



# The In Touch

Volume 55, Issue 7

*Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation*

## Ramblings from the Deacon.....

Everyone has those times when they think 'I have reached my limit.' Sometimes life seems to take it as a challenge. 'Oh really? What happens if I add this?' And, wham - you're brought to your knees (usually just where you needed to be).

My go to verse for those days is 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV : Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

When Missioner Rachel Babbit of the ECMN was here, she brought sets of seven magnets, each labeled with a different word and "The Way of Love". REST. When I looked at the magnet I had drawn from the pile, my heart embraced it as my mind rejected it. Rest. "I'm not very good at this," I said and also heard from several others gathered at the station labeled REST at the ECMN convention last fall. While I felt pulled to pause a moment amid the cushions, candles, water, and rocks, I, like most others, followed along in line to receive my wax pellets and hurried back to my table to create a candle with my table mates.

I think I learned something from not taking that pause. It lead to a Lenten decision to actively resist feeling tense and pressured and hurried. It was hard. It still is some days. "Use your minutes," was a favorite saying of my Algebra I teacher. And I must have listened. It is difficult for me to be still for the two minutes my toothbrush runs; I balance on one leg for the uppers and the other for the lowers, or do knee bends to wake up those reluctant joints, or anything that one can do reasonably well with a toothbrush in their mouth.

Then came Covid-19. Time to work on twenty five years worth of unfinished projects and not worry about having it all done by Friday! No driving to town for meetings. That was the upside for a while. The down side has been pretty much like everyone else has experienced. We didn't see our daughter, Kelly and her kids for quiet a while. I haven't been able to be there for a recently widowed neighbor. Haven't been of service much to anyone or anything. Like other nonprofits, SOS needs to be fundraising without ceasing. We are all on the longest hold of our lives.

Then George Floyd was murdered and the tsunami of human emotions that it created hasn't ebbed. We are afraid of what's happening in our country. We are afraid both for and of the police. We are isolated in ways we haven't been before. We are bewildered by the responses of people we thought we knew. We don't like what we see when we look at our history of racism. We are lied to, truth is distorted and social media posts that could bring us closer together with often come with snarky little barbs to divide us. Many started by people in countries that don't have our best interests at heart.

Rejoice always? In everything give thanks? Really? How are we supposed to do that?

I start by giving thanks. Often the prayer is, "God, I'm not sure what to be thankful for in this situation, but I thank you anyway." This stills my jumbled thoughts. It brings me to "rest". While resting, I gain a bit of understanding, maybe a shift in perspective. With current events, I remember that if a group of people hadn't been angry enough to fight oppression, hadn't come together to change the status quo, we would still be a British colony. I am saddened that these many years later we still haven't learned to respect the dignity of every human being.

Then, comes rejoicing, or as the Message Bible says: "Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live. "

God has work for us to do. Our answer can't be, I'm sorry, I'm just too depressed, or angry, or whatever, today. We are not effective instruments to spread the love of Jesus if we stay stuck in whatever injustice we perceive. We can and should feel our emotions without cloaking ourselves in them. I am of better service when I go into the world with a smile (and often my mood catches up to that smile). We can feel sad or afraid and still rejoice. My role is to do the work God would have me do. I am not expected to fix everything, that's His job. And thanks be to God for that!

Peace,

Mel

After rambling as a Deacon, I'm switching to Senior Warden to talk about the future of our finances. I love that we sometimes go home with the collection still sitting in the plate; we're not overly focused on money. Yet, we need to be aware of our finances in order to be responsible stewards of what has been entrusted to us.

I want to stress that we are not currently in difficulty, however, our pledges and plate offerings don't cover our expenses. To meet expenses, we are using a bequest from Art Corrin. And in four years, when we have used all of the bequest we will be operating at a loss and some decisions will need to be made. How will we meet expenses then?

Do we draw from our other accounts? Or rely on the portion of the bequest that has been saved (half of the yearly amount)? Do we invite another congregation to share space and expenses? Do we consider sharing space somewhere else?

What is our vision for the future of our church? I don't know what the answer looks like, but I have faith that there is one. We have time to prepare, to explore possibilities, to bounce ideas around, and most of all to pray for guidance. For now, please let this rattle around in your mind, do some soul searching, pray and we will come back to it after a while.

Mel, Senior Warden



- 7/2 ~ **Ryan Krieger** (son Dan & Linda, grandson Wilbur & MaryAnn)
- 7/6 ~ **Stephanie Fort** ( daughter Jim & Cori, granddaughter Carolyn Davison)
- 7/12 ~ **MaryAnn Tveit**
- 7/13 ~ **Logan Krieger** (son Dan & Linda, grandson Wilbur & MaryAnn Tveit)
- 7/15 ~ **Carol Grim**
- 7/18 ~ **Dean Tveit**
- 7/19 ~ **Madalynn Jenkinson** (daughter Matthew & Edith, great granddaughter Byrne & Carole Johnson)
- 7/21 ~ **JoAnne Harvey**
- 7/27 ~ **Lee Grim**
- 7/29 ~ **Melanie Mattsen**
- 7/29 ~ **Rick Windschitl**



- 7/8 ~ **Jan Menefee**
- 7/10 ~ **Connor Weir** (son of Tara Rud, grandson of Cindy Cassibo)
- 7/13 ~ **Emma Mattsen**
- 7/20 ~ **Caryn Noland**
- 7/27 ~ **Sarah O’Kane** (daughter Heather, granddaughter of Georgeann & Andy Wright)
- 7/27 ~ **Tessa Walls**



- 7/20 ~ **Mike & Tricia Brennard**



- 7/8 ~ **Rev. Lynn Naeckel**

*During our Shelter in Place Order  
 Watch Holy Trinity Services Livestream  
 Service bulletin is on our website: [www.ifhtec.org](http://www.ifhtec.org)*

*On Facebook: Sundays @ 10:00 am*



*Subject to Covid 19  
 Restrictions the  
 Voyageurs Park Service  
 Dates Will Be:  
 July 19<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>*



# July '20 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities



Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
<p>5</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00 am</p> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim</p>	
<p>12</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00 am</p> <p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim</p>	
<p>19</p>  <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00 am</p> <p><b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim</p>	
<p>26</p> <p><b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00 am</p> <p><b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b></p>	<p>Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Gavia Yount or Linnaea Yount Lee Grim</p>	



# July 2020



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Altar Guild Tricia 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Altar Guild Donna & Karen
Holy Eucharist 10:00 am						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Altar Guild Donna & Karen
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	<i>Ruby's Pantry 4:30 - 6:30</i>	Vestry 5:00 pm Team 6:00				
19 At Park??	20	21	22	23	24	25 Altar Guild Georgeann
 Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Newsletter Deadline				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						

