



NEWS FROM THE HILL

AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST:

Sharing the Story, Living the Faith

Welcome!

The Mission of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is...
Making Christ known through worship, education,
and witness, we invite and serve the community and
beyond.

Virginia Synod

ELCA

Vol. XXXVII No. 6

June 2016



A worshiper at the Prayer Service for Healing and Support, at Our Saviour's, Norge, for the family of Gabriel Maness and the employees of Farm Fresh, Norge, lights a candle in solidarity with those who have lost a loved one by violence.

On a rainy May 1, Sunday afternoon, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church was filled with people from Norge and surrounding communities to pray for healing and to

support the family of Gabriel Maness, the 34-year-old husband and father who was killed by Brian Hicks, 55-years-old from Woodbridge, Va. in Farm Fresh, Norge on Sunday, April 17 around 8 a.m. across Richmond Road from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and adjacent to St. Olaf Roman Catholic Church.

During the service, people came forward to light votive candles in solidarity with those who have lost a loved one by violence. Clay Harrison, a local poet, wrote a poem, "Tragedy at Farm Fresh," for the service. More than \$2,000 was collected in a free-will offering for the Maness family.

Six clergy from among seven that comprise the Upper James City County Ministerium participated in the service: Rev. Richard Cline, Olive Branch Christian Church; Rev. Alex Creager, Stone House Presbyterian Church; Rev. David Lehman, Williamsburg Mennonite Church; Rev. Ann Tang, Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church; and Rev. James P. Nickols, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Ms. Gigi Paddock, Our Saviour's Minister of Music, provided the music.

To the congregation:

Yesterday was an exhausting day. It is a testament to the exhaustion one experiences when their emotional limits are tested. At one point I told someone, "Batman doesn't cry!" "I'm not Batman!" was the reply. To which I begged; "Yes, but I am and you're making this hard for me."

It has been a long year. The commute will not be missed but the ministry will. Our Saviour's Lutheran Church has been a place where I not only attempted to provide a Christ centered ministry, but it was provided to me. The gifts of this "small Norwegian congregation" are too great to be wrapped within the beautiful walls of the historical building. While I loved the painting of the building, graciously given to me by council, I found it would be far more accurate to show the building bursting at the seams with the gifts of the people within its walls.

You all have been a voice in the midst of my discernment, during a year in which I may have otherwise lost hope. Christ reveals hope through many mediums and this year you were a source of that hope. Anonymous cards, some not-so-anonymous cards, and some very direct forms of encouragement and affirmation. It wasn't hard to listen for God's call when God spoke so clearly through you. For that I am more grateful than I can express.

I look forward to hearing the news of the gifts that continue to burst from the walls of Our Saviour's. I look forward to the mission we will continue to share as members of the Virginia synod and as members of the same Body of Christ, God's Church. Just as nothing can separate us from the love of God, miles cannot separate the union we will share when we gather at the altar on Sunday mornings. I will always know that this community of faith is with me in that moment and I hope you will know that I am with you, as are all the priesthood of believers.

And if you make it down my way for a little trip to the beach, come see me! In the meantime, I pray that joy and nothing less find you on the way. I pray that you may be blessed and be a blessing. I pray that light, Love's own crucified, risen light may guide you, out of every darkness, all the way home.

Shalom.

Vicar Nate







Genesis Youth Group welcomes summer 2016!

Genesis is a combined youth group of Our Saviour's and Stone House Presbyterian Church. Leadership team includes parents of youth, plus Pastor Alex Creager of Stone House Presbyterian Church, and Pastor James Nickols of Our Saviour's. Middle school and high school youth are invited to participate!



Yard Sale - Saturday, 11 June, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Set up is Friday, 10 June, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Pizza provided. **The yard sale will benefit the 2017 Mission Trip!** \$10 to rent a table, reservation deadline: 5 June. If you need assistance transporting (gently used) Yard Sale items, email Genesis or contact OSLC office (see contact info below).



Pool Party & Cook-Out - Sunday, 26 June, 4:00-7:00 p.m. Location: Kingsmill Rec Center. Headcount needed.



Night Hike @ York River State Park - Saturday, 6 August, 8:00-10:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Alex for headcount: acreager@shpchurch.org.



Music Under the Stars @ Ft. Eustis - Thursday, 25 August, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Bring picnic dinner and lawn chairs for an unforgettable evening with the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Band playing the "1812 Overture" (Tchaikovsky). Real cannon are used in this exciting work that commemorates Russian victory over Napoleon's invading army.

GENESIS EMAIL: oslc youth2016@gmail.com

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
757.564.3745
www.oslc norge.org

Stone House Presbyterian Church
757.565.1130
www.shpchurch.org

Keeping it over our heads

The header was meant to catch your attention. What do we want to keep over our heads? The roof!

There are two major capital expenditures that are coming in our direction soon: replacing the roof on the church and on the Parish Hall. During the past several wind storms, shingles have been flying off both the church and the Parish Hall. Last year, a leaky roof in the rear of the Parish Hall caused water damage in the Dorcas Room. During the repair, the contractor mentioned the roof is nearing its life expectancy.

In the coming weeks, estimates will be taken for the work on both roofs. In the meantime, the Parish Council will explore the options to pay for the work to be done. The Parish Council will keep you posted via the newsletter, email blasts, and announcements.

In the meantime, please use the Capital Improvement Fund envelope or make a special gift and designate it for the Capital Improvement Fund.

Feeding the hungry

Please remember to bring food for FISH and place it in the baskets in the Parish Hall and the sanctuary. They are really in need.

Singing our praise

Arrive at 10:15 next Sunday morning, 5 June, and be prepared to "sing along" as we resume our Hymn Sing on the first Sundays of June, July, and August. We will take requests from the congregation to sing the first and last verses of your favorite hymns. We take requests by hymn number only from our ELW pew hymnal, so please use the alphabetical listing of hymns found in the back of your hymnal.

Combined Circle Meeting

WELCA will have our combined Circle meeting on **13 June** at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Barbara Shaal will give a presentation on her trip to **Butchart Gardens in Victoria, British Columbia**. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are invited to attend.



Church Contributions towards Operating Expenses **2016**

	Budgeted Giving	Actual Giving
Year to Date	\$41,212	\$44,664
March	\$10,303	\$ 9,816

Financial stewardship in support of operating expenses continues to be strong. The current fund is now established. With summer activities coming up, let us all continue to maintain our giving through the season.



Jesus' Promise Becomes Real

What does Stephen Ministry mean to me? It means growth. It means life. It means a faith that is practiced in giving care to others.

From those who reached out to feel the healing promise!

What led you to receive the care of a Stephen Minister?

It all began soon after I moved to [a new city] to live near my family. I had just ended an eight-year relationship and was depending on them to be my support system. But a few months after I arrived, they unexpectedly had to move away—so I felt very, very alone. Not long after they moved, my grandfather passed away. It was one of the hardest times of my life.

I knew I needed to talk to someone, but I hadn't lived in the city long enough to develop close, comfortable friendships that I could depend on. But my new church had Stephen Ministry. When I found out what Stephen Ministry was, I talked to my pastor about getting a Stephen Minister.

How did your relationship with your Stephen Minister start out?

It started off a little bit slow. I wasn't sure how I'd feel about sharing deep, personal things with someone I didn't know very well. But her consistency, compassion, and care for me really came through. I realized that my Stephen Minister was a safe person who wasn't going to share what I told her with anyone else. From there we developed a deep relationship until I felt like I could truly share anything with her.

What was it like to meet with your Stephen Minister?

We met weekly. Sometimes she'd come to my house and we'd sit and talk, and other times we'd go walking together. During our visits, she just let me talk while she listened. As I was talking through things, I realized that it was helping me to make sense of everything that had happened and how I was feeling. She accepted my feelings, including the ones that seemed risky to share—and that was really helpful.

The fact that God is invisible makes it hard for me to experience him sometimes. I'd been through some very negative experiences in life that caused me to question whether God even existed—and, if he existed, whether he loved me. I truly wondered, after all the things I'd done and the mess I'd been through, if God could still love me. I somehow knew intuitively that I needed a person that I could see and touch. I think that's truly why I asked for a Stephen Minister. When my Stephen Minister was able to share her concern and her sorrow over my experiences, God was there loving me *through* her. I experienced *God's* sorrow and *God's* compassion and *God's* love—and it made all the difference for me.

What I needed the most was her unconditional love—to know that no matter what I shared with her, no matter what I'd done, she cared for me. Her care showed God's love for me. I needed to know that there was one person in the world who knew everything there was to know about me— the good, the bad, the ugly—and still loved me. It was the tangible expression of God's love in my Stephen Minister that changed my life.

I actually didn't need advice from her—I needed acceptance and affirmation. I had a lot of loneliness, a lot of hurts, a lot of uncertainty inside. I needed to be validated and not put down. My Stephen Minister did a wonderful job of creating a warm, caring space for me to process my emotions and work through my issues.

We join in prayer for the Ministers in our Church, our Members, our Community, the earth, and all of those who are in need. We will walk with you and let the Holy Spirit be our guide. May you, through our Lord Jesus Christ, receive what God has promised all of us, grace mercy and peace.

I've heard other care receivers say that their Stephen Minister helped them experience God's love. Could you tell me more about how that happened for you?

Evie Braukhoff
Stephen Minister Leader

Evie Braukhoff, Stephen Leader
Pam Wildenberger, Stephen Minister
Pastor James Nickols, Stephen Minister

The logo for Stephen Ministry, featuring the word "stephen" in a lowercase, blue, sans-serif font, with the word "MINISTRY" in a smaller, uppercase, blue, sans-serif font directly below it.



Ms. Ethel Sternberg, who is a Jewish survivor of the Holocaust, stands next to a display of children's art from the concentrations camps. (Posted by Jim Nickols, Community Contributor)

Ms. Ethel Sternberg, who was born in Hamburg, Germany in 1924, is a survivor of the Holocaust. On Wednesday evening, May 5, she spoke at a Holocaust Remembrance Service at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Norge. She recounted how her mother managed to get her older brother and herself out of Germany and to Spain. While in Spain, they had to report each day to the local Spanish Police Office. One day, a Spaniard warned her not to report to the Police because they were going to collect all the Jews and send them France. The Spaniard advised her to call in sick and explain to them that her brother needed to stay with her. It worked and both were spared. However, Ms. Sternberg's mother, who remained in Germany, she later learned, died in a concentration camp in Poland. Ms. Sternberg is a member of Temple Beth El in Williamsburg.

Congratulations graduates

Lynn Edwards' son, Nathan graduated on 19 December 2015 with an Associate of Applied Business degree/Golf Complex Operations and Management, with a secondary concentration in golf instruction from the Golf Academy of America in Myrtle Beach, SC. Her other son, Matthew, graduated on 7 May 2016 with a BS in Psychology from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.

Rudy Sheets' son, Landes, made the President's List at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA and graduated on 7 May 2016 with a major in Physics and a minor in Math and Robotics.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Jeanne Fullman
- 7 Wanita Auer
- 8 Joyce Moore
- 10 Avery Priestley
- 14 Lynn Edwards
- 16 Pauline Geisler
- 25 Diane Priestley
- 29 Leigh Whitley Nicely



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Zimmerman
- 21 Mr. & Mrs. James Marshall
- 25 Mr. & Mrs. Adam Priestley
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Clark Kimmel

NOTE: If you have not seen your birthday or anniversary listed, and would like it included, please contact the office at 757-564-3745 or email oslcnorge@verizon.net.

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits - WELCA will be collecting items to make Personal Care Kits to take to the VSWO Convention (Virginia Synodical Women's Organization) in August. We are asking for donations of the following items from the congregation to help us with this project!



Bars of soap, 4-5 oz. size each



Adult-size toothbrushes



Sturdy combs



Metal nail clippers

Lifting in Prayer



Church family: Phyllis Cody, Janet Forgrave, Jeanne Fullman, Ann Gautreaux, Thelma Lee, Janice Leonard, George Marston, Teena Opheim, Dot Ringlesbach, William Rorer, III, Gloria Stratton, Helen Walz, and Bruce Wildenberger.

Family and Friends: Will Barnes, Donna Benson, Kira Braukhoff, Chaplain Roy Bebee, Baby Zadie Loretta Brown, Betty, Frank Clarkson, Ellen Cobb, Jonathan Cooper, Virginia Crothers, Pastor John S. Damm, Leslie Davis, Pastor Einarsen, Frank Feeser, Larry Felts, Bonnie Forman, Donna Garrett, Betty Gerrington, Glenda, Kelly Gray, Butch Gross, Matthew Hafer, Bunny Haines, Pastor Arthur and Irene Hanson, Andy Hintz, Barbara Jacobson, Allen Jenson, Annette Johnson, Cynthia Jones, Kay Kelly, Evelyn Kirby, June Krollman, Rachel Lawson, Lindsay, Mike Manley, Katherine Martin, Vivian Matthews, Richard McQuigg, Billy Morris, Randolph Musmann, Letha Olson, Gene & Betty Pettingill, Donna Phillips, John Phillips, Ann Price, Bill Ridenour, Pastor Tom Shelley, Rosemary Slayton, Grant Sylvestri, Bob & Judy Tubbs, and Cindy Warner.

NOTE: To add or remove a person's name from the Prayer List, please contact the church office at 757-564-3745 or email oslcnorge@verizon.net.



*IT TAKES LOVE TO MAKE A FATHER

It TAKES LOVE TO MAKE A FATHER
THE MAN THAT HE SHOULD BE.
HE'S NOT ASHAMED TO "COOCHI-COO"
FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE.
HE HOLDS HIS CHILD SO TENDERLY
IT WARMS THE COLDEST HEART,
AND TO WATCH HIM CHANGE A DIAPER
IS A WORK OF COMIC ART!

It TAKES LOVE TO ALWAYS BE THERE
FOR THAT AFTER-SCHOOL EVENT
TO SUPPORT THE SON OR DAUGHTER
HE BELIEVES WAS HEAVEN-SENT.
HE'S THE FIX-IT MAN THEY COUNT ON
WHEN THEIR TOYS FALL APART,
AND THE SHOULDER THAT THEY LEAN ON
WHEN THEY HAVE A BROKEN HEART.

It TAKES LOVE TO PREPARE A CHILD
FOR THEIR GRADUATION DAY,
THAT DAY WHEN THEY MUST LEAVE THE NEST,
SPREAD THEIR WINGS AND FLY AWAY.
THERE WILL BE TEARS HE'LL TRY TO HIDE
PRAYING HE HAS PASSED HIS TEST
FOR SOMEDAY SOON THEY'LL REALIZE
THAT FATHER DID KNOW BEST.

Way Harrison
2016



JUNE 2016



LECTORS:
 5 Janette Kline
 12 Joyce Moore
 19 Brandon Tate
 26 Bruce Brelsford

USHERS:
 5
 12
 19
 26

ASSISTING MINISTERS:
 5 Scott Braukhoff
 12 Evie Braukhoff
 19 Richard Hartman
 26 Scott Braukhoff

ACOLYTES: Gage Heidel 6/5 Lindsay Venable 6/12 Ashley Youngk 6/19 Rose Paddock 6/26

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Colonial Piecemakers
5 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 6:30 PM AA	6 7 PM Boy Scouts	7 3 - 5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Planning Meeting 7 PM AA	8	9 8 AM Nelson's Maintenance 7 PM Finance Meeting	10 6 - 9 PM Set up for Youth Yard Sale	11 8 AM Men's Group Meeting 8 AM - 12 PM Youth Yard Sale 4 - 6 PM Court of Honor - Cormany
12 FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Parish Life Committee Meeting 12:30 - 5:30 PM Leigh Whitley - Hall 6:30 PM AA	13 6 PM Boy Scouts Patrol Leaders Conference 7 PM Combined Circle Meeting 7 PM Boy Scouts	14 1 PM Herb Society Meeting 7 PM AA 7 PM Boy Scout Troop Committee Meeting	15	16	17	18 10 AM Casserole Caravan 10 AM - 3 PM Diane Priestley - Parish Hall
19 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST FATHER'S DAY 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 6:30 PM AA	20 7 PM Boy Scouts	21 3 - 5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 7 PM AA	22	23	24 6 - 9 PM Jay's Jam	25
26 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 AM +Holy Communion 11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 12:30 PM Parish Council Meeting & Shared Meal 4 - 7 PM Youth Group Pool Party @ Kingsmill 6:30 PM AA	27 7 PM Boy Scouts	28 3 - 5:30 PM Playin' For Fun 4 - 6 PM CHCF Board Meeting 7 PM AA	29	30		