



NEWSLETTER

The Crucifer

June 2025

Fair Trade: Soup for Salvation?

Take “Lil’ Jesus” with you this Summer!

Paying attention to the little things in life is important, and the older I get the more important I can see this is. You can’t do big things well if you do not take care of the little things. To pull in our main-man on this topic, Jesus, in his parable of the talents, says: “Well done, you have taken care of little things; I will put you in charge of larger things” (Matthew 25:21). But, it seems to me, that our real issue is and probably always has been, in recognizing what is actually little and what is actually big. Especially in the moment. Follow me here.

Take the story of Esau and Jacob.

In Genesis, Abraham’s son Isaac had two sons—Esau and Jacob.

Esau, the firstborn, held the birthright: a double portion of inheritance and leadership in the family. That is, until he didn’t.

One day, Jacob was cooking up a delicious red stew. Esau, returning from the field, was famished. He plopped down and said (I imagine), “Man, I’m just starving! I’ve never been this hungry!” Jacob, still stirring his tasty smelling stew, calmly replied, “I’ll give you some—if you give me your birthright.”

“What good is a birthright to me if I die of hunger?” Esau said. “Fine. Give me the stew.”

This sounds absurd. Who would trade something so precious for something so temporary? And yet, that’s exactly what Esau did. He let a craving in the moment rob him of a blessing meant for a lifetime.

He let his current situation warp his perspective, making a little thing seem so big and a big seem so little.

This example seems extreme, but we do this all the time. I bet many of your minds are way ahead of me by now. We so often think (or live) as if something is so important when it’s really so very small, and we overlook the what is truly important because it seems ordinary or distant or... God forbid...inconvenient.

Jesus speaks to this in Luke 14:16–24 with the parable of the great banquet. A man prepares a lavish feast and

invites many guests. But when everything is ready, one by one, they all decline: one just bought land and wanted to tend to it, another just purchased oxen and wanted to try them out, another just got married. Each had good reasons—none of them sinful or bad. But each let the blessing they already had in this life stop them from receiving the lavish feast prepared for them – the greater blessing offered to them that would have blessed them forever.

Jesus never discarded the little, but he also never confused the little for the big. He never let temporary comfort or momentary satisfaction pull him away from the deeper calling of God’s kingdom.

That’s why, this summer, I want to invite you once again to Take a Little Jesus with You. Literally.

We have small plastic “Little Jesus” figures available at the church for anyone who’d like to take one along on vacation. Bring him with you on your travels. Snap pictures with them, if you will, and send them to us so we can share in your adventures and stay connected as a church family.

But more than that, let Little Jesus be a reminder this summer not to confuse *soup for salvation*. (Yes, I’m a sucker for alliteration.) Do not forget the upside-down truth of the Gospel that Jesus has shown us - that what seems so small is actually the greatest of all. What seems unimportant, is precious. What seems an inconvenience to your freedom is actually the way of staying connected to true blessing amidst all of the rest of life’s experiences.

In all your summer blessings, may little Jesus remind you of the importance of remembering what things are truly little, and what are not.

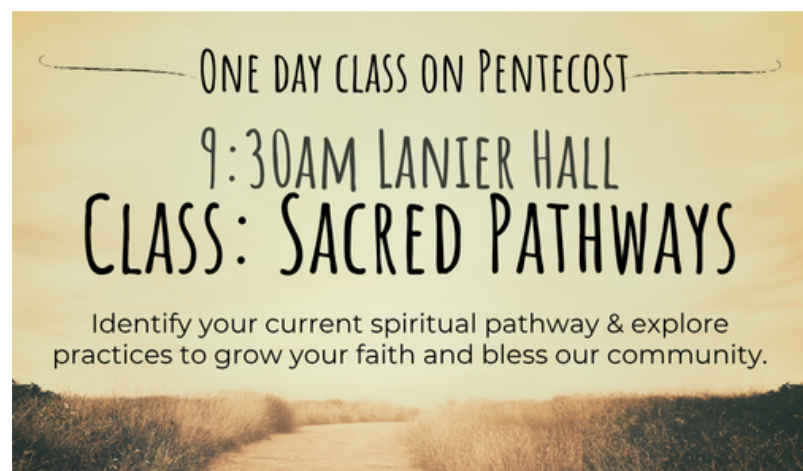
Happy Summer,
Rob+



JUNE 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Sunday Morning Worship (See details below)	2 5:30p Depression Support Group	3 6:15p AA Meeting	4 9a Food Pantry 10a Hagar's Basket 10a Worship Service 3p Mable Wilson's Memorial 5:30p Youth Group	5 6:15p AA Meeting 6:15p Handbells Practice 6:30p Choir Practice	6 6p ACA Group	7 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry
8 Pentecost Sunday Morning Worship (See details below)	9	10 6:15p AA Meeting 6:15p Compassionate Friends	11 9a Food Pantry 10a Hagar's Basket 10a Worship Service 5:30p Youth Group	12 6:15p AA Meeting 6:30p Choir Practice	13 6p ACA Group	14 7:30a Workshop 8a Brotherhood of St Andrew 9a DOK 9:30a Compassionate Friends 10a Heavenly Handmade Crafts 11a WeCare
15 Father's Day VBS Sunday Sunday Morning Worship (See details below)	16	17 6:15p AA Meeting	18 9a Food Pantry 10a Hagar's Basket 10a Worship Service 5:30p Youth Group	19 6:15p AA Meeting 6:30p Choir Practice	20 6p ACA Group 6p Early Steps	21 10a ECW Monthly Meeting
R e v i v e Y o u t h S u m m e r C a m p a t B l u e L a k e						
22 Sunday Morning Worship (See details below) 5p Piano Concert	23	24 6:15p AA Meeting	25 9a Food Pantry 10a Hagar's Basket 10a Worship Service 5:30p Youth Group	26 6:15p AA Meeting 6:30p Choir Practice	27 6p ACA Group	28 11a We Care
29 Youth Sunday	30	Sunday Mornings 8:00a Worship 9:15a Library Hours 9:35a Sunday Classes 10:30a Worship 11:45a Community Hour	Sunday Classes Nursery - Nursery Children's Ministry - Classroom 1 Youth Sunday School - Youth Room Contemporary Discussion Class - Lanier Hall Father Matt's Class - Holy Cross Rm Choir Rehearsal - Nave	New Office Hours The office will be closed on Mondays, beginning June 2nd! The office will continue to be open 9am-4pm Tuesday through Friday.		



BIRTHDAYS!

Andrew Momany 6/1
 Kyle Haskins 6/11
 Sally Collado 6/12
 Tracy Haskins 6/12
 Lynette Bason 6/13
 Craig Momany 6/13
 David Boyer 6/14
 Dallas Thomas 6/14
 Miya May 6/21
 Rodney Washington 6/21

Adrian Teschendorf 6/23
 Rachel Augsburger 6/23
 Albert Bressler 6/23
 Kathy Meloche 6/24
 Marly Pearson 6/25
 Ezekiel Entrekin 6/25
 Carla Hardin Rich 6/27
 Diane Persell 6/30
 Eden Ridgeway 6/30

Coming soon to Thursday Nights

The Vine

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHURCH WIDE WORK DAY!

ALL HANDS ON DECK

Saturday, June 14th

7:30am - 10:30pm

Lots of Projects to Choose From!

Work for all ages & abilities!



ANNIVERSARIES

Richard & Kathy Bleecker 6/1/69 - 56 years
 Curtis & D'Anna Entrekin 6/4/04 - 21 years
 Shane & M Hendrixson 6/12/05 - 20 years
 Walter & Gail Zimmer 6/12/81 - 44 years
 Rev. Roger & Liz Hungerford 6/15/91 - 34 years
 Lafe & Leslie Parsley 6/17/00 - 25 years
 Britt & Nell Landrum 6/20/64 - 61 years
 Bob & DeAnne Amacker 6/26/76 - 49 years
 Ernie & Sarah Tarkus 6/28/03 - 22 years

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Take me with you this summer!

Snap pics of your travels & activities WITH JESUS and post them to social media using #LilJesus

Piano Concert Featuring Andrew Gregg
At Holy Cross Episcopal Church
All are Welcome!
Sunday, June 22nd at 5pm

Featuring classical works by Debussy and Bach, hymns, and new compositions by Andrew himself.