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Rev. Joseph and Deaconess  
Dr. Jennie Asher

*We thank you for your prayers and financial support. It is an encouragement to us as we serve the Lord in this place. It is through the generous gifts of friends like you that we can continue to serve military families living abroad. God bless you!*

Joe and Jennie Asher

## Did you know...

- Ascension Day in Germany is also Fathers' Day. The men celebrate by taking wagons/kegs/steins of beer and going into the woods for an afternoon of fellowship with their friends.
- Pentecost is a national holiday in Germany. Stores, banks and schools are all closed. But most Germans do not attend church on this day.



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## A Season of Celebration

Another school year is nearly over. At Kaiserslautern Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC), this means we shift to a summer Sunday School schedule and curriculum. But first we celebrated the achievements of our children during the “regular” Sunday School year.

On June 2, we held our third annual Sunday School awards program. At this time, each child who attended Sunday School during the year received an attendance certificate. A student who had perfect attendance (quite a feat since most families travel frequently to see Europe while stationed here) received a trophy.

But the children were most excited about the memory work awards. Each Sunday during the year, the children learn a Scripture verse that reinforces the message of the lesson and recite it the following Sunday. Fourteen of our children (including one of the youth!) learned all 29 of the verses given them. In addition, students learned the books of the Old and New Testaments, the 10 Commandments, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Apostles’ Creed. Depending on how many of these students learned, they received a medal or a trophy for their efforts.

The celebration continued by recognizing our dedicated Sunday School teachers, as well as the



Joe congratulates our youngest Sunday School student on her attendance award.

Board of Education. Finally, the children recited one of their memory verses, John 3:16, and sang songs that they had learned in music.

The children love to come to church. They love to sing songs. They love to hear the children’s message. They love their teachers. And this all serves the cause of Christ. Jesus always esteemed a child-like faith. He called His disciples to have a child-like faith. We are blessed to see that child-like faith every Sunday at KELC.

*Jesus said to them, “Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great.” (Luke 9:48 ESV)*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *Four of our youth, another adult and Jennie, as they prepare to attend the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in July, that this would be a time for a deepening of faith for all participants.*
- *Families who are “PCSing” (moving) this summer. That those leaving us will find a new church home, and that those moving into our community would find KELC to be a place to grow in their love for Christ.*
- *Safekeeping for our travel to a required regional meeting in Odessa, Ukraine in August.*

## GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *A new confirmation class is developing for the fall. Pray for the students – Evan and Robert.*

## PRAISE GOD FOR:

- *The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us.*

## A Season of Farewells

Seasons change. The sun is finally shining. The community swimming pool is open. The bicyclists and joggers make their way past our apartment. These are sure signs that a new season is upon us – summer! But at Kaiserslautern Evangelical Lutheran Church (KELC) it’s also “PCS” season. This is when, every year, some families have a “Permanent Change of Station (PCS).” To us non-military people, that means that they move away. It may be to the United States or to another country, wherever their next “duty assignment” takes them.

This year, KELC is losing three dear families during PCS season. For us, it is a time of sadness, but also a time of anticipation. As they move to their next duty assignment, we anticipate not just the Lord’s leading as they serve their country, but also as they serve Him. We pray that they will find a church home where they can continue to grow in their faith and where they can continue to actively serve Him. We pray that they will continue to grow in their faith and love for Christ. Please pray for these families as they transition, and for us as we continue their work among us. Please pray also for the families “PCSing in,” that they might make KELC their church home.



Joe stands in front of Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s writing desk

## Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary, Joe!

On June 15, Joe will be turning 65! As part of his celebration for this special birthday, Jennie arranged our travel to Berlin to see the Dietrich Bonhoeffer house. As most of you know, this Lutheran pastor was martyred in 1944 for his opposition to Hitler and the Nazis. His major focus can be found in his books “The Cost of Discipleship” and “Life Together.” It was wonderful to see Bonhoeffer’s home, since his writing has been such an inspiration for Joe throughout his life.

In July, Joe will reach still another milestone – 35 years since his ordination into the Office of the Public Ministry! If you would like to send Joe wishes for these occasions, he can be reached at [spartancoach2008@fastmail.com](mailto:spartancoach2008@fastmail.com). Our mailing address is:

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There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](http://lcms.org/service). Click on “Service Opportunities.”

To support the LCMS through the work of Joe Asher, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
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