



**July 2023 Birthdays:**

- July 1 Kendell Brown
- July 3 Emily Mitchem
- July 5 Austin Earle
- July 6 Garrison Sides
- July 9 April R. Bridges
- July 10 Mackenna Hope
- July 11 Ronnie Heafner
- July 12 Sandy Plonk
- July 13 Kristin Cloninger, Frances Goins
- July 14 Avery Parker, Pat Sellers
- July 15 Emma Plonk
- July 16 Steve Plonk, Justin Rubow
- July 17 Aiden Cloninger
- July 18 Scott Rubow
- July 19 Billy Porter
- July 21 Linda Metcalf, Robbie Stroup
- July 22 Evan Barkley, Ernest Comer, Mark Robinson
- July 23 Ryan Harris, Dru Parker
- July 24 Jerry Crisp
- July 25 Jill Hovis
- July 26 Joe Rhyne, Sally Terres
- July 27 Erica Hoyle, Preston Rhyne
- July 28 Eric Lineberger
- July 29 Alysha Elmore, John Taylor
- July 30 McKenzie Frietch, Debi Walsh



Dallas/High Shoals Christian Ministry  
Crackers, Peanut Butter, Lima Beans  
Bring your donations to the church.



Habitat for Humanity – Lincoln County  
Need volunteers for next build day July 29<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-2  
p.m. Make monetary donations to St. Paul's – with Habitat-  
Lincoln in memo line. See Sandy Kennedy if you can help!

**July 2023 Responsibilities:**

- Acolytes: Addison Vineyard, Avery Parker  
 Altar Flowers: Joe & Lynn Rhyne  
 Altar Guild: Linda Metcalf  
 Audio/Video: Josh Crisp  
 Cantor: Sandy Kennedy  
 Children's Church: Kelly Taylor  
 Crucifer: Meredith Crisp  
 Council Rep.: Josh Crisp  
 Council Assistants: Josh Crisp, Marsha Kinley  
 Ushers (\*head usher) \*Steve Hovis, Matthew Stroup,  
 Braeden Taylor, John Taylor  
 Food to DCSM: Jane Blanton, Anna Pasour
- |         | <u>Reader</u>   | <u>Nursery</u>                 |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| July 2  | Anna Pasour     | Kelley Barker, Lynn Rhyne      |
| July 9  | Lynn Rhyne      | Wendy Goudelock, Carrie Stroup |
| July 16 | Scott Rubow     | Mendy Kanupp, Lynn Rhyne       |
| July 23 | Kelley Barker   | Taylor Carter, Dru Parker      |
| July 30 | Joelene Nielsen | Kelley Barker, Lynn Rhyne      |

**Memorials & Gifts:**

- In honor of Lynn Rhyne** given by: M/M Tony Gordon  
(Matthew25:40)  
**In memory of Marlene Cloninger** given by: Beth R. Renier, M/M  
Robert Pasour (JOY Group); M/M Alan Hutcherson (Hummingbird  
House)  
**In memory of David W. Hoyle Sr.** given by: M/M Alan Hutcherson  
(Hummingbird); M/M Jason Cloninger; Gaston Co. Young Guns  
**In memory of Phillip Rhyne** given by: M/M Steve Nation  
(Matthew25:40)  
**In memory of Patricia Quinn Presley** given by: Mariah Q. Porter



**Dear St. Paul's Family,**

Thank you so much for all the generous gifts you all blessed me with. My quilt is absolutely gorgeous and is definitely going to come in handy 😊 St. Paul's has been an amazing church to grow up in. There is so much love and support I feel from the congregation which is truly a blessing. Thank you All!

**With much love, Jaclyn Harrison**

**St. Pauls,**

Thank you so much for the graduation gift. I am so blessed to be part of such a loving church family. Your support will help me as I transition to college.

**Love, Andrew Secrest**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church: 704-922-4387 The Rev. Dr. John Spencer: 201-981-6173 <a href="mailto:gail@stpaulsdallas.org">gail@stpaulsdallas.org</a> or <a href="mailto:john.spencer@stpaulsdallas.org">john.spencer@stpaulsdallas.org</a>
Web: <a href="http://www.stpaulsdallas.org">www.stpaulsdallas.org</a>

## July 2023: From the Pastor's Heart

### A Personal Look at "My Heart Christ's Home"

For the next few months, using Robert Munger's classic work: "My Heart Christ's Home", I am going to challenge us to examine our hearts and determine for ourselves the answers to the following three (3) questions:

1. Where in my heart is Jesus is living and reigning as Lord?
2. Where in my heart is Jesus marginalized or barely included in my thinking, attitude, and behavior?
3. Where in my heart has Jesus been totally excluded from any consideration or influence on my thinking, attitude, and behavior?

#### **Background:**

“Robert Boyd Munger (1911-2001) was a Presbyterian minister who wrote this timeless work in 1951. The following is Munger's introduction, which also reveals his motivation for writing this beautiful essay:

In Paul's epistle to the Ephesians, we find these words:

*"That (God) would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith" (Ephesians 3:16). Or, as another has translated, "That Christ may settle down and be at home in your hearts by faith."*

Without question one of the most remarkable Christian doctrines is that Jesus Christ Himself through the presence of the Holy Spirit will actually enter a heart, settle down and be at home there. Christ will make the human heart His abode.

Our Lord said to His disciples, "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:23). It was difficult for them to understand what He was saying. How was it possible for Him to make his abode with them in this sense?

It is interesting that our Lord used the same word here that He gave them in the first of the fourteenth chapter of John: "I go to prepare a place for you .. that where I am, ye may be also." Our Lord was promising his disciples that, just as He was going to heaven to prepare a place for them and would welcome them one day,

now it would be possible for them to prepare a place for Him in their hearts and He would come and make His abode with them.

They could not understand this. How could it be?

Then came Pentecost. The Spirit of the living Christ was given to the church, and they understood. God did not dwell in Herod's temple in Jerusalem! God did not dwell in a temple made with hands; but now, through the miracle of the outpoured Spirit, God would dwell in human hearts. The body of the believer would be the temple of the living God and the human heart would be the home of Jesus Christ. *It is difficult for me to think of a higher privilege than to make Christ a home in my heart, to welcome, to serve, to please, to fellowship with him there.*

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As Lutherans we believe Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit indwell the heart of each believer. Robert Munger was right when he said: "*It is difficult for me to think of a higher privilege than to make Christ a home in my heart, to welcome, to serve, to please, to fellowship with him there.* " It is both a privilege and a gift from God to have Christ living in our hearts. Let us embrace this gift by being more aware of the Holy and Divine presence of Christ in our hearts. Let us be more intentional and deliberate in our thinking, our self-talk, our conversations with others, our devotional and prayer life and in making decisions.

Every Christian has Christ living in their hearts unfortunately, proximity does not guarantee fellowship. It is a sad truth that people can share the same living space and not communicate with one another or enjoy the presence and fellowship of one another. Is there a wall of silence that separates you from Jesus Christ even though by faith you know Jesus lives in your heart? Sadder yet, is the fact that some people do not have Jesus Christ living in their hearts.

Next month Robert Munger will take us on a faith journey that starts the moment a person believes the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you know anyone who is not a believer in Jesus Christ invite them to join us on this journey. Robert Munger will help us, see that having Christ in your heart makes a big difference!

Love

Pastor Spencer

## July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> 9:15am Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (June & July)	<b>26</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts) 11:00am SW Conference Meeting (Bollinger Hall Reserved) Scouts	<b>27</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts) 9:00am Quilting	<b>28</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts)	<b>29</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts) 5:00pm Evangelism Committee Meeting (Bollinger Hall)	<b>30</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts)	<b>1</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts)
<b>2</b> White Van Reserved (Scouts) 9:15am Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (June & July)	<b>3</b> 11:00am Maude Speagle Circle Meeting @ St. Paul's 5:45pm WELCA Board Meeting Scouts	<b>4</b> July 4th - Church Office Closed 6:30pm - 9:00pm Scout Meeting (Bollinger Hall - Per Council)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> St. Paul's hosting @ Soup Kitchen, Lincolnton (See Susan Hutcherson)
<b>9</b> 7:30am Church Council Meeting 9:15am Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (June & July)	<b>10</b> Scouts	<b>11</b> 9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Blossoms of Faith Circle	<b>12</b> 6:30pm Social Ministry Committee Meeting (Bollinger Hall) - Eric Lamanna, Chair	<b>13</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>14</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>15</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)
<b>16</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28) 7:30am Men's Breakfast Meeting 9:15am Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (June & July)	<b>17</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28) Scouts	<b>18</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>19</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>20</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28) 11:30am Joy Group - eating @ Small Town Kitchen, Cherryville	<b>21</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>22</b> Bollinger Hall Reserved (Barkley) - all day Gail out of the office (July 13-28)
<b>23</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28) 9:15am Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (June & July)	<b>24</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28) Scouts	<b>25</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28) 9:00am Quilting	<b>26</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>27</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>28</b> Gail out of the office (July 13-28)	<b>29</b> 8:30am - 2:00pm Habitat for Humanity - Workday in Lincoln County (See Sandy Kennedy to help.)
<b>30</b> 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (June & July) 12:00pm What's Different About Lutherans? - Table Talk with Pastor Spencer (light lunch)	<b>31</b> Scouts	<b>1</b> 6:30pm - 9:00pm Scout Meeting (Bollinger Hall - Per Council)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>