

**Evangelical Lutheran
Church of Durham**

~The church on the hill, lighting the way
to God's love.~

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In May ...

- **Sunday, May 6** @ 10:30 Care-A-Lot Sunday & 200th Anniv. Committee meeting
- **Sunday, May 13** - Mother's Day and Church World Service Blankets +
- **Thursday, May 17** - Ascension Day worship at 7:30 PM
- **Sunday, May 20** - Last day of Sunday School until September
- **Sunday, May 27** - Day of Pentecost and Memorial Day Commemoration. **Wear red to Worship!**

Upcoming ...

- **Sunday, June 3** - 200th Anniversary Photograph and Luncheon
- **June 25-29** - Bear Creek Day Camp at St. Peter's

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EVANGEL MAY 2012

Guided by God's Word -

For 200 Years

Our Vision:

The church on the hill, lighting the way to God's love.

Our Mission:

As a community of faith, **firmly rooted in the love** of God through Jesus Christ, we are called to:

WORSHIP God in praise and thanksgiving
SUPPORT one another in faith and fellowship
INVITE others to receive the joyous new life God offers to all
CARE for the real human needs of our neighbors, both near and far.

"... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses. (Acts 1:8)

The great, yet sometimes forgotten, Feast of the Ascension, will be observed by Christians around the world on May 17th this year. We hear the words from Acts and Luke, that as Christ ascends into heaven, we his followers are assured that the Holy Spirit will empower us to be Good News witnesses throughout the earth.

The purpose of our gathering for worship, touching the waters of the baptismal font, receiving the Bread and Wine of Communion, praying, singing, and serving is to be empowered to take promises out into the world. We do that imperfectly, because we let fears and distractions get in the way. Yet, for 200 years, the Holy Spirit has empowered thousands of men, women, and children to be Christ's witnesses.

In 2012, as we gather each and every Sunday, as we worship on Ascension Day, and as we celebrate on June 3, our purpose and focus must always be on inviting others to receive the joyous new life God offers. In the days and months and years ahead, the Spirit will be prodding and goading us to be faithful witnesses in NEW WAYS.

Acknowledging our sin and our timidity, nevertheless we believe that the Spirit is moving us into a future of mission. Or, as Martin Luther once put it, "We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on, this is NOT the end, but it is the road." (from Luther's "Defense and Explanation of All the Articles, 2")

200 years and still counting ...

~ Pastor David M. Deal

Council Corner

I'm finding it more difficult than usual to write this month's newsletter article because we're in the midst of making so many time-critical decisions that may or may not be resolved by the time you're reading this. On April 29th the congregation will decide whether or not to do the concrete work which would have to be done before re-paving the parking lot.

There are also serious concerns about the trees whose roots are buckling the pavement. Their presence probably contributed to our recent squirrel problem, and they may be a danger to the building if roots are severed but their beauty and shade are important to us all. We are desperately trying to get everything done before the Anniversary festivities, which begin with the Ascension Day service on May 17th. We are blessed with so many people, some of them not even members of this congregation, who are willing to work so very hard to make God's house a better place. However, we are really going to need God's help and guidance to make it all happen.

We also need your help: your prayers, your input on decisions, and maybe even physical labor if we do the concrete work. Council remains short-handed, we still don't have a Treasurer, and the Finance Committee could use another member. Summer is coming with the short term, but work-intensive Vacation Bible School and Beef Roast, and of course there are the Anniversary events. If there is any way you think you could help, we'd love to have you.

Val McGinn

Council assignments for May: Lynn Gaun and Barb Naska

Next council meeting: May 8th at 6:30

The Day of Pentecost - Sunday, May 27, 2017

As we celebrate Christmas as the birthday of Jesus Christ, Pentecost is celebrated as the birthday of the Christian Church. The Jewish feast of Pentecost was celebrated 50 days after Passover, and thousands of pilgrims had come to Jerusalem from all over the world to celebrate.

The 12 apostles were gathered together in a house when a huge wind came from heaven and filled the place. They saw tongues that looked like fire, which separated and came down on each of them. Immediately the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit, who caused them to speak in tongues. The crowds of visitors each heard the apostles speaking to him or her in their own foreign language. Some accused the apostles of being drunk. The Apostle Peter stood, denying that they were drunk, since it was only 9:00 in the morning. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter explained to the crowd about Jesus Christ and God's plan of salvation. Peter told them to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins, and promised that they would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. About 3,000 people were baptized and became the roots of the Christian church on that Day of Pentecost.

A great book to read as we approach the day of Pentecost is **Francis Chan's "Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit."** In this book, Chan reminds us, "In the name of the Father, the Son, and ... the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name of all three, but how often do we live with an awareness of only the first two? As Jesus ascended into heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit—the Helper—so that we could be true and living witnesses for Christ. Unfortunately, today's church has admired the gift but neglected to open it..." "Forgotten God" is available from Hackman's and Amazon.com. **Remember to wear red on Pentecost to symbolize the flame of the Holy Spirit.**



Prayer Ministry: The annual prayer breakfast will be held Saturday May 12th at 9 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. Prayer chain members are asked to attend, but everyone is invited. We will share breakfast and fellowship while updating our prayer list and praying together for those on it.

Food: Both food banks are appreciative of our donations. Our May food is **Fruit juice and peanut butter**. Both of which the Easton food bank is out of.

The sign up sheet for donating a food basket is on the bulletin board in the narthex. With Mother's and Father's Days coming up, consider honoring a loved one with a gift that gives life.

Meeting: The topic of our April meeting was the fruits of the spirit; we used the list in Galatians and discussed each of them; then looked at a list of things we can do today to mirror those gifts.



by Helen Dungan

Our next meeting will be Thursday May 10, 2012 at 1:30 in the fellowship hall. The topic is stewardship of God's creation with a special emphasis on **responsible shopping**.

Blanket Sunday: On Mother's Day, we will be collecting money for blankets which Church World Service gives to victims of disasters. (We will also be collecting money for tools on Father's Day.) Please consider making a donation in your Mother's name; you will be honoring her and helping someone in distress.

Synod special event: The Women of the ELCA from the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be gathering on Saturday June 9, 2011 from 8:15-3:30 at St John's Lutheran Church in Phoenixville. The program is entitled Under God's Wings. There will be a business meeting as we will be electing officers. There is a fee of \$30 which includes lunch.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Thursday, May 17th at 7:30 PM

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham and the Palisades Lutheran Cluster host a special Worship Service for congregations of the Palisades Lutheran Cluster and Upper Bucks Conference of our Synod.

Preacher: Rev. Donna T. Deal

Music: Joint Choir of the Palisades Cluster

Holy Communion will be celebrated -- Fellowship after the Service



May Worship Assistants

	6	13 *	20*	27
Youth Acolyte & Communion Assistant	Matthew Mueller	Katie Aquino	Clayton Leichliter	Alaina Apgar
Greeter(s)	Jayne Miller	Helen Dungan	Helen Ballek	Leichliter Family
Lector(s)	Care-A-Lot Sunday	Barb Naska	Linda Sauter	Maggie Fisher
Council Communion Assistants & Counters	Lynn Gaun & Barb Naska	Lynn Gaun & Barb Naska	Lynn Gaun & Barb Naska	Lynn Gaun & Barb Naska
Head Usher	Robert Newcomb		* Asterisk indicates that Holy Communion will be served.	
Altar Guild	David and Linda Sauter			

	May Birthdays		May Anniversaries
1	Tim Lechlitter		
2	Frank Erceg		
4	Sara Aquino		
5	Hunter Aquino		
6	Mary Dungan - 96th!	7	Myron and LeeAnn Kressman (36th)
13	Better Kiefer- 88th!	9	Barb and Ben Naska (42nd)
15	Beth Ross	15	Harold and Gladys Nicholas (58th)
21	Joe Aquino		
23	Bethany Naska		
24	Brian Ashmore, Sr.		
25	Joel Roney	25	Sara and Joe Aquino (10th)

May Ministry Highlights - Worship, Education, Fellowship, Service

Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5 - 25th Annual Assembly of the 160+ congregations of the **Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA**, at Franconia Mennonite Church. We meet to worship, plan, and elect a bishop this year! Valerie McGinn, Donald Seipt, and Pastor Deal will attend as voting members representing ELC of Durham.

Sunday, May 6 - Care-A-Lot Sunday and Children's Service at 10:30 AM - Hear the children sing and experience Easter Joy with the theme "Branches of the Vine." Refreshments and Fellowship will follow worship.

Sunday, May 13 - Mother's Day and Church World Service Blanket+ Sunday - Envelopes to contribute to Blankets+ will be in your bulletin on May 6 and 13th. What a great way to honor a mom or other special person who has blanketed you with love!

Thursday, May 17 - Ascension Day Worship at 7:30 PM - hosted here at Evangelical Durham. Along with congregations of the Palisades Lutheran Cluster and the Upper Bucks Conference of the SEPA Synod. A joint choir will sing and there will be fellowship and refreshments following worship. Offering collected will go to Lutheran Congregational Services.

Sunday, May 20 - Final Sunday of the Easter Season. Spark Sunday School concludes its Spring schedule of classes with a special celebration at 9:00 AM.

Sunday, May 27 - Day of Pentecost and Memorial Day weekend. No Sunday School. Wear red to the 10:30 AM Communion Worship Service. At noon the Legionnaires of Riegelsville Post #950 will pay tribute to fallen soldiers at the Durham Cemetery. Please plan on remaining after worship for this important ceremony. Pastor Deal will offer spiritual prayers and then will help to lead prayers at the Riegelsville Parade, beginning at 1:00 PM at the Riegelsville Fire House.

JUNE 3 - 200th Anniversary Celebration - Worship at 10:30 AM. Photographer for Commemorative Photo at 11:30 AM. Banquet to begin at 1:30 PM at the Leithsville Firehouse Social Hall. If you haven't made your reservation, contact Lynn Gaun ASAP. Tickets are \$20 per person.

Take Note...

Prayer Breakfast Saturday, May 12 at 9:00 AM - Please call Helen Dungan or Virginia Hager with any updates or changes to the Prayer List. We will review the list at the Prayer Breakfast on May 12. Everyone who is interested in the Prayer Chain is invited to attend the breakfast. Virginia is looking for someone willing to take over for her.

Clarence Fox would like to thank everyone who came to sing for him at Easter time. He enjoyed the beautiful hymns and was happy to see all who came!

From the Church Secretary - Please have any information for the Sunday, May 13th bulletin to the Church Office by Monday, May 7th. I will be out of town for my son's graduation on Thursday, my regular day for Office Hours. Thank you! ~ Ann

CHURCH 200th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS - UPDATE

At the **June 3rd banquet**, the following is your buffet selection:

Roast top round	Roast Turkey w/ gravy	Chef choice of vegetable
Roasted red potatoes	Fruit salad	Tossed salad
Filling	Baked Ziti	Rolls & Butter
Coffee, Tea, iced tea, lemonade	Plus a specialty 200 th Anniversary cake for dessert.	

Also there will be a memorabilia table of memories from the past for your enjoyment. The history booklet with memories is being worked on as of this newsletter, for the celebration on June 3rd. The photographer will be here promptly on June 3rd right after the morning Sunday service to take our group picture for posterity. Please plan on being here for our service that morning!

Any last minute reservations MUST BE IN BY: May 8th for a final count for the caterer.

On **July 14th** we will be having an community outreach event entitled “**Christmas in July**”. It will be a country fair-style event with vendors, crafters, good food, music, bake sale, games for the kids and much more. Help is needed for the day so please plan on donating some of your time for this event. Remember we need to let the community know that we exist here on top of the hill! The next meeting is scheduled for May 6th right after church that day. If you can help us in some way please plan on attending. Thanks!

August 4th is the Beef Roast this year! This is another great community outreach.

Sunday School resumes in September with Rally Day! The date is still to be determined.

Community Day - October 13th, 2012 - Plans have been changed from having a musical concert to an upbeat Sing-A-Long featuring the music of Oscar Hammerstein. Even if you don't feel like singing along, you can enjoy the entertainment of fabulous and familiar music, plus the expertise of three musical entertainers. Jessie Barth, vocalist, teacher, author of the life of Oscar Hammerstein, along with the talented percussionists, Carol Lindsey, will entertain us. Our own talented Carolyn Williams will be featured accompanying on the piano. I am sure that you will not want to miss this event. This event is open to the community and there will be no charge to attend. There will be however a free-will offering to help defray the costs of this event. Hope to see everyone there!

Thanks to Val McGinn and Barbara Naska our **pictorial directory** for the year 2012 has been completed and distributed.

Our heritage cookbook is underway thanks to the help of Cheryl Mesko and Dot Peterman. If you would like one of your favorite recipes to be included, we are still collecting recipes. The deadline to submit a recipe is July 1st.

The anniversary committee is also working on plans to produce a souvenir ornament for the recognition of our 200th anniversary of Durham Church. Plans for T-shirts are also in the works.

All in all, plans are coming together for our special year of celebration. If you can help in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. I can be reached by putting a note in my church mailbox, or call me at 610-749-0217.

Take care and God bless!

Lynn Gaun
200th Anniversary chairperson

CARE-A-Lot Preschool News

Our last month of preschool is upon us already! This month we will be working hard as we prepare for several exciting events. On May 6th, we will join our Church community as we celebrate Care-A-Lot Sunday with a special children's service. The service will be followed by Lemonade on the Lawn with refreshments provided by Care-A-Lot. This will be a great opportunity for the Church and Preschool to meet. We hope to also get together at Friendly's in Easton for a family fun night in May. The date is not set yet, but we will let you know when it is set. A percentage of the proceeds raised during that time will go towards our school. Please join us for some dinner, ice cream and fun for a good cause!



Care-A-Lot

In our classroom this month, we will focus on helping others. We are "Curious About My Talents" this month so we will try to figure out a special ability that each of us has - drawing, singing, building, etc. We are taking a field trip to the Lehigh Valley Zoo to learn more about animals. We will make our Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts from recycled milk containers and cereal boxes. We will be reviewing our numbers and letters. We will spend all month planning and practicing for our end of year shows.

As our school year comes to a close, we would like to extend a huge thank you to Pastor Dave, parents and church members who helped make this year so successful. We are so proud of how much the children have learned and grown! Have a safe, healthy, and fun summer!

Love,

Mrs. Naska, Mrs. Pason and Mrs. Hower

PRAYER

There is a Prayer Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, May 12th, at which time we will be reviewing the Prayer List. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, attend the Prayer Breakfast, or have updates on names which you have placed on the Prayer List, please call Helen Dungan.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

FOR HEALING: Bob Erceg, Betty Fox, Clarence Fox, Leo Fox, Johnny Hesser, Bryant Hlavaty, Michael Kempf, Myron Kressman, Elfriede Marschewski, Barbara Naska, Bob Newcomb, Norma Rodenbach, and Silas Rodenbach.

FOR THOSE IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY: Corporal Michael Hesser (USMC, Camp Lejeune), Corporal Nicholas Squartino (USMC, Okinawa), Private Blake Rodd (US Army, Afghanistan), Sergeant Jamie Newcomb (US Army Reserves), LTJG Randall Reichenbach (US Navy, USS Preble), and Sergeant Jimmy Apgar (US Army, Afghanistan).

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Ruth Anderson, Jimmy Ashmore, Kathy Afflerbach, Al Boorse, Pat Butler, Lindsey Capus, Ronald Christman, Sr., London Dalley, Rev. Harold & Miriam Deal, Wendy Hendricks, Charlene Higgins, Pearl Emma Howie, Phyllis Monesmith, Dave Morrell, Glenn Newcomb, Linda Wolfe Pursell, Alex Senft, Lewis Snyder, Alex Ulrey, Vincent Viscomi, & Jane Wong.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE HOMEBOUND: Judy Barron, Ruth Behm, Madlyn Chasar, Jean Haas, Betty Kiefer, Marcella Krager, and Lillian Melchior.

FOR THE GRIEVING: The families of Evelyn Peterman, Naomi Hoover, Virginia Fisher, Gloria Phillipps, Gene Gribbin, Alexa Bailey, Clarence Berger, Mildred Seifert, and Irene Fox.



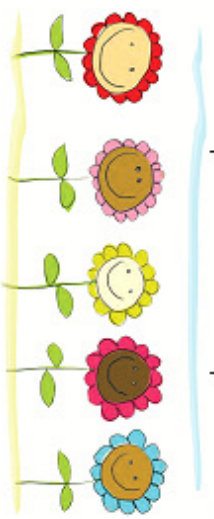
Easter Flowers - *The Altar Guild would like to thank everyone who helped make our altar and our church look beautiful for this holy occasion by purchasing Easter plants.*



Easter

Member	In Memory of	In Honor of
Betty & George Kreitz	Our parents, Charles & Florence Kelson and Elwood & Cula Kreitz Our sister, Sally Kreitz Our son-in-law, John P. Gimbar William Kreitz Our Great Granddaughter, Kai-Lynn Higgins	Our Children Our Grandchildren Our Great Grandchildren
Tanya & Ben Naska		Our Children
Mary Dungan	William Dungan	
Helen Dungan	Robert Allebach	
Barbara & Ben Naska	Loved Ones	Our Children Our Grandchildren
Pat Zion		
Valerie McGinn	Sue Kehler	
Cathy Mueller		Grandpa Snyder
Jayne & Jim Miller	Kathleen & John Sugg	Elizabeth G. Miller on her 100 th Birthday
Leo & Betty Fox	Our daughter,	
Evelyn & Bob Newcomb	Loved Ones	
Ed Xander	Nancy Jean Xander	
Pastor David Deal		The Ministry of God's saints for 200 years in this community
Helen G. Ballek & Family	Edward J. Ballek	
Wayne & Cheryl Mesko	Loved Ones	
Nicholas Phillipps	Grammy	
Adam & Victoria Phillipps	Pearl Galuppo Stephanie Palmieri Libbie Phillipps Matthew Marchese Victoria Smith	
Norma & Clarence Fox	Our daughter, Ruth Ann Carr Tim Carr Our Parents	The Love of God
Dot Peterman	Ruth & Charles Eliassen Ronald & Evelyn Peterman	

MAY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	2 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	3 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	4 <div>25th Annual Assembly - SEPA Synod at Franconia Mennonite</div>	5
Fifth Sunday of Easter Care-A-Lot Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Children's Service	7	8 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM - Church Council Supper/Meeting	9 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	10 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	11	12 Pastor's Day Off
Sixth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion	14	15 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	16 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	17 Ascension Day 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 7:30 PM Ascension Day Worship	18	19 Pastor's Day Off
Seventh Sunday of Easter	21	22 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	23 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	24 9 AM -12:30 PM Care-A-Lot	25	26 Pastor's Day Off
9:00 AM Last day of Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion						
Day of Pentecost	28 Memorial Day - Church Office Closed	29	30			
NO Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion - Noon - Memorial Day Ceremony at Durham Cemetery						

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