Covenant News



May 2024



The Giver of Life

"In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while the spirit of God swept over the face of the waters."

-Genesis 1:1

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets."

-Nicene Creed

As Christians, we confess through the Nicene Creed that we believe in the Holy Spirit as the Giver of Life-- and acknowledge the Spirit's presence and

activity in the origins of the universe and the creation of **all** life. While we look to scripture as the source of the Spirit's activity, our reliance on the images and metaphors of the Bible do not adequately consider the vast, inclusive, universal reach and activity of the Holy Spirit.

We often prioritize our experience and understanding of the Holy Spirit in light of the Spirit's activity in the New Testament; examples include Jesus's baptism and the Acts 2 narrative of Pentecost. We usually think of the Spirit's main focus as interacting with humanity. But the Spirit as the Creator of Life is role that is **billions** of years old while in the timeline of creation, human beings are recent additions!

We need to remember that all things have been created by God's Word and God's Spirit. It is this emphasis on the *creation of all things* that acknowledges the inclusivity of the act of creation. In our confession of belief in the Holy Spirit as the Giver of Life, the church proclaims a universality of the Holy Spirit. It is not just Christian life, or human life, that is given by the Spirit, but all life, life itself. All things have an experience of the Spirit!

Pastor Andrea



In working with other surrounding congregations, we continue to offer a FREE meal for anyone and everyone in the community and beyond on the 4th Thursday of every month. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mary Kaye Bernardo. Otherwise, come on for

FREE dinner Thurday, May 23 (5:00-6pm), or help spread the word to others!



5/2 Christopher Dickey 5/14 Lynn Frídley 519 Steven Kobella 5/19 Arlene Lasher 5/21 Joan Garvín 5/25 Ron Schirmer 5/30 Jayden Kyle 5/31 Barbara Gerstenberger 5/31 Matthew Kobella



5/4 Michelle & Doug Pekar Happy 50th Anniversary!

5/7 Charlotte & Robert Zaranka 5/22 Nanette & Ron Schirmer Happy 58th Anniversary!

5/11 Karen & Raymond Zack Happy 56th Anniversary!

5/22 Jennifer & Larry Garberich Happy 25th Anniversary!

Happy 43rd Anniversary!

5/25 Daralynn & Bruce Constant Happy 45th Anniversary!

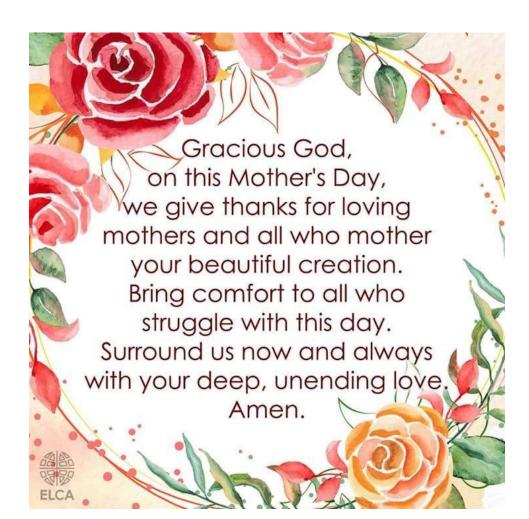


Please use the QR code to the left to register for the May 15th, Make your own Taco Bar Intergenerational event at Covenant.

You can also use the link below to register for this fun event.

https://66F3362B.churchtrac.com/connect

We look forward to seeing you there!





We hope you can join us on Sunday, May 5, immediately following the worship, as we discuss and vote on the 2024 budget for Covenant!





CLW Annual Plant Sale

Orders must be placed by Sunday, May 5, at the church office or Arlene Lasher (12411 Oak Park Blvd. Garfield Heights, OH 44125).

Pick-up scheduled for Saturday, May 25, 9am -1pm.

Note the different date for pick-up: the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.

Drive-thru pick-up, same as last year, at the ramp door. Please call when you are on the way to pick-up and Arlene will have your order outside to be put into your vehicle.



We are tentatively planning to start worshiping Sundays outside from our back parking lot on June. Feel free to bring your own chair or stay in your vehicle, as we praise God amidst the wonderful Creation!

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May 2024

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The Lutheran Church of the Covenant 19000 Libby Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137

