

# BVLP News

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish

June  
2020

From Our Pastor...

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AND US

On Sunday, May 31st, the church will celebrate the Day of Pentecost. This liturgical festival commemorates the giving of the Holy Spirit to 120 followers of Jesus enabling them to share the gospel in multiple languages in order for the gospel to reach the ends of the world. This event of the giving of the Holy Spirit is sometimes referred to as the “birth” of the church, although the continuance of the ministry begun by Jesus happened immediately following Jesus’ death and resurrection, and did not delay until fifty days later. The celebration of Pentecost focuses more on the manner in which now the Spirit empowers and enables the witness of the gospel to reach further than it had been able to before.

The writers of the New testament present a multifaceted understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit. For the writer of Luke/Acts, the Holy Spirit is the presence of God’s power following Jesus’ resurrection, given to believers enabling them to bear witness to the gospel and to the faith in word and deed. The Spirit is the power that both gives faith and allows for its movement out into the world. The writer of John often refers to the Spirit as the “paraclete.” This word contains multitudes. It literally means one who walks along the side of another, and therefore is representative of one who is comforter, helper, consoler, advocate. Here, the Spirit takes on the role manifestly displayed by Jesus himself in his earthly

ministry.

The Apostle Paul understood the Holy Spirit as guide and intercessor on our behalf, and bestowing upon us “spiritual gifts”, supporting believers in prayer and action. It is the Holy Spirit that gives us the courage and the fortitude to bear witness to the gospel of Christ Jesus in all circumstances, no matter the difficulty or danger. It is the Holy Spirit that enables us to understand who we really are before God and our Lord Jesus, and helps us in strength and weakness. Paul noted in Romans 8:11- “If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.”

But in times like we are now experiencing with the COVID-19 viral pandemic, and all the issues and uncertainties raised, we can look to the guidance and the intercessions that the Holy Spirit to help us through. All the questions of why and who and how and when are absorbed by the Holy Spirit in order to guide and help us in our discernments, discussions, and decisions. Rather than a focus on self-assertions and personal preferences and opinions that may not be in accord with God’s will, the Holy Spirit will step in in times of our uncertainty to direct our needs before God and guide us into thoughts and behaviors reflective of the gospel of Jesus. Paul asserted in Romans 8:26-27- “Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for

**Parish Pastor**  
**Pastor John Yost**

### Staff Members Of CULC

- **Margie Dunkle**, Secretary/Asst. Treasurer
- **Dianne Shuck**, Treasurer
- **Cliff Valentine**, Financial Recording Secretary
- **Loretta Martin**, Housekeeping

### Council Members of CULC

- **Lee Spangler**, President & Facilities & Administration
- **Dave Murray**, Vice President & Inreach
- **Barry Spangler**, Council & Recording Secretary, & Inreach
- **Dianne Shuck**, Treasurer
- **Pearl Gemberling**, Outreach
- **Doug Gemberling**, Outreach
- **Linda Smith**, Inreach
- **Maurice Clouser**, Facilities & Administration
- **Joe Dressler**, Outreach
- **Kim Blyler**, Facilities & Admin  
Phone: 570-922-1860  
Email: culc@dejazzd.com

### Parish Council Members

- **Lee Spangler**, (CULC) President
- **Jim Schwartz**, (FELC) Vice President
- **Sue Jows**, (FELC) Secretary
- **Drew Christy**, (CULC) Treasurer
- **Dianne Shuck**, CULC
- **Kim Sawyer**, FELC

### Staff Members of FELC

- **Diane Scott**, Director of Music
- **Heather Klose**, Church Administrator
- **Cher Girton**, Assistant Church Administrator
- **Hank Dorman**, Sexton
- **Loretta Martin**, Housekeeping

### Council Members of FELC

- **Linda Skinner**, Council President
- **TBD**, Vice President
- **Gloria Mincemoyer**, Treasurer
- **Logan Bartlett**, Secretary -Y
- **Ann Beckley**, Council
- **Sue Jows**, Council
- **Libby Loss**, Council
- **Jane Moore**, Council
- **Sherri Neece**, Council
- **Kim Sawyer**, Council
- **Jim Schwartz**, Council  
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words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”

As the church, we have experienced numerous changes in the last few months. We have not been able to gather together in person for worship, and other church activities have been altered. “Virtual” has taken on new meaning and new proliferation. Each of us is called to invoke the presence and the guidance of the Holy Spirit to guide and direct us faithfully in the discernments and decisions we make as individuals and as the church. It is in and through the power and the presence of the gift of the Holy Spirit that will enable us to “see” and “live” a new day of hope.

That said, the congregational council of Christ’s United Lutheran has decided that in-person worship services will begin June 7th in accordance with government mandates and guidelines, limiting attendance to twenty-five (25), wearing facial masks, and maintaining social distancing. Worship experiences will be offered twice a week, Sunday at 8:30 AM and Thursday at 7:00 PM.

The congregational council of First Evangelical Lutheran will meet Wednesday, June 3rd to discuss and discern the timing and procedures of a return to in-person worship at FELC. Stay tuned and pray with and for your congregational leaders.

Worship will continue to be videotaped and will be made available on each congregation’s website and Facebook page.

Weekly Bible Studies have also resumed in-person. All are welcome, for throughout life we remain students of the Lord and of scripture.

Please share your thoughts, questions and concerns: prjohnyost@gmail.com or 570-837-9232.

Sharing the peace and love of Christ, Pastor John

*Blessings,  
Dr. John*

## First Lutheran Scholarships

Applications for the Wehr Memorial Scholarship & the Munson Memorial Scholarship are available in the office for students who have completed three semesters of college courses. Deadline for submission is August 1st.

### June Bible Study Schedule

| <u>Monday</u> | <u>Tuesday</u> | <u>Wednesday</u> |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| 10:30 a.m.    | 10:30 a.m.     | 7:00 p.m.        |
| <u>CULC</u>   | <u>FELC</u>    | <u>CULC</u>      |
| June 1        | June 2         | -----            |
| June 8        | June 9         | June 10          |
| June 15       | June 16        | June 17          |
| June 22       | June 23        | June 24          |
| June 29       | June 30        |                  |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Winifred Aikey<br/>The Baker Family<br/>Jan Beckley<br/>Dennis Boop<br/>Jim &amp; Florence Boop<br/>Roger Dunkle<br/>Mike Flickinger<br/>Doug &amp; Pearl Gemberling<br/>Barbara Grimooris<br/>Gary Hackenberg &amp;<br/>Hackenberg Family<br/>Dustin Kline<br/>Dr. Bill &amp; Ethel Musser<br/>Eric Powell &amp; Family<br/>Sam &amp; Ethel Schnure</p> | <p><b>In Our Prayers:</b></p> <p>Ken Smith<br/>John Snook<br/>Wanda Stamm<br/>Meda Struble<br/>Helen Troup<br/>Ed Wagner</p> <p><b><u>In Our Military:</u></b><br/>Thaddeus Miller<br/>Zachary Miller</p> <p><b><u>Our Shut-Ins:</u></b><br/>Jim &amp; Jan Beckley<br/>Jim &amp; Florence Boop</p> | <p>Carolyn Bowersox<br/>Shirley Diehl<br/>Barbara Grimooris<br/>Joan Herman<br/>Pat Korman<br/>Betty Lauf<br/>Georgie Linke<br/>Betty Loudenslager<br/>Dr. Bill &amp; Ethel Musser<br/>Helen Pirone<br/>Richard Schnure<br/>Marie VonNeida<br/>Connie Wagner<br/>Hertha Wehr</p> |
|---|--|--|

**Happy Anniversary**

|                           |       |          |                          |       |          |
|---------------------------|-------|----------|--------------------------|-------|----------|
| Terry & Sally Kline       | 06/02 | 41 Years | David & Linda Swartz     | 06/20 | 33 Years |
| Lee & Kathy Spangler      | 06/02 | 41 Years | John & Sherri Uehling    | 06/20 | 33 Years |
| James & Jan Beckley       | 06/08 | 63 Years | Ray & Gloria Mincemoyer  | 06/22 | 62 Years |
| Bob & Eve Rantz           | 06/08 | 52 Years | Vernon & Ruth Gessner    | 06/24 | 53 Years |
| Tim & Tiffany Spencer     | 06/11 | 9 Years  | Tom & Bonnie Greeney     | 06/24 | 32 Years |
| Doug & Pearl Gemberling   | 06/15 | 18 Years | Sam & Ethel Schnure      | 06/24 | 59 Years |
| Timothy & Carol Klose     | 06/15 | 24 Years | Richard & Karen Troutman | 06/24 | 48 Years |
| William & Helen Donmoyer  | 06/18 | 43 Years | Joe & Stacey Veley       | 06/25 | 32 Years |
| Michael & Ann Beckley     | 06/20 | 33 Years | William & Ethel Musser   | 06/28 | 67 Years |
| Maurice & Barbara Clouser | 06/20 | 61 Years |                          |       |          |

|                      |       |                    |       |                    |       |
|----------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Bonnie Greeney       | 06/01 | Karen Adams        | 06/08 | Darlene Ulrich     | 06/19 |
| Janice Dieffenderfer | 06/02 | Tony Masterson     | 06/08 | Megan Mensch       | 06/20 |
| June Ocker           | 06/02 | Carol Miller       | 06/08 | Karen Boyer        | 06/21 |
| Denver Clouser       | 06/03 | Sherri Uehling     | 06/08 | Dion Kline         | 06/22 |
| Michael Keister      | 06/03 | Trena Zeller       | 06/09 | Susannah Rayburn   | 06/22 |
| Colbie Loss          | 06/03 | Janet Hileman      | 06/10 | Logan Kuba         | 06/23 |
| Vernon Gessner       | 06/04 | Spencer Harvey     | 06/11 | Joe Dressler       | 06/24 |
| Randy Harvey         | 06/04 | Dustin Kline       | 06/11 | Carol Klose        | 06/24 |
| Diane Shuck          | 06/04 | Latisha Spigelmyer | 06/11 | Debra Parker       | 06/25 |
| Daniel Crossland     | 06/05 | Benjamin Hornig    | 06/13 | Richard Stees      | 06/25 |
| Wanda Stamm          | 06/05 | Debbie Dauberman   | 06/16 | Tom Watters        | 06/25 |
| Andy Stahl           | 06/07 | Jayden Zimmerman   | 06/16 | Douglas Gemberling | 06/29 |
|                      |       | Karen Troutman     | 06/17 | Jed Loss           | 06/29 |
|                      |       | Sherri Klauger     | 06/18 | Jim Sanders        | 06/29 |
|                      |       | Dennis Wagner      | 06/18 | Pat Smith          | 06/29 |
|                      |       | Nathan Harvey      | 06/19 | Lindsey Snyder     | 06/30 |
|                      |       | Jacob Marshall     | 06/19 |                    |       |



### **Clayton Reed - Mifflinburg Area High School Class of 2020**

Clayton plans to attend Millersville University to study sociology and criminology. He's also going to be competing on the wrestling team there as well.

### **Sarah Alexander - Juniata College Class of 2020**

Sarah has accepted a position as a Middle School Science teacher in Illinois. She will be teaching 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and living with her grandparents, as well as working in the same school district as her aunt and cousins!

### **Daniel Crossland - Saint Joseph's University Class of 2020**

Daniel is joining the Peace Corps! He will be an English Teaching Assistant in Columbia. The plan was to leave September 12<sup>th</sup> but that has been pushed back to October at the earliest.

### **Samantha Orren - Lock Haven University Class of 2020**

Samantha completed her Undergraduate degree and already began her Physician Assistant studies last week.

### **Elizabeth Shuck - Mifflinburg Area High School Class of 2020**

Elizabeth plans to attend LPN school to study nursing.

