



THE MESSENGER

Galilee Lutheran Church

301 Lincoln Blvd
Russells Point, OH 43348

Phone: (937) 843-3906

Office Email: galileelutheranoffice@gmail

Pastor Email: karentorrez@hotmail.com

Website: galileeatindianlake.com

JULY 2024

Greetings,

Recently a parishioner shared this daily devotional that she received via email. The author is Sharon Jaynes and she has a website where she shares thoughts like the following one. I was so moved by her thoughts that I wanted to share them with you.....

The Gift of Struggle

I don't like to struggle. I don't like to see my child, my husband, or my friends struggle. I like life to be easy. I want all my friends to love me all the time, my husband to agree with my every decision, and God to answer every prayer with a checkmark. But deep down I know a carefree life will never produce a courageous person who trusts in God with all her heart. That's why Jesus allowed His disciples to struggle—and still does today.

One night Jesus was praying on a mountain while His disciples were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He looked down and saw the disciples straining with the oars, struggling with the wind, and bailing water over the edge. But He wasn't worried. Jesus calmly walked on the water and got into the boat, and immediately they were on the other side (Matthew 14:22–34, John 6:16). Jesus could have simply spoken to the wind and waves from the mountaintop. But He allowed the disciples to struggle. More important than relieving their straining was strengthening their faith. They needed to know who He was, not just what He could do. If He had stopped the storm before the struggle, they might never have known that He was the One who controls it all.

James wrote, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything" (James 1:2–4). *Mature. Complete. Not lacking anything.* We'll all struggle in some form or fashion. No one is immune to suffering. But rather than viewing pain as a burden to bear, what if we considered it a gift for growing? What if we saw every trial as training? When we see our children, grandchildren, spouse or friends struggling, rather than trying to fix their problems, what if we prayed that God would use the difficult circumstance to make them stronger, wiser, and more mature in Christ? I love how the story of the storm concludes with the disciples saying, "Truly you are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33). That's the hope of every struggle—the conclusion that clears up every doubt. Father, Thank You for the struggles that make me stronger, wiser, kinder. Help me see trouble as training. I pray the Holy Spirit will help me know when to step in to help others with a struggle and when to step back to allow them to work it out on their own. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Karen

FUN 4TH OF JULY FACTS

There have been 27 different versions of the official U.S. flag from 1777 to 1960 Out of these 27 changes, 25 of them were made only to the stars on the flag. Since 1818, the number of stars on the flag, by law, must always reflect the number of states in the United States, with new stars added to the flag on July 4 in the year following their admission. The last was Hawaii's star after it was admitted in 1959.

The Fourth of July is a big day for consumer spending

This year, Americans are expected to spend around \$9.5 billion on food alone, and in 2022 revelers spent \$2.3 billion on fireworks. Spending on the holiday used to be a faux pas; before the Civil War, it was considered unpatriotic for businesses to remain open on July Fourth.

July Fourth celebrations make for busy ERs

U.S. emergency rooms see an uptick of injuries on the Fourth. Fireworks injuries are among the most common reasons for ER visits. If you're handling fireworks this year, keep in mind that 29% of fireworks injuries happen to hands and fingers. Some 10,200 people were injured by fireworks in 2022 (and 73% of those injuries occurred during the one month surrounding the holiday.)

There is an argument that Independence Day should be celebrated on July 2 The Continental Congress voted on independence on July 2, 1776, but it didn't approve the Declaration of Independence document until July 4, 1776. Ask Founding Father John Adams: He argued the official holiday should be July 2.

The Liberty Bell is tapped 13 times on July 4th.

Every year on July 4, descendants of the Declaration of Independence signers tap the Liberty Bell 13 times. The tradition was created as a way to honor the original 13 colonies.

July 4th wasn't an official holiday until almost 100 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed. It wasn't common to celebrate this patriotic event for the first few decades of America's independence. When it was **established as an official holiday in 1870**, it became one of the most popular nonreligious celebrations in the United States.



"Bear" (Jamie's daughter) continues to suffer from seizures

Lori H undergoing treatment for breast cancer

Judy N continuing to recover

Beth T (Terry & Sharon Thompson's daughter-in-law) treatment for breast cancer

Paula P recovering from breast cancer

Dale B (Carol's husband) recovering from cancer surgery and receiving treatment for Lung Cancer

Melissa Meyers (Fred's daughter in law) who is being treated for cancer

Martha B (Pastor Karen's step-mom) undergoing cancer treatment

Steve Hanger suffering from advanced dementia and Parkinson's Disease

Leslie Andrews (Ed's daughter) dealing with high white cell count

Valerie Mitchell recovering from brain aneurism and blood clot

Baby Boy (Alana's grandson) newborn hospitalized with complications



KRAFTEE KRAFTERS



Our KRAFTEE KRAFTERS are meeting once again for fellowship and craft projects. They meet every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the church and they'd love to have you join them.

For more information call Nancy Mayers (740) 341-8452



HOPE
Helping Other People Eat

Hope Sunday is July 7th but you can bring food in on any Sunday during the month. You may also donate money to the pantry by submitting a check made out to Galilee Lutheran Church (so you get credit for the donation) and our Treasurer will then pass it along to the pantry.



7/1 Jim Biery

7/1 Dan Patterson

7/2 Terry Thompson

7/4 Greg Fogt

7/23 Gabe Shepherd

7/24 Pam Bowsher



BEAR IT BEARS

Our Bear it Bears are just waiting to be given to someone who is hurting in any way, physically, mentally or emotionally. They are sitting on the chairs in the front of the church.

Just be sure to sign them out in the logbook on the bookcase in the entrance way of the church. This is one of our outreach programs, so let us bear one another's burdens and fulfill the love of Christ.



7/17 GREG & PEG FOGT

7/20 JIM & JEAN FROBASE

7/30 MIKE & ANGIE
WIECHERS



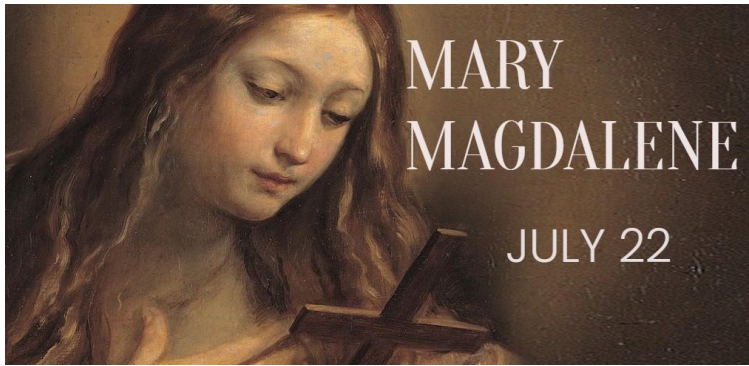
Pastor Karen

Monday by appointment
Thursday 9:00 – 12:00



CHURCH LIBRARY

Kraftee Krafters has developed a library for all church members to use. A reading corner has been created in the back of the sanctuary with a rocking chair and a bookcase full of books for you to choose from. Feel free to borrow a book, or if you like it and want to keep it then by all means feel free to keep it. And if you have a book or two that you'd like to donate you may leave them on the table in their room to be included in the library.



On July 22, the Church celebrates the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, one of the most prominent women mentioned in the New Testament. Her name comes from the town of Magdala in Galilee, where she was born. Scripture introduces her as a woman “who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out” (Lk. 8:2). Some scholars identify Mary Magdalene with the sinful woman who anointed the feet of Christ with oil in the house of Simon the Pharisee (Lk. 7:36-50). Others associate her with Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus (Lk. 10:38-42, Jn. 11). Some believe the three figures to be one person, while others believe them to be three distinct individuals. What the Scriptures make certain about Mary Magdalene is that she was a follower of Christ, who accompanied and ministered to him (Lk. 8:2-3). The Gospels record her as being one of the women present at Christ’s crucifixion. In addition, she was the first recorded witness of the Resurrection. The Gospels all describe Mary Magdalene going to the tomb on Easter morning. When she saw that the tomb was empty, she stood outside, weeping. Jesus appeared to her and asked her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” (Jn. 20:15) She did not recognize him, however, and thought he was the gardener, until he said her name, “Mary!” (Jn. 20:16) Upon hearing this, Mary recognized him. She returned to the grieving disciples to announce to them the message of the Resurrection. The term “Apostle” refers to one who shares the good news of Jesus Christ. Through the years Mary Magdalene has become known as “The Apostle to the Apostles.”

WORSHIP THEMES FOR JULY



SUNDAY JULY 7th

Mark 6:1-13

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God’s word and relieve affliction.

SUNDAY JULY 14th

Mark 6:14-29

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist’s martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

SUNDAY JULY 21st

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ’s desire to be among those in need.

SUNDAY JULY 28th

John 6:1-21

In John’s gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called “signs,” because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

CHURCH GARAGE SALE



FRIDAY AUG 23 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

SATURDAY AUG 24 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

The dates of our next Church Garage Sale have been set. Your trash is someone else's treasure so please plan on donating the results of your spring clean out projects to our garage sale. All proceeds will go to fund the Kraftee Krafters ministry projects



Kraftee Krafters are raffling off a beautiful hand sewn quilt to raise money for their ministry projects. The tickets are **1 for \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00**. The quilt and ticket box are in the back of the sanctuary. The drawing will be held on the last day of the Garage Sale.



ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

THURSDAY JULY 11TH

11:30 AM

We will meet at Jean Frobase's home (her temporary home is across the street from her house). Due to the construction in her neighborhood parking is even tighter than normal. Please carpool as much as possible and please let her know that you are coming.

Hot Dogs and Beverages will be provided, please bring a dish to share.

JOY

JUST OLDER YOUTH

THURSDAY JULY 31ST

5:00 PM

Join us for a free dinner to start the evening, followed by fellowship and fun playing your favorite game. Play BINGO for prizes, a fun dice game called Left Right Center or a game of cards such as Euchre or Bridge

GALILEE'S TORNADO RELIEF EFFORTS

We remain vigilant and busy helping our community in many and various ways. Below are a few stories of how we have been able to help people thus far

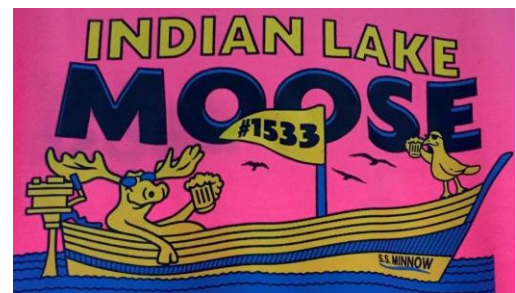


During the first week of June we hosted a small group of volunteers from The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Cincinnati. Their church has a disaster response team that travels to locations hit by a natural disaster to lend a helping hand. They camped out in our Fellowship Hall at night and each morning they would head to the Waterbury neighborhood to help one of our neighbors demo the damaged parts of her house. In the late afternoon they would head to the YMCA in Bellefontaine for showers and then join us back at Galilee where we had dinner waiting for them. Each night some of our members ate with them and had a wonderful time getting to these angels with hammers. We pray God's continued blessings on the fabulous ministry at Resurrection Lutheran.

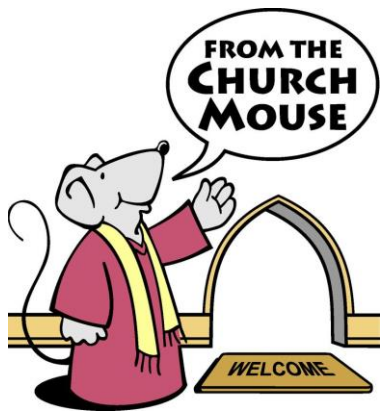


INDIAN LAKE VILLA

During the month of June four individuals who were tornado victims moved into their new homes at Indian Lake Villa. We paid the security deposits on their apartments and helped them gather needed furniture items. Ashley Furniture graciously donated some of the furniture items, a couple of our members donated a few items of furniture and we purchased what was still needed. These individuals are so happy to have safe, secure housing once again and have expressed endless gratitude to Galilee for all of our help.



We received another check from The Indian Lake Moose Lodge 1533 for our Tornado Relief Fund. This \$800 check is the third check that we have received from them and brings the total that they have donated to us to over \$26,000. We graciously thank them for trusting us with this incredible gift and for allowing us to continue helping the people in our community who still desperately need help.



Hi Everyone,

Boy it's so good to be back home at Galilee. That little unplanned trip with the FEMA crew really rocked my world. Don't get me wrong... those firefighters at the Indian Lake EMS station (the new home of the FEMA office) are wonderful but they sure don't like to have mice in the station. I had to be on my toes and outrun them until Pastor Karen could get there to pick me up. I've never been so glad to see anyone as I was that day when her blue car pulled in to get me.



I got back just in time to meet the volunteer crew from Resurrection Lutheran Church. It is so wonderful that they travel around helping people like they do and they sure are a nice bunch of folks. They fit in well with our folks here at Galilee (I may be biased but I think our folks here are the best around). I was thrilled when I learned that you were cooking them dinner each night...oh boy, ohh boy...was that an awesome week! I think I gained several ounces (my doctor isn't going to be happy about that) during that week. And we got to listen to them share with us about their day and the work they did on the house that they're helping to demo so the damage section can be rebuilt. You should have been there the night that they told us about the bats. They were pulling the ceiling down in one of the upstairs rooms and uncovered a nesting space for a lot of bats. They found 5 live bats and over 60 dead bats! I don't know about you but bats make me nervous; some of those little dudes are carnivorous and a mouse like me looks like dinner to them.




One of the best things about being back home is being here for Sunday mornings. I sure did miss worshipping with you. And I learned that while I was gone we got new members. It's awesome to have Peri and Jerry back even if it's only on a part-time basis and then I've had a chance to meet Debra, Alana and TJ...three incredible folks. Debra has been helping with coffee on Sunday mornings and TJ has been helping out with gardening, he's been pulling weeds and trimming bushes. Liz and Marlene have been worshipping with us for awhile but it's great to know that they are now officially part of the family.

Take care everybody and have a safe 4th of July celebration.

Love and Hugs.

The Church Mouse



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Happy Birthday Dan 	2 Happy Birthday Terry <hr/> KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/>	3	4 Happy Birthday Greg F 	5	6 LIGHT UP THE LAKE
7	8	9 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> COUNCIL 6:00 PM	10	11 WELCA PICNIC 11:30	12	13
14	15	16 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	17	18	19	20 VINTAGE BOAT AND AUTO SHOW
21	22	23 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	24 Happy Birthday Pam 	25 JOY 5:00	26	27 PARTY AT THE BEACH
28	29	30 KRAFTEE KRAFTERS 10:00 AM <hr/> AA 7:30 PM	31			