



WUMC Community Pathway

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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From the Pastor

I love the flow of the Christian calendar as it goes from Advent to Christmas, Christmastide to Epiphany, and from Epiphany to Ordinary Time. However, the term ordinary does not mean something plain or routine; it comes from the word ordinal, which in this case means marking the time until the beginning of the next season, which is Lent.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, continues through Holy Week, which includes Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. Easter Sunday is a celebration of Christ's resurrection and is the beginning of Eastertide, that continues until Pentecost Sunday. This takes us back into ordinary time until the beginning of Advent. Each one of these days and seasons is significant not only to the life of the church, but also to our continued faith journey.

As we approach Pentecost Sunday, it will mark my first journey through these seasons with you. This year has given us many challenges, especially when navigating these Covid times. But it is important to remember that no matter how difficult things may be, challenges provide opportunities. I do believe this year has been extremely rewarding, and I pray it has been spiritually fulfilling for you. I would like to share just a couple of the opportunities we were able to offer:

The Christmas Eve service at South Boardman was outside and in the snow. As we huddled around the fire and sang Silent Night, we were able to come together and virtually share the light of Christ with each other as a parish. Even though our church doors were closed, we still celebrated the birth of our savior.

On Easter Sunday we came together for a Sunrise Service in the gazebo overlooking Fife Lake. The morning was crisp and clear, as we witnessed the moon and the stars giving way to the first rays of daylight. We renewed our baptismal vows and experienced the hope and promise that comes from our resurrected Lord.

Pentecost Sunday is May 23, and there will be a combined Unified Parish worship service that day, beginning at 10:30 at the Whitewater Township Park. It is my hope and prayer that we can have another unique and spiritually meaningful service as we celebrate the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the believers and the church was born.

When thinking about the transformation that took place on that day, I was reminded of the change a caterpillar goes through as it transforms into a butterfly. It is changed into a completely different being. The same is true for us as Christians. We are able to experience a whole new life in Christ.

To symbolize the transformative power of the Holy Spirit, we have been working with the Butterfly House in Williamsburg. There will be a butterfly release as part of the service. I am also requesting that you wear a cap, a shirt, or a jacket, representing a group, team, or an organization that you are a part of or support. It does not have to be church related. Please mark the date on your calendar, watch for more details, and make plans to attend.

Pastor John

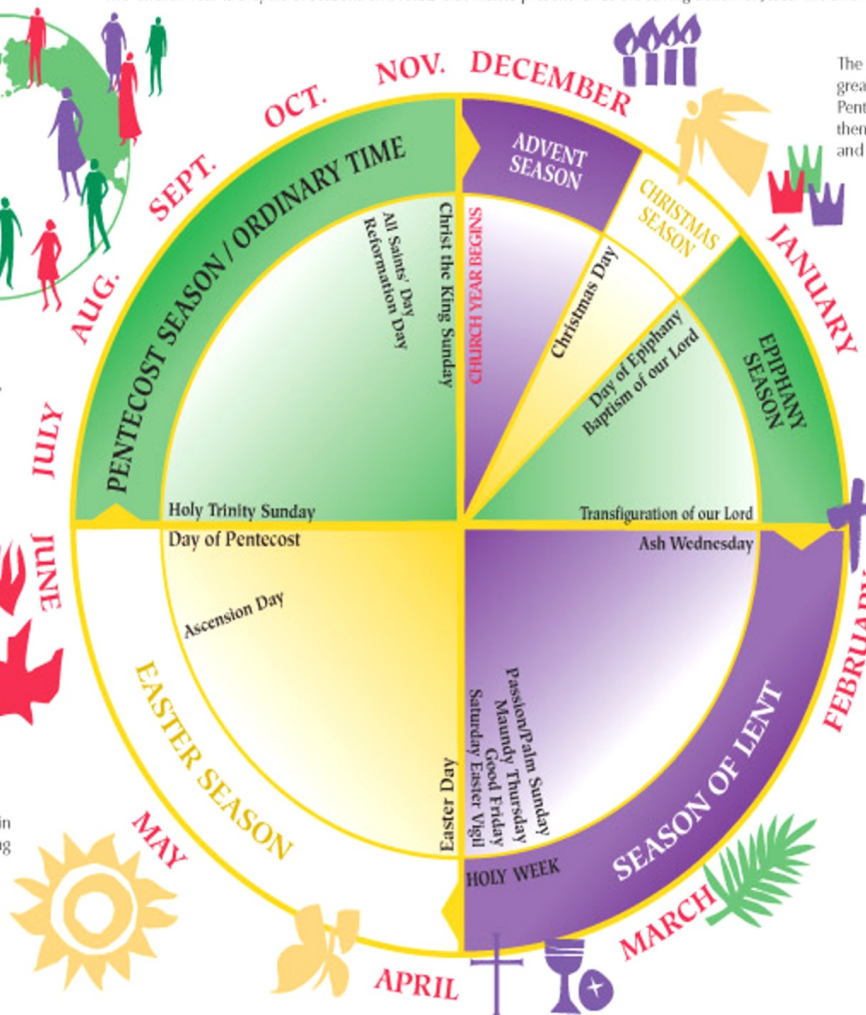
THE YEAR of OUR LORD

The Church Year is a cycle of seasons and feasts that makes present for us the saving action of Jesus' life and ministry.



Christians around the world and throughout history have shaped their faith and marked their lives by the days and seasons of the Church Year.

The first half of the Church Year recalls events in the life of our Lord, making them real for us in the present. The rest of the Church Year focuses on discipleship—the new life in Christ in which we are living and growing.



The **Church Year** revolves around three great festival days—Christmas, Easter and Pentecost—and the seasons that connect them—Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Pentecost or Ordinary Time.

ADVENT: four weeks of preparation for Christ's coming at Christmas.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON: twelve days of celebration of Christ's birth, leading to Epiphany.

EPIPHANY SEASON: four to nine weeks of thanksgiving for Christ's revelation to the world, including the Baptism of our Lord.

LENT: Ash Wednesday followed by 40 days of preparation for Easter, concluding during Holy Week. Holy Week: from Palm or Passion Sunday through the Easter Triduum (the three days beginning with the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday and ending on Easter Sunday).

EASTER SEASON: Easter Day followed by fifty days of rejoicing, including Ascension Day, leading to the season's climax, the Day of Pentecost.

PENTECOST SEASON OR ORDINARY TIME: the two dozen weeks from Holy Trinity Sunday to Christ the King Sunday. The festival of All Saints is celebrated late in this season.

SAVE THE DATE:
 Memorial Day Parade
 Monday, May 31th @ 8am
 American Legion Post #289



Unified Parish Pentecost
 Worship Service
 May 23, 2021
 10:30 @ Whitewater Twp.
 Park



Noisy Offering

**Our Noisy Offering
 for May, June and
 July is supporting
 Vacation Bible
 School.
 Thank you!**

Unfortunately,
 Williamsburg United
 Methodist Church is
 still closed to any non-
 church functions at
 this time. We
 apologize for this
 inconvenience



*Carol is always
 looking for
 volunteers! Thank
 you!*




Save the Date!
August 9th-11th

**Vacation
 Bible
 School**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE
 DRIVE THRU
 STRAWBERRY SOCIAL AND
 ONLINE AUCTION!
 JUNE 26TH
 3:30-7PM
 PLEASE GIVE CAROL
 WALTER A CALL IF YOU
 CAN HELP. THANK YOU!**



May Celebrations!

3rd Wanda Provins

5th Pete Morrison

6th Nick Lloyd

7th Chelle Lints

7th Brandon Gualtiere

7th Nate Graham

8th Pam Hamstra

14th Scott Graham

17th Nicole Buchan

20th Isabelle Stapleton

21st Erin Gogolin

**Combined Unified Parish
Worship Service and Picnic**

Sunday, May 23, 2021
10:30 a.m.

Whitewater Township Park Pavilion
9500 Park Road, Williamsburg

- 🦋 shuttle service from parking lot to pavilion
- 🦋 wear something that represents a team, group or organization you are part of, or support. (does not need to be church related)
- 🦋 bring a lawn chair
- 🦋 butterflies will be released during the service



Optional camping will be available by registering at Whitewater Township Park whitewatertownshippark.org or calling the Ranger Station at (231) 267-5091

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:15 Worship Service Communion	3	4	5 	6	7	8
9 10:15 Worship Service Mother's Day!	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 10:15 Worship Service VBS Meeting after church	17	18	19	20 Strawberry Social Mtg. 7pm	21	22
23 10:30 Unified Parish Srv. @ WW Twp. Park 30 10:15 srvc.	24 31 Memorial Day! Parade @	25	26	27	28	29



God is love,

and he who abides in love,
abides in God, & God in him.

1John 4:16

May 2021 NEWSLETTER
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