



# The JEWELS

MAY 2018

A publication of Crown of Life Lutheran Church, Sun City West, AZ

## What's Behind Memorial Day?

Memorial Day started as an event to honor Union soldiers who had died during the American Civil War. It was inspired by the way people in the Southern states honored their dead. After World War I, it was extended to include all men and women who died in any war or military action.

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day. The current name for this day did not come into use until after World War II. Decoration Day and then Memorial Day used to be held on May 30, regardless of the day of the week, on which it fell. In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed as part of a move to use federal holidays to create three-day weekends. This meant that from 1971, Memorial Day holiday has been officially observed on the last Monday in May. However, it took a longer period for all American states to recognize the new date.



## The Month of Pentecost by Pastor Phill, Senior Pastor

In the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter of Deuteronomy, Moses records the word of the Lord giving to His people a new festival, Shevuot. It was to be celebrated 50 days after the Passover – it is also known as the Feast of Weeks, as God’s instruction was to “count seven weeks.” Call it also the Feast of Harvest: “Begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain (Deut. 16:18). What a time of celebration – the harvest reminds the people of the blessings the Lord has given His people. In Numbers, the celebration is also called “the day of firstfruits “(Numbers 28:26).”

As you know in the second century before Christ was born the Hebrew scriptures were translated into Greek, a foreign tongue that had become the *lingua franca* in the known world. That translation is known as the Septuagint, which name describes the legendary 70 men who worked on the translation.

In the Septuagint, the single word for this 50 day period is Pentecost. Sunday, May 20, we and all the Western church will celebrate that amazing day.

It is always interesting to me how the Lord worked, in those days, within the cultural norms of the time. Once again, worshipful Jews were present in Jerusalem, specifically at the temple, where I am convinced the miracle of the day occurred. They were from all over the Mediterranean basin, the diaspora into which the Jews had been dispersed centuries before.

Acts 2 lists 15 different ethnic groups, all practicing Jews, who witnessed and heard the events of that day. This was the moment Jesus meant when He admonished the apostles to remain in Jerusalem, frightened though they be, until power came upon them. The power, on that day, was the Holy Spirit, visible as tongues of fire above the heads of the apostles. And audible, too: Jesus’ men began to speak in languages

*continued on back*

## NEW Prayer Ministry by Lisa Safago

We would like to pray for you, your family, and friends. Send your prayer requests to [prayer@colchurch.com](mailto:prayer@colchurch.com). Our email prayer team will pray for you. Also, please consider joining our email prayer ministry to pray for others. You may request to be added to this group by sending an email to [prayer@colchurch.com](mailto:prayer@colchurch.com).



## From Your President

### What makes a faithful pastor?

They come in all shapes and sizes. God has called pastors to be faithful rather than successful. How can we be sure our pastors are staying true to the call? A few biblical criteria can assist us:

- The pastor should give people a bigger picture of God. "For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord" (2 Cor. 4:5). Preach that the God of scripture is bigger than all of our earthly problems.
- The pastor should train people to turn to the Bible when problems arise. Preach that "all scripture is God-breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). God's word is able to equip us for hardships and celebrations.
- The pastor shows people how to read, study and understand the Bible for themselves (2 Tim. 2:15). The pastor challenges us to cry out to God for the wisdom that flows from the Scriptures.
- The pastor should teach all parts of the Bible and show how unique each section is. The pastor makes himself a servant of the word and handles it all with reverence.
- The pastor challenges us to own the truth by responding to the message (James 1:22-27). We should leave the church after worship knowing the message we just heard demands a real and practical response.
- The pastor proves that the Bible is ancient yet speaks to us today (Deut. 32:46-47). The pastor must show us how the study of the entire Bible, this history, impacts the present and the future.

Thanks be to God for providing Crown of Life with faithful and dedicated pastors.

*Jay Nelson*

## Trusting the Lord with all our Heart, Mind And Soul

*by Christine Escobar, GriefCare Coordinator*

It is essential on our journey from grief to joy that we continually remind ourselves to turn our lives and our wills over to the care of God, and trust Him with our whole heart, mind and soul. This is not a one-time effort. It is a decision we make every minute of every day. God's Word instructs us to trust Him with our lives. Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah, and Jeremiah are especially replete with instructions to trust the Lord our God and praise Him for what He has done and will do for His children.

If we consciously think back on our supply of healthy, positive experiences that remind us that our God is worthy of our trust, we will know without reservation that the Lord has always been with us. He loves us and cares about our welfare. It is an excellent idea to journal our experiences that remind us of God's miracles in our life when we are on our journey through grief and pain. When we know without reservation that we can count on our Lord to heal us from our pain, our stress, anxiety and fear of the future melt away.

It is also important to be in the Word every day. We can search the concordance for emotions with which we are struggling. These are a few Scripture verses that deal with fear and trusting in the Lord to bring peace and joy back into our life:

*For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)*

*You keep Him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because He trusts in you. (Isaiah 26:3)*

Almost every Psalm instructs us to trust in the Lord.

*And those who know Your name put their trust in You, for You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You. (Psalm 9:10)*

*In You our fathers trusted; they trusted, and You delivered them. (Psalm 22:4)*

*To You they cried and were rescued; in You they trusted and were not put to shame. (Psalm 22:5)*

*The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. (Psalm 28:7)*

*. . . [S]teadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord. (Psalm 32:10)*

*For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name. (Psalm 33:21)*

*Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will act. (Psalm 37:5)*

*Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. (Psalm 62:8)*

*continued page 3*

## Flower Committee

*by Florella Denzin*

We praise our Risen Lord for providing a solution to our Easter lily shortage this past Easter. Thank you to Cora Weiss, Pat Fronk and Karen Murphy for finding lilies at area stores!

We wish you all a restful, safe summer!

## Trusting the Lord

*continued from page 2*

*He is not afraid of bad news; His heart is firm, trusting in the Lord. (Psalm 112:7)*

*Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul. (Psalm 143:8)*

Proverbs states: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5)*

We can also trust our God to bring the people into our life who can walk with us and guide on our journey. God does not want us to feel alone in our pain and grief. If you are currently grieving the loss of a loved one, please join our GriefCare group in the Chapel on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Call Christine at 623-218-6793 or email [griefcare@colchurch.com](mailto:griefcare@colchurch.com) for more information and to register. You may also pick up a GriefCare pamphlet at the Information Center.

## Did you enjoy the choir? by Roger Hicks, Choir Director

It all began last September. Members of Crown of Life Choir gathered for the first rehearsal of the 2017-2018 choral season. Some “flew in” from far and wide, while others drove from their Valley of the Sun home. Now the 2017-2018 choir season has come to a close.

Did you enjoy having the choir in the loft over the last eight months? Have you been spiritually inspired by the choir members’ dedicated ministry? I am guessing that you have, as evidenced by the number of comments made by members of the congregation.

Members of the Crown of Life Choir have begun their summer hiatus. What a delightful sense of accomplishment they must surely have, along with the enjoyment they found this past choir season.

As the COL Choir is out of the loft over the summer perhaps you might reflect on what possibilities you have for joining them in the loft for the 2018-2019 choral season. I know the choir will welcome you with open arms. The first rehearsal is Thursday, September 13 at 3:30 PM.

**BE THE REASON SOMEONE SMILES TODAY!  
HAVE A GREAT DAY!**

## C Diff is Linked to Sugar Substitutes

*by Carol Steficek, Parish Nurse*

The common form of diarrhea, C. diff., (*Clostridium difficile*) is generally linked to the use of antibiotics because the drugs kill off the normal bacterial population in the colon. But recent studies show that this dangerous disease may also be linked to the sugar trehalose. This is a naturally occurring sugar which is now mass-produced by a new enzymatic extraction method. It has been found that the C. diff. bacteria grows faster when trehalose is used as a food source and the small intestine doesn't absorb trehalose as well as it does sucrose. So the bacteria are using this naturally occurring substance to our detriment. So look at your food labels and evaluate whether your diet is high in this sugar. You might want to make adjustments.

## Cancer Companions Dropped from Ministries at COL

It is with regret that we find the need to CANCEL the Cancer Companions ministry. If you find a need for this type of ministry, please contact Parish Nurse Carol for referral.

## LWML – Lutheran Women in Mission by Barbie Aden

Thank you congregation for your wonderful support of our “pillowcase-dress” project. Your donated pillowcases and supplies made the cutest little dresses – sure treasures for the deeply impoverished girls cared for by the Lutheran Border Concerns Ministries of San Diego, CA.

You say you missed the pillowcase project last month? No worries. We are coming back May 8 at 1:00 PM in the Parish Hall to finish the rest of the dresses, and to learn all about embellishments. So come, join the fun and fellowship, Tuesday, May 8 at 1:00 PM. No previous experience needed. Questions? Call Barbie at 544-9831.

## Christ Caring for People through People

by Ken Grover

*You must understand my beloved; Let everyone be quick to listen and slow to speak.* James 1:19a

Listening is perhaps the most important skill that a Stephen Minister uses. It is a powerful care giving tool. If you are able to listen well, you will be highly effective as a Stephen Minister: The importance of being able to listen effectively, will enable you, to respond effectively to your care receiver and to others as well. When we really listen, we are telling others that what matters to them, matters to us. Sometimes people do not want advice, but very often they just want to be listened to, by someone who cares. We also need to remember that when we are thinking about how to respond to others as they are talking, we are not really listening to them. We need to stay focused on what they are saying to be effective listeners. If you are able to listen well you will be highly effective as a Stephen Minister. When was the last time someone really listened to you? This kind of listening is fully focused on you, without distractions. Stephen Ministers are that kind of listeners, as they care for you.

Jesus demonstrated the relationship between caring and listening. Before Jesus healed the daughter of the Canaanite woman, He listened to her testimony of faith. Matthew 15:21-28

Before Jesus healed the blind man, Jesus asked him, what he wanted and then listened to his reply. Mark 10:46-52. Jesus showed concern by first listening and then ministering to their needs. Certainly Jesus presents a good example of listening for caregivers. Even with His insight into people's needs, Jesus listened to people before acting or responding. It is important that Stephen Ministers listen before they respond.

*continued on page 5*

## Thoughts by Pastor Gary

This morning I was reading Peter's 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle. In Chapter 3, Verse 21 we read: "this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

So that got me thinking. Does the devil hate water? He does when it's the water of Holy Baptism which, joined to the Word of God, brings forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who continue in their baptismal grace. Holy Baptism unites us with Christ and makes us the beneficiaries of the forgiveness and freedom Christ has gained for us. Paul makes this plain when he writes, "All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ" (Gal. 3:27). Those baptized are living their lives in close fellowship with Christ, rising daily from sin and walking in the newness of life. Obviously, the devil has no choice but to hate the water of Baptism.

It is not hard to see how the devil makes his hatred known. He does this by trying to dissuade people from being baptized. He gives the wrong ideas. At the time of St. Augustine in the fourth century, Satan had people believing that they should postpone their Baptism until shortly before they died, lest by their sinning they render the sacrament ineffective. The devil can think of many reasons why people should not be baptized.

That the devil hates Baptism is evident also from the fact that he tempts baptized people to forget all about the covenant that our Triune God made with us at our Baptism. Those baptized promise to renounce the devil and all his ways faith engendered in Baptism gave them the power to do so. But in later years, many play right into the devil's hand by living contrary to their promise.

God's people, joined by the angels of heaven, who rejoice over the conversion of every sinner, love the water of Baptism, not because the water itself had magical power but because it is connected with the power and promises of God's Word.

When you awake each day, as Luther says, "Make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism." I know that I do. Will you?



## Quilters Update

by Marlene Peterson

We will be donating approximately 80 blankets to the Rock Point Indian Mission in May. We did not reach our quota but hope we can do so the next time. We had a busy winter and hope those leaving us for the summer break have a safe and Blessed trip and return "fresh" for another year with us as we will be preparing for our quilt sale in November. Thank you and have a great summer!

## Joining the Church Triumphant

Members recently called home to Heaven are:

Neal Abraham – April 13      Bill Cannella – April 19  
Margaret Hostutler – April 12      Hartsell Judkins – March 11  
Howie Schalk – April 9

## We've Got Mail!

I would like to give a special thank you to Pastor Phill for all his home and hospital visits at the time of Rob's cancer. It meant so much to Rob, myself and our family. Thank you Crown of Life family for the cards and prayers we received at this difficult time.

*The Rob Spear family*

Our heartfelt thanks go to Pastor Phill for the many visits he made to Neal's bedside, and the prayers he said with and for Neal and our family. Neal really enjoyed and felt at peace with his visits.

Thank you to the staff at Crown of Life for their prayers, phone calls and sincere concern for Neal and our family.

We sincerely thank all our friends in Christ at Crown of Life for their kind thoughts and prayers. You have no way of knowing how much you helped.

*Marion Abraham, Dave and Robin*

## Christ Caring for People continued from page 4

- Do you need someone to listen to you, in a caring manner? Call a Stephen Minister.
- *Do you listen in a caring manner? Become a Stephen Minister.*

*"Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear."*

Isaiah 65:24

For additional information about Stephen Ministry, please contact Pastor Gary at 623-546-6228 or Gloria Michel at 623-544-4569.

*"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:24*

May God continue to bless, guide, and protect you and help you keep the faith.

### A Poem for May

For flowers that bloom about our feet; For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;  
For song of bird, and hum of bee; For all things fair we hear or see,  
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!

For blue of stream and blue of sky; For pleasant shade of branches high;  
For fragrant air and cooling breeze; For beauty of the blooming trees,  
Father in Heaven, we thank Thee!

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Altar Flowers for April

- 12 & 13 Ron & Nora Mara, in celebration of granddaughter, Rachel's birthday
- 12 & 13 Beverly Bristow, in loving memory of son Troy.
- 12 & 13 Joe Bailey, in loving memory of wife Georgia
- 19 & 20 Chuck & Janet Blakley, in loving memory of son, Steven
- 26 & 27 Ken & Rita Grover, in celebration of their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

## Treasurer's Update

*by Arlin Bates, Treasurer*

The March financial statement shows budgeted year-to-date income of \$231,697 and actual income of \$223,777. Year-to-date budgeted expenditures were \$200,000 with actual expenses of \$206,276. Here's where we stand at the end of March:

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Receipts	\$87,781	\$79,458
Expenses	\$66,667	\$67,811

We are slightly lagging on cash receipts as compared to budget for the first quarter. Our expenses are running 3% higher than budget for the first quarter.

## Book Club by Judy Brodzeller

The Book Club is on break for the summer. Our next meeting will be on Monday, September 10 at 10:30 AM in the Conference Room. All are invited to join us for a lively discussion on our monthly selection. Bring a friend who likes to read. They do not have to be a member of our church.

The September read is:

*The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain

Also, bring another book you read over the summer to share with the group.

## May Servants

Senior Pastor Rev. Phill Robbins  
 Assisting Pastor Rev. Gary Smith  
 Pastoral Assistants  
 Rev. Vern Ermeling, Rev. Roland Kroll,  
 Rev. Ron Luedemann, Rev. Ray Mirly

### ELDERS

(Sat) Ron Mara, Duane Rawson  
 (Sun) Harry Bernhardt, Tom Leshney,  
 Duane Rawson

### TRUSTEES

(Sat) Willie Lundquist  
 (Sun) David Koelsch

### ALTAR GUILD

(Sat) Kathleen Johnson, Nada Workman  
 (Sun) Kathy Beilstein, Karen Murphy

### GREETERS

(Sat) Martha Kenny, Mary Kindy,  
 Arline Orchowski  
 (Sun) Florella Denzin, Lillian Holen,  
 Yvonne Stone

### GUEST BOOK

(Sat) Pat Coyle  
 (Sun) Gretchen McCaslin

### FLOWERS

Florella Denzin, Jan Drake, Pat Fronk,  
 Vicki Jolin, Sheila Mecham, Karen  
 Murphy, Darlene McAfee, Denise  
 Tevarrow, Jan Tvinnereim, Cora Weiss

### SOUND TECHNICIANS

Paul Stuempfig, Coordinator  
 (Sat) Joe Jellison, Dave Sawyer  
 (Sun) Bruce Borchert, Dave Brodzeller,  
 Gerry Harpt, Tom Mertins,  
 Ron Schumann, Paul Stuempfig

SCREENS - Tom Mertins, Coordinator

### VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Bob Murray, Darlene & Wiley McAfee

### USHERS

(Sat) Don & Judy Johnson,  
 Woody & Sue Woodworth  
 Ralph & Carole Reinke (1<sup>st</sup> Sat)  
 Jim & Donna Giles (1<sup>st</sup> Sat)

## Happy Birthday

3 Alice Krause  
 2 LeAnna Grell  
 2 James Kunzie  
 4 Myrna Borchert  
 4 Marilyn Goodnight  
 4 Lawrence Mills  
 6 Fred Birkendahl  
 6 Nancy McAfee  
 7 Mel Howry  
 7 Arthur Vogel  
 8 Ed Kristof  
 9 Donald O. Carlson  
 9 Ken Grover  
 9 Barbara Murray  
 11 Larry Hafeman  
 11 Patricia Petersen  
 11 Paul Stuempfig  
 13 Tom Mertins  
 14 Iva Robinson  
 15 Rhonda Adam  
 15 Lloyd Greiner  
 15 Virginia Speaker  
 15 Fran Wallin  
 16 Ron Mara  
 16 Dianne Mertins  
 17 Walter Sullivan  
 18 Debbie Mirly  
 19 Ruth Anderson  
 19 Mary Fritz  
 19 Rev. Bob Holstein  
 19 Gloria Redburn  
 19 Bill Schulzetenberg  
 20 Don Dupras  
 20 Paul Heimbuch  
 20 Jeanette Martin  
 21 Gloria Adams  
 22 Joyce Hall  
 22 Dave Roeker  
 23 Shirley Gadenken  
 24 Gloria Mansfield  
 24 Ed Pisacich  
 24 Norma Wadsworth  
 25 Gary Kowatch  
 25 Roberta Lane  
 26 Mary Mehner  
 27 Dan Mehner  
 27 Joe Rau  
 28 Marion Abraham  
 28 Lynn Johnson  
 28 Dean Judkins  
 30 Forest Neumann  
 31 Roger Engelbrecht  
 31 Phyllis Naumann  
 31 Lyn Schneidmiller

## Happy Anniversary

3 Mark & Trena Brauer  
 6 Marv & Vita TenBroeke  
 8 Ed & Sharon Kristof  
 12 Ken & Laurel Coffman  
 14 Duane & Orvillena Neal  
 22 Henry & Dene Munzinger  
 23 Mark & Rhonda Adam  
 24 Jerry & Karen Myers  
 25 Ken & Rita Grover  
 29 Rev. John & Vi Pope  
 29 Al & Lucy Stoudemire  
 31 Don & Colleen Lekawa

## Borrowing Church Equipment & Furniture

It is the policy of Crown of Life that equipment and furniture belonging to the church may not be borrowed or removed from the premise except for church functions. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

## USHERS cont'd

(Sun) Merv Tvinnereim, Cap;  
 Paul Brown, Jerry Denzin,  
 Mark Gosseck,  
 Mike & Sue Krischler,  
 Wayne & Carol Leiner,  
 Barbara Murray, Iris Ringhofer,  
 George Schwartz,  
 Bill Schulzetenberg,  
 Merv & Jan Tvinnereim,  
 Roger Wehrli, Chuck Wasem,  
 Carolyn Ziegler

## May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
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OFFICE HOURS : MON-FRI 7:30AM-3:30PM; E-MAIL: OFFICE@COLCHURCH.COM; PH: 623.546.6228

# Crown of Life Lutheran Church

13131 Spanish Garden Drive  
Sun City West, AZ 85375  
www.colchurch.com

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U S POSTAGE  
SUN CITY, AZ  
PERMIT NO 338

## CURRENT RESIDENT OR

### Beginning May 1

Saturday Worship – 4 PM  
Sunday Worship – 9 AM  
Bible Class – 10:15 AM

## The Jewels

May 2018

### Pentecost *continued from cover*

they never spoke before, languages they would never have learned in their native Galilee. Acts 2:11 “...we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

Today the Christian faith is proclaimed in hundreds of different languages around the world. In our own language Holy Scripture can be read in dozens of translations in English, some as ancient as the King James (about 1610) or as recent as the English Standard Version (about 2001). As Lutheran Christians we are justifiably proud of that German monk Luther who labored in isolation to give to the people of his day scripture in a language they could read and understand.

On Pentecost we marvel at the work of the Holy Spirit, as from that day the Christian faith began to be spread far beyond its starting point in Jerusalem. On Pentecost, we realize that we so long after are the direct beneficiaries of the work of the apostles, in the Holy Spirit, that began on that day. You and I know Jesus as a direct result of the events of that day. The Lord has blessed us mightily as heirs in that still-spreading faith! May He bless you in this month of Pentecost!

*Pastor Phill*