

Newsletter 05.14.26

This week as I prepared for Pentecost, I found myself reading the beginning of Acts to remember the context of everything that happens. The Book of Acts begins with Christ ascending into heaven. There's a holy day that celebrates this event, Ascension of the Lord. Then the liturgy and lectionary skips to Pentecost, the Descent of the Holy Spirit.

I can understand why, of course. Pentecost is one of the most important events in Church history. It is the birth of the church! It is when the Spirit descended upon us, uniting us and empowering us to go grow the Kingdom of God. You cannot overstate the importance of Pentecost!

But there's an event between the Ascension of the Son and the Descent of the Spirit that is often overlooked. Between the two pivotal moments is the choosing of the new 12th Disciple. Peter announces that they need a new guy to replace Judas Iscariot. The candidate must be someone who was with Christ since his baptism by John and had witnessed the Resurrection.

Those are pretty high standards, especially when you consider that none of the other Disciples match them. We have the call story for many of the Disciples and they were all called post-Baptism. Obviously, the standards Peter is setting is too high, and he'll find no one. Like a company that requires ten years' experience on an entry level job.

Except there are two people (at least!) that match the qualifications. There is Joseph, a.k.a. Barsabbas, a.k.a. Justus, and Matthias. They're so evenly qualified that Peter and the other Disciples can't choose themselves, so they pray to God and flip a coin to see who the new 12th Disciple is. It lands on Matthias, if you were curious.

Who were these guys, though? Justus and Matthias were there at the Baptism of the Lord? They followed Christ throughout his ministry? They were in the Upper Room when Christ appeared? But none of the Gospels mention them! They must have always been part of the nebulous "multitudes" and "crowds." People that were always there, but never in the spotlight.

That got me thinking about the Church today. There are amazing and wonderful leaders in the Church today. People that we couldn't do ministry without. They are willing to stand up and be up front. They are willing to head the committees and guide the Church.

But the Church couldn't function without the Matthias's and Justus's. The people who aren't in the spotlight. The people that are quietly working in the background to make the business of the Church work. They are the ones that aren't on the committees but are always there willing to lend a hand. They may never receive the credit or acclaim, but the Church couldn't do its ministries or missions without them.

So, as we celebrate Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, I also want us to remember the faithful people who quietly keep the Church alive. The ones who show up early to unlock doors and stay late to clean up. The ones who make casseroles, fold bulletins, pray faithfully, visit friends, send cards, teach children, and check in on neighbors. The ones who may never stand in a pulpit or chair a committee meeting, but whose faithfulness builds the Kingdom of God every single day.

The Church has always been filled with Matthias's and Justus's. Ordinary disciples whose names may never be widely known, but whose devotion to Christ changes lives all the same. Thanks be to God for those saints among us. God Bless, Pastor Ed

Disciples and Dragons Youth Group Is meeting every other Sunday at 6 PM

Graduation Open House~Join us to celebrate the graduation of *Sydney Horner*
Saturday, June 6th from 11am-2pm
at Lakeville United Methodist Church 610 N. Michigan Street Lakeville, IN 46536

TOPS Club meets at LUMC on Mondays, 4:00 PM, Room 206, use north east door.

VBS – Snowball Mountain Challenge – Tuesday, July 21 – Friday, July 24

Online giving is available for your convenience
Scan the QR code for the direct link. Also, at lakevilleumc.org



Thank You

Thank You!! For all the donations for the rummage and bake sale. For all the volunteers who helped make another successful rummage sale. Total income is **\$1,880.25**. This is the 3rd largest rummage sale income in recent years.

Updated Food Pantry Needs: egg noodles, salt, toilet paper, pasta or spaghetti, jelly, any kind of soup, mayonnaise, cake mix, frosting, dishwashing liquid, soup with meat, saltine crackers The Food Pantry is open to anyone in the Union North school district as well as to our church family on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 3 – 6 PM

Sunday Fellowship Time Refreshments Schedule

May 17 Martha May 24 _____

May 31 _____

Sign up at the bulletin board outside the
kitchen door.

Sunday Kids Church Schedule

May 17 Kenzie May 24

May 31 Hope

Sign up at the bulletin board outside the
kitchen door.

Looking Ahead

Disciples & Dragons – Sunday, May 17, 6-8 PM

3's & 4's Spring Program – Monday, May, 18, 6:45 PM Trodie Hall

4's & 5's Graduation – Tuesday, May, 19, 6:45 PM Trodie Hall

MacKinzy Zimmer Graduation Party – Saturday, May 23, 1-5 PM

Euchre/Game Night – Saturday, May 23, 6-8 PM

Guest speaker: Joy Ahlemeyer – Sunday, May 24, 9:30 AM

Food Pantry – Tuesday, May 26, 3-6 PM

Ida Mission Circle – Wednesday, May 27, Eat Out

Fifth Sunday – May 31 Bring a dish to share

Disciples & Dragons – Sunday, May 31, 6-8 PM

Annual Conference – June 3 – 6 St. Luke's UMC, Indianapolis

Missions/Evangelism Meeting – Thursday, June 4, 6:30 PM

Sydney Horner's Graduation Party – 11 AM – 2 PM

Ida Mission Circle – Wednesday, June 24, 10 AM

Euchre/Game Night - Saturday, June 27, 6-8 PM