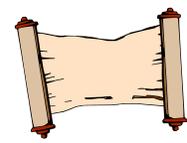


Parish Parchment



The Mountain Grove Lutheran Parish
The Reverend Christine Kirchner, Pastor
1558 Rock Glen Road
Bloomsburg, PA 17815-9207
July 2019

Return Service Requested



This newsletter is sent with a prayer for...

The Mountain Grove Lutheran Parish Newsletter

News and Information About Emanuel, Saint Peter's,
and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Churches

Rev. Christine Kirchner, Pastor

July 2019

Phone: 570-384-4125

E-mail: mglp@frontier.com or pastorkirchner@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT OF MOUNTAIN GROVE LUTHERAN PARISH

"To spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a ministry of worship and outreach"



O Lord, we pray that the visitation of your grace may so cleanse our thoughts and minds that your Son Jesus, when he shall come, may find in us a fit dwelling place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PASTORS PAGE

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For our outreach project this summer, we have adopted Camp Mt. Luther counselor, Tori Callahan. To help you get to know Tori better, I sat down with her while I was serving as a camp chaplain to see what she likes about camp and why camp is important to her. Tori is about to start her senior year at Bridgewater College in Virginia, where she is majoring in sociology and communication. Tori is planning on going to seminary to become a pastor after she graduates.

Q What are you doing at Camp Mt. Luther this summer?

A I am the director of TLC - transportation, life guarding, and counselor support.

Q What is your favorite part of camp?

A I really like the all-camp activities that we do. It is a chance for the whole camp to work together and bond. At camp we practice small group camping [spending most of the time as a cabin group] and all-camp activities give the younger and older kids a chance to bond that they wouldn't normal have. I also love being creative in planning the all camp activities and figuring out what the kids would like to do. They like going all over the camp and traveling to places their counselors don't normally get to take them.

Q Why do you think that camp is important?

A Camp is important because it allows kids to learn about God in ways that are fun. A lot of times kids hear in church that they can't play and need to be quiet, but at camp they can learn about God while running in the field or swimming in the pool or dancing. It is also important for kids to be out in nature and build communities within their groups. I still talk to some of the campers I grew up with even though we don't see each other at camp anymore. The bonds last a lifetime.

Q How has camp influenced your call to ministry?

A I grew up with the idea that learning about God can be fun through VBS and playing in the church activity room. But I hadn't known worship to be fun. At camp, I learned how worship can be fun – especially through prayer. At camp we learn all sorts of different prayers and ways to pray. I learned that praying doesn't have to be super formal.

Camp is also where I feel closest to God. At camp we ask each other the question, "Where did you see God today?" This question has helped me to understand that God is everywhere, not just at church. This question also helped me realize that other people my age were having the same questions about God and faith. Camp provided a place where I could talk about things that were scary and ask hard questions that I might not feel comfortable asking in church. I learn through doing things and talking things out, and camp was really helpful in learning about God.

Thank you for your support of Tori and Camp Mount Luther. As you can see from Tori's answers, camp is a wonderful way for kids to learn about and deepen their faith.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Christine



Families & friends of:

Also: Jerry Bodman, Don Bower (Susie Spudes), Kim & Hailey Boysha, Wyatt Laubach (friends of Diane Derr's Aid), John Bower (Susie Spudes), Lucele Slusser (Ruth Diehl's sister), Kathy Schell, Shirley Oxenrider (Susie Spudes), Don Kelchner, Annabelle Davis, Dave Demshock Sr (Nancy Lawrence's brother-in-law), Allison Jumper (Susie Spudes), Janet Matyas, Emery Tweehues (Susie Spudes), Annette Hoffman (Nancy Chulock's cousin), Beverly J Michael, Jimmy Denoia (Ray & Nancy Chulock's brother-in-law), Olivia (Kathy Brior), Patsy Millard, Doris Schell, Robert Hunsinger Sr (Sharon Hartzell's Dad), Robyn & Dick Baker, Carol & Debbie Chyko, young people of our congregation. Please pray for all the people of MGLP, especially: those in need of healing; those suffering from chronic health issues; & members who are confined to their homes or long-term care facilities.

UPDATES: Sharon Hartzell at 384-4107 or shartzell@ptd.net

-----PLEASE REVIEW PRAYER LIST AND UPDATE AS NECESSARY-----



Outreach Project

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Hiawatha Sunday offering. We collected \$200 for camp scholarships! If you did not get a chance to contribute and would like to, we will continue to collect money for Camp Mount Luther throughout the summer. The second part of our outreach project is the adoption of camp counselor Tori Callahan. There are three ways we will support Tori this summer. The first and most important is to pray daily for Tori this summer. The second is to send her cards or notes of encouragement at Camp Mount Luther. Lastly there is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for a care package we will be sending her. If you have any questions, please ask Pastor Christine. Cards can be sent to
Tori Callahan
355 Mt. Luther Ln.
Mifflinburg, PA 17844
If there's any questions, please contact
Pastor Christine.

Adult Bible Study



There will be a four-week bible study from July 11-Aug. 1. We will meet every Thursday during that time at 7pm at St. Peter. All are welcome to attend.
If you have any questions, ask Pastor Christine.



Thank you!
A big thank you to everyone who helped with our Hiawatha Sunday, especially Brenda for organizing and Cheech and Jelly for driving. It was a great day!

Prayer Ventures for July 2019

- 1** Give praise and glory to God for the wonders of nature, the diversity and interrelatedness of creation and the intriguing mysteries of the universe that humble and inspire us.
- 2** Through accompaniment, advocacy and awareness-raising, the Peace Not Walls campaign connects ELCA members to our companions in the Holy Land and promotes dignity, full respect for human rights and reconciliation between Palestinians and Israelis. Pray that our advocacy, new relationships and work together will lead to healing and enduring peace.
- 3** Thank God for the work and bravery of firefighters and fire crews who protect life, communities and creation, especially during the lengthening fire seasons in some regions of our nation. Pray for their safety and their physical and spiritual renewal, and for the care, support and reassurance their families need when these first responders are called away to serve.
- 4** *Independence Day* As we celebrate the gift of freedom, pray for those in our communities, our nation & our world who still experience oppression, persecution or inequality. Ask for God's forgiveness for the ways which we deliberately/unconsciously exert or support control over others for our own benefit or advantage; pray that we might exercise our freedom responsibly & compassionately for the well-being of all people.
- 5** Today marks the centennial of the first documented Lutheran camp in the United States, a summer camp in Pennsylvania that involved youth in healthful outdoor activities and equipped them for leadership in the church. Praise God for the rich history of our camps and for all the ways Lutheran outdoor ministries have grown to serve people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds, impacting congregational life and mission, nurturing leaders and sharing the gospel in a changing world.
- 6** Cyclones Idai and Kenneth hit Mozambique this past spring, affecting 2 million people, killing over 750 and leaving devastation. Pray for the people affected, their recovery and the relief effort being conducted by Lutheran Disaster Response in partnership with the Lutheran World Federation, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique and ACT Alliance.
- 7** Pray that together we might respond with enthusiasm as God sends us into communities and the wider world to care for the needs of our neighbor and share the good news of Jesus Christ. Ask that the Spirit sustain and encourage us no matter how we are received or how difficult the work may be.
- 8** Remember in prayer the work of leaders, volunteers & planning teams preparing for the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering, a meeting of youth & their adult leaders for learning, worship, Bible study, service & fellowship through which young people grow in faith & are challenged & inspired to live out faith in daily life.
- 9** Pray for our church to be determined and tireless in advocating for common-sense gun laws and actions that will help prevent gun violence. Pray that our communities of faith might remember those who have lost their lives to gun violence, attend to grieving families and friends, and bring hope and healing to survivors experiencing fear, anger, anxiety, depression and other lingering symptoms of trauma.
- 10** Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem is owned and operated by the Lutheran World Federation and supported by the ELCA. Pray for our federal government to release the funding approved for Augusta Victoria Hospital and the other members of the East Jerusalem Hospital Network so they can continue their lifesaving health care ministries in the Holy Land.
- 11** Praise God, make joyful noise, sing glory of God's name & "say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!'"
- 12** Remember in prayer the work of the Rev. Janelle Neubauer, YAGM country coordinator, and the seven young people serving in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program with the Lutheran Church of Rwanda in the areas of parish ministry, vocational training for youth, women's ministry, education and community organizing.
- 13** Pray that the Spirit will guide us — especially the "family of faith" — in how best to support, encourage and care for one another, that we will be faithful servants and witnesses in the world and "not grow weary in doing what is right."
- 14** Ask the Holy Spirit to help us understand the meaning and relevance of Jesus' parables. Pray that we hear and put into action Jesus' urging for us to care for our neighbor, especially those who suffer in poverty, hunger and illness, and strangers who are unfamiliar or different from us.

15 Remember in prayer our newly elected synod bishops, that they will be inspired, equipped and sustained in faith and wisdom for serving the church and its leaders in an ever-changing world.

16 Amid the temptations, distractions and pressures of daily life, ask God to teach us the ways, paths and truths that are pleasing to God, and to guide us to be mindful of our neighbor's well-being and wholeness.

17 Pray for neighboring congregations and churches, that we, united in the one body of Christ, will strengthen and encourage one another for growing the church and, with the help of the Spirit, cultivate love, mercy, justice, hope and peace in the world.

18 Remember in prayer the six young people working alongside our companions in Cambodia as part of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program. Remember also Stephanie Olson, YAGM country coordinator, and the Rev. Phillip Baker, ELCA regional representative for Cambodia, as they work with our global companions to grow the emerging Lutheran Church in Cambodia and prepare pastors, economic development, health care and disaster response.

19 Give thanks for leaders, teachers & brothers & sisters in Christ who help us understand God's will, guide us studying Scripture, strengthen faith & wisdom, & encourage us to bear witness to God's love & mercy.

20 Pray for empathy, compassion & wisdom in our conversations & actions addressing gun violence, recognizing that no act of violence occurs in a vacuum & that a variety of social factors & human contexts, including mental illness, poverty, substance abuse, hatred & despair, influence committing of violent acts.

21 Amid daily busyness and work, pause to pray and recall all that God has done and is doing for the sake of all humanity, and listen for what God is asking us to be and do in the world.

22 *Mary Magdalene, Apostle* Pray that we can emulate Mary Magdalene, a disciple of Jesus who witnessed the empty tomb & followed an angel's instructions to go tell others of Jesus' resurrection. Ask God to stir our faith, courage & willingness to share life-changing news of a risen Christ with everyone we encounter.

23 Ask the Spirit to revitalize, embolden and guide synods, their congregations and their leaders as they live into and implement decisions and actions resulting from their synod assemblies.

24 God can do amazing and miraculous things, such as fulfilling a promise to Abraham and Sarah that they would bear a child in their old age. Praise God's creative, boundless power and ask that we might be alert and open to how God stretches our faith, imagination and understanding of what's possible.

25 Give thanks for the work of ELCA Racial Justice Ministries in proclaiming our belief that Christ's church is for all people, and for helping the church confront racism, exclusion and violence and move toward fairness and justice in the church and society.

26 Remember in prayer the 10 young people working alongside our companions in Mexico as part of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program. Remember also the Rev. Meghan Brown Saavedra, YAGM country coordinator, and the Rev. David and Alicia Brondos, ELCA missionaries teaching at the Seminario Luterano Augsburgiano in Mexico City.

27 Pray for those involved in planning and preparing the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee, and for congregations, synods, voting members and leaders who will share their faith, wisdom, concerns and recommendations for strengthening & furthering our participation in God's reconciling work in the world.

28 Give thanks that God is attentive and responsive to us. Pray that we will never be timid about bringing to God our every matter, need, hope, question, sorrow and joy.

29 Pray that we will be moved by God's love and impartiality to extend hospitality and acceptance to our neighbor, especially those who are in need, are strangers to us or are disregarded by society.

30 Give thanks for the fullness of life we have in Christ through faith, & the light & truth of the gospel & God's grace dwelling in us will transform us so we convey hope to the world & love & serve our neighbor.

31 *United Nations World Day Against Trafficking in Persons* Human trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation is a global issue affecting every nation. Women and girls account for almost three-quarters of all trafficking victims. Pray that the ELCA, our congregations and communities continue to work to end human trafficking, care for survivors and address root causes of trafficking, such as poverty, hunger and sexism.



July Babies

07/01 Jane Troy
07/03 Helen Longenberger
Linda Matyas
07/06 Don Book
Betty Beishline
07/07 David Diehl
07/08 Lisa Modlesky
Sheryl Kepping
07/10 Janet Cool
07/11 Drew Gearhart
07/14 Janet Kepping
07/23 Jill Bankes
Lee Rupert
Sharon Hartzell
07/26 Madelyn Huff
07/31 James Yurick



July Anniversaries

07/03 Marie & Allen Hons
07/17 Bruce & Judy Brown
07/18 Charlotte & Bob Thomas
07/23 Mark & Sharon Hartzell

Emanuel Worship Service Schedule for July

10:15 on July 7th & 21st

10:45 on July 14th & 28th

Loose Change will be collected for AGAPE.
on July 14th & 28th

Coffee Klatch will be held July 14 at 10:00am

Pastor contact info:

The Rev. Christine Kirchner

Contact info: pastorkirchner@gmail.com

808-652-6740 or 570-384-4125

Emanuel's volunteer for Heat/AC &
Communion for July is
Cheech & Jelly
Ushers are Peg & Brenda