

The Parish Speaker

Summer 2020 | Volume 1 | Number 1



*From Pastor Bill Nabers...
...About Time*

Time. There's a relevant topic. Think of the uses we make of the word time. "What do we do with the time we have?" "What about the times we live in?" "Isn't it about time we..." "When can we worship in person again" We'd all like to know when we will be able to do the things we want to do. But time is a very vague word in English. I think the Koine Greek that the New Testament was written in might be helpful. This Greek has two words for time. The first is Chronos (or Kronos). That is time as a measurable reckoning. Calendar or clock time. This kind of time is useful to help us organize and make sense of events. It is probably the definition of time we most commonly use. We can't escape Chronos. All of our technology reminds us constantly of where we are in Chronos time.

But there is a second use of time. It is the Greek word Kairos. Usually translated "when the time was right." This 'time' is about relationship or non-linear time. It's when events and people line up to make something possible. It is harder to define but easier to know the value of. It is interesting to note, of all the uses of the English word "time" connected with God in the Bible, only one refers to Chronos. All the rest are Kairos.

God operates in Kairos or (relational time) not Chronos (clock time). That's a good thing. Chronos was meant to be a help in our lives has been twisted into a burden or hindrance. We can but easily become overly worried about a concrete deadline or a mark

on a calendar; rather that ask ourselves the Kairos question. When is the time right (for God, others and even ourselves)?

In the Church we should be good at this. Most of what we do, and talk about centers, around the Kairos question. There are some Chronos matters that come from living in this world. But we define ourselves by the Kairos.

That's a valuable experience to have. Most of what we are struggling with today, COVID19, race and international relations, divisions in our country, ETV., are in the Kairos orbit. And this is true not just on the 'big picture' level but also on a personal level. How we will deal with them should get us to honestly ask: Is the time right (for God, others and self)?

I know that for the leadership of our two congregations we have been asking that question a lot as relates to COVID19 and when/if to resume in-person worship and other activities. Yes, there is some Chronos and we would like an exact calendar answer. But the real question is still in Kairos. We are searching for a relationship answer. I am pleased that we and I'm sure you are struggling with that right time for God component as well. At this time we are accordingly still not holding in-person worship. I hope you are also joining me in being honest about relational time as regards the other issues in our community and nation.

All time is in God's hands. God will guide us in Kairos time. When the time is right...

*- Blessings,
Pastor Nabers*

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Announcements

St. Jacob's Gets PPP Grant

We are pleased to announce that St. Jacob applied for and received a Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan/grant for \$13,000. This loan converts to a grant if you meet the requirements. The funds were used to pay for the pastor's compensation including health care and pension over period that the grant cover. These funds will also benefit Trinity congregation as they will not have to reimburse St. Jacob for their portion of those expenses. This 'grant' will take economic pressure off of both congregations. The PPP will not meet all the financial needs, so those who are able are encouraged to continue to support their congregation. A special thank you to Cindy Hughes who has worked diligently with DuPont Community Credit Union since the first day we heard about this program to acquire this grant.

Musicians from both congregations are not eligible to be included as they are not employees by federal standards. However, both congregational councils have voted to continue paying them at this time in appreciation of their contributions to our worship life.

If you would like to make a direct deposit contribution please contact Cindy Hughes and she can help with that. At St. Jacobs, a deposit is made on the 15th and last day of the month for those mailing offerings to the church.

Jacobs-Spaders Lutheran Church
3555 Spaders Church Rd.
Mt. Crawford, VA 22841

Offerings for Trinity may be mailed to the congregation or left at D.R. & Janet Cooley's screen porch.

Trinity Bible Study

Trinity is sponsoring a Bible Study on Zoom on Sundays at 3 pm. The study is on John's Gospel and is being led by Melanie Smith. Please contact her for more information.

Perhaps another Bible Study...

Is there any interest in having other activities on line? A bible Study (one time or a series)? A further time to get together, talk and pray? Let me know your interest at billnabers@hotmail.com.

Contact Pastor to Volunteer on Sundays

Anyone wishing to volunteer for any of the Sundays

to play and sing a song, read lessons or prepare the prayers, please let the Pastor know.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed to St. Jacob's drive to raise funds to support the Blue Ridge Food Bank. Over \$1,550 was raised for this worthwhile organization.

Trinity Continues to Contribute to Food Pantry

Trinity continues to contribute non-perishable items to the Massanutten Food Pantry, you can drop them off at the church and they will take them to the Food Pantry.

Please Add to the Prayer List

United States of America
Doris Schuck
Alice Tunucci (Alan's mom)
Families of David Street (friend of Pastor)
William "Bill" Simmons (father of Kathy Lambert)
Ellen Mitchell (Ana Gae's sister-in-law)
Addison Showalter (young son of Matthew and Wynetta Showalter)
The family of Lloyd Hoskins

Devotional Booklets Available

Devotional booklets starting July 1st are available at St. Jacob's in the plastic box by the door of the social hall. At Trinity the Devotional books are in the Narthex.

New Stones Added to Memory Garden

Two stones have been placed in the Memory Garden at the back of St Jacob's church in Memory of Eilene Meyerhoeffer and June Hulvey. The garden was created and is tended by WELCA (Women of the ELCA) in memory of those who were active in WELCA.

Welcome Elizabeth Ann "Libby" Smith

Congratulations to Kendrick and Laura Smith of Trinity on the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Ann "Libby" Smith on August 22nd (Grandparents Mark and Melanie Smith are also excited!). Latest report is all are doing well.

Do you have something to share?

All of us are baptized ministers of the gospel and all of us have something to share. If you have an 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.

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

September

3	Donnie Coffey	12	Jamie Driver
6	Cindy Lam	13	Richard Eye
8	Donnie Lam	17	June Nabers
8	Doris Schuck	21	Tammy Craun
10	Pastor Bill Nabers	24	Janice Kyger
11	June Riddle		



Worship Schedule

Date	Time	Location
Aug 30	4:00 PM	Zoom "In the Word" Email the pastor to get on the invitation list with the password.
Sept 6	4:00 PM	Zoom "In the Word" Email the pastor to get on the invitation list with the password.
Sept 13	4:00 PM	Zoom "In the Word" Email the pastor to get on the invitation list with the password.
Sept 20	4:00 PM	Zoom "In the Word" Email the pastor to get on the invitation list with the password.
Sept 27	4:00 PM	Zoom "In the Word" Email the pastor to get on the invitation list with the password.

Weekly Word from God

August 30 - 13th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 16:21-28
September 6 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 18:15-20
September 13 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 18:21-35
September 20 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 20:1-16
September 27 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Matthew 21:23-32