## Second Sunday after Pentecost June 22, 2025 – 10am Modern Worship, ELW Setting 3

#### **Prelude Music**

#### **Announcements**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: ... you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

## Gathering Song: Come, Now Is The Time to Worship

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart. Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God. One day ev'ry knee will bow. Still, the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart. Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives. Willingly our knees will bow. With all our heart, soul, mind, and strength we gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart. Come, just as you are to worship. Come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Come... Come... come.

## Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all! C: And also with you!



## **Kyrie**

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.** 

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.** 

## **Prayer of the Day**

A: Let us pray together,

C: O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Children's Message

Pr Paul

## First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

11 was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. 2 I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; 3 a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; 4 who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; 5 who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. 6 See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps 7 their iniquities and their incestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. 8 Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. 9 I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

L: The Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God

## **Gospel Acclamation:**

## Alleluia



## Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

P: A reading from... C: Glory to You, O Lord.

26 Then Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. 27 As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—29 for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) 30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. 31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. 32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. 33 Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. 34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. 36 Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. 37 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. 38 The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon** Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day: We Come to You for Healing Lord ELW 617

## **Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

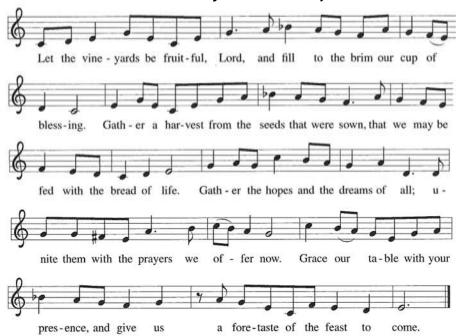
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I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of the Church / Sign of the Peace** (Let us give one another a sign of peace according to your comfort level.)

Offering

Offering Song: Zeke Clemons



## **Offering Prayer**

A: Let us pray together.

C: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

#### Words of Institution

## **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**Communion** (Please note: gluten-free wafers and white grape juice cups are available)

## **Communion Songs:**

One Bread, One Body Living Hope (words below) **ELW 496** 

How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness, Your loving kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope.
(continued on next column)

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.
(continued on next page)

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me! You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope. Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me! You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

(continued on next column)

Then came the morning that sealed the promise. Your buried body began to breathe Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me. Then came the morning that sealed the promise. Your buried body began to breathe Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me Jesus, Yours is the victory, whoa!

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me! You have broken every chain. There's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.... Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me! You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

## **Final Blessing**

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ⊕ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

**Sending Song:** 

Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land

**ELW 333** 

#### **Dismissal**

A: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.



1050 Peninsula Drive Traverse City, MI 49686 (231) 947-9880 www.bethlehemtc.org

6/22—Nancy Schmidt 6/23—Sherri Helman

6/25—Amy Rogers 6/25—Nathan Kolka 6/27—Cindy Monroe 6/27—Bill Allen

6/25—Tom Fink

#### **Worship Servants for June 22**

Presiding & Preaching—Pastor Paul Busekist Assisting Minister—Cindy Monroe Lector—Makena Dohm Musicians: David Husser, Zeke Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr Paul Today's altar flowers are donated: To the Glory of God Hospitality—Jim & Dorene Boyd A/V—Jim Monroe / Barbara Oster

Cookies/Coffee— VOLUNTEER / Mary Ann Tanis Welcome Table— VOLUNTEER Bell Ringer—Dave Susalski Front Door Monitor—Doug Cunningham Altar Guild—Patty Leibenguth / Erin Word Counters—John Halstead / Forrest Bowling

It's that time again! The Youth Program will once again be holding their annual parking lot fundraiser, and we are in need of volunteers! The fundraiser is run before the two weekend airshows, and before the 4th of July fireworks. All proceeds fund the ongoing youth activities at Bethlehem. The fundraiser will be held on:

- Saturday June 28th from 10am-1pm
- Sunday June 29th from 9am-1pm
- Friday July 4th from 6pm-10:30pm

You can sign up for one, or multiple! The youth are front and center welcoming cars and taking payment, while adult volunteers will direct cars to parking spaces. Please note that the back entrance off of Peninsula Drive will be the only entrance open when you come for church that Sunday! If you are interested in volunteering, you can reach out to Alanna directly at alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org Thank you for volunteering!



THE FAITH REFORMED GARDENS ARE HAPPENING!!!! A Crew of dedicated workers cleared the 2 huge beds earmarked for BLC of weeds. Some seeds were chosen from the free seed bucket and will be passed on to anyone who can go to our gardens on a Saturday morning, the designated late planting time. Even if you cannot go then, you can go at any time as long as you make certain the gate is tightly closed behind you when you leave. Trickle irrigation runs every other day, but you can also use the spigot by the north fence to get extra water for any plant in need. Don Sheehan selected the best seeds. When veggies are ready Food Rescue will have designated pick-up days. If there is too much of any item it can be placed in our food pantry or given to our members who may be in need. The beds are slightly raised so you can take a low chair or stool and take part. The gardens for BLC are temporarily labeled with cards until our official plaques arrive. Just walk in the gate facing Faith Reformed and look to the right. Enjoy making others happy and healthy! For any questions, contact Cindy Monroe (231-631-0887 or cmonroe@chartermi.net

Food pantry news: Finally we are seeing glimpses of Spring. Hopefully it will stick around. The food pantry supplies are running low and could certainly use some donations. When shopping for donations, please consider items with protein like peanut butter, canned ravioli or spaghetti, tuna, and chicken. It would help if you can find cans with the pull-tab opening. The items that we do not need any more of are dried beans, peas, and lentils. Right now we have plenty of soaps but can always use feminine care products. We don't have to worry about items in the pantry freezing any more so anything you donate can be used immediately. Thank you all for your continuing generosity and willingness to serve our community. Suzanne and Kathie REMEMBER, YOU CAN GET A THRIVENT GRANT FOR UP TO \$250 FOR FOOD PANTRY ITEMS.

Chair Yoga: Special Note: the class is taking a few weeks off while Janet, the leader, will be out of the country. Class will return on July 7th. Bethlehem has added another Chair Yoga class per week. You now have two opportunities to attend: Monday and Wednesday at 3:00pm. The cost is \$5 and Janet Weaver will be the instructor. People can attend one or both classes per week. Gail Goldsmith will continue to be the church representative for the Monday class and Cindy Monroe will be the church representative for the Wednesday class. It is a great opportunity to stretch and work on balance issues.

What IS GRIEVING? Could it be the loss of a marriage, your home, or community, good health, a dream or something else? The list can go on and on. No matter the loss you have a family here at Bethlehem that loves you, wants to support you, and be here for you! We meet here on the first Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 and on the third Monday from 5:30-6:30. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns 231-392-6913.

**SUMMER BREAK**: Please note that Sunday School, Sunday's Adult Education along with the two Wednesday Bible Studies will not meet during the summer months. Look for the September start dates in the weekly email, bulletins and the STAR at the end of summer.

**BOOK CLUB NEWS:** We are uncertain of our location but our next date is the 4th Wednesday in July, which is July 30th at 5:30. We will be reading "Caste, The Origins of Our Discontent" by Isabel Wilkerson. If you plan to come please contact Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net and watch the bulletin and email blast for the location.

BLC partners with Old Town Playhouse for the musical telling the story of Moses in THE PRINCE OF EGYPT: How exciting that this summer we will have rehearsals for this amazing musical here in this building! If you want to audition to be on stage or be part of the supporting community choir you can follow this link to sign up: www.oldtownplayhouse.com/egypt Performances will be Aug 21 and 22 at 7:00 and Aug 23 at 2:00 at Milliken Auditorium. The youth will be running the concessions on Thursday. Aug 21 and their youth fund will receive the benefits. We need other volunteers for the two other performances and the funds earned can be designated to the charity or cause recommended by the volunteers. Bethlehem's Good Samaritan Fund? Project Feed the Kids? Safe Harbor? Grand Traverse Baby Pantry? Another idea? It's easy to sell items before the show and during intermission. Sign up in the gathering space or contact Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net or 231 631 0887 if you can help one of those days. Also, do you want to reserve tickets to see the show? If tickets are purchased in groups of 6 each will cost \$42 for an adult and \$18 for youth under the age of 18. Sign up sheets for the tickets will also be in the gathering space.

Baby Pantry Appreciation: We recently received an email from Sally Hanley, the director of the Baby Pantry that meets in our Fellowship Hall on the second Thursday of each month. Sally thanked those who volunteered and provided various food items. She also mentioned surveys that were given out. Quote from Sally: "In reviewing the results, I noticed that for the first time in a long time, Food was the major family issue, closely followed by Stress, which is usually the top issue. Having our food pantry in place helps us address this emerging need. Fresh produce and protein were also noted as the 2 most appreciated categories of our food pantry section as well. I liked the idea of



emphasizing that children are welcome to come to the pantry with you." Thank you all for your donations to the BLC Food Pantry as some of the items are put on a cart where the Baby Pantry families can pick from. Remember diapers, clothing, paper products and cleaning products among the most appreciated items.

**SAVE YOUR PAPER SACKS**: Please check the nooks and crannies of your home for paper sacks. The Baby Pantry fills requests from preschool teachers for their students whose parents cannot make it to the pantry. Paper sacks are the perfect size to place the needed items for each child. Just place your bags on the Care table in the coat room. Thank you!!

**HOW DO WE CARE AND SERVE?** John 12:26 "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me". YOU ARE LOVED BY YOUR CHURCH FAMLY. If you would like to have a visit and you would like to receive Communion, Christian Care Giving is here for you! Please let Peggy Burns at 231-392-6914 know and we will have one of our Care Givers come and see you.

**Bethlehem's support of Safe Harbor's Summer has begun**. On May 20 and June 17, we assisted Safe Harbor professionals with check-in, dispensing guest's medications, allocating shower and washing machine time, and helping them find their places and get settled for the night. The following morning, we assisted with coffee brewing and serving, packing and storing their gear, and getting them ready for the day. **We will do this again on 15July, 19August, and 16September.** Please help us fulfill our commitment by volunteering for one of these evenings. Again, about 5:30-8:30PM... or for the following morning at about 7:00AM-9:30PM. We really need your participation. Please call, text or e-mail Tom Rockne to volunteer... Thank you!

**DRIVING VOLUNTEERS?:** Thanks to those who have already said "yes" to being a regular or substitute driver to transport a delightful member couple to church. They have good mobility but due to other health issues currently cannot drive. They live just north of the east end of 14th street. If you would like to be added to the list of volunteers please contact Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net or 231 631 0887.

<u>PROTECT OUR CARPET</u>: spills always happen, but we now have TWO consistent ways to deal with them. Thanks to an anonymous donor we now have an actual carpet cleaning machine stored in the maintenance closet. If you cause one or see a spot, please grab the spot cleaner in the squirt container below the sink in the fellowship hall ASAP. Just follow the directions on the bottle and we should be able to keep our carpet in good condition. But, if the stain is too big or too resistant, please use the carpet cleaning machine. The longer the stain sits, the harder it is to clean. Thank you!!

<u>Alcoholics Anonymous</u>: TC Groups are holding their Open Talk here at Bethlehem on three Saturday nights of each month from 8:00-9:00pm. <u>During July, August and September, the group will be here every Saturday night while the Contra group takes a break.</u>

<u>Coffee and Cookies on Sunday</u>: Remember that treats and a drink on Sunday are appreciated by all. You are welcome to bring cookies but please help clean up after.

A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips. On March 31st, we received a check from Olesons for \$275.60 from receipts turned in. This makes a grand total of \$592.66 for the year 2025. Olesons' slips never expire. Please continue to turn in your Olesons receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks so much!!! Also, the area for the Oleson receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the A-B-Cs...). The cabinet door is marked with the receptacle inside. Unfortunately, we are no longer collecting the receipts from Family Fair or any other grocery store. We just collect for Olesons

**Volunteers for Watching the Front Door During Worship:** The Safety and Security Committee has the new sign up sheets available. We need volunteers who can be available to stay in the Gathering Space to lock the doors and let in late comers for Sundays. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, and Jana Rockne.



The June issue of the STAR is now available. If you receive the weekly email, your June issue was emailed on June 1st. The shut-ins will receive an issue by mail. There will also be a few copies available on the counter by the mailboxes. You may also contact the office at 947-9880 to request that mail delivery continues. For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at www.bethlehemtc.org < About Us > "The Online Bethlehem Star" or type this URL to get these directly: http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter.

<u>Spotlight on Zeke</u>: So many of us enjoy Zeke's talents with religious music, but did you know that he plays other kinds of music at various locations in the Traverse City area? Here is a list of his engagements in the next month that are close to TC:

Wed 6/25—The Pub, Traverse City 7:00pm Sat 6/28—Brady's, Traverse City 6:30pm

<u>Offerings</u>: Even though the offering plates are passed during the service, you may use the vase in the back of the Sanctuary if you prefer not to touch the offering plate.

<u>IMPORTANT NOTICE</u>: We often find the front door and/or the kitchen door unlocked when there is no one in the building. Please be sure that the doors are locked when you leave.

#### Please Note:

<u>Barbara Oster/Administrative Assistant</u> works 9:00am-2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday <u>Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper</u> works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. **(this is Phil's summer schedule)** 

<u>Alanna Steffunick-Boomer/Ministry Coordinator</u> works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday and from home on Thursday – **Please note that this is a new schedule** 

**Looking for a link to last month's full Council minutes?** Type this address/url into your web browser to get the latest approved minutes from Council: bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes OR you may call the office to request a copy.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

- <u>Prayer Chain</u>: Please contact Jan Stretlien at jstretlien@gmail.com or 231-947-3265
- <u>Prayers read from the altar</u>: Please call Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880 or <u>admin@bethlehemtc.org</u>

<u>Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font!</u> Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at beo6475@yahoo.com or 231.668.7038.

Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years. They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. Leave them in plastic bags by the garage. These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

<u>Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations?</u> It is now located inside the coat room to the right. Your donations are very much appreciated.

**LOST AND FOUND:** If you lose something in the church building, please check our new Lost and Found box located in the Coat Room. Also, if you find something, please put it in the box.

Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about? Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements, weekly emails and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included in any of these, please reach out to alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org If you are not getting the weekly emails for any reason, please contact Alanna.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. Please use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$45 (This is a new amount.) The check should be payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

We are wanting to update the list of people we pray for. If everyone could look at the list and let us know of any changes, whether it is people who can be taken off, or should be added, we would appreciate it. Please respond by email to admin@bethlehemtc.org

Harper Wiemerslage,
Jerry Hill,
John Block,
Roy DuMond,
Mary Woodring,
Norm Fred,
Lynn,
Steve,
Sherry,
Bob,
Suzanne Lehto,

Milt & Carol Bowes,

Debbie Knopf,
Ron Hellenga,
Jim Rumbach,
John Stretlien,
Judy Fenton,
Cindy Hitesman,
Richard Fernholz,
Julie Lapeer,
Tom & Lee,
Chris,
Dale and Cheryl,

Leroy,

Julie Barrett,
Patti,
Sharon,
Kyle,
Ben,
Marianne,
Christine,
Janet,
Cameron,
Lindsay

The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is of the calendar.

#### Sunday, June 22

10:00am—Worship Service (S)

11:15am—Craft Show Leader Team (Library)

1:45pm—St. Andrews Society of Northern Michigan (FH)

# Tuesday, June 24 Bulletin articles due today

9:00am—Property Work Group

#### Wednesday, June 25

11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)

#### Thursday, June 26

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

#### Saturday, June 28

10:00am—Parking Lot Youth Fundraiser 6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library) 8:00pm--AA (FH)

#### Sunday, June 29

9:00am—Parking Lot Youth Fundraiser 10:00am—Worship Service (S)







