

Holy Lamb Lutheran Church

2541 Forestbrook Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

July 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Given the exponential rise in Covid 19 cases in Horry County, it is essential that we all engage in behavior that keeps us and others safe. This means wearing masks inside public buildings at all times, as well as maintaining appropriate distances from other people, even while wearing masks.

I just returned from 1½ weeks in Montgomery County, MD, helping my son rebuild his kitchen after a flooding event caused by a broken dishwasher in November. Every person, in every public situation, whether employee or customer was wearing a mask. They are much more densely populated than we are, yet their numbers, which had been very high are going down. In contrast, I rarely see a majority of people, here, wearing masks. Horry County's numbers are skyrocketing. The difference is obvious, as is the cause. Please act responsibly.

Notice I did not use the phrase 'social distancing.' That term is really a distortion of what we should be doing. We should definitely engage in 'physical distancing,' but we need to be even more diligent about *removing* social distancing. By this I mean that we need to engage each other in conversations – by phone, text, email, and snail mail—that strengthen our social contact with each other. Yes, in these times of physical separation we need to be socially closer, not more distant. Please make a special effort, on a daily basis, to contact several friends, members of Holy Lamb as well as all your friends.

God has created us as individuals who need to be in relationship with others. Since many of our ordinary methods of contact are not available, we must use other means to ensure that our relationships remain healthy. Your friends' mental health, as well as your own, will benefit from frequent communication with a variety of people.

It is exciting to see how Holy Lamb has responded to the challenges of the virus. Our worship services are viewed via Facebook Livestream, and our 'parking lot communion distribution' attendance continues to increase, as does our worship on the front lawn.

To refresh:

- All services are conducted at 9:00AM Sunday.
- All services are available on Facebook Livestream.
- All services are viewable any time after the Livestream on Facebook or our website: holylamblcms.org.
- 1st and 3rd Sundays, we worship on the front lawn maintaining physical distancing by marks on the lawn – no communion.
- 2nd and 4th Sundays we have only essential production personnel in the Sanctuary, but we offer 'drive-thru distribution' in the parking lot 10:30AM – 11:00AM.

Contents:

From the Pastor's Desk.....	1&2
Stewardship	2
Bible Studies.....	2
Being in the Word Daily	3
Women's Bible Study.....	3
Wednesday Eve. Bible Study ..	4
<i>Healing Racial Divide in America</i>	
B'days & Anniversaries.....	5
Prayer Requests	5
LWML	5
Outdoor Worship	6
Financial Profile	7

(continued on page 2)

Stewardship The Big Shoe is Coming!



Coming soon to our services, outdoors and drive thru-- **THE BIG SHOE!**. Look for it starting August 2nd and every Sunday in August. We will be collecting shoes and socks for kids as we have done in the past. We will have the **Big Shoe** out on Sundays when we have out door services and you can put your contribution in it. On drive thru Communion Sundays, the **Big Shoe** will be in the middle of the parking lot and I will be available to take your donation thru your car window so you don't have to leave your car. I will wear a mask and gloves.

We will also have the donation jug out to receive monetary donations. Also, checks can be mailed into the church made payable to *Holy Lamb*, and in the memo line please indicate they are for *Shoes and Socks for Kids*. We have 5 Sundays in August, so lets overfill the shoe!

Eileen St. Clair and the Stewardship committee



Shoes and Socks for Kids

(continued from page 1)

Our Bible studies also continue via the Zoom platform. Most have found this method at least as rewarding as in-person. Our Bible studies are:

- Tuesday morning at 9:00AM – **Hebrews**
- Wednesday evening at 6:30PM – we are beginning a new study, **One Nation Under God – Healing Racial Divisions**. (A separate article in this newsletter has more information.)
- Thursday evening at 6:30PM – Women's Bible study, **Women and Men in the Word**. (A separate article in this newsletter has more information.)

These are wonderful opportunities for strengthening relationships (mental health) as well as learning more of God's love for us (spiritual health). Perhaps if we add 15 minutes of physical exercise, we would have a trifecta!

Be safe and be social!

In His service,

Pastor Panning



Being in the Word daily

Now more than ever, a daily infusion of God's Word will help us deal with the turmoil going on around us.

Our synod's own publisher, Concordia Publishing House (CPH), offers several options worth considering:

- **A Treasury of Daily Prayer** - This volume has daily readings from the Bible as well as the Lutheran Confessions. It includes a format for daily devotions and much more. Kathy and I have used this for periods of time and have found it very rewarding. Its list price is \$50.00, but CPH is offering it for \$34.99. This is a savings of 31% on a wonderful resource for your home.
- **Day by Day – 365 Devotional readings from Martin Luther** - These are the devotions we use at the beginning of Council and Elder meetings. At one paragraph each, they offer a quick devotional start to a day. Paperback, \$15.99
- **Readings from the Psalms with Luther** - This volume includes all 150 of the Psalms, as well as a brief commentary by Luther on each one – again, a great, quick start to your day. Hardcover, \$17.99.
- Many more titles are available at cph.org, currently including some free downloadable resources for adults and children.



I encourage you to go online and browse through their assortment to find one that suits you. The peace brought to us in daily Scripture reading is, as I say at the end of every sermon, “the peace which surpasses all human understanding.”

Women's Bible Study Women & Men in the Word

The women's Bible study meets Thursday evenings at 6:30pm on Zoom. All women are welcome to join us! Use Holy Lamb's standard meeting code.

We are using the reading plans provided at www.shereadstruth.com. In this season of social distancing, this is an easy way to use the same resource without cost or distribution issues. You can find the daily Scripture readings and devotion at their website or sign up for their daily email or download their app. The website and emails are free; some of the plans on the app have a nominal charge. We would love to have you join us! And whether or not you meet with us, this can be another easy way to develop a daily Bible reading habit.

We are currently reading the plan 'Women & Men in the Word: New Testament'. Because each day's reading stands on its own, this is ideal for those who aren't able to meet with us every week.

Beginning July 27, we will be reading the two week plan on Psalm 119. You may recall that Psalm 119 is the longest psalm in the Bible and is a meditation on the characteristics and blessings of God's word. In this reading plan, entitled 'Delight in God's Word', we will rejoice in the gift of Scripture as we strive to tether our hearts to its instruction. Psalm 119 gives voice to the human experience and helps us refocus our trust and affection on God, who does not change.

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Healing Racial Divides in America

Wednesday evening Bible Study – 6:30 PM beginning June 24, 2020

This very timely Bible study has been written by a black Missouri Synod pastor for this time of conflict in our nation. Below is an introduction to the Bible study guide, as well as ‘Insights from the Author’ from the First Session.

I encourage you to read these paragraphs, share them with your friends, and join us on Zoom for the study. This study is open to all – members and friends of Holy Lamb, as well as our individual neighbors and friends. The Zoom contact information follows. In order to allow this study to be accessible to all, we are using the same login as other Bible studies at Holy Lamb, without a password. However, to ensure security, we will be using the waiting room. This means each person is admitted individually. Any new participant will be asked to identify themselves immediately on entering the Zoom study. The same applies to phone call-ins.

INSIGHTS FROM THE AUTHOR

It dawned on me recently how much I hate the lure of Ancestry.com’s new DNA test. The ad seems so appealing: take this test, and you can trace your history and find out about your past. I have almost bought it several times, but one thing stops me: the question ‘Do I want to know?’ How far back can it trace my past? I love the idea of learning about my ancestors from these DNA tests. The results could take me back to the countries they lived in and help me learn the rich history of my people. They could show me the pride and the dignity of their lives and the value of their culture in Africa.

There is a show called *Who Do You Think You Are?* I have watched it only a few times because I find it too painful. On the show, celebrities get to trace their ancestry using Ancestry.com. Often, these adventures lead to some happy endings. These very satisfied celebrities learn amazing things about their family history that make them proud.

My fear is that my ancestral lines will stop at the slave ships, with a people stolen from their homes and families, with no key to unlock the rich cultural heritage they enjoyed before slavery, the positions of honor my ancestors held in their tribes and nations. Is slavery the only heritage I have? Is my past distorted with the bloodlines of a slave owner? Yes, the institution of slavery was abolished more than 150 years ago, but it still casts a shadow over black America that clouds our sense of identity.

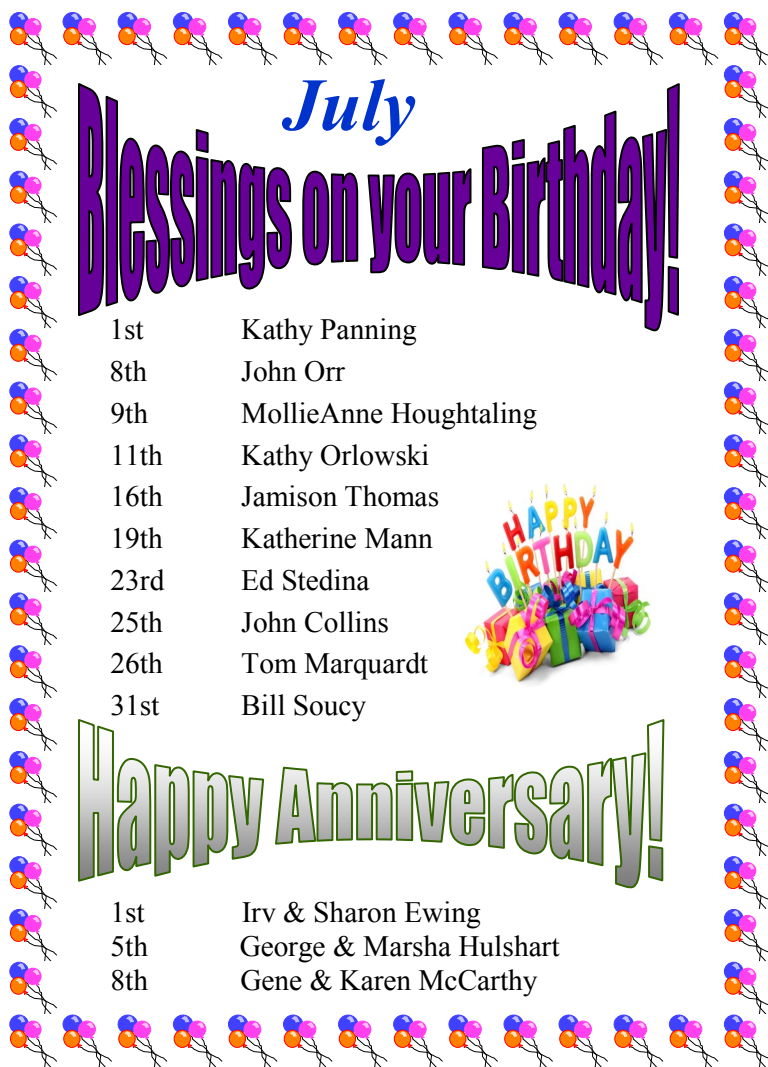
I am not trying to dredge up this ugly past to make white Americans feel guilty or deepen the bitterness black America feels toward the whites, but to help all of us understand why many black people feel we have lost our identity. The connection to our roots has been erased, and that loss of identity still haunts me. I know what I don’t want to be, but how can I find my identity? An identity that I can be proud of claiming as my own?

SERIES INTRODUCTION

Racial division has always been a reality in our country. At times, it has erupted into protests, violence, arson, and looting. Distrust and suspicions arise on both sides.

What we forget is that we are all creatures of God, equally children of Adam and Eve. We forget that our first parents were created in the image of God; that image is an important unifying force that defines our shared human identity. We forget that God loves the beautiful diversity of His human creation as much as He loves the vast array of plants and animals He has created. And we forget that His Son, Jesus Christ, has redeemed each and every one of us.

This study pulls back the covers over the racial issues that divide us so that we can better understand one another and search the Scriptures for a hopeful path forward.



July Blessings on your Birthday!

1st	Kathy Panning
8th	John Orr
9th	MollieAnne Houghtaling
11th	Kathy Orlowski
16th	Jamison Thomas
19th	Katherine Mann
23rd	Ed Stedina
25th	John Collins
26th	Tom Marquardt
31st	Bill Soucy



Happy Anniversary!

1st	Irv & Sharon Ewing
5th	George & Marsha Hulshart
8th	Gene & Karen McCarthy

For Healing

Patricia, sister of Dorothy Gardner
Ann, daughter of Carol Stocum
Julia, great-granddaughter of Al Stout
Bill, brother-in-law of Sue Alderson
Vivie, relative of John & Karen Bombria
Michael, brother-in-law of Marsha Dunn
Bea, Ron Hajduk's mom

Jackie Anctil
Ron Hajduk
Steven Rehm
Brenda Tainter

Pat Cassar
Jerry Palmer
Monica Steele
John Orr

Called Home to Heaven

Dan Fraley's mom.
John, brother of Nancy Rehm



LWML NEWS

Even though we are not back in the church building, we are still collecting mites and articles for our Christmas gifts to the long-term residents at Compass of Conway. July 5th is Mite Box Sunday. Please return your mite box or a Ziploc bag with your collection. Don't forget to pick up another box if you are leaving yours. Checks are also accepted made out to *Holy Lamb* and in the memo, area put *LWML MITES*. Greeting cards for \$1.00 a packet of 10 are in the Narthex. Leave money in the envelope. Thank you for your support. A list of items you can donate is attached to the marked container as well as listed below. The list from previous months is: LOTION; DEODORANT; BODY SPRAY; AFTERSHAVE; BODY WASH; SMALL PACKS (8.6X8.3) OF TISSUES; SHAVING CREAM (**NO RAZORS**); FINGERNAIL POLISH (**NO REMOVER**); OR FILES (**NOT CLIPPERS**). These items should be *travel size* and not large sizes. The new list for July is: STATIONARY; ENVELOPES; BLANK CARDS; STAMPS; ADDRESS BOOK; QUALITY PENS; KNITTING AND CROCHET MATERIALS; CRAYONS, COLORED PENCILS. Any item can be brought in during the month of July.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

Karen Bombria, President of LWML of Holy Lamb



Holy Lamb's First Outdoor Worship!!



Holy Lamb Lutheran Church

2541 Forestbrook Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

Rev. David J. Panning, Pastor

Church
843-236-1344

Preschool
843-236-9645

Worship Schedule

Sundays—9:00 am

Sunday School & Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:00 am
Hebrews

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm
One Nation Under God - Healing Racial Divisions

Thursday Evening Womens' Bible Study 6:30 pm
Women & Men in the Word