



# The Quill

## THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Williamsburg, Virginia

July 2017



### Ordinary Time

How's it going, here, during Ordinary Time?

For you and me who are living in the liturgical world, there are two portions of Ordinary Time. A short period comes during the season of Epiphany (between Christmas and Lent). Now we're in the longer portion, which comprises about half the year. It started on June 11 this year, and it will extend until the First Sunday of Advent, December 3 this year. ("Ordinary" probably comes from the word, "ordinal": the Sundays after the Epiphany and after Pentecost are numbered.)

Even though the liturgical year causes some folks' heads to spin, here's why it's such a great gift from God. It's because it helps us stay alert to what God is doing! The themes of the liturgical seasons make us aware of God's presence, in what we experience, in our day-to-day lives.

You know those times of preparation – when you are hopeful, when you are waiting and expecting? Well, those are the themes of the season of Advent, which begins the liturgical year. We celebrate during Christmas! Then we move into Epiphany: What does it mean that God has been born into our human flesh? We enter into the season of Lent. How often have you discovered anew that you must die to your illusion that you are the center of your own little universe? That's a chief theme of Lent, as we return to our baptisms into the death and resurrection of Christ. We celebrate the resurrection every Sunday, but particularly so during the seven weeks of the Easter season.

When you pay attention to the themes of each liturgical season during your daily prayer, you become aware that there's more to our lives than a mindless progression of "the same old same old," day after day. What is God up to? Let's use these liturgical themes. What is God doing in your life when you're experiencing times of preparation and hope? Or of celebration? Or of needing to die to your inflated ego? How do you experience God in your human flesh? How does Christ's resurrection give you hope?

We are into the six-month-long season of Ordinary Time, which reminds us that God gives us growth, incrementally (and even imperceptibly if we're not alert and watching for it), during the routine periods of our lives.

How do you stay alert and watching for this? Let me suggest one practice of prayer. It's called a daily examen. It's rooted in the teaching of St. Ignatius of Loyola, who founded the Jesuit order in the Roman Catholic Church. There are many versions of the daily examen. I have taken one and adapted it, with four movements:

#### I. Transition

- I make the transition from the activities of this day into this exercise, aware of how much God loves me.

#### II. Thanksgiving

- What has given me consolation? How has God stirred my heart and thoughts on this day?
- When have I given and received love?
- What am I grateful for in this day?

### III. Forgiveness

- What has caused desolation? What thoughts and actions have not been from God?
- When was I resentful or angry?
- When was I fearful?
- When was I impatient, feeling time anxiety?
- When did I feel it was all up to me? When was I self-reliant to a fault?
- What do I need to let go of from this day?

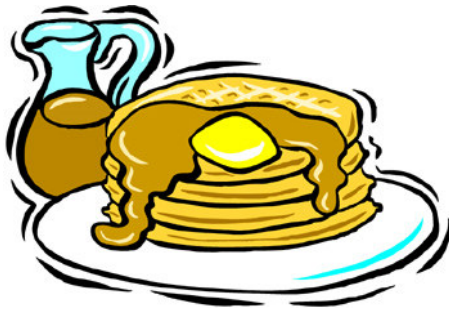
### IV. Transition

- I ask for the healing touch of the forgiving and loving God who removes my heart's burdens.
- I look towards the rest of this day or to tomorrow and pray to live it in accord with God's loving desire in my life.

Often it helps to journal what you hear in this type of prayer. Usually, over the weeks and weeks of Ordinary Time, you become aware of how God is giving you growth, incrementally.

Blessings to you on the journey.

**Pastor Andy Ballentine**



### *Men's Breakfast*

Men of the congregation are invited to join together for breakfast the first Thursday of each month. That's **July 6!**

We'll gather at **8:00 AM** at the Colonial Pancake House at the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road. The agenda is: "How are you?" followed by conversation.

*(Women of the congregation usually gather for breakfast on the first Tuesday of the month. Since that's July 4 this month, there will be no women's breakfast.)*



### **July Baptismal Anniversaries**

Those celebrating anniversaries of their new birth in Christ:

- |    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 1  | Rita Kristiansen |
| 2  | Nicholas Brisson |
| 3  | Christina Davies |
| 5  | Maddie Collins   |
|    | Noah Delehanty   |
| 16 | Theo Bergh       |
| 24 | Kylen Saunders   |

Others who were baptized in July:

Ralph Johnson  
Lou Rossiter  
Regina Root

As some of you know, I've been trying to gather our baptismal anniversary dates! It is a good thing to encourage each other to celebrate our anniversaries of our new birth in Christ. If you haven't let me know your anniversary date, please do!

**Pastor Ballentine**



### **CONGRATULATIONS! To 2017's Graduates**

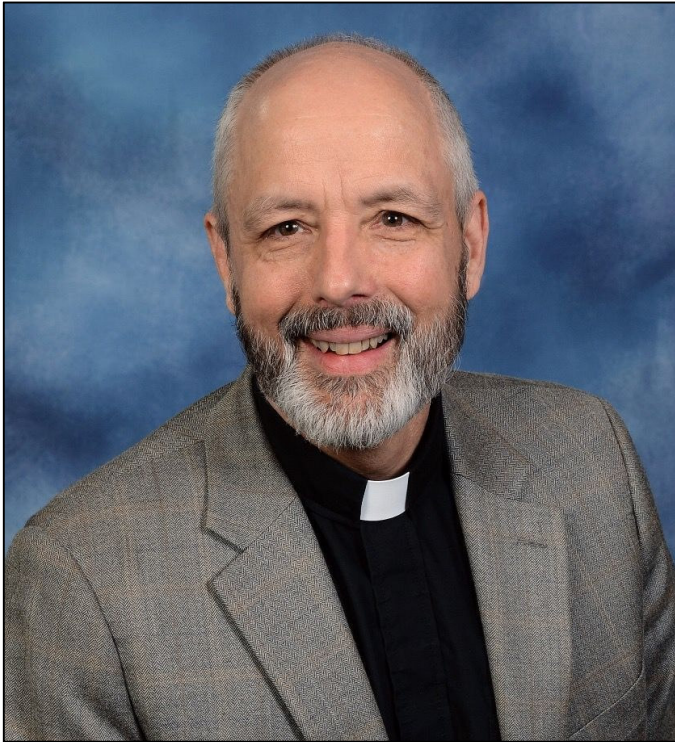
We give thanks for our graduating high school students!

**Please extend your blessings to:**

**Sammi Crittenden** graduated from Warhill High School. Sammi will be attending Virginia Tech in the fall.



## Robert Humphrey Elected Bishop of ELCA Virginia Synod



The Rev. Robert Humphrey, Harrisonburg, Virginia, was elected June 11 to a six-year term as bishop of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election was held during the Synod Assembly June 9-11 at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia.

Humphrey was elected on the fifth ballot with 217 votes to 167 votes for The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick, associate pastor of St. Philip Lutheran Church of Roanoke, Virginia.

Humphrey has served as pastor of Muhlenberg Lutheran Church since 2010.

The bishop-elect earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Richmond in Richmond, Virginia in 1977. He received his Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in 1981.

The Rev. James F. Mauney, current bishop of the ELCA Virginia Synod, has served as bishop since 1999 and will retire Aug. 31.

Humphrey will be installed as bishop on September 9 at First Presbyterian Church in Waynesboro, Virginia.

## A Fun Way to Support Lutheran World Relief

Have you seen that beautiful quilt that has been on display in the Gathering Space? It was created by the St. Stephen Lutheran World Relief quilters using quality fabric donated by a long-time member, **Dot Wright**. You could win that quilt and help Lutheran World Relief by purchasing a ticket. Tickets are available any time in \$5.00 increments from **Sue Voigt**, **Ursula Rectenwald**, or **Pat Janot**. The quilt will be displayed often so watch for it. The drawing for the quilt will take place in September so you have plenty of time to make your donation.

Pat Janot





## *The Church Mouse Hears*

... that congratulations are due to **Jaina and Caitlin Leek** – both inducted into the National Junior Honor Society!  
... that **Chanel Friedrich** has been awarded a prestigious paid summer internship researching the effects of NAFTA on the US and Mexico auto and agriculture industries. She is a Junior at Sweet Briar College majoring in business and economics.



Avalon, a local agency that began over 35 years ago in St. Stephen's basement as a resource for "battered" women, is *still* working to end domestic and sexual violence. They have recently added a program for youth in our schools, and plan to offer elder abuse education and services in the future.

Many of St. Stephen's members and our Social Ministry Coordinating Committee give annually to support these efforts, and there are many ongoing opportunities to contribute including:

- Administrative Support
- Maintenance and Property Upkeep
- Special Events in the community
- Childcare
- Life Skills Teacher
- Hospital Accompaniment
- Writing a check to St. Stephen with "Avalon" designated on the memo line

Visit online at [www.Avaloncenter.org](http://www.Avaloncenter.org) to learn about healthy relationships, warning signs, and training provided for volunteers. You can contact Augusta, Avalon's Volunteer Coordinator, at (757) 903-4371 or **Emily Rossiter** at [oreosgran@yahoo.com](mailto:oreosgran@yahoo.com).



## *Upcoming Events in the Commemoration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation*

**The Virginia Synod's "Power in the Spirit"  
conference, July 13-15, Roanoke College,  
Salem, VA**

The presenter will be Dr. Timothy Wengert, world-renowned Reformation scholar (and two-time St. Stephen Theologian in Residence). He will discuss this year's theme, "On Our Way Reforming!" "Power in the Spirit" features worship, Bible study and related workshops. For more information and a registration form, go to:

[www.regonline.com/registration/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1959579](http://www.regonline.com/registration/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1959579)

### **St. Stephen's Theologian in Residence Weekend, September 29 to October 1**

Working with St. Bede Roman Catholic Church—"The Reformation for Lutherans and Roman Catholics: Where We Were 500 Years Ago, Where We Are Today, Where We Are Going In The Future"

Roman Catholic Presenter: Bishop Denis Madden, Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore.

Lutheran Presenter: Dr. Kathryn Johnson, Director of Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.





Thank you for your recent gift of \$700 to support the mission and ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran church in America through ELCA Good Gifts.

Because of donors like you, these good gifts and the good news of Jesus Christ will touch the lives of many. Your gift helps us care for our neighbors here at home and around the world by providing basic-necessity items, tools for education, skills and instruments for meal preparation and self-care, resources for new congregations and their leaders – and much more. Your gift provides tangible witness through our actions, encouraging hope, healing and reconciliation in congregations and communities.

Thank you for responding to God's call to walk with our brothers and sisters in Christ's name.

Christina Jackson-Skelton  
Executive Director, Mission Advancement  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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On behalf of Housing Partnerships Inc., I would like to thank you for your donation of \$1,000.

Housing Partnerships works to improve substandard housing conditions for local elderly, disabled and low-income families by making essential repairs to their homes. Typical projects include repairing unsafe porches and steps, repairing leaking roofs, repairing water damaged ceilings and floors, painting, plumbing and building ramps.

We appreciate your support in helping HPI continue to help our neighbors in need. Without the support of the community with donations and volunteers this could not be accomplished.

J. Abbitt Woodall, Executive Director  
Housing Partnerships Inc.



### ***In the Footsteps of Martin Luther and the Reformation***

Join others from St. Stephen, exploring Germany and the sites associated with Luther and other reformers, **June 13-21, 2018**. Look for the display in the Gathering Space.

- Registration is open only to St. Stephen members (and their family/friends) until July 9. After that date, if necessary, we'll open it up more widely. Leaving from Richmond, the cost will be \$3,646. The first payment deadline is August 17. If you pay by cash or check, there's a 4% discount. For more information, or to use a credit card, here's a link:  
[www.icbs.org/find\\_trip/detail.aspx?tour=JX18/L&d=06-13-2018&group=10939](http://www.icbs.org/find_trip/detail.aspx?tour=JX18/L&d=06-13-2018&group=10939)
- Our leader will be Dr. Lamotte Luker of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC. He led the trip Pastor Ballentine took to Egypt and Israel several years ago, and is an excellent travel leader.



**Sandy Peterkin**, our Parish and Preschool Administrator, began her time on staff in 2002! We will celebrate her 15 years of ministry with us on **Sunday, August 13** between the worship services. Along with good things to eat, there will be a basket for your notes of appreciation.



## PRAYERS

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Nancy Childress, Pat Janot, Jo Moore, Randy Punchard, Linda Reuben, and Dan Stimson.**

Pray for these who are unable to get to worship: **Gene and Martha Clements, Bob and Angie Groom, Elsie Hall, Stan Hobday, Donna May Hochstetler, Mary Jamerson, Helen Lenox, Ursula Murden, "Pete" Peterson, Betty Rickerson, Dick Reeves, Jo Schumacher, Jean Shivel, Joanne Shue, Rudy Stegmann, and Jerry Trone.**

Pray Easter comfort and hope to family and friends of **Pat Chapman, Pat Janot** and her family, mourning the death of her brother; and to **Sonja Landvogt** and her family, mourning the death of her son-in-law.

We give thanks to God for leading **Margaret Enna Ehrhardt, Erik Daniel McKenna, and Audrey Natalia Root** this far along their journey of faith. These young adults affirmed their baptisms on Pentecost.

Pray God's blessings on **Matt Bosworth**, serving with the Army in Iraq.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: **Peggy, Mary, Jo, Nathalee Accomando, Philip Arnold, Brennan Bayer, the Bicknell family, Tom and Bea Black, Blume family, Matt and Jess Bosworth (awaiting the birth of their baby), Grady Calhoun, Elaine Cari, Marla Canny, Arlene Carruthers, Rosemarie Cristofolo, Kathryn Dieter, Inge Felbier, Karen Felton, Mary Fitzgerald, Mertie Funkhouser, Bill Gottschalk, Char Grabowski, Frank Greenday, Anthony Hargrave, Sara Jane Harlan, Sam and Ronny Hayes, Alan Hochstetler, Marian Hunt, Marsha Inge, Fran Kibler, Jack Kaminski, Art Kirk, Carl Kountze III, Dean Kreitzer, Jane Kristiansen, Mary Beth LaFave, Gaston Lambert, Frances Link, Mildred Lindblad, Bill Macdonald, Jack Malo, Simon Mayfield, McGraw family, Bruce Milne, Heidi Morris, Mary Newberg, Barb Pendleton, Lesa Peppers, Inge Petersen, Robert Pushaw, Pat Ramering, Paul Ratzow, Shann Rufer, Georg Siegert, Linda Smalarz, Sharon Smith, Evelyn Spear, Dave Splittorff, James Storm, Janelle Story, Pierrette Tipton, Kimberly Turner, Sue Weilmuenster, Travis Wilson, and Micah Zabell.**

- |    |                    |                  |
|----|--------------------|------------------|
| 1  | Paul Melvey        |                  |
| 3  | Pam Anderson       |                  |
| 5  | Austin Pierce      |                  |
| 6  | Kathie Eichfeld    |                  |
| 8  | Edith Haecker      | Bill Holcombe    |
| 9  | Bill Gibbs         |                  |
| 11 | George Vonderheide |                  |
| 13 | Margaret Bleck     | Rosemary Stimson |
| 14 | Janice Svendsen    |                  |
| 16 | Emma Timberg       |                  |
| 19 | Cooper Bailey      |                  |
| 20 | Nancy Childress    |                  |
| 21 | Linda Baumgarten   | Brad Rinehimer   |
|    | Jean Shivel        |                  |
| 23 | Edward Delehanty   | Dick Reeves      |
|    | Karen Schlicht     | Joanne Shue      |
| 24 | Doc Anderson       | Caroline McKenna |
| 25 | Katy Gohsman       |                  |
| 27 | Carl Stauffer      |                  |



Vacation Bible School will be the week of **August 7-11**, from **9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon**, at Bruton Parish, for children three-years old through the 4<sup>th</sup> grade! We'll be joining with families from St. Martin and Bruton Parish Episcopal Churches.

- "Shepherds" are needed – to walk the different age groups to their next center and help them with crafts or activities.
- The charge for snacks and materials is \$15 for a first child and \$10 for a second child, with a cap of \$25 per family.

Would you like a registration form and more information? Indicate that on the green sheet!



Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## 2017 Virginia Synod Assembly Update Forwarding Faith

Synod Assembly is our annual opportunity for the 150 congregations of the Virginia Synod to come together and be reminded what it means to be a part of the wider church. Our theme during our June 9-11, 2017 gathering was “Ambassadors for Christ: Forwarding Faith”.

During the weekend, **The Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla**, the Executive Director of the Global Mission program, represented the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, bringing good news from the wider church.

The Rev. Malpica Padilla, also served as election representative for the Virginia Synod Bishop Election. **The Rev. Robert Humphrey** pastor of Muhlenberg in Harrisonburg was elected on June 11<sup>th</sup> to serve a six-year term as bishop. Humphrey was elected on the fifth ballot with 217 votes to 167 votes for **The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick**, associate pastor of St. Philip Lutheran Church of Roanoke.

Testimonials from campaign leadership, **Stephanie Hamlett** of Epiphany Richmond, **The Rev. Jean Bozeman** of First Lutheran in Norfolk, **Jonathan Hornbaker** of Grace in Winchester, and Bishop James F. Mauney were given in support of the ForwardingFaith campaign and the many ministries this endowment aims to support. The campaign has raised over \$2.2 million thus far. The congregational phase is when we welcome and provide the opportunity for our congregations to come together and support faith formation in the Virginia Synod.

One resolution was passed with a standing ovation, recognizing the great work in the life of our synod by Bishop Mauney, naming him Bishop Emeritus at his retirement on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Elections for Synod Council also took place over the weekend. We welcome newly elected lay member **Judy Castele** of Good Shepherd in Lexington. **The Rev. Paul**

**Pingel** pastor of Grace Waynesboro was elected to continue his appointment to serve. **The Rev. Meredith Williams**, pastor of Ascension Lutheran in Danville, **The Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick**, **The Rev. Chris Carr** pastor of Christ the King in Richmond were all reelected to serve as Ministers of Word and Sacrament on Synod Council.

**The Committee of Discipline** and the **Consultation Committee** were also elected over the weekend. Both were elected by acclamation.

**The Rev. Alex Zuber** was ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA during Saturday evening liturgy at St. Andrew’s in Roanoke. He will serve as pastor in the **Stony Man Lutheran Parish** made up of **Beth Eden** and **Grace Lutheran** in Luray, Virginia.

One young woman was commissioned for Young Adults in Global Mission. **Samantha DiBiao** of First Lutheran in Norfolk has accepted a one-year appointment as a YAGM to Southern Africa.

**Michaela Loving** of Mt. Zion in New Market, president of the Lutheran Youth Organization, presented the Youth Assembly report, centered on the Youth Assembly theme of “To Faith and Beyond”. She spoke to the immeasurable value of youth events, and also expressed the gathered youths’ vision for the new bishop of the Virginia Synod. The next LYO Board president will be **Isaac Wilson** of Christ Lutheran in Fredericksburg.



**A Calendar of Events is now available on**  
[www.saintstephenlutheran.net](http://www.saintstephenlutheran.net)!

- Click on *More to Read and Download*
- Look on the left hand side under *More Pages*
- Click on *Calendar*.
- This is a convenient way to see what is happening in the coming months!

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Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



**The Quill**

**[www.saintstephenlutheran.net](http://www.saintstephenlutheran.net)**

**July 2017**

***Congregational Officers:***

President	<b>Russ White</b>	220-1023
Vice President	<b>John McCurry</b>	606-389-1082
Treasurer	<b>Paul Kristiansen</b>	220-2709
Financial Secretary	<b>Linda Vonderheide</b>	645-4059

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email: All email addresses are:  
\_\_\_\_\_@saintstephenlutheran.net



***Church Staff:***

Pastor	<b>Andy Ballentine</b>	229-6742
	email	pastorab@
Pastor	<b>Cheryl Ann Griffin</b>	876-6371
	email	pastorcg@

***Parish and Preschool***

Administrator	<b>Sandy Peterkin</b>	office@
Interim Organist	<b>Ina Berkey</b>	MusicDir@
Interim Choir Dir.	<b>Patty Ballentine</b>	MusicDir@
Parish Nurse	<b>Marcie Clark</b>	ParishNurse@

***Church Council:***

Amy Bergh	566-4557
Keith Egloff	229-7859
Jeanne Garrison	229-0978
Linda Laity Hite	220-2776
John McCurry	606-389-1082
Paul Melvey	598-1245
Sherry Phipps	810-4658
George Vonderheide	645-4059
Russ White	220-1023
Carol Wiers	564-0164
David Wills	378-2715
Stan York	345-0073

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