

THE SPIRE



April 2017
Volume 4, Issue 4

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

"He has also set eternity in the hearts of men."

Ecclesiastes 3:11

In the verse above we read God has put eternity in the heart of man. This is a reminder of something we instinctively seem to feel, which is that somehow we were made for more than this life, that somehow we were created to live forever.

This inner instinct is reinforced by many promises in scripture which speak of eternal life and the promise of a heavenly home. Yet, it is most resoundingly confirmed in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

This was such an amazing event that it astounded the disciples and changed their lives forever. It would also change the lives of over five hundred other people who saw the resurrected Lord.

And of course, it can forever change our lives. For we have the promise that as we trust in Jesus as our Savior, we can share in his victory over death and we can live in the assurance that God has a heavenly home for us.

This promise can give our lives meaning because we know that the love and kindness we give and receive in this life can be remembered through eternity, and the relationships we have in Christ can go on through eternity.

The resurrection of Jesus and his promise of eternal life can also give us hope in the present. For the same power that raised Jesus from the dead can give us new beginnings in this life, as we trust in him.

Thus, as we remember the resurrection of Jesus may we delight in the meaning and hope it can give us in him.

God Bless,

Pastor Mark

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A P R I L 2 0 1 7

April 2017 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in April are:

- Palm Sunday – April 9
- Maundy Thursday – April 13
- Good Friday – April 14
- Easter – April 16
- Admin. Profess. Day – April 26
- Secretaries Day – April 26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's time to sign up for Camp Carol Joy Holling. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mark or Tess in the office for details.

SPRING CLEANING?? Don't forget the sewing group. They love blankets, sheets, mattress pads, material, embroidery floss, or sewing thread and live bodies to help!

If anyone would like to donate Thrivent dollars to First Ev. Lutheran Church, please notify Thrivent by the end of March.

Ready for some home cooking - Chicken and biscuits will be served at the Swedish Heritage Center this Sunday April 2nd. 11 till 1. Peach pie with vanilla ice cream for dessert. At 1 o'clock enjoy a vocal and instrumental concert by our Jr High Oakland-Craig students. See you Sunday!!

On Wednesday nights through Lent, we will be conducting Lenten Services at 6:30 p.m. with a meal to follow. Everyone welcome!

During Lent, on Friday mornings, Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfasts are being held at the city auditorium from 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.

There are Easter Lilies available through Alli's Flower shop. If you would like one, please fill out the form in this newsletter and return with \$16 to Tess in the office or just let Alli know. Thanks!

There is about 125 ft. of sisal rope to be used only for decoration or crafting available. This rope is old and was recently replaced by Dan Tanksley and Norm Wallerstedt. If interested please contact Dan at 402-380-0849.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

By popular demand, we will head back to the West Point Bowling Alley this Sunday to celebrate our last spring outing of this Sunday School year! All Sunday School kids and parents are welcome to attend! We will start bowling and fellowship at 11 am so there will be no Sunday School Class. Lunch and dessert will be provided.

Next Sunday (Palm Sunday) April 9th - The kids will sing and carry palms in church. We will pass around our Pay-It-Forward plate. This week's P-I-F will go to Megan Minert Ray who was recently diagnosed with leukemia. We will also have our annual Easter egg hunt so please send a sack or basket with your child. We will also be doing our Mother's Day gifts so attendance is encouraged!!!!

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, but we will have class April 23, April 30 and May 7th. We will sing on Mother's Day (May 14th) and Sunday School kids will be dismissed this day-No class!

Bible School will run May 22nd-May 26th

Thank you and Happy Spring! Angie

LENTEN SERVERS-

April 5th - Lenten Services—Mary serves

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmants will meet after every Lenten service until 9 p.m.

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP meets every Wednesday will meet after every Lenten service until 9 p.m. 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 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am.

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

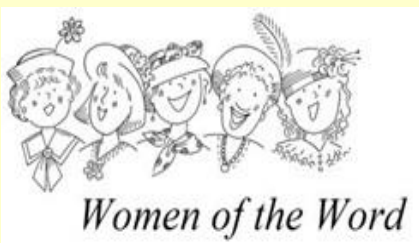
GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY meeting times are TBD.. If interested please contact Nancy Johnson.



**Joan Magnusson
Laurie Schold
Tom Wallerstedt**

SEWING MEETINGS EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS

8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.



April 3.....Pastor Mark's Birthday
April 5.....Bingo @ O.H..... 9:30 a.m.Ruth
.....6:30 p.m. Lenten Services—Ruth Serves
April 10.....Executive Meeting 9 a.m.
April 12.....Group Meetings 9 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m.
Clean KitchenHannah

Dorcas Society - April 26th @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Vivian Forks, Jeff Richards, Jeff Biorn, Kathy Anderson, Ewald Dahlquist, Joe Keaschall(Dorothy Wallace's son-in-law), Alejandro Zeller(Pastor Marks's brother-in-law), Pat Hanselman, Pat Jorgensen, Oliver Nimmo, Jason Penke, Gerald Benne, Millie Sandquist, Lois Messerschmidt, Moe Johnson, Jack Carstensen, Sharlene Grindle (Keri Thomsen's mom), Nancy Moate, Dean Brudigam, Stacy Long, Ron Badje, Arizona Riecken, Marilyn Bures, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Andy Kruse, Landon Johnson, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, the family of Donna Johnson, all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.





First Evangelical Lutheran Church Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met March 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Greg Johnson, Jim Pelan, Sam Schmidt, Susan Mulder, Nathan Anderson, Tom Meyer, Linda Jones, Carole Johnson, Mona Tanksley and Pastor Eldal. After devotions were given by Greg, the minutes of the January 2 and January 22 meetings were read and approved. Pastor Eldal presented his reports for January and February. There was no treasurer's report available at this time.

Old Business: It was reported the listening devices are in and have been used. As there have been some problems noted, it was decided to check into the microphone that Pastor uses to see if another one would provide better clarity with the hearing devices. An update on the sign for the west side of the church was given by Jim. A variety of fonts are available for the sign and after review, a motion was made by Sam, seconded by Mona, that we go ahead with the sign, use font labeled "C", that the sign be made of an aluminum composite material and sprayed with tinted concrete. The motion was carried. The council members signed up for the committees they wish to serve on.

We discussed having a council member serve as treasurer, in name only, to serve as a liaison between the council and financial secretary. Susan Mulder volunteered to serve in this capacity therefore a motion was made by Jim, seconded that Susan be appointed to this position. Motion carried.

New Business:

The Property Committee reported that the water heater that was leaking has been replaced; that the trim on the door installed downstairs has been finished; that the downspouts have been fixed. There was discussion on the furnace/air conditioner installation and Greg will again contact the contractor for an update. It was reported that the cleaning day went well. A list of items that are to be disposed of will be listed on the church web site. The lift in the van needs to be repaired so it will be taken in for service. The electrician will be here tomorrow to look at the west light fixture in the sanctuary. It will be taken down tomorrow afternoon and bulbs will be replaced with LED bulbs. It was reported we are still awaiting a bid from Larry Shelly regarding the work on the south side of the building. The hand rail by the south downstairs has come off and ways of repairing it were discussed.

The Evangelism Committee had no report.

It was reported that someone has requested using the church building to hold a Dave Ramsey financial program. After discussion with Pastor regarding the Dave Ramsey course, the council approved the use of the building on the assumption that this is a not for profit venture.

There was additional discussion with Pastor regarding his microphone and the hearing devices and we will look into what other types of microphones are available.

There was discussion on who orders the rolls for Sunday morning coffee as it was felt we could decrease our order. Pastor will check with Tess on this. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Devotions for April 4 - Carole Johnson

Communion Helpers - April 1 - Arla Ogden

April 2 - Greg Johnson

The next meeting will be April 3 at 7:30 pm.

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

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

March

Attendance

1 (Ash Wed)...58
4 & 5..... 181
868
11 & 12 ...139
1568
18 & 19...196
22.....68
25 & 26...155
2961

March Finances

Regular	\$ 12,928.00
Lenten.....	\$ 768.00
Designated	
Coffee Fund.....	\$119.00
Building Use.....	\$100.00
Sunday School.....	\$ 19.00
Memorial.....	\$800.00
Wed. Night Youth...	\$276.00
Misc.....	\$610.00
Total.....	\$15,364.00

April's Birthdays

1 - Katie Miller
 2 - Mark Johnson, Jamison Johnson, Peter Kruse
 3 - Mark Eldal, Sandy Husar, Janice Johnson,
 Marian Moseman, Clara Bittner
 4 - Bernice Persson, Elaine Peterson, Janelle Guill-Muller
 6 - Zachary Denton, Dona Nelson, Anden Schold, Sierra Kloth
 8 - Austin Jorgensen
 9 - Johnnie Johnson, Nolan Magnusson
 10 - Tara Miller, Taryn Kloth
 11 - Brad Heineman
 12 - Carson Thomsen, Merle Karstens, Bonnie Larson,
 Marty Nelson, Clay Olson, Ivy Johnson
 13 - Kara Peterson, Johnna Peterson
 17 - Braeden Case, Roger Moderow, Jean Satree, Robert Johnson
 18 - Mike Selk, Ann Anderson, Jacob Dixon
 19 - Jennifer Ahrens
 20 - Jane Moseman, Sabrina Rost
 21 - Brad Bousquet, Roberta Sieck, Wayne Uman
 22 - Brian Magnusson, Deanna Ray
 23 - Cole Christofferson
 24 - Ashley Denton
 27 - Judee Dix, Nathan Johnson, Nancy Johnson
 28 - Nathan Larson
 29 - Myrna Swanson
 30- Vivian Forks

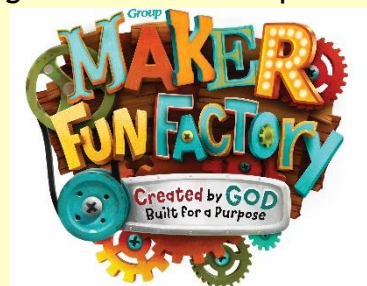


1 - Dan & Mona Tanksley
 10 - Tim & Annie Magnusson
 12 - Kevin & Julie Wuestewald
 Brad & Lela Heineman
 23 - Bob & Jerri Case
 25 - Richard & Mary Strom
 - P.D & Georgia Stibor
 27 - Mike & Cynthia Johnson

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** will be May 22-26th. 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: _____

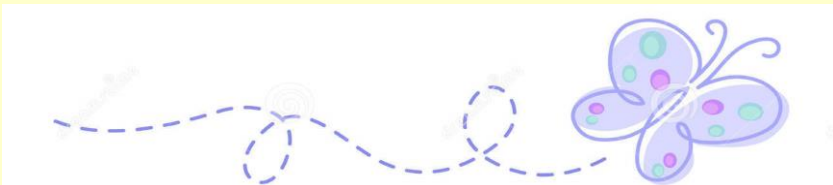


Grade Finished: _____ T-Shirt Size : _____

Parent/Guardian Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Secondary Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Medical Concerns: _____

APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE APRIL FOOL'S DAY
2 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY & COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	3 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING	4 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	5 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30 LENTEN SERVICE 7:15-9:00 PM YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION 8: 00PM CHOIR PRACTICE	6 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	7 	8 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
9 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGS PALM SUNDAY	10 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING	11 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	12 9AM 2 PM, 5PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	13 7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	14 7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	15 NO SATURDAY SERVICE
16 8:30 AM & 10:30AM EASTER SERVICES 9:30 BREAKFAST	17 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	18 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	19 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5:30-7:00PM EVANGELISM COMMITTEE 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	20 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	21 	22 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICES EARTH DAY
23 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL	24 8:30AM SEWING GROUP	25 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING	26 2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY MEETING @ O.H. 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	27 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS	28 	29 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE
30 9:30AM PRAISE SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL						

Ushers:2nd - Roger Moderow, Sam Schmidt, Gary Case & David Deemer5th Jonathan Dixon, Carson Thomas9th - Norm Case, Larry Johnson, Darrell Denker and Merlin Anderson13th Zack Lierman and Joe Egbers16th - Easter Morning - 8:30 - N. Case, Dr. C. Seagren, Norman Johnson & Gordon Nelson16th - Easter Morning - 10:30 - Larry Johnson and Cody Mallette23rd - Norm Case, Clare Wilste, Loren Ehlers and Ian Lundquist30th - S. Schmidt, Dr. C. Seagren, Jim Jorgensen & Leonard Canarsky**Greeters:**2nd - Tammy Case and Tammy and Hannah Deemer9th - Cheryl Denker and Rosemary Anderson16th 8:30 - Sally Johnson and Mary Alice Pearson16th 10:30 - Judee Dix and Mary Alice Pearson23rd - Julie, Lillian, Landon and Logan Ehlers and Connie Anderson30th - LeAnn Jorgensen and Laurie Canarsky**April Acolytes**

Apr.	2	Connor Guill	2
(Lent)	5	Aiden Jorgensen	5
(Palm Sunday)	9	Ayden Lierman	9
(Maundy Thu.)	13	Mia Linder	13
(Easter)	16	Ellen Magnusson	16
	23	Carson Thomsen	23
	30	Jonathan Dixon	30
May	7	Ashten Rennerfeldt	7

April Video

Carly Stewart
Connor Guill
Aiden Jorgensen
Ayden Lierman
Mia Linder
Ellen Magnusson
Carson Thomsen
Jonathan Dixon



Video



Lela Heineman and Amanda Huntington
 Sandy Husar and Hannah Hyslop
 Candace Johnson and Carole Johnson
 Julie Johnson and Karen Johnson
 Kelli Johnson and Melinda Johnson
 Nan

Sunday, April 2, 2017
 Sunday, April 9, 2017
 Sunday, April 16, 2017
 Sunday, April 23, 2017
 Sunday, April 30, 2017

April Organists

2 - Ruth Wallerstedt
 9 - Billye Pearson
 5,13,14,16 - Bryan Bohn
 23 - Bryan Bohn
 30 - Billye Pearson

**April Sound System**

2 - Dan Tanksley/Jim Nelson
 5,9,13,14 - Tess Johnson
 16- Dan Tanksley/Tess Johnson
 23 - Jim Pelan
 30 - Tess Johnson



CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



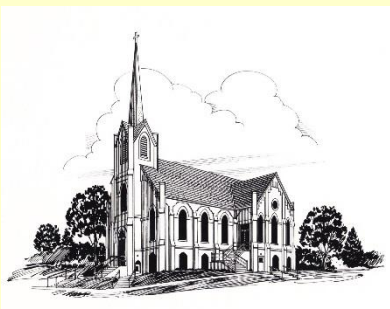
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We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.



APRIL 2017



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com

Join us:
Sunday School sings
on April 9th