

MAY, 2025



THE VOICE

Of Pentecost Lutheran Church

www.pentecost-racine.org

As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.

Early each morning, when the house is still quiet, when everyone else is still asleep, and the only noises heard are coming from the birds outside our window and my snoring dog, I read through my daily devotion. It seems to be the only time I can peacefully read scripture without the chaos of little children being silly, or crying, or asking to go out and play, or telling me that they want a snack not a few minutes after we had just eaten breakfast or lunch.

Currently, I am working through the book of Psalms. With the recent celebration of Easter, I thought I'd write on Psalm 35. If your Bible is near by, please open it with me.

Psalm 35 is a prayer of our Lord Jesus who comes down to Earth to fight on our behalf. He is our warrior. He fights so that He might win our salvation. We cry out to Him just as David cried out to Him when he was facing trouble. "Let not those rejoice over me who are wrongfully my foes, and let not those wink the eye who hate me without cause." (Psalm 35:19) And we see in scripture Jesus cries out to God to fight on His behalf too. He knows the fight will be long. It will be hard. Jesus will fight the most unimaginable darkness.

"Without cause" is mentioned three times throughout Psalm 35. Jesus quotes verse 19 in the book of John. "But the word that is written in their law must be fulfilled: they hated Me without a cause." (John 15:25). Jesus says the world will hate Him, His Father, and His followers. It is a hatred without cause. A wild concept considering that it was in love that God created the world. God pours out His heart to us. We see this in the ministry of Jesus. Jesus fed the hungry, healed the sick, raised the dead. And yet, there was hatred for Him without cause. Isn't sin terrible!

All that hatred of the world-that hatred without cause-led to that dark day on the cross, Good Friday. What an amazing God we have that He would rather shed His blood on the cross than lose us. Jesus loved the world-the world that hated Him-so much that He would give His life so that we would have eternal life. He went to the cross in joy, knowing that from the cross we would have salvation. Jesus rose from the tomb on Easter morning alive! The world may have hated Him without cause, but His love was never without cause. It was a love that was caused by the Father's heart. And the Father never stops loving the world. He never stops fighting for us.

Marissa Retzlaff



Barb Kairis – 05/02
 Autumn Madsen – 05/03
 Mike McCray, Jr. – 05/04
 Hannah Maher – 05/06
 Judy Mueller – 05/06
 Madelyn Sadowski – 05/06
 Walter Jacob – 05/08
 Henry Hansen – 05/13
 Natalie Scott – 05/14

Kelley Grant – 05/17
 JoAnn Haselhuhn – 05/19
 Debby Cooper – 05/20
 Ian Barclay – 05/21
 Dan Christensen – 05/21
 Kathy Merrill – 05/22
 Dan Geyer – 05/27
 Ellen Geyer – 05/28



Hospitality Center Collection

In May we are collecting toothpaste and toothbrushes for the Hospitality Center. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support of this mission! - M&E Team

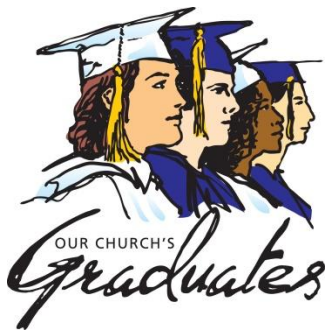


Cassi & Ryan Huntington – 12 years – May 4th
Omar & Crystal Barron – 17 years – May 10th
Tom & Sue Hasko – 32 years – May 15th
Wes & Diane Larsen – 55 years – May 16th
Jenna & Ian King – 2 years – May 19th



Pentecost sells Kwik Trip cards – We buy them at a discount and sell them to you at face value. Just another way to support our church. See Tom or Tim Hasko before or after service to purchase.

A Mother's Day Prayer



We would like to recognize our members who will be graduating from high school or college. Please submit to the church office your name, school and degree and we will be sure to publish it in next month's newsletter. We are proud of your accomplishments!



Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.



Grass Cutters NEEDED
 If you can help with cutting the grass at the church and parish house, please sign up on the table in the narthex. We have a zero-turn riding lawnmower and a push mower, along with a rechargeable trimmer. If you need any assistance with this equipment, please contact Rob Cooper, Glen Luxem or Matt Luxem.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stewardship Corner

When you hear the word **Stewardship**, what do you think of? Most people think **money**, but Stewardship is so much more than that.

Stewardship Is...

Time

Talents

Treasure



Maya was pretty sure Clint couldn't handle that heavy cart by himself, so she decided to help him. Deacon and Simon are our youngest lectors. The Church Council is made up of people from their 20s to their 80s. This just shows that you're never too old or too young to share your time or your talents!

There are many other ways to share time and talent – cutting the grass,

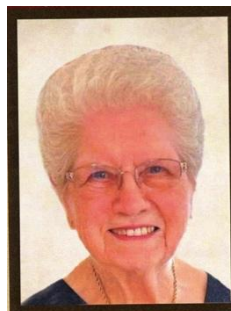
picking up litter, singing with the choir, playing a musical instrument, helping with the Lenten and Advent meals or any other receptions or meals, participating in church events, praying for members... the list goes on and on. And, of course, we do still need offerings to pay the bills.



Thank you, Johnathan, for organizing the Easter Breakfast. Thanks, too, to everyone who helped decorate, cook, and serve. How great it was to see so many people at the breakfast and a full church afterwards!



In Loving Memory



Darlene Andes



Birgit Winterle

2025 has seen two of our faithful members called to their eternal home – Darlene Andes and Birgit Winterle. You could usually see both ladies in church on the left hand side near the back **and** both seldom missed a service! What a great example they set for the rest of us.

The Pythons will miss Darlene's dedicated support and encouragement.

Many people will remember Birgit's beautiful cookies that she shared at coffee hours or church meals. One of the songs in our Hymns of Pentecost was suggested by Birgit – "Our Father Has Light in His Window".



Our picture collage, board, display or whatever you want to call it is finally up. If you're looking for your picture, the ones we had before Easter are pretty much alphabetically going across. Ones that we got later are added at the end. Thanks to all who sent in pictures or had their picture taken.

Congratulations to the 2025
Confirmation Class



2025 Confirmation Class
Adelynn, Quinten, Lenox, Dylan
Pastor Brady, Liam N. , Kade, Liam O.