

# The Churchman

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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*"Faith Active in Love"*

[www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org)

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*We are called together by the Holy Spirit around Word and Sacraments to glorify God the Father, creator of all things, through our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God to nurture lives of faith and hope, as we serve and give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world.*

## Congratulations, Graduates!

Our congratulations to the following individuals on their accomplishments, and Godspeed to them for their future endeavors.



*Lord God of our ancestors, we thank you for what you have done and will continue to do with our daughters and sons. Walk with them in life, and keep the evil one from obstructing their path. You see all; you know where the water is deep. Keep them from danger. Order their steps and guide their feet while they run the race of faith. Amen.*

**Bryan Galdun** graduated from Lyons Township High School on May 29<sup>th</sup> where he played string bass with the orchestra and jazz ensembles and received awards in geography. Bryan will be attending the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, this fall where he plans to study air traffic control, geography and music. He is the son of John Galdun and grandson of Helena and Emil Galdun.

Graduating from Illinois State University on May 4<sup>th</sup> was **Karen Helen Garvey**, daughter of Sandra Garvey, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. Karen is planning to relocate to Savannah, Georgia with her fiancé while seeking a position in sales.

**Karin Kubova** graduated on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from Western Illinois University with a major in Anthropology and a minor in Zoology. Her future plans include studies toward a Master of Science degree in Museum Studies and eventually working in a museum. Karin is the daughter of Branislav and Adriana Kubo.

**Arden Marie Kurhayez** graduated on May 9<sup>th</sup> from North Central College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Communication, *summa cum laude*. Arden is a member of the National Academy of Television, Arts and Sciences—Chicago/Midwest Chapter Junior Board. She plans to continue releasing new music with her band, "Double Identity." She is the daughter of Jeff and Laura Kurhayez, sister to Courtney, the granddaughter of Frank and Marilyn Veselak and Marge LeMere and Frank Kurhayez.

Also graduating on May 9<sup>th</sup> from North Central College was **Courtney Kurhayez** with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Organizational Communications and Interactive Media Studies, *summa cum laude*.

Courtney also received the Outstanding Major in Organizational Communications: The Megan Sweeney Award. She will be starting a summer marketing internship and will continue working on her book blog and recording music with her band. Courtney is the daughter of Jeff and Laura Kurhayez, sister to Arden, the granddaughter of Frank and Marilyn Veselak and Marge LeMere and Frank Kurhayez.

**Isaac George Lauritsen**, son of Jane and Dennis Lauritsen, received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from the University of New Orleans in May where he also worked as a graduate research and teaching assistant. Isaac is currently employed as an associate copywriter with SmartBug Media.

**Kevin Sherwood**, grandson of Mildred and the late Emil Mendel, graduated on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from Marquette University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting degree, *magna cum laude*. His future plans include continuing his studies at Marquette to obtain a Master of Science degree in Accounting in May, 2022.

**Benjamin Andrew Smith V**, son of Ben and Jennifer Smith, and grandson of John and Shirley Kostelny, graduated on June 6<sup>th</sup> from Naperville Central High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society for two years and received the 2021 Senior Spirit Scholarship. This fall Ben will be attending Pepperdine University, Seaver College of Letters, Arts and Sciences in Malibu, California, pursuing a degree in Political Science with a minor in Pre-Law. He is a member of DECA. During his years in high school, he ran cross country and track, played soccer, and volunteered in a number of community projects.

Graduating from Alcott College Prep on June 14<sup>th</sup> was **Abby Tarbox**, daughter of Beverly and J.T. Tarbox. This fall Abby will be attending Columbia College in Chicago to study screen writing.

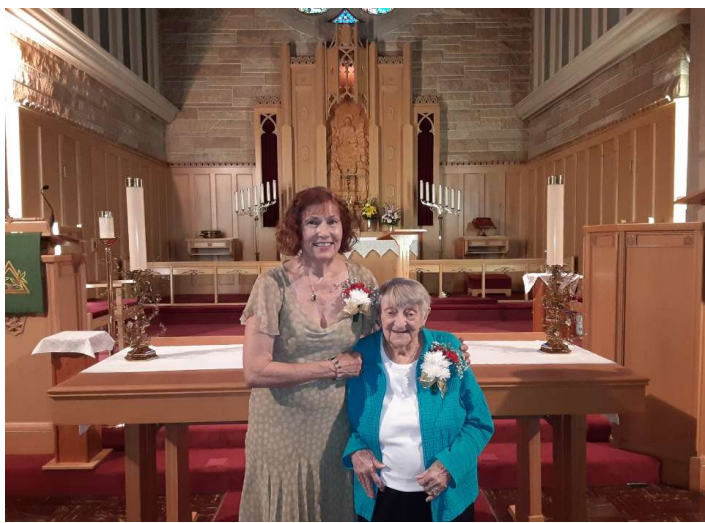
**George Joseph Valek** graduated in May from Lyons Township High School. He is the son of Gregg Valek and the nephew of Milton Podzamsky both of our congregation.



## Ladies Altar Guild Centennial Commemoration

Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1921–June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021



Shown above from left to right: Vera Borysek (President), Ann Vana (Secretary), Anne Gavac, Rose Tornil (Treasurer) and Shirley Kostelny. Not pictured: Julie Barcik, Milina Blahut and Anne Otjepka. Shown below: Vera Borysek and Anne Gavac.

### Meditation for the Day, July 7<sup>th</sup>

Painful as the present time may be, you will one day see the reason for it. You will see that it was not only testing, but also a preparation for the life-work which you are to do. Have faith that your prayers and aspirations will someday be answered. Answered in a way that perhaps seems painful to you but is the only right way. Selfishness and pride often make us want things that are not good for us. They need to be burned out of our natures. We must be rid of the blocks which are holding us back, before we can expect our prayers to be answered.

#### Prayer for the Day

I pray that I may be willing to go through a time of testing. I pray that I may trust God for the outcome.

Quoted from the app *Twenty-Four Hours a Day*.  
Find recovery resources at Hazelden.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### JULY

July 1: Anne Gavac	July 14: Janet Broussard
July 4: Carl Busch III	July 17: John Kostelny
July 5: Joanne Sefara	July 18: Timothy Dlhý
July 6: Karyn Bute	Megan Drahos
July 8: Paul Gavac	July 22: Elizabeth Cudecki
July 9: Lee Drahos	July 26: Bode Smith
Robert Kubik	July 30: Keith Altavilla
July 11: Hannah Decosola	
July 13: Amanda Meyers	

### Anniversaries

July 7, 1979: John and Linda McShane  
July 11, 2015: Thomas and Kathryn Murray  
July 19, 1986: Dennis and Jane Lauritsen  
July 20, 1996: Daniel and Tracy Babiar  
July 20, 2019: David and Jessica Barajas  
July 25, 1997: Timothy and Pamela Dlhý

### AUGUST

Aug. 1: James D'Alexander	Aug. 17: Annette Kozik
Milton Podzamsky	Aug. 18: Nicole Smith
Aug. 2: Darina Durkovic	Aug. 22: George Valek
Aug. 3: Milan Oklepek	Aug. 23: Garry Horak, Jr.
Aug. 5: Sofia Cobrda	Aug. 24: Adrienne Mikulka
Aug. 7: Jenean Sawyer	Aug. 25: Daniel Mikulka
Aug. 10: Kristine Boike	Aug. 26: Carole Pollitz
George Hodul	Aug. 28: Matthew G. Decosola
Bradley Ruska	Steven Deshazer
Joseph Ruiz	Brandon Michaels
Aug. 12: Larry Crachy	Aug. 29: Matthew J. Decosola
Donna Tuider	
Aug. 13: Vlado Vercimak	
Aug. 16: Adrienne Gana	
Paul Kubecka	
Daniel Tornil	

### Anniversaries

August 2, 1975: Robert and Donna Tuider  
August 15, 1997: Donald and Elaine Haase  
August 22, 1987: Dominick and Diane Ritacco  
August 27, 1994: Daniel and Adrienne Mikulka

#### May 2021

**Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offerings**  
*Budgeted Offering: \$2,597.00*

Date	Offering
5/2	\$1,818.00
5/9	\$2,397.00
5/16	\$1,608.00
5/23	\$2,123.00
5/30	\$1,492.00

## JULY WORSHIP SERVERS

### July 4<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: To be determined.  
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss  
Lector: David Richards  
Usher: Fred Kuzel

### July 11<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Karyn Bute  
Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies  
Lector: George Valek  
Usher: Walter Cudecki

### July 18<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Sandy Garvey  
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels  
Lector: Tom Michaels  
Usher: John Kostelny

### July 25<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: John and Shirley Kostelny  
Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels  
Lector: Fred Kuzel  
Usher: Janet Broussard

**Sacristan and Altar Care:**  
Fred Kuzel and John and Janet Broussard

## AUGUST WORSHIP SERVERS

### August 1<sup>st</sup>:

Greeters: Larry Crachy and Karen Kubik  
Assisting Minister: John Broussard  
Lector: John Kostelny  
Usher: Janet Broussard

### August 8<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Carole Pollitz  
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss  
Lector: Brandon Michaels  
Usher: John Kostelny

### August 15<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Walter and Judith Cudecki  
Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies  
Lector: Tom Michaels  
Usher: Walter Cudecki

### August 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Greeters: Edward and Joanne Sefara  
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels  
Lector: John Broussard  
Usher: Janet Broussard

### August 29<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Ann Kmet  
Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels  
Lector: Fred Kuzel  
Usher: Fred Kuzel

**Sacristan and Altar Care:**  
Ruth Bakalich

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVERS

### September 5<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Sandy Garvey  
Assisting Minister: John Broussard  
Lector: Charles Matthies  
Usher: Janet Broussard

### September 12<sup>th</sup>: (Outdoor Worship)

Greeters: Larry Crachy and Karen Kubik  
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss  
Lector: Jane Lauritsen  
Usher: Fred Kuzel

### September 19<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: John and Shirley Kostelny  
Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies  
Lector: George Valek  
Usher: John Kostelny

### September 26<sup>th</sup>:

Greeter: Karyn Bute  
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels  
Lector: Carrie Watkiss  
Usher: Fred Kuzel

**Sacristan and Altar Care:**  
Edward and Joanne Sefara



**Coming Soon...**

Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:15 a.m.

## Memorial Flowers

*June 27<sup>th</sup>:* In loving memory of beloved mother +Arlene Gana+ on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death by loving daughter Adrienne Gana and remembering sister Audrey Bucz and her family.

*July 4<sup>th</sup>:* In memory of dear wife +Lupe Martinez+ on the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her passing by remembering husband Rafael.

## Memorials and Honorariums

### + For the Church +

Frank and Ann Kmet, in memory of +Brian Bakalich+.  
John and Janet Broussard, in memory of +Dale Renville+.  
William Boor, in memory of +Dale Renville+.  
Steve and Beverly Podzamsky, in memory of son-in-law +Dale Renville+.  
Steve and Beverly Podzamsky, in memory of +Ed Wood, Jr.+.  
Adolf and Ellen Heimann, in celebration of their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Nicholas and Ekatarina Riha, in celebration of their wedding on May 28<sup>th</sup>.  
Wayne Rauschenberg, Ryan Rauschenberg, and Diane Michaels, in memory of nephew, brother and son +Kurt Rauschenberg+.  
In memory of +Arlene Gana+ on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death, by loving daughter Adrienne Gana and remembering sister Audrey Bucz and her family.

## DATED MATERIAL

### How to Follow Your Calling

By Jake Owensby

We're gradually emerging from the coronavirus pandemic. And along with the relief I've been feeling has come a sober recognition. We were already in another sort of epidemic before anyone had ever heard of COVID-19.

Aggression, addiction, and anxiety are symptoms of this illness. And these symptoms have become increasingly common for years.

They point to a spiritual condition: despair. The sense that all our struggles and yearnings and sacrifices might be pointless. In other words, we're in the midst of a crisis of hope.

I wrote my most recent book *Looking for God in Messy Places* to help us find hope. In its pages I discuss how discerning and responding to your true calling is one of the pillars of a hope-filled life. Here's a slightly revised excerpt from Chapter Five "Hope and Calling":

The essential human calling is to love God by loving what God loves, how God loves it.

We frequently refer to this as the Great Commandment or the summary of the Law. Jesus himself summarized the whole Torah by saying that we should love God with every ounce of our being and love our neighbor as if our own life depends upon their well-being (Matthew 22:34-40). Strictly speaking, this is our calling.

When you hear the word commandment, you may think of an order issued or a directive given by an authority figure. If you refuse or fail to obey, negative consequences follow. You might begin to think that if we don't love, God won't love us anymore. But again, this is our calling.

God's love attracts us, draws us toward love. God loves us because God's very nature is love. Love invites us into itself, to become one. Love invites us to be love and become our truest selves. So, our calling is to be the image of God in whatever occupation, situation, or set of circumstances in which we find ourselves. This is who we were created to be....

Experiencing a sense of calling brings with it the realization that your existence on this planet makes a difference. Think of it as your "George Bailey" moment.

George Bailey is the protagonist of the classic Christmas film *It's a Wonderful Life*. Facing scandal from a financial crisis not of his own making, George decides to take his own life. He leaps from a bridge into the icy waters below.

An inept but kindly angel named Clarence rescues him from drowning and introduces him to a world with which he is completely unfamiliar: the world that never knew the small kindnesses and selfless generosity of George Bailey, the world as it would have been had George never existed.

His beloved hometown was a meaner, bleaker place because he had never lived there. The people he had known as lively and joyful were guarded, irritable, or timid.

George had been the president of a small, struggling savings and loan. He didn't pursue wealth, celebrity, or political influence. On the contrary, he drew a meager salary and lived modestly in order to put the bank's resources to work improving the lives of his hardworking, struggling neighbors through loans that other institutions would not risk.

Most of us will live quite ordinary lives in jobs we take to make ends meet. These jobs are not likely to offer us a great platform from which to change the world. However, in almost every line of work, we encounter people. We brush up against Jesus's sheep, and we can feed them with our respect, attention, and kindness.

For instance, my mother's last job was behind a deli counter in a grocery store. She greeted people by name and remembered their usual orders. Her focus was on making her customers' day better. She fed Jesus's sheep, and her attention to serving others was the source of her own hopefulness.

Researchers would probably say that my mother had stumbled onto one of the keys to a fulfilling life. Devoting ourselves to helping others in our daily work makes that work, whatever it may be, seem worthwhile. We feel that we're making a difference.

Emily Esfahani Smith writes, "No matter what occupies our days, when we reframe our tasks as opportunities to help others, our lives and our work feel more significant." Or as Jesus put it, "Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25).

Devoting our lives to the well-being of others—losing our lives—is a way of being ready for what we are all called to do: give ourselves back to God.

*This article originally appeared at Looking for God in Messy Places. Reprinted from "Ministry Matters."*

