



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Connecting with God; Connecting with Others; Connecting others with God

Pastor Melody Sell, Interim Pastor
85 E. Brandt Boulevard
Landisville, PA 17538
(717) 898-2911 (o)
(570) 916-8835 (c)
prmsell2@ptd.net

DAILY DEVOTIONALS FROM PASTOR SELL ***May 2-6***

Monday, May 2

The Mount Joy Fire Station is right behind my house. The last few weeks they have been conducting trainings in their parking lot. Last Saturday they were working with the extension ladder bucket truck. Yes, I am sure they called it training, but it looked like they were having an awful lot of fun. Straight up goes the extension, one section than another. Let's try a 45-degree angle – how about 90 degrees. How about swinging it around at different angles and heights. Oh my, they seemed to be enjoying themselves.

Jesus was also concerned about training his disciples. He taught them and then sent them out on practical experiential missions. We don't know much about these trips, but we do know the disciples came back excited. Life is about doing and learning new things. If you are invited to do something for Jesus and the church, it may not be as exciting as a ride in a bucket truck, but it will be interesting and a challenge. Enjoy the ride when you are asked to help serve the Lord.

Tuesday, May 3

I parked my car facing a 15-foot Maple tree. At first, I didn't pay much attention to it. It was one tree in a line of trees, just part of the landscaping. Later as I was preparing to leave, the tree caught my eye again. The tree was literally weighed down with thousand and thousands of maple seeds - those little two-winged spinners we used to call helicopters. One tree and a million seeds sent flying into the world.

We are individuals, but in a lifetime, we have contact with thousands of people. Some are deep, long-term relationships, while others are as brief as a few minutes. Jesus had many such contacts during his life, and he had an impact on each one. Most were life changing. How do you impact the people with whom you have contact?

Wednesday, May 4

On the side of the church, across from Cooper House is a bleeding-heart plant in full bloom. Its tiny red heart shaped flowers and white tear drop are vivid against the green leaves. It is a reminder of Jesus sacrifice on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter. A little flower packed with powerful meaning for this Easter season.



Thursday, May 5

The robins in the nest over my front door and I have come to an understanding. I will use the side door of my house as often as possible, and they will fly to the porch roof for a few minutes rather than carrying on like a grizzly bear watching her cubs being attacked. It is a good thing we have reached this agreement.

The Book of Acts is full of agreements to make things work. The disciples are preaching the Gospel and are amazed at the power of the Holy Spirit to bring their preaching to fruition. Paul is traveling to peoples in different land with different cultures and ideas, but they each give a little and the church grows as they work together. Working together is important. If we each give a little and try to understand the other side, much can be accomplished.

Friday, May 6

Pennsylvania has a reputation of having two seasons, “Winter and Road Work or Pothole season.” Recently I have been changing lanes, dodging orange cones, and waiting for direction from flaggers wherever I go. Just getting through Mount Joy some days is a trial.

Life has many detours, U-turns, and times when we run off the road. These can be times of confusion and feelings of hopelessness. The good news is God walks with us and is always willing to help us run the gauntlet of life. More good news is that the bumps and potholes don’t last forever.