**GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**May 7, 2017**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Life-Giving Voice**

“We’re sorry ma’am, but your moving truck has been stolen.” She couldn’t believe what she was hearing. Nearly all her earthly possessions were on that truck! “It was stolen off our lot and dumped along a highway. They dug through the last few feet of the trailer looking for anything valuable, so things are scattered on the ground. Several things are broken.”

Discovering you have been robbed is a horrible feeling. Jesus compares the stealing of property, such as sheep, to the stealing of our very lives and souls. Many voices in our world seek to steal our attention, our resources, even our selves, for their own benefit. And in the process they suck the life out of us.

Sometimes we’ve even been a thief—taking from others in many ways for our own needs, rather than considering the needs of others. Sometimes the thief is that voice in our head that tells us we’re not worth much or that cuts down our confidence. That thief kills our spirit. But Jesus came so that the world might have life, “and have it abundantly” (John 10:10).

Martin Luther in his explanations of the Ten Commandments wisely includes life-giving ways to live them out. They become not only prohibitions of death-dealing behavior, but ways to promote abundant life. So we’re commanded not to kill, steal, or covet. Instead we help, support, preserve, and honor others.

Listen for God’s voice today and for the abundant life Christ is calling you toward. Listen for the ways you are being called to partner with God in bringing about that abundant life for all. May the Spirit’s breath of life fill you and restore you today.

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**Sunday, May 7, 2017**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Introduction to the day**

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us in the midst of the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

*If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.*

*The ushers also have large print copies of today’s worship folder available.*

*If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during*

*any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish*

*to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.*

*Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Prayer Requests

**PRELUDE**

Joyful Noise "He Knows My Name" arr. Walker

Brielle Bowers & Lauren Schultz, soloist

*The pre-service music signals the beginning of the worship service. Silence during the*

*pre-service music enables worshipers to prepare for worship through quiet meditation.*

**Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*The assembly stands*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song**

***The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing ELW #531***

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Kyrie**

**Canticle of Praise**

⇒



**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**First Reading: Acts 2:42-47**

*Today’s reading is a description of life in the community following Peter’s sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was outpoured on God’s people. This new community is founded on the teachings of the apostles and sustained in the breaking of the bread.*

A reading from Acts.

42[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.  
  43Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. 44All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 23**

*The psalm for the day is read responsively*

1The Lord is my shepherd;  
  I shall not be in want.  
2**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures**  
  **and leads me beside still waters.**

3You restore my soul, O Lord,  
  and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.  
 4**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I**

**shall fear no evil;** **for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

 5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
  you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.  
 6**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of**

**my life,** **and I will dwell in the house of the Lord**

**forever.**

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly in the midst of adversity.*

A reading from 1 Peter.

19It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 20If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God’s approval. 21For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.  
 22“He committed no sin,  
  and no deceit was found in his mouth.”  
23When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. 24He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Gospel: John 10:1-10**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Good shepherds bring people to life through Jesus, but those who avoid Jesus are dangerous to the flock.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 1“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 2The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.  
  7So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**children’s message**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day**

***Shepherd Me, O God ELW #780***

*Choir will sing the verses, congregation will sing the refrain.*

*The assembly is seated*

**affirmation of baptism**

*Presentation*

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and for these young people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

*A representation of the congregation presents those making affirmation.*

I present:

Brielle Lyn Bowers

Anja Lucille Guenther

Lauren Elizabeth Schultz

Dane Robert Webb

Clayton John Wenzel

Drew Zhengfu Williams

who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these young people whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

*Profession of Faith*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

*Affirmation of Baptism*

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God’s faithful people,

to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,

to proclaim the good news of God in Christ

through word and deed,

to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and

to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do and I ask God to help me.**

People of God, do you promise to support these young people of our congregation and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*The minister and all those gathered may lay both hands on the head of each confirmed and say:*

Father in heaven, for Jesus’ sake,

stir up in *Brielle/Anja/Lauren/Dane/Clayton/Drew*

the gift of your Holy Spirit;

confirm *her/his* faith, guide *her/his* life,

empower *her/him* in *her/his* serving,

give *her/him* patience in suffering,

and bring *her/him* to everlasting life.

**Amen**

*Those making public affirmation face the assembly.*

*A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.*

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God**

**and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

*All return to their places in the congregation and the worship service then continues with prayers.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed.*

*To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the*

*prayers, and the assembly responds:*

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace, and may say, “Peace be with you,” or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**Meal**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**offering**

Joyful Noise “Tree Song” (Medema)

**Offering response**

*The assembly is stands*

**offering Prayer**

Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,

as you were made known to the disciples.

Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives,

that we may be your risen body in the world.

**Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,

let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**Invitation to Communion**

Now let us feast this Easter day

on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

**Communion**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

Amen.

*The ministers commune either after or before others commune.*

**Communion Song**

**congregational song**

***My Shepherd, You Supply My Need ELW #782***

**congregational song**

***Children of the Heavenly Father ELW #781***

*The assembly stands*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

Strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

**Prayer after Communion**

Life-giving God,

in the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection

you send light to conquer darkness,

water to give new life,

and the bread of heaven to nourish your people.

Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus’ resurrection

that we may show your glory to all the world;

through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**Sending**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**Blessing**

May God who has brought us from death to life

fill you with great joy.

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

***Alleluia! Sing to Jesus ELW #392***

**Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**postlude**

“Alleluia Sing to Jesus" arr. Mark Thallander



Pastor Ellen Schoepf prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

Secretary Katie Love klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

Director of Christian Education Melinda Schultz

Director of Music Debra Borton-McDonough

Organist/Pianist Bruce Williams

April 30, 2017 Attendance:

Serving Faith May 7 May 14

Acolyte Adelle Dingledine

Altar Care Gretchen Bills & Becky Bills

Communion Assistants Adelle Dingledine

Walter Kopf Rich Weingartner

Brenda Kopf Dane Webb

Greeters Jeff & Melinda Schultz Harold Sollenberger

Lay Assistants Walter Kopf Rich Weingartner

Readers Brenda Kopf Dane Webb

Ushers Walter & Brenda Kopf Walter & Brenda Kopf

Nursery Connie Nelson Jennifer Coe



Many openings remain for altar flower dedications this year. If you would like to sign up please write your name on the flower chart across from the coat rack.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

FaithFamily&Friends3

**May 7, 2017**

*Log onto Faith’s website www.faithlutheranokemos.org 24/7 for updates*

**DEADLINES**

Sunday worship folder announcements⎯Tuesday of each week

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

***June Faith Family News newsletter*⎯**

**Please submit by Monday May 15**

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Please lift up in prayer this week:

🕆 Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne,

Harry Nawrock, Ken Whitmyer, August Colandrea and family.

🕆 Friends and family—

Harriet,Pat Belonga, Todd Barriklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allyson, Heather, Al, Lilly, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Jeanne and Leonard, Tom Brown, Susan Heft, Pat Hillberg & Family, Dennis Cobler, John Joseph Lanzetta, Bethany Robison, and the White family. Please keep Rich Weingartners mother, Sally Weingartner and his sister Lani Yearicks in your prayers.

🕆 Our mission partner congregation⎯Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church

🕆 Those in military service⎯Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,

Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.

🕆 Samaritas children who seek adoption— Giovanni, Jessica, LeeAnn and

Valerie. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friend.

**NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER**

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Thomas O. Mammoser and the congregation of Peace Lutheran Church of Gaylord, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**Weekly Offering 04/23/17** Year-to-date as of 03/31/2017

Loose Cash $ 122.00 Income $66,758.61 Loose Checks $ 25.00 Expenses $74,284.29

World Hunger $ 45.78 Net Income  **-7525.68**

General Fund $ 1358.00

Subtotal $ 1550.78

Total $ **1550.78**

**Weekly Offering 04/30/17**

Loose Cash $ 91.00

Youth

Quiche Meal $ 326.00

Conf. Lock In $ 35.00

Mom’s Bouquet $ 100.00

Flowers $ 25.00

Green Team T-Shirts $ 45.00

Samaritas $ 100.00

Loaves & Fishes $ 20.00

Kitchen Building Fund $ 500.00

Lois Sollenberger Mem. $ 125.00

Dorothy Young Mem. $2502.40

Pastor Discretionary Fund $1750.00

World Hunger $ 10.00

General Fund $2135.00

Subtotal $7764.40

Total **$7764.40**

**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS ­­­­**

Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the Schultz’s family in celebration of Lauren Schultz’s confirmation.

THIS WEEK’S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today Confirmation Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

11:30 a.m. Worship Committee in the Library

Monday, May 8th

Tuesday, May 9th

Worship folder announcements deadline

Noon: Study in Pastor Ellen’s office

6:30 p.m. Shalom Church Bible Study at Old Chicago

Wednesday, May 10th

7:30 a.m. Men’s Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

6:00 p.m. VBS Decorating

No Joyful Noise

No Chancel Choir

No Faith Bells

Thursday, May 11th

11:30 a.m. Caregivers Support Group

Thursday, May 11th: Kristin Creighton, Fahrenheit Massage will speak on Self-Care tips for the Caregiver and Free Chair Massage.

Friday, May 12th

Saturday, May 13th

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



**We are so EXCITED!!**

**Vacation Bible School** will be held on June 19th – 23rd from 9:00-12:00. Ages 3yrs - 5th grade completed. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated. You can sign up by filling out the registration form on the VBS table in the narthex or by visiting <https://vbspro.events/p/692364>

We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. Please sign up through the link above or by emailing Melinda Schultz at [mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net).

WAYS TO HELP

**What are those Laundry Baskets for??**

**ARROW TREE FOOD PANTRY**

The Caring Committee is launching a community outreach program to help support the Arrow Tree Apartment complex across the street from Faith Lutheran Church. Pastor Ellen and Katie Love have been in contact with the apartment complex manager, Janice, and she has expressed the need for non-perishable food items for some of the residents.

We will be collecting food items in baskets in the lower main church entry, as an ongoing project. Members can drop food items at any time in the baskets. Janice from Arrow Tree will come over and pick up the food items, or Pastor Ellen and Katie will deliver them. Janice will be responsible for distributing the food items on an as needed basis to residents and will store the extra items. Pastor Ellen and Katie will be in contact with Janice as needed.

Suggested items needed: SOUP, MAC & CHEESE, CEREAL, OATMEAL, PASTAS, PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY SNACK BARS, TUNA, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ETC.

We have had individuals every week come into the church with a need for food. It has been such a blessing to immediately meet their needs.

Thank you members of Faith Lutheran for your continued help and support as we reach out to help those in need.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & STUDIES

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT Group Meeting**

Join us at 11:30am for a light lunch and discussion. All are Welcome!

Thursday, May 11th: Kristin Creighton, Fahrenheit Massage will speak on Self-Care tips for the Caregiver and Free Chair Massage.

Thursday, June 8th: Jason Gauna with The Care Team will present a Virtual Dementia Tour. This “tour” walks you through the different senses that we experience everyday but in the shoes of a person with Alzheimer’s.

***Sixty Plus or Minus: Wednesday, May 17, 2017,***

***11:30 a.m.***

***Brown Bag Lunch and Program***

***George Ellena, Sightless Chair Caning Craftsman***

***and Inspirational Speaker***

***“Fingers that See”***

How much inspiration and motivation can you get from a ***chair***?? Perhaps not a great deal, until you meet the master craftsman who overcame the limitation of blindness to create its beautiful cane seat! Join us on May 17 to meet George Ellena, a friend of our member Dale Halvorson. George will share with us how he overcame his physical limitations to build a business and a productive, rewarding life by caning chairs.

Meet with us in Faith’s lower level fellowship hall for a brown bag lunch, followed by an inspirational presentation by George Ellena. Please sign up on the “Faith @ Work” Board in the narthex so we know how many friends to expect!

**FROM THE GREEN TEAM**

Just a reminder:  The Boxes in the Foyer of both West Church Doors can be used to recycle department store shopping bags, vegetable bags, dry cleaning bags, mailing bags, as well as grocery store bags.  Essentially any plastic bag that is clean and dry can be placed in the big cardboard boxes for recycling.  If you have questions, please call Cecelia Kramer [517-349-3297](tel:%28517%29%20349-3297)

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANK YOU!!!!  
Quiche Meal, Youth Fundraiser**Thank you for your support! We were able to net $326.00 from our Quiche Meal thanks to the Richardson family for a Thrivent Financial card and the wonderful members who attended.

****  
**2017 COLLEGE GRADUATES**I need information for the June/July newsletter for all of the 2017 **college** graduates. Please email me or Katie as soon as possible, so that your graduate can be recognized for their achievements. [mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net) or [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

**Vacation Bible School** will be held on June 19th – 23rd from 9:00-12:15 . VBS Sunday will be on June 25th. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the various stations and with the groups. This year’s theme is **“Maker Fun Factory”!** The following dates are for making decorations: Wednesday, May 10th from 6:00-8:00 and Saturday, June 3rd from 1:00-3:00. Please let Melinda know if you are able to assist with these events in any way.

**Thrivent Action Teams are needed again!!!**  
Please apply to help your youth group in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Here are some suggestions for your Thrivent Action Teams: **Faith Vacation Bible School.** Use this link to get started: <https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/> Please see Melinda to get specific details or if you have any questions.

**Important Dates in May**  
**7th Confirmation Sunday**10th VBS Decorations, 6:00-8:00pm  
**14th Mother’s Day Bouquets distributed**  
14th Children sing during service.  
**21st** **Last Sunday School, Pancake Breakfast or Panera Trip,**

**dependent on age.**

**\*\*\*NEEDED - Sunday School Teachers for 2016-2017** – Thank you to all of the volunteers who have stepped forward to donate their time. We truly appreciate your support. There are still several positions available, so please consider helping. The curriculum is VERY easy and the children are great. If we have multiple teachers per grade, it allows for some flexibility on how often you have to teach. We also need a substitute list.

Pre-School – Kim O’Brien, Brenda Kopf and one more.  
1-3 Grades –   
4-6 Grades (Trinity) – need 4 (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).  
7-8 Grades (Confirmation) – Ellen Schoepf, Brendan Guenther, need 1 more (offered both Sunday and Wednesday night, where a meal is included).  
Youth (9-12 Grades) – Katie Love, need one more.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday, June 16, 2017 is Faith Family Fun night at the Lugnuts game!

Seniors eat FREE on June 16th, and after the game stay and enjoy a beautiful fireworks display!

Sign up deadline is Sunday, May 21st. Please see Michelle Ransom or call the church office with any questions.

**IN OUR COMMUNITY**

**Bring the World to Your Home and Heart**

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), founded in 1947, offers high school students from around the world the opportunity to live and study in the United States. Would you consider opening your home to a student? It is a great way for families to learn about another culture, share their lives and culture, and make forever connections. For more information contact Pam Williams at 517-927-7703.



On Thursday evening, June 15, from 6:00- 9:00 PM, Action of Greater Lansing will be hosting a viewing of the documentary **13th** at Faith.  They will be hosting a discussion following the video.

Everyone is invited to attend this event.