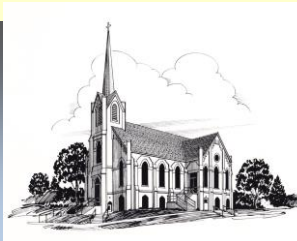


# THE SPIRE



May 2017  
Volume 5

First Ev. Lutheran Church, 201 N. Davis, PO Box 152, Oakland, NE, 68045  
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## Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

It has been several weeks since we celebrated Easter, yet the Easter season will continue into May. As it does, we can continue to delight in the resurrection of Jesus and be blessed by the resurrection appearances we read of in Scripture.

In one of these appearances, Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene outside the tomb on Easter day. Yet, as he does so she does not initially recognize him by sight. Rather, she recognizes him when he calls her by name.

Wonderfully, we have the privilege of recognizing the resurrected Lord in the same way. In John 10, it says, Jesus calls us by name and we can know his voice.

As we trust in Jesus as our Savior and Lord, we can know his voice and in our hearts, we can sense him calling us by name.

The voice we hear may not be an audible one but rather the peace and leading of the Holy Spirit, and this peace and leading can call us to follow Jesus and walk with him. It can also lead us into a fellowship with the risen Jesus, where we experience his presence as we talk to him in prayer.

This same peace and presence of the Holy Spirit can also make the Word of God living and real in our hearts as we read and meditate upon it.

Thus, we can experience Jesus in the same way Mary did, by hearing his voice as he calls us personally by name to trust in and follow him.

As we continue in the Easter season may we delight in listening to and following the voice of Jesus.

God Bless,

Pastor Mark Eldal

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### MAY 2017 - SPECIAL DAYS

SOME OF THE SPECIAL DAYS CELEBRATED  
IN MAY ARE:

- ✠ National Day of Prayer — May 4
- ✠ May Friendship Day — May 5
- ✠ National Family Week — May 7-13
- ✠ Mother's Day — May 14
- ✠ Ascension of the Lord — May 25
- ✠ Memorial Day — May 29

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**THREE OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE** confirmed their faith Sunday, April 23, 2017: Marissa Mulder, Ashten Rennerfeldt and Carly Stewart. We're grateful for their faithfulness to be involved in this educational ministry. We're also grateful for Pastor Mark and Jean Swanson and the parents of our confirmands for all their help with confirmation this year.

**The Baccalaureate Ceremony** will be at the Salem Covenant Church at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

**We will be honoring our High School Seniors**, Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> during the worship service. The Oakland-Craig Graduation Ceremony is Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 p.m.

**There is still time to sign up for Camp Carol Joy Holling.** If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mark or Tess in the office for details.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Pay-It-Forward is truly amazing! We have collected over \$1600 in the Sunday School P-I-F plate for March and April. These donations will go to two women suffering with cancer: Amy Ruwe of Tekamah and Megan Ray of Omaha. We will also donate to Gracie Garcia of Craig. Gracie was in a terrible accident over Christmas and has a long road ahead of her. She is a Junior in High School at Tekamah-Herman. Prayers to these three women and thank you to First Lutheran for making this program a success.



We will have class May 7<sup>th</sup>. We will sing on Mother's Day (May 14<sup>th</sup>) The kids will need to pick up the Mother's Day gifts they created in the windows of the church on Mother's Day (Sunday.) School kids will be dismissed this day-No class!

Bible School will run May 22<sup>nd</sup> - May 26<sup>th</sup>

**Thank you and Happy Spring! ~ Angie**



**We extend our Congratulations and ask for God's blessing on:** Jennie Johnson and Stewart Harbin. They were joined in holy matrimony at First Lutheran Church on April 15, 2017. Jennie is the daughter of Johnnie and Melinda Johnson and the granddaughter of Norm and Sallie Johnson and Dee and the late Dr. Blanc. Stewart is the son of Lyn Harbin and the late William Harbin. **CONGRATULATIONS MR & MRS HARBIN!**

**CONFIRMATION NEWS** - off for the summer. Classes will resume again in September. Please be aware although confirmation has been completed, it is still a requirement for the confirmand to acolyte and run video through-out the remainder of the summer season. In September, when the new confirmands start they will be trained for their duties.

**BIBLE STUDY NEWS**

**YOUTH GROUP** meets every Wednesday 6:30 - 8:30. A meal is provided. It is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. There is a sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes help serve or donate treats.

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

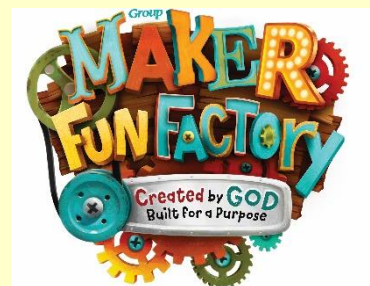
**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am.

**KOINOINA BIBLE STUDY** is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

**GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY** meeting times are TBD.. If interested please call Nancy Johnson

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!** **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be May 22-26<sup>th</sup>. Alissa Bousquet is once again going to coordinate VBS.

The theme this year is "Maker Fun Factory VBS". At Maker Fun Factory VBS, kids will learn they're "Created by God and built for a purpose!"



We need leaders for the music program as well as helpers to assist the leaders. These will include: teachers, kitchen help and crafts. All helpers will be greatly appreciated.

Please find the registration form below which needs to be filled out for each child. These forms may also be found in the multipurpose room. If you have any further questions, please contact Alissa at 402-380-2301.

**VBS Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Finished: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size : \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

**EASTER SERVICE THANK YOU's TO:**

- **Jim and Judy** for all their hard work creating the presentation on the screen for us.
- **Youth and their Parents** for serving the breakfast that morning.
- **Julie Johnson** for her help with the breakfast.
- **Bryan Bohn** for playing the organ and leading the Choir and the Choir for their anthem.
- **Cindy Blanc** for the Piano Accompaniment.
- **Those who have provided Easter Lilies** to decorate the front of the church. **They are in memory of loved ones as listed below:**

- ✝ Jessica Hughes by Mark and Jacque Eldal
- ✝ James Wallace by Dorothy Wallace, Don and Sarah Wallace and family
- ✝ our loved ones by Ed & Connie Anderson
- ✝ our parents by Tom & Phyllis Meyer
- ✝ Marvin and Lillian Johnson and Bud Johnson by Roger and Suzanne Johnson
- ✝ Elroy & Eunice Johnson, Carolyn Johnson and our Loved Ones by Larry & Tess Johnson and family
- ✝ Patricia Seagren (Wife, Mother and Grandmother) by Charlie Seagren
- ✝ Darlene Wagner by Cal and Sara Anderson
- ✝ Don Andersen by Patsy Andersen and family
- ✝ LaRita Lindstrom & Jean Easton by Julie & Carl Easton
- ✝ Alissa and Brad's Grandparents and niece Kaylie Faith Bousquet by Brad, Alissa, Emmy, Megan, Carter, and Caleb Bousquet
- ✝ Pat Hanselman by Florence Erickson
- ✝ Carroll Pearson and Steve Sok by David, Kathy and Garrett Pearson
- ✝ Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Lane, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson, and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Dinklage by Jon and Chloe Johnson
- ✝ Doc. Blanc and in honor of our daughter Jennie and Stewart Harbin's wedding
- ✝ Bob Lindstrom by Marlene Lindstrom and family
- ✝ our loved ones by Roger and Marge Maller
- ✝ Chuck Rogers and Ross Peterson by Greg & Deanna Ray
- ✝ Pete and Lois Schmidt and all those loved ones that are no longer with us by The Schmidts
- ✝ Gary Rosenboom and Pernilla and Marlin Jensen by Karen Rosenboom
- ✝ Clare and Alma Wiltse and Walter and Bernice Niedringhaus by Clare and Jan Wiltse
- ✝ Oliver and Ruth Wise and Bernice and Harold Nelson by Rachel Wise
- ✝ Loved Ones by Gloria Wedergren
- ✝ In Honor of Loved Ones by Frank and Janice Johnson Family
- ✝ Grandma Joyce Zimmerly Bromm by Lane, Kara and Johnna Peterson

Happy Easter from the Pelan's - Lynn, Karen, Jim and Danielle



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!!!**



**Phyllis Meyer and Vivian Forks**



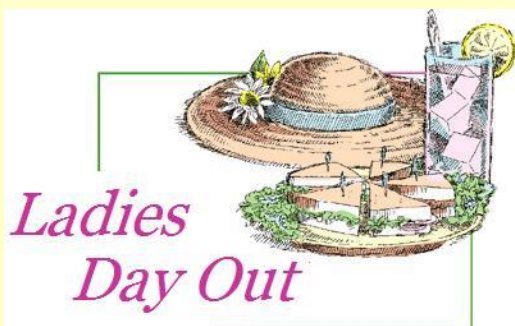
**SEWING MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS**  
8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.



May 3.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m. ...Mary  
May 7.....Devotions @ O.H. 2:30 p.m. ....Hannah  
May 8 .....Executive Meeting 9 a.m.  
May 10 .....Group Meetings 9 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.  
  
Clean Kitchen .....HS Youth

**WOW Clothing Drive** - please bring your clean spring & summer clothes to be donated to the open-door mission.

## LADIES DAY OUT



Would you or some you know like to do some shopping in Omaha or Sioux City but no longer want to drive there? One day a month Connie Anderson will take a group of ladies for an outing for a donation of \$5 each. Contact Connie at 402-685-5329 if you are interested.



DORCAS SOCIETY

**Dorcas Society May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 12:00 p.m. Luncheon**  
**@ Oakland Heights**

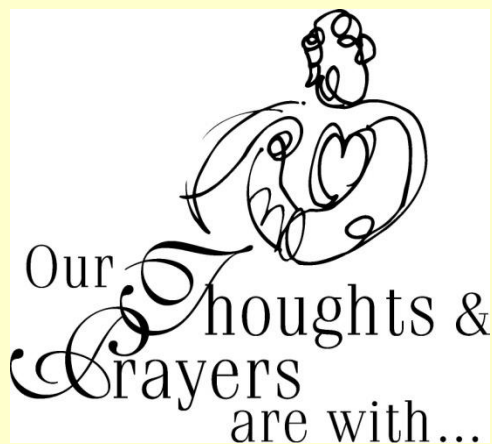
## MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 - Lela Heineman  
 2 - Rojane Linder, Layne Canarsky  
 3- Daniel Bedrnicek  
 4 - Clinton Baker, Chad Baker, Carter Bousquet, Jesse Schold  
 5 - Grant Seagren, Dean Johnson  
 6 - Kiley Denton, Colton Moseman, Ashlyn Barber, Graham Johnson  
 7 - Job Egbers, Susan Moseman  
 8 - Tanner Case, Nancy Hoffman, Kenneth Johnson  
 10 - Gretchen Seagren  
 11 - Larry Johnson, Beverly Peterson, Jeremiah Dixon  
 13 - Whitney Storie Tran  
 14 - Lucetta Jensen, Gerald Sieck  
 15 - Gail Elsasser, Anna Belle Olson, Jan Kruse, Amanda Huntington  
 16 - Zoe Linder, Peggy Peterson, Mindy Nelson  
 18 - Trevor Enstrom, Caiden Stover, Amanda Huntington  
 19 - Keith Easton  
 20 - DeLaney Brudigam  
 21 -L. Gordon Nelson, Gregory Ray  
 22 - Patty Dahlquist  
 24 - Cason Stevenson  
 25 - Laurie Canarsky  
 27 - Sarah Ahrens, Patti Moderow, Jerri Graham  
 28 - Carl Easton, Gary Elsasser, Cody Mallette  
 29 - Jacque Eldal, John Tomasek, Chloe Selk  
 31 - Hilda Benne, Amy Krutilek, Kenadie Lindstrom



### MAY ANNIVERSARIES

8 - Dick & Shirley Lowe  
 19 - Ken & Billye Pearson  
 26 - Carl & Joan Magnusson  
 30 - Kent & Brenda Andersen



### IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Patricia Moseman, Fauniel Paulson, Hannah Brudigam, Roger Maller, David Biorn, Cathie Anderson, Ewald Dahlquist, Vivan Forks, Joe Keaschall (Dorothy Wallace's son-in-law), Alejandro Zeller, Pat Jorgensen, Oliver Nimmo, Gerald Benne, Millie Sandquist, Moe Johnson, Sharlene Grindle (Keri Thomsen's mom), Nancy Moate, Stacy Long, Ron Badje, Arizona Riecken, Marilyn Bures, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



## First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met April 3, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Greg Johnson, Linda Jones, Carole Johnson, Susan Mulder, Tom Meyer, Sam Schmidt, Jon Seagren and Mona Tanksley and Pastor Eldal.

After devotions were given by Carole Johnson, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Pastor presented his report of his March activities and visits.

The treasurer's report was reviewed and there was a discussion regarding from which accounts, expenses are paid. Sam suggested it would be nice to compare the present year financial report to last year's in order to compare where we stand financially. Susan reported that she and Audrey Unwin, treasurer, had been in contact to discuss the financial report.

**Old Business:** Greg reported that he is to meet tomorrow with a representative to work on the hearing devices, test them, etc. after reports that they are not functioning as we had hoped. Greg also reported he had spoken with the contractor regarding the heating/air conditioning project and plans are to start the work April 17. Greg has checked the lift on the van and it did work, though not smoothly, so he will see if he can repair it. It was noted that the paint on the van has been damaged due to tree sap so it was agreed to contact Max Blanc regarding painting it. The bulbs in the west fixture in the sanctuary have been replaced with LED bulbs. The door installed in the southwest basement entrance looks good.

### **New Business:**

The Property Committee discussed mowing for the summer and it was agreed to have the Seagren boys mow again this year. We will check on who fertilizers the church lawn. It was noted that the highway project through town will be next summer and this will have some effect on our property.

The Evangelism Committee did not meet this evening and therefore did not have a report. Their next meeting will be Wednesday, April 19.

Pastor reported that worship services on Easter Sunday will be at 8:30 and 10:30 with breakfast in between. The breakfast will be catered by Julie Johnson with our youth assisting in serving. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be at 7:00 p.m. and there will be communion at the Thursday service. Confirmation will be April 23.

A motion was made by Sam, seconded by Jon, recommending that the following be confirmed: Marissa Mulder, Ashten Rennerfeldt and Carly Stewart. Motion carried. There was discussion about having the Spire mailed earlier in the month so members receive it prior to the first of the month. There being no further business the meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be May 1 at 7:00 pm.

Devotions for May -Tom Meyer

Communion Helper -April 13 -Mona Tanksley  
-May 6 -Arla Ogden  
-May 7 -Susan Mulder

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

### **April Attendance**

1 & 2 .....	165
5.....Lent.....	59
8 & 9.....	174
13..Maundy Thursday...	44
14 ..Good Friday ....	.62
16 ..Easter.....	311
22&23(Confirmation)...	198



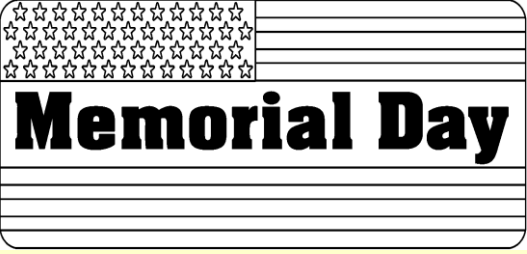
### **April Finances**

Regular .....	\$ 9,881.00
Easter .....	5,550.00
Lenten.....	255.00
Holy Week.....	515.00

### **Designated**

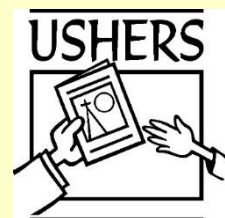
Coffee Fund.....	\$107.00
Sunday School...	102.00
Memorial.....	130.00
Wed. Night Youth	324.00
Misc.....	931.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$18,501.00</b>

# May 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <b>May Day</b>	1 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  <b>MAY DAY</b>	2 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	3 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00 PM BACCALAUREATE CEREMONY	4 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	5	6 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE
7 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE- HS SENIOR SUNDAY 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	8 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING	9 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	10 9AM 2 PM, 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	11 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	12	13 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE 2:00PM OC GRADUATION CEREMONY
14 9:30AM PRAISE SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL  <b>Mother's DAY</b>	15 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	16 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	17 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	18 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	19	20 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
21 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP	22 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	23 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	24 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	25 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	26	27 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
28 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP	29 8:30AM SEWING GROUP  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	30 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	31 12:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY LUNCHEON @ O.H. 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP	 <b>Memorial Day</b>		

**May 2017 Ushers**

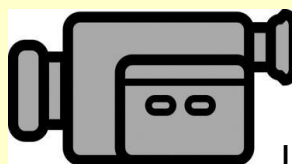
7<sup>th</sup> - S. Schmidt, Roger Moderow, Josh Mulder and Jared Mulder  
 14<sup>th</sup> - N. Case, Larry Johnson, Garrett Seagren and Wyatt Seagren  
 21<sup>st</sup> - N. Case, Dr. C. Seagren, Derek Bittner and Jonathon Dixon  
 28<sup>th</sup> - N. Case, Clare Wiltse, Tony Johanson and Cody Mallette

**May 2017 Greeters**

7<sup>th</sup> - Megan Bousquet and Jamie Johnson  
 14<sup>th</sup> - Carole Johnson and Bonnie Goodrich  
 21<sup>st</sup> - Angie, Adrian, Clara and Alivia Bittner and Betty Dixon  
 28<sup>th</sup> - Melanie and Hayden Johanson and Mary Alice Pearson



May 7 - Ashten Rennerfeldt  
 14 - Marissa Mulder  
 21 - Connor Guill  
 28 - Aiden Jorgensen  
 June 4 - Ayden Lierman



Video

May 7 - Jonathan Dixon  
 14 - Ashten Rennerfeldt  
 21 - Marissa Mulder  
 28 - Connor Guill  
 June 4 - Aiden Jorgensen

**Organists**

7 - Bryan Bohn  
 14 - Billye Pearson  
 21 - Ruth Wallerstedt  
 28 - Bryan Bohn

**Sound**

7 - Dan Tanksley  
 14 - Tess Johnson  
 21 - Jim/Dan  
 28 - Jim Pelan

**Coffee Servers**

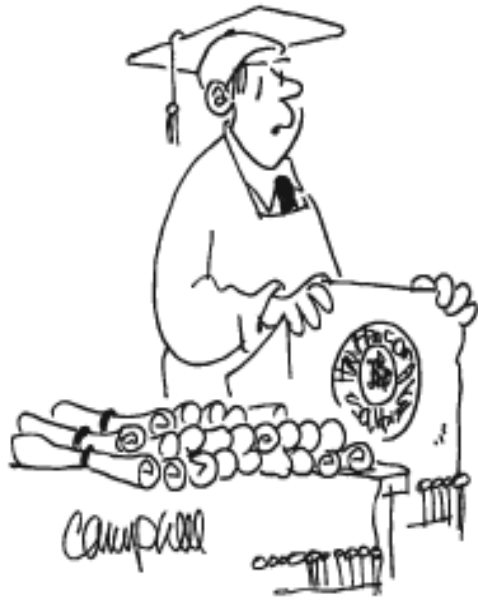
Nancy Johnson and Sandra Johnson  
 JoAnn Brudigam and Laureen Canarsky  
 Heather Klausen and Tess Johnson  
 Chloe Johnson and Sally Johnson  
 Julie Jones and Linda Jones

**Date of Service**

Sunday, May 7, 2017  
 Sunday, May 14, 2017  
 Sunday, May 21, 2017  
 Sunday, May 28, 2017  
 Sunday, June 4, 2017



# CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



"You'll never forget your high school experience, though grades indicate you've tried."



"Mom — you deserve a raise for raising me."

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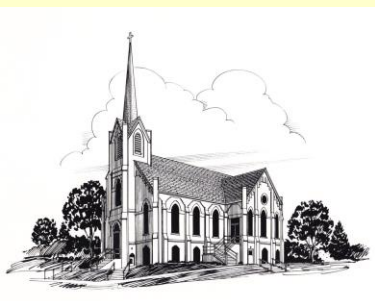
Webpage:

[www.firstlutheran-oakland.com](http://www.firstlutheran-oakland.com)

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

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**M**



**MAY 2017**