

JUNE 2021



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

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

So... what's next?

Have you ever found yourself in a place where you are asking that question? As schools begin to let out for the Summer and families make their vacation plans it has become a recurring question for many. After kids are done playing one activity they inquire of their parents, "what can I do next? I'm bored!" As families travel for vacations they arrive at their destination and unpack...then what?

Back in January, Courtney and I finally got around to doing some major "adult projects" that we had long put off. We started three projects at about the same time (Refinancing our home, signing up for more Life Insurance, and creating a will for our family). We just recently finished the 3rd task and after doing all this "adulting" it has me wondering... what's next?

The same can be said for the Church and really our country as more and more people get vaccinated and the mask mandates are rolled back. What's next? So many people are eager to get back to life before the pandemic, to once again enjoy gathering socially, to feel "normal" again.

I wonder what it must have felt like for the disciples AFTER the miracles. It must have been truly amazing to be eyewitnesses of some incredible things...but did it leave them with a feeling of "what's next?" Did the miracle lose luster after some time or a more recent miracle was more incredible than the previous and thus pushed it out of their minds. How many more miracles were done that were left out of the Bible?

I can't help but think of the last verse in John's Gospel: **Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.** (John 21:25)

So what's next for the church? So many churches have added their digital footprint to the internet and now record and/or livestream their services. Services and sermons are digitally saved for....forever?!? If you missed a week of church on Sunday you can now go back and watch it.

So what's next for the church? My hope is a return for some to worship in person (for those who feel comfortable doing so). As wonderful a blessing as online church can be, it shouldn't take away from the fellowship of the body of Christ. We lift each other's spirits when we meet regularly. The writer of Hebrews puts it like this...

**And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching** (Hebrews 10:24-25).

So...what's next for YOU? What's next for the Church?

Pastor Jacob



Lucy Bitner – 06/01  
 Seth Luxem – 06/01  
 Terri Lisowski – 06/03  
 Lindsay O’Neill – 06/06  
 Kevin Greco – 06/08  
 Janet Greco – 06/09  
 Aiden Yeager – 06/09

Katie Eckman – 06/10  
 Casey Hutchinson – 06/10  
 Rachel Hasko – 06/11  
 Ally Meyer – 06/12  
 Zoe Smith – 06/12  
 Corissa Galipeau – 06/13  
 Cameron Wagner – 06/13  
 Matt Luxem – 06/16  
 Weston Sadowski – 06/24  
 Noah Barclay – 06/27  
 Shannon LeGath – 06/27  
 Lincoln Jacob – 06/28  
 Karen Luchterhand – 06/28  
 Rob Cooper – 06/30



*Robert & Jodi Barclay – 31 years – June 2<sup>nd</sup>*  
*Scot & Pam Sinclair – 26 years - June 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
*Kyle & Shana Jacob – 13 years - June 7<sup>th</sup>*  
*Dan & Laura Sadowski – 14 years – June 16<sup>th</sup>*  
*Bill & Joyce Hasko – 54 years - June 17<sup>th</sup>*  
*Jeff & Gretchen Hansen – 20 years - June 23<sup>rd</sup>*  
*Walter & Lisa Wilckens – 28 years - June 23<sup>rd</sup>*  
*Steve & Eunice Matter – 29 years – June 27<sup>th</sup>*



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 262-664-4369



**Racine Lutheran High School**

Nadiyah Ali  
 Elizabeth Lisowski

**Case High School**

Genevieve Barclay

**Murray State University**

Daniel Hasko  
 Masters in Corporate Communications



Please continue to donate your plastic bags. Plastic bags can be used to crochet waterproof mats for the homeless. It takes approximately 700 bags to make each mat. There is someone willing to make the mats if she can get the plastic bags needed. If you have any plastic bags that you would like to donate, please drop them off in the Narthex. Any questions, contact Amy Luxem.



We will no longer offer drive-up Communion on Saturday evenings. If you prefer to have Pastor Jacob give you Communion outside of our normal worship services, please contact him to set up an appointment.

**Communion will be offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekends during the summer.**

## Stewardship Corner



Sammy says, “Hope you’re using some of those S’mores from our list.”

**Sammy’s monthly favorite** ~ Phone a friend and see how they are doing.

## See light, be light



In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem “The Hill We Climb” at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: “For there is always light, / if only we’re brave enough to see it. / If only we’re brave enough to be it.”

How often we long for light! In recent years we’ve agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12) and invites us to turn to him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends. Sometimes bravery is required to turn our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, “*You are the light of the world*” (Matthew 5:14, and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we’re urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others’ lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both *see* and *be* light.

Since this is the June newsletter, A belated Happy Birthday to our congregation which celebrated its 113<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 31<sup>st</sup>. This was Pentecost Sunday that year, thus our name Pentecost Lutheran Church. Since the

church was started by Slovak immigrants the name was originally Soslanie Ducha Svateho, which means Descending of the Holy Spirit. Over the years we have had a couple different names including Holy Ghost Lutheran Church and Slovak Lutheran Church.

**Noisy Offering** Start now to save those noisy coins for our Noisy Offering in September.

At the May Council meeting it was noted that our church computer is very old and slow and it’s time for a replacement – Perfect timing for a project for our noisy offering.



**Helen Smukal**  
11/27/33 –  
4/21/21

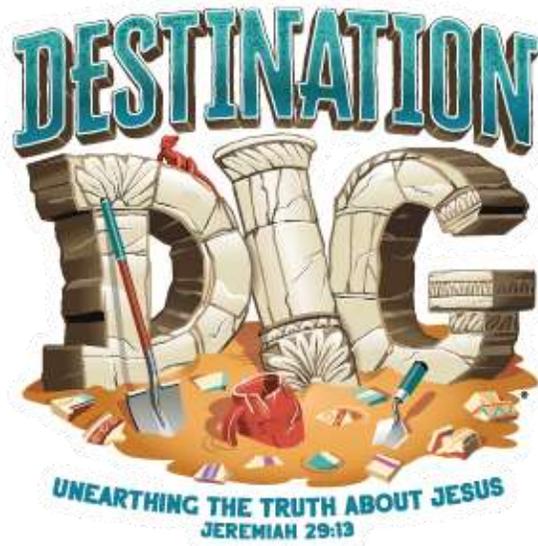
Helen Smukal, a name familiar even to our newer members through our weekly prayers, passed away in April.

Helen was a long time member of Pentecost. She enjoyed crafts, including quilting, painting, and sewing and was a “phenomenal” cook and baker. She was very appreciative of the cards and notes sent to her by church members.



Remember 2019 Father’s Day tie exchange ~ What will Pastor Jacob do this year?





At Destination Dig, kids will unearth more than just dirt. They'll discover real-life archaeological finds that have helped to uncover the truth about Jesus. Stories from the Bible will leap off the pages as kids explore where Jesus walked and examine artifacts that bring the world of the Bible to life. As junior archaeologists, kids will study tangible pieces of the past to learn the truth about who Jesus is and why He came.

**Vacation Bible School begins:  
August 3-7, 2021**

**5:30 (dinner), 6:00-7:30pm**

**Pentecost Lutheran Church Tues-Thurs.**

**Luxem Farm Campout Fri-Sat.**

For more information, call:  
Teresa Barthel, Amy Luxem, Shana Jacob

Or email:

[teresabarthel@yahoo.com](mailto:teresabarthel@yahoo.com)

All children 3 years old thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome!

## Pentecost Lutheran Church Updated Mask Policy - May 2021

In response to the following health recommendations and updates...

1. The CDC's updated mask policy <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>
2. Racine Mayor Corey Mason issued an executive order ending the enforcement of city Mask Ordinance  
<https://www.racinecoronavirus.org/mayor-issues-executive-order-ending-enforcement-of-city-of-the-racine-mask-ordinance/>
3. City of Racine Ordinance Sec. 54-35, Wear of Face Coverings, was repealed at the May 18, 2021, meeting of the Racine Common Council.

**There will no longer be a required mask ordinance inside Pentecost Lutheran Church for those who are fully vaccinated.**

Out of concern for all the members, if you have not been vaccinated you would certainly want to wear a mask when inside the church building and parish house.

If you have been vaccinated but still feel more comfortable wearing a mask, we encourage you to do so.

We continue to honor and respect those in authority over us and we desire to show love to our neighbor(s) by looking out for their interests as well as our own. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Jacob or your Elder to converse with them.