

Spring Newsletter –2022

Parkside Lutheran

Rediscovering the Radical Love of Jesus
Gathering All - Serving All - Caring for All

2 Wallace Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214 Phone: 716-836-1361
W: parksidelutheran.org Email: parksidelutheran@gmail.com

From the Pastor

Dear People of Parkside,

Lutheran Theologian and Pastor, The Rev. Dietrich Bonhoeffer once wrote, **"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."** This conviction led Bonhoeffer to actively participate in the German resistance against the Nazi regime. The truth is that Bonhoeffer was in the minority. Most of the Lutherans in Germany said and did nothing to prevent the rise of such hate in their country. Let us not make the same mistake.

On May 14th evil came to Buffalo and shot 13 children of God, killing ten. They were targeted because they were Black. The terrorist picked this Top's because of the history of systemic racism that has created a deeply segregated Buffalo. Evil then visited an Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas; 19 students and two teachers dead. There is brokenness and pain begging for people of God to make a difference to bring about transformation through the love of Jesus.

How will we respond?

After the Top's shooting, your church council and I immediately decided to display two large public signs. One side says, "Black Lives Matter." The second sign says, "Dismantle White Supremacy." We acknowledge that these words without action are meaningless. We repent that we didn't act and speak sooner. Nevertheless, we all felt compelled to speak loudly and publicly.

We should be clear there are no easy or simple answers. But we must try. We try not because God needs our works but because our neighbors are literally dying. How will we now respond to another mass shooting?

I do not want to diminish that one response is the continued growth and vitality of our church community. We live in a world where folks can
(continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

(details inside!)

POSTPONED Sunday, June 5th:

11am-3pm CHIAVETTA'S

CHICKEN BBQ Advance Sale

Tickets: \$12

(Until Sunday, May 29th),

Day of Event: \$13

Sunday, June 5th: Join Parkside LC
in the PRIDE Parade!

Questions about Parkside?

Thinking about joining?

**JOIN PASTOR JEREMIAH
FOR LUNCH!**

Sun, June 12th, after Service.

RSVP via email to

prjeremiahsmith@gmail.com

BLOCK PARTY

Fri, June 17 from 5-8 pm

Breakfast Church:

Sunday, July 17th 10am

**July 25th-29th Vacation Bible
School and VBS Sunday on
Sunday, July 31st.**

see ONGOING events page 4

North Buffalo Food Pantry Collection

Toilet tissue always needed!

You may bring donations to
the Food Pantry any
Saturday 9am to 1pm
Or leave them in the
Narthex on Sunday

Serving zip codes

14214, 14216 & 14217

From the Pastor continued...

choose to be isolated and are able to find social media communities where everyone thinks the same. We gather as the body of Christ, people of all ages, of a variety of races, gender expressions, sexual orientations, and differing social economic statuses. Our diversity is a God given strength and being in relationship with each other is counter cultural. We hope that worship is a place where we are nourished and recharged to again go out into the world and bring about transformation.

In pursuit of an authentic response, what are we willing to risk?

*"Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me,
let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.*

*For those who want to save their life will lose it,
and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."* Matthew 16:24-25

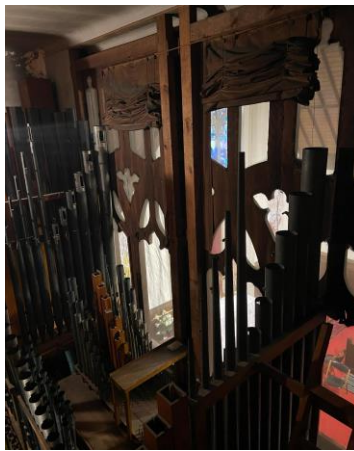
Pastor Bonheoffer was eventually executed in a concentration camp for speaking out. What are we willing to risk? Perhaps, awkward conversations, making mistakes, committing time, money, energy, the way we worship, and our own comfort might just be a few of the things we risk for the sake of a faith that makes a difference in our world. I don't pretend to have the answers but I do hope you will join me in wrestling, searching, and trying.

I give thanks to God for your partnership in ministry. None of Parkside's ministries would be possible without you. Together we pick up the Cross of Christ knowing that the Tomb is empty and victory will be ours. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jeremiah





What's going on with the organ?

Parkside's Skinner Organ is in need of some TLC. This instrument was built in 1924 with 1,883 pipes, 28 ranks, 3 manuals, 25 stops, and 30 registers. However, over time the plaster around the walls and ceiling of one of the Organ chambers has deteriorated. (A previous "quick fix" lasted several decades but you can see panels sagging in one of the pictures) This results in dust and sometimes larger chunks clogging pipes. Sometimes even making pipes get stuck in the open position, known as a cipher. (Hence the paper towels in the last picture to make sure we don't hear that particular note for all of worship.) We are working with Heritage Pipe Organ Company to remove the pipes from the most problematic chamber. This will enable Parkside to seek solutions and take better care of this incredible instrument. While the pipes are removed from one chamber, we will still be able to use the other parts of the Organ that are not impacted. Stay tuned for more updates!

Other Notes and Information:

- We are still collecting refundable bottles to raise funds for coffee hours & other church services. Collection totes are in Atonement Hall and in the closet inside Stowell Lounge, just next to the kitchen.
- Prayer Requests can be submitted to the office by email, mail, or by writing requests on the list in the narthex or on your attendance sheet.
- You may dedicate altar flowers to honor a loved one or for any special occasion. The cost is \$30. Signup in the narthex or contact the office.
- Parkside Lutheran Church has an active Care Committee. If you know of someone who would welcome an encouraging note or phone call, please contact the office so we may add them to the list.
- Volunteers are always welcome. If you wish to help or would like more info, contact the office.



- Nonperishable food donations are always welcome in the Blessing Box on Depew Avenue. Thank you to those who help keep it stocked for our neighbors in need!

Contact Office: call 836-1361 or email parksidelutheran.org or mail to: 2 Wallace Ave, Bflo NY 14214

Ongoing Events...

Sunday Worship - Sundays 10am

Childcare – available during worship for children 4 & under, two times/month. Schedule to be announced soon

Sunday School - Sundays 10am during the school year

Burrito Project - Every 4th Tuesday of the month volunteers from Parkside hand out Burritos in Downtown Buffalo. Contact the office if you'd like to help.

Parkside Continues to collect **Dash's Supermarket receipts** to benefit the Food Pantry. There is a small green box in the narthex to collect receipts. Thank you.

Becky Amann's grandson is conducting a **fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House** by collecting pop can tabs. Place your tabs in the Ronald McDonald cardboard box in the Narthex. Thank you!

Visit our website to sign up for our newsletter & stay in touch!
www.parksidelutheran.org



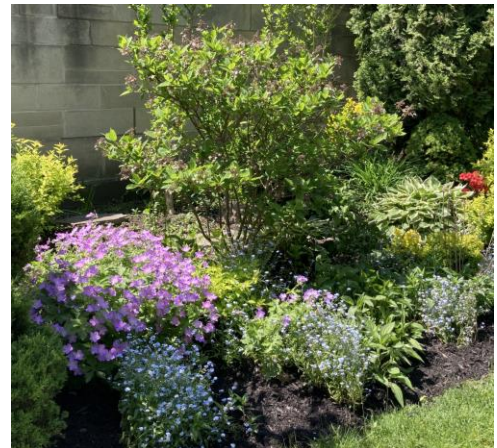
2022 Communion Class pics



On Maundy Thursday, *Hearts For The Homeless* donated a truck and a driver to take the thousands of diapers to the warehouse of Every Bottom Covered. Thank you to the volunteers and everyone who donated. This is another example of people of faith living out the commandment we remember on Maundy Thursday, "Love one another as I have loved you."




Grateful for our Burrito volunteers!



Grateful for our Garden volunteers!



POSTPONED - Sunday, June 5th -11am-3pm CHIAVETTA'S CHICKEN BBQ

 We need volunteers for the BBQ, **when it is rescheduled**, for planning tasks, and day of event. If you can help, contact Melanie Yohe at melanie.yohe@gmail.com or (716) 550-2296. There is also a sign up sheet in the narthex. Thank you!

June 5th:



The theme to this year's
2022 Buffalo Pride Parade is
"Homecoming."

Sean White (seannsd@msn.com) and Gigi Jankowski (gcjrealtor@gmail.com) are heading up Parkside's Participation. Please email Sean and Gigi if you plan to march with Parkside and be sure to exchange cell phone numbers. Folks should be prepared to walk several miles, arrange for their own transportation from the end of the parade route back to their parked cars and to have a blast!

We are one of the few faith groups to participate and our witness matters. You can check out more details here <https://buffaloprideweek.com/the-parade/>

JOIN PASTOR FOR LUNCH



JOIN PASTOR JEREMIAH FOR LUNCH!

Sunday, June 12th, after Service.

This is an opportunity to ask questions about faith, about Parkside, about what it means to be a member, or even about Lutherans in general.

If you are interested in joining as a member, or just want to know more about our community, please RSVP to prjeremiahpsmith@gmail.com.

Join us for our **BLOCK PARTY** on Friday, June 17 from 5-8 pm

We are holding a block party to bring together church members and the community on June 17, from 5-8 pm. We will have food, games (including a bounce house), live music, and fellowship.

We are looking for donations for a basket raffle. We will gladly accept complete baskets, or items to go into baskets. Gift cards are great options.

If you would like to *make a financial donation* to support the block party, please contact Magan Russ (maganruss@yahoo.com)

For any *basket raffle donations* (or questions) please contact Tom Smith (tsmith189@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing you on June 17!

Parkside Lutheran Church – 2 Wallace Ave. Buffalo NY 14214





SAVE THE DATE:
"Breakfast Church" 10am, Sunday July 17th
Enjoy breakfast during worship in Atonement Hall



In-Person Vacation Bible School is BACK for 2022!
July 25th-29th; 5:30-8:00PM

This year we are *so excited* to bring back the summer fun with **"Tree of Healing" VBS!**

These past couple of years have been very different and challenging.

Let's jump back in and learn together about how to live in healthy ways,
how to help heal the world, and how ***God's love is healing for everyone!***

We need VOLUNTEERS! Please click on the link below to register as a volunteer
OR to register a camper. *High school aged youth volunteers welcome!*

Kids ages Pre-K (3 by 12/31/21 & potty trained) through entering 6th grade are welcome to join us!

Dinner will be provided upon arrival for all campers.

Register now: <https://www.myvbs.org/parksidelutheran/>

Other Announcements:

Registration is now open for Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center (LCLC) **Summer Camp**.
<https://www.lclcenter.org/summer-programs>

Women of the ELCA (WELCA) is hosting a Day-Apart Retreat "Spiritual Renewal – Centered in Prayer" on **Saturday October 1st 2022** at St. Paul's LC in Ellicottville, NY. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch & retreat materials. Registration deadline is 9/21/22. Contact Ruth Schmidt for more info (716)827-8694 or email Walrus1973@verizon.net

NAMETAGS: We are wearing nametags every Sunday! The hope is that nametags are one small way we can build community with one another. They also help us identify who may be visiting our church for the first time. The nametags are magnetic and are stored in the narthex of the church so that folks can grab them on their way into the sanctuary. If you'd like a nametag, contact the office.



Accessibility Did you know? Because accessibility is important to us, In 2021, Parkside LC engaged Flynn Battaglia to do an ADA Assessment. If you'd like to read the report, please contact the office.

Parkside LC Treasurer's Report March 31, 2022

	Jan - Mar 2022	Budget	Variance	% of Budget	
Income					
4.010 • Pledged Donations	25,815	21,854	3,961	118%	
4.020 • Member Donations	2,944	2,200	744	134%	
4.030 • Nonmember Donations	6,581	900	5,681	731%	
4.040 • Flowers and Seasonal Donations	160	200	(40)	80%	
4.050 • Burrito Project Donations	-	300	(300)	0%	
4.080 • Memorial Gifts	775	-	775	100%	
4.100 • Other Donations - Parkside	1,670	-	1,670	100%	Afghan resettle & Diapers - Offset by additional expenses April/May
4.400 • Benevolence/Pass-thru Donations	901	-	901	100%	pass thru exp in Social Ministry
4.500 • Building Partners and Usage	4,565	4,720	(155)	97%	
4.610 • N. Park Contrib - Pastor's Sal	1,050	1,575	(525)	67%	lag in deposits
4.700 • Earned Income	1,900	-	1,900	100%	Columbarium & Weddings
Total Income	46,361	31,749	14,612	146%	
Expense					
5.000 • Administration					
5.001 • Pastor	25,568	25,685	(117)	100%	
5.041 • Music Director Salary & tax	2,826	2,831	(5)	100%	
5.051 • Office Administrator Salary & tax	3,817	3,632	185	105%	
5.061 • Sexton/Cleaner Salary & tax	2,262	2,267	(6)	100%	
5.081 • Bookkeeper Salary & tax	1,974	2,035	(62)	97%	
5.091 • Lutheran Youth Salary & tax	646	-	646	100%	covered few days of 2021
5.100 • Employment Insurance -W/C & DBL	1,868	2,363	(495)	79%	
5.102 • Payroll Service	307	267	40	115%	
Total 5.000 • Administration	39,267	39,080	187	100%	
5.200 • Office	2,191	1,844	347	119%	
5.250 • Stewardship	360	393	(33)	92%	
5.300 • Worship	562	640	(79)	88%	
5.500 • Music Ministry	8,201	8,275	(74)	99%	incl. \$7,300 organ work deposit
5.600 • Property	10,725	11,115	(390)	96%	
5.700 • Christian Education	420	490	(70)	86%	
5.800 • Social Ministries	1,496	925	571	162%	incl \$901 pass thru
5.900 • Other Benevolence	3,275	3,275	-	100%	1st Q Synod benevolence
Total Expense	66,495	66,036	459	101%	
Net Income	(20,134)	(34,287)	14,153	59%	

Parkside Lutheran Church

BALANCE SHEET

Mar 31,
2022

ASSETS

1.000 · Petty Cash	150	
1.100 · Evans Bank - Operating Account	56,025	
1.110 · Evans Bank - Savings Account	37,650	
1.200 · M. Stanley Endowment Accounts		
1.210 · General Endowment	334,752	
1.220 · Music Endowment Account	88,095	
1.230 · Columbarium Endowment Account	39,984	
1.240 · T. Dougherty Memorial Endowment	55,175	
Total 1.200 · M. Stanley Endowment Accounts	518,006	
Total Cash/Checking/Savings/Endow	611,830	
1.610 · Other Receivables	229	due from WNY CU (pd April/May)

TOTAL ASSETS **612,059**

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE

2.000 · Accounts Payable	4,176
2.015 · Lease Buyout Liability	400

Total Liabilities 4,576

Fund Balance

3.000 · Fund Balance		Net Inc(loss)	Fund Xfers		Fund Bal. 03.31.22
3.010 · General Unrestricted Fund Bal	77,765	(23,232)			54,533
3.040 · Building Needs Fund	26,241	0			26,241
3.100 · Temporarily Restricted Funds	1,967	3,100	3,637	1	8,703
3.200 · Endowment Funds Balance					
3.210 · General Endowment Fund Balance	334,752	0			334,752
3.220 · Music Endowment Fund Balance	92,137	0	-4,042	1	88,095
3.230 · Columbarium Endow. Fund Balance	39,984	0			39,984
3.240 · T. Dougherty Memorial End. Fund	54,770	0	405	1	55,175
Total 3.200 · Endowment Funds Balance	521,643	0	0		518,006

Total 3.000 · Fund Balance 627,615 607,482

Net Income (20,133) (20,133) -

Total Fund Balance 607,483 **607,482**

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE **612,059** **612,059**

note -1 - Transfer of 12.31.21 Balances done February 2022

A Message from Melanie Yohe, Council Treasurer

We are sharing financial information for the first quarter. As you are probably aware, we have budgeted a deficit of \$72,000 for 2022. (if you would like a copy of the Annual Budget, or have questions about this report, please contact the office). While facing a projected deficit of this size is sobering, Parkside has experienced consistent growth over the past four years, despite the pandemic, and we expect this trend to continue. We will be officially welcoming several new members this year. We are pleased to report that in the first quarter of 2022, donations exceed budget, and for this, we are truly thankful! We are committed to good stewardship of Parkside's mission and resources, and are grateful for those who contribute their time, treasure and talent through these challenging times and beyond.

Parkside for Social Justice

Thank you to everyone who was able to stay after worship to have a conversation and share thoughts, feelings and reactions to the horrific mass shooting that occurred on Sat. May 14 here in Buffalo. A number of people expressed interest in continuing the conversation and identifying ways to take action in response to this tragedy. This will be an ongoing discussion and anyone who has questions or would like to be more involved, please send a message to Alison Smith at alisonmsmith07@gmail.com. On Sunday, May 29, we will meet briefly after worship to write some letters to local representatives to hear how they are responding to the mass shootings. The Parkside for Social Justice Committee formed in 2020 in response to the murder of George Floyd. By sharing your email you will be added to our email list for future announcements.

Greetings from your Church Council!

We want to take this opportunity to spread the word about all of the exciting things happening at Parkside in the next couple of months. ~~First up is our annual Chiavetta's Chicken Barbecue on June 5th from 11 to 3. Advance sale tickets are \$12 and can be purchased on Tithley or after worship this Sunday, May 29th. Tickets purchased on the day of the event are \$13. This has always been a great fundraiser for Parkside and we can use a few more volunteers to make it happen. Please contact Melanie Yohe at melanie.yohe@gmail.com or (716) 550-2296 if you can help!~~ **BBQ is postponed.**

Also on June 5th, a group from Parkside will be marching in Buffalo's annual Pride parade. Sean White (seannsd@msn.com) and Gigi Jankowski (gjcrealtor@gmail.com) are heading up Parkside's participation. Please email Sean and Gigi if you plan to march with Parkside. We are one of the few faith groups to participate and our witness matters.

One week later, on June 12, Pastor Jeremiah will be hosting lunch after worship. This is an opportunity to ask questions about faith, about Parkside, about what it means to be a member, or even about Lutherans in general. If you are interested in joining as a member, or just want to know more about our community, please RSVP to prjeremiahpsmith@gmail.com.

We are also planning a block party on Friday, June 17th from 5 to 8. This event will be lots of fun and a great opportunity to get to know more of our neighbors. We'll have food, games (including a bounce house), a basket raffle, live music, and fellowship. Contact Magan Russ (maganruss@yahoo.com) if you'd like to make a financial donation and Tom Smith (tsmith189@gmail.com) if you can donate a basket. Please bring a dish/snacks to share and join us on the 17th!

We are very excited to announce that Vacation Bible School is back this summer! Held in the evening, 5:30 to 8:00, from July 25 - 29, VBS is open to all children ages Pre-K (3 by 12/31/21 and potty trained) through entering 6th grade. We need volunteers (including high schoolers)! Register online to help or to sign up a camper.

We're looking forward to a busy, exciting summer and hope that you can join in for fun and fellowship!