

## Family Composition

How many are in your family? These days your answer might be a very large number because you have been searching [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) and have found many more than you imagined. Typically we think of our immediate family: father, mother, siblings. There is a day set aside in May (Mother's Day) and June (Father's Day) which initiates thoughts of our parents. For some of us our parents have passed away and we are left with memories of all degrees. There are those who never knew their biological parents but have adopted parents. Whatever your circumstance, these two days can bring mixed thoughts.

Parents have always been considered the caretakers of the children and as the years go by the reverse may take place; the children are caretakers of the parents. In an April reading, as Jesus hung on the cross, there was an interesting twist to what transpired - Jesus did not entrust his mother, Mary, to his siblings but to his favorite disciple, John. At that moment, Jesus expanded the idea of "family" to include those who are not biologically related.

When we are baptized with water and the Word we are told that God adopts us as His children. Do we fully understand the ramifications? The most profound is that our Father has taken on the responsibility of caring for each of us. As Martin Luther wrote in his Large Catechism (Part 4, Baptism), *"the power, work, profit, fruit, and purpose of Baptism is this – to save. We know that to be saved is nothing other than to be delivered from sin, death, and the devil. It means to enter into Christ's kingdom, and to live with Him forever."*

Jesus worked tirelessly to expand his family. Our family can also be unlimited as we follow Jesus' numerous examples of looking for and caring for those around us who need grace, care, support and encouragement. To accomplish these acts, we have been filled with the Holy Spirit to guide us, and received instructions from His Word.

What we receive from reading the Word is multi-faceted but the bottom line is that God loves us and wants us to love others. Jesus said, *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."* 38 *This is the first and greatest commandment.* 39 *And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"* {Matthew 22: 37-38}.

How do you answer this question now? How many are in your family?



**May 30 - Ascension of the Lord**  
*Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47*  
*Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53*

**May 5th &  
 June 2nd**  
 Potluck at 5:00pm  
 Communion Service  
 at 6:00pm



**Mother's Day - May 12th**

**Church at Clam Gulch celebrates Easter in new church - page 2**

### Worship Texts for May

Date		1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
May 5	Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 9:1-22	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:(1-7) 8-14	John 21:1-14 (15-19)
May 12	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 20:17-35	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
May 19	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 150	Revelation 21:1-7	John 16:12-22
May 26	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Act 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27	John 16:23-33



### PENTECOST OCCURS WHEN -

The Holy Spirit leads us:

1. to detest sin
2. to know that we are absolved and declared righteous and pleasing to God for the sake of Christ
3. to denounce the devil's accusations and lordship over us

Pentecost occurs when the Holy Spirit creates and strengthens this faith each and every day in the Word of God.

"Portals of Prayer", Jan-Mar 2019, Pastor Jonathan H. Vollrath

### A Special Easter Celebration!

After months of planning and work by many dedicated members and friends, we were thankful to be able to worship in our own building for the first time. We had a wonderful Easter Service with 30 people in attendance. We will continue to work inside until the weather warms up.....then outside to install the siding. We are so blessed!

*The Church at Clam Gulch*

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Father's Day - June 16th



Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ  
7000 N Sheldon Rd, Canton, MI 48187  
[www.lcmc.net](http://www.lcmc.net)

### Word of Life Core Values

- *Jesus is Lord.*
- *Jesus is our guide.*
- *Forgiveness of sin leads to healing.*
- *Prayer changes things.*
- *Faith is God's gracious gift that saves.*

Worship Texts for June					
Date		1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
June 2	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts 1:12-26	Psalm 133	Revelation 22:1-6 (7-11) 12-20	John 17:20-26
June 9	Day of Pentecost	Genesis 11:1-9	Psalm 143	Acts 2:1-21	John 14:23-31
June 16	The Holy Trinity	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalm 8	Acts 2:14a, 22-36	John 8:48-59
June 23	Second Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 65:1-9	Psalm 3	Galatians 3:23 - 4:7	Luke 8:26-39
June 30	Third Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 19:9b-21	Psalm 16	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62