

THE SPIRE



June 2017
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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

The last full week of May, Vacation Bible School was held at church. The theme this year was "Maker Fun Factory-Created by God Built for a Purpose." This theme was a reminder that we were made by God and that he has a purpose for our lives in Jesus Christ.

As Vacation Bible School was held it also reminded me of what a blessing it is, and how important it is, to introduce children to Jesus.

In fact, studies have shown that the majority of people who come to faith in Jesus as their Savior do so when they are young.

This should not surprise us, for in several places in the gospels Jesus tells the disciples to "forbid not the little children to come unto me, for to such belong the kingdom of God." Jesus seemed to have a special place in his heart for children, and he seemed to know that their trusting hearts made them open to faith in him.

Knowing the heart Jesus had for children can remind us of the importance of our ministries to children and youth. May God bless those who serve in these ministries, and may a strong and loving trust in Jesus be nurtured among the young people in our fellowship.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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June 2017 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in June are:

- Day of Pentecost - June 4
- Trinity Sunday - June 11
- Flag Day – June 14
- Father's Day – June 18
- Summer Begins – June 21

ANNOUNCEMENTS



On Sunday May 7th, we honored our Graduating Seniors during our Sunday Service. This year's seniors were: Jenna Bromm, Emmy Bousquet, Hannah Brudigam, Isaiah Larson, Kiley Denton, Zakk Lierman, Will Andersen, Josh Dixon and Emily Miller. **Congratulations!!!**

Next Sunday, June 4 there will be a Community Service during the Swedish Festival at 10:00 a.m. at the auditorium. Because of this we will not have a service here on Sunday. We will have church services on Saturday night and our communion services will be on June 10th and 11th during our regularly scheduled services.

Larry Dean has a new phone number - 402-372-6641. He really enjoys phone calls and visiting.

The Swedish Heritage Center will be holding a luncheon on Saturday June 3rd. It will be from 11:00- 1:00 p.m. Free Will Donation.

We would like to thank Bryan Bohn and the choir for their musical contributions to the church that they so generously give during the year!!

We welcome into membership Jeremiah Craig Johnson through holy baptism, Sunday at 9:30 a.m. April 30, 2017 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Natalie and Jennings Johnson. His sponsors are Selena Johnson and Dan and Mackenzie Kahlandt. Jeremiah was born February 13, 2017. His grandparents are Mark and Jill Johnson and Craig and Kathy Woltman and Trudy Jepsen and Great-Grandparents are Bonnie Goodrich and Frank and Janice Johnson; **WELCOME Jeremiah!!!**



We extend our Congratulations and ask for God's blessing on Laura Morris and Adam Johnson. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on May 27th, 2017. Adam is the son of Greg and Nancy Johnson. **CONGRATULATIONS MR & MRS JOHNSON!!**

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP - Starting May 31 we will go back to our summer hours and **will** meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. and provide snacks/treats. The study group is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community.

FRIDAY NIGHT PUB will start in the fall. We are always looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660, if you are interested.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

KOINOINA BIBLE STUDY is the 3rd Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY -If you have questions or are interested in joining the group, you can contact Nancy Johnson @ (402)620-5324.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

I would like to thank all the Sunday School teachers and Jill and Cindy for the music. It was another successful Sunday School year and I'm very appreciative for the help!! A special thank you for their hard work and sacrifice to the children of First Lutheran Church.



Our Pay it Forward this month was able to give the Bousquet Family over \$1000 and The Oakland Ball Association @250 for softball and baseball scholarships! What an amazing and giving church family we have!!

We are starting to look for Sunday School Teachers for next fall. If you would be interested, please contact Angie Rennerfeldt.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL was held May 22-26. This year the theme was "Make Fun Factory- Created by God - Built for a Purpose". We had over 70 kids in attendance this year.



Please join us in thanking all of our VBS Crew:

Coordinator - Alissa Bousquet;

Leaders - Kylie Penke, Pastor Mark;

Crafts - Megan Bousquet, Jamie Johnson , Wyatt Seagren;

Snacks - Jenn Anderson, Angie Rennerfeldt, Nancy Moate and granddaughter Angelina,

Recess- Grant Seagren, Karah Peterson, Adi Rennerfeldt, Alex Faust, Chance Faust, Brayden Anderson, Brayden Selk, Carter Bousquet, Connor Guill and Grady Gatewood;

Teachers - Ashlie Denton, Elise Anderson, Ashten Rennerfeldt, Johnna Peterson, Hannah Moseman, Emmy Bousquet and Sam Linder, Kennedy Benne, Hannah Brudigam, Selena Johnson, Mia Linder and Ellen Magnusson, Elise Anderson

It was a great week filled with fun, snacks, crafts and learning about Jesus. Thank you to everyone who participated, those wonderful parents who got their sleepy-eyed kiddos up and into church, to all the great help and specially to anyone whom we may have inadvertently missed. **THANK YOU!!!**



Women of the Word

June 7.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m. ...Hannah
 June 12..... Executive Meeting 9 a.m.
 June 14.....Group Meetings 9 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.
 Clean KitchenRuth

WOW received a thank you from Stuart P Embury Missionary thanking them for their donation of \$1,150 which was collected during the Lenten Season. This money will go to help build a new high school, a new church and providing funds for a feeding program that feeds 400 school children everyday. They were grateful for the generous contribution which will further the work of the Lord in Haiti.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS - We continue to collect non-perishable products but did you know if you would prefer to give a monetary donation it is as simple as leaving a check at our local bank.

Women of the Word (WOW) will be collecting spring and summer clothing to be donated to the Open Door Mission.



SEWING MEETINGS are off for the summer. They will begin again in the fall. Cleaning out the closets?? Or hitting the rummage sales and see some cheap bedsheets? The Sewing Group would love to have any old drapes, mattress pads, blankets, etc. They can use most anything!!

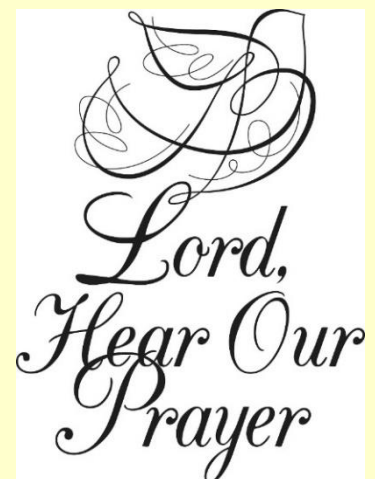


Elaine Peterson and Linda Carlson

Dorcas Society June 24 @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE: Delwin Swanson, Fauniel Paulson, Roger Maller, David Biorn, Ewald Dahlquist, Vivan Forks, Joe Keaschall (Dorothy Wallace's son-in-law), Alejandro Zeller, Pat Jorgensen, Oliver Nimmo, Gerald Benne, Moe Johnson, Sharlene Grindle (Keri Thomsen's mom), Nancy Moate, Stacy Long, Ron Badje, Arizona Riecken, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, the families of Jeff Richards, Millie Sandquist, Marilyn Bures and James Frahm, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Bentley Olson
- 3 - Kurt Schneekloth
- 4 - Laurie Carlson, Gary Case
Lindsay Jorgensen, Sheri Slatt
- 6 - Colton Moseman, Bill Johnson
- 7 - Anthony Moseman
- 11 - Daniel Tanksley III, Marcee Tomasek,
Laura Egbers, Trey Deemer
- 13 - Lillian Johnson
- 14 - Florence Erickson
- 15 - James Jorgensen
- 17 - Terry Johnson
- 18 - Patty Miller, Tom Wallerstedt,
Elijah Larson
- 19 - LeAnn Jorgensen, Angela Bittner
Bryson Lindstrom
- 22 - Diana Kruse
- 24 - Renae Johnson, Molly Miller
- 25 - Donna Denton, Susan Mulder
- 26 - Braydon Wobken
- 27 - Alyson Elsasser
- 28 - Isaah Stucky
- 29 - Ruth Trout, Andrew Barber
- 30 - Andrew Denker, Jon Johnson,
Michael Johnson, Jared Krutilek

**JUNE ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 - Dorothy & C. Earl Miller
Dustin & Micaela Welsh
- 3 - Andrew & Angela Rennerfeldt
- 6 - Mitch and Michelle Case
- 7 - Lois & Darrell Schneekloth
Tiffany & Kenneth Johnson
Paul & Jan Kruse
- 8 - Gregory & Deanna Ray
- 9 - Angela & Derek Bittner
- 10 - Myrna & Delwin Swanson
- 12 - Denny & Arla Ogden
- 15 - Raymond & Jean Satee
- 16 - Carla & Robert Corwine
- 17 - Janet & Clare Wiltse
- 18 - Beverly & Dr. Gayle Peterson
- 19 - Judy & Gerald Groene
Karl & Roxanne Lundquist
Mike & Katie Selk
- 20 - Ed & Vivian Forks
Harold & Carol Lindstrom
- 22 - Terry & Julie Johnson
- 23 - Dale & Linda Jones
- 24 - Roger & Marjorie Maller
Larry & Tess Johnson
- 26 - Cynthia & Max Blanc
- 28 - Jon & Janelle Seagren
- 30 - Robert & Karen Johnson



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met May 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Greg Johnson, Sandy Husar, Linda Jones, Carole Johnson, Jim Pelan, Tom Meyer, Sam Schmidt, Mona Tanksley, Nathan Anderson, Susan Mulder and Jon Seagren. Also in attendance was Pastor Eldal. After devotions were given by Tom Meyer, the minutes were read and approved.

Pastor presented his report for April listing the many activities that he was involved with. During the discussion, it was felt that Easter went well with services at 8:30 and 10:30.

The Treasurer’s report was reviewed. It was reported that year to date we are currently ahead of expenses by approximately \$4,000.

Old Business: Greg provided an update on the heating/air conditioning project noting that the units have been installed and some are currently working. The project should be completed soon and the air conditioning should be working by the week of Bible School. The church van has been taken to Blanc’s to check out the exterior painting. It was felt this could be buffed and cleaned thus not having to be painted. Pastor discussed maintenance on the organ and it was decided to have Brian Bohn contact the installer to come and check it. It was reported that the sign has been installed. Also, Bryson Peterson has been contacted about placing a bid for painting the area in need on the south side of the building. The hand rail in the lower level has been repaired.

New Business:

The Property Committee and council discussed problems with the window well coverings and the problem of them frequently breaking. Various options for covering the window wells versus leaving them open were considered. Ultimately it was decided to remove the coverings and see what happens. If problems arise with rain, we will re-evaluate the situation. One of the trees between the parking lot and the building has some hollow areas in it and may need some attention.

Thanks was expressed to the ladies who tend the flower beds. A thank you will be sent to Betty Starr for purchasing the new sign. We will also enclose a photo of this sign. Tom reported that he had tried the listening devices noting some problems. The company has come here to fine tune the devices. It was decided to purchase a new microphone for Pastor to use to see if this will help. As we often have problems with the coffee pots working, it was decided to clean them more often to see if that will help. We discussed getting the Spire mailed out earlier in the month so that members will have it prior to the first of the month. We discussed having the deadline for information to be included in the newsletter in by the 20th of the month and mailing the Spire by the 25th of the month. There was also discussion on emailing the Spire to members, though we will check with the post office regarding the number of items required to receive the bulk rate postage. More discussion will follow at the next meeting.

The Evangelism Committee did not meet in April. There was a discussion on the various types of worship services we have. Pastor stressed the idea of being willing to change as we try these new formats. The idea of evangelism is to reach people and touch their hearts. People are more important than things. Mona questioned whether any plans have been made to recognize the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. We will form a committee to work on some plans for this event to be held in October. In June, we will have the regular service on Saturday, the 3rd. Due to the community worship service on June 4, we will have communion on June 11.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord’s Prayer. The next meeting will be June 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Communion Helper - May 7 Susan Mulder

The meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord’s Prayer.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary



May Attendance	
29 & 30.....	136
6 & 7	158
13 & 14	157
20 & 21	114
27 & 28.....	

May Finances <small>(Apr 30-May 26)</small>	
Commitments	\$10,155.00
Building Use	\$ 100.00
Designated	
Sunday School	\$ 2.00
Supplies	\$ 214.00
Memorial	\$ 480.00
Wed.Nite	\$ 329.00
Misc	\$ 150.00
TOTAL	\$11,430.00



June 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	2 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE	3 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
4 10:00AM COMMUNITY SERVICE	5	6	7 9:00 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS	8 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	9 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE	10 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
11 9:30AM PRAISE/ COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP	12 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING	13	14 9AM 2 PM, 6PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 7 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP FLAG DAY	15 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	16 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE	17 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
18 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP FATHER'S DAY	19	20	21 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY	22 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	23 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE	24 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
25 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP	26	27	28 2PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H. 7-8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	29 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	30	



JUNE 2017 USHERS & GREETERS :



Ushers

- 4th: Community Worship Service
- 11th: Sam Schmidt and Norm Case, Roger Moderow and Jay Lindstrom
- 18th: Norm Case, Dr. Charlie Seagren, Jason Klaussen and Dale Jones
- 25th: Clare Wiltse, Larry Johnson Tom Meyer and Jerry Benne

Greeters

- 4th: Community Worship Service
- 11th: Patty Moderow and Diane Lindstrom
- 18th: Heather, Garrett and Gracie Klaussen and Linda Jones
- 25th: Phyllis Meyer and Linda Carlson



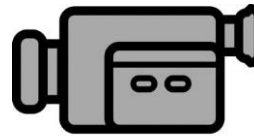
- 4 - Community Service
- 11- Billye Pearson
- 18 - Ruth Wallerstedt
- 25 - Bryan Bohn



- 4 - Community Service
- 11 - Jim Pelan
- 18 - Dan Tanksley/Jim Nelson
- 25- Tess Johnson



- June 4 - COMMUNITY SERVICE
- 11 - Mia Linder
- 18 - Ellen Magnusson
- 25 - Carson Thomsen
- July 2 - Jonathan Dixon



Video

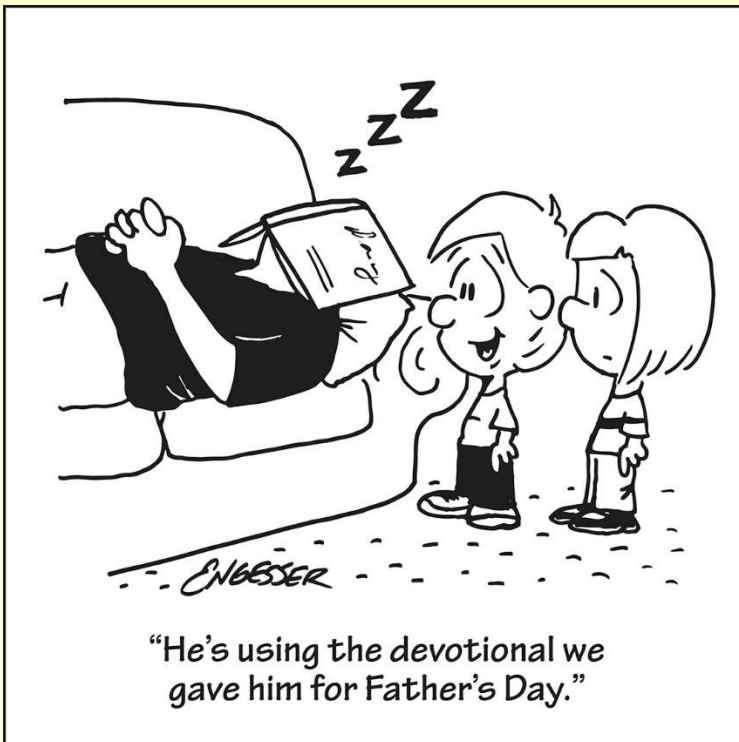
- June 4 - COMMUNITY SERVICE
- 11 - Ayden Lierman
- 18 - Mia Linder
- 25 - Ellen Magnusson
- July 2 - Carson Thomsen



Community Service @ City Auditorium		Sunday, June 4, 2017
Connie Larson	402-380-5101	Sunday, June 11, 2017
Elisabeth Linder	402-685-6213	Sunday, June 11, 2017
Pamela Linder	402-685-5416	Sunday, June 18, 2017
Diane Lindstrom	402-685-5077	Sunday, June 18, 2017
Valerie Lindstrom	402-685-5090	Sunday, June 25, 2017
Roxi Lundquist	402-380-0025	Sunday, June 25, 2017
Joan Magnusson	402-685-5797	Sunday, July 2, 2017
Annie Magnusson	402-685-5152	Sunday, July 2, 2017

**Thank you for your help in these important areas.
If you can't be here, please find someone to take your place.**

CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



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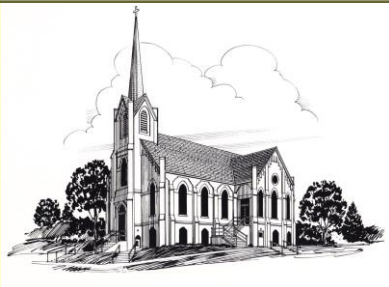
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We are committed to providing
 spiritual enrichment to ALL who
 seek the Lord.

June
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