

Life Together



Things the Holy Spirit Accomplished at Pentecost

by Timothy Tennent

It is true that trusting in Christ has made us holy, but that it is an alien righteousness. In other words, it is a righteousness that belongs to Christ, but as an act of God's grace, it is attributed to us. But to effectively serve Christ in the world, we must not merely be called holy; we must actually be holy. This is why Jesus told the apostles before His ascension to wait in Jerusalem "until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). At His ascension He repeated this, saying, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).



On the Day of Pentecost, the disciples were all gathered together in an upper room. Suddenly there was a sound of wind and fire, and they were all "filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4). This is a very important event in the unfolding of God's redemptive plan. Pentecost is the event whereby the Holy Spirit comes in full power to enable Christians who have been declared righteous to actually be righteous. It is not that the Day of Pentecost itself makes the church righteous, but this is the beginning of the full ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the church.



Upcoming Events

May 2

Hurry Hill Farm Tour @ 11 to 2.
See page 8.

May 8

Lunch & Listen @ 12noon.
See Page 5.

May 16

Ladies Night Out @
Madeline's 5:30. See page 5.

May 15

Men's Night Out @ Chico's @
6:30. See page 5.

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

2402 W Grandview Blvd
Erie, PA 16506

www.abidinghopeerie.org

Office email:

ahadministrator@hotmail.com



Pastor Karen Parsh

Cell: 814-881-3266

pastorparsh@gmail.com

Important News

It Was Only an Orange It was the time when Our Savior and Zion's were "dating", exploring the possibility of joining our two congregations together. I was in the hospital recovering from shoulder surgery. A smiling lady came into my room and introduced herself as "Skip" Kleckner, a member of Our Savior and she brought me an orange. We visited for a while, and we became friends. And now I had a connection to the church that would merge with mine...you know, it was only an orange, but it is almost 40 years later, and this gift of friendship offered me with an orange has been in my memory for all this time. I guess the moral of the story is to extend the hand of friendship in any way and any time you can. It might be the "orange" someone needs right now.



Cindi and Bob Reid were welcomed into the Abiding Hope family on Sunday, April 7th We rejoice with these new members and look forward to working with them as witnesses to God's grace in our world.

I love my friends at Abiding Hope Lutheran Church. Judi Pacileo

Please pray for: Family & friends of Diane Farnsworth, Jackie Seib, Ed Tropper, Chris Gallagher-Michele Rion's Dad, Dan & Peggy Kaeberlein, Harry Speakman (struggling with controlling his oxygen levels), Shirley Englert (suffering from cellulitis), Trudy Mueller, Matt (recovering at home) & Sally Zill, Maury Allen, Stephanie Volland & family, Damian (recovering at home and feeling better) & Marcia Santabene, Don Holder, Pastor Karen & Dave Parsh (now a resident at West Lake Woods), Ruth Hinkson (now a resident at Elmwood Gardens), Evelyn Senger (doing well at home), and Tammy Sharp McIntyre.

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. This day observance, designated by the United States Congress, asks people "to turn to God in prayer and meditation." The 2024 Theme is LIFT UP THE WORD - LIGHT UP THE WORLD.

For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him. 2 Samuel 22:29-31

Prayer Warriors...will gather Wednesday, May 15 from 1:00-3:00. Please join us in the church sanctuary as we sit in silence and pray for our church, our neighborhood, our community, our country, our world. Believe God hears and honors our every

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

www.abidinghopeerie.org

2402 W Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16506

Church Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday 9:30 - 3:30
Wednesday 9:30 - 12:30

Sunday Worship: 9:30
Bible Study: 11:00
Choir practice: 9 & 11:00
Sunday services can be viewed, live streamed, at 9:30 on Facebook or anytime on the website.



Staff

Office Assistant:
Denise Miller

Coordinator of Music:
Sheryl Williams

Sexton:
Kayla Miller

prayer! If you cannot join us, pray from wherever you are during that time, if you are able. Letting us know you are praying with us is SO encouraging!



A Note of Thanks from Jerry Vogt/Connie Kerr Vogt: We would like to offer our deepest gratitude to all who prayed for us and sent cards and good wishes during Jerry's recent surgery. We honestly could feel those powerful prayers, which kept us both calm, and trusting in God to care for us and provide healing for Jerry. Blessings!



**“Bats—Myths and Truths”
Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 p.m.**

at Faith Lutheran Church, 5414 East Lake Road



Steven J. Ropski, Ph.D., Professor of Biology at Gannon, will talk about bats and their importance in our ecosystem, and will dispel many untruths about these fascinating mammals. All are welcome at this engaging and informative public presentation!



Let's ALL Go to Camp! ALL of Abiding Hope!
Saturday, May 11, 2024 - 11:00 am - 4:30 pm - FREE! RAIN OR SHINE!

Lutherlyn requires no registration. Just show up with all your friends, family, neighbors, and anyone else looking for a fun, free day. Anytime that day!

BUT – if you would like to caravan to camp (83 miles) with other Abiding Hope'rs, please let us know by signing up, or contacting Jacque or John Holmberg, or just by showing up in the church parking lot that morning by 8:45 am.

There are many awesome indoor and outdoor activities to enjoy at CampBlast! Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer.

Let an arrow fly! Our instructors will show you what to do to stay on target. Campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, pony rides, zipline, bouldering room, hikes, nature activities, hayrides, games, sports, archaeology, disc golf, jump pillow, tours, great food, worship, and MORE! Join us for a GREAT day at camp!

The Schedule

- 11:00 am – Join Us for Worship and re-dedication of the Steinger Memorial Amphitheater
- Noon - 3:00 pm – FREE Lunch served in the Dining Hall
- Noon - 4:00 pm – TONS of ACTIVITIES!! (detailed schedule will be available that day)
- 4:00 - 4:30 pm – Closing Campfire

The Little Free Library: Thank you for all the BEAUTIFUL hand-crafted bookmarks donated for our outdoor library, as well as the books that continue to be donated. The library is being used effectively; books are going out and coming in; and a camera has been installed to monitor activity.

With each new season, there are **suggestions from the Little Free Library/Pantry organizations**--please donate dried items during warm weather (pasta /rice meals; dried cereals; dried cranberries/raisins/fruit filled bars rather than granola bars with honey/chocolate that melt; peanut butter and jelly IN PLASTIC containers, not glass; pretzels; vegetable chips; nuts.

Holocaust Remembrance Day

The internationally recognized date for Holocaust Remembrance Day corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar. It marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

In Hebrew, Holocaust Remembrance Day is called Yom Hashoah. In the United States, Days of Remembrance runs from the Sunday before Yom Hashoah through the following Sunday.

The **Warsaw Ghetto Uprising** was the 1943 act of Jewish resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto in German-occupied Poland during World War II to oppose Nazi Germany's final effort to transport the remaining ghetto population to the gas chambers of the Majdanek and Treblinka extermination camps.

The uprising started on 19 April when the ghetto refused to surrender to the police commander who ordered the destruction of the ghetto, block by block, ending on 16 May. A total of 13,000 Jews were killed, about half of them burnt alive or suffocated. (110 German casualties, including 17 killed, were reported). The uprising was the largest single revolt by Jews during World War II. The Jews knew that victory was impossible and survival unlikely. Marek Edelman, the last surviving (resistance) commander who died in 2009, said their inspiration to fight was "not to allow the Germans alone to pick the time and place of our deaths". According to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the uprising was "one of the most significant occurrences in the history of the Jewish people".



Erie Conference Ascension Service, May 9, 2024, 7:00 at Luther Memorial. If you can sing in the combined choir for this service, please contact Luther Memorial at nbuerk@luthermemorialonline.org before the May 1st deadline.

Important Events



Happy 47th Anniversary

Pastor Karen & Dave celebrated their 47th Wedding Anniversary on April 22nd with a dinner at Sara's and a drive on Presque Isle. Congratulations to you both.

New Address

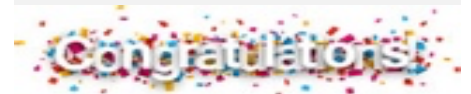
Judy Johnston has moved to a new home at:
Sarah Reed Retirement Center
227 W. 22nd St. Room 306
Erie, PA 16502

Happy Birthday

5/8 TJ Penn
5/12 Sophia Woomer
5/14 Pat Wenzel
5/20 Analee Cree
5/22 Lon Jenkins
5/23 Mike Paris
5/31 JoAnna Atwater

Happy 60th Anniversary

To Jeanne and Ed Tropper on May 9th. Happy 60th anniversary!





Ladies Night Out is Thursday, May 16 @ 5:30 at Madeline's on Route 18 in Cranesville. RSVP to Jacque Holmberg or sign up in the narthex by Monday, May 15th. All are welcome.



Don't Miss our May Speaker! Doug Luthringer will speak to us about selling your stuff on e-bay. Brown bag lunch at 12 noon on Wednesday, May 8th. Doug speaks at 12:30.



Council Recap of April 9, 2024, Meeting

We are Blessed to be an active congregation in so many ways. From collecting items for the Food Pantry, Bethany Outreach, Chosen, our Little Library, stepping up to make the Easter Flock happen and then taking personal time to gather for ladies/men's night out. What a beautiful family to call "Family".

- Wednesday night Lent services went well. Looking at changing to noon for next year
- May 19 will be a meet your council and member gathering after service.
- Gerlach's gave us a quote of \$6,000 to reseal the parking lot - Council put on hold.
- Bread Box award for the Food Pantry.
- Saska girls will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday.
- Member list being reviewed and updated for notifications and mailings.
- Council members need to be involved on a committee.

Each member is valued, and we thank you for your input and participation on committees. We are open for suggestions and complete minutes are available to review.

Respectfully submitted by: Analee Cree - Council Secretary



Bishop's Day of Learning – Sat., May 4th – 9:30 -3

The NWPA Synod invites everyone to this event at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Erie. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Teresa Smallwood, the ULS James Franklin Kelly and Hope Eyster Kelly Associate Professor of Public Theology. The theme of the day will be focused on Dr. Smallwood's deep interest in public theology. Free seminar. No RSVP. See page 7.

May 2024

Abiding Hope Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 11 Choir 9 & 10:45	29 Music Lessons 4-6 Al-Anon 7:30	30 Ministry Team 10:30 Music Lessons 4-6	1	2 Hurry Hill Farm Tour 11-3 National Day of Prayer	3	4 Bishop's Day of Learning Music Lessons 9-12 Overeaters 10:30
5 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 11 Choir 9 & 10:45	6 DL to order geraniums Hurry Hill Tour RAINDATE Holocaust Rem. Day	7 Ministry Team 10:30 Music Lessons 4-6	8 Lunch & Listen 12noon	9 KAFP 9-11 Ascension Day	10	11 Lutherlyn CAMPBLAST Music Lessons 9-12 Overeaters 10:30
12 Moms Day Worship 9:30 Bible Study 11 Choir 9 & 10:45	13 DL for KAFP \$\$ Music Lessons 4-6 Al-Anon 7:30	14 Ministry Team 10:30 Council 6:30 Music Lessons 4-6	15 Prayer Warriors 1-3 Men's Night Out 6:30	16 Ladies Night Out 5:30	17	18 Music Lessons 9-12 Overeaters 10:30
19 PENTECOST Worship 9:30 Bible Study 11 Choir 9 & 10:45	20 Music Lessons 4-6 Al-Anon 7:30	21 Ministry Team 10:30 Music Lessons 4-6	22	23 KAFP 9-11	24	25 Pastor Papson Installation Lamb of God Music Lessons 9-12 Overeaters 10:30
26 HOLY TRINITY Worship 9:30 Bible Study 11 Choir 9	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 Ministry Team 10:30 Music Lessons 4-6	29	30	31	1 Music Lessons 9-12 Overeaters 10:30
2 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 11 Choir 9	3 Music Lessons 4-6 Al-Anon 7:30	4 Ministry Team 10:30 Music Lessons 4-6	5	6	7	8 Music Lessons 9-12 Overeaters 10:30

A Loving Family... Living the Faith, Sharing the Hope of Christ!

More News



Diane (Ponick) Farnsworth, 70, wife of long-time AH member, Lee Farnsworth, passed away surrounded by her family on Saturday, April 20th. Calling hours and funeral were held on Thursday, April 25th at Abiding Hope.

To view the complete obituary, go online to Erie Times news obituaries.



Abiding Hope's Women of the ELCA has been chosen to receive a \$300 Women Empowering Women grant! The money will be used to facilitate our family friendly Easter Flock and Pumpkin Fest events. Thank you Analee for completing the grant application.



♪ Music Notes ♪

As the church welcomed new members Cindi and Bob Reid in April, so did the choir! Bob and Cindi are both accomplished musicians and we are thrilled that they have decided to join the choir. We are also praying for other choir members who are no longer able to sing with us or are in transitional phases of their lives. We miss them very much.

If you like to sing, we would love for you to try us out for the month of May! All you have to do is stay a little longer after church for rehearsal (one hour) and sing along! Please don't be shy!

The Choir will be singing weekly anthems through Holy Trinity Sunday, May 26th, and will then take a summer break until September.

If you would like to provide special music for a Sunday service during the summer months, please contact Pastor Karen or me, and if you need accompaniment, that can be arranged as well! Also, if you have a favorite hymn you would like us to sing, please drop me a note or email, and I will be happy to work it into the programming. As always, thank you for your support of the music at Abiding Hope!

Blessings,

Sheryl Williams ~ Coordinator of Music

sheryl4013@yahoo.com ~ 814-882-2830

Geraniums for Pentecost
on Sunday, May 19th

Order your 4 1/2" foil wrapped geraniums for the Pentecost altar on or before May 6th. Or make a gift to the KAFP before May 13th.

Only \$3.50 each

Forms on website
and in narthex

"A Faithful Public Witness"
With Rev. Dr. Teresa Smallwood

First Annual
Bishop's Day of Learning

Saturday, May 4th
9:30 am - 3:00 pm
Continental Breakfast and Lunch provided

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
3108 Sterrettania Road
Erie, PA 16506
814-833-1761

Visit / Tour **HURRY HILL FARM**

Thursday, May 2nd
 (Rain date Monday, May 6th)
11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Plan to tour Hurry Hill Farm with AHLC friends and enjoy a 3-hour tour of the farm, sugar house and museum. Jan Woods will demonstrate and we will all participate in the making of maple syrup. We will be transported by wagon or walking to trail to the sugar house. A tour of the Maple Syrup Museum, which houses the Newbury Award for *Miracles on Maple Hill* by Virginia Sorensen is included.

Suggested reading, *Miracles on Maple Hill*, can be purchased at AHLC for only \$10

Bring a brown bag lunch

And bring a friend or 2.
 All are welcome!
 RSVP today.

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church
 2402 W Grandview Blvd.
 814-868-8685

Tour cost: \$10 -
 Sign up in the narthex

Why Use Native Plants?

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources describes a native plant as one which occurred within this region before settlement by Europeans. Native plants include the ferns, grasses, perennial and annual wildflowers, woody trees, shrubs, and vines that covered Penn's Woods when the first settlers came.

Native plants are generally easier to grow and cheaper to maintain.

Native plants are well adapted to our climate and soils because they evolved here. This means they are generally easier to care for once they are established, needing little or no pruning, deadheading, watering, or fertilizing. Large lawns and showy exotic plants demand high levels of fossil fuel use, fertilizers, pesticides, and supplemental water, making natives a less costly option.

Tips on How to Use Native Plants

Here are some suggestions on how to use native plants:

- Naturalize a large area such as a meadow or woodland with more aggressive natives.
- Create a rain garden with natives; their root systems stabilize and hold the soil.
- Reduce the size of your lawn by adding a bed of native plants.
- Create a butterfly garden.

Educate yourself about native plants that are native to your area. Obtain reliable, unbiased information from university or government publications and websites. Visit native plant nurseries and preserves to get ideas. Then use native plants in your garden, knowing that you are preserving biodiversity, enhancing the livability of your home, and ensuring a legacy for your children and grandchildren.