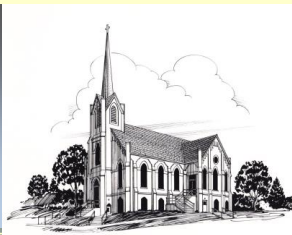


THE SPIRE



May 2016
Volume 4, Issue 5

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

In May we will observe Pentecost and remember how fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus the Holy Spirit was poured out upon believers.

One of the passages in Scripture that speaks of the Holy Spirit is John chapter fourteen. In this passage the Holy Spirit is described as an advocate. In another translation of this passage the Holy Spirit would be described as a counselor, in another, as a comforter, and yet another as a helper.

Wonderfully, the Greek word used for the Holy Spirit in this chapter of John is a multi-dimensional word that can be translated in all of these ways.

Thus, the Holy Spirit can indeed be God's advocate, pleading his cause in our lives. He can also be a counselor, leading and guiding us as he takes the Scriptures and makes them living and real in our hearts. As he does this he can also be a comforter, bringing God's peace to us. Ultimately, as a helper the Holy Spirit can be all of these things in our lives, ministering to whatever the needs of our hearts might be.

As we observe Pentecost may we remember that in God's mercy and grace he has given the Holy Spirit as an advocate, counselor, and comforter.

As we trust in Jesus, may we experience the help of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

God bless,
Pastor Mark

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May 2016 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated are:

- ✠ National Family Week — May 1-7
- ✠ Ascension of the Lord — May 5
- ✠ National Day of Prayer — May 5
- ✠ May Friendship Day — May 6
- ✠ Mother's Day — May 8
- ✠ Day of Pentecost — May 15
- ✠ Trinity Sunday — May 22
- ✠ Memorial Day — May 30

ANNOUNCEMENTS



TEN OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE were confirmed in their faith on Sunday, April 24, 2016: Josh Deemer, Jared Krutilek, Megan Bousquet, Lane Peterson, Ian Lundquist, Zoe Linder, Colten Thomsen, Selena Johnson, Wyatt Seagren, and Callie Stewart. We're grateful for their faithfulness to be

involved in this educational ministry. We're also grateful for their parents and Pastor Mark. Please join us in giving a special thank you to Jean Swanson for all of her help and guidance during confirmation.

The Baccalaureate Ceremony will be at the Evangelical Free Church at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 4, 2016.

We will be honoring our High School Seniors, Sunday May 8th during the worship service.

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!



Larry Dean Anderson is now living at St. Joseph's Assist Living, 320 East Decatur Street, Rm #226, West Point, NE 68788 and his new phone number is (402)372-6636.

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.



We welcomed into membership Nancy and Robert Moate on Sunday April 17, 2016. **WELCOME NANCY AND ROBERT.**

BUS TRIP

We have purchased 40 tickets to see "Under the Streetlamp" at the Holland Center on **Thursday, May 19th**. The price of the tickets is \$44 per person. We will be eating at Farmer Brown's in Waterloo before the show. The prices for the meal range from \$12 to \$22 which includes coffee or tea, salad, potato, buns, and main course. The tip is included in the price (only the tax will be added). A chartered bus will leave the parking lot at 4:00. The charge for the bus is to be determined.

"Under the Streetlamp" is a concert celebrating classic hits of the radio from the 50's, 60's, and 70's. It features harmonies and dance moves that will take us back to an era of snakeskin suits and flashy cars. The stars of the show are four critically acclaimed stars of stage and screen. They are all known for their involvement in the show "Jersey Boys".

If you want to reserve ticket, you must call Candace Johnson at (402)685-5718.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

We sang on Sunday, April 17th. We passed around the Pay-It-Forward plate. We also began working on our Mother's Day gifts and had ice cream sundaes to celebrate!!

If your child was not at Sunday School this week, please contact Angie so she can make arrangements for the gift.

May 1st we will have class and this will be our last class until fall. We will sing in church on Mother' Day (May 8) There will be no class on Mother's Day.

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

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

YOUTH GROUP will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Wednesday. The study group is open to all current Junior and Senior High students in the community. As always, a meal will be provided.

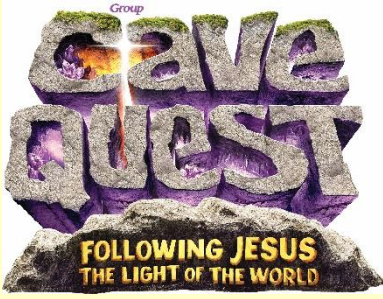
FRIDAY NIGHT PUB will start in the fall. We are always looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660, if you are interested.

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 has been studying the book of Mark through the ministry of Jesus up to his final entrance into Jerusalem. After a brief Lenten break we are ready to pick up where we left off. Our approach to the study is changing, so if you haven't joined us before, this would be the perfect time to start! We will use the remainder of the book of Mark to learn a new technique in studying scripture - homiletics. The goal of homiletics is to help you understand and apply the content of the Bible passage to daily living. Our next session will be on Wed., April 27th at 7:00pm at church. We will be covering Mark 10:1-31. If you have questions or are interested in joining the group, you can reach Nancy Johnson atnjohnson40299@gmail.com . We look forward to seeing you!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be May 23-27th. Alissa Bousquet is once again going to coordinate VBS. However, due to her chemotherapy treatments she is requesting a little extra help this year.



The theme this year is “**Cave Quest - Following Jesus, the Light of the World**”. It will be led by Nicole Swanson and Luke Hansen. We will still need helpers to assist the leaders. These will include: teachers, kitchen help and crafts. All helpers will be greatly appreciated.

In addition, we will also need host family for the young man. They will be here from Sunday evening, May 22nd through Thursday night May 26th.

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: _____



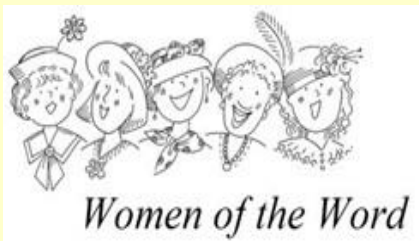
Phyllis Meyer and Betty Hanna



SEWING MEETINGS

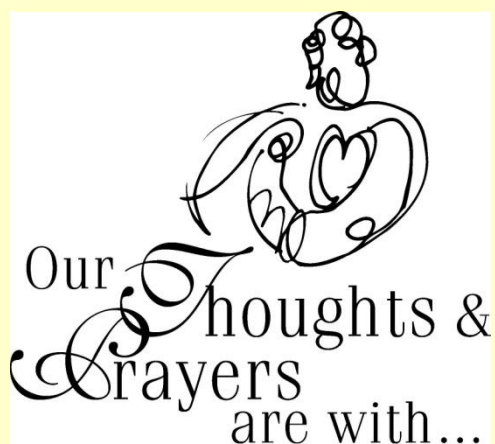
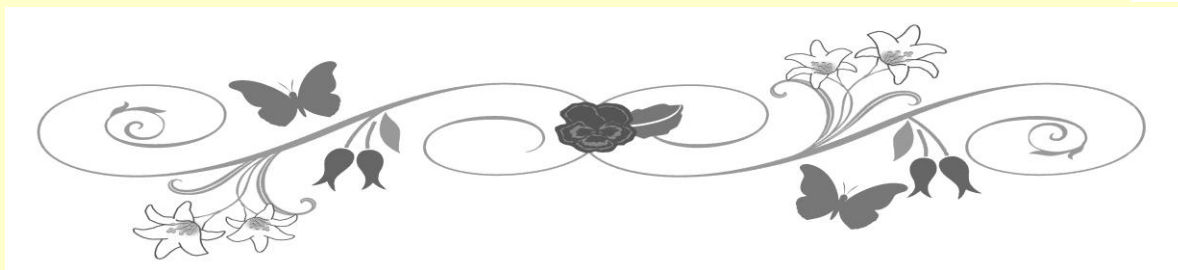
EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY MORNINGS

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



May 4..... Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m.Mary
 May 9.....Executive Meeting 4 p.m.
 May 11.....Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 6 PM
 May 24.....Devotions @ O.H. 2:30 p.m.Ruth
 Clean KitchenHannah

Dorcas Society May 25th @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

David Pearson, Cheryl Denker, Tim Dame, Chuck Frahm, Mike Ray (Vivian Forks' son), Morris Fleishman, Marilyn Bures, Moe Johnson, Ed Forks, Alissa Bousquet, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Janelle McClusky (Donna Preston's Daughter), Janis Nelson (Gordon Nelson's Sister), Andy Kruse, Bill Johnson, Sandra Johnson, Don Andersen, Landon Johnson, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 - Lela Heineman
 2 - Rojane Linder, Layne Canarsky
 4 - Clinton Baker, Chad Baker, Carter Bousquet, Jesse Schold
 5 - Grant Seagren, Dean Johnson
 6 - Kiley Denton, Doug Johnson, Colton Moseman, Ashlyn Barber, Graham Johnson
 7 - Job Egbers, Susan Moseman
 8 - Tanner Case, Nancy Hoffman, Kenneth Johnson
 10 - Catie Kruse, Gretchen Seagren
 11 - Larry Johnson, Beverly Peterson, Jeremiah Dixon
 13 - Whitney (Storie) Tran
 14 - Lucetta Jensen, Gerald Sieck
 15 - Gail Elsasser, AnnaBelle Olson, Jan Kruse, Amanda Huntington
 16 - Zoe Linder, Peggy Peterson, Mindy Nelson
 18 - Trevor Enstrom, Caiden Stover
 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 (60th)
 21 - Charles and Clara Frahm
 26 - Carl & Joan Magnusson

April Attendance

2 & 3148
 9 & 10160
 16 & 17.....162
 23&24(Confirmation)..240

April Finances

Commitments	\$12,272.00
Building Use	\$ 250.00
Designated - Outreach	
Wed. Night Youth	\$3,358.20
Leadership	\$2,798.50
Outreach	\$1,399.25
Sewing/Quilting	\$2,518.65
Sunday School	\$ 23.95
Memorial	\$ 500.00
Misc	\$ 460.50
Total	\$23,581.20



First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska

The church council met April 4, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. with the following members present: Greg Johnson, Carl Magnusson, Carole Johnson, Mona Tanksley, Jim Pelan, Jon Seagren, Karl Lundquist, Sandy Husar and Pastor Eldal.

After devotions were given by Jon Seagren the minutes were read and approved.

The Profit and Loss statement for the first quarter was reviewed. Pastor presented his report for the month of March. He reported that the video series shown during Lent went well. He then expressed his appreciation for all the support given throughout the Lenten and Easter seasons with all the extra activities we have had.

Old Business: Jim Pelan gave an update on the fire extinguishers and the advice he has received from various professionals. Each extinguisher will be checked to make sure it is in working order. It was reported that the gate by the air conditioner has been repaired with a new latch installed. It was noted we need to disassemble the manger and find a place to store it. We have received a bid from Max Christensen to replace the light fixtures on the two poles on the west side of the building. After discussion, a motion was made by Jon Seagren, seconded by Sandy Husar that we accept his bid of \$2,769.44. Motion carried. Jim Pelan will contact Max so he can begin the project. Jon Seagren reported that he has tried to contact a contractor to discuss the project of removing a wall between two Sunday school rooms. He will continue to work on this. We discussed the estimate received from Vern Zessin for furnace replacement. It was noted that the estimated \$20,000 includes only the furnace replacement. To replace the four air conditioners would be roughly an additional \$24,000. It was decided to ask for a more specific bid as well as try and get bids from other installers.

New Business: It was reported that we will purchase a new 100 cup coffee pot to replace the one that is no longer working. It was brought to our attention that it might be nice to have speakers for the hearing impaired placed in some of the pews. It was agreed to have Cheryl check with Black Diamond to get an estimate of cost. We also discussed finding a way to make sure the wi-fi streaming into the building works well.

The Evangelism committee had no report as they did not meet this month.

Devotions for May meeting - Greg Johnson

Communion Helpers - April 30 - Arla Ogden

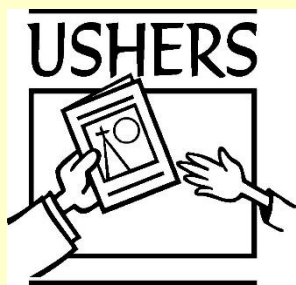
May 1 - Mona Tanksley.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be May 2, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL</p> <p>NATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE 7:00P.M. BACCALAUREATE @ E. FREE CHURCH</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p> <p>NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER</p> <p>ASCENSION OF THE LORD</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE (SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGS) 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>SENIOR SUNDAY MOTHER'S DAY</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP 9AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00AM, 2:00 PM 6:00PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>2:00P.M. OAKLAND- CRAIG GRADUATION</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 6:00PM KOINONIA MEETING</p> <p>DAY OF PENTECOST</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP (Last Day Until Fall) 7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9-11:45A.M. VBS</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p> <p>9-11:45A.M. VBS</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30PM -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP 7:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE</p> <p>9-11:45A.M. VBS</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p> <p>9-11:45A.M. VBS</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9-11:15A.M. VBS</p> <p>11:15 A.M. VBS Program</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>TRINITY SUNDAY</p>	<p>30</p> <p>MEMORIAL DAY</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>				



May 2016 Ushers

May 1st - Sam Schmidt, Roger Moderow, Cal Anderson & Cody Mallette
 May 8th Norm Case, Jim Nelson, Garrison Dodge and Lance Blanc
 May 15th - Norm Case, Dr. Charlie Seagren, Ian Lundquist & Sam Schmidt
 May 22nd - Norm Case, Clare Wiltse, David Deemer and Josh Deemer
 May 29th - Dr. Charlie Seagren, Jim Nelson, Norman Wallerstedt and Leonard Canarsky



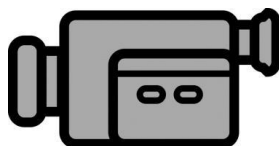
May 2016 Greeters

May 1st - Sara Anderson and Mary Alice Pearson
 May 8th - Judy Dix and Jeanette Blanc
 May 15th - Connie Anderson and Cindy Blanc
 May 22nd - Tammy and Hannah Deemer and Janice Case
 May 29th - Ruth Wallerstedt and Laureen Canarsky



May 2016 - Acolytes

May 1 - Wyatt Seagren
 8 - Josh Deemer
 15 - Jared Krutilek
 22 - Megan Bousquet
 29 - Lane Peterson
 June 5 - Ian Lundquist



Video

May 2016 - Video

May 1 - Selena Johnson
 8 - Marissa Mulder
 15 - Josh Deemer
 22 - Jared Krutilek
 29 - Megan Bousquet
 June 5 - Lane Peterson



May 2016 Organists

1 - Bryan Bohn
 8 - Billye Pearson
 15 - Ruth Wallerstedt
 22 - Bryan Bohn
 29 - Billye Pearson



May 2016 - Sound

1 - Dan Tanksley
 8 - Tess Johnson
 15 - Jim/Dan
 22 - Jim Pelan
 29 - Tess Johnson

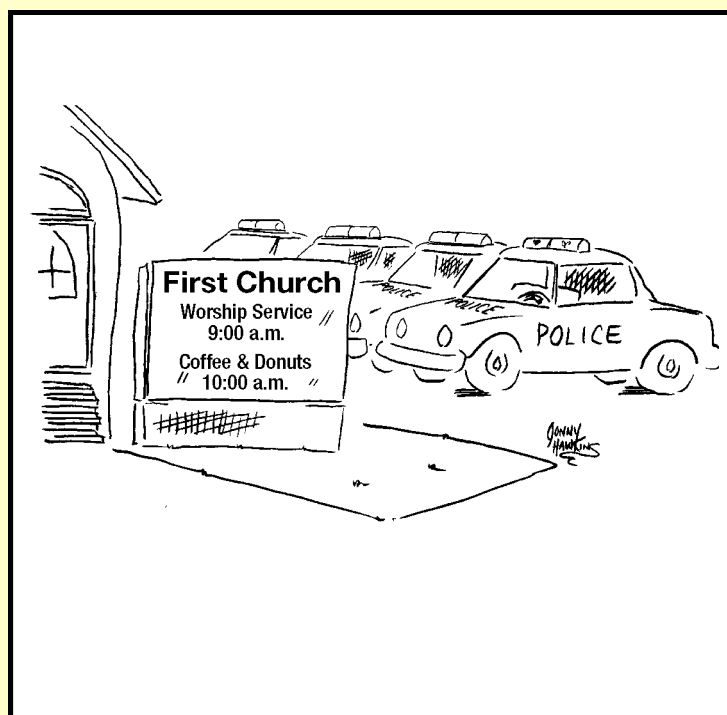
Coffee Servers

Julie Johnson and Karen Johnson	Sunday, May 1, 2016
Kelli Johnson and Melinda Johnson	Sunday, May 8, 2016
Nancy Johnson and Sandra Johnson	Sunday, May 15, 2016
JoAnn Brudigam and Laureen Canarsky	Sunday, May 22, 2016
Heather Klausen and Tess Johnson	Sunday, May 29, 2016
Chloe Johnson and Sally Johnson	Sunday, June 5, 2016

Date of Service



CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



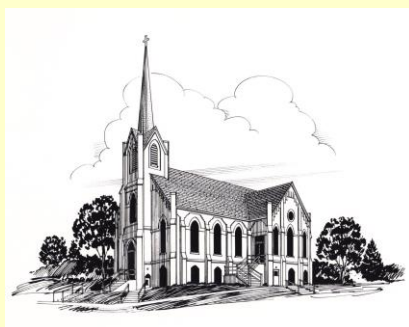
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We are committed to providing
spiritual enrichment to ALL who
seek the Lord.



May
2016

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com
