

HARVEST MINISTRY NEWS LETTER

June 2020

Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ,

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

Dear friends in Christ,

Whenever the burden feels too heavy, I return to this passage and pray it over and over again. Each time I am reminded that the heavy burden I experience is not that of Jesus, but rather that of God's people. Jesus' yoke is one of gentle grace and humble servant leadership. This yoke is easy and this burden is light. The calling to enter into that servant leadership though is not always easy nor light. And that calling is yours as well as mine.

These verses in Matthew are the end of our gospel reading for Sunday July 5th. That Sunday, as far as I know at this time, will be our last “virtual only” worship Sunday of this season. It is also a holiday Sunday. I hope and pray that the benefit of having that as a final virtual worship service Sunday will be that you can join us for worship from wherever you are celebrating the holiday weekend, and that in that way you will experience the freedom and gracious rest of Jesus' yoke that day as we begin to prepare for gathering again in person.

We have observed many join us online to worship that rarely are able to attend worship in our building sanctuaries and while I hope and pray that they will join us as we once again gather in person to worship (initially outside and eventually in our building sanctuaries), it is one of several reasons we will continue to have at least one Harvest Ministry worship recording (and possibly live stream) available even after we gather together. God's Word truly has been reaching many many more individuals during this time of not gathering in person, and this is especially true for us and other smaller congregations. I hear this truth echoed from many colleagues in ministry. I invite you to join me in thanks and praise to God for this transformation and ministry.

I also invite you to join me in prayers for ongoing transformation for us as a people of God in this time and place(s). This is a time to look forward in our ministry to how we can love God and love our neighbors in new ways and how we can continue to proclaim the gospel in ways that they can hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is a time to continue to put the needs of our most vulnerable members and neighbors in front of our own needs for comfort and

familiarity. I join you in grief and lament that this will mean changes to the way we worship when we gather in person again. And yet it is what Jesus' calls us to do in love for one another. The heaviness comes from ourselves and not from Jesus.

As I write this I give thanks for all of our leadership in both congregations as well as the Harvest Ministry council, and I ask you to take a moment to thank them personally yourself as well. Or HM council has moved forward with a task force to write up recommendations and guidelines for when we gather in person again that will be given to each congregational council when they meet in June. At those June meetings each council will need to adopt and finalize guidelines that must be in place in order for us to proceed with gathering. We do this both in answer to the call to care for one another and our neighbors as well as in the hope of not needing to stop gathering in person again when there is another spike of local/regional cases of the pandemic related coronavirus.

We will need time to practice all of these new guidelines and guidelines for gathered worship during a pandemic prior to that next spike happening. Please watch for those guidelines after the June council meetings. I also invite each of you to provide and all feedback to me or the councils prior to those meetings. As always feedback must be specific and not anonymous. We can also allow time for you to speak at the council meeting, just let us know.

While I cannot predict any details for worship past Sunday July 5th, it is my hope that the rest of July will find us gathering outside for worship (only one gathering per Sunday rather than two), and then in August we would be able to resume gathering in our building sanctuaries. I will continue to update all of you as I am able to do so. Until July 12th, the date of the traditional ecumenical park service in Cushing, services will continue using Zoom and recordings being posted. The format may be virtual, but the worship is not! Please join us and invite your “neighbors” near and far! I end with the blessing of the prayer of the day for that Sunday, July 5th..

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tami Groth

Text or call: 608.385.9848

Email: tami.harvestministries@gmail.com

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We Give Thanks to God for these Recent Ministry Events & Much More:

- Our ongoing Sunday Worship, now together with Rev. Shawn Brooks (serving Christ Lutheran in rural Le Mars and St. Peter Lutheran in Brunsville).
- Virtual Zoom coffee hours and Bible Studies (St. John WELCA) as well as conducting our council meetings creatively using the Zoom technology
- Harvest Ministry Council created task force to study and recommend congregational guidelines to be finalized and adopted by each congregational council prior to returning to gathering in person for worship and to continue until the pandemic is declared no longer a threat to this area / region.
- St. John held a funeral for Joan Ludvigson Tuesday May 26, 2020. We extend our sympathies and ongoing prayers to Joan's family. We also thank the St. John council members for allowing the gift of this funeral service and opening the building for the first time in several weeks to meet this need.

Upcoming Worship & Ministry Events:

We continue to meet virtually IN JUNE (see Harvest Ministry Announcements for summer worship details)

- **Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 each week (and then recorded)**
 - Pastor Tami and Pastor Shawn will be working together each Sunday to lead worship together. This also means that we will have an 8:30 am Sunday Morning Worship live streamed on Facebook on the St. Peter Lutheran Church, Burnsville page:
<https://www.facebook.com/stpeterlutheranbrunvilleia/>

*All of our **LIVE** virtual events are done using Zoom. You can use the Zoom app on your smart phone or tablet, or join using your Internet connected computer. You can also dial in with any phone for an audio-only experience.*

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6083859848?pwd=MzNYeIFDcG5UaEdkZVFrZXQybKRaUT09>

Meeting ID & Password: 608 385 9848 (yes, this is Pastor's telephone number!)

Telephone Dial-in Option: 1 312 626 6799; Meeting ID: 608 385 9848

Our recorded worship and devotions will be shared first on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UctF-MBPmLyslUI7qh6p-3LQ>

Our Harvest Ministry Facebook page will also have additional live video times as well as an abundance of resources posted and opportunities for interaction: <https://www.facebook.com/harvestministrychurches/>

New toll-free phone worship option for recorded audio worship → (844) 938-2032

This number allows you to hear a greeting from Pastor Tami explaining what is currently available on these phone recordings, leave messages for Pastor, select to forward the call to Pastor cell phone, and through the recording options listen to worship services and announcements. We will try this service through the summer and then evaluate if we should continue paying for the service. This service will be useful long after the pandemic is over as another way for those unable to attend worship in person at any time to be able to easily worship remotely or just listen to recent announcements. Give it a try and let me know what you think!

Prayer Requests:

- Our health care workers – including ALL who work in medical caring spaces
- For all grieving, lonely, or in need of healing
- For those seeking employment and those attempting to sustain small businesses and self-employment
- For those responding to God's call to justice work, including antiracism work.
- For those continuing to learn new technologies in this time of "social distancing."

You Should Know...a family update from Pastor Tami and Pastor Shawn

A number of people know about this, and it is in process, so it's time to tell everyone. We are in the process of becoming certified to be foster parents. It's a big step, and there is a lot of work involved, but we feel called to do this. At this time we have no plans to adopt: we just want to help children who need a safe place to be for a while.

The earliest we would get a placement is the end of July. Our once-a-week class goes through the middle of July, and there are lots of other things for us to get lined up before they consider us ready. The whole family is on board with this; we are excited and hopeful and ready to love one or more children who need some love and stability in their lives. Please pray for us. –Pastors Tami and Shawn

Pastor Tami's Summer Schedule

Continuing Education Time

Due to the inability to travel to continuing education opportunities and the preference to remain available for pastoral emergencies (please call at any time or contact our HM care coordinator), Pastor Tami will spend her two weeks of continuing ed time by devoting Mondays throughout the summer starting June 8th to online continuing education classes. Pastor will share the various resources she is using to make the best use of this time throughout the summer. The first resources will be the recorded sessions from this Spring's Festival of Homiletics featuring preachers from around the country.

Weekly Sabbath and Family time as well as constrains of digital "virtual" worship and recordings

Due to the extra time requirements of virtual / recorded worship Pastor Tami is putting in 8 to 12 hours on both Saturday and Sunday, and often requires part of Friday to prepare as well because of the increased number of required meetings during this time. Due to that increased time Pastor will have less time for routine visits (in-person or otherwise) until a smooth process for continued streaming / recording worship even after we gather in person is found. If you know someone with the ability to help, please let Pastor know (not those already volunteering for other worship tasks please). Additionally, in order to be fully prepared for any emergency pastoral care needs, Pastor Tami will attempt to take both Thursday afternoons and all of Friday as Sabbath and/or family time until Saturdays & Sunday afternoons can once again become family time. This also means that at time bulletins or worship slides may not be completed for some Sundays depending on what pastoral care or other emergent needs arise during the week. Thank you for working with me to provide the best ongoing care and ministry to BOTH congregations during this unique time in our shared history.

Outdoor Office Hours

In order to encourage ongoing 1:1 and small group ministry. Pastor Tami will begin having Tuesday "outdoor office hours" weekly (weather permitting) at 2 pm until approximately 4 pm.. Simply stop by and chat during this time or stop by and set up a time for a lengthier or private visit.

- Tuesday June 9th 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday June 16th 2 – 4 pm at Salem
- Tuesday June 23rd 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday June 30th 2 – 4 pm at Salem
- Tuesday July 7th 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday July 14th 2 – 4 pm at Salem
- Tuesday July 21st 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday July 28th 2 – 4 pm at Salem

Pastor Tami Planned Vacation Time

At this time Pastor intends to take one week off in August (week not yet selected; if we cannot find pulpit supply due to the current shortage of supply pastors this may be a lay led worship service while Pastor is gone). Then Pastor is hoping to take off a full week in October, tentatively October 15th thru 22nd.

Summary of typical weekly schedule

Sundays → Live worship and posting recordings, sharing recordings across all platforms, and any follow up

Mondays → Continuing Education (virtual) and scheduled meetings

Tuesdays → 10 am Coffee w/ pastor (virtual or in person), scripture study, 2-4 outside office hours, and meetings

Wednesdays → Colleague scripture text study (gathered or virtual), worship planning, meetings, 1:1 visits

Thursdays → Worship and sermon prep, Sabbath rest.

Friday → Sabbath

Saturday → Final worship prep (worship guides / bulletins, worship slides, worship links and announcements, etc.)

Other duties such as newsletter writing, special projects & events, and additional meetings fit in as needed. Shared in an effort to provide transparency.

Worship Schedule Thru July 5th

Sunday June 7th → 10:30 Live Zoom worship (not recorded; Pastor Shawn will make his 8:30 recording available to us).
Bishop Elizabeth Eaton preaching via video followed by open discussion time with Pastor Tami
The Holy Trinity, Year A (1st Sunday after Pentecost); Service of the Word
Genesis 1:1--2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20
Streamed Live from as yet unknown location; sermon available in print and audio as well

Sunday June 14th → 8:30 FB Live (St. Peter Lutheran Page) and 10:30 live Zoom both w/ recordings
Pastor Tami Preaching & Presiding (Holy Communion liturgy, contact Pastor to receive communion)
2nd Sunday after Pentecost: Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35--10:8 [9-23]
Service location: Salem Lutheran, rural Correctionville

Sunday June 21st → 8:30 FB Live (St. Peter Lutheran Page) and 10:30 live Zoom both w/ recordings
Pastor Tami Preaching & Presiding (Holy Communion liturgy, contact Pastor to receive communion)
3rd Sunday after Pentecost: Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39
Service location: Christ Lutheran, rural Le Mars

Sunday June 28th → 8:30 FB Live (St. Peter Lutheran Page) and 10:30 live Zoom both w/ recordings
Pastor Shawn Preaching & Presiding (Holy Communion liturgy)
4th Sunday after Pentecost: Jer 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Rom 6:12-23; Matt 10:40-42
Service location: St. Peter Lutheran, Brunsville

Sunday July 5th → 8:30 FB Live (St. Peter Lutheran Page) and 10:30 live Zoom both w/ recordings
Pastor Tami Preaching; (Pastor Shawn on vacation & Pastor Tami covering all 4 churches)
5th Sunday after Pentecost: Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Rom 7:15-25a; Matt 11:16-19, 25-30
Service of the Word; location TBD

Sunday July 12 → TENATIVE 9 am Ecumenical Service in Cushing Park (across the street from St. John Lutheran)
Planning to allow for both those on lawn chairs and in cars to be able to hear & participate
Social distancing requirements must be followed

Sunday July 19th → TENATIVE 10:30 outdoor worship at Salem Lutheran
Social distancing requirements must be followed

Sunday July 26th → 10: 30 am Harvest Ministry Worship at Little Sioux Park – Watch for more details!!!
Social distancing requirements must be followed

Other worship Notes:

- Worship Guide links will be found prior to services at: <https://harvestministry.blog/virtual-worship/>
- Recordings will be uploaded to Harvest Ministry YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtF-MBPmLysIUI7qh6p-3LQ?view_as=subscriber
- Weekly announcements, worship and more available via **our new toll free number: (844) 938-2032**
- Announcements, Reminders and more at: <https://www.facebook.com/harvestministrychurches/>
- **General June Order of Worship:**
 - Welcome followed by Confession & Forgiveness (ELW p. 94) [identical to May services]
 - Gathering Hymn, Canticle of Praise, Prayer of the Day, & Children's Sermon / story time
 - Scripture readings (listed above for each week), Sermon, Hymn of the Day
 - Creed, Prayers, and either Eucharistic Prayers and liturgy OR Thanksgiving for the Word
 - Announcements, Blessing, Sending Song, and Dismissal
- Park and outdoor services will include bulletins with words needed to participate in worship
- Lectors needed for all services at this time → please just contact Pastor ahead of time!

Harvest Ministry Community Prayer List:

Nick Corey, Jamie Mohr Ummach, Connie Dau, Danelle Sullivan, John (Buck) Jacobs, Jean Jensen, Roger Reinking, Pete Droegmiller, Noah Petersen, John and Pat Myers, Mike Carroll, and Elaine Droegmiller.

*Prayer list open to anyone and updated as information is shared
(list frequently changes after the newsletter is published).*

Please contact Pastor Tami directly to request pastoral care visits.

Please keep our homebound members in prayer including those in facilities:

Correctionville Specialty Care: LaVinna Wiese

Whispering Creek in Sioux City: Wilma Bollin

Kingsley Specialty Care: Dorothy Struve

The Beck, Cherokee: Betty Stoneking

Stewardship in a Time of Pandemic

During this ongoing time of being church together while apart, we continue to emphasize that the financial cost of answering God's call as a congregation remains nearly identical to previous years.

We ask you to prayerfully consider how you can steward the resources you have been entrusted with while supporting your congregation at this time. If you are already tithing your income, perhaps you will be able to also tithe any economic govt. stimulus you receive or make other additional gifts. If you are not yet tithing, perhaps now is the time to begin

Any offerings made by check can either be mailed directly to the church address or given to a council member / financial secretary. This may also be the time when you would prefer to give electronically. Both churches are now set up to receive donations via tithe.ly online or via the app. At any time you can go to:

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give and search for either St. John, Cushing or Salem, Correctionville and give a one time or reoccurring donation.

I invite you prayerfully consider your offering each time you join in virtual worship with our community just as you do each time you worship with us in our church buildings.

Harvest Ministry Care Coordinator:

Janelle Lewis serves as Care Coordinator. Pastor Tami will work closely with her to coordinate schedules as well as to be sure she has information regarding which area pastors are available to cover emergency pastoral care needs when Pastor is away.

You can contact Janelle on her cell phone at: 712.389.0199



Reaching Pastor Tami in case of emergencies:

When in need of pastoral care, especially emergency pastoral care (for example: hospitalization, natural disaster, auto or other accident, transition to a different nursing facility or hospice care) please call Pastor Tami first. If pastor is unable to answer, please call TWICE in a row (during meetings her phone is appropriately silenced or on "do not disturb" and two calls in a row get her attention and deactivate "do not disturb") AND THEN LEAVE A MESSAGE IF PASTOR IS UNABLE TO ANSWER. If you prefer, you can also send two text messages in a row to achieve the same result.

IF Pastor is unable to return your call quickly, then please call Janelle as the Care Coordinator (that is what the position is for). She will know either how to reach Pastor Tami or who to call while she is unreachable. Only if you, again after trying twice to reach Janelle, are unable to reach either of them or leave a message, should you THEN go on to call a council member. This is because a council member will likely not have information to help you unless Pastor has announced time away and has forwarded who is overseeing emergency pastoral care situations to the entire council. *This has been the existing policy for Harvest Ministry and streamlines communication efficiently. Just as pastors were not always reachable before cell phones existed there may be times still when there is a delay in response for various reasons (including screening calls during Sabbath hours); however, if you leave messages for Pastor Tami and/or our care coordinator, Janelle Lewis, they will get back to you as soon as possible.*

Distinction Between STRESS & STRAIN

Article reprinted with permission

By Rev. Judith Johnson, Pastor-Counselor in Residence, Western Iowa Synod

Years ago I came across some material from the Alban Institute which made a distinction that seems especially pertinent right now: the distinction between stress and strain.

Any change is stressful. You may have seen inventories that list (and give points for) events that have happened in your life during the past year, at the end of which you receive your “stressful event score.” These items included major things like a death in the family, making a geographical move, or going through a divorce, all the way down to smaller things (for most people) like celebrating Christmas or taking a vacation. Events that represent a change in our routine are, inevitably, stressful...and there is absolutely nothing we can do about it: Christmas will come, whether I am ready for it or not.

But the other topic – **strain** – is about the subjective impact that that event is having on me: how much this situation is weighing on me, with negative effect. And strain, I believe, always has a psychological or spiritual component: it is, to a large degree, about expectations – our own, and the expectations of others which we have, in some way, bought into.

Within this system – the particular way that these terms are defined here – there is nothing that we can do about stress: stressors just happen. But there is a lot that we can do about strain.

Option 1: We can just wait for the stressors to go away – as in “someday we’ll be able to go back to church together and be able to go to the grocery store without a mask”.

Option 2: We can practice really good self-care, to help counterbalance the sense of strain – as in taking an extra day off, getting outside, and limiting the hours we spend watching either the news or the Hallmark Movie Channel (binge-watching TV, with or without a bag of snacks is not self-care – sorry about that.)

Option 3: We can actually address the expectations that are sucking the life out of us.

The expectations of others can be a huge stressor – people complaining about who-knows-what, or suggesting that we have in some way failed to live up to their image of what the ideal pastor [or any person] should be and do. Those comments and conversations are certainly stress-full. But they create strain only to the degree to which I endorse them: If I worry that someone is unhappy with me, then my strain reflects my own expectation that I should be able to please everyone – or that they should be polite enough not to point it out when I fail.

[for example] If I am exhausted by my efforts to keep worship and other aspects of church-life going on as before, where in the world did I get the idea that I should be able, single-handedly, to neutralize the impact of a pandemic?

If I am sad and weary right now, then I am simply human; but if I am distressed by my feelings of grief, by my loss of focus and inability to concentrate, then maybe I have some unrealistic expectations that I should be stronger or less affected by this pandemic than other people are.

I believe that the most important thing we can offer people right now is a way to cultivate and practice peace. Peace begins with a shift in focus from our expectations of how things “ought” to be to an acceptance of how things actually are. If we wait for our situation to become calm, we may be waiting for a very long time. I am far too impatient for that. **So, I look for calm and a peaceful place within, releasing the expectations that do not serve my identity as a child of God and my calling to proclaim Christ’s forgiveness, welcome, and love.**

And, of course, the final expectation that needs to be released is that, having read this – and if it all makes sense to me and I agree with it – then I should be able to manage and master all of my expectations from here on. Would that it were so! We are all works in progress. Blessings on yours.

HARVEST MINISTRY NEWS LETTER

June 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Happy Father's Day!

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families. Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them.

This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Creating Her Community

Paulynn had a dream of what she wanted in life: lots of friends, a job she loved, a healthy lifestyle, and a sense of community.

But it was difficult for Paulynn to leave the apartment she shared with her dad, Lee. Though Lee had dedicated his life to serving as his daughter's primary caregiver, they didn't have reliable transportation that could accommodate her wheelchair. And Paulynn's risk of seizures meant she always needed to be accompanied by her dad.

Despite the obstacles, Lee was determined to give his daughter the life she dreamed of. He enrolled her in LSI's Services for People with Disabilities.

Fifteen years later, Paulynn's dream has become a reality.

Through LSI, Paulynn's team provides transportation that allows her to travel to and from her apartment with ease. While Paulynn is out, Lee is able to take a well-deserved break from his caregiving role.

With support from LSI, Paulynn is able to give back to her community. Each week, she helps package meals for individuals in need. She has created a community of her own through her volunteer work.

And for every moment, her LSI team is there to support her.

"We're very grateful for LSI," Lee says. "They've been really great supporting my daughter."

Peace Prayer of Saint Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

SALEM NEWS

Unapproved Minutes **SALEM LUTHERAN COUNCIL** **MEETING**

April 21, 2020

The council met via Zoom with the following members present: Kevin Reinking, Pastor Tami Groth, Nancy Clausen, Kent Herbold and Kevin Byers

The meeting was called to order.

Pastor Tami read the gospel from April 19th (Luke 24: 3-35) and the council discussed. She also read the prayer of the day from April 19th.

Nancy read the secretary's report. Kevin Reinking moved to approve the minutes; Kent Herbold seconded. Minutes approved.

Pastor Tami gave the treasurer's report from March. The capital improvement fund has \$4988.31. The general fund had an opening balance of \$656.79. There were deposits of \$6752.00 plus .29 interest and expenses of \$5900.10 leaving a balance of \$1508.98. Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Old Business:

Well, Septic and Chlorine: Septic tank not pumped yet but Kevin Reinking will take care of it.

Harvest Ministry: HM council will meet April 28th.

The council discussed giving during this time of virtual worship. Pastor Tami suggested we send a letter to members to remind them to continue supporting the church. She suggested comparing offerings for March and April of 2019 to giving for those two months this year just to show any contrast. Kent said he had heard that Thrivent was matching offerings. Nancy said she would look into it.

Bryan Paulsen, Brent Reinking and Clark Byers have been trying to troubleshoot some of the electrical issues in the church. They noticed the outside night light in the southwest corner of the church was tripping some of the electrical. They disconnected it and that corrected some to the issues.

The council discussed the importance of reaching out to and keeping in touch with our members during this time. Pastor's report: Pastor Tami said there has been another delay to us being able to meet in person. She discussed ongoing corona virus concerns including the tendency to put off routine care from our doctors. She suggested people at least contact their doctor if they have health issues and get guidance on how to proceed. Pastor Tami asked council members to keep her informed of what's going on. She said virtual worship is going fine. In the May newsletter she will have orders of worship for all Sundays and the worship services will be led from each of the four churches that her and Pastor Shawn serve. The service for Memorial Day Sunday will be pre-recorded the Thursday prior. Remote communion was discussed. There is a way to get prepackaged elements that could be distributed and have them consecrated the first Sunday of the month. She suggested that we hold off on in person worship until the governor's guidelines say that groups up to 50 can meet. Lutheran Lakeside camp has not made a decision on whether camp will be held this year. They will make an announcement May 11th.

Our next meeting is May 19th at 6PM.

Nancy moved for adjournment and Kent seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Nancy Clausen, Secretary

June Birthdays

8 Lewis Byers
14 Cole Reinking
14 Seth Rohde
14 Jordan Reinking
20 Scott Byers
21 Marie Benedix
23 Jason Byers
23 Jerry Townsend
25 Pyper Claire Smith

June Anniversaries

3 Bryan and Jennifer Paulsen
19 Tracy and Angie Byers
21 Adam and Angie Reinking
24 Eldon and Sarah Meissner
27 Chuck and Polly Meissner
28 Phred and Jayne Linn
29 Rick and Judy Krier

Offering's for May

\$3245.00

Prayers for Salem families and friends:

6/7/20 - Lonni Baker; Judy Bauer; Lois Bauer; Marie Benedix; Tate Benson; Mary Berg

6/14/20 - Leonard Berg; Trevor & Alyssa Bertsch; Rev, Ron & Alice Bessert; Jacqueline Bird

6/21/20 - Tom & Joyce Bogenrief; Brice & Kristi Bollin; Wilma Bollin; Carol Borchers

6/28/20 - Deidre, Kenzie, Kayden, Kash & Kadison Bottorff; Todd, Trissa, Bo & Dax Bottorff



June

Lector: Sandra Johnson

Ushers: Dave and LeeNette Wiese

Altar Care: Ellen Jolly & Linda Mathers



Steve Galvin, Vaughn Heyer, Noelle Jacobs,
Casey Lindsay, Matthew Lundt, Austin Williamson
Sean Witcomb



Women of the Church

Esther Circle

Wednesday, June 3rd @ 1:30

The Bible Study will be on the ZOOM
again this month

Women's General Meeting

Wednesday June 17th, 2020, 9:30

Field Trip: Queen of Peace, Veterans

Memorial South Sioux City,

**HAS BEEN POSTPONED MY BE
RESCHEDULED FOR A LATER DATE**

Stewardship Project: Fabric Kits



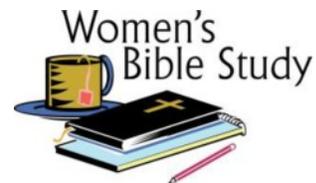
The ladies will be quilting on
the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of
each month starting at 9:00.
Anyone interested in helping is
welcomed.

June Birthdays

- 1st Bruce Volkert
- 2nd Casey Jepsen
- 4th Sarah Howard
- 5th Casey Reyman
- 9th Barbara Petersen
- 10th Terri Chinn
Gail Stanton
- 12th Kaitlyn Brown
- 16th Joshua Mohr
- 17th Levi Volkert
- 18th Lon Juelfs
- 20th Beverly Arkfeld
- 22nd Erin Johnson
Paula Steuk
- 24th Wyatt Ludvigson
- 24th Tara Volkert
- 27th Kris Jepsen

June Anniversary

- 1st Wade & Tara Volkert
- 3rd Tabitha & Jamie Lewis
- 9th Casey & Molly Krager
- 11th Denise & Randy Wright
- 14th Robert & Marilyn Heilman
- 16th Reed & Deb Henrichsen
Sheila & Bob O'Connell
- 17th Bill Forbes June 17
Troy & Teresa Lewis
- 22nd Gary & Kathy Mohr
- 25th Kyle & Kristi Krager
David & Wendi Reyman
- 27th Tom & Wyma Henrichsen
- 30th Jim & Ann Albers



Women's May Bible study will be held
through the zoom room on June 3rd @ 1:30
plan to join us. Any question contact Elaine
or Pastor.

John Lutheran Church Council Minutes
May 18, 2020

Call to Order: President Marshall Lundt called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. (Virtual meeting)
Members present: Marshall Lundt, Pastor Tami Groth, Marcia Schemmel, Lana Lundt, Jim Albers, John Heilman, and Linda Mathers

Devotions: Devotion and prayers were led by Pastor Tami, Book of Acts 1:11; prayers for the Simonsen family, farmers, and church parishioners. Also, each council member shared something that brought them joy.

Additions to the Agenda:

Secretary's Report: Approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as presented. Motion made by Marcia and seconded by Marshall. YTD balances are as follows: church checking account - \$3,970.05, building fund - \$22,416.27, and church savings - \$40,005.24. Discussion was held regarding tithings not coming in. Lana will post donations for the months of March and April and a comparison from last year's giving in the newsletter.

Pastor's Report: Preparing virtual services for June. Full report will be submitted in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

Harvest Ministry: Harvest Ministry waived our May payment.

Worship: No report

Education: There will be no VBS or camps this summer.

Task Force: No report

Business:

1. COVID-19: After discussing the ELC in America, Considerations for Returning to in-person Worship and Osterholm and Walz talk COVID-19 and churches, the council decided they will be making the decision about reopening on a month to month basis. There will be no church services or activities for the month of June.

2. Virtual Communion: Anyone wishing to receive virtual communion should contact Pastor Tami or a council member.

3. Gutter on Parsonage Garage: Gutter on south side of the garage had some tree damage this past winter. Marshall will check into this matter.

Next Meeting: June 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. (Virtual meeting)

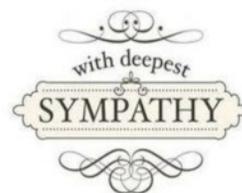
Adjournment: Linda made a motion to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Jim seconded. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Council Secretary, Linda Mathers

Need to meet Budget \$7800.00

March Income: \$6081.00

April Income: \$3318.31



Our sympathy to the family of Joan Ludvigson. Joan passed away on May 22, her funeral was held on Monday, May 25th. Our sympathy also to Jana Heilman at the death of her Aunt Juanita Beaubain.

Portals of Prayer and Christ Our Home for JulySeptember are at the church, if you would like a copy just let Elaine know or one of the council members know and we will get them to you.

Daily Lectionary and Bible Readings for June 2020

Read assigned scriptures, taking time for meditation after each. Then, offer personal prayers/petitions. Close with the Lord's Prayer.

6/1 - M: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Joel 2:18-29; Romans 8:18-24

6/2 - Tu: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29; Romans 8:26-27

6/3 - W: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Numbers 11:24-30; John 7:37-39

6/4 - Th: Psalm 8; Job 38:1-11; 2 Timothy 1:8-12a

6/5 - F: Psalm 8; Job 38:12-21; 2 Timothy 1:12b-14

6/6 - Sa: Psalm 8; Job 38:22-38; John 14:15-17

6/7 - Su: Genesis 1:1—2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

6/8 - M: Psalm 29; Job 38:39—39:12; 1 Corinthians 12:1-3

6/9 - Tu: Psalm 29; Job 39:13-25; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

6/10 - W: Psalm 29; Job 39:26—40:5; John 14:25-26

6/11 - Th: Psalm 100; Exodus 4:18-23; Hebrews 3:1-6

6/12 - F: Psalm 100; Exodus 4:27-31; Acts 7:35-43

6/13 - Sa: Psalm 100; Exodus 6:28—7:13; Mark 7:1-13

6/14 - Su: Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

6/15 - M: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Joshua 1:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

6/16 - Tu: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; 1 Samuel 3:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5

6/17 - W: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Proverbs 4:10-27; Luke 6:12-19

6/18 - Th: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Jeremiah 18:12-17; Hebrews 2:5-9

6/19 - F: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Jeremiah 18:18-23; Acts 5:17-26

6/20 - Sa: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Jeremiah 20:1-6; Luke 11:53—12:3

6/21 - Su: Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

6/22 - M: Psalm 6; Micah 7:1-7; Revelation 2:1-7

6/23 - Tu: Psalm 6; Jeremiah 26:1-12; Revelation 2:8-11

6/24 - W: Psalm 6; Jeremiah 38:1-13; Matthew 10:5-23

6/25 - Th: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 25:1-7; Galatians 5:2-6

6/26 - F: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 25:8-14; Galatians 5:7-12

6/27 - Sa: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Jeremiah 28:1-4; Luke 17:1-4

6/28 - Su: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

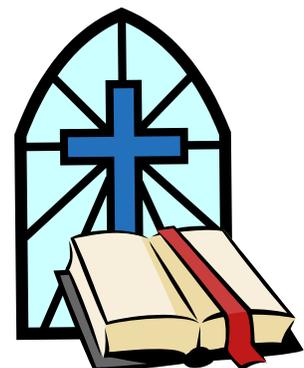
6/29 - M: Psalm 119:161-168; 1 Kings 21:1-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

6/30 - Tu: Psalm 119:161-168; 1 Kings 21:17-29; 1 John 4:1-6

A Daily Ritual: Make the sign of the cross, saying: "In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen." Light a Candle, if so desired. Then say one of the two prayers below:

Luther's Morning Prayer: "I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger: and I pray that you would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your Holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen"

Luther's Evening Prayer: "I Thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day: and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."



St. John Lutheran Church
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Harvest Ministry

June 2020 Newsletter

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