agape Day Camp 9:00 am-3:00 pm 	17 Agape Day Camp 9:00 am-3:00 pm 	18 Agape Day Camp 9:00 am-3:00 pm 	19 Agape Day Camp 9:00 am-3:00 pm 	20 Agape Day Camp 9:00 am-3:00 pm 	21  11:00 am Pool Party at Misty's Home
22 St. Mary Magdalene 9:30 am Adult SS 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	23	24 Nar-A-Non 7:00 pm Meeting	25 St. James the Elder, Apostle Holy Comforter Youth 6:30 pm Meeting	26	27	28
29 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Adult SS 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	30  1st rocket attains 100 mi (167 km) altitude, White Sands, NM. 1946	31 Nar-A-Non 7:00 pm Meeting			 1st US postage stamp goes on sale July 1, 1847	

We recognize and celebrate these birthdays in the month of July. We are thankful for the life and spirit of those we celebrate. May the blessings of God flow in the life of each of you.

July 4 Ann Miller
 Jeff Thompson
 July 7 Jeannie Philbeck
 July 8 Merritt De Nicholas
 Leona Ireland
 July 9 Chase Lineberger
 July 10 Jeffrey Martin
 Hailey Ratchford
 Laura Tench
 July 11 Sheri Whitley
 July 13 Don Robinson
 July 14 Beverly Mauney
 July 15 Russell Fleming
 July 16 Sierra Hullander
 July 18 Nicholas Ashe
 Holly Peche
 July 19 Lynne Sudarich
 July 20 Garrett Fox
 Brian Mitchell
 Jeffrey Philbeck
 July 21 John Crist
 Ashton Nault
 Caroline Nault
 July 24 Cathleen Allen
 July 26 Emilie Bruchon
 Bryant Deaton
 July 29 Kathleen Elliott
 Ardean Ewing

NOTE: If we have unintentionally left any member's name off this list, or if there are any errors, please call the church office.

