



## A 15th Century German Depiction of Pentecost

On the Day of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.) The notion of Easter as a season of 50 days ending at Pentecost is patterned after the ancient Jewish festival of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest (on the second day after the beginning of Passover) to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks or *Shavuot* (see Deuteronomy 16:9-12). The Festival of Weeks later came to be called Pentecost ("50th day") by Greek speaking Jews. In Jewish tradition, *Shavuot* also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai; this liturgical link may inform Paul's discussions of the law and the Spirit (see Romans 8, 2 Corinthians 3 and Galatians 3).

## Pentecost Sunday

We show our support for OGHS by wearing blue so we are asking you to wear your red **Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>** celebrating Pentecost! All are invited to join us following worship for fellowship celebrating the birthday of the Church. Cake and refreshments will be served.

## Travelling Day Camp

We will be holding our organizational meeting for day camp **Tuesday May 1<sup>st</sup> in the lounge**. If you are interested in helping out with camp or would like to find out more join us in the lounge!

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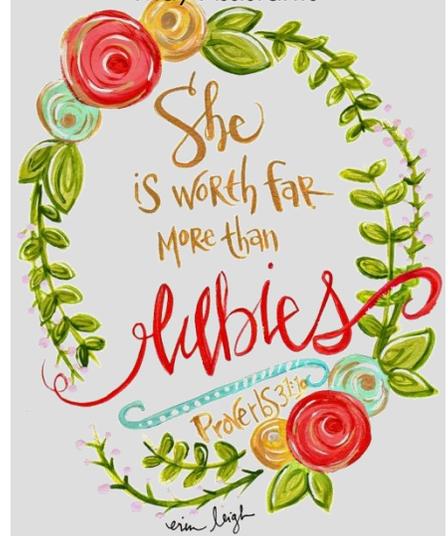
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## A POSTING FROM YOUR PASTOR

In the span of five months, we have re-experienced Advent and Christmas, walked in the light of Epiphany, entered the preparatory season of Lent as we journeyed with Jesus toward the cross, and celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus the Christ. In two weeks, we will renew ourselves as the third Great Day of our faith comes with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Stretching before us are six months without fanfare or hoopla – ‘Ordinary Time’ as it has been recast.

Of course, ordinary is what makes up the most of our lives. Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, family reunions, weddings – these are few and far between. The natural rhythms rise and fall as we make our way through the threats and challenges life presents and we create. The message of the last months sustains us as we go: God has come to the world as one of us; Jesus witnesses to the compassion and mercy of God’s realm, overcoming the signal fear behind all the rest – death; God’s Spirit moves in and through the Church, empowering us in the work of faithful living and witness.

I’m thinking out loud here about several matters I’ll be inviting us to give attention to in the coming couple of months:

- 1) The yearly-required meeting of Session and Deacons to review our work and the mission before us.
- 2) Our next ‘Congregational Conversation’ where I will present a review of the book ‘Canoeing the Mountains’ followed by discussion.
- 3) A four-week morning study in June, to take place in a home setting.
- 4) Having a ‘family conversation’ together about the place of projecting images in worship.

All of these are interconnected because they have to do with how we understand what God is doing in our midst and our willingness to take the necessary risks required to be a faithful congregation. *Watch the bulletin in the coming weeks for times, dates and places for all of the above.*

In the meantime, let me ask you to make a serious commitment of prayer as we go forward. We remain a lively and vital congregation. Our ‘footprint’ in the community has been reduced yet we continue showing up through worship, stewardship, activities and care for one another. We are solvent and have steady leadership, lay and clergy. The future holds possibilities beyond our vision. Simply sitting quietly with God with an open heart and mind, making ourselves available to listen for what God is calling us to is the best thing we can do right now.

Pastor Steve

## Family Banquet

It has been called many things and evolved over the years but one thing that hasn't changed is the fellowship and the FOOD! We are taking reservations for our Family Banquet **Tuesday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:15pm!** Everyone is invited to attend that includes men, aunts and uncles, grandparents, children and teens! Early reservations are greatly appreciated for food preparation. Entertainment this year is Janelle Surkin. The event will be free but donations will be accepted if you choose to do so. Please call the church office with your reservation today!

## Baskets Needed

Do you have small baskets that you are looking to get rid of? We are stocking up for next year's egg hunt and are looking for 12 small baskets approximately 12 inches in diameter. They can have a handle or not. If you have what we are looking for please contact the church office!

## Planting for the Future

Our seedling planting got off to a good start on March 30 when youth and leaders from our Rock the Camp program received instruction and guidance from Jim Finley, a retired Penn State professor of forestry, and Brian Stone, manager of the Howard Nursery of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Together, they planted about 1,850 seedlings.

In celebration of Earth Day our youth group made the trek to Camp Krislund to help plant seedlings. Our crew of 8 planted 100 black locust seedlings in the rocky wooded terrain. It was hard work but we banded together and got the job done! The camp received a grant to plant thousands of seedlings that will benefit the bird population. We spent a few hours working and having fellowship together in God's country.



## Girl Scout Yard Sale

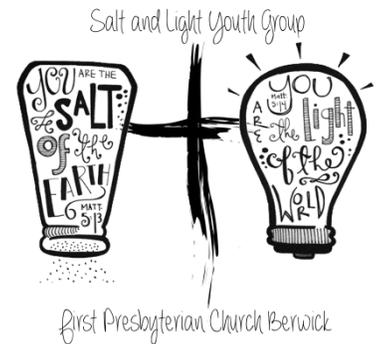
The girl scouts will be hosting a yard sale here at the church **Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup>** from 8am-? If you are spring cleaning have anything you would like to donate to the scouts please contact Heather Botto or bring your items to the church!

## Who's in the Pulpit?

This month we welcome back Tracy Fetzner on **May 27<sup>th</sup>**!

### Communion Dates 2018

May 20  
July 1  
September 2  
October 7  
November 4  
November 25  
December 24



**Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>** during worship study on prayer

**Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> 12-1:130** Let's get Crafty!

### Happy Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### May Birthdays

Kenneth A. Marshman	5/9
Miles Doll	5/10
Forrest Smith	5/14
Judie Force	5/16
Tom Huntington	5/27
Kevin White	5/30

#### May Anniversaries

Steve & Karen Hiller	5/8
Keith & Heather Botto	5/22
Aaron & Sara Titus	5/24
Tom & Barb Huntington	5/29

**Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary!**

## May Assistants

### May 6

**Greeters:** The Birt Family

**Ushers:** Tom & Barb Huntington

**Assisting Elder:** Barb Huntington

**Acolyte:** Tyrone Birt

### May 13

**Greeters:** Janice Moskaluk

**Ushers:** Joan Thomas, Eugeniu Grigorescu

**Assisting Elder:** Eugeniu Grigorescu

**Acolyte:** Emma Botto

### May 20

**Greeters:** Carol Ross

**Ushers:** Walter & Alison Hause

**Assisting Elder:** Joan Thomas

**Acolyte:** Aaliyah DAngelo

### May 27

**Greeters:** Fran Kirchdoerfer, MaryAnn Marshman

**Ushers:** Steve Hiller, Ernie Botto

**Assisting Elder:** Nancy Dietterick

**Acolyte:** Giuliana Force

**Deacon Visitor for May:** Al West

**Have a wonderful month with family and friends!**

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**Worship service 10:15am**

**Sunday school for all ages during worship**

**Nursery available**

