

SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MONDAY MESSENGER - July 13, 2020

UPDATE ON INTERN PASTOR PAUL'S LAST SUNDAY, JULY 26TH

Due to the rapidly increasing cases of COVID-19 in our County and State and in seeking to model the recommendations of our Governor, your SELC COVID-19 Response Team has determined that it would be best to cancel plans for a "parking lot worship service" on Sunday, July 26th, as was previously publicized. We hope to try something like this in the future when the number of infections go down.

We will still hold our livestreamed-only worship service that Sunday as usual at 10:00 am (no in-person attendees other than the worship leaders.) It will include a "Blessing and Sending" time for Intern Pastor Paul Benz and family. Following worship, at approximately 11:30 am, there will be a "drive by goodbye" time. The Benz family will stand in front of the church office along Lenzner Ave. while members and friends wave and say their (masked) goodbyes from their car as they pass by them in the drive-through, going north. If there's a line up, we ask that cars wait along Bella Vista Dr on the south side of the church. Turn right into the drive-through and proceed out the north exit, only turning right on Lenzner Ave.

Of course, you're also encouraged to call, email and send notes of appreciation before they leave Sierra Vista on July 28th. Intern Pastor Paul will then start a year-long Chaplaincy Residency at Harbor View Medical Center in Seattle, Washington. We have had a great year together, even in the midst of a pandemic. We praise God for the loving and faithful connections we've made.

NARTHEX BATHROOM REMODEL STARTING

The long-planned remodel of the bathroom off the narthex entrance area to the worship space is starting this Wednesday, July 15th, with demolition of the bathroom and cry room to start the process to make a more handicapped accessible bathroom. Any questions contact Council President Larry Rewis.

TESTING RESULTS NEGATIVE

As follow up to Pastor Perry's announcement this past Sunday morning about Intern Pastor Paul's potential exposure to COVID-19, we are thankful to report that the test results came back negative for Intern Pastor Paul, his wife, Monica, and for Pastor Perry. Results are yet to be returned as of this writing for Joy and for Linda Perry but, since their family members are clear, we presume and trust that they will be negative also. Thanks for your prayers!

SUNDAY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

About 20 people joined on Zoom for a fun fellowship time this past Sunday after worship. We chatted, said hello to folks we've been missing, caught up on the latest news, and just enjoyed hanging out together. We'll continue to offer this time again this coming Sunday, July 18th, starting about 11:15 am. Here's the invite:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/97887308059?pwd=L1BSSVgwMHpsQUNkS0pEZitldFEExQT09>

Meeting ID: 978 8730 8059

Password: 026457

INTERN PASTOR AMY JANSSEN ORDINATION - JULY 18TH

Please keep 2018-19 Intern Pastor Amy Janssen in your prayers as she is Ordained into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament this coming Saturday, July 18th, 2 pm (Central Time), at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Virginia, Minnesota! Cards can be sent to the church address at 901 S. Fourth St., Virginia, MN, 55792. Congratulations, Amy! We celebrate with you!

CONSIDER A MORE IN-DEPTH LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Are you wondering “What can I build upon my foundation of faith?” or “How can I more significantly deepen my knowledge and understand of God and His calling for my life?” *Diakonia* is a Synod-sponsored two-year program that provides a system of study to help answer those questions. With a lot of us having to stay home more, this could be the ideal time to start a program like this! It encourages increased participation in the church and in the community. Students learn from ordained pastors in a cohort setting. They study traditional seminary disciplines, identify their particular gifts, and are encouraged to grow spiritually. Classes are being offered online this fall in “real-time” video sessions. Cost is \$360/year plus books. If interested in hearing more information, go to www.diakoniaaz.org or email, info@diakoniaaz.org, or contact Pastor Perry. (Note: this is not part of a process of becoming a rostered minister or deacon in the ELCA but is a program meant to build up stronger and more knowledgeable lay leaders and learners in our state).

THANK YOU ♥ THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the wonderful birthday wishes, cards and gifts. It is my joy to be serving with you here at SELC. No words are enough to express... I am totally overwhelmed, very honored, and blessed by your outreach of love!

- Cindy Allen

FAITH5

Every Night In Every Home!

Our FAITH5 verse of the week is
Matthew 13:23

²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

(Post or keep this weekly scripture in a handy place and every morning or evening share the following as a couple, or with family members in the home or even with a dear friend over the phone.)



Share your highs and lows of the day with one another.



Read the verse of the week and if time permits, the Bible story that pertains to the Scripture of the week.



Talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows of the day or how it's speaking to you.



Pray for one another's highs and lows and other prayer requests.



Bless one another. Make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead or the palm of your hands and say something simple such as: "God bless you and keep you in His love and care!" Or feel free to make up your own blessing that incorporates a part of the FAITH5 verse of the week.

SUNDAY LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS

The readings are chosen so that the days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon that Sunday readings. The days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the next Sunday readings.

Monday

Psalm 92

Leviticus 26:3-20

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Tuesday

Psalm 92

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Wednesday

Psalm 92

Proverbs 11:23-30

Matthew 13:10-17

Thursday

Psalm 86:11-17

Isaiah 41:21-29

Hebrews 2:1-9

Friday

Psalm 86:11-17

Isaiah 44:9-17

Hebrews 6:13-20

Saturday

Psalm 86:11-17

Isaiah 44:18-20

Matthew 7:15-20

Sunday

Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalm 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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