

The Spader's Speaker

From Interim Pastor

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Kirk Shipley...



There are so many world view and life transforming insights that were central to Lutheran Christian understanding. One of the most profound and practical was Martin Luther's awareness that all work was a call from God. In his time the main thinking saw only people engaged in 'holy tasks' as doing God's work. After WWII we began making the shift to those with jobs directly helping other people.

Our primary Confessional document the Augsburg Confession described the problem:

Necessary good works "which everybody is obliged to do according to their calling (men laboring to support their families, mothers caring for their children, magistrates governing) such works commanded by God, were to be regarded as secular and imperfect.

Instead the early Lutherans offered an alternative view that Christian perfection was: "fearing God honestly with our whole hearts, having trust through Christ God is merciful, and to pray for what we have need and invite God into our particular vocation, do good for others, and diligently attend to our calling.

Martin Luther and others made a great shift and advocated the work of the farmer or the maid is

as precious to God as the priest's. The Lutheran Handbook II in its section How to tell the difference between a "Vocation" and a "Vacation" summarizes it well:

Martin Luther's doctrine is radical because Luther says that a holy calling is not limited to people who are pastors or missionaries. Rather any job or career is holy when a Christian performs it as part of her or his baptismal call from God to serve others.... The Lutheran doctrine of vocation encompasses careers and roles outside of workplace employment. Father, mother, sister, brother, friend, and colleague are just a few of the vocations to which Christians are called.

God is in the home, fields, schools, offices and shops, as well as in worship and service spaces.

Richard Foster, at one-time noted author on prayer and spiritual discipline, shared how he really took in that truth. He was in Alaska to build the first high school above the Arctic Circle. What he found was his part in this Christian Education enterprise was digging a trench for a sewer line. In frozen ground this was very hard. He was picking at the frozen ground with more exasperation than sense of calling. An observant Eskimo Christian told him "You are digging a ditch for the glory of God." Though no one would really care as the ditch would be covered and not remembered, Foster began digging with all his might. Every shovelful was a prayer to God.

What could be more in line with God's design. In the beginning God engaged in the work of creating everything from glorious mountain views to pretty dull grasses and weeds." Creation was a holy act. All activity can be 'holy' activity drawing us closer to what God intends.

In This Issue	Page
From Pastor Kirk	1
Upcoming Events	1
Weekly Word from God	2

Upcoming Events

St. Jacob's Picnic in Bridgewater August 27

St. Jacobs picnic at Oakdale Park, Shelter #1, Bridgewater. We will have the Blue Grass Mass at 11:00 am with the picnic following.

Installation of Bishop Bob Humphrey in Waynesboro September 9

Southern Valley WELCA trip to Hebron Lutheran Church and Graves Lodge September 30

Southern Valley WELCA Fall Gathering October 1

The Southern Valley WELCA Fall Gathering at Salem Lutheran Church beginning at 2:30 pm.

Reformation 500 Worship Service at Massanutten Presbyterian Church October 16 at 3:00 pm.

This will be a joint service with Trinity, St. Jacobs and the Keezletown United Methodist Churches

Parish of the Valley

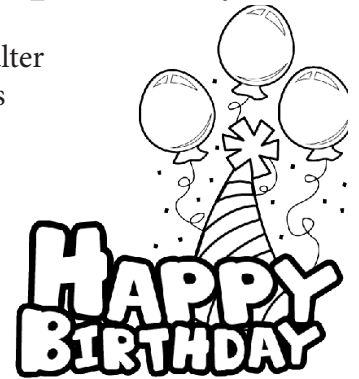
Parish of the Valley was the name selected by Trinity and St. Jacobs at the congregational votes on July 9th. A letter has been sent to the Virginia Synod Council for their approval at the September board meeting.

Thank You

To Eva Coffey, Maria Archer, Pastor Shipley and other members of the Reformation 500 team for planning the joint picnic on July 30th at Massanetta Springs. Thanks to the Walnut Ridge Boys for the special music. A great day was enjoyed by many.

Take a moment to wish someone well on their special day!

August 4	Ann Royer
August 8	Linda Showalter
August 17	Norma Rines
August 20	Chuck Lam
August 31	Stuart Eye



Do You Have an Article to Contribute?

All of us are baptized ministers of the gospel, and all of us have something to share. If you have an article or announcement for the bulletin or *The Spader's Speaker*, please send it to Whitney Meyerhoeffer, who compiles both the bulletin and *Speaker*. Send it to: wmeyerhoeffer@gmail.com.

Maultaschensuppe (German Dumplins in Broth)

from www.saveur.com

As part of our 500th Anniversary we will be featuring a German recipe each month!

1 1/2 cups flour
 2 tbsp. durum wheat (semolina) flour
 1/2 tsp. canola oil
 5 eggs, divided, lightly beaten
 3 oz. ground beef
 3 oz. ground veal
 3 oz. ground pork

1 1/2 oz bacon, finely chopped
 1/4 cup finely chopped parsley
 2 tbsp. heavy cream
 2 tbsp. cooked, chopped spinach
 1/4 small yellow onion, finely chopped
 Freshly grated nutmeg, to taste
 Kosher salt and fresh ground black pepper, to taste

Freshly grated nutmeg, to taste

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Combine thinly sliced cucumbers, sliced onions, and chopped dill in a bowl. Toss gently.

In a small bowl, combine oil, vinegar, sugar and salt. Whisk thoroughly.

Drizzle oil and vinegar mix over cucumber mixture and toss to mix completely

Chill for an hour to blend flavors before serving.

Weekly Word from God	
August 6 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost	Romans 9: 1-5
August 13 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost	Romans 10: 5-15
August 20 - 11th Sunday after Pentecost	Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32
August 27 - Bluegrass Mass	Romans 12: 1-8

Worship Leader Schedule				
Date	Worship Assistant	Piano	Ushers/Greeters	Lectors
Aug 6	Ann Royer	Ann Royer	Ann Royer and Carolyn Randolph	Linda and Glen Showalter
Aug 13	Cindy Lam	Ann Royer	Don Coffey and Tom Lam	Linda and Glen Showalter
Aug 20	Nancy Bradfield	Maria Archer	Paul Driver and Cindy Lam	Linda and Glen Showalter
July 23	Glen Showalter	Maria Archer	Glen Showalter and James Eye	Linda and Glen Showalter