


THE VOICE
Of Pentecost Lutheran Church

As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

At the beginning of June we began a Sermon Series on the book of 1 Samuel. In our bulletin, at the top of the page we typically have a heading that denotes the season of the church year or gives the theme for that particular service. These last four weeks the theme has started out... The Story of Samuel: (then the particular subject). It's interesting to notice that in the "Story of Samuel," we have yet to hear from Samuel himself. Granted we are only four weeks in, but it's interesting to notice that Samuel has been silent so far. Let's take a quick recap of what's gone on so far...

Week 1: We were introduced to Samuel's parents, Elkanah and Hannah. Hannah, like many other "mothers" of the bible was barren for a time (Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Elizabeth, and Samson's mother to name a few). Hannah faced ongoing shame and ridicule from Peninnah (Elkanah's other wife) and the community at large. On one particular trip to offer the annual sacrifice at temple, Hannah prayed to God for a child and promised to dedicate that child to God. Soon after, she was blessed by God, conceived and gave birth to Samuel.

Week 2: Next, we found Hannah remaining true to her word, and after weaning the boy Samuel (up to 3 years old in ancient times), she brought him to the temple and dedicated Samuel to the Lord. What a moment of faith and trust that not only is God going to take care of this child, but walking away from your first born child...the one you've longed for for so long. We find out later in chapter 2 that Hannah would have three more sons and two daughters, but in that moment, it had to be difficult to walk away from your only son.

Week 3: Not only does Hannah walk away, but she speaks/sings a prayer to God. She rejoices in all that God has done for her and how he has delivered her (and taken away the public shame of being barren). We also noticed the similarities that Hannah's prayer shared with Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) who praises God for the news that she (Mary) would be the mother of Jesus, the Savior of the World.

Week 4: We are introduced to the wicked sons of Eli, the temple priest. His boys are stealing from God's offerings/sacrifices and having sex with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. One can only assume that "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" and that Eli wasn't the greatest example of a father to this boys. But this sets up the juxtaposition between Eli's sons and that of Samuel. Where Hophni and Phinehas sinned against God and his people...we see that Samuel "continued to grow in favor with the Lord and with people." (1 Samuel 2:26)

VERSE of the Month: **"Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."**
(1 Samuel 1:17)

In Hannah's beleaguered and depressed state of mind, she prays to God for a son and then hears these words of promise from God's priest Eli. Words of promise that change Hannah's outlook and state of mind. Words of promise that we too can take to heart that our God is listening to our prayers and will answer according to his good and gracious will.

What's next in our adventures with Samuel:

- Prophecy against Eli and his family
- The Calling of Samuel
- Raiders of the Lost Ark
- And more...



Paul Barthel – 07/01
 Haley Pilcher – 07/03
 Melissa Galipeau – 07/06
 Jodi Barclay – 07/07
 Martha Burman – 07/08
 Sofia Luxem – 07/09
 Courtney Heldt – 07/10
 Josh VanRuden – 07/10

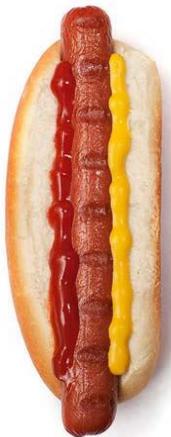
Ashley Ekstowicz – 07/14
 Arianna Greco – 07/15
 Ayva Weaseman – 07/15
 Matt Galipeau – 07/16
 Jordyan Galipeau – 07/20
 Emma Alvarez – 07/22
 Courtney Jacob – 07/23
 Randy Barfield – 07/24
 Tim Hasko – 07/24

Tracy Meyer – 07/25
 Wayne Ruud – 07/25
 Heather Alvarez -07/26
 Karli Luchterhand – 07/26
 Michael McCray – 07/26
 Art Preuss – 07/26
 Lisa Wilckens – 07/27
 Sienna Lisowski – 07/30
 Bob Winterle -07/30

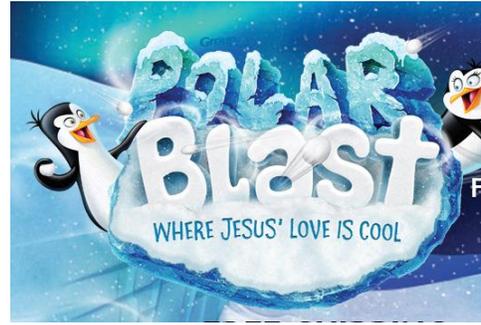


Lisa & Harold Wiegman – July 7th – 11 years
 Ian & Chrissy Hamilton - July 14th – 10 years
 Gordy & Tess Mierow – July 26th – 31 years
 Kevin & Jacki Greco – July 30th – 2 years
 Dan & Renae Rock – July 30th – 24 years

JOIN US FOR OUR BLOCK PARTY SATURDAY, JULY 28TH – 11am-3pm for the 17th Annual Neighborhood Block Party, Once again, we will close the street and will feature brats, hot dogs, roasted corn, side dishes and non-alcoholic beverages As always, the Block Party will be filled with door prizes, the balloon toss bouncy houses and much more! You won't want to miss this event! Grillers, food preparation, and set up and tear down volunteers are always



needed. Interested volunteers should contact Tom Hasko at TomHasko@gmail.com or 414-828-7365. And of course, donations are always welcome!



Vacation Bible School is back! Pentecost is proud to present "Polar Blast: Where Jesus' Love is Cool!" Mark your calendars for July 29th through August 1st from 6-8pm. This is a family event! Children up to age 5 are invited to come with a parent/grandparent. Children age 6 through entering 5th grade will be put into a Cool Crew. Parents are welcomed here, too! Those entering 6th grade through high school are invited to be helpers! Come as a family and learn how much Jesus loves you! Invite your friends and neighbors as well! Look for registration materials soon at church and at the Block Party.

Interested in helping out? We're still looking for volunteers--adults and youth. Please contact Teresa Barthel, teresabarthel@yahoo.com, or (920) 284-2286, with questions or to sign up. See you on the 29th!



If you would like to share your beautiful flower gardens with the congregation, feel free to place a bouquet on the altar for our worship services.



Lord Jesus, thou who art the way, the truth and the life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free. Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived. Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Help us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to please to do what is right.

—Peter Marshall, before the U.S. Senate

Stewardship Corner

Noisy Offering Coming In September



How often have you heard stories of someone sliding down a banister, having fun and making lots of noise doing it? We don't have anything for you to slide down, but you will be able to make lots of noise with your noisy offering this September. It will be used to help pay for the new railing that will be put in by the Parish House walk. The walk slopes a little toward the street and the council was worried that someone might slip in the winter when it is icy. Hopefully, with the railing, that won't happen. (Soft offerings are good, too. I'm sure there were lots of kids who slid down silently so Mom and Dad wouldn't know they were doing it.)



As we found in our Attitude of Gratitude challenge, thanking people is also part of Stewardship. At our June council meeting, members present received a thank you in the form of Tootsie Rolls and a card thanking them for the "Important Roll" they play at church. Which group will be next to receive a special thank you? Who do you take time to thank for doing things at church? Do you have suggestions for groups to be thanked?

For our entire congregation

On June 30/July 1 we

**Thank you for your
Commit-mint
Involve-mint &
Invest-mint**

**Of time and energy to make our
church a great place to be!
Take a mint from the table in the
narthex for your
Enjoy-mint**

A sermon on legs

I'd rather see a sermon
than hear one any day:
I'd rather one would walk with me
than merely tell the way.

The eye's a better pupil,
and more willing than the ear.
Fine council is confusing,
but example's always clear. —Edgar A. Guest

The same old song

Meeting a parishioner on the street, a pastor asked why he had not seen the fellow at worship very often. "Well," the man complained, "it seems like every time I go to church you sing the same old hymns."

"Oh," replied the preacher. "What hymns are those?"

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem."



Blessed Assurance

Fanny Cosby (1820-1915)

Fanny Cosby (Frances Jane Crosby) was born March 24, 1820. She caught a cold when she was just six weeks old and her eyes became inflamed. Various stories have the doctor who treated her as a country doctor, quack, etc. He put a hot mustard poultice on her eyes and she lost her sight.

When she was 15, Fanny entered the New York Institute for the Blind. After graduation she stayed on as a member of the faculty.

One day when Fanny was visiting a friend, Phoebe Palmer Knapp, her friend played a tune she had recently written on the piano and asked her, "What does this tune say?" Fanny answered "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine." She then finished dictating the song to her friend.

The hymn was published in 1873 and is still a favorite in many churches.

While Fanny was working at the Institute, the secretary of the Institute's superintendent would write down her poems as she dictated them. His name was Grover Cleveland. She later visited him at the White House and he would still take dictation for her.

Fanny wrote over 8000 hymns during her lifetime. Some that we use are: To God Be the Glory, Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross, and Redeemed.

