

The Guiding Light

Celebrating God As We Serve Others June 2020



**The Monthly Newsletter of
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From Our Pastor

St. Peter's call to the Church to live and speak of the hope that is within us is good advice in these difficult days. Luther felt that the worst enemy of the Gospel was despair that did not let us look beyond our present troubles, or to see Christ's journeying with us to new possibilities, even in the midst of our suffering.

Perhaps this time will show us just how much we treasure each other and what a blessing it was to be able to gather together as Christ's body in the world. When we are once again able to gather together, I certainly plan to cherish these moments even more than I have in the past. In the meantime, let us bless the work of all who strive to be Christ's body in the world with gracious and compassionate ways and words, speaking and living the hope that is in us in Christ. Let us inspire each other in our faithfulness and hold each other up in our weakness, trusting that God will bring us

through this difficult journey as the Church, the Body of Christ in the world.

We will gather again together when it is wise and responsible to do so. Until then, the Spirit shall still call and gather us together in heart and mind making us truly one in Christ. May Christ, our hope and life, help us look forward to the day when we shall see each other again and our hearts are filled with joy.

Pastor Stephen

Listen for the Bells

In thanksgiving for all first responders and essential workers during the pandemic, our Church bells, along with other church bells in Pembroke, will ring out in joyful gratitude on Friday, June 5th at 6pm. A moment of silence during the bell ringing will be an opportunity for prayer.

Used Postage Stamps Wanted

Used postage stamps to support "On Eagles Wings" who are volunteer Bible Camp teams who fly north from Yellowknife, NWT to the far reaches of the Mackenzie Delta and teach the Inuvialuit people and children about Jesus. Please leave the used stamps in the "Used Postage Stamp" box located at the front entrance of the church.

Council Update

Our doors may not be open but work still continues.

Staffing Update

Pastor Stephen continues to connect with members as he is able with the restrictions that have been put in place. Spring internments have been taking place, homily's have been written and services have been recorded. He is always available by phone should you need his assistance.

Jean spends a small amount of time in the office and the balance of her time she works from home. I have heard that our May calendar was most appreciated by many folks. We don't have our regular activities to post so I asked Jean if she could create something that included bible passages and positive thoughts. She did a fabulous job and I would like to say a special Thank You!

Kevin is in the building 3 days per week to do some of his regular work and ensuring that the building is safe while few people are there.

Blaine works with Pastor Stephen to arrange for the music that is played on our recorded services. He works with both the organ and our new piano.

Submitted by Susan Dupuis

Other Happenings

Our pastoral care committee continues to reach out to our seniors to make sure they are ok and find out if we can assist them in any way. We are now dropping printed copies of the Pastors homilies and the Guiding Light to approximately 70 members. What a great team of volunteers!

Our Zion Lutheran website has been updated through the hard work of Doug Malliff and Jan Scheidt. Thank you for your continued work. Starting on May 25th our parish hall floor will be refinished.

We have been having discussions regarding the lot that we purchased behind the church. We would like to use this as a community garden space. We are looking into top soil and volunteers to help ready the ground and plant. We have an offer of potatoes for planting. If you are interested in working on this project or have donations towards it, can you please reach out to Susan at 343-369-2057 or Ellen at 613-732-7649.

We have agreed to an interim agreement with The Renfrew County Legal Clinic. We are hoping that later in the fall we will be able to put a full agreement in place.

We are sooooo excited to be able to tape a weekly service that is posted on both our Facebook page and our church website. We get a little better at it each week. We are able to do this while staying within the limited number of people that are allowed to gather. We are trying to have different members join us as worship assistants.

Blaine includes both the organ and piano so that we feel like we are sitting right there in our usual pew. It is wonderful to hear Pastor Stephen's messages and prayers. We also try to have a least 1 person who can add their voice to the hymns.

Submitted by Susan Dupuis

Bits and Pieces

Stressed spelled backwards spells Desserts...so eat chocolate instead of worrying.

Did you know that our National Bishop Susan Johnson posts a daily prayer and hymn on line?

Even for those who do not have on line access, know that you are kept in the prayers of the local and larger church.

“The curve is flattening; we can end lockdown now” equals “This parachute has slowed my rate of descent; I can take it off now”

When is our church going to open?

Ed McLeod, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Raleigh:

Our church is already open.

We are open to the Spirit’s leading.

We are open to new opportunities for mission.

We are open to the stirring challenge of the call to discipleship.

We are open to anyone who wants to join us on the journey of faith.

We are open to learning new ways to tell our old story.

We are open to ecumenical and interfaith dialogue.

We are open to criticism when we fall short.

We are already open.

We just happen to be worshiping in our homes, for now, as a way of promoting safety and mitigating risk, as an expression of the love we have for our neighbors, and as an acknowledgement that any reckless behaviour on our part could have a devastating effect on others. And we are grateful for the technology that makes this possible, aware that we are richly blessed.

But we are already open.

Submitted by Susan Dupuis



June 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Life might be confusing right now, but remember it's worked out before.</i>	2 <i>Storms make trees take deeper roots.</i>	3 Read Genesis 1:1-2:4a	4 <i>The world has slowed so you can rediscover yourself.</i>	5 Read Psalm 8	6 <i>Trust in the Lord always for the Lord God is the eternal Rock. Isaiah 26:4</i>
7 Holy Trinity Read Matthew 28:16-20	8 <i>One of the happiest moments in life is when you find the courage to let go of what you cannot change.</i>	9 <i>One minute of anger weakens the immune system for 4-5 hours. One minute of laughter boosts the immune system for 24 hours.</i>	10 Read Exodus 19:2-8a	11 <i>We are not in the same boat, be we are all in the same storm.</i>	12 Read Psalm 100	13 <i>Be strong, be courageous, do not be frightened, do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9</i>
14 Pentecost 2 Read Matthew 9:35-10:23	15 <i>Life is ironic. It takes sadness to know what true happiness is, noise to appreciate silence, & absence to value presence.</i>	16 <i>It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light. - Aristotle</i>	17 Read Jeremiah 20:7-13	18 <i>Life with God is not immunity from difficulties, but peace in difficulties. – C.S. Lewis</i>	19 Read Psalm 69:7-18	20 <i>Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7</i>
21 Pentecost 3 Read Matthew 10:24-39 Father's Day	22 <i>Be the reason someone smiles today</i>	23 <i>When it rains look for rainbows, when it's dark look for stars.</i>	24 Read Jeremiah 28:5-9	25 <i>Keep your face to the sunshine & you cannot see a shadow – Helen Keller</i>	26 Read Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	27 <i>My God turns my darkness into light. Psalm 18:28</i>
28 Pentecost 4 Read Matthew 10:40-42	29 <i>Tomorrow is a direct result of what you choose to do today.</i>	30 <i>Faith is seeing light with your heart when all your eyes see is darkness.</i>				