

# The Messenger



May 16, 2018

## MOMENT'S REFLECTION

"Wait . . . for the promise of the Father." -Acts 1:4

"The Spirit is more than just one of God's gifts among others; the Holy Spirit is the unrestricted presence of God in which our life wakes up, becomes wholly and entirely living, and is endowed with the energies of life." — Jürgen Moltmann, *The Source of Life*

This Sunday is Pentecost—50 days, 7 Sundays, since Jesus' resurrection. Like first disciples we've been trying to come to terms with the unexpected joy of Jesus' continued life among us. We've looked into the tomb places of life and not quite believed it. Run to tell others, who thought we were crazy. Hid out behind locked doors for fear that it might not be true. Walked down Emmaus roads in depressive stupor because we're convinced it can't be true. Or, simply gone back to business as usual because though our lives may have once been touched by Jesus' presence, we think those days are past.

50 days of this. Long enough, Jesus figures, for us to process the reality of resurrection.

And then the days of processing are finished. As such, Luke concludes with an admonition to "wait for power on high." Book of Acts begins with the proclamation: "Wait for the promise of the Father." In both instances, it is Holy Spirit for which we wait.

Wait, Jesus says. Wait, because too often we're tempted to go without it. Wait, because we can't really be alive without the Spirit's help. Wait.

Wait, because the Spirit is our Helper (John 14:26).

Wait, because the Spirit guards our salvation (Ephesians 1:13).

Wait, because the Holy Spirit assists us as we pray (Jude 1:20).

Wait, because the Spirit intercedes for us when we don't have the words (Romans 8:26).

Wait, because it is the Spirit that gives us new life (John 3:5-8).

Wait, because the Spirit comforts us as we face trials (1 Thessalonians 1:6).

Wait, because the Spirit gives us hope (Romans 15:13).

Wait, because the Spirit convicts us of what is truth and what is not (John 16:8).

Wait, because the Spirit knows the mind and heart of God, and we need to know (John 14:26).

Wait, because the Spirit tells us things to come (John 16:13).

This Pentecost, I pray for the Spirit to come in fullness upon you. I know that you seek the things of life. The Spirit gives life.

I pray for the Spirit to come in fullness upon our congregation. We are over 100 years old. God knows we need new life.

I pray for the Spirit to come in fullness upon God's creation. We are often fractured. We need the Spirit to heal us.

-Dan (Pentecost 2018)





# V B S

**Sunday thru Thursday \* July 22-26**

**5:30-8:00 pm**

**Register online at [www.fccgarland.org](http://www.fccgarland.org) OR  
registration forms in Fellowship Hall  
and Church Office**

There is a  
place for  
you at  
our table...



Our next **Fusion DINNER CHURCH** will be Saturday, June 2nd, 6:30-10:00pm. We will gather at the church for lively discussion centered around a delicious meal. Following the example of the early church, we share our lives and faith around filled tables, celebrating Jesus' presence among us and growing in our faith with one another. RSVP to Rev. Casey Tanguay. (childcare available)

**Fusion:** a merging of spirituality into real everyday life

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

Beginning at 9am on Saturday, June 2nd, the Men of FCCG will spread new mulch on the church playground, and share breakfast at a downtown restaurant after the work is done! Contact Julian Olalde ([jolalde@farmersagent.com](mailto:jolalde@farmersagent.com))



CHURCH  
OFFICE  
CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 28 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

Also, Church Secretary *Brenda Keel* will be out of the office (vacation) Monday, May 28 through Friday, June 1, 2018.

