Covenant News



July 2024

Embracing Tradition and God's New Thing

In our spiritual journey, we often find ourselves navigating the tension between honoring tradition and embracing the new things God is doing. This balance can be challenging, yet it is a vital aspect of our faith.

Tradition provides us with a foundation, a sense of continuity and identity. It connects us to the faith of our ancestors, offering time-tested wisdom and practices. The rituals, hymns, and scriptures we hold dear anchor us in a larger story, reminding us of God's faithfulness throughout the ages.

However, God is dynamic, not static. In Isaiah 43:19, God declares, "I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" This verse invites us to remain open to fresh movements of the Spirit. God's new work often challenges our comfort zones and calls us to adapt and grow. It can be unsettling, yet it is through this transformation that our faith is invigorated and renewed.

The key lies in discernment. How do we distinguish between holding onto tradition that enriches our faith and embracing new directions that God is leading us towards? It involves prayer, community dialogue, and a willingness to listen to the Spirit's guidance. We must ask ourselves whether our traditions are serving as a conduit for God's love and justice, or if they have become barriers to the new life God is birthing.

Embracing this tension means valuing our heritage while remaining open to innovation. It is about integrating the old with the new, allowing our traditions to inform and enrich the new paths God sets before us. As we navigate this balance, we find that our faith is not a static relic but a living, evolving journey with God.

I invite you to consider what new things God might be doing in your life. Reflect on how you can honor your traditions while also being open to the new and exciting work God is doing within and around you. How is God calling us all to grow, change, or step out in faith?

In Christ, Pastor Andrea

Please note!! Pastor Andrea has a new number 216-352-9655



We join our siblings in Christ of the Lutheran Church of the Master for another summer of Picnic & Praise on Wednesday July 24 and 31, starting at 6pm with a potluck meal (feel free to bring something to offer to eat, if you like) and moving into a time of song and Scripture with reflection. Come, let us worship the Lord!



7/1 Chuck Díckey 7/1 Joyce Míhalek 7/3 Rosa Garnett 7/9 Línda Allende 7/9 Emíly Knerem 7/10 Keary Knerem Sr. 7/10 Amber Kyle 7/25 Mark Gabor 7/31 Krístíne Sandor



7/2 Jennífer & Chrís Constant Happy 13th Anníversary

7/12 Nícole & Jeff Garvín Happy 15th Anníversary



We are going to particapte in the Maple Heights Citywide garage sale in September. We will be starting to collect your donations for the Sale at the end of July when Camp Covenant is finished. Please contact Jen in the office for access to drop of items.





FREE community MEAL

Our next FREE community meal will be Thursday, July 25 (5-6PM). We are doing dine-in only in our fellowship hall. Cirque Goes Broadway at Blossom

This year's unique musical performance scheduled for the Labor Day weekend at Blossom is entitled Cirque Goes Broadway. It is performed on the Blossom Stage by Cirque De la Symphonie accompanied by the Akron Symphony Orchestra. Dizzying acrobatic heights and eye popping feats come together with top Broadway hits from Les Miserables, Frozen, Mis Saigon and more. Fun for the whole family and the perfect way to close out the summer.
The Senior discount rate for tickets is \$31.00 per person for pavilion seating.
Please make checks out to Arlene Lasher, as I have already reserved a number of seats for Covenant, at the Sunday Sept, 1, 2024 (7:00 pm) concert in our preferred Section 22 in the Blossom pavilion. The deadline for ordering tickets is Sunday, August 4, 2024. If you have any questions, feel free to ask me.



July 17 Dinner Church Pick your favorite hymns, write prayers, etc. for an impromut worship service with dinner

Registration is helpful, but not required!. To register go to: <u>https://66F3362B.churchtrac.com/connnect</u>



The Lutheran Church of the Covenant July 2024

		0	Curl For				
Server Schedule	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ag: Sheila Werner, Annie Copeland, Paual Hohenstein, Charlotee Zarranka		1 Office Close Camp Cov. 6:00-8:00 pm AA meeting in	2 Camp Cov. 6:30 pm Worrens AA meeting in Hall Worship & Music Meeting	10 Camp Cov. 6:00-8:00 pm AA mooting in Hall	4 Office Closed for Holiday	5 Camp Cov. 6:30-8:00 pm GOD NA meeting Hall	6 3:00 Women's AA Meeting hall 6-8 CA in Hall
Ag: Joan Garvin, Marie Zahn, Jen Garberich	7 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Worship Outdoors	8 Office Close Camp Cov. 6:00-8:00 pm AA meeting in Hall	9 Carrp Cov. 6:30 pm Women's AA meeting in Hall	10 Camp Cov. 6:00-8:00 pm AA meeting in Hall	11 Camp Cov	12 Camp Cov. 6:30-5:00 pm GOD NA meeting Hall	13 3:00 Women's AA Meeting Hall 6-8 CA in Hall
AG: Joan Garvin, Marie Zahn, Jen Garberich	14 Eighth Sunday after Panlecust 9:00 Worship Outcoors	150ffice Close Camp Cov. 6-8pm AA meeting Hall	16Camp Cov. 6:30 pm Women's AA meeting Hall	17 Camp Cov. 8:00-3:00 pm AA meeting in Hall 6:00 Dinner Church in Hall	18 Camp Cov.	19 Camp Cov 8:30-8:00 pm GOD NA moeting in Parish Hall	20 3:00 Women's AA Meeting hall 6-8 CA in Hall
ag-: Claudia Senderak, Gwen Susanek, Jean Rusher, Jane Skowronski	21 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Worship Outdoors	22Office Close Camp Cov. 6:00-8:00 pm AA meeting in Hall	23 Camp Cov 6:30 pm Wornen's AA meeting in Parish Hall	24Camp Cov. 6:00-8:00 pm AA meeting Hall 6:00 Picnic & Praise Master	25 Camp Cov 5-6 Community Near in Hall	26 Camp Cov 6:30-8:00 pr GOD NA meating in Parish Hall	27 3.00 Women's AA Meeting hall 6 8 CA in Hall
	28 Tenth Sunday after Pentecosti 9:00 Worship Outdoors	29Office Close Camp Cov. 6-8pm AA meeting in Hall	30 Camp Cov 6:30 pm Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall	31 Camp Cov 6:00-8:00 pm AA meeting Hall 6:00 Ficnic & Praise Master			

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

Thank you, Covenant gardeners!

The system of sending orders for our annual flower sale via email to all who ordered previously is working pretty well. We just need to give everyone a "headsup" to check their email once it is sent out from the church office. To those for whom we have no email address, orders are sent via US mail or delivered in person. If I have not received a reply from you, you will get a personal phone call from me as a follow-up.

Many thanks, as usual, to my hard-working volunteer crew of Barb Gaglione, Charoltte Zaranka, Karen and Ray Zack, Paula Hohenstein, Vince Besednjak, and Jen Lasher-Dobush. This flower sale only happens because these folks are willing to spend a very long, tiring day unloading the plants from the nursery, and then filling all the orders for pick-up the next day. A mere thank you does not begin to express my gratitude to all of them for their help.

Now, for the good news! All our hard work does pay off. Due to all of your orders and generous donations, we were able to place nice planters by each of the church doors and realize a nice profit of \$655. Well done, Covenant! I hope you will all enjoy successful gardens this summer. Plants like the heat even when we don't. See you next Spring, same time same station.

Thanks again, Arlene Lasher