



*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear. – Psalm 46:1-2a (NRSV)*

## Connect with Worship (5/12 Mothering Sunday)

Scriptures: *Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26 (NRSV) & John 17: 6-19 (The Message)*

### Three Take Aways

1. Consider a time when you were “in between”. Do you wait well? Are you impatient?
2. How can you use that in between space differently?
3. For the women in your life who have blessed you, make sure they know it!

Weekly Devotion: [Refuge](#)

## Connect with Ministry

1. Last week, several people with sbcglobal emails did not get their Weekly Greet. Through some research, this has entirely not been an unusual issue between SBC Global and Gmail (our email carrier). To avoid this going forward, I will pdf of our Weekly Greet on our church Facebook page and the website. I will continue to send them out via email every week as usual.
2. Stitch of Time (5/14) 10-12;
3. Game Group (5/15) 10-12;
4. Boomwhackers Rehearsal (5/15) 6 P.M.;

## 5. Pentecost Sunday (5/19)

Disciples Cafe - 9:30 A.M.

Worship - 10:30 A.M. (Please wear red, orange, and or yellow to celebrate the day!)

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89760658666?pwd=S1NTaTNIK3BDMGMwTVovVk9ySit1UT09>

Serving:

Elder - Sharon Worrell-Schroader

Deacon - Don Dean

## 6. Youth Group (5/19) 5-6:30 P.M.

7. Vacation Bible School (6/17-21) 9-11:30 A.M. @Ridge UMC (8607 Columbia Ave. Munster)

registration - <https://ridgeumc.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Please share with any kids who are pre-k through 5th grade!

## Connect Through Prayer

1. Kathy and Tim Drury;
2. Family of Phyllis Frost;
3. John Cushing (Tom's brother fell and had to have staples in his head);

### **Members of the Congregation:**

Celia Newcomb, Tim & Kathy Drury, Dolores Cave, Don Dean, Ken Cengel, Judy Olen;

**Friends of the Congregation: (Please let me know if there are updates to this ongoing list)** The Yuris Family, The Murphy Family, Dennis Chambers, Gary Barber, Cindy Williams, Jerry Zolmer, Liz Griffin, Mary Jones, Chris Dury, Al Eckert, Cherie Coolidge, Melissa Belar, Cathhart Family, Jim Pasour, Ron Straker, Nikki Sweeny, Barbara Blaze, Taft/Weber Family, Terry Mavity, Marty Chidalek, Laurel Higgenbotham, Sophia Morgan, Sandi Lamb, Jim Pasour, Terry, Renee, Valerie Rushing, Cindy Spicker, Paul Graegin, Joe Luis and Family, Lori Kime, Pauline, Bob Margraf, Christine Phillips, George Cengel, Nikki, Marian Huizenga, Martha, Shaun, Val Rushing, Bill Murphy, Matt Murphy, Spencer Gordon, Michael Cole, Chris Cole, Dave Horvat, Faith, Tim Gasaway, John Cushing, Rhonda and family, Deborah, Sue, Susan Spore, April Margraf, Maureen Weber and Family, Chad, Anne Fairfield, Sandra Bullock, Kaden & Mara Luthringer, The Lee & Slewinski Family, Family of Ed Gnaidek, Family of Jeff Meyers

**The Wider Community:** War in Ukraine and War in Middle East; global natural disasters; violence and division throughout the nation; University protests

**Joys: Tom Cushing will be attending the Honor Flight on May 15th! Congratulations, Tom!**

**Birthdays: none this week;**

**Anniversaries: none this week;**

## Connect with the Pastor

As the Easter season comes to a close and we prepare to celebrate Pentecost. Typically, we characterize this celebration as the birthday of the Church. It is a simple way to look at it because when you think about what it was like at the time of Jesus' Ascension, you can almost hear the followers saying, "now what?" Then the mighty rush of wind came and suddenly the faithful few had to understand what the Holy Spirit was and how it impacted their faith going forward. When I was defending my faith statement for my ordination some 23 years ago, my committee asked me why I didn't talk about the Holy Spirit much. I recall that I said something lame like, "it's the aspect of the Trinity that is most difficult to understand and explain." While I still don't disagree with that statement, I now can add a lot more to this point. It must have been wild to understand God/Jesus in this new way with the person of Jesus being gone (at least from a physical sense). Come to think of it, it can be a wild concept to think of now. Therein lies the gift of faith and the power of the community of faith acting upon that faith together (even with all of our differences). I think this is why Pentecost is as important to me as our Easter celebrations. God is constantly calling us to be courageous and stretch our imaginations beyond what we thought capable. God puts Jesus literally in our hands to carry the faith in the present and the future. Celebrate the fires of the Spirit with me this Sunday!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Becky

