

If you are a Christ follower, a Christ doubter, a Christ seeker, join me Thursday nights in July at 6:30pm in the Lower Level to learn how we can "See with New Eyes". The following are excerpts (with some edits) from the book titled the same. Come on out – it'll be fun!

*Jesus said "For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you." Throughout His ministry, He spent much of His time and energy trying to help people see God at work right where they were. God is blessing, healing, feeding, reconciling, forgiving, loving, creating, and setting people free *right now*. And you are invited to be a part of that work.*

You don't need to be someone or something other than who you are right now to answer that call. Jesus is calling us, just as we are, with the clothes on our back, to jump on board and be a part of what God is up to in the world. I think it's possible to catch a glimpse of what God is doing in our context *right now*! The kingdom is among us. It is here. Right now.

The pastor of a small congregation in a mid-size town in Ontario called on the phone one sunny afternoon to say, "*I get it!*" Outreach team members in her congregation had spent months banging their heads against the wall trying to check off one more thing on their strategic plan for the year. They were supposed to be planning a pet blessing because the leaders who wrote the plan had discovered that a lot of people in town had pets and they thought *blessing* those pets would be a good outreach event. Everybody involved had the best of intentions. The problem is that none of the outreach team members knew anything about how to pull off a pet blessing. As a matter of fact, none of them even owned a pet.

The pastor, who does happen to be a pet owner, was telling this story to her vet one day. He didn't ask why a bunch of people without pets would try to plan a pet blessing. But he did wonder why they would have it at the courthouse. "*Why not do it at the dog park?*" he asked. The pastor got very excited about that idea. *The dog park has a built-in audience! No planning required! Just show up with a sprinkler and let the blessing begin!* Her vet said she might want to contain her enthusiasm long enough to phone up the chairperson of the dog park board. You know, just to ask if it'd be OK.

The dog park board couldn't have been more excited. Before you knew it, they were volunteering to do all the advertising. The pet stores in town donated doggie-bags full of treats for all the pet blessing participants. The chamber of commerce offered to cook up and give away hot dogs to the pet owners. An ice cream shop gave away free goodies to the kids who came.

And the outreach team? They helped wherever and however they were needed. Hundreds of people gathered for a hot-dog-and-ice-cream-fueled good time. Pets by the dozens – together with their owners – stood under a blue sky and received the Lord's blessing. New friends were made. A community was blessed. And people knew something holy happened that day at the dog park. Do you get it?

What our friend the pet-blessing-pastor "*got*" is how life-giving it is to be set free from your own agenda so that you can let yourself get caught up in God's agenda, to give up the idea of control so that you can follow where the Spirit leads, to quit beating your head against the wall of your own organization so that you can get involved in what God is up to in the world.

It might sound strange to say but, being a part of what God is up to in the world is the last thing most faith-based organizations (yes, even congregations!) have been doing. Lots of them have been doing things *for* God, *in the name of* God, or because they think they're following God's command. But they haven't actually been *joining* in the things God is already doing. There are a lot of reasons for this. Everything changes once you realize that God really is on the loose in the world, at work in your context, doing things in and through *both* you and your neighbors.

Once you "*get*" that, suddenly you're no longer killing yourself trying to make ministry happen. You're just paying attention – getting to know your neighbors, probing the passions and uncovering the gifts of people in your organization, asking good questions, exploring possibilities, keeping your eyes open for the things around you that are making God smile, daring to see the things that are breaking God's heart – and, when you sense a movement of the Spirit creating some new opportunity or leading you in a surprising new direction, you join in to help... *Right now!*

Be blessed!
Pastor Bob

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Our congregation members that are graduates of 2022
were celebrated at worship on June 12.

Congratulations graduates!

We honor your achievements and are proud of you!



AIDEN MARTIN

Graduate of:
Boyertown Area Senior High

Future Plans:
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



WILLIAM DAUB

Graduate of:
Upper Perkiomen High School

Future Plans:
Millersville University



BEN ROHRBACH

Graduate of:
Boyertown Area Senior High

Future Plans:
Kutztown University

Abby Cadwallader,
Boyertown Area Senior High

Craig Pollock,
Penn State University

Sam Ritter,
Boyertown Area Senior High



NYLA OMLOR

Graduate of:
Boyertown Area Senior High

Future Plans:
Freelance Artist



GIRL SCOUTS GIVE BACK

By: Sharon Smith

While earning their Take Action badge, the members of Daisy/Brownie Troop #1759 learned about the needs in their community and brainstormed ways to make a difference. It was decided to donate food items to Preston's Pantry. They voted to spend some of their cookie money to purchase needed items for the pantry. The total amount spent was \$666.53. The girls had a great time finding items as well as price comparisons to find the best deals. The troop was divided into 3 groups, each with the list of items the pantry would like to receive. The girls decided what items and how many of each would be purchased.

The pantry helps people get through the rough patches and provides food to those who do not currently have the financial means to meet their nutritional needs. Preston's Pantry is part of Boyertown Multi-Service (200 W. Spring St., Boyertown, PA).

Troop #1759 meets at St. John Lutheran Church on Monday nights, 6:30-7:30 PM.



Left to right: Briana Kosinski, Lilly Walter, Lily Jones, Abby Wilson, Delaney Melcher



1st row: Jovie Reed, Lily Beidler

2nd row: Lilly Walter, Briana Kosinski, Sara Stager, Delaney Melcher, Hailey Stager, Bailey Fabian, Blake Thompson, Alliona Sigley, Abby Wilson, Lily Jones, Alicia Davis



Left to right: Alliona Sigley, Blake Thompson, Bailey Fabian, Alicia Davis

DAY OF PENTECOST BRINGS BAPTISMS AND NEWLY CONFIRMED



Pastor Bob, Nathan Vogt, Alex Vogt, Camryn Friz



Pastor Bob with Declan Levan



Pastor Bob with Oliver Cook

DO YOU HAVE NEEDS? NO, THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT. ARE WE MISSING SOMETHING? TOO VAGUE. HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU? TOO BORING!

By: Ros Moatz

As I struggled to find a title for this article, I started out writing about one thing and a number of other things came to mind.

Have you been to any of the mid-week services? Wednesdays in Lent, leading up to Easter (Unfailing Light) or during Advent, leading up to Christmas (Holden Evening Prayer) have an amazing, special style of worship service that differs from a Sunday morning. As Lutherans, we are fortunate to have mid-week services several times a year.

Unfortunately, they're not as well attended as they could be. And I sincerely mean "unfortunately". I say that because if you've experienced any of these services, you know that they provide an opportunity for worship that's different. And it's a GOOD different!

These services provide worship in a new way. I don't know about you, but personally, on these evenings I have experienced a service that sets the mood to relax, I am renewed by God's Word and get recharged for the rest of the week. I need that!

This thought is fresh in my mind, because I just came from a mid-week service. "The Ascension of our Lord" service was held near the end of May.

It was amazing! From the music, the scripture read, the lighting, Pastor Bob's explanation in the sermon and the visual effects of the sanctuary, I left that service feeling closer to God. It was so powerful! I understood more and felt like I was seeing some of what those present that day may have experienced.

Now I know what you're thinking. I don't have time to go to church more than on a Sunday. My schedule is already too full. My job is too demanding. I don't drive at night.

Oh yes, that's what I originally started to write about!

Did you know that when Pastor Bob tells us to love our neighbor, this is one of the things he's referring to. How can we serve others?

Would you come to a mid-week or a Sunday service if you had a ride? There are people who would love to provide that for you!

What other needs do you have? A meal delivered? House repairs? Let us know!

God is calling us...to serve!

Call our church office, 610-369-1024. Let us know your needs! We're here and we want to serve.



SUMMER LEARNING

Tuesdays 6:30 pm - Celebration of Discipline

Thursdays 6:30 pm - Seeing Through New Eyes

Sundays 10:45 am - Simple Church

Sundays 10:45 am - Spiritual Gifts

**BEGINNING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY
DESCRIPTIONS & REGISTRATION ON OUR WEBSITE**

OFFICE CLOSED JULY 4

Eagle Messenger Article Deadlines

Monday, July 11 for August issue

Monday, August 8 for September issue

Monday, September 12 for October issue

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Date	Day	Time	Liturgical Day	Special Service	Lector	Media	Prayers	Sound	Ushers	Video
7/3/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	4th Sunday after Pentecost		Jen Schlegel	Jason Eidle	Jean Machamer	Ashley Gheer	Charles Haddad, Phil Haddad, Darin Moyer, Kevin Moyer	Aiden Martin
7/10/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	5th Sunday after Pentecost		Brian Moatz	Shannon Omlor	Mel Roth	Myles Omlor	Becky & Barry Erb, Bunny & Ron Riffle	Scott Scheiry
7/17/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	6th Sunday after Pentecost		Krista Fretz	Shannon Omlor	Sarah Eidle	Brianna Rohrbach	Martha Bentley, Joanne Dykie, Ben Rohrbach, Bill Rohrbach	Sarah Eidle
7/24/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	7th Sunday after Pentecost		Susan Hill	Sarah Eidle	Sue Grofe	Chase Sennott	Bev & Joe Blake, Ros & Brian Moatz	Abbe Grofe
7/31/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	8th Sunday after Pentecost		Missy Endy	Jason Eidle	Jean Machamer	Ashley Gheer	Mary Kay & Donnie Heimbach, Mike Huber, Thomas Huber	Nyla Omlor
8/7/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	9th Sunday after Pentecost		Ben Rohrbach	Shannon Omlor	Nancy Graver	Myles Omlor	Barbara Houpp, Gerry Krause, Carol Sematis, Terry Wadsworth	Jason Eidle
8/14/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	10th Sunday after Pentecost		Karen Pollock	Shannon Omlor	Martha Bentley	Brianna Rohrbach	Mike Gilbert, Scott Scheiry, Susan & Andy Varzally	Aiden Martin
8/21/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	11th Sunday after Pentecost		Nancy Graver	Sarah Eidle	Lauren Frey	Chase Sennott	Jay Herbert, Ed Schaeffer, Sandy & Terry Wade	Scott Scheiry
8/28/2022	Sunday	9:30 AM	12th Sunday after Pentecost		Sarah Eidle	Shannon Omlor	Mel Roth	Ashley Gheer	Becky & Barry Erb, Bunny & Ron Riffle	Sarah Eidle

Preschool Graduation!



JULY 2022

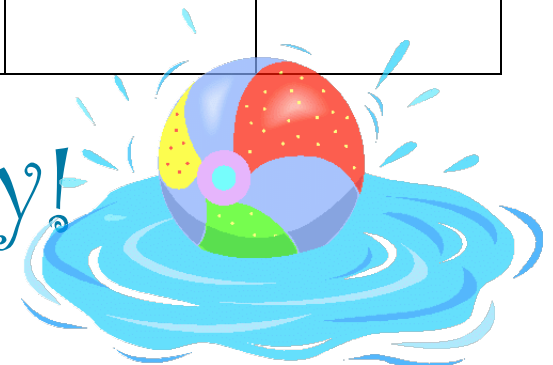
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	2 4:30p Come to the Table – Picnic
3 9:30a Worship Celebration	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5 6:30p Celebration of Discipline	6 2:00p Homelessness Task Force	7 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Seeing Through New Eyes 8:00p Worship Broadcast	8 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	9 4:30p Come to the Table
10 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a Simple Church	11 5:00p Newsletter Submission 7:30p Optimist Club of Boyertown	12 6:30p Celebration of Discipline 6:30p Finance Team	13	14 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Seeing Through New Eyes 8:00p Worship Broadcast	15 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	16 4:30p Come to the Table
17 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a Simple Church 12:45p Congregation Council Picnic	18 9:00a Kindergarten, Here I Come!	19 9:00a Kindergarten, Here I Come! 6:30p Celebration of Discipline	20 9:00a Kindergarten, Here I Come! 9:30a Pottstown Soup Kitchen 7:00p Congregation Council	21 9:00a Kindergarten, Here I Come! 9:00a Community Leaders Service 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Seeing Through New Eyes 8:00p Worship Broadcast	22 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study 9:00a Kindergarten, Here I Come!	23 4:30p Come to the Table
24 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a Simple Church	25 9:00a Preschool Fun: ABC's and 123's 7:30p Optimist Club of Boyertown	26 9:00a Preschool Fun: ABC's and 123's 6:30p Celebration of Discipline 6:30p Building a Better Boyertown	27 9:00a Preschool Fun: ABC's and 123's	28 9:00a Preschool Fun: ABC's and 123's 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Seeing Through New Eyes 8:00p Worship Broadcast	29 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study 9:00a Preschool Fun: ABC's and 123's	30 4:30p Come to the Table
31 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a Simple Church						



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Gail Garceau	2 Marie Becsi
3	4	5 Dolores Grabert Ted Graver David Johnson	6 Barry Erb	7 Margaret Quigley Edward Schaeffer Dolores Swavely	8 David Pollock Sr William Rohrbach	9 Susan Grofe
10 Landon Boyer Hailey Buzalewski Leroy Gehris Terry Stout Carly Trump	11	12 Doris Brooks Amber Engle Gwendolyn Greenawalt Paula Kuzmak	13 Kevin Moyer	14 Louise Herbert John Tim Dominic Trump	15	16 Declan Levan
17 Renee Brile	18	19 Barry Stauffer	20	21 Jay Herbert Thelma Unger	22	23 Andrew Grofe Richard Marburger Eleanor Trimbur
24 Jodi Dykie Clifford Harze	25 Marian Eisenhard	26 Melanie Roth	27 George Dierolf Sr Alice Gerhart	28 Robert Machamer Jr	29 Kelly Harris Aiden Martin	30 Bernice Nester
31 Lonnie Carnes Ray Kriebel Mick Sharp Jr						

Happy Birthday!



EAGLE MESSENGER

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | 45 North Reading Avenue | Boyertown, PA 19512
610-369-1024 | 610-369-1463 Fax | www.stjohnsboyertown.org

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We believe God's purpose for the people of
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop
joy-filled children of God who love the Lord
and share God's Word.

We do this by:

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

With a focus on:

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

Return Service Request - Dated Material
Mailed June 27, 2022

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 9:30 AM

IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM ON YOUTUBE

Office Hours (open by appointment)
Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Pastor Bob Machamer
Kay Christman, Finance Team
Amanda Ehst, Worship Coordinator
Sue Grofe, Finance Team
Bonnie Moatz, Finance Team
Shannon Omlor, Communications Coordinator
Linda Rohrbach, Treasurer
Becky Scheiry, Parish Administrator
Amy Willson, Preschool Director

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.