

# LOGOS

The word from Word of Life

Volume 7 Issue 5

May/June 2018

## Welcome to the first issue of our new newsletter!

As a congregation the decision was made to change the frequency of our newsletter to a bi-monthly issue. Being immersed in God's Word is of utmost importance to us so the readings for each Sunday will continue to be included. The format may change in the future but, for the present, the readings for the 1st month will be on page 1 and the readings for the 2nd month will be on page 2.

## POTLUCK SUNDAYS!

**MAY 6TH**

**JUNE 3RD**

The meal is at 5:00pm.

Service at 6:00pm.

JOIN US!

## Soil Preparation

The month of May seems like the transition between winter and summer, at least here in Alaska. The hours of sunshine increase, our bodies become anxious to be out of heavy coats, our minds race with ideas for outdoor activities, the carts in the stores contain seeds and bags of dirt – you might say we become alive again after our winter hibernation. For those who have been active with winter sports, their attention now turns to hiking, swimming, biking, and gardening. The true gardener already has the seeds planted and are feeding the seedlings that will be transplanted once the ground is ready. Is your spiritual ground ready? What is meant by that? Handt Hanson has written some words that may help explain:

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

There is never a season when our hearts and minds can be without care and nourishment if we are to grow and flourish. Plants are tended to on a daily basis with words of encouragement and nutrients and we are no different. We receive daily care by God through the breath that he gives us, encouragement through the reading of His word, and comfort through our connection in prayer.

This month we read Psalm 1 and are reminded of the results when we keep a continual relationship with our Lord. Psalm 1:1-3” <sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, <sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. <sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers”.



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May 13th

## Worship Texts for May

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
May 6th	Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 10:34-48	Psalm 98	1 John 5:1-8	John 15:9-17
May 13th	Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1:12-26	Psalm 1	1 John 5:9-15	John 17:11b-19
May 20th	Day of Pentecost Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 139:1-12 (13-16)	Acts 2:1-21	John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
May 27th	Holy Trinity Sunday Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 29	Acts 2:14a, 22-36	John 3:1-17

### Northwest District Annual Gathering 2018 in Lebanon, Oregon

The Gathering was held on April 20th and 21st. The District includes churches from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Canadian Provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario). There are 82 LCMC congregations in the Northwest District of which 54 are currently members who come to the Annual Gathering. The theme for this year was “Equipping the Saints”. Excerpts from the messages by the keynote speakers follows:

Pastor Joe Beal (Christ the Servant Lutheran, Lacey, WA) based his presentation on Kent Hunters book entitled “**Who Broke My Church? – 7 Proven Strategies for Renewal and Revival**”.

- Kingdom Drift (some churches treat all members equally even though “infants in Christ” may have no biblical basis for decision making) (key measure of success – number of members, average worship attendance).
- Kingdom Culture (key measure of success – Discipleship) (change posture of church from an institution to a movement) (built on relationships).
- Growth – A thriving congregation focused on discipleship

The church in Lacey has moved away from program focus to focusing on two things: Prayer and Bible Study.

Pastor Perry Fruhling (LCMC Coordinator for Pastoral Ministry)

- We live in a broken world, until we accept our brokenness we cannot fully accept God’s grace.
- Be who you are, it is vital to lead from how you are gifted.
- Keep the main thing the main thing – Jesus Christ and Him crucified.
- Know your community for it will dictate your ministry.
- 5 Steps to Disciple Making (a. develop friendships b. at some point talk about God c. bring them to the cross d. explain what it means to live a life in Christ e. teach them to do these 5 steps).

Pastor Nathan Hanson (LCMC Ministry Board)

Talked about spirituality - this other side to our existence....

*A heartfelt thank you to Carol Ann, a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Walla Walla, WA, for sharing this information.*



**Word of Life Core Values**

- **Jesus is Lord.**
- **Jesus is our guide.**
- **Forgiveness of sin leads to healing.**
- **Prayer changes things.**
- **Faith is God’s gracious gift that saves.**

Worship Texts for June					
Date		1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
June 3rd	Second Sunday after Pentecost	Deut. 5:12-15	Psalm 81:1-10	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Mark 2:23-28 (3:1-6)
June 10th	Third Sunday after Pentecost	Genesis 3:8-15	Psalm 130	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Mark 3:20-35
June 17th	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Psalm 1	2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (11-17)	Mark 4:26-34
June 24th	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Job 38:1-11	Psalm 124	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41