

FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH
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The Federated Courier

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May 2024

From the Pastor's Desk

The Soldiers of God

It's May in which we celebrate Memorial Day. I look forward to seeing our town parade and having breakfast with people from outside the church.

Many people would still remember the movie *Saving Private Ryan*. I also watched the movie and was shocked by the reality of a battlefield and moved by the amount of sacrifice that soldiers and their families made for the country. Moreover, I was touched by the immense efforts that the country made to save a private.

Within our community, there are those who have served in uniform and those who have lost loved ones on the battlefield. As a church, it is our collective duty to honor and never forget these individuals who have selflessly served and sacrificed for our country.

The Bible says that we, Christians, are the soldiers of God who take spiritual warfare. (2 Timothy 2:3-4) Numerous martyrs lost their lives to keep their faith in Christ. Hundreds of thousands of people chose to live underground, digging 15-story deep tunnels named Catacombs in order to keep the community of faith. Even now, somewhere in the world, people worship the Lord in underground churches, hiding the persecution. Many openly reveal

their Christian identity, accepting all the disadvantages of Muslim societies. And, here in the US, we are standing firm as a Christian community in the secular culture. Whether we acknowledge it or not, we are living on a spiritual battlefield. At every decision-making moment, we fight for the Lord in spirit.

Two things are so sure: One is that we should be God's soldiers, not anyone else's, to continue this spiritual warfare. The other is that our Lord will take care of us because He is our commander. I hope and pray that everyone may experience God's mighty hand upon their lives and see His glorious victory in this month.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.” (Ephesians 6:10-11)

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)

Pastor Kwan Kim

Please note that Pastor Kwan will be away in North Carolina from May 29th – June 13th. He is always available by phone or text at 301-978-1512 or email @ pastorkwankim@gmail.com. If you have an urgent need you may call Deacon Penny Dibble at 970-531-1829.

From the Deacons' Bench

Christ is Risen; He is risen indeed.

As I look out at the beautiful flowering trees, green grass, the mountains, flowing rivers; all a part of God's creation, I am so grateful to be walking with God. Nature is a sanctuary for us in God.

In a world full of unpredictable challenges, let us focus on the positive; God's Love. Linda Hornig and Bill Cunningham were welcomed back into the fold of active Deacons this month. There is now 11 Deacons. Soon all members of the congregation will have a Deacon that will be assigned to him or her and can be called upon for comfort and caring or with whom to share joys.

In the meantime, we are All Deacons and we are all here for you. If you know of someone in need of prayer, kind words and a cup of soup, or just a friendly visit, please let us know.

Our church is ALIVE with Christ and we want to share our spirit in Christ.

Heavenly Father, fill our hearts with positivity so that we may radiate Your love and light.

In Christ's Love
Elsie Bradway

Thank You!

Thank you to **Paul & Linda Hatch** for sponsoring our May 2024 Newsletter.





May Birthdays

Birthday Greetings to the following members of our church who celebrate birthdays in May.



Anne Marie Matzko	05/01
Regina Germain	05/02
Philp Castellano	05/02
Barbara Schofield	05/03
Jodi Brodeur	05/03
Gail Romano	05/04
Paul Olesuk	05/05
Sandra Howell	05/05
Geraldine Kruger	05/08
Beverly Burnell	05/08
Sandra Dodd	05/09
Ryan Thomas	05/09
Lois Pixley	05/14
Robert Fernandes	05/14
Joyce Ogonowski	05/17
Cheryl Patterson	05/18
Scott Olesuk	05/18
James Bliss	05/20
Lori-Beth Sterling	05/20
Bear Lillibridge	05/23
Stephen Libby	05/24
Ruth Haley	05/26
Amy Bliss	05/28
Kylie Walulak	05/29
Rita Spencer	05/29
Bonnie Howell	05/30

Wedding Anniversaries

Jeremy & Kristi Tessier	05/03
Patricia & David Baker	05/04
Jesse & Kathleen Lee	05/15
Robert & Mary Howell	05/18
Richard & Jeanne Regnier	05/20
Dale & Amy Varney	05/30
Lauren & Keith Hummel	05/31



Prayer Corner



Mary Beth
Susan
Chantel
Greg
Pete
John
Judy
George
Diane
Laurie
Jonathon
Phil
Joanne
Jane
Scott
Steve
Ann Beroth
Glen
Carl

Laurie
Kelly Family
Rebecca
Claire
Justin
Linda Hornig &
family
Glenn
Jimmy
Norman
Jim
Sheila
Beverly Barrett &
family
Phyllis
Gail Banning
Lois Pixley
Dennis Connor
Andrew
Brian

Earl
Rory
Joanna
Connie
Ellen
Karen
Peter
Jacob
Howard
Ryan
David
Linda
Bill Cunningham
Judy
Charlotte
Rick
Glenn
Harry
Paul
Dennis
Cheryl Fonda

For World Peace
For victims & families of mass shootings
For the people of Palestine & Israel
For those affected by hurricanes
For the people of Ukraine
For those traveling
For those affected by floods and fires
For those battling cancer
For those struggling with addiction or mental illness
For those that grieve the loss of loved ones
For first responders & health care workers
For the people Afghanistan, Iran, Haiti, Russia & Middle East
For the changing climate
For our country
For all world leaders
For shut-ins and those who are isolated
For the homeless
For Asian & Black people & all who are persecuted for simply being
how God created them

Christian Education / Children's Ministry

As May unfolds before us, we find ourselves immersed in the beauty of spring and the abundant blessings of God's grace. It is with joy and gratitude that we bring you the latest updates and events from our Christian Education Ministry.

1. ****National Day of Prayer**** On Thursday, 5/2/24, is the National Day of Prayer when our nation comes together in prayer to lift our voices in unity, seeking God's guidance, healing, and blessing for our nation, communities, and families. Let's join hearts and minds as we intercede for our world with faith and hope.

2. ****Mother's Day Celebration:**** We invite you to join us on Sunday, 5/12/24 as we honor and celebrate the wonderful mothers in our congregation. Join us for a special service dedicated to mothers, followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments. Let's take this opportunity to express our love and appreciation for the incredible women who bless our lives with their love, wisdom, and grace.

This month, we want to shine a spotlight on the power of prayer. As we observe the National Day of Prayer, let's remember the importance of lifting our hearts and voices to God in all circumstances. Prayer is a powerful tool that connects us to the heart of God and brings about transformation in our lives and the world around us. Let's commit to cultivating a life of prayer, seeking God's will and trusting in His perfect timing and provision.

- Let's pray for our nation, its leaders, and all those who serve our communities, asking for wisdom, integrity, and compassion to guide their decisions and actions.

- Pray for mothers everywhere, that they may be filled with strength, joy, and wisdom as they fulfill their roles with love and dedication.

- Lift up in prayer those who are facing challenges and hardships, asking for God's comfort, healing, and provision in their lives.

As we journey through the month of May, let's be reminded of the power of prayer and the gift of motherhood. May our hearts be filled with gratitude for God's blessings, and may we continue to walk in faith, trusting in His unfailing love and grace.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in our Christian Education Ministry. May God's peace and joy abide in your hearts now and always!

Blessings,
Jocelyn Smith
Christian Education Coordinator



All Creature Great and Small

On Saturday May 4th we will have Pet Day from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. At 1:00 PM there will be demonstrations of the Ludlow Sheriff's Department and the State police K-9 units. At 2:00 PM there will be a Blessing of the Animals. Please note that all dogs must be leashed. We hope that you and your pets will join us!

Daniel Experience

I love theater, and because of this I wanted to be part of the church trip to Pennsylvania to see a live play and experience the report with actors and all the accessories that go along with creating such strong impressions that the audience feels as if they are there for real. But I never have been impacted spiritually as I was viewing Daniel. At the very end of the play my heart was slammed with the knowledge that throughout my life, filled with the good times and the bad, I was never alone in the stress of it all. The Holy Spirit was there to sustain me.

I couldn't talk. Pastor was my seat mate and he noticed right away I was strongly affected. I was trying to suppress my tears; I couldn't talk; only cry. Think of how bad it would have been if Christ wasn't an integral part of my life. If He wasn't there, my life would have been in shambles. I would never have gone to Bible College or on a Missions trip to Newfoundland, or become a teacher, which was the happiest time of my life. Instead, I could have ended up in a divorce, uneducated, bouncing around from one job to the next trying to fill my soul with earthly values, nothing spiritually uplifting at all. I wouldn't have a huge extended family or fellow Christians to share the blessings of God. I thank God for all of this richness, in Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

Bobby Schofield





MEMORIAL DAY CRAFT FAIR

(on Parade Route)

May 27, 2024

8:00 AM -2:00 PM

Pancake Breakfast 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

A variety of items made by local crafters!

Raffle Table!


Lunch available for purchase!

Missions

Please remember to bring in food donations for the Community Survival Center. Thank you for your ongoing support!



May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	2 4:00 PM Deacons Meeting	3 7:30 PM AA	4 1:00 PM Pet Day
5 10:00 AM Worship	6 10:00 AM Line Dancing	7 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM AA 6:00 PM Bells	8 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	9 5:00 PM CE Meeting	10 7:30 PM AA	11 8:00 AM Men's Mystery Breakfast
12 10:00 AM Worship	13 10:00 AM Line Dancing	14 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM Bells 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Finance	15 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	16	17 7:30 PM AA	18
19 10:00 AM Worship	20 10:00 AM Line Dancing	21 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM Bells 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM BOD	22 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	23	24 7:30 PM AA	25 8:00 AM Men's Mystery Breakfast
26 10:00 AM Worship	27 8:00 AM -2:00 PM Memorial Day Craft Fair	28 10:00 AM Line Dancing 6:00 PM Bells 6:00 PM AA	29 10:30 AM Bible Study 1:00 PM Knit, Stitch, Pray	30	31 7:30 PM AA	