

## In May ...

- **Tuesday, May 5 at 1:30** - WELCA Code Blue Presentation - all welcome!
- **May 8-9**, 28th Annual SEPA Synod Assembly
- **Sunday, May 10**- Mother's Day, Blanket Sunday, 1st Holy Communion
- **Thursday, May 14 at 7:30** - Ascension Day Worship at St. Peter's Riegelsville
- **Sunday, May 17** - Care-A-Lot Sunday
- **Sunday, May 24**- Date of Pentecost - Rite of Confirmation
- **5/27 - 6/4** - Pastor Deal on vacation to celebrate the wedding of his daughter, Sarah. on May 30.

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# EVANGELISM May 2015

## Easter - A Week of Weeks - 50 Days

In case you haven't already heard it, Easter is way more than one day. The Easter season in the Christian Church is a week of weeks - seven Sundays, 50 days - when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence. In 2015, Easter Season lasts from April 5 to May 24. And it's even grander than that. Every Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection, and every morning is Easter morning. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

With the Gospels of Luke and John (especially), we get glimpse after glimpse of Christ's risen presence. In John, on the first Easter, Jesus breathes the Spirit on the 11 and on us. With Thomas, we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self. In Luke, two travelers on a road to Emmaus meet Jesus in broken bread. The disciples are wowed as Jesus eats a piece of broiled fish with his disciples.

From frightened individuals, the first disciples and we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

So, in May (it's still Easter), gather with us for Easter Worship, Alleluias and amazing Joy. On May 10, gather with **Samantha Mueller** and her family as she encounters the risen Lord in **First Holy Communion**. On **Ascension Day, May 14**, take a ride to St. Peter's Lutheran in Riegelsville for a Cluster-wide celebration of the Ascension of our Risen Lord, starting at 7:30 PM. On **May 17**, celebrate with the children and families of our **Care-A-Lot Preschool** and congregations in story, song, and play. And then on **Pentecost Sunday, May 24**, receive the power of the Holy Spirit in Word and Sacrament - the Spirit of Jesus, our risen Lord and Savior. It will be a very special **Confirmation Day for Austin Apgar and Jack Pyne** as they are strengthened in their faith to serve God in new and deeper ways.

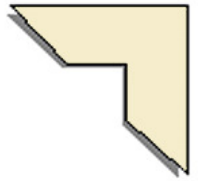
There's still lots of EASTER to celebrate!

*~ Pastor David Deal*



Be sure to LIKE our page on Facebook! With each person who likes and shares our posts, our EVANGELISM increases EXPONENTIALLY!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Evangelical-Lutheran-Church-of-Durham/166596531706>



May brings many pleasant things: Lemonade on the Lawn, Pentecost and Confirmation, Memorial Day, and the start of summer weather. It's also time to start planning vacations and Vacation Bible School. As mentioned last month, Pennsylvania has new laws requiring all church staff and all volunteers who will work with children to have multiple clearances by July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will all also be legally mandated to report any suspicion of child abuse of any kind to authorities. While many of our younger volunteers with children in the school system already have their clearances, they now must be less than 3 years old to be valid. Volunteers need Criminal Background checks from the State Police for \$10, then they need to send a copy of that report with the application for Child Abuse History clearance from the Department of Human Services for another \$10. Anyone who has lived in PA for less than 10 years, and all staff will also have to be fingerprinted for an FBI clearance, at \$27.50.

Because of the improbability of everyone accomplishing this in time, we've decided to circumvent the problem by having VBS in June this year, right after school ends. However, this is only a one time solution; we'll all still need those clearances before September when Sunday School and Care-a-Lot resume. The next problem will be who is responsible for monitoring all this? And what about our members who don't live in PA? If only one form were required every 3 years, it wouldn't be so bad, but 2 or 3, each with separate applications and fees and expiration dates complicates things. And yet it's too difficult to require voter ID to prevent election fraud.

Thank you to all the members who turned out for our Annual Congregational Meeting, even without dinner, providing us with a quorum and keeping us legal.

Val McGinn, Council President

Next Council Meeting: May 12th at 6:30 PM

Council Assignments for May: Barbara Naska and Lynn Gaun

**Favorite Hymn Update:** Several years ago, we reached out to you to submit your favorite hymns. We received nearly 100 submissions from our new ELW (red) Hymnal, blue With One Voice Hymnal, and several older hymnals. We make frequent use of these hymns during the long Season after Pentecost (June-September). Of course, some of these hymns are also appropriately selected in Advent/Christmas/Epiphany/Lent/Easter.



BUT, we may have missed your favorite hymn. Please submit your selections by Email to the Church Office or by snail mail, or by a slip of paper on Sunday morning in the offering plate. Now, here's the catch! We may sing your favorite on a Sunday when you're not here -- just a little extra encouragement for regular weekly worship attendance. We're waiting to hear from you!

## Outreach

Helen Dungan

**Food ministry:** Thanks to everyone who donated canned vegetables to our April food drive.

We are doing something different in May to celebrate Mother's Day. We are going to collect **women's toiletries** for the food banks. (We're going to do men's toiletries in June to celebrate Father's Day.) Both food banks do distribute soap, shampoo toothpaste, etc. to those in need; but their supplies are limited. Travel size items are welcome.

**Food baskets:** Thanks to the following who placed food baskets on the altar during April: April 5<sup>th</sup> (Easter Sunday) The Rhine Family - in honor of Sam Rhine's 5<sup>th</sup> baptismal anniversary; April 19<sup>th</sup> Barbara Naska - in honor of Ben Naska's 69<sup>th</sup> birthday. April 26<sup>th</sup>: Ed Xander - in memory of his wife Nancy.

We had to postpone our April meeting to May. So our rescheduled program on **Code Blue Shelter** will be Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:30 in the church fellowship hall.

Betty and George Kreitz and Pastor Dave have been volunteering for overnight duty at the Code Blue shelter and will share some of their experiences. Val McGinn volunteered to chauffeur folks to the shelter and will explain what that entails; and Barb Naska who has attended one of the board meetings may also comment. Those of us who have heard some of George's and Pastor's stories have been fascinated. We invite **all** of you to come and hear them – **men are welcome too!**

**Blanket Sunday** will be officially Mother's Day May 10<sup>th</sup>, but we will accept donations all month. This is an opportunity to make a donation to Church World Service to buy blankets which they give to victims of disasters. Please consider making a donation in your mother's name; you will be honoring her and helping someone in distress. (Note: we will also be collecting money for tools on Father's Day.)



Helen Dungan

**Upper Bucks Conference of WELCA Spring Gathering** will meet Saturday May 2, 2015 at St Peter's Riegelsville. Registration begins at 9:00. Lunch will be served following the program.

While the theme is *A Well Watered Garden*, we will be looking at this in the light of drought – specifically the drought of mental illness. Our program will focus on **mental health and congregational life**.

**Key note** speaker is Kathleen Campbell, President of the Bucks Co. National Alliance for Mental Illness.

Following her presentation you will have the opportunity to choose one of the following two presentations:

**Mental Health and Older Adults** lead by Pr. Ghislaine Cotnoir, (Chaplain at the Lutheran Community of Telford)

**OR Mental Health and Youth**, lead by Sylvia Havlish, Counselor, Author "Moments Like This".

We will be collecting food for the food pantry and our monetary offering will be shared between churchwide Women of the ELCA and mental health needs in Upper Bucks county.

I think this is going to be a very informative program on a relevant and difficult topic. I hope many of you will be able to attend. Please share this with anyone outside our church who might be interested.

## May Worship Assistants

	3*	10 *	17	24*	31
Youth Acolyte Communion Assistant	Jack Pyne	Nicholas Phillipps	Makenzie Naska	Alaina Apgar	Austin Apgar
Greeter(s)	Cheryl Mesko	Cleo & Ken Eck	Linda & David Sauter	Cheryl Mesko	Addyson Mammana & Sam Rhine
Lay Worship Assistant/ Lector	Val McGinn	Mueller Family	Care-A-Lot Pastor Deal	TBA - Confirmands	TBA
Council Communion Assistants	Lynn Gaun and Barb Naska	Lynn Gaun and Barb Naska		Lynn Gaun and Barb Naska	
Counters	Lynn Gaun and Barb Naska				
Head Usher	Althea Crouse * Asterisk indicates that Holy Communion will be served.				
Altar Guild	Cheryl Mesko and Linda Sauter				

	May Birthdays		May Anniversaries
1	Tim Leichliter		
2	Frank Erceg		
4	Sara Aquino		
5	Mary Dungan (99th), Hunter Aquino	7	Lee Ann and Myron Kressman (38th)
12	Betty Kiefer (91)	9	Barb and Ben Naska (45th)
13	Chris Mueller		
15	Beth Snyder	15	Gladys and Harold Nicholas (61st)
21	Joe Aquino		
22	Matt Codd		
23	Bethany Naska		
24	Brian Ashmore, Sr.	25	Sara and Joe Aquino (13th)
25	Joel Roney	27	Maggie and Bob Starling

***We remember the following who were baptized in May : 3 - Kelvin Dewalt; 8 - Leo Fox, Sr.; 9 - Bryant Hlavaty and Don Seipt; 10 - Patricia Zion; 12 - Jack Pyne; 13 - Katie Aquino; 18 - Frank Erceg; 21 - Jim Altemose; 22 - Dianna Streletz; and May date unknown: Wayne Mesko.***





CARE -A-LOT

It is hard to believe that our last month of preschool is upon us already! This month we will be working hard as we prepare for our Ant Class end of year celebration and our Bee Class graduation.

In our classroom this month, we will focus on helping others as our Christian theme. We will be doing review of all of our Math skills that we learned throughout the year. We will be studying animals and their habitats in Science. We will be taking a field trip to Flint Hill farm and learn more about some farm animals. We will make our Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts. We will spend all month planning and practicing for our end of year shows which will both be on Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend the celebrations.

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. Errico, Mrs. Pason and Mrs. Hower

## PRAYER

*Please lift up in prayer all those names who are on the Prayer List in your Sunday Bulletin.*

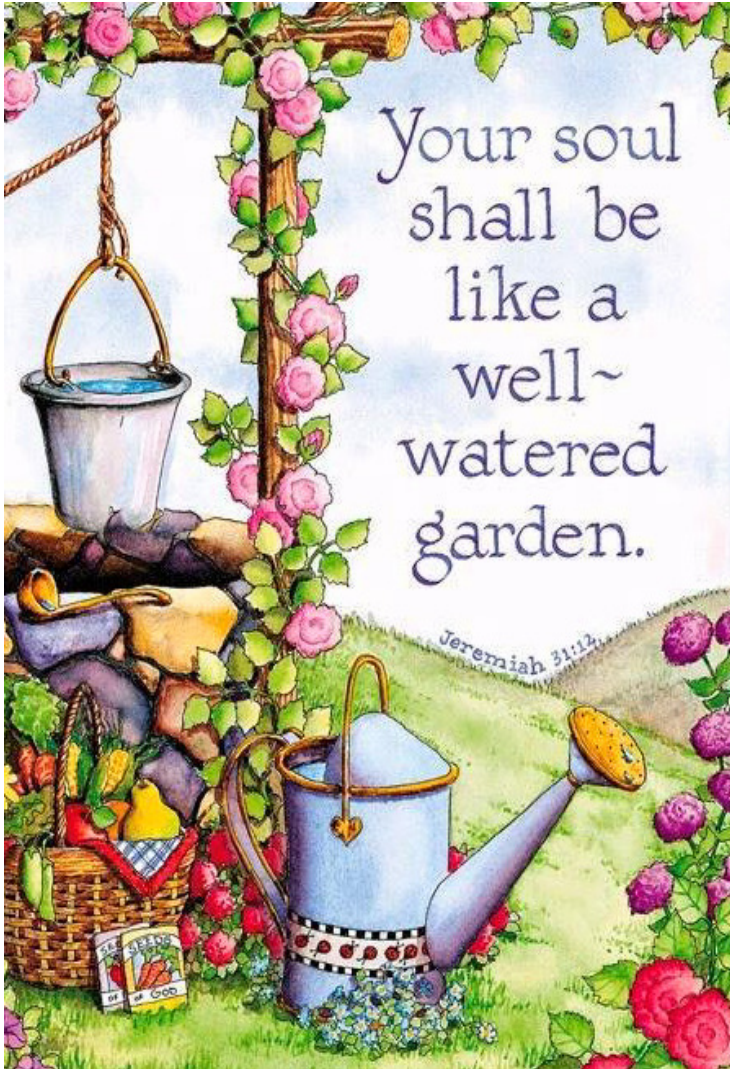




## NEWS from the Palisades Cluster of Lutheran Churches - Helen Dungan

**Ascension Day** services will be held at St Peter's in Riegelsville on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 7:30PM.

**Bear Creek Day Camp** will be held June 29, 2015 - July 3, 2015 at St Peter's Lutheran Church in Riegelsville



### *Upper Bucks WELCA Spring Gathering*

Saturday, May 2

Registration at 9 AM at  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
305 Delaware Road  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

## **A Well-Watered Garden:**

### **Focus on Mental Health**

Keynote by Kathleen Campbell, NAMI  
workshops to follow

This event includes refreshments and lunch.  
Anyone with an interest in Mental Health  
issues is welcome!

Sponsored by Upper Bucks WELCA and  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Offering: Food for the Lord's Pantry and monetary gifts  
for Mental Health needs in Bucks County.

## **Ascension Day Service**

**Thursday, May 14, 7:30 PM**

St. Peters Lutheran Church  
305 Delaware Rd. Riegelsville, PA 18077  
610-749-0830

7:00 PM combined cluster choir will meet to  
prepare the anthem  
Refreshments and Fellowship following the  
Service

*Sponsored by the Palisades Cluster of  
Lutheran Churches*



## MEMORIAL CHURCH WINDOW DEDICATION PLAQUES

We are trying to complete the Memorial Plates for our church window donations.

Please review the following information and contact Cheryl Mesko with any corrections or additions at [Cherylee49@yahoo.com](mailto:Cherylee49@yahoo.com).

Sue Kehler in memory of Carl Kehler

Family and Friends in memory of Carl Kehler

Family and Friends in memory of Edward Ballek

Bob and Evelyn Newcomb in memory of our Parents

A Gift from Jim and Jayne Miller and Family

A Gift from Karen Rilling

Madlyn Chaser in memory of Charles Chaser

Family and Friends in honor of Madlyn Chaser

Darlene Durns and Family in memory of Paul and Rhea Berger

Manfred and Elfriede Marschewski in honor of their 55th Anniversary, 4/9/2010

Harold and Gladys Nicholas in memory of our Parents,

Albert and Annie Siefert and Orville and Grace Nicholas

James Nicholas in honor of Harold and Gladys Nicholas

Ken and Cleo Eck in memory of D. Raymond Nicholas

Wayne and Cheryl Mesko in honor of our Children

George and Betty Kreitz in honor of the Kreitz Family

A Gift from Don and Gerry Seipt and Family

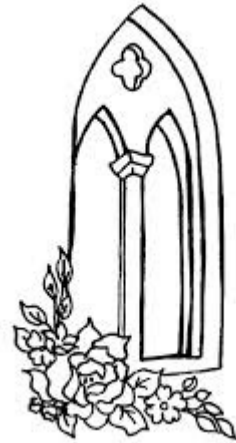
Frank and Joan Mammana to the Glory of God

Benjamin T. and Barbara Hoover Naska in memory of Loved Ones

Reverend Fred and Mimi Foerster in memory of Parents, Alfred and Beulah Bray, Rev. Dr. Fred  
and Elsa Foerster and Russell and Gladys Hess

Family and Friends in memory of Sue Kehler

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham in memory of Dorothea Shaffer.



## ~ ***MAY Highlights*** ~

**Tuesday, May 5** - WELCA - Program is "Code Blue Ministry with Homeless." This is a rescheduled meeting to be held in the church Fellowship Hall. Men and women are invited.

**Friday, May 8- Saturday, May 9** - "Forward Together in Faith" - 28th Annual Assembly of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, to be held at Franconia Mennonite Church. ELC of Durham will be ably represented by the following voting members: Alaina Apgar, Tom Gaun, and Pastor Deal. Please pray for the work of the Assembly.

**Sunday, May 10** - Mother's Day - 6th Sunday of Easter - Church World Service Blanket Sunday (sponsored by WELCA). Samantha Mueller will receive her First Holy Communion on Mother's Day. We pray for Samantha and welcome her to the Lord's Table! Special offering envelopes will be available for contributions to CWS Blanket Sunday.

**Thursday, May 14** - Ascension Day - A great festival of the Church - 7:30 PM worship with the congregations of the Palisades Lutheran Cluster at St. Peter's in Riegelsville.

**Sunday, May 17** - 7th Sunday of Easter - Care-A-Lot Sunday - Please come to our annual joyful worship at 10:30 AM to celebrate our ministry to and with our awesome Preschool! Care-A-Lot graduation will be Thursday, May 28 at 7:00 PM.

**Sunday, May 24** - Day of Pentecost - RED is the color of the day - wear RED!!! At 10:30 AM Austin Apgar and Jack Pyne will be confirmed. Special Ceremony and Refreshments to follow worship. Come and support these two young Christians!

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### **Memorial Day Tributes in our Area -**

**Sunday, May 24** - Once again the Legionnaires of Riegelsville Post 950 will pay tribute to fallen comrades at the Durham Cemetery. The Legionnaires will for between 11:45 AM and noon. At the cemetery there will be a brief ceremony, including a Rifle Salute and Taps.

At 12:30 PM, Legionnaire Post 950 will form at the Riegelsville Fire House. A parade will start at 1 PM, moving to the Delaware River Bridge, then to the World War I Monument, and ending at the Riegelsville Cemetery. In the even that the parade is cancelled due to rain, a Memorial Service will be held at the Riegelsville Fire House at 1 PM.



**Also on Sunday, May 24**, the Williams Township Veterans Memorial Committee welcomes the entire community to share in honoring our fallen heroes and all our living veterans at 6:00 PM at the Williams Township Municipal Camps (655 Cider Press Rd., Williams Township).





## TANZANIA & SOUTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA PARTNERS IN MISSION

~SEPA & NED~SEKOMU~MWANGAZA~

~CONGREGATIONAL COMPANIONSHIPS~

**TANZANIA MONTH IN SEPA SYNOD: APRIL 19 - MAY 17, 2015**

It's the 125th birthday of the North-Eastern Diocese (NED) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania! SEPA Synod has long enjoyed a rich companionship with NED and its missions. In honor of the Jubilee, SEPA Synod's Tanzania Companionship Team is asking our congregations to join in contributing to a very special mission. All offerings during Tanzania month will support the construction of "Compassion House" at SEKOMU, the NED-run university that specializes in improving the lives of people with special needs.

Compassion House will provide a place for families to live when they visit SEKOMU to learn about how to care for family members with special needs. SEBASTIAN KOLOWA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY (SEKOMU) is a Lutheran-run University in Magamba, Tanzania that trains students to work with people with special needs and welcomes disabled students to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees. Since 2005, SEPA Synod has been in partnership with the North Eastern Diocese to found and expand SEKOMU. Through this partnership God has done marvelous work. SEKOMU is now a premier university, serving 1,350 students.

On Friday, May 8, the Synod Assembly offering will be collected for "Compassion House." Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham's voting members (Alaina Apgar, Tom Gaun, and Pastor Deal) will participate in that offering. But the Synod is reaching out to all the members of congregations to share in this offering.

During the first half of the month of May, we invite you to contribute to Compassion House at Sekomu. Make your check payable to Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham, and please put "Tanzania" in the memo line of your check to designate your contribution. All congregational contributions must be sent to the Synod office by June 20. So, we are setting a **deadline of May 24 for your contributions**. That will give us time to total all the checks we receive and send one check from ELC of Durham to the Synod Office.

How many thousands of dollars can we give in partnership with the 170 congregations of our Synod? God has blessed us to do our share!



## 28th Annual SEPA Synod Annual Assembly

**Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9**



Three voting members from Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham will be attending this year's SEPA Synod Annual Assembly - Pastor Deal, Tom Gaun, and Alaina Apgar. We are excited to be sending Alaina as our youth representative, and hope that more of our young people will become involved in the work of the wider church.

Our Church Secretary, Ann Wong, has been invited to share her expertise at the Assembly's SEPA Communicators Table on Friday.

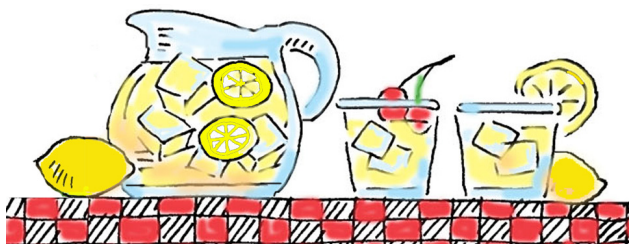
## *Pentecost*

Be sure to be present at worship on Sunday, May 24 - the Day of Pentecost AND the day that Austin Apgar and Jack Pyne are confirmed.

Everyone is encouraged to wear RED - the color of the fire of the HOLY SPIRIT which fills us all. There will be a special time of Fellowship and Refreshment after worship as we welcome Austin and Jack into a new stage in their faith journey.



## Confirmation



### It's Almost Time for LEMONADE on the LAWN

Watch for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex and sign up to sponsor Lemonade on the Lawn after worship on Summer Sundays.

Lemonade on the Lawn will begin on Sunday, May 31. Each host - an individual, a family, a group of friends - is asked to provide a refreshing drink, such as iced tea or lemonade, along with some fingerfood snacks, such as cookies or fruit. Gathering under the trees for a bite to eat and some fellowship is one of the special joys of Summer here at Evangelical Lutheran.

## May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3 Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> 9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion	<b>4</b> Pastor in Office AM	<b>5</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM 1:30 PM WELCA	<b>6</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir	<b>7</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM Secretary PM	<b>8</b> <div>             "Forward in Faith" - 28th Annual              SEPA Synod Assembly           </div>	<b>9</b> 2 Pastor's Day Off
<b>10 Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day and Church World Service Blanket Sunday</b> 9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM First Holy Communion	<b>11</b> Pastor in Office AM	<b>12</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM 6:30 PM Church Council Supper/Meeting	<b>13</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir	<b>14 Ascension Day</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM Secretary PM 7:30 PM Worship	<b>15</b> Pastor at Home Office	<b>16</b> Pastor's Day Off
<b>17 7th Sunday of Easter - Care-A-Lot Sunday</b> 9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Special Worship and Fellowship	<b>18</b> Pastor in Office AM	<b>19</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM	<b>20</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM 6:30 PM Choir	<b>21</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Pastor in Office AM Secretary PM	<b>22</b> Pastor at Home Office	<b>23</b> Pastor's Day Off
<b>24 Day of Pentecost</b> 9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Communion - Rite of Confirmation for Austin Apgar & Jack Pyne	<b>25</b> <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> Office Closed	<b>26</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot Secretary in Office PM	<b>27</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM Care-A-Lot 6:30 PM Choir	<b>28</b> 9 AM - 12:30 PM last of Pre-school - 7 PM Care-A-Lot Graduation Secretary PM	<b>29</b> <div>             Pastor Deal on Vacation           </div>	<b>30</b> Wedding of Sarah Deal & Tyson DenHerder
<b>31 The Holy Trinity</b> 9 AM Christian Education 10:30 AM Worship	Pastor Deal on Vacation	Deal on Vacation				



# *Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham*

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

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# *EVANGEL*



# 2015