



THE MESSENGER



Ascension Lutheran Church

“Belong, Believe and Become all that God Promises”

Vol. 65, No.9

May 2025

How to lean on God through difficult times.

The theme of conversation with one another today seems to be challenges that we are living through. There are fears, uncertainties, worries, concerns, insecurities, just to mention some feelings that most human beings go through at difficult times. One of the questions that I hear many times is, why is this happening? Or why is this happening to me?

Many times, things happen that we simply don't understand. But it's okay. We don't have to understand. God is not expecting that we must figure out everything. We can trust that He knows and will take care of everything. He wants us to look to Him and say, “God, I have no idea what I'm going to do, but I'm trusting you to take care of me.”

When we are facing difficult situations that we don't understand, one of the best things we can do is to trust God. It allows Him to take the wrong things that have happened and work them out for our benefit. Romans 8:28 states “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.” This verse suggests that even through difficult circumstances, God is actively working to bring good to those who love Him and are part of His plan. It's not about guaranteeing a smooth, trouble free life, but about God's overall plan and purpose for those who follow Him.

I want to encourage you to trust God completely in every area of your life. Remember that He is always on your side and He is fighting for you as you go through the challenges in your life. He loves you and always has your best interest at heart, and He is closest to you when you're hurting most.

Pastor Emilce Erato



The following need your prayers...

Chuck Albers, Stephanie Baio, Tina Bugalia, Bill Ciampa, Corey Ciampa, Gray Collingwood, Eduardo, Jimmy E., Brian and Dylan Gasperetti, Hunter George, Kathryn Graven, Ginni Hart, Virginia Heinsch, Jessica, Joe, Joanne Kempel, Cynthia Listort, Jane Macchia, Bill McGowan, Chuck Miata, Nicki, Penny Petersen, John Pisarri, Joseph Randazzo, Schneider family, Moira Sheldon, Robert Smith, Carl Strievski, Rose Smith, Court Stevenson, Peter Stevenson, Kevin Sullivan, Miriam Valder, Russ Van Tine, and Deanna Ventura



Bob Skarda 5/12
Ginni Hart 5/15
Virginia Strong 5/15
Sebastian A. Zuniga 5/15
Brian Gasperetti 5/20
Declan Graham 5/26
Pastor Emilce Erato 5/26
Gustavo S. Zuniga 5/29



Mondays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA
5/12-Council Meeting 10 a.m.

Tuesdays

11-12 p.m. Brew Crew-AA
6:45-8:30 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

Wednesdays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA
Road to Recovery 7:15-8:30 p.m.

Thursdays

6:00-7:45 p.m. Power Up-Tae Kwon Do

Fridays

11-12 p.m. New Life-AA

Saturdays

9-1 p.m. SDA Church-Sanctuary
9-11:15 a.m. Road to Recovery-AA
1-3 p.m. SDA Church-Parish Hall

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Worship



Memorial Day, which was founded as Decoration Day in 1868, will be observed on **May 26th.**

May Outreach

The Helpers Fund

Always Ready With A Helping Hand

The Helpers Fund was started in 1997 to provide financial assistance in the Tri-Lakes area of Warren and southern Essex Counties to individuals and families facing difficult circumstances. Since then, we have been able to lend assistance to more than 200 families and individuals in the area.

The Chestertown/Helpers Fund Food Pantry is now a combined responsibility between the Town of Chester and the Helpers Fund. The Helpers Fund also has a Scholarship Program which began in 2002. At present five students are receiving our scholarships.

Since January 2014, the Fund has had responsibility for funds previously administered by the Chestertown Chapter of the Dollars for Scholars program. The Helpers Fund North Warren Scholarship Program (the group structured to administer these funds) has transferred the responsibility for administration of these funds to a newly formed committee named North Warren Community Scholarship Funds. This was done so the Helpers Fund could dedicate its efforts to its core mission of providing assistance in the Community while allowing the new group to dedicate its efforts to the administration of scholarship funds.

The Helpers Fund is a 501(c)3 charity certified by the Internal Revenue Service and governed by the IRS Regulations governing charities.

The Fund is incorporated under the laws of New York State's Department of State, and is registered with the New York State Bureau of Charities.



TOWN OF CHESTER

PENTECOST

June 8



In the spirit of the day we will be decorating the altar with red geraniums.

To contribute a plant(s) please fill out the form and return it in the offering plate or to the church office along with **payment by Sunday, June 1st.**

Each plant is \$8.00

Name_____

of plants_____

Envelope#_____

Please dedicate my geranium(s) as follows:

In memory

of_____

By_____

In honor

of_____

By_____