

**In May...**

**All In-Person**

**Activities**

are **CANCELLED**.

**Facebook LIVE Worship**

**Sunday mornings at**

**10:30 AM at**

**facebook.com/  
durhamlutheran**

**Children's Devotions  
with Dave**

**Tuesday mornings at 10  
AM on Facebook LIVE**

**facebook.com/  
durhamlutheran**

**See our website for  
important updates!**

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**"We Pray for the Spiritual Gift of PATIENCE"**

"How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart

All day long?

How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?"

*Psalm 13:1-2*

"... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, **PATIENCE**, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

*Galatians 5:22-23*

It's been six weeks now, since we've been told to stay-at-home, avoid all but essential trips, wash hands over and over again, practice physical distancing with at least 6 feet between us, wear masks, etc. etc. etc. And it's getting harder and harder to live with this pandemic. Frustration, boredom, anger, and **impatience** may be building in many of us. I miss being with all of you at least once a week. We miss being with each other -- family members, neighbors, co-workers, schoolmates, close friends.

It's been six weeks or more ... But it's also been just two weeks since Easter began. Some of you may have heard my recent message on April 19, when I repeated over and over again -- "It's still Easter." Christ is risen! And with his resurrection, Jesus has given the world hope for all circumstances, even this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic.

In fact, St. Paul, writing to the Galatian Christians in the first century, reminded them that the Spirit of the risen Christ, the Holy Spirit, had freely granted them many spiritual gifts, including the gift of **patience**. Those early Christians may not have been facing a pandemic. But they were trying to faithfully follow Jesus in the face of poverty, rejection, persecution, even martyrdom. Paul himself was facing all those things, yet he would not stop his prayer and his proclamation of the Good News for the world. It is easy to be patient when everything is normal, or seems to be going our way. It's much more difficult when we feel challenged or trapped, or when we're afraid.

That is what we are being called to draw upon now - the gift of **patience**. And we are not asked to be patient in a vacuum. We can be patient

•Continued on page 2

Because of God's patience with humanity from the beginning. God is patient, granting us forgiveness for our sin. God is patient in trying to save us. God sends Jesus to die for us and rise for us. Even stuck in our houses, the risen Christ is with us with promises of forgiveness, new life, and yes -- a future. It is a future of life, not death.

It's been six weeks now, and I do not know how much longer we'll be asked to live like this. But in faith, I want to believe that the Spirit has given me and you the fit of **patience**. Let us patiently continue to observe the health rules imposed for our safety. Let us patiently love our children, parents, and leaders.

By the way, just because we are so restricted, it does not mean that we cannot continue to reach out to one another -- in prayer, on Facebook, with texts, e-mails, and by helping to supply our most vulnerable neighbors with the essential supplies they need.

Today I cannot tell you when we will be able to be together physically as we were until March 17. But I can assure you with the Psalmist and with the Apostle Paul and with the whole Church, that it is still Easter. Christ is risen! He is with all of us. We can draw on his loving presence and spirit of **patience**, living our lives in new ways ... for a time.

~Pastor David Deal

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## Christ's Ministry Through His Church Continues During this CcCOVID-19 Pandemic

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham is finding new ways to share the Good News! What can we do? What are we doing?

- Facebook Live Worship - Every Sunday at 10:30 AM. To watch, go to <https://www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran>. All the worship videos are available for viewing at your convenience. If you do watch live, please feel free to interact with each other in the comments. The children's coloring page and Children's Worship Bulletin are posted on our website ([www.durhamlutheran.org](http://www.durhamlutheran.org)) for kids who want to worship, too.
- Devotions with Dave on Facebook Live, Tuesday mornings at 10 AM. We use our Whirl Sunday School curriculum to sing songs, tell stories, and say prayers. A Family Activity Sheet that goes along with the weekly lesson is posted on Facebook and on our website.
- Power Hour of Prayer, every evening between 7 and 8:00 PM Participate in your own way in your own home, but we are all praying together. (Not on Facebook)
- Keep in touch with each other by phone, texts, email, etc. Check on the most vulnerable among us.
- Use your Outreach offering envelopes to support important mission issues. The April envelope was in support of the Kathy Hlavaty Scholarship Fund for Care-A-Lot Preschool. **The May Outreach envelope will support our local food pantries - The Lord's Pantry in Ottsville (connected to Philabundance) and Project of Easton (connected to Feed America).**

As we will probably not be gathering in church during May, we will not be physically collecting items for the food banks.

## Outreach

Helen Dungan

The designated **Outreach envelope will be designated for ProJeCt Easton and The Lord's Pantry.**

We will not hold Blanket Sunday in May. Hopefully we will be able to do this later in the year.



Helen Dungan

WELCA will not meet in May. Because we do not feel we should hold the proceeds from our Soup Suppers until we can meet physically, we are going to do a mail vote.

January soup proceeds --- \$1848

February soup proceeds --\$2015

Total -- \$3682

It was suggested that we give a little more to our local foodbanks because of their urgent needs, and decrease the amount of money given to Church World Hunger. This is a suggested dispersal of funds. Please let us know your suggestions and any changes you would like to recommend.

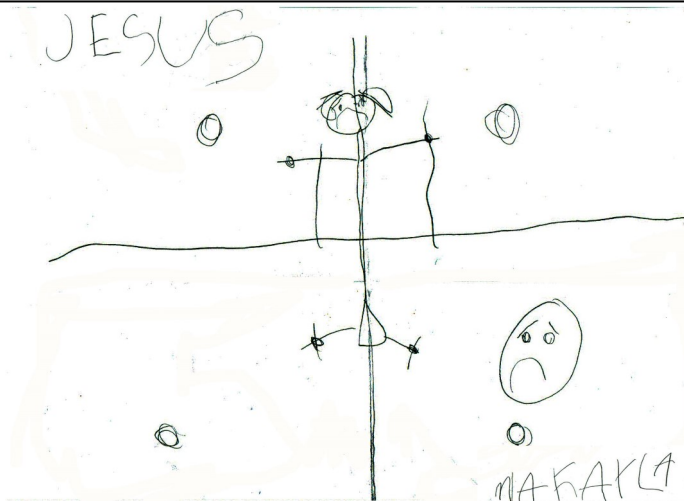
\$1,303.50 The Lord's Pantry Ottsville

\$1,303.50 Project Easton food bank

\$700.00 Church World Hunger

\$375.00 Upper Bucks County Meals on Wheels

Total -S3682



*This is a drawing of Christ on the cross. It was made by Esther Crouse's daughter Nancy's daughter Jennifer's daughter Makayla after listening to Pastor Dave's Easter devotions.*

*The love of Christ touches us all!*

### **We can all continue to practice Physical Distancing!**

- **Stay at home except to buy food or medicine, or for medical reasons**
- **Wear a mask when going out**
- **Stay six feet away from those outside your household**

**Let us be PATIENT out of love for each other, to maintain the safety of all of our neighbors.**



## MAY CELEBRATIONS

	May Birthdays		May Anniversaries		May Baptisms
1	Tim Lechliter				
2	Frank Erceg			3	Kelvin DeWalt
4	Sara Aquino	7	Becky & Tom Praster (42nd)		
5	Hunter Aquino	9	Barb & Ben Naska (49th)	8	
				9	Bryant Hlavaty, Donald V. Seipt
13	Chris Mueller			10	Patricia Zion
14	Luke Snyder				
15	Beth Snyder			12	Jack Pyne
21	Joe Aquino			13	Katie Aquino
23	Bethany Michl	25	Sara & Joe Aquino	18	Frank Erceg
24	Brian Ashmore, Sr.	26	Kristy Lee and Dane Reiman (8th)	21	Jim Altemose
25	Joel Roney	27	Maggie Fischer & Bob Starling (42nd)  Linda & Stan Czeck (22nd)	22	Dianna Streletz

## DONATIONS NEEDED

As the impact of the Coronavirus rapidly impacts our neighbors, ProJeCt is working to remain in a sound financial position to respond to the increasing and changing need for all of our programs, including: literacy and workforce preparation, life skills, case management and Emergency Assistance Services, school based programs and food pantry. For this reason, we very much appreciate your consideration of an unrestricted gift which can be directed to support the greatest need.



For more information, please visit <https://www.projecteaston.org/covid-19>

Thank you very much. Be safe and well! Janice Komisor, Executive Director

**ATTENTION SEWERS!!!** Lutheran World Relief needs your help to sew cloth face masks to help us reach men, women and children in vulnerable communities. You have until October to sew them. For information, visit <https://lwr.org/masks#8452>



Care-A-Lot

## CARE-A-LOT NEWS

THANK YOU to everyone who made a donation to the Kathy Hlavaty Scholarship Fund for Care-A-Lot Preschool.

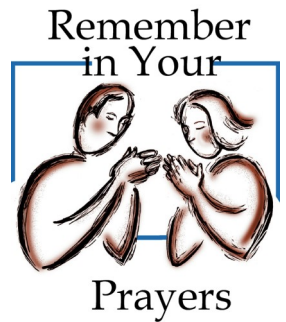
Although our school year ended very abruptly this spring, we are hoping to begin classes in September and are looking for students in both the Preschool (3-4 year old) and PreK (4-5 year old) Classes.

Anyone who is interested in enrolling a child in preschool can contact Linda Reinbold for more information at 484-894-0585.

Have a safe summer!

Linda Reinbold

## PRAYER



# *Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham*

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

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# *EVANGEL*

