



# ST. PAUL VISITOR MAY 2022

*The mission of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is to **CELEBRATE** and **PROCLAIM** to all the saving grace of JESUS CHRIST in word and deed.*



We pray for...

LaDonna, Anne, Jackie,  
Judy, Myles, Debbie, Al,  
Dave, Elizabeth, Louise, Jon,  
Abby, Tom, Helen and  
Ernie.

Shepherding God, you  
are the source of life and  
health. Surround those  
who struggle with illness  
or other difficulties of life  
and bring them to  
wholeness and healing.  
Amen.

If you would like to add  
someone to the prayer  
list or have a "prayer  
email" sent out please  
call Kathy at 304-525-  
9630.



**May Day! May Day!**

**May Day Luncheon**

All are welcome to join us for our May Day Luncheon after Worship on 5/1/22. We will have taco in a bag, fruit cups, cookies & brownies & water, tea & lemonade. The St. Paul youth will serve the meal. A donation basket will be available. Donations will help campers pay for their registrations to Camp Luther. We hope to see you there to share in fellowship and the love and light of Christ.

## OFFICE HOURS

Generally someone is in the church office Monday through Thursday from 9:30am-1:30pm. If you are planning to come to the church please call beforehand to make sure Pastor or Kathy is there.

## OFFERINGS

Your offering is still very important to continue the mission of St. Paul. Please mail your offering to the church address:

721 12th Avenue  
Huntington, Wv 25701



## Pastor's Reflections

Sometimes I think we human species tend to think too much. A popular phrase I have used from time to time is: "Get out of your head." In my judgment we have become a data driven culture. We especially have seen this over the years of the pandemic. So much information from so many sources it makes one's head spin. Yet in some ways we human species crave this information, this data. Do not get me wrong the information we have gathered from those willing to do research on COVID have been valuable in fighting off this virus.

In the March issue of *Living Lutheran* there is an article I found remarkably interesting. The title caught my eye: "They May Not Come Back." It is only a couple of pages long but says some interesting things as we continue to regroup post COVID. The author quotes Ted Smith, a professor at Candler School of Theology. Professor Smith has talks about two terms to describe the cultural shift in which we are in. The first term is: "Age of Association." In the "Age of Association" many of our service organizations were created. Denominations emerged in this era. These service groups and associations, including denominations, unleashed a lot of dynamism and vitality in American religious life.

The other term is one philosopher Charles Taylor calls the "Age of Authenticity." Quoting the *Living Lutheran* article: "In the Age of Authenticity, people can leave voluntary organizations and institutions without embedding themselves elsewhere. Things are far more fluid, and identity springs less from a web of institutions than from a series of individual choices. The systems of the ELCA and its partners were designed for the Age of Association not the Age of Authenticity."

So, what do we do? The author of the article suggests we think "outside the box." This age is full of yearning for deeper connections. So how are we doing here at St Paul and Christ the King? Are we doing ministry with new and fresh ideas that help people connect in a deeper way? What does ministry and mission look like in 2022 given all the "stuff" that is happening in the world (war in Ukraine, economic strains because of supply chain issues and inflation, general malaise, and a desire to "go back to normal")?

I suggest to you that it is less about thinking and head stuff and the best program to get the most people in the doors and become part of our association. It is more about heart and connection stuff. At the end of the *Living Lutheran* magazine article the author says these words: "In the Age of Authenticity, people are looking for authentic expressions of spirituality, community, and hope."

I cannot help but think about one of the post-resurrection stories in the gospel of John. In it the disciples have just finished a breakfast of fish over a fire. Jesus asks Peter three times: Do you love me? After each question from Jesus and Peter's answer in the affirmative Jesus gives him a mission: Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, and finally Feed my sheep. Seems to me that the love of Jesus is the way we can be authentic to the world. It seems to me that the people of God at St Paul and Christ the King are called to tend and feed (in authentic ways) the sheep that come our way.

I do not really think there is a program to follow to be authentic. We "just do it" in the words of the famous Nike commercial! We do it with Christ in the lead gifting people with God's gifts: the Holy Spirit, community, and hope. May God bless us and keep us in all our endeavors these days of Easter.

Pastor Mackey <><

Dear St. Paul Congregation,

April is one of the busiest months of the year, if you are a church music director and a university music professor. We celebrate Holy Week and Easter, and April is also the last month on the academic calendar, filled with student degree recitals, final exams, and semester-end juries.

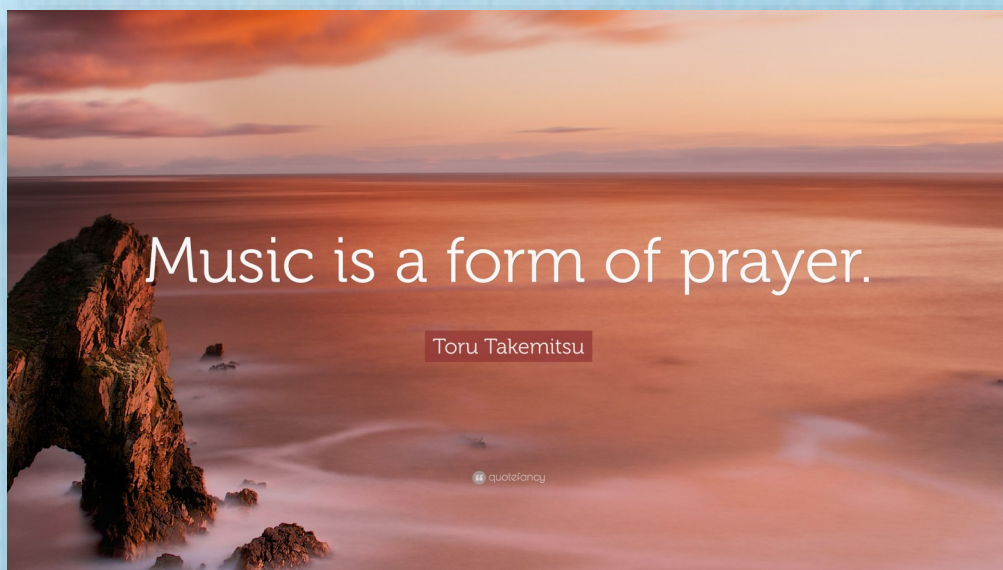
Looking back, I am thinking contently about Holy Week and Easter this year. The choir sang on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunday. In addition, on Good Friday we visited Christ the King Lutheran Church in Barboursville and sang an anthem entitled "Amazing Love." Pastor Kevin called this a nice gesture when I asked him about it, and I agree. It felt like we were appreciated. I was also happy with the choir and our guest performers on Easter Sunday. Both, Renee Harley Knapp and Devoyne Montgomery were pleased to be back at St. Paul.

Soprano Renee Harley Knapp lives and works in Ravenswood, WV, where she is the chorus director at Ravenswood Highschool. She said she enjoyed the drive down to Huntington with her youngest son and loved singing for the service. Cellist Devoyne Montgomery is a student at Paul G. Blazer Highschool in Ashland Kentucky. He plays the cello and the piano very well and is currently taking cello lessons with Dr. Solen Dikener, professor at Marshall. Like last year, Devoyne brought his family, including mom, dad, and his little sister Diamond. His mother mentioned the beautiful stained-glass windows in our church building more than once. Devoyne's family is originally from Australia.

On the second Sunday of Easter, I played a little trilogy of contemplative and short but beautiful pieces by the Ukrainian composer Valentin Silvestrov (two bagatelles and one postludium) as prelude, offertory music, and postlude. I'd like you to know that I would never use music in worship to make a political statement. I do believe that music (and all arts) can help us understand and appreciate each other beyond the intricacies of daily life, on a deeper level, so to speak. Music is a language, and, as the composer Toru Takemitsu said, "Music is a form of prayer."

Peace on earth...

Henning





The youth have been busy this past month. Our Sunday School Class received baskets with a coloring page of an Easter egg. The kids colored and cut their eggs out and placed them in their baskets. Their homework for the next week was to take care of their eggs, just like the mother hen would care for her eggs. The kids decided to put their egg in a safe place when leaving home. On Palm Sunday, the youth returned with their eggs. Some of the youth shared how they cared for their eggs:

Jackson- "I used my cheetos to keep my egg warm".

DeLaney- "I put a water bottle and food in the basket while I was at school".

Brooklyn- "I put crackers in my basket while I was at school".

Natalee- "I put a little chick, M&M's, and a blanket to take care of my egg".

Wyatt- "I put water in it and put a blanket in there and fed him goldfish".

Willow- "I put some toys in there, so my egg wouldn't be lonely. I put a blanket in there to keep my egg warm".

KK- "I put a tissue on top of my egg like a blanket to keep it warm".

Daniel- "I put my egg under my bed to protect it".

Jaylen- "I put a blanket on my egg and my cat slept on it too".

We discussed if it was easy or hard to take care of their eggs. Some said they lost their egg a few times. Some said they didn't move their egg very much. This brought on the conversation of Jesus and how Jesus is always with us no matter what. The youth could see it took a lot of effort to care for a paper egg for a week. How amazing that Jesus takes care of every single one of us all the time! The Youth were rewarded with a coloring page that showed "Jesus loves his peeps" and a package of nine purple marshmallow peeps to take home! What an easy lesson with such a great outcome!

We celebrated Easter with Easter breakfast, youth devotion and prayer, Easter egg hunt, worship, song, acolyte, Crucifer and special music and our wonderful choir. It was beautiful to witness all the the brothers and sisters in Christ gathering for worship, song, praise and prayer on Easter morning.

Our Confirmation classes continue to meet with one another on one Wednesday evening per month. We continue to discuss the meaning of prayer and the importance of discipleship and what it means to listen and serve others through Christ. Our Confirmands help and serve those in need. Some helped stuff Easter eggs for the Easter egg hunt and others helped prepare the eggs and baskets for our youth to take home. Our Confirmands continue to learn, love and grow in Christ.

We cleaned out flower beds and planted sunflower seeds in Sunday School. We read the story and discussed "The tiny Mustard Seed of Faith". We discussed all that is needed to grow a seed...soil, water, sun, air and the seed of course. Jesus said, "God gives you all the faith you need. All you can do is say "yes" to the faith God writes on your heart. The class made up a song about the mustard seed or the "sunflower" seed.

"Seed. Seed. Seed. Come Alive!

Grow! Grow! Grow! With Love!

Flower! Flower! Flower! With God's Power!

Needless to say, I think they got the point. They took their seeds home to grow with God's love and their love too! If it is written on our heart, then we must listen and follow and love and share!

St. Paul youth will be having a May Day Luncheon on Sunday, May 1st, after worship. All are welcome to attend! The youth will serve the meal. The menu will be taco in a bag, fruit cup, cookies & brownies, water, tea, and lemonade. A donation basket will be provided to help our youth campers pay for registrstion to Camp Luther. We hope to see you for fun, food and fellowship! May we all share what God writes on our hearts!

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joys that before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God". -Hebrews 12:2

God's Blessings!

Your Loving Sister in Christ,

Jill















## CAMP LUTHER

June 19-25

It's happening!! We will be having Camp this year!  
**It's not too late to register!** Late registrations will be \$295 if received by June 1 or \$300 if received after June 1.

St. Paul will pay \$138 of the fee. Forms must be turned into the office along with your part of the payment.



## Mother's Day

May 8

Please join us for worship on May 8 as we celebrate the women in our lives. A special gift will be given to all the women.

## CHAPLAINS FROM WVU LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Revs Ben and Courtney Erzkus will be leading worship and preaching on May 29 when Pastor Mackey is taking a vacation Sunday. Rev Ben and Courtney were recently installed at WVU Lutheran Campus Ministry on April 24. Let us welcome these new pastors to West Virginia with our presence at worship on Sunday, May 29.


## Worship Helpers for May

### Altar Guild: Bonnie Conger and Debbie Perkins

Date	Assisting Minister	Reader	Communion Deacon	Acolyte	Bread Provider
5/1	Linda Schneider	Steve Golder	Creigh Pemberton	Owen Murray	Arneson
5/8	David Stuart	Doug Korstanje	Linda Schneider	Katie Dowis	
5/15	Bernadette Wellman	Linda Schneider	David Stuart	Cameron May	
5/22	Keith Wellman	David Stuart	Bernadette Wellman	Alex Mackey	
5/29	Ruthann Arneson	B. Wellman	Keith Wellman	Jacob Hale	



# May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:00am Worship  1:00pm Church Council		9:30am Quilting	6:00pm CCC/ LYO			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10:00am Worship  	7:00pm Writer's Group	9:30am Quilting	Pastor at QRT  6:00pm CCC/ LYO  6:00pm 2nd Year Confirma- tion Meets	6:00pm Scouts		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:00am Worship		9:30am Quilting	6:00pm CCC/ LYO			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00am Worship  Graduate Recep- tion after Worship  1:30pm Pastor at Woodlands		9:30am Quilting	Pastor at QRT	6:00pm Scouts		
29	30	31				
10:00am Worship  Pastor on Vacation		9:30am Quilting				





1 Amy Dowis; Starla Kisling  
2 Tom Kist  
4 Keely Tucker  
8 Joel Jones; Jared Tucker  
10 Creigh Pemberton  
12 James Wagner  
13 Tim Konzett  
20 Jaylyn Garnett  
24 Madelyn Fizer  
25 Joseph Williams  
26 Addison Handley  
30 Julia Sullivan



12 Tim and Cheryl Konzett  
14 John and Nola Scott  
15 Jared and Keely Tucker  
17 Dennis and Brandy Andrus  
22 James and Susie Wagner  
24 Tom and Emma Kist



Please note that the price of flowers for the altar has increased from \$30 to \$35 per week. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers please sign up in the narthex.



If you would like to make a prayer request for yourself or someone else there are several ways you can do this:

Call the church office at 304-525-9630 and request a name to be put on the prayers that are read on Sunday morning.

Call the church office and request that a prayer email be sent out to the congregation

Request prayer on our Facebook page—"St. Paul Lutheran Congregation Group"

You may also email the church at [secretary@stpaulhuntington.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulhuntington.org)



For the Month of May we will be collecting Jelly for Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry. Please place your items in the bin in the narthex.

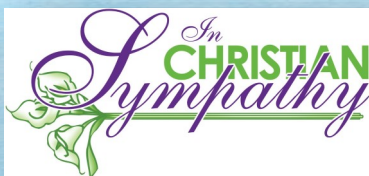


#### BACK PACK SUPPLIES NEEDED!

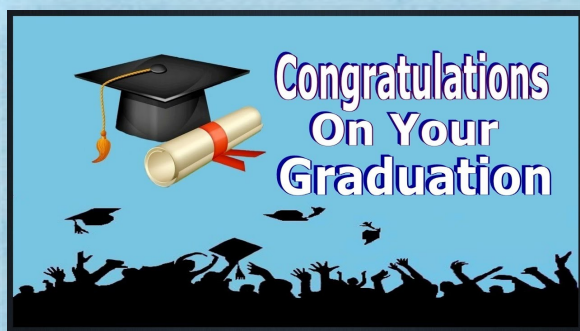
Our supplies for the Backpack program are very low. We are especially in need of dinner items such as Spaghettios, ravioli, beefaroni, and mac and cheese.

Items should be in individually packaged containers and not contain any peanut products.





Our condolences to the family of Wayne Doss, who passed away on April 18. Wayne was a dedicated servant at St. Paul for many years. Our prayers are with Dreama and the family.



#### GRADUATION RECEPTION

May 22

after worship

Congratulations to Emma Korstanje, Zoie Fornash, and Jackson McComas

A special thank you to Tim and Cheryl Conzett, and Linda Schneider for preparing the sanctuary for Easter, especially for hanging the banners in the center. Also, thank you to Jenny Murray and Debbie Perkins for organizing the Easter Breakfast.



#### Daily Devotional in your inbox



The readings listed below are sent to the congregation each day (Monday-Friday) by email. If you are not currently receiving the Daily Devotional and would like to please contact the church at [secretary@stpaulhuntington.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulhuntington.org) with your email address.

#### READINGS FOR MAY

May 2-6: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

May 9-13: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

May 16-20: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5; John 14:23-29

May 23-27: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26





## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

721 12th Avenue  
Huntington, WV 25701  
304-525-9630



### CONTACT INFORMATION

Reverend Kevin L. Mackey, pastor  
pastor@stpaulhuntington.org  
cell phone: 724-212-9393  
Church office: 304-525-9630

Henning Vauth, Music Director  
music@stpaulhuntington.org

Jill May, Youth Director  
youth@stpaulhuntington.org

Kathy Mackey, secretary  
secretary@stpaulhuntington.org

Please visit us at [www.stpaulhuntington.org](http://www.stpaulhuntington.org)

### CONNECT WITH US

Phone: 304-525-9630

**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE**

[stpaulhuntington.org](http://stpaulhuntington.org)



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
St. Paul Lutheran Congregation  
Group



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Huntington, WV

### CHURCH COUNCIL 2022

Vice President, Jenny Murray

Treasurer, Andrew Wellman

Secretary, Bernadette Wellman

Financial Secretary, Linda Schneider

Assistant Financial Secretary, Annette DuVall

Linda Hay, Worship and Music

Carolyn Fornash, Christian Education

Doug Korstanje, Stewardship/Finance

Jenny Murray, Fellowship

Bernadette Wellman, Social Ministry

Kevin Knowles, Christian Education

Ron Pease, Property

Creigh Pemberton, Evangelism

Debbie Perkins, Fellowship



## PRAYER VENTURES FOR MAY 2022

- 1** *Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month* Praise God for [Asian and Pacific Islander](#) members, congregations and ministries of the ELCA that use God's gifts of culture, language and heritage to share the good news of Jesus Christ, loving and serving our neighbor in a multicultural world.
- 2** Pray for the safety and well-being of those directly impacted by the war in Ukraine — both the people inside its borders and the nearly 4 million who have left the country. Pray for peace, wisdom, justice, repentance and reconciliation, and give thanks for the assistance provided by Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, and our partners and companion churches in Ukraine and across Eastern Europe.
- 3** "O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me" (Psalm 30:2). Pray for healing, comfort and peace for all who suffer sorrow, trauma, illness, fear or hardship, and ask the Spirit to equip us for responding to our neighbors in need with love, hope and support.
- 4** Give thanks and pray for Lutheran Men in Mission and other ministries with men in our congregations, that they will reach and serve men of all ages, strengthening their faith in Christ, equipping them to love and serve their neighbor, and creating faithful communities of men.
- 5** Remembering the story of how God transformed Paul's life, purpose and spirit, pray that people everywhere might be changed by the grace of God, the work of the Spirit and the influence of caring and loving people, including ourselves.
- 6** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Metropolitan New York Synod, the New Jersey Synod and the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 7** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 8** On Mother's Day, thank God for mothers, stepmothers, foster mothers, expectant mothers, women struggling with parenting, women trying to conceive and women who cannot bear children of their own but serve as loving and caring adults in the lives of children and youth.
- 9** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Rocky Mountain Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 10** Remember in prayer students at college, university and seminary as they prepare for final exams, celebrate graduation or begin their careers, that they might find opportunities to use their gifts, faith and passion in service to their neighbors and communities.
- 11** "The Lord is my shepherd" (Psalm 23:1). Pray that we might find clarity and be reassured of God's love and attention through the psalmist's description of a shepherd who restores, leads, nourishes and accompanies us, calming our fears and showing us mercy.
- 12** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Delaware-Maryland Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 13** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Oregon Synod, the Saint Paul Area Synod, the Northeastern Ohio Synod and the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 14** [Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Great Lakes, Southeast Michigan and North/West Lower Michigan synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.](#)
- 15** Pray that we will be faithful to Jesus' commandment to love one another, and pray that we might be recognized as disciples of Christ and communities of faith through our Spirit-inspired acts of love, kindness, service, justice and hospitality.



**16** Remember in prayer the conflict in Ethiopia, which has caused displacement, suffering and loss of life among the most vulnerable — women, children and older adults. Pray for relief, hope and strength for those who have been impacted and for an end to the violence and ethnic discrimination. Give thanks for the relief work of Lutheran World Relief and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, and for the financial support of Lutheran Disaster Response.

**17** Ask the Spirit to stir our enthusiasm for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the world, that all people might know the boundless love of God that renews and unites us as siblings in Christ.

**18** Pray that we might not grow weary or apathetic about the needs of our neighbor, especially when their difficulties and situations seem complicated, overwhelming or distant from us. Ask the Spirit to nurture within us love and concern that are enduring, impartial and wise.

**19** Praise God for everything that brings joy, hope, encouragement or brightness into our lives.

**20** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Pacifica, Greater Milwaukee, Southeastern Iowa and Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

**21** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

**22** Promise to respond to those we encounter who are struggling, homeless, lonely, grieving or ill; ask the Spirit to encourage, equip and guide us when we feel ill-equipped to love and care for our neighbor.

**23** Thank God for our special relationship with The Episcopal Church, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these challenging times.

**24** Among your siblings in Christ, who has surprised you with their welcoming spirit, generosity, wisdom or eagerness to share their faith? Give thanks to God for people who unexpectedly enrich our lives.

**25** Give thanks for young adults from across the country who have responded to the call to serve in summer ministries at ELCA camps. Ask the Spirit to equip, inspire and sustain them for sharing their faith in Christ and developing caring communities of faith with campers of all backgrounds, abilities and ages.

**26** *Ascension Day* "Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth" (Psalm 47:1-2). Praise and honor our wonderful God!

**27** "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you" (John 14:26). Remember in prayer the gift of the Spirit in our midst, working through us to call, gather, enlighten, bless and unify the church on earth.

**28** Pray for the ELCA Justice for Women program and its work fostering gender awareness, justice and dignity, that our congregations and communities might value, embrace and be shaped by the unique voices and experiences of people across race, ethnicity, ability, class, sexuality and age.

**29** Ask God to unite us as communities of faith and siblings in Christ, introducing others to what God has done in the world through the life, teachings, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.

**30** *Memorial Day* Remember, honor and give thanks for members of the armed forces who sacrificed their lives for the sake of peace. Pray for those who serve in harm's way today and for our neighbors around the world who have served their own countries in pursuit of peace, justice and freedom.

**31** Pray for congregations as they prepare for mission trips, service-learning experiences and local community ministries, that their efforts might exemplify compassion, respect, mutual relationship, intentional partnership and our call to love and serve our neighbor as Christ loves and serves us.