



**Holy Cross**  
Lutheran Church

# *Holy Cross* **Crossroads**

Monthly Newsletter : *June 2017*

## **Mark Your Calendar**

**6.12 (Mon)**

Council Meeting @ 5:00

**6.6, 6.20 (Tues)**

Hooks & Needles @9:00

**6.7, 6.14, 6.21, 6.28 (Wed)**

Adult Bible Study @ 1:30

**6.15 (Thurs)**

Quilting @ 9:30 & 4:00

**6.14, 6.28 (Wed)**

Women's Book/Bible Study  
@ 3:00

**6.4, 6.11 (Sun)**

New Member Orientation right  
after services

**6.9 (Fri)**

Bell Choir Dinner & Concert @  
6:00 & 7:30

**6.10 (Sat)**

Nick Wampole Service @ 3:30

## **Pastor's Corner...**



In this month's column, I continue to describe the physical items which enhance our worship in the Holy Cross sanctuary. In May, we featured "The Crosses of Holy Cross," and focused on the sanctuary cross, the work of liturgical artist Ernst Schwidder. This month we highlight other items in the sanctuary.

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**Architectural glass artist Mark Eric Gulsrud**, has operated a studio in Tacoma, Washington for over 35 years. Like sculpture artist Ernst Schwidder, he also is well-known in the Pacific Northwest, where his work is displayed in a variety of settings. Of his work and

what he intends he writes, "Whether public, corporate or liturgical, there exists the potential for the creation of a spiritual oasis; a space conducive to calm, healing and personal growth. Art has the potential to ease stress, induce a sense of calm and enrich lives. I consider my artwork as a visual point of departure as each individual brings their own perspective. Like cloud watching ... one is free to discover an unanticipated aspect, to see something new within the familiar." This orientation to his work is evident in the stained glass at Holy Cross, which is more abstract rather than portraying recognizable Christian symbols or biblical images or stories.

For more about artist Mark Eric Gulsrud, see his website at [www.markericgulsrud.com](http://www.markericgulsrud.com), from which information in this article is drawn.



**The book stand** on the communion table or altar which holds the worship book was crafted by Holy Cross member

Wib Namestka and dedicated in March of 2011. It is constructed of a variety of woods: The front and sides are Bloodwood from Africa, chosen by Wib as a reminder that Jesus shed his blood for human sin. The trim and crosses are made from American Black Walnut, a symbol reminding Holy Cross of its unity with other Lutheran (ELCA) congregations. The main body of the top is Cocobola wood from Central America, a reminder of support for missionaries and world relief. Wib notes that the stand was made from discards or scrap wood, a reminder of God's steadfast love and grace which accept all.

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## Hook & Needles

Hooks and Needles will be meeting the first and third Tuesdays in June at 9 in the Fellowship Hall. We welcome all ladies

who want to do crafts with a group of like minded ladies. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, we have ladies who will teach you and if you have a craft that you would like to share, we welcome you too. We make scarves, hats, lap robes, shawls and afghans for the Veterans and for the needy in the Reno/Sparks area. We do afghans for HCLC baptisms as well as for our friends and family. Some of us go out for lunch at a nearby restaurant afterwards. If you need more information please contact Kathy Barcaskey at 857-1012.

In last month's newsletter, we noted that sculpture artist **Ernst Schwidder** (1931-1998) created the cross in the sanctuary, along with the baptismal font and dove/Holy Spirit sculpture which accompany it. The communion table/altar, pulpit, exterior cross facing McCarran Blvd., and metal plant stands which complement the candle holders on the table also are his work. Schwidder was known for blending metal and wood (He particularly liked using mahogany). Long-time Holy Cross member **Charlie Gevert**, a member of the building committee in the 1980s, recalls being present with other building team members when Schwidder himself arrived with the delivery. As Charlie recalls it, Schwidder supervised the installation of the sanctuary cross and exterior wall cross which he had made.

The Rev. Bill Snyder served as the second pastor at Holy Cross from 1981-1986, during the time that the sanctuary was designed and constructed. In a conversation with Interim Pastor Scott Trevithick in May 2017, Bill remembered guiding the Building Committee and working with architects, engineers, and artists:

"The LCA (the Lutheran denominational body at the time) had a church building consultant. He bailed us out of a jam. We had estimated \$275,000 for first unit and then construction bids came in too high." The church building consultant recommended the two artists—sculpture artist Ernst Schwidder and architectural glass artist Mark Eric Gulsrud, who frequently collaborated together, as a way to bring beauty and meaning to the sanctuary without excessive cost.

Schwidder was a professor and head of the art department at Pacific Lutheran University, where Bill received his B.A. Bill spoke with Schwidder and Gulrud and persuaded them of the benefits of expanding their client base in a new region. Holy Cross was their first installation in the southwest—in either California or Nevada. Later, Bill introduced Schwidder and Gulsrud in Arizona as well when he served Resurrection Lutheran Church in Tucson upon leaving Holy Cross.

Bill made the following comments to describe the design principles behind the choices that he and the Holy Cross Building Committee made:

We wanted everything to tell a story in itself. Schwidder was more directly symbolic in his imagery (rather than the abstract designs of the stained glass artist Gulsrud). The cross was to be the central symbol. Gulsrud was more abstract—his designs suggest God as Creator or as the Foundation, but have less specific imagery. The design choice at Holy Cross was intentional so that the stained glass wouldn't overpower the centrality of the cross as a symbol.

Bill also said the carved dove—Holy Spirit symbol which is typically displayed near the baptismal font was intended to be carried like a processional cross.



***Still looking for sponsors  
for our garden boxes.  
Please let Dawn or Pat  
Schlosser know if  
you are interested.  
Boxes are \$20.00***



# COUNCIL NEWS

## ***How Do You Say Good Bye?***

With great sadness, your church council, has accepted the resignation of Bobbie Heaps and Ollie Baker. Both resigned from the council for personal reasons. Words cannot express our appreciation for their outstanding contributions to the church council but more importantly to Holy Cross. They have both been pillars of our church. Whether it be working on the church council, volunteering for service committee activities, working on the finance committee, or singing in the choir, each one played a critical role in the life of our church. Rather than say goodbye, we will just say until we meet again. God Bless both of you and safe travels as you move on to another chapter in your life.

While it is hard to fill a void when folks such as Bobbie and Ollie leave, I am pleased to inform you that your church council have found someone whose dedication and experience will close that gap. At May's church council meeting, the council elected Jody Morrison to finish out Bobbie's term. A special welcome to Jody who will be a tremendous asset to the church council.

## **Upcoming Special Congregational Meeting July 16, 2017**

At our annual meeting in January, there was a lot of discussion concerning HCLC's 2017 budget. The congregation agreed to a deficit budget ( projected income: \$218,500 versus projected budget: \$233,521 or a shortfall of \$15,021.00) with the understanding we would meet again within six months to review where we are regarding our expenses versus our income. As I write this column, we are still facing financial challenges.

With this in mind, within the next week, our Financial Secretary, Dawn Braudo, will be sending out current status of your pledges versus your givings.

Secondly, I have asked Pastor Scott to share with us the significant activities of the 30th annual Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly which was held on May 4-6, 2017 at Fresno, CA. Of primary interest would be the three Resolutions: 2017-1 (Regarding Sierra Pacific Compensation Guidelines, 2017-2 ( Regarding Sanctuary Synod) and Resolution 2017-3 (Regarding Creation of a Department of Peacebuilding in the US Government) that were discussed and voted on.

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# Council News (cont'd)

Thirdly, Geordan Goebel, Chairperson of the Call Committee, will provide us an overview of the status of the Call Committee activities. Needless to say, the Call Committee is facing a challenging and tedious process. As of this writing, the Call Committee is gathering information for the Ministry Site Profile (MSP).

Lastly, at the last two meetings, the church council has been discussing and reviewing proposed amendments to our constitution. As a result, the council has proposed the following changes to our constitution:

- \*C4.05- This constitutional provision states “from time to time” the congregation shall review the church’s mission statement. Your council is recommending a specific period such as “every two years” review and update (if necessary) the mission statement.
- C11.03 and C12.02—These constitutional provisions deal with limitations on church council members serving on elected positions on the church council as well as limitations on church council members being reelected to church council. Essentially, both provisions focus on “term limits” for members of the congregation to be on the church council. The proposed changes would eliminate “term limits” for any member of the congregation.
- C13.03 This constitutional provision discusses the composition of the Financial Committee’s Audit Committee. Current provision states the composition should include a member of the council, a congregational member not on the council, and the Financial Secretary. Since one of the audit committee’s task is to audit the Financial Secretary’s work, the council’s position is that the Financial Secretary should not be part of the Audit Committee. Council’s recommendation is the Audit Committee should be composed of a church council member and two congregational members not on the council.

In July’s monthly newsletter, I will share with you the process of amending our constitution as well as the proposed wording of the proposed changes.

## April Giving

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Building fund Donations  | \$ 5,879.00         |
| General Fund Donations   | \$ 17,130.00        |
| Easter Flowers           | \$140.00            |
| In Kind Donations        | \$148.26            |
| Facility Usage Donations | \$660.00            |
| Sunday School Donations  | \$13.00             |
| Book Sale                | \$378.00            |
| CM Fund                  | \$2,000.00          |
| Seder Dinner             | \$1,665.00          |
| Chicks                   | \$94.00             |
| Shared Harvest           | \$120.00            |
| Synod                    | \$100.00            |
| Workshops                | \$150.00            |
| Flower Donations         | \$180.00            |
| Voluntary Pension Fund   | \$175.00            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>\$ 28,832.26</b> |

## Council News Cont'd

### Martin Luther's Influential Quotes

A few months ago I shared with you fifteen of Martin Luther influential quotes dealing with prayer, education, church, faith, etc. In doing additional research, I found some other influential quotes that are not only thought provoking but also appropriate in today's environment:

**On Faith** "Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times." "I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my Guide. "I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."

**On Sin** "Be a sinner and sin strongly, but more strongly have faith and rejoice in Christ."

**On Scripture** "The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." "If you want to interpret well and confidently, set Christ before you, for He is the man to whom it all applies, every bit of it."

**On Serving Others** "To find Christ in such poverty, and what his swaddling clothes and manger signify, are explained ... that his poverty teaches how we should find him in our neighbors, the lowliest and the most needy; and his swaddling clothes are the holy Scriptures; that in actual life we should incline to the needy; and in our studies and contemplative life only to the Scriptures; in order that Christ alone may become the man of both lives and that he may everywhere stand before us."

Looking forward to a prosperous 2017 as we provide and increase opportunities to enrich the spiritual growth of our members of all ages.

Steve Tate, Council President

For it is God which worketh in you  
both to will and to do of his good pleasure.  
Philippians 2:13

## Shared Harvest

FOODBANK

**June Shared Harvest Shopping List ~ due 6/25; bag assembly 6/25 at 1:00 pm, at Holy Cross. Items needed: Chili, Mac & Cheese, Crackers (Saltines), Tuna, Laundry Detergent (powdered), Zip Lock bags (quart size).**

# Holy Cross Quilters

On Sunday May 21st twenty two Neo Natal Quilts were blessed and delivered to the NICU at Renown Hospital--these small 24 inch square quilts provide warmth and love to premature babies and their families. Fifteen lap robes and three prayer shawls were also blessed at worship on the 21st and then delivered on May 26th to the Sierra Nevada Veterans Hospital, Community Living Center. These lap robes and shawls will be used by veterans in long term care--they were received with delight and gratitude.

Thank you to all who make this ministry possible! "God's work our hands".

The Prayer Quilt is now available in the Fellowship Hall. The Prayer Quilt was the first quilt completed by Holy Cross Quilter's in 2007. The Prayer Quilt is tied with extra long ties so that people may tie a knot and pray. Additionally some have written a prayer and tied it to the prayer quilt. The purpose of the prayer quilt is to have a visual/tactical way to contribute to individual's prayer life--recognizing the importance of prayer during our everyday life, during trials, in times of joy and celebration of the goodness of life.

The quilt group meets throughout the summer--"come when you can"--we know summer vacations and visitors take priority this time of year--but join us for creative work, fun and fellowship--making quilts for people in need in our community and around the world.



*Summer Worship*

9:00 am

Don't forget to wear  
**RED** this Sunday the 4th  
for Pentecost Sunday



# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

**June 4th, 11th & 18th**

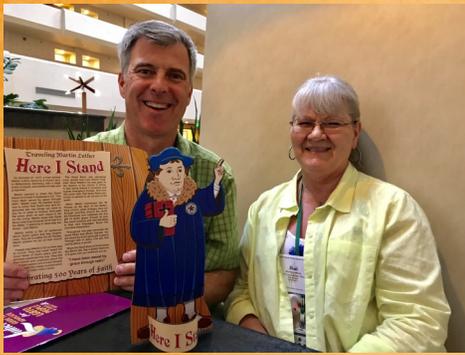
We would like to invite newcomers to Holy Cross to attend the New Member Orientation on Sundays June 4 and 11, with new members to be welcomed in worship June 18. Anyone may be active at Holy Cross without formally joining the church. We invite people to consider membership as a means of expressing their faith and their intent to join with us in worshiping regularly, seeking to live a Christian life, and being stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us.

Here are the basics:

- Class sessions Sundays, June 4 and 11 after the single worship service at 9 a.m.
- Meet in the fellowship hall for coffee time and then class
- We'll serve a light lunch toward the end of class
- Child care will be arranged as needed
- Those wishing to join will be received in worship on Sunday, June 18
- Class content includes opportunity to get to know others; learn about Lutheran values, beliefs, and history; and learn about ways to be involved and grow in faith at Holy Cross.

People may attend the classes without deciding right now if they would like to join. Attending the orientation should provide helpful information whatever you decide.





**Synod Assembly:** Richard and Fran Moses, along with Pastor Scott, attended the Synod Assembly in May in Fresno. Holy Cross is a part of the Sierra Pacific Synod, one of 65 synods nationwide in the ELCA and a huge geographic region with 182 congregations across central and northern California and northern Nevada. Pastors and members from all these churches gather every year for the Synod Assembly to worship, study, pray, celebrate its work in the region, and decide about recommended actions.

**Synod Assembly Reflection from Richard Moses:** When Scott called to ask if Fran and I would be interested in attending the 2017 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly, I'll admit, I was very reluctant at agreeing to it. But when Fran got home from work that day and I told her of Scott's request, she said, "Heck yeah, let's do it!". Well, at that stage, my vote no longer counted, so we called Scott and said we were in.

**One of the highlights of the conference was the workshops:** Fran and I chose the following: 1000 Days: The window of Opportunity for Healthy Children (Session one)  
Forgotten Luther (Session two)

Fran picked the "1000 Days" workshop, which I was not too excited about attending but since I kind of picked the "Forgotten Luther" workshop, I thought it was only fair to let her have her choice. But as it turned out, this workshop was an excellent choice. The workshop covered how important nutrition is in the first 1000 days of a child's life, from inception to age 2. The workshop stressed how important breastfeeding is and how many women try to wean their babies as soon as possible and get them onto solid foods. This is not such a good choice as breast milk is the very best food for a baby and no man-made substitute can come close to effectively replacing it. I can't come close to explaining all that was covered in the workshop but I would recommend any young people thinking of having a baby or who have just had a baby access the web site: <https://thousanddays.org/>.

## *Service & Fellowship*

**During the summer months (June/July/August) we will be collecting new underwear and socks for men, women and children. This project is in conjunction with area Lutheran Churches as part of Reformation 500.**

**The collected socks and underwear will be given to Good Shepherd Clothes Closet. All sizes are needed. Please place your donation in the red basket located by the Giving Tree in the narthex.**

**Our next Service committee meeting will be in August. Please let me know if you would be interested in being a part of this committee.**

Proper nutrition in the first 1000 days of a baby's life, and mom's life, will provide the head start needed for healthy birth weight, and avoids complications during birth. What mom eats, baby eats. So, pregnancy is the best time to start training the baby's taste buds for the better things in life.



One of the fun things at the conference was the celebration of some of the older churches in the Synod. And in particular, St. Paulus Lutheran Church of San Francisco was celebrating 150 years as a congregation. As part of their display, they had pictures of their pastors since inception, and among these pastors, you at Holy Cross may recognize a familiar face of a past pastor—a young Roly Grumm, who served at St. Paulus from 1967-1987 before coming to Holy Cross. In addition to Roly's picture, Pastor Carl Wilfrid also attended the conference and it was nice to see a familiar face among all the strangers.

**Synod Assembly Highlights from Pastor Scott:** The assembly includes worship, Bible study, business sessions, meals, workshops, exhibits with church programs and agencies, and informal interaction with other voting members and guests. Here are a few highlights:

**The Rev. Dr. David Vasquez-Levy**, the President of the Pacific School of Religion, was the keynote speaker. He reminded us of the importance of movement or migration in so many of our favorite Bible stories. He read the story of the Ten Lepers (Luke 17), and we discussed "Where is home for you?" Home can be the place where we are truly able to see Christ in each other. But homecomings can be complicated. What was homecoming like for the marginalized lepers? Was there even a home left for them? How do people go home who do have a home to go to? The Samaritan leper went back to an itinerant preacher - Jesus - to find home.

**Our ELCA Churchwide representative, The Rev. Dr. Wyvetta Bullock**, brought greetings from Chicago. She thanked those in our synod who are serving the greater church and reported on the progress of "Called Together in Christ." The report can be found at <http://elca.org/future>. Rev. Bullock thanked us for our Mission Support totaling \$691,968 and shared that Mission Investment Fund has loaned \$10.8 million in our synod and we have invested \$7.2 million.

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come.

Pastor Scott will begin a six-week sermon series on the **Lord's Prayer on June 11**. Our worship bulletin over these weeks will also include Martin Luther's comments on the Lord's Prayer from his Small Catechism.

She also shared her faith journey as a person of color growing up during segregation and challenged us to remember that people are waiting to know that no matter what they have been through or who they are, they are still human beings, that there is a place for them and that God loves them.

**Synod Council Youth member Theresa Landi** courageously shared her experience of struggling with mental illness. She described her experience with the Sierra Pacific Synod Youth Council (SPSYC), which was a community of belonging and support which helped her to deal with her illness and truly experience happiness in the company of loving peers and adults.

**“Telling Our Stories”—Valley Mission Coalition Grant Recipients:** At the synod assembly at the June 2016 meeting in Reno, a group identified as the Valley Mission Coalition awarded grants to a number of churches, distributing about \$100,000 in blocks of \$5,000. At this year’s assembly, we heard from each of the churches which had received grants, including Our Savior Lutheran in Quincy, CA in our region. People from each of the churches made oral reports with still photos and video to describe how they were making a difference in their outreach to their community through the funds.

For more detail about the Synod Assembly, follow this link to a recap page: <http://spselca.org/assts/uploads/2017/05/Assembly-2017-Recap.pdf>  
Synod Assembly sessions are available for viewing on YouTube at the following link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIWXewODKUCPj5Vwp6fnBMwu6RuO7droP>



Reno area Lutheran church leaders who attended the Synod Assembly: from left to right, Shaun O'Reilly (Good Shepherd), Tom and Kathryn Beck (Faith), Richard and Fran Moses (Holy Cross), Amanda and Andrew Palmer (Good Shepherd), Amy and Eric Allen (Good Shepherd), and Scott Trevithick (Holy Cross).

Save  
the  
Date

**God's Work Our Hands will be Sunday,  
September 10. God's Work, Our Hands is a national  
day of service throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church  
in America (ELCA.) We'll join with the Lutheran Church of  
the Good Shepherd with a picnic at noon at Idlewild Park  
and service project to beautify the park as well as a less  
physical service project.**

# Worship Notes:

**Summer worship schedule:** Worship at Holy Cross over the summer will be one service at 9:00 a.m. until after Labor Day in September. In keeping with the summertime mood, our worship may feel a bit more relaxed with a mix of vocalists and musicians providing special music, a variety of congregational singing, and less formal liturgy (responses in worship). Many people have said they look forward to summertime worship services when the whole congregation is together and people accustomed to attending one service or the other during the school year reconnect with others.

**Pentecost Sunday June 4:** Pentecost, celebrated 50 days after Easter, was originally a Jewish harvest festival known as the Festival of Weeks. We celebrate Pentecost as the birthday of the Church through the giving of the Holy Spirit as described in Acts 2:1-21. Worshipers are encouraged to wear red since it is the liturgical color of the day which reminds us of the flames as a sign of the Holy Spirit.

## *Memorial Service*

Nick Wampole, the son of Holy Cross member Richard Wampole, died December 5, 2016. We will have a memorial service of witness to the resurrection at Holy Cross on Saturday, June 10 at 3:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. All are invited.



# 95 THESES



## The next 8 of The 95 Theses....

82. Such as: "Why does not the pope empty purgatory for the sake of holy love and the dire need of the souls that are there if he redeems an infinite number of souls for the sake of miserable money with which to build a church?" The former reason would be most just; the latter is most trivial.
83. Again, "Why are funeral and anniversary masses for the dead continued and why does he not return or permit the withdrawal of the endowments founded for them, since it is wrong to pray for the redeemed?"
84. Again, "What is this new piety of God and the pope that for a consideration of money they permit a man who is impious and their enemy to buy out of purgatory the pious soul of a friend of God and do not rather, because of the need of that pious and beloved soul, free it for pure love's sake?"
85. Again, "Why are the penitential canons, long since abrogated and dead in actual fact and through disuse, now satisfied by the granting of indulgences as though they were still alive and in force?"
86. Again, "Why does not the pope, whose wealth is today greater than the wealth of the richest Crassus, build this one basilica of St. Peter with his own money rather than with the money of poor believers?"
87. Again, "What does the pope remit or grant to those who by perfect contrition already have a right to full remission and blessings?"
88. Again, "What greater blessing could come to the church than if the pope were to bestow these remissions and blessings on every believer a hundred times a day, as he now does but once?"
89. "Since the pope seeks the salvation of souls rather than money by his indulgences, why does he suspend the indulgences and pardons previously granted when they have equal efficacy?"





## “Celebration Ringers,” Touring High School Bell Choir, Coming to Holy Cross!

Holy Cross will be welcoming and hosting the Celebration Ringers, the high school bell choir of First Lutheran Church of Colorado Springs on Friday, June 9. They'll be with us in Reno before heading further west to California.

Holy Cross will be welcoming and hosting the Celebration Ringers, the high school bell choir of First Lutheran Church of Colorado Springs on Friday, June 9. They'll be with us in Reno before heading further west to California.

- We'll host a fellowship dinner for the choir at 6 p.m.
- The bell choir concert with five octaves of bells will be at 7:30 p.m.
- Holy Cross families will provide overnight housing for high schoolers in the choir. They have 14 students--10 girls and 4 guys.
- Host families provide overnight stay, serve them breakfast, and bring them back to the church the next morning for them to travel to Stockton, CA.

Would you be able to host 2-4 students at your house? Fill out the hosting form available in the welcome space/narthex of the church or contact Dawn in the church office at [office@hclcreno.org](mailto:office@hclcreno.org) or 827-4822 if you can help. The concert is open to anyone in the community, so invite a friend and plan on a fun evening.

## Birthdays:

6/3 Dawn Braudo  
6/4 Cheryl Brown  
6/4 Elsa Smith  
6/4 Sandi Christman  
6/6 Colleen Marton  
6/8 Kendra Ramirez  
6/8 Marianna Ramirez  
6/9 Hailey Colosimo  
6/13 Maggie Puckett  
6/14 Ken Schultz  
6/14 Sandi Holman  
6/15 Randy Rigler  
6/20 Richard Eggers  
6/21 Louise Holder  
6/22 Scott Trevithick  
6/26 Ollie Baker  
6/25 Madison Carper  
6/26 Cameron Kincaid  
6/27 Breiana Hill  
6/29 Caiden Kincaid  
6/29 Charlie Vinopal  
6/30 Kayla Kunze

## Anniversaries:

6/6 John & Barbara Hill  
6/7 Russell & Natalie Tegio  
6/10 Bruce & Ollie Baker  
6/12 Laine & MaryAnn Christman  
6/17 Fred & Karen Ford  
6/18 Merle & Jan Moebus  
6/19 JL & Sandi Christman

## BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study meets in our Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays at 1:30pm.

We are exploring how angels are depicted in the Bible. You are welcome to join at any time. Please contact Becky Bradley at [beckyb485@gmail.com](mailto:beckyb485@gmail.com) or 775-360-0553 for more information.