

HARVEST MINISTRY NEWS LETTER

July 2020

Pastor's Corner

“³ May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! He is the compassionate Father and God of all comfort. ⁴ He's the one who comforts us in all our trouble so that we can comfort other people who are in every kind of trouble. We offer the same comfort that we ourselves received from God.

2 Corinthians 1:1-3-4

Dear friends in Christ,

There is much excitement at the return of in-person gatherings, including worship gatherings, yet the strain of living in the time of unprecedented times remains. And so we gather, yet we gather differently. So we gather and still attempt to keep space between us (how many times have we heard about the 6 feet?), to not touch our faces or hug one another, and to wear face masks or otherwise limit the droplets and aerosols we otherwise emit simply by talking with one another (or singing, etc.). It is hard. And yet, yes it is exciting to be able to gather again. It is a human need to be with other humans. AND it is a calling of the body of Christ to gather together in spirit and/or body for worship, prayer, and praise. And so we gather ... differently.

There are details of the planned worship services in this newsletter, and you may have heard about or even experienced some of these services prior to reading this column. I hope in the announcements and list of services you also hear and feel the excitement that I always have when planning worship with you as the people of God of this time and place.

In addition to the challenges I also hope you see the opportunities we have at this time to experiment and try new ways of worshipping together – new ways of praying and praising God. Perhaps we will all eventually learn how to sign the Lord's Prayer as well as speak it. Perhaps we will find other ways to communicate without speaking or singing. God hears our praise and “joyful sounds” even when we do not shout them out! Additionally, we can experiment with our order of worship and with a less liturgical style (used in the sense of official written call and response worship). These are all things that we will be doing over the remaining summer weeks and even throughout the rest of the year.

In the spirit of embracing the new things God is up to as we learn how to worship somewhat differently during this time we will also experiment with what is known as the Narrative

Lectionary. This is a somewhat new (this alternative lectionary was created in 2010 by professors at Luther Seminary) alternative to the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) scripture texts we have been using up until this point. We can return to the RCL at any time. We still follow the same liturgical church year dates, the only thing that changes are the scripture readings. There will generally only be two scripture readings when using this lectionary and they are designed to specifically tell the stories of scripture (hence the name “narrative”). When the preaching text does not come from the gospels then it is paired with a gospel reading, and when the preaching text does come from a gospel (this December we start with the stories as heard in the gospel of Luke), then it is paired with a Psalm.

If we decide to continue to use the Narrative Lectionary, it is a 4-year cycle, one for each of the four gospels, rather than a 3-year-cycle, and the main readings are divided over 9 months with a number of options for summer preaching series. The creators had this to say about how this lectionary was put together: “Texts were selected that lead well to the proclamation of what God is doing. The stories tell of hope and disappointment, suffering and redemption. In all these varied contexts, we find God dealing with the complexities of human life. Stories from the gospels differ each year, avoiding repetition and highlighting what is distinctive about each gospel's telling of the story of Jesus. ... Though the Revised Common Lectionary has united the church in its reading of scripture and has given much-needed structure, it doesn't present scripture -- especially the Old Testament -- in a way that helps people to become fluent in the first language of faith. The Narrative Lectionary is an attempt to take nine months to do just that.”

We start with two brief “summer” (we will go slightly into September) series, with the first focusing on 2 Corinthians readings and themes, and then with four weeks looking at the Lord's Prayer.

I find it fitting that we are starting with the 2nd Letter to the Corinthians as many of us are familiar with parts of this letter, but few of us have studied it as a book, and likely haven't read it in its entirety for some time. I invite you to begin by reading the entire book through to prepare for this series that begins July 5th. We begin that series on our 2nd in-person gathered worship because first we again hear the Easter story and celebrate the risen Christ with a special Resurrection Sunday service on June 28th!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tami Groth
Text or call: 608.385.9848
Email: tami.harvestministries@gmail.com

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

- The ministry of our "Coming Back Together" task force that worked very hard and very quickly to write up guidelines for returning to PHYSICALLY gathered worship as soon as possible and present those at June council meetings.
- Our ongoing Digital Sunday Worship via Zoom, FB, YouTube, and now also our toll free phone number.
- Virtual Zoom coffee hours and Bible Studies (St. John WELCA).
- The ongoing ministry of phone, video chat, and physically distant in-person visits by many in the congregation in addition to pastoral visits made in all of these ways.

Upcoming Worship & Ministry Events:

***Watch for announcements about our first "in-person" worship services at each congregation
Even after we begin gathering in person for worship we will continue to offer various forms of digital worship as well.***

*All of our **LIVE** digital 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=MzNYelFDcG5UaEdkZVFrZXQybKRaUT09>

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 (still working out how to do this at this time), 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! ALSO NOTE: as we learn this new technology the uploads of the new worship services may lag behind the YouTube uploads by a few days as the files need to be compressed to upload for a phone line.

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 ongoing physical distancing
- For our school districts and others needing to make challenging decisions during this time of ongoing pandemic
- For our congregational leadership as they prepare to work together to lead us through new ways to worship together at this time.

HARVEST MINISTRY NEWS

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 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. *NOTE: due to emergent needs continuing ed time was not started until the end of June, and will continue through the summer or until I have been able to work through purchased continued ed digital resources.*

Outdoor Office Hours (weather permitting)

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. *Outdoor visits are encouraged due to the ongoing concern for COVID19 and the increased safety of being outdoors.*

- Tuesday July 7th 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday July 21st 2 – 4 pm at St. John
 - NOT on Aug. 4th 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday August 18th 2 – 4 pm at St. John
- Tuesday July 14th 2 – 4 pm at Salem
- Tuesday July 28th 2 – 4 pm at Salem
- Tuesday August 11th 2 – 4 pm at Salem
- Tuesday August 25th 2 – 4 pm at Salem

Pastor Tami Planned Vacation Time (updated)

At this time Pastor intends to take one week off from Wednesday July 29th thru Wednesday August 5th. This means that Sunday August 2nd will be either a worship service either led by a lay leader or a pulpit supply pastor. In the fall Pastor is tentatively set to take October 15th thru 22nd. Both of these dates will involve travel to Wisconsin to see family. Emergency pastoral care information will be sent to Council Presidents as well as to our Congregational Care Coordinator, Janelle Lewis. Janelle is the first call in an emergency when Pastor is on vacation (or any time Pastor cannot be reached); however, with Pastor out of town, council presidents will also have this information.

Summary of typical weekly schedule (revised for July)

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

Mondays → Continuing Education (virtual) and scheduled meetings; emergent ministry (i.e. unscheduled)

Tuesdays → 1 scripture study, 2-4 outside office hours, meetings, phone calls and/or 1:1 visits

Wednesdays → Scripture text study (gathered or virtual), worship planning/sermon prep, 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.

Blessings for Travelers

*O God, whose glory fills the whole creation,
and whose presence we find wherever we go:*

Preserve us/those who travel:

surround us/them with your loving care;

protect us/them from every danger;

and bring us/them in safety to our/their journey's end;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

[Adapted from the prayer for travelers in Prayers and Thanksgivings, The Book of Common Prayer (1979 edition).]

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](https://tithe.ly/give) online or via the app. At any time you can go to: [https://tithe.ly/give](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*

Harvest Ministry Council Meeting

The May meeting was held on May 27, 2020 via Zoom @ 6:30. Those present were Marci Schemmel, Annie Albers, Janelle Lewis, Danielle Sullivan, Janet Byers, Cheryl Todd & Pastor Tami.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Annie Albers with reading devotions Acts 2: 1-21.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and also amended by secretary Janet Byers. Cheryl Todd made a motion to approve the minutes and 2nd by Janelle Lewis.

Treasures Report was read by Treasurer Danielle Sullivan as follows:

Beginning Balance: \$33,747.48

Income: \$0

Expense: \$5,616.91

Ending Balance: \$28,130.57

Marci made a motion to approve the Treasurers report and Cheryl seconded the motion.

Old Business: Rides N Rods are still coming for our Joint Service in the park. Janet submitted a bill for \$79 for use of the Shelter House at Little Sioux Park. The council discussed where the offering would be going, as usual checks will go to the individual churches. Danielle made a motion for the cash to go to the Grace United Methodist Church in Correctionville for the food pantry and Marci 2nd the motion.

New Business: Budget Forgiveness for June was discussed. Danielle made a motion to forgive both churches for pastor's salary for the month of June, 50% in July, and 50% in August with Harvest Ministry to pay the salary. Cheryl seconded the motion. Motion carries. Marci and Janelle will advise each council.

Bank Signature Card: Janet amended the minute to read Elaine Droegmiller was leaving the board as Treasurer and Danielle Sullivan was added as the Harvest Ministry Treasurer. Annie Albers will also be added as Chairperson on the signature card.

Tentative upcoming outside services for both congregations:

July 12 – Cushing Park

July 19 – Salem on the Lawn

July 26 – Joint Worship at Little Sioux Park, Correctionville @ 10:30 with a Pot Luck noon meal.

A task Force Committee for the COVID-19 “Going Back to Church” procedure was formed. Those on the committee are Annie Albers, Cheryl Todd, Marci Schemmel, Janet Byers, Pastor Tami. The committee will present their recommendations to each council.

Pastor's Report: No report was presented

The next meeting will be June 23 @ 6:30 with the location to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Byers, Secretary

Upcoming Worship Schedule

All in-person worship follows guidelines to physically distance, etc.

Sunday June 28th → First Gathering for in-person worship since March!

Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John

There will be a Live Zoom Option for BOTH services AND recordings available after the service.

Note: We may need to switch to only livestream and recordings (then you see & hear us but we cannot see or hear you), but we will start by trying the Zoom option as that is what we had been doing all summer. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with the Zoom meeting while Pastor is leading worship!

Celebrating Resurrection (Easter) Sunday with reading of the Easter Story and more!

Sunday July 5th → Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John

There will be a Live Zoom Option for BOTH services AND recordings available after the service.

Begin Series on 2 Corinthians

Theme: Consolation

Preaching text: 2 Cor 1:1-11; accompanying text: John 14:25-27

Sunday July 12 → St. John 9 am Ecumenical Service in Cushing Park

Planning to allow for both those on lawn chairs and in cars to be able to hear & participate

Social distancing requirements must be followed

Salem 10:30 Morning Prayer (Lay Led Worship Service) and Semi-Annual Meeting

Sunday July 19th → Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John

There will be a Live Zoom Option for BOTH services AND recordings available after the service.

Continue Series on 2 Corinthians

Theme: Forgiveness

Preaching text: 2 Cor 2:1-10; accompanying text: Matt 18:21-22

Sunday July 26th → 9 am Harvest Ministry Worship at Little Sioux Park

Social distancing requirements must be followed; no potluck following

WORSHIP WILL BE RECORDED; HOWEVER UNLIKELY TO BE ABLE TO ZOOM OR LIVESTREAM DUE TO NO INTERNET ACCESS

Sunday Aug. 2nd → Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John

Pastor on vacation; lay led service and something pre-recorded to those unable to be there in person (option for pulpit supply as well).

Continue Series on 2 Corinthians

Theme: Treasure in Clay Jars

Preaching text: 2 Cor 4:1-15; accompanying text: Matt 5:13

Sunday Aug. 9th → Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John

There will be a Live Zoom Option for BOTH services AND recordings available after the service.

Continue Series on 2 Corinthians

Theme: Walk by Faith not Sight

Preaching text: 2 Cor 4:16 -- 5:10; accompanying text: Mark 8:22-26

Sunday Aug. 16th → Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John

There will be a Live Zoom Option for BOTH services AND recordings available after the service.

Continue Series on 2 Corinthians

Theme: Reconciliation

Preaching text: 2 Cor 5:11-21; accompanying text: Luke 15:25-32

Sunday Aug. 23rd → Outside worship weather permitting! 8:30 at Salem and 10:30 at St. John
There will be a Live Zoom Option for BOTH services AND recordings available after the service.

Final Week of Series on 2 Corinthians

Theme: Generosity

Preaching text: 2 Cor 8:1-15; accompanying text: John 13:31-35

Sunday Aug. 30th → **Begin 4 week Worship / Preaching series on the Lord's Prayer**

- 8/30: Luke 11:2-4 (Psalm 103:1-5)
- 9/6: Luke 11:2-4 (Psalm 103:1-5)
- 9/13: Luke 11:2-4 (Psalm 103:1-5)
- 9/20: Luke 11:2-4 (Psalm 103:1-5)

September 27th we will continue with Narrative lectionary texts with a look at many beloved Old testament stories through fall and then in late December switch to New Testament stories in the Gospel of Luke. This allows us to hear more completely in worship many of the scripture stories we know from Sunday school and other places. We will continue to evaluate using this narrative approach regularly.

Other worship Notes:

- Worship Guide links will be found prior to services at: <https://harvestministry.blog/virtual-worship/>
- **IF you would like to receive the worship guide via email directly, please send an email with that request to: <mailto:Tami.HarvestMinistries@gmail.com>**
- 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/>
- **NO printed bulletins** are allowed according to our current guidelines for in-person worship; however the worship guides will still be available online prior to the service beginning.
- Lectors needed for all services at this time → please just contact Pastor ahead of time!
- A Written recording of those attending worship services and other meetings will be made to help contact tracing efforts when someone present tests positive (or is assumed positive in some cases) for COVID19.
- Proper social distancing, facial mask wearing, extra hand hygiene (washing and sanitizer), and so on appreciated as we continue to live and worship during this time of pandemic.
- We will initially not be following our traditional liturgy call and responses we continue to learn and adapt to worshipping together during a time of pandemic. There will also be little to no congregational singing. We WILL say the Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed together when we gather (and as always anyone worshipping via Zoom is invited to also unmute and join us as we pray and proclaim our faith). There will also be other recognizable parts of our worship format; however, the spoken in unison responses are edited out, etc.
- We will be having Holy Communion at our gathered worship services. Both congregations are working hard to have safe ways for us to commune together. It will look different in how we distribute and at least for a time we will return to wafers instead of the GF bread. We will continue to adapt as needed and called by the Holy Spirit to do so. *Please contact Pastor Tami in order to receive communion at home.*

WESTERN IOWA SYNOD STAFF REFLECTIONS

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

Some of us – maybe most of us – were taught at an early age that feelings are unreliable.

Girls are told to “not be so sensitive” and boys are told that “big boys don’t cry.” Emotions, feelings, are dismissed as signs of immaturity and “lack of self-control,” and we develop a preferential trust in reason and intellect. We become good at thinking.

Some of us become so good at it, that we lose awareness of our feelings altogether: we point outside ourselves, to some disturbing situation, rather than identifying what it is that is going on inside of us. If I can see the problem as external, then the resolution can also be safely external, and I remain blind to my own internal landscape.

Or we may be aware of our emotions, but we censor them: telling ourselves “I shouldn’t feel...” Our rational mind recognizes the dissonance within, and tells the feelings to go away: “I’ll deal with this later” or “I shouldn’t let this bother me” or “I understand why this person did what they

did, so I should just get over it” or (my personal favorite) “this is an old pattern, I thought I already dealt with this: why is this coming up now?”

We cannot think our feelings away.

And when we dismiss those feelings as awkward or unhelpful, we are actually shaming ourselves for having them.

Feelings can be awkward – they can get in the way of what we are trying to accomplish. When people are acting and speaking out of their woundedness or fear or defensiveness, it becomes more much more difficult to have constructive conversation. I am not suggesting that we should say or do whatever we feel like. But our feelings need to be recognized: they are telling us something important about who we are and what we need. And ignoring them, denying them, or attempting to suppress them, just creates further distress: it actually gives them more power.

Feelings need to be processed: they need to be mined for their meaning, owned for their honesty, and then released. Then real conversation, and constructive action, can begin.

For Reflection & Conversation, Rev. Lorna H. Halaas, Bishop Western Iowa Synod, ELCA

“I am about to do a new thing, now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” - Isaiah 43

- What is the mission of the church?
- What does the church need now?
- What is God calling the church to be?
- What is exciting about the future of the church?
- Why should the church work for social justice?
- What are the difficult conversations that need to happen in the church?
- What does the church do to equip members to share their faith with others?
- What might the church do to interact with the local community?
- What is done to help members live out their faith in daily lives?

Let us not squander these days!

People are hungry for bread, healing, life...and Jesus!

Lean into God - read scripture daily, spend more time in prayer - be of good courage.

Looking forward the Western Iowa Synod is -

- Building Relationships
- Renewing Worship
- Learning Together
- Growing Stewardship

Lorna

HARVEST MINISTRY NEWS LETTER

July 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

LSI's Host Homes Program

Each year, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) empowers hundreds of Iowans with disabilities. And despite the COVID-19 pandemic, this year is no different. There is no greater joy for us than seeing an individual develop greater independence, find their confidence, and thrive. And through our innovative Host Homes program, LSI has found a new way to lift up our Iowa neighbors and keep them safe in times of crisis.

Through the program, adults with disabilities (or "mentees") move from a supported community living setting – like a 24-hour, fully staffed home with roommates – and into a private family home with a Host Homes "mentor." LSI collaborates with the individuals we serve and the contracted mentors to ensure each match is the perfect fit and create a shared living opportunity that is beneficial to mentors and mentees. With the extra safety precautions associated with COVID-19, this program is a safe option where participants are in a home setting, interacting with one trusted mentor instead of several staff members.

LSI is seeking compassionate and dedicated caregivers to join us in the mission. If you have room in your heart and in your home, being a Host Homes mentor might be for you! Visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes to learn more. If you are interested in supporting crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

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 www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

We are Still Here: LSI's Services for People with Disabilities

Becky, an LSI Direct Support Professional, supports her client every day through LSI's Services for People with Disabilities. During the COVID-19 crisis, Becky has spent her shifts adding extra safety measures and precautions so she and her client could safely go to the grocery store for food and supplies when the time came.

But her client regularly experiences PTSD, depression, and anxiety, among other mental health conditions, and the isolation and crisis measures around COVID-19 only heightened her experience of these conditions. Becky knew she needed to do something to keep her client feeling comfortable and safe.

During their sessions together, Becky makes sure they practice good hand washing and wear masks. Her client knows she has someone walking alongside her every step of the way, and the client's young daughter found a way to thank Becky for her work: a picture with the words, "I don't like COVID-19, but I'm happy when you come over."

"I can't imagine not seeing my clients through this," Becky says. "We are all in this together."

SALEM NEWS

Approved Minutes

SALEM LUTHERAN COUNCIL MEETING

May 19, 2020

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

Kevin Byers called the meeting to order.

Pastor Tami read the gospel for Ascension Day (Acts 1:1-11) and the council discussed. The council also shared their joys from the week.

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

Nancy gave the treasurer's report from April. The capital improvement fund has \$4988.31. The general fund had an opening balance of \$1508.98. There were deposits of \$3272.97 plus .04 interest and expenses of \$2138.98 leaving a balance of \$2643.01. Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Old Business:

Well, Septic and Chlorine: Septic tank has been pumped. Nancy will take quarterly water samples the first week of June.

Harvest Ministry: The Harvest Ministry council will vote on whether to defer payments from two congregations to the HM account for the month of May. They will be meeting next week so will also decide if there is enough cushion to defer further payments. They will also be discussing what the joint worship service may look like in July.

COVID: The council discussed the timing for reopening the church to in-person worship. Pastor Tami said she was leaning toward being closed for in-person worship for the month of June. We'll need to follow the recommendations of our insurance company. When we do resume in-person worship, we'll have to follow social distancing protocols, tape off rows of pews, wear face masks and sanitize. Pastor Tami was hoping to go to Pr. Doug Dill's drive thru worship on Memorial Day weekend in South Sioux City to see how that works. We may want to consider small, outside gatherings until we are able to move inside. Kevin Reinking suggested we put the brakes on worshipping in-person for the month of June and then re-evaluate.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Tami asked how we could use this time to be the church in the community. Some ideas suggested include: help with the drive thru food distributions for the food bank, serve meals for the Gospel Mission. There was also discussion on how displaced workers are using food banks more, so they need more donations. Pastor Tami is looking at using a 1-800# to do our recorded worship so we wouldn't have to pay long distance charges. For the month of June, we will continue Zoom worship with her and Pastor Shawn and then re-evaluate for the month of July. She asked council members to keep listening for needs in the congregation.

New Business:

The semi-annual meeting in July was discussed. How do we handle the meeting and if there are no pressing issues do we need to meet?

Our next meeting is June 16th at 6PM.

Nancy moved for adjournment and Kevin Reinking seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Nancy Clausen, Secretary

Do you love Bible Stories? Then you just may love our move for a bit to try the Narrative Lectionary this summer and fall (we will evaluate ongoing, but especially in January, so please let us know what you think!). If you want to know more about the narrative lectionary, you can read my "Pastor's Corner" article, or for even more information you can explore the information published by Luther Seminary at: http://www.workingpreacher.org/narrative_faqs.aspx

I have always thought that doing Bible Study using the Narrative Lectionary would be a wonderful way to enter into the overall story of the Bible as well as entering deeply into shorter readings. If you would like to be part of a Bible Study using these readings starting this fall, please let Pastor Tami know. Ideally we would have times for online meetings as well as in person meetings. Meetings could be weekly for a short time each season or monthly if preferred.

SALEM NEWS

July Service Helpers

Deacon and Trustee and Communion Assistants:

Deacon: Kent Herbold
Trustee: Bryan Paulsen

Prayers for Salem families and friends:

7/5/20 - Troy & Pam Bottorff; Mark & Karen Burnham; Travis, Jen, Ashley & Brantley Burnham

7/12/20 - Pastor Bert Burwell; Dian, Caleb & Sierra Bush; Clark Byers; David & Cherie Byers

7/19/20 - Elaine Byers; Ethan Byers; Jacob, Haley, Gavin, Grady & Garet

7/26/20 - Jaret, Rene & Riley Byers; Jason & Bracey Byers; Jason, Becky & Devon Byers; Kaysi Byers



July Birthdays

2 Chad Hill
5 Kash Michael Beeson
17 Robin Peschau
24 Janet Byers
28 Rick Krier

July Anniversaries

22 Trevor & Alyssa Bertsch
30 Kory & Stephanie Schwartz

Offering's for June

\$3946.00

Upcoming Commemorations

Thomas, Apostle Friday, July 3, 2020

Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas," this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16), and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!" By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India. Long commemorated on December 21, Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.

Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415 Monday, July 6, 2020

Hus was a Bohemian (present-day Czech Republic) priest who spoke against abuses in the church, and was seen by Martin Luther as his predecessor in the reforming movement. He was found guilty of heresy by a council of the church, and burned at the stake.

Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540 Saturday, July 11, 2020

Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.



July

Lector: Cheryl Todd

Ushers: Vicki Nippert

Altar Care: Denise Wright & Wendi Reyman



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



Women of the Church

Esther Circle

Wednesday, July 1 @ 1:30

We will meet in the East Basement

Bring your own snacks/goodies

Women's General Meeting

1:30, July 15th

**Note change of time and program
Bring your own snack to the meeting**

Stewardship Project: School Kites



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

July Birthdays

- 3 Brady Meyer
- 5 Wendy Jepsen
Kyler Lewis
- 8 Reed Henrichsen
- 9 Lana Cunningham
- 10 Tate Heilman
- 11 Mitchell Grell
- 12 Peyton Robbins
- 14 Darla Ludvigson
- 15 Jackie Kay Heyer
Sharon Wilde
- 18 Michelle Mohr
- 20 Trey Heilman
Deb Henrichsen
- 21 Tim Kohn
- 22 Angela Heck
Trevor Heck
Christina Morgan
Brandon Utesch
- 27 Amy Bremer
- 28 Buck Jacobs
- 31 Hunter Deeds
Dale Grell

July Anniversary

- 5 Nicholas & Kari Morgan
- 8 Scott & KayCee O'Connell
- 24 Arlo & Patricia Hummel
- 28 Barbara & Loren Petersen



St John Lutheran Church Council Minutes
June 15, 2020

Call to Order: President Marshall Lundt called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. 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, Gospel of Matthew 9:35 10:8 [923] and Prayer of the Day

Additions to the Agenda: Parsonage

Secretary's Report: Minutes approved as presented. Motion made by John and seconded by Lana.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as presented. Motion made by Linda and seconded by John.

YTD balances are as follows: church checking account \$9,911.59, building fund \$22,416.27, and church savings – \$40,005.24.

Pastor's Report: Drafting a letter to go out to the members of St. John. Discussed upcoming worship and ministry events. Full report will be in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

Harvest Ministry: Harvest Ministry waived our June payment and half of July and August.

Worship: Planning services for June and July. Starting June 28th these will hopefully be outside using recorded hymns and safety guidelines. Watch for updated schedule in newsletter and Facebook postings.

Education: Discussed possibly meeting with Sunday School parents in August concerning Sunday School. Confirmation discussion tabled.

Task Force: Funeral for Joan Ludvigson was held May 26, 2020.

Business:

1. Ludvigson Letter: Discussion held.

2. Harvest Ministry Guidelines for Opening Church: Harvest Ministry Task Force drafted guidelines to use. Marshall made a motion to approve with corrections and additions. John seconded. These will be shared and posted when complete.

3. Parsonage: It was approved to change the internet/cable to the basic plan. Lana will take care of this matter. Also, she will check with the insurance company about the possibility of trimming/cutting down the tree behind the house. It has fairly large branches breaking off and could potentially become a hazard.

Next Meeting: July 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Linda made a motion to adjourn at 9:46 p.m. Jim seconded. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Council Secretary, Linda Mathers



St John Contact Info:

Marshall Lundt, Council President 712 389-1288

Newsletter contact email:

Elaine Droegmiller/ Church Secretary 712 384-2545

stjohnlutheran@schallertel.net

Pastor Tami 608 385-9848

email tami.Harvestministries@gmail.com

St John July 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Assistants: Lector: Cheryl Todd Usher/Greeter: Vicki Nippert	Alter Committee: Wendi Reyman & Denise Wright Stewardship Project: School Kits		1 1:30 Easter Circle Group Discussion Bring your own snack	2	3	4 
5 5 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 Outdoor Worship in the park	6	7	8 9:00 Quilting ??? Bring your own drink and snack	9	10	11
12 6 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Ecumenical Service in Park	13	14	15 1:30 Ladies General Meeting Alternate Program Bring your own snack	16	17	18
19 7 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 Outdoor Worship in the park	20 6:30 Church Council meeting Newsletter Items Due	21	22 9:00 Quilting ??? Bring your own drink and snack	23	24	25
26 8 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Worship @ Little Sioux Park No Potluck	27	28	29	30	31	

July 2020 - Salem

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
Salem Contact Info Kevin Byers.....712-378-3038 Council President Newsletter Contact Clark Byers Email cabetal@wiatel.net			Salem Lutheran Web Site: http://salemlutheraniowa.com/ For additions to the bulletin contact Pastor Tami by Thursday at tami.harvestministries@gmail.com Text or call: 608.385.9848		Pastor's Tami's Sabbath	
5		7	8	9	10	11
5 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 Outdoor Worship @ Salem					Pastor's Tami's Sabbath	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 Lay Led Service with Semi-Annual Meeting					Pastor's Tami's Sabbath	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
19 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 Outdoor Worship @ Salem	Newsletter Items Due	Salem Council Mtg @ 6:00 pm			Pastor's Tami's Sabbath	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
26 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Worship @ Little Sioux Park					Pastor's Tami's Sabbath	

Daily Lectionary and Bible Readings for July 2020

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

7/1 - W: Psalm 119:161-168;
Jeremiah 18:1-11; Matthew 11:20-24

7/2 - TH: Psalm 145:8-14;
Zechariah 1:1-6; Romans 7:1-6

7/3 - F: Psalm 145:8-14; Zechariah 2:6-13; Romans 7:7-20

7/4 - Sa: Psalm 145:8-14;
Zechariah 4:1-7; Luke 10:21-24

7/5 - Su: Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a;
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

7/6 - M: Psalm 131; Jeremiah 27:1-11, 16-22; Romans 1:18-25

7/7 - Tu: Psalm 131; Jeremiah 28:10-17; Romans 3:1-8

7/8 - W: Psalm 131; Jeremiah 13:1-11; John 13:1-17

7/9 - Th: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13;
Isaiah 48:1-5; Romans 2:12-16

7/10 - F: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13;
Isaiah 48:6-11; Romans 15:14-21

7/11 - Sa: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13;
Isaiah 52:1-6; John 12:44-50

7/12 - Su: Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13; Romans 8:1-11;
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

7/13 - M: Psalm 92; Leviticus 26:3-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

7/14 - Tu: Psalm 92; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Ephesians 4:17—5:2

7/15 - W: Psalm 92; Proverbs 11:23-30; Matthew 13:10-17

7/16 - Th: Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 41:21-29; Hebrews 2:1-9

7/17 - F: Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 44:9-17; Hebrews 6:13-20

7/18 - Sa: Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 44:18-20; Matthew 7:15-20

7/19 - Su: Isaiah 44:6-8 *or* Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Psalm 86:11-17;
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

7/20 - M: Psalm 75; Nahum 1:1-13
Revelation 14:12-20

7/21 - Tu: Psalm 75; Zephaniah 3:1-13; Galatians 4:21—5:1

7/22 - W: Psalm 75; Daniel 12:1-13; Matthew 12:15-21

7/23 - Th: Psalm 119:129-136;
1 Kings 1:28-37; 1 Corinthians 4:14-20

7/24 - F: Psalm 119:129-136;
1 Kings 1:38-48; Acts 7:44-53

7/25 - Sa: Psalm 119:129-136;
1 Kings 2:1-4; Matthew 12:38-42

7/26 - Su: 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39;
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

7/27 - M: Psalm 119:121-128;
1 Kings 3:16-28; James 3:13-18

7/28 - Tu: Psalm 119:121-128;
1 Kings 4:29-34; Ephesians 6:10-18

7/29 - W: Psalm 119:121-128;
Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33; Mark 4:30-34

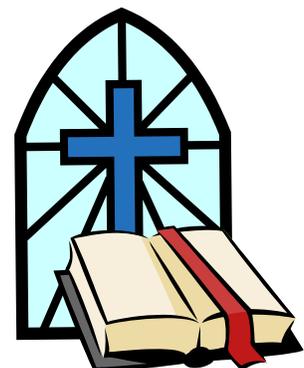
7/30 - Th: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21;
Proverbs 10:1-5; Philippians 4:10-15

7/31 - F: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21;
Isaiah 51:17-23; Romans 9:6-13

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
Salem Lutheran Church/Harvest Ministry
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Harvest Ministry

July 2020 Newsletter

Harvest Ministry Council

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Danelle Sullivan.....Treasurer
Janet Byers..... Secretary
Cheryl Todd..... Member
Marci Schemmel..... Member
Janelle Lewis..... Member**