Our Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 25 West Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403 717/843-8155 – st.paulsyork@comcast.net www.stpaulsyork.org May 2021
Sunday Holy Eucharist 8 AM & 10:30 AM
Holy Days as announced

Pentecost Celebration: "Inside, Outside & Online!" Sunday May 23

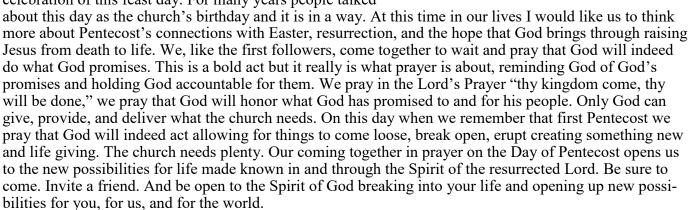
The feast of Pentecost will be celebrated at 8:00 AM with an inside liturgy which will provide for in person worship and a live stream link from our website for members and friends. The 10:30 AM liturgy will be outside on the South Lawn. This schedule provides our congregation with three options to participate in this Holy Day;

The beauty and comfort as we gather in our church sanctuary,

the live stream option for those who are at a distance or need to remain at home,

and the outside opportunity (weather permitting) for those who have come to appreciate this setting. (Remember to bring your lawn chair.)

What is most important is that we participate in the celebration of this feast day. For many years people talked



For those who choose the live stream option please know that the link to our YouTube Channel is provided to you with the weekly email of the Sunday bulletin and it is available through our website at www.stpaulsyork.org. On Pentecost the 8:00 AM service will be live streamed so you will need to be logged on to your computer, Smart TV, or other viewing device a few minutes before 8:00 AM. If you desire to view the service at a later time know that it takes about three to four hours for YouTube to store and move the recording to our channel's archive. Please do "share" and "like" our posts. Through our channel you may view any of our services from past Sundays and Holy Days.

We pray that our Pentecost celebration: "Inside, Outside and Online" will indeed bring us all together; if not in one place and at one time, then certainly in the Spirit of the Risen Lord!





Resuming Worship Responsibilities

Included in this edition of *Our Church* is a once standard part of our newsletter, the server schedule. The schedule identified a wide range of responsibilities needed to carry out our Christian liturgy. The Sunday liturgy is the work of the people, or the people's work. That is the literal meaning of word liturgy. During this past year a small group of individuals have taken charge of many jobs in order to keep the congregation's witness active. The video recorded option, and



now the live stream option, don't lessen the need for active participants each week. Some of the jobs have changed during this time of pandemic. It will be awhile before we can resume a full robust Sunday liturgy. But in the meantime we need you to take an active part, resume a role you once did or take on something new and different. In order to Live Stream the 10:30 AM liturgy we must have volunteers trained and willing to commit to the job. Without a Audio Visual Team we cannot offer a Live Stream Sunday opportunity. Altar care is reduced to the clean-up following the 10:30 AM liturgy. Cantors are needed for both the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM liturgy as the bulk of the service music remains on the lips of a cantor rendering the texts on behalf of the whole people of God until such time as we can safely resume congregational singing. The Assisting Minister will once again vest, sit physically distanced in the chancel and lead the appointed prayers. The prayers will continue to be prepared in advance for inclusion in the service folder. Because we have the new public address system the Assisting Minister will have his or her own remote microphone. The former role of Deacon will now consist of Cross and Bell which translates into ringing the tower bell 15 minutes prior to the liturgy, carrying the cross in procession, and ringing the Sanctus Bells during the Great Thanksgiving. Usher teams have seemed to be almost nonexistent during the past year. We have had many faithful volunteers who have been pressed into service. We need ushers who can assist people with seating, making their way to the chancel step for reception of communion and securing the offering following the liturgy. Please prayerfully consider how you can use your skills, abilities, talents, and personality to build up our congregation as we pass through these challenging days. To get involved simply notify the church office and we will add you to the next published schedule and see that you receive any training so that you can serve with confidence. In advance thank you for taking on the responsibilities associated with our liturgical life.

Summer Worship 8:00 AM Outside

Through the 2020 summer cottage meetings it was determined that even after the time of COVID-19 passes away holding a service outside on the south lawn during the summer months was a welcomed idea. The public visible witness strengthens our evangelism efforts. Children enjoy the relaxed setting. Currently we are finalizing the plans for summer worship. One aspect of holding an outside service is the weekly set up prior to and the clean up after each service. Last year the bulk of the set up fell upon staff members. There was always a core of faithful volunteers who would help with the clean-up and put away process. If you are supportive of an outside liturgy during June, July, and August and are willing to donate physical strength and 30 minutes prior to the 8:00 AM service time, please sign up to help by calling or emailing the church office with the dates you will be available.



We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Betty Zehner. Betty passed away on April 1, 2021. Her funeral service was at the church on April 17. She is buried in the Garden of Memory.

Harvest Wine Dinner and Auction Saturday, October 16, 5:30 PM Tickets on Sale in May

This event is the second of its kind at St. Paul's. The meal is being prepared by Brandon Hufnagel, chef of the Glen Rock Mill Inn. The menu features locally sourced ingredients from his family farm and from other farms in the Glen Rock area. Each course features a carefully selected wine to enhance the flavor of the food. This is a five course meal designed to take us through the evening.

Upon arrival at 5:30 PM in the Good Shepherd Room, there will be delicious appetizers. While conversing with friends and making new acquaintances there will be a table displaying a variety of silent auction items available for bid.



Moving to the church chancel you can view 18 original paintings donated by Pastor Reep before heading to the Fellowship Hall for the meal and auction. The paintings will provide the excitement and entertainment as they are auctioned off following the main course and before dessert is served. The auctioneer is our own Larry Gross. For those who attended fund raisers for the National Youth Gathering in past years, Larry has a gift for lifting our spirits and lightening our wallets in support of the designated ministry project. We are sure that this year will not disappoint. If you cannot attend the event but wish to place a bid we are working out details to make such an opportunity possible for you. (Note: Penn State does not play this weekend!)

The evening will conclude with dessert. There will be happy owners of original art. Thrilled bidders who acquired silent auction items and some disappointed folks whose generosity was out matched by others. But everyone will leave with a shared knowledge that the event generated interested in the Food Pantry ministry, the congregation's outreach, and finances in support of Food Pantry infrastructure which has proved invaluable during this past year of COVID-19 and the surge of families served through our ministry.

Council Greetings

Greetings to our church family! We hope that this newsletter finds you safe and well. We pray that you moved through a beautiful Lenten season that culminated in the glory Easter morning. The livestreamed service passionately shared the "He is Risen" message while the outdoor service reiterated The Good News. It was humbling to watch neighbors step out onto their porches to listen to and watch our



service. What a powerful moment to see God's Word literally calling out for others to join us. It is moment like this that remind us how abundantly blessed we are. We have such amazing opportunities to serve and share the love of Christ with so many and in so many ways.

We would thank everyone again for their continued giving and for donating time and energy in the support of the many ministries that are continuing and growing during this time. Please be aware that as we move into summer, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and support our parish and each other. Please reach out to a council member or other church leadership for ways to share your time and talents with us. May God's grace bring you comfort and may His Word bring unparalleled peace.

It is strange to think that last year we were just beginning to understand the changes that were coming our way in this time of Covid-19. Here we are a year later and, while there continue to be challenges before us, there also continues to be boundless hope. As a community, we continue to find innovative ways to share in relationship with each other and with the Lord. To that end, it is with glad hearts that we offer our thanks to those who helped make the pivot, allowing so much to continue growing and evolving at St. Paul's. This includes those supporting our pantry ministry, our new tech ministry, all those hosting meetings and ministries, and everyone who offer prayers and continue to check in on their neighbors. We are also abundantly blessed to welcome new visitors and new members to services. As we enter the time of Easter and new beginnings, we look forward to continuing to grow in fellowship and faith together.—Kathleen Lemke for the Church Council

Adult Lenten Study via ZOOM!

Here are some of the people who "Zoomed" together in March to share and learn and grow. Thank you, Pastor Snyder, for leading us in this Lenten Study.



Summer Bible Adventure

The summer Bible adventure is a way to get our children, youth and families actively engaging with one another and with the Bible. The Bible adventure will take place on the Tuesday evenings during the month of July. Each Tuesday we will feature one of our local parks. The plan is to gather at a designated park and pavilion. Arrive at 4:30 PM to utilize the park



playground and hiking options. At 5:30 PM under the protection of a pavilion there will be a meal time prayer followed by time to enjoy the picnic supper that you have brought along for your household. At 6:00 PM a biblical storyteller will introduce the Bible story for the evening followed by an activity/study page for families to work on together. We still need a couple of host families to serve each evening. Hosts will welcome others, provide some oversight for the playground, and lead the meal time prayer (prayers will be provided if you should need them). Hosts may wish to plan additional activities for greater engagement for those who participate. The dates are July 6 at Rudy Park, Blue Spruce Pavilion; July 13 Rocky Ridge, Grey Squirrel Pavilion, July 20 Kain Park, Perch Pavilion & July 27 TBD. To host or help bring the adventure to life please call Miss Kelly or Pastor Reep.

Summer Camp 2021

With the go-ahead from the CDC, The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA is planning to hold camps this summer. Check out their website www.lutherancampin.org and see which week works best for you. Then remember to talk with Miss Kelly about St. Paul's Camperships to help with the cost. Do you know why our church camps are so important? Ask any camper, they will be glad to talk with you about their experiences.



Wednesday Bible Study The Book of Acts

Wednesday Bible Study is held at 10:30 AM in Christ Hall. During the season of Easter the first reading each Sunday is from the book of Acts. We will spent a portion of our time together gaining greater insight into the book of Acts while still spending time reflecting on the Easter gospel read-



ings. The Acts of the Apostles is a continuation of the narrative of the Gospel according to Luke. The book of Acts can be divided into two large portions. The first portion centers on Peter and deals with the early church in Jerusalem in the days following the resurrection of Jesus. The second portion centers on Paul and deals with his three missionary journeys and the expansion of the message of Christ crucified, raised and ascended. These readings direct our Sunday worship during this joyous season of Easter with a duel focus on the good news that God has raised Jesus from death to life and in our missionary effort to tell and share the good news with others here and around the world. Please bring your Bible and join us!

Confirmation Ministry

presents our 16th annual

THE GARDEN CLUB OF YOR

Students in grades 7 and 8 have completed two units of instruction; The Lord's Prayer and The Ten Commandments. Students, if they have not already done so, need to submit their worship notes and final exams for these sessions to Miss Kelly or Pastor Reep. The next scheduled time to meet is slated for a week in June, tentatively the 14-18, mornings outside at a designated local park. During that time we will review what we have previously covered and move on to the units on Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. With this schedule we should be back on track for a unit in the fall on Church history and the Reformation and a unit in the winter/spring of 2022 on the Creeds, especially the Apostle's Creed. With this time frame we will have a class ready to confirm their faith in Christ Jesus and take a more active role in the community of faith in the spring of 2022.

FAIRE & PLANT SALE

Ample FREE Parking & FREE Admission aturday, May 1, 202

York State Fair Grounds in the Paddock Building Enter at Gate # 6 Highland Avenue

Raín or Shíne! We are inside!

GARDEN ART and FLEA MARKET!

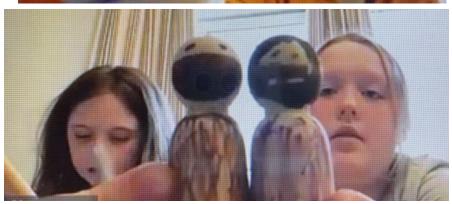
gardenclubofyork.com

ZOOMING "CREATE" with Miss Kelly! During the months of March and April the children in grades 2 through 6 created their own Easter game which included a game board, character pieces, game cards and dice. Using the Easter story, they also did a meditation and wrote poems. The younger children heard a story each week and decorated characters and images that went along with the story. Using these characters and images they can recreate the stories using their felt boards. The families also gathered in April to plant flowers in the large pots at each entrance of the church. They also planted the extra Easter flowers around the church yard.























A Scout update from BSA Troop 19 to the congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

On April 8, 2021 BSA Troop 19 celebrated 103 years of continuous sponsorship by St. Paul's Lutheran Church. We offer our thanks and appreciation to the many members who have provided leadership and support these many years.

Our Scout Troop, the oldest troop in the city of York, provides the Scouting experience to the families of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, their friends, and boys in the neighborhood.

Along with the rest of the world we are working through many challenges due to Covid-19 including meeting online and outdoors. Our Scouts are continuing to work on advancement during these trying times.

Troop 19 Senior Patrol Leader Johnathan

Capps recently completed his Eagle Scout Requirements and has advanced to this highest level in the Scouting program. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, he was one of the first Scouts in the Country to present his Eagle Scout Project online. Johnathan has recently completed requirements for his first Eagle Scout Palm.

The Hamme twins, Josh and Jake completed their Eagle Scout projects last month, Josh led the troop in preparing aid kits for the homeless and those in need while Jake supervised the construction of a fire-pit that was used for our Easter Vigil and the ceremonial retirement of American Flags.

Life Scouts Evan Dommel and Skyler Rodriguez are working on their Eagle Scout project and should be completing them soon.



The scouts perform many other service projects including the collection and retirement of American Flags and collection of scrap metal. Thanks to all of your who purchased nuts and popcorn supporting our troop activities.

Troop 19 is open to all youth age 11 and older. We hope to resume our meetings in the Scout Room next fall and welcome interested persons to contact us through the Church office.

Tom Gibson Scoutmaster, BSA Troop 19



Deadline for the June newsletter is May 14th

St. Paul's Food Pantry

Thankfully, the St. Paul's Food Pantry has been able to remain open, with modifications, throughout the pandemic. In March 2020, pantry volunteers moved quickly to prepackaging food for clients and meeting them outside with groceries. Our highest numbers were up to 80 families per week. Now we are closer to 40 which is in the high range of pre-pandemic times. Every family receives 3-4 four frozen meats, 1-2 dozen eggs, milk, cheese, and often a fresh fruit along with pastas, soups, canned fruits, beans, meat, and vegetables.

While many of the volunteers were unable to continue serving, some stepped forward and began serving weekly instead of monthly. At least 8 new volunteers have participated as well. For those wishing to help, but unable to participate due to jobs during the week, there is a new volunteer opportunity. Twice a month volunteers work between services at 9:00 AM to stock the shelves. Talk to Patty Snyder if you are interested.

Pantry volunteers look forward to the time when we can once again safely bring customers into the building to choose their own groceries. Perhaps this will happen in May or June thanks to the vaccines that are now available.



Food Pantry—May

Items needed: Pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, canned or boxed potatoes, stuffing mix, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles. Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a "special" envelope marked "Pantry".

LEARNING AND GROWING IN OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH

AN IDEA FOR PRAYERS AT HOME The Prayers of Intercession (the prayers on Sunday's after the sermon and before communion) can be used at home alone or with other family members. If done with others you could have one person read the prayers and all share in the response just as we do in church. Bring your church bulletin home or use the one emailed to you every Friday from the church office.

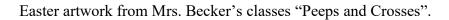
CHILDREN

The Spark Family Magazine has several lessons that include Easter, Pentecost, and the lives of the early disciples. Be sure to check it out. (If you are not receiving this magazine for your family, please contact the office.) Remember to borrow a Spark Story Bible from church to read the entire story with your children. Bibles are located on the bookshelf in front of Pastor Reep's office.

Worship: It is wonderful to see many people coming back to worship in person. Watch for announcements regarding outside worship opportunities this spring and summer. If someone in the family is sick and you are not able to come in person, try logging into St. Paul's YouTube channel to worship as a family and worship with your St. Paul's family LIVE! Also, look for the weekly email from the church office which includes the worship bulletins for children. These pages support the Bible lessons that are read that Sunday at church. Print enough for each child and use them to assist your family discussions about the Bible reading and living as a Christian.

Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran—The Auxiliary is conducting its Annual Drive for financial support for the primary work of providing support for the residents of the retirement villages of SpiriTrust Lutheran in York. Covid-19 was largely responsible for the loss of some \$20,000 to the Auxiliary's Treasury, and so there is hope that this will be a "bounce-back" year for the volunteer organization. [Thanks to all who already provided donations during the Geranium Sale.]

Checks are payable to "Auxiliary to SpiriTrust Lutheran" and should be sent to Jim Mummert, 770 Plymouth Rd. Your donation will be acknowledged by a phone call and our pastor will receive a note showing the names of all who contributed. Kindly call Jim at 717-309-4101 with questions.













Please remember to notify Pastor Reep of any life events, illnesses, joys or concerns. Call the office 717-843-8155 or email st.paulsyork@comcast.net During the month of April, we talked about rain, ducks, and umbrellas. We made it rain slowly and quickly with packing peanuts. We will finish the month, talking about spring trees and the alphabet. We will begin the month of May talking about caterpillars, butterflies, frogs, and ladybugs. Mother's Day will also be celebrated.

We are currently accepting registrations for the 2021-22 school year. Please contact us at 717-854-1996.





Music notes,

Kudos to Jim Flinchbaugh for his valuable time and work cataloging St. Paul's choral music library onto an Excel spreadsheet database. So far, he has imputed over 1,600 choral music titles. There are still many hundreds of remaining choral music titles. In addition, handbell and instrumental music will be cataloged in the future. This will give the church and the staff the ability to easily select, plan and coordinate appropriate music for various musical ensembles for our worship. I expect to have the entire music library cataloged by the end of this year.



Look for our wonderful brass musicians to return on Sunday, May 23 to celebrate Pentecost with us at our 10:30am worship service which will be held on the lawn outside (weather permitting). There will be several Pentecost selections with a jazz feeling. Bring your lawn chairs and come to the celebration. Don't forget to wear red!

Victor

Council President's Report

For more than a year we all (churches, schools, business, government, individuals, and society) have navigated through uncharted waters, a pandemic which we neither expected nor (as we learned) were well-prepared to face. This year has afforded the ability to showcase our problem-solving determination but also our penchant for dif-



fering opinions. In a year scared by political division, the pandemic of 2020 cut deeper wounds of disagreement across society. Stay open or shut down? Mask or not? Get that vaccine or don't? Each business, school, church, and even state, chose different paths through these dark woods.

Like every other institution, St. Paul's was tested by the unsearchable problems of the pandemic. Our leadership was strained by the many questions of "What to do?" In the spring of 2020 our Executive Committee began meeting weekly by zoom to support the transition to online services and plan a path forward. Following synod advice, we assigned a task force to address questions about operating in the pandemic, including worship, preschool, and food pantry. That group has met weekly at times, and at least every three weeks since inception, continuing through to today. Please thank Sheridan Palmer, Ellen Doughty, Jessica Ericson, Harold Sargeant, Norma Shue, Martha Thomas, and Tim Yakim for their service on this vital group! The Executive Committee and Congregation Council also slogged through difficult decisions on operations, especially during the peak of the pandemic in and around December.

Since that time, I thought that we could have done a better job communicating to the broader parish how we made decisions, especially regarding continuing worship through the winter. In truth, and speaking mostly for myself, the process of acquiring relevant and useful information, digesting it, and stewing over what to do was all-consuming and left little energy for much else. I want to use some space here to reflect on our decision-making process. I don't intend to defend or advocate for any position on matters of worship or other church operation. My intention is to articulate that we made all decisions through combined effort, with serious deliberation and concern for our parish.

Our COVID-19 Task Force and broader leadership continuously consulted CDC guidelines and statements issued by Governor Wolf. We reflected on statement from religious leaders, including the Christian Medical Dental Association, advice from Dr. Francis Collins (NIH Director and Christian), and bulletins from our synod. We researched peer-reviewed scientific publications on infectious disease spread (specifically SARS-CoV-2), masking, distancing, and computer modeling of disease spread scenarios. (I don't want to "nerd out" too much, but I even written my own computer code to estimate our parish's transmission risk from medical journal data.) We relied on an MIT-created web tool that our COVID-19 Task Force identified to calculate "safe time" and "safe numbers" parameters specifically for our church nave. This process was totally consuming for many leaders. Any free moment in my house turned into a discussion with my wife about what is best for St. Paul's. Again, my intention here is not to claim that any decisions were right or wrong, but were all made with earnest dialog, prayer, and all available resources. We used five decision factors as a guide: (1) data on COVID-19 spread in our community, (2) efficacy of our many mitigation strategies, (3) exposure risk of worshipers outside of St. Paul's, (4) need for spiritual nourishment, and (5) any consequences of ceasing operations.

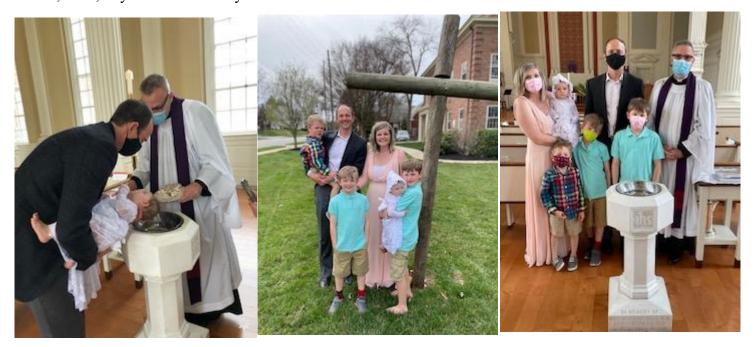
I want to say one more thing about the timing of our renovation and the pandemic. It's hard to say this part without sounding like a defense of continuing worship during the peak of the pandemic, but the ability of our new HVAC system to cycle and filter air should be recognized. The risk mitigation performance of our new system compared to the old, as calculated by the MIT web tool, is striking. Seldom does facility infrastructure like heating, cooling, pluming or electrical get the credit as "vital components" to our worship life. I recall when Ann Anstadt and I met with Rev. Kevin Shively at St. Matthew to learn how we might bolster our Capital Campaign. At one point, Rev. Shively noted that parishioners are more likely to give to aesthetic goals (my words) than facility structure, like HVAC. In this moment, however, we should acknowledge the critical role of this utility in our life of faith. I'm thankful to Tim Yakim, Tom Throckmorten, and Tom Ruth who advocated for an advanced system throughout renovation planning.

Winter was tough and challenging for our leadership, but I'm thankful for the faithfulness of our members, and what feels like new life following Easter. I pray that you are all safe, healthy, and nourished in body and spirit.

God's Peace,

Tristan Ericson, Council President

Joyous Baptism! Proud parents, Chris & Amy Lipp, celebrated the Baptism of their daughter, Guinevera Rose, on Saturday, March 27th. Brothers, Ephraim, Augustus, and Montague joined in the celebration. Welcome, Vera, to your church family!



Comings and Goings

During these days of physical distancing and awareness of safety and to reduce risk of community spread we haven't been able to pray Farewell and Godspeed for those taking leave from us, or to welcome with reception those uniting with us. So we say farewell to those moving away from the area and or transferring to another congregation: Joel Reiter, Andrew Doughty, and Deacon Ellen Doughty. We extend a joyful welcome to C. Richard and Judy Lloyd and Carla Rupert and to the newly baptized daughter of Chris and Amy Lipp, Guinevera Rose Lipp.



2021 Flower Chart

The 2021 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board. The cost of the flowers is \$30 per vase. You are welcome to sign up to provide one or both vases. After you have signed up, simply make a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark it altar flowers. This is a great way to honor someone, celebrate a milestone in life, or remember a loved one. The flowers may be taken home with you at the conclusion of the 10:30 AM liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, shut it, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and to provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. In advance, thank you.

Open dates	Vase 1	Vase 2
5/2/21		
5/9/21		
5/16/21		
5/23/21		
5/30/21		
6/6/21		
6/13/21		
6/20/21		
6/27/21		

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Thank you to all who helped to get this newsletter out this month!

STAFF 717-843-8155
Pastor Reverend Stanley Revouth Director Kelly Moore-Spencer Organist, Choir Director Victor Fields
Bookkeeper Dale Zeiger
Secretary Patee Pizzirusso
Sexton Ted Weikert
Preschool Director Deb Becker

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Worship Schedule Sunday Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 AM