



Sandy Run
Lutheran
Church

June Tidings

1927 Old State Road, Swansea SC 29160
Pastor Pam Turfa 803-381-1469 pturfa@aol.com



With the second Sunday of June, we enter the long green season after Pentecost – the season also known as Ordinary Time in the church.



During Ordinary Time, there is no church festival or festival "theme" (Christmas, Lent, Easter, Advent). We will not have a non-green Sunday this year until Reformation Sunday at the end of October and the season after Pentecost will not end until Christ the King Sunday in November.

And, so to many Christians, the summer season of the Church calendar can seem a bit of a letdown. After all, *just what are we doing* during the summer if we are not preparing for or celebrating a major festival or holiday?

First: This is the season for strengthening our faith practices, especially those that connect worship with our everyday life.

Worship services have four parts. We are gathered together. We hear God's Word. We celebrate the meal of Holy Communion (or, even if there is no meal, we still present our gifts of thanks – our offerings). And, we are blessed and sent in mission in the world.

We do not just show up on Sunday to fulfill an obligation that has no bearing on everyday life. Worship prepares us for our calling to participate in ushering in God's Kingdom – to proclaim the Good News wherever we are and in whatever we doing.

Second: This is a season for hearing the stories of Jesus' ministry -- and listening for ways to connect those stories with our own lives.

We are reading (mostly) from the Gospel of Matthew this year. And, so we immediately plunge into stories that remind us that Jesus has come as in instrument of mercy and that he calls his followers into lives of mission and ministry.

Third: We are reminded that the coming of God's kingdom is promised -- and we are privileged to have a part in its arrival.

God has included us in his grand plan to spread the Good News to all, to join heaven and earth together. Rejoice and be glad! We are part of God's Kingdom!

Pastor Pam



Vacation Bible School is HERE!

VBS is set for June 11-16. We begin each evening at 5:15 with a meal followed by Bible stories, crafts, science, music, and recreation at 6.

Everything concludes at 8.

This year, we are offering an adult Bible study: *The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith* by Timothy Keller and based on the story of the Prodigal Son.

Please watch the board in the sanctuary and the bulletins for opportunities to volunteer – especially to prepare nightly meals.

The theme is “Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God.”

Questions? Talk to Jami Middlemiss.

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The Sandy Run WELCA is collecting items to take to the state WELCA convention for hygiene kits for Tanzania, a companion synod of the SC Lutheran Synod.

A list of needed items is on the sanctuary. **The deadline is June 1.**