

THE Journey

Pastor's Letter



By Pastor Ben Golisch

Wages

Typically, around here, college students graduate in May and high school students graduate in June. Both look for jobs—either for the summer or for their profession. This got me to thinking about wages, and the various way wages come up in Scripture.

The subject first comes up in Genesis. Uncle Laban made a deal with Jacob to work for seven years for his daughter Rachel's hand in marriage. On their wedding day, Laban pulled a switcheroo and substituted older sister Leah instead. Then he convinced Jacob to work another seven years for Rachel as well. After those fourteen year, Jacob agreed to actual wages for his shepherding skill. After six years of this, Jacob bemoaned, *"You know that I've worked for your father with all my strength, yet your father has cheated me by changing my wages ten times."* (And you thought your boss was bad!) But he adds, *"However, God has not allowed him to harm me."* (Genesis 31:6-7) It was the Lord who was faithful and blessed him.

In Leviticus 19, as the Lord shared examples of how to keep the Commandments, he declared, *"Do not defraud or rob your neighbor,"* and *"Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight."* (:13) Since day laborers depended on what they earned each day to feed themselves and their families,

withholding wages could mean that the family could go hungry. The Lord was looking out for the welfare and justice of the laborer.

The Lord says something similar in Deuteronomy 24:15, *"Pay them their wages each day before sunset, because they are poor and are counting on it. Otherwise, they may cry to the LORD against you, and you will be guilty of sin."* Even today, employers should still pay their employees at the agreed upon time.

To do otherwise is to take advantage of them and pervert justice.

In 1 Kings 5, King Solomon makes a deal with Hiram, king of Tyre regarding the felling of timber in Lebanon. *"My men will work with yours, and I will pay you for your men whatever wages you set."* (:6) A fair wage for fair work!

There are three Proverbs, all metaphors:

"The wages of the righteous is life, but the earnings of the wicked are sin and death." (10:16)

"A wicked person earns deceptive wages, but the one who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward." (11:18)

"Humility is the fear of the LORD; its wages are riches and honor and life." (22:4)

CONTINUED

Pastor's Letter (Continued)

Wages were mentioned in connection with Israel's unfaithfulness: *"Do not rejoice, Israel; do not be jubilant like the other nations. For you have been unfaithful to your God; you love the **wages** of a prostitute at every threshing floor,"* (Hosea 9:1) and *"All her idols will be broken to pieces; all her temple gifts will be burned with fire; I will destroy all her images. Since she gathered her gifts from the **wages** of prostitutes, as the **wages** of prostitutes they will again be used"* (Micah 1:7).

In the book of Haggai, the Lord chastises his remnant for not learning from their earlier mistakes. *"Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn **wages**, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."* (1:5-6).

In the New Testament, Jesus told the parable of the wages. He hired different workers at different hours of the day and gave each their day's wage. Some cried foul because they worked all day in the heat of the sun and still received the same wage. The Landowner (representing God) answered, *"I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your **pay** and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?"* (Matthew 20:13-15) In the same way, we should not be jealous or resentful of those who come to faith later in life. Instead, rejoice over the Lord's generosity and grace.

Jesus also reassured his disciples, *"The worker deserves his **wages**,"* (Luke 10:7) meaning that those who benefit from the preaching of the gospel should support those preachers. It's also why we pay our pastors.

Then there was Judas who bemoaned the perfume used to anoint Jesus prior to Holy Week.

*"Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's **wages**"* (John 12:5). However, Scripture also tells us that he didn't say this out of concern for the poor but because he was a thief and wanted it for himself.

Perhaps the passage about wages used most often comes from Paul's letter to the Romans. *"For the **wages** of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (6:23). Yes, what we earn before God is death. But our gracious and generous God sent Jesus to give us the gift of eternal life. For that we are most thankful!



**Do you know a 2024 graduate
(High School or College) and
would like to send a little shout
out to them?**

Send their Name (First/Last),
School, and Future Plans to
Julie Hang (julie.a.hang@gmail.com)
or *Stephanie Volkman*
(mia.hillcrest@gmail.com)
by June 15 and we'll get it
into the next Newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Worship Opportunities

SUMMER SCHEDULE started May 26: Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and Sundays, one service at 9:00am.
BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES listed below.

Monthly - Worship / Preachers / Themes

June Worship

- May 30 + June 2 = Understanding the Sabbath (*Pastor Ben Golisch*)
- June 6 + 9 = God's Kingdom Grows and Bears Fruit (*Seminarian Parker Brown*)
- June 13 + 16 = Victory in Place of Defeat (*Pastor Ben Golisch*)
- June 20 + 23 = The Lord Speaks Even in the Storm (*Pastor Loren Lucht*)
- June 27 + 30 = Living in the Shadow of Death (*Pastor Ed Frey*)

Worship notes:

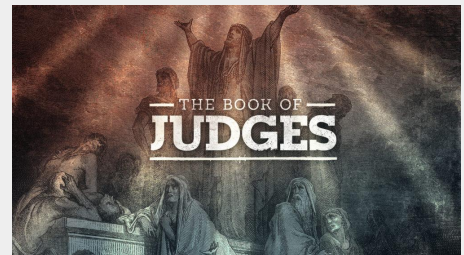
May 26, we moved to our summer schedule and only ONE SUNDAY SERVICE at 9:00am.

Our first-year seminary student, Parker Brown, will preach his first sermon here June 6 & 9. While Pastor Golisch is on vacation, we have two guest pastors. Pastor Lucht has been here many times, and we enjoy having him. Pastor Frey is from Institutional Ministries and specializes in counseling.

Bible Classes

JUDGES, WEDNESDAYS: 10:30-11:30am in the Commons

In May we began a new study: the book of Judges. Who are the twelve Judges? Why are they called Judges? What pattern did Israel settle into at this time? What were the immediate and lasting consequences? What additional surprises are found in this book? And how does it remain relevant to us today? All these questions will be answered in due time. (I have often said that we are living in a modern version of the Judges: we have no king, and everyone does as they see fit.)



This summer, we're going to try something new and see where it goes. The second Monday of each month (June 10, July 8, and August 12), we will hold an informal Bible study in the Commons called "Supper with the Savior." A light supper will be served, we'll read the Bible together and discuss things in a conversational way. We'll meet for one hour, from 6:00-7:00pm. Watch for a sign-up sheet.

Wish List & Improvements Updates

- Perhaps by the time you read this, the Stained-glass window project should be completed. At the time this was written, we were still waiting for stage one of the project: the removal of the old plexiglass and the installation of the new framework. Stage two is the precise measuring and fabrication of the glass panels. Stage three will be this installation of those panels.
- At this month's budget meeting, we hope to start setting aside funds for some future projects. We'll report more next month. Otherwise, the next key wish list project is the altar lighting. Almost \$7,000 has been donated to that project. We will revisit what we'd like to do and the cost in the near future.

Membership Updates

Adult Confirmation: Matt Bernhardt

Youth Confirmation: Gavin Balkevich,
Alexis Gerlach, Casey Jacklin

Transfer Out: Bob & Gloria Lukasiewicz to
Bethany, Ft. Atkinson, WI

Removals: Ben Dornacker, Erin Dornacker,
Stephanie Herdendorf & Brynn, Kyle
Meissner & Asher, Ryan Meissner &
Maxwell, Sullivan; James Neu, Rebekah
Seidel, and Matthew & Jenny Shattuck and
family. NOTE: The removals were all
inactive members currently living outside
our immediate area. They were contacted
twice with encouragement and did not
respond. Please keep them in your prayers.

Church Mortgage Progress and Update

- As of May 1, 2024 our church mortgage balance stands at \$637,019.72
- Our monthly loan payment is \$5,454.00

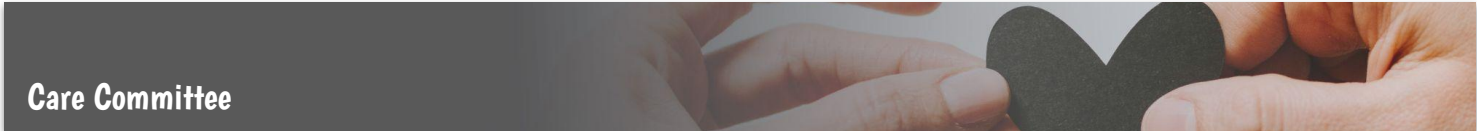
Due to the great generosity of our congregational members, who use the red special offering envelopes to apply a monetary gift towards the principal reduction, we have seen a rapid decline in our loan liability.

- December 2023 an additional \$1,775.00
- January 2024 we received an additional \$975.00
- February 2024 we received an additional \$1,045.00
- March 2024 we received an additional \$1,425.00
- April 2024 we received an additional \$1,515.00

Many thanks to all who continue to bless our church with these gifts. Our congregation is truly blessed.



Golf Team: St. Paul's golf team is off to a hot start. After three weeks, we are tied for third place. We play Tuesday evening at West Bend Lakes. It's a lot of fun and some good exercise. And contrary to Mark Twain, it is not a good walk ruined. We rather enjoy it.



Care Committee

It’s hard to believe June is here! Wow, how fast the time goes! With the warm summer months, it’s a great time to invest in yardwork, socializing, and enjoy the start of the summer season! Life gets busy. Our days can be filled with things we want to do, things we ought to do, and things we need to do. One thing that can help us see new opportunities is where we place our focus. Invest time now to focus on what is really important, God and his love and saving grace. It is with this mindset we can accomplish so much together! Let our St. Paul Care Committee be an opportunity to support you, and open the door for you to support others.

Our Care Committee is comprised of members of our St. Paul congregation. We meet once a month and work together to keep our St. Paul family connected. Our purpose is to visit those considered “shut in” and unable to come to church on their own. Our visits are not limited to shut-ins; we also visit those who are recovering from health issues, or those who may need encouragement and prayers. We stay connected through phone calls and dropping a card in the mail. We continue to be blessed with positive responses and messages of

appreciation from those we talk with and send cards to. It is an awesome feeling to make such a difference with such a small effort.


Our role as a Care Committee is to serve as a conduit, to stay connected and share resources from church such as Meditations, *Forward in Christ*, the monthly newsletter, among other prayers and devotions. In doing so, this helps to bridge potential gaps to God’s Word that can happen over time as we face new life challenges. The Bible tells us, “*The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God endures forever*” (**Isaiah 40:8**). So as the seasons of life change for us, as well as those we love and care about, we remain strong and comforted by God’s Word, and by one another!

If you or someone you know would appreciate a visit, a conversation, a card or a prayer, please contact the church office. We invite you to stop in and join us at any time. Our next meeting will take place on Saturday, June 15th, 2024 at 9:00am in the CFC Commons (Fireside room). **For questions or more information about the committee please contact Mrs. Terri Garbers at 262-305-2894.**



2024 WELS Night at the Brewers


Friday, July 12, 2024



CHRISTIAN LIFE RESOURCES
— FOR LIFE • FOR FAMILY —

Christian Life Resources' Branch Updates

Bottles are due back on Father’s Day June 16th. All funds collected support the New Beginnings Home for single mothers, located in Milwaukee. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Branch Chairman – Glenn Blank.



Monthly Puzzle

Unscramble the below words. See page 9 for the answers.

VNIILG

HDRSHPEE

SCROS

OCAPIRLM

NRYOHMA

NVISIO

OVSAIR

OSTAPR

TTERISANUMNL

REATW

ENRBSAHC

NJEU

OTCPIAOLS

GTHLI

ODFO

Bible Trivia

Test your Bible knowledge with a little Bible trivia. See page 9 for the answers.

1. Fill in the blanks for part of the Great Commission:

Go and _____ disciples of all nations, _____ them in the _____ of the Father and of the Son and of the ____ _____. (Matthew 28:19)

2. When studying The Lord's Prayer, how many sections are there?

3. How many books are in the Old Testament?


 Little Learners

Childcare News:

Summer is here! Last month our Bible stories and songs were centered on Jesus' Ascension, Pentecost and the disciples' ministry. These



stories and songs reminded us that God is still with us, and that God's Word helps our faith to grow. Sunshine and Rainbow groups have been learning "The Butterfly Song" and "Oh, How I love Jesus".

Some Sunshine themes last month have included, the beach, ocean, Mother's day, and water transportation. Some art included seashell painting, watercolor ocean animals, handprint sunshine painting and making a boat out of recyclables. In literacy, we read and sang movement and counting songs about the ocean, ocean animals, and boats. We also read "I'm a Manatee" and tried a seaweed snack. We made our name using sand and we played letter recognition games. We even went "fishing" for letters. In math, we practiced number recognition graphing and counting. We used a lot of math alongside science last month as we explored different ocean artifacts and sorted and counted seashells and sea stars by color, pattern, and type of shell. We learned about animals that live in shells and made little playdough animals. We weighed and counted how many objects in a boat until it sank in water sensory bins. Some favorite gross motor games included Ocean Animal Relay, Going on a Shark Hunt, and exploring and playing on the new playsets in the playground.

Some Rainbow classroom art included making tents, and "Who's in our house?" art. We enjoyed playing "camping" with our dramatic play and using shapes to build a "campfire". We sang "Out Camping We Will Go", and "Shake our Sillies Out". We practiced counting with a s'more counting activity, a camp count and clip game, and a family count and clip activity. In literacy, we read "Curious George Goes Camping" and "Our Class is a Family". We practiced marshmallow sight words. We learned some words for family members in Spanish. In Science, we enjoyed making a s'more. Yum! Some favorite gross motor activities included Red Rover and a nature bracelet walk.



Our new playground equipment was recently installed, and the kids have been so excited to try it out. We have a new tunnel to crawl through and a short rock wall to climb. New sand was also added to the sand boxes. Thank you to everyone who helped with moving all the sand into the sand boxes. We really appreciate it!

The preschool year has ended, and we would like to thank Pastor Golisch for coming every week (actually four times a week!) to share the news of their Savior with the preschool and childcare children. The children look forward to seeing Pastor each week and hearing his stories. Thank you!

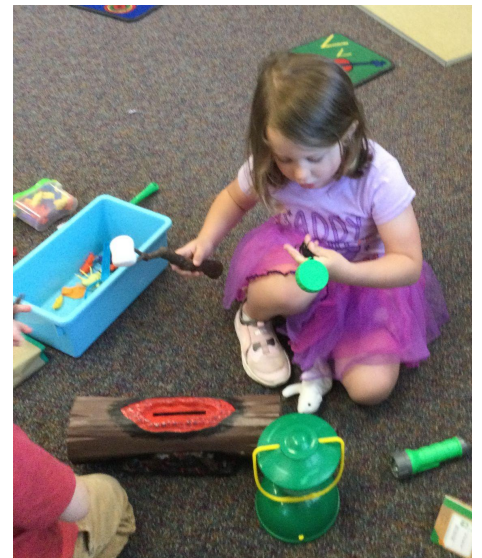

 Little Learners (Continued)

3K News:



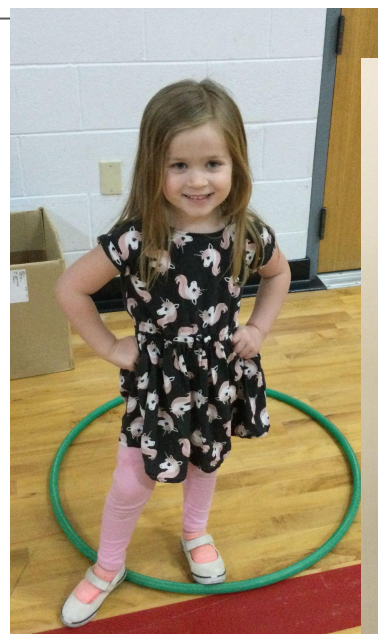
We finished our last month of 3K by observing our classroom caterpillars transform into Painted Lady Butterflies. Another classroom highlight was celebrating the school year with families during our end of the year programs. The children enjoyed

singing a few songs and eating a special ice cream snack too. Our Bible lesson theme for the month was called Let Me Learn of Jesus. We concluded our Bible lessons by talking about all of the ways that God made us special. It is so hard to believe that the school year is over! It has been so wonderful to see how the 3K students have grown academically, socially and spiritually this school year. God's blessings.
-Mrs. Herbst



4K News:

We finished up our school year by studying insects! We watched caterpillars turn into butterflies right in our classroom! We made butterfly life cycle pictures and talked about the parts of an insect. Our dramatic play area was full of summer fun - fishing, swimming, and camping! We made it through the alphabet and we got a chance to study our numbers in depth. Most importantly we reviewed our Bible stories and were reminded of Jesus' love for us. We made pictures of things that we would like to do and added the words "God goes with us" to it. Of all of the many things we learned this school year, knowing that Jesus loves and cares for us was the most important thing of all! -Mrs. Hennen



Monthly Puzzle Answer

VNIILG	LIVING
HDRSHPEE	SHEPHERD
SCROS	CROSS
OCAPIRLM	PROCLAIM
NRYOHMA	HARMONY
NVISIO	VISION
OVSAIR	SAVIOR
OSTAPR	PASTOR
TTERRISANUMNL	INSTRUMENTAL
REATW	WATER
ENRBSAHC	BRANCHES
NJEU	JUNE
OTCPAOLS	APOSTOLIC
GTHLI	LIGHT
ODFO	FOOD

Bible Trivia Answers

1. Fill in the blanks for part of our Confession of Sins:
Go and **make** disciples of all nations, **baptizing** them in the **name** of the Father and of the Son and of the **Holy Spirit**. (Matthew 28:19)
2. 9: The Address, 7 different Petitions and the Doxology
3. 39 books are in the Old Testament

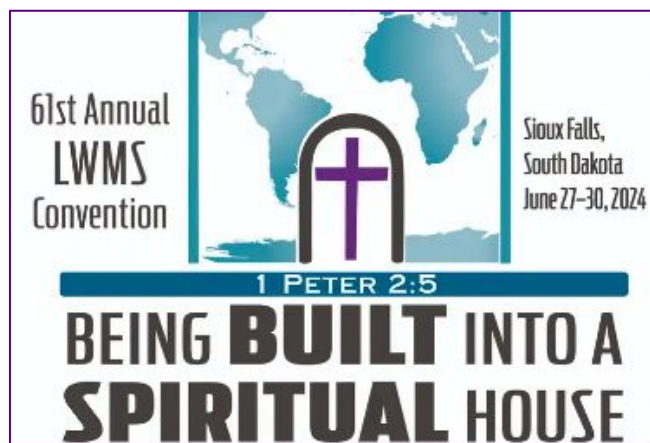
Member Recipes

Is there a dish you bring to church functions and people have asked you for the recipe? Or just have a favorite recipe that didn't make it into the 150th Anniversary Cookbook? We'd like to share some recipes each month as space allows, so please email me at julie.a.hang@gmail.com or Stephanie Volkmann at mia.hillcrest@gmail.com with the recipe that you think might be a good fit to share with our church family. ~ Julie Hang

Upcoming Events Around the Area



Taste of Missions is an annual family-friendly event, held at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wis., and online, to give all WELS members a "taste of missions," no matter their location around the world.



WELS International Youth Rally

June 25 – 28, 2024

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colo.



July 15, 2024

West Bend Country Club

5858 Hwy. Z

West Bend, WI

Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

Happy Birthday!

Jun 1 Zach Hamann	Jun 8 Judith Krueger	Jun 18 Jon Rauh	Jun 27 Stephanie Volkmann
Jun 2 Olivia Zaskowski	Jun 10 Collin Bamke	Jun 19 Lucas Berndt	Jun 27 Luke Wetherall
Jun 3 Summer Cecil (Jutz)	Jun 10 Owen Zaskowski	Jun 20 Chris Epstein	Jun 28 Scott Krueger
Jun 3 Dave Metzger	Jun 12 Nancy Enderle	Jun 21 Allen Retzlaff	Jun 28 Erv Schultz
Jun 3 Alex Retzlaff	Jun 13 Shaun Zaskowski	Jun 21 Elizabeth Stuetzgen	Jun 29 Richard Piontek
Jun 4 Rachel Rongstad	Jun 15 Don Finseth	Jun 22 Al Schulz	Jun 29 Victoria Wolf
Jun 5 Morgan O'Marra	Jun 15 Barb Rauh	Jun 25 Monica Taylor	Jun 30 Jimmy Boettcher
Jun 5 Alexander Reed	Jun 16 Andrea Buboltz	Jun 26 Andree Griffin	Jun 30 Kamron Koplitz
Jun 6 Harold Eick	Jun 17 Kyle Jenks	Jun 26 Merlin Waechter	Jun 30 Grace Waechter
Jun 7 Dawn Berndt	Jun 17 Jeff Rauh	Jun 27 Sydney Ritger	

Happy Anniversary!

Jun 1 Lou and Karen Goetzinger (26)	Jun 7 Thomas and Laurel Wolf (10)	Jun 24 Kaitlyn and Nick Beversdorf (7)
Jun 5 Kyle and Kaitlin Jenks (3)	Jun 13 Scott and Lisa Meissner (20)	Jun 25 Todd and Susan Buboltz (41)
Jun 5 Adam and Sarah McLaughlin (3)	Jun 13 Gil and Janet Selle (65)	Jun 25 Ben and Sue Golisch (30)
Jun 6 Bob and Bev Stuetzgen (44)	Jun 18 Terry and Nancy Enderle (47)	Jun 29 Chad and Dawn Hron (28)
Jun 7 Rick and Sue Kohl (49)	Jun 18 Russ and Nancy Geiger (47)	Jun 29 Jeff and Barb Rauh (33)
Jun 7 Scott and Annette Krueger (27)	Jun 18 Brian and Stacey Gullickson (30)	

Contact us:

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CORRECTIONS?

Please make the office aware of any incorrect or missing information. Be sure to also inform the office of any address or phone number changes (such as cancelling your landline and using cell phone exclusively).

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The Journey newsletter is published monthly for the congregation and friends of St. Paul. Questions about any information contained in this newsletter or ideas for future articles? Contact the content coordinator.

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 2:00pm

Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays ~ 9:00am

Thursdays ~ 6:30pm

Wed. Bible Class ~ 10:30am

Adult Bible Class & Sunday
School resumes in the Fall

LITTLE LEARNERS 3K & 4K PRESCHOOL & CHILDCARE

Sharing the love of Jesus
with God's little lambs.

Lisa Meissner, Administrator

Call 262-644-8295

littlelearners@stpaulslinger.org



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 <i>Pentecost 2</i> 9:00am Worship (G)	3 4:00pm Worship Planning Committee Meeting	4 9:00am Executive Committee Meeting 5:15pm Golf League 7:00pm Budget-Election Meeting	5 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:45am Childcare Chapel 10:30am Bible Class (G) 6:00pm Sunday School Teachers Dinner	6 <i>Pentecost 3</i> 6:30pm Worship (B) (D.O. Camp Phillips) Communion	7	8 9:00am Care Committee Meeting 10:00am WELS Taste of Missions @ WLS
9 <i>Pentecost 3</i> 9:00am Worship (B) (D.O. Camp Phillips) 10:00am Summer Fellowship Communion	10 6:00pm ~Supper with the Savior~ Bible Class	11 8:00am District Convention @ WLC 5:15pm Golf League	12 8:30am District Convention @ WLC 5:00pm Choir Dinner	13 <i>Pentecost 4</i> 9:45am Childcare Chapel 6:30pm Worship (G)	14	15
16 <i>Pentecost 4</i> 9:00am Worship (G) Return of CLR Baby Bottles	17	18 5:15pm Golf League 5:45pm LL Staff Mtg	19 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:45am Childcare Chapel 10:30am Bible Class (G)	20 <i>Pentecost 5</i> 6:30pm Worship (L) Communion	21 ~Pastor Golisch ~ Vacation Begins today and concludes July 1.	22
23 <i>Pentecost 5</i> 9:00am Worship (L) Communion	24	25 5:15pm Golf League	26 8:30am Staff Meeting 9:45am Childcare Chapel	27 <i>Pentecost 6</i> 6:30pm Worship (F)	28	29
30 <i>Pentecost 6</i> 9:00am Worship (F)						

ABBREVIATION KEY: B = Seminarian Brown F = Pastor Frey Preaches G = Pastor Golisch Preaches/Leads Class L = Pastor Lucht Preaches LL = Little Learners DO = Door Offering

