

# Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.

**Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
3500 Main St., Hilliard, OH 43026    [www.RELC.org](http://www.RELC.org)    614-876-7926

**JUNE 2020**

FROM PASTOR DAVE...

Pentecost is not originally our holy day. This is similar to most things in the Christian faith. Most of what we celebrate and most of what we have has been passed on, or borrowed, or in some cases taken, from someone else. Pentecost is one of those things.



The Jewish festival that we get Pentecost from is now called Shavuot. The Bible says it's one of the three great "pilgrimage festivals," that is, one of three holy days where everyone is supposed to make a trip up to the temple. That's why in Acts chapter 2 all those people are in Jerusalem in the first place. Shavuot is the festival of first fruits. It's a harvest festival. It's thanksgiving day, a day when a portion of what God has given you is given back. Gradually over the years this harvest festival took on other meaning. So Shavuot was also the day when the covenant at Mount Sinai was given.

Covenant is a word we don't use much as Lutherans. About the only time you may hear of it is "the covenant of marriage." Covenant is a word used to describe the fact that our God is a promise-making God. In the ancient world there were many different kinds of gods. War-making gods, and earth-creating gods, and culture-inspiring gods, but this God of Israel was a promise-making God. Promises of new life to the barren couple of Abraham and Sarah, promises to never abandon King David, promises of presence and a return home to the exiles. This God makes promises.

But the promises come with an expected response: relationship. That is what covenant is really about: promises that lead to relationship. Israel was not to take the promises as a blank check. To receive promises from this God also meant that you were now irresistibly in relationship with this God. That part is harder than it sounds. Many different people tried to run away or ignore that relationship (Jonah most famous of all), but you can't escape the relationship that comes with promise.

So, that brings us to Pentecost, the Christian holy day. It seems to fit that on the day where God's promise and relationship are celebrated, God also sent the Holy Spirit upon the church because the Holy Spirit is God's continual mark of promise and relationship with us. We should notice, more than anything, who this spirit was sent to. This mark of presence, promise, and relationship was not sent to the best and brightest. Instead this promise-making God sent the Holy Spirit to a scared and confused group of disciples all gathered in an upper room.

It's actually true the whole way through the story. Every promise God makes, every covenant comes to a not-so-great group of people. Abraham and Sarah are far from perfect people, David is a mess, and the people of God will give into fear on more than one occasion.

Yet, as Martin Luther wrote in his Pentecost sermon: "The Holy Spirit is given only to the anxious and distressed heart." We are, in this moment of disease and unsure times, very anxious and distressed. We should remember that is precisely the group to whom God makes promises.

Amen.

## How are we doing?

I have some pretty amazing news to share.

RELC's Giving for April and May was in excess of \$48,000. Over an eight week period with NO in person worship, the faithful people of Resurrection continued to give generously in support of the mission and ministry of our church in this community.

Almost \$22,000 of that giving was electronic, including 9 new donors through Tithe.ly. There are many who have set up their regular giving through Tithe.ly or who continue to use Simply Giving from several years ago. Others have made one or more contributions to our ministry plan; some no doubt while Sharing the Peace during the Live Stream service.

To all who have found ways to keep up with their giving during this time of social distancing...or who found an excuse to drop by the office...thank you. Your generous support is what keeps the mission and ministry of RELC going.

If you would like more information about giving through Tithe.ly, please contact Charlie Anderson at (614) 599-4362 or by email ([charlie@relc.org](mailto:charlie@relc.org)).

## Staff / Lay Leaders

Rev. David Kamphuis, Pastor

Email: [pastordave@relc.org](mailto:pastordave@relc.org)

614-876-7926 office

616-745-7788 cell (call or text)

Brennan Harris, Director of Music

Email: [Brennan.harris@relc.org](mailto:Brennan.harris@relc.org)

917-972-3607 cell (call or text)

Amy Behrendt, Admin Assistant

Email: [office@relc.org](mailto:office@relc.org)

614-876-7926

Dave Nelsen, Council President

Email: [president@relc.org](mailto:president@relc.org)

614-783-6182 (call or text)

GIFT Coordinator, Kathleen Nelsen Email: [gift@relc.org](mailto:gift@relc.org)

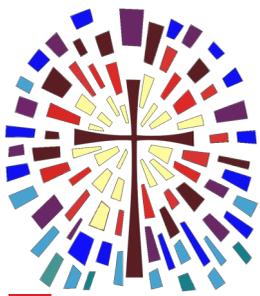
Media Team: Email [media@relc.org](mailto:media@relc.org)

Charlie Anderson, Todd Daniels, Dan Mushalko

Altar Guild, Kathy Rotolo

Email: [Sacristry@relc.org](mailto:Sacristry@relc.org) 614-607-4180 (call or text)

Prayer Team: [prayerteam@relc.org](mailto:prayerteam@relc.org)



# Welcome All. Tell The Story. Grow As Disciples.

**Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
3500 Main St., Hilliard, OH 43026 [www.RELC.org](http://www.RELC.org) 614-876-7926

## In-Person Worship is back!

Sunday, May 31st at 10 am we resume our in-person worship with Holy Communion in the Life Center. Things may be a bit different as we move into this next phase of dealing with the COVID pandemic but our God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow!

There will be designated entrances and exits, masks are required, chairs will be spaced apart and social distancing is strongly encouraged.

For those who do not yet feel comfortable going out and about in a large group, 3 brief services with communion are an option: Sundays at noon, Mondays at 9 am and Weds at 6:30 pm. These will be held outside under cover.

The Sunday service will still be streaming live on Facebook and recorded for viewing on YouTube.

We thank Abby and Lydia VanVleet, Amy Behrendt, and Pastor Dave for helping to make the return to worship video a fun and positive experience. And for their great touches of humor and for “going with the flow” on creative contributions. We also thank Charlie Anderson for help with the equipment needed and for his support... and bemusement...of our work.



Each of you brought ideas and touches that we would not have thought of, and your love for our church comes through in the “jump right in” attitudes you bring. These things make it a joy to work on projects for RELC. We also thank Susan Rill for communicating our short-notice recruiting plea for youth talent! May you all continue in God’s peace. Renee & Dan Mushalko

## New View From the Back Row

You’ve probably noticed a few changes over the past 10 weeks...In January we didn’t Livestream. It actually took 45 minutes to upload the 20 minute sermon and readings to YouTube, so “Live” was out of the question. We changed our Internet and phone service provider in February and by mid-March, streaming services was not just option—it was mandatory. The computers and cameras used by the Media team on Sundays were not quite as outdated as the Internet equipment we had been using, but there was definitely a need to upgrade. If you watched the service on March 15<sup>th</sup> via Facebook, it was kind of like being a near-sighted fly on the back wall of the Life Center. The Worship team and Council recognized the need to deliver a higher quality “product” to those who have and will continue to be watching remotely. We are in the process of purchasing and installing new equipment and software to be able to deliver an inclusive video stream to those who cannot participate in person.

If you would like to make a special gift contribution to help defray the costs of the project, please mark it as “Livestream Project”, and thank you. This new worship platform has also created some volunteer needs. Before you think “Not my thing...” ~ IF YOU CAN FACEBOOK, YOU CAN HELP. Trends are showing that people looking for a new church home will watch via Livestream before visiting. We would greet them at the door ...so we need to be ready to meet and greet people online as well. We also want to make those who cannot return to in-person worship as quickly feel as much a part of the body as those in the building. Be the reason someone feels welcome at RELC online. Contact Charlie Anderson or Dan Mushalko for more information.

## ZOOM Youth Group

Meetings start at 5pm

6/7 and 6/28

ALL middle/high school youth are invited!

If you are not currently getting the youth emails and would like to be included, please contact

[relcyouthgroup@gmail.com](mailto:relcyouthgroup@gmail.com)

## *Catechism for adults*

with Pastor Dave begins soon via Zoom on Tuesdays at 11 am and Wednesdays at 7 pm.

Email [pastordave@relc.org](mailto:pastordave@relc.org) for the ID/password

## First English

### Partners in Ministry

Can you help? We will prepare and serve breakfast on Sunday, June 14th. Prep in the RELC kitchen on June 13th (5 people) from 9:30–11:00 Please contact Kathy Rotolo if you can assist with prep or distribution so we can plan accordingly. Thank you!

([krotolo1120@hotmail.com](mailto:krotolo1120@hotmail.com)) 614-607-4180 or

## THANK YOU!

Our blood drives in May were a huge success!



Thanks to all of our members who spread the word and/or donated blood and to Jill Rill and Kathy Rotolo who assisted at the check-in table.

**Giving Garden/Landscape Update** - the RELC gardening group has been very busy the past couple of weeks preparing the narthex entrances for visitors and members as we return to in person worship. Please take a look around and enjoy the color of many of the flowers and shrubs. A special thank you to the mulching crew (Connie and Del Boring, Mike Biggert, Jill Rill, Sue Owen) for all their hard work. The church property looks great! The Giving Garden raised beds are sprouting peas and radishes but many of the other seed plantings are sparse or simply did not germinate because of the late spring cold and rain. If you would like to be part of the RELC Garden Group and receive emails from me about garden/landscape work sessions please contact me. Happy gardening! Carol Williams 614-738-1956