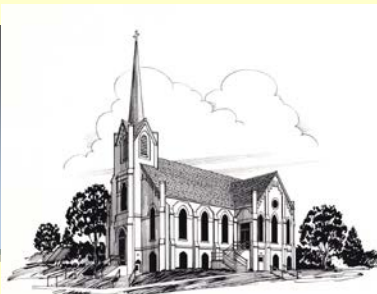


THE SPIRE

May 2015
Volume 3, Issue 5



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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

Recently, I watched part of a television program where old black and white photos from over one hundred years ago were colorized. When they were colorized the people and places in these pictures seemed to come alive.

This transformation makes me think of transitioning from winter into spring.

Winter seems to leave the world devoid of color, then the warmth of spring comes and within weeks the world seems to be bursting with shades of green, purple and white.

This has seemed especially true the past few weeks as everything seems to have reawakened to life.

This awakening to life has also reminded me of the different states in which people can live their lives.

Scripture speaks of a life without faith as simply existing, of simply having biological life, while the life of faith is described as the abundant life, a life which has a spiritual dimension to it; a life filled with meaning and purpose in Jesus Christ.

In this sense, living a life of faith is like living a life filled with color. It is a life lived in the fullness of which God intended us to experience life. Meanwhile, a life without faith and thus without a relationship with God, is a one dimensional, colorless life that leaves a void in the human heart.

As we live lives of faith in Jesus Christ, may we experience the fullness of life God intended for us, and may we invite others to experience this same life of color through faith in Jesus.

God bless,
Pastor Mark

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May 2015 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated are:

- ✚ May Friendship Day — May 1
- ✚ National Family Week — May 3-9
- ✚ National Day of Prayer — May 7
- ✚ Mother's Day — May 10
- ✚ Ascension of the Lord — May 14
- ✚ Day of Pentecost — May 24
- ✚ Memorial Day — May 25
- ✚ Trinity Sunday — May 31

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be honoring our High School Seniors, Sunday May 3rd during the worship service.

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

We **THANK** in a special way Ed Anderson, for making the beautiful table to display the replica of First Lutheran Church. Ed designed and constructed this table to fit in its current location and to fit the dimensions of the replica. We also want to thank Nancy and Greg Johnson for obtaining the protective glass cover for this replica and The Women of the Word for providing the funds for this cover.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Starting May 4th, the first Monday of each month the flower beds will be getting cleaned out. No experience necessary, just willing hands!



NINE OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE confirmed their faith Sunday, April 26, 2015: Jacob Deemer, Garrison Dodge, Brady Jorgensen, Jared Mulder, Gavin Saxton, Ashely Denton, Jamison Johnson, Katie Miller and Rylee Stevenson. We're grateful for their faithfulness to be involved in this educational ministry. We're also grateful for their parents, Pastor Mark and Jean Swanson for all their help with confirmation this year.

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!



We welcomed into membership Neal Vanderworker on Sunday, April 26, 2015 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. **WELCOME Neal!!**

We extend our Congratulations and ask for God's blessing on Georgia and P.D. Stibor who were married Saturday, April 25 at First Ev. Lutheran Church. Congrats Georgia & P.D.



EASTER THANK YOU'S TO:

- ☞ Thank you to those who provided Easter Lilies to decorate the front of the church.
- ☞ Thank you to Jim and Judy for all their hard work creating the presentation on the screen for us.
- ☞ Thank you to the Youth and their Parents for serving breakfast.
- ☞ Thank you to Julie Johnson for her help with the breakfast.
- ☞ Thank you to Bryan Bohn for playing the organ and leading the Choir and the Choir for their anthem.
- ☞ We would like to thank those who provided special music for the 10:30 worship service. Instrumentalists were Jared Mulder, Zakk Lierman, Isaah Stucky and Garrett Seagren.



Thank you to everyone who donated Easter Lilies to beautify our sanctuary Easter. They are as listed below:



- ✠ In Memory of Jacob Johnson by Frank and Janice Johnson
- ✠ In Memory of Jessica Hughes by Mark and Jacque Eldal
- ✠ In Memory of James Wallace by Dorothy Wallace
- ✠ In Memory of Our Loved Ones by Ed & Connie Anderson
- ✠ In Honor of our grandchildren by Tom & Phyllis Meyer
- ✠ In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Lane, Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Dinklage by John and Chloe Johnson
- ✠ In Memory of all loved ones by Jerry and Roberta Sieck
- ✠ In Memory of Rita Lindstrom and Others by Julie and Carl Easton and Family
- ✠ In Memory of Patricia Seagren (Wife, Mother and Grandmother) By Charlie Seagren & Family
- ✠ In Honor of Loved Ones by David, Kathy and Garrett Pearson
- ✠ In Memory of Darlene Wagner by Cal and Sara Anderson
- ✠ In Memory of Garland Erickson by Florence Erickson and Family
- ✠ In Memory of Bob Lindstrom by Marlene Lindstrom and Family
- ✠ In Memory of Jean Johnson and Elroy and Eunice Johnson by the Larry Johnson Family
- ✠ In Memory of Doris Anderson by her family.
- ✠ In Memory of Gene Johnson by his family.
- ✠ In Celebration of all the prayer for Charlie Ray by the Rays
- ✠ In Memory of Veda Hansen by Scott, Valerie, Travis, Jana and Mitchell Lindstrom and Vern Hansen
- ✠ In Memory of Nancy Wallerstedt by Norm Wallerstedt
- ✠ In Memory of Our Loved Ones by Dick and Patty Miller and Tom Wallerstedt
- ✠ With Thanks for all our blessings by Gary and Karen Rosenboom
- ✠ In Memory of Russell Vanderworker by Neal Vanderworker
- ✠ In Memory of Vernita Vanderworker by Neal Vanderworker
- ✠ Happy Easter from the Pelan's - Lynn, Karen, Jim and Danielle

- ✠ The beautiful pink Kalanchoe is For all our Family, past and present from Lee and Sharon Peterson



Phyllis Meyer and Betty Hanna



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



Women of the Word

May 6.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m.Mary
May 11.....Executive Meeting 4 p.m.
May 13.....Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 6 PM
May 24.....Devotions @ O.H. 2:30 p.m.Ruth
Clean KitchenHannah

Dorcas Society May 27th @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights



On Sunday (April 12th) was the date of our Sunday School Spring Outing to the West Point bowling alley. Bowling and lunch were provided. All families were invited to bowl, eat and have some fun!

We did our Mother's Day gifts/crafts during Sunday School and had class.

We will sing on Mother's Day which is May 10 and this will wrap up our Sunday School year.

If anyone is interested in helping teach Sunday School next year please let me know.
Thanks, Angie



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be June 8th - 12th. Alissa Bousquet is once again going to coordinate VBS. She is requesting volunteers. No help is turned away!!!

The Theme this year is "Proclaim His Name". It will be led by three young people from Camp Luther. We will still need helpers to assist the leaders from Camp Luther. These will include: teachers, kitchen help and crafts. All helpers will be great appreciated. The three leaders from Camp Luther will help organize and lead in song.

In addition we will also need host families for the three young people. They will be here from Sunday evening, June 7 through Friday night June 12.

Please find the registration form below and a medical consent form will need to be filled out for each child as well. These forms maybe 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:_____



Camp Luther VBS Health History And Emergency Contact Form

Please complete and return with registration form
ONE for PER camper

Name: _____

VBS Location: _____ Dates of VBS: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell/Work: _____

Secondary Contact: _____

Relationship: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell/Work: _____

Name of Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Dentist/Orthodontist: _____ Phone: _____

Health Insurance Carrier (or attach card): _____

Policy #: _____ Phone: _____

Known Medical Conditions or Allergies: _____

Please list any current medications and why being taken:
(Must be in original container, these will be collected and distributed per instructions)

Are there any dietary restrictions we need to know about? (If yes, please send a snack or contact your VBS coordinator)

Up to date on immunizations? Yes: _____ No: _____ Date of last tetanus shot: _____

This health history is correct and accurate as far as I know, and the person described herein has permission to engage in all prescribed camp activities except as noted. I hereby give permission to the medical personnel selected by the camp director to order X-rays, routine tests, treatment; to release any records necessary for insurance purposes; and to provide or arrange necessary related transportation for this person. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give my permission to the physician selected by the camp director to secure and administer treatment, including hospitalization, for the person named. I allow this person's picture/video to be taken for use in promotion and publicity efforts of Camp Luther of Nebraska, Inc. unless this statement is crossed out.

Signature of parent or Guardian (or self if over 18)

_____ **Date** _____

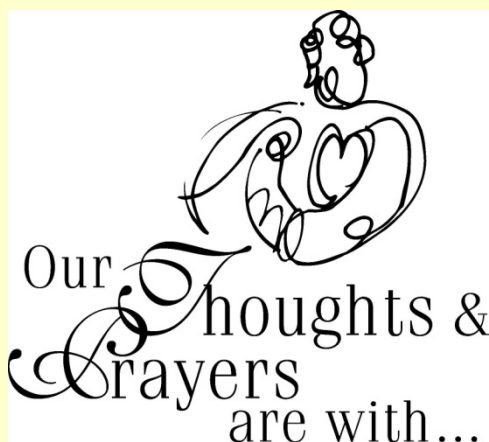
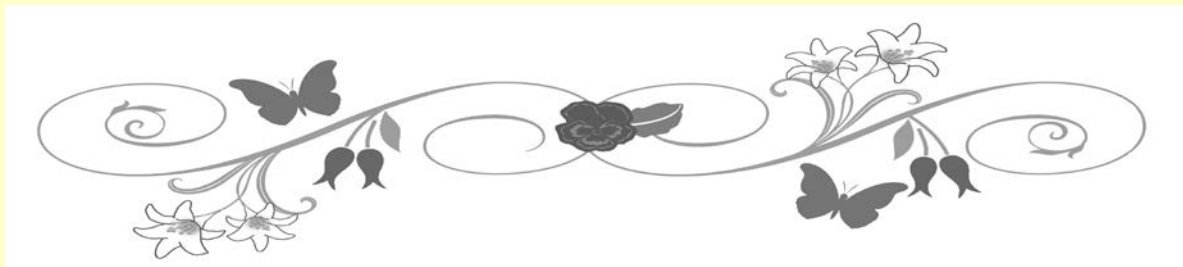
MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 - Lela Heineman
2 - Rojane Linder, Layne Canarsky
4 - Clinton Baker, Chad Baker, Carter Bousquet, Jesse Schold
5 - Grant Seagren
6 - Kiley Denton, Doug Johnson, Colton Moseman, Ashlyn Barber
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, Amanda Heineman
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

19 - Ken & Billye Pearson
21 - Charles and Clara Frahm
26 - Carl & Joan Magnusson



IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE

INCLUDE: Tara (Peterson) Wallesen, Lillian Moeller, Norman Johnson, Duane (Duke) Wagner, Landon Johnson, Rojane Linder, Bill Taylor, Laurie Canarsky, Paige Peterson, Donna Johnson, Gary Rosenboom, Kaylee Fajan, Vernelle Nelson, Marlice Sebade, Bill Dix, Fauniel Paulson, Allen Schrock, Charlie Ray, Rich Tomasek, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, Joseph Vandry, the family of Elaine Chute, and all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins and our youth ministry.



First Evangelical

Oakland, Nebraska

Lutheran Church

The church council met April 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with the following persons were present: Cheryl Denker, Sam Schmidt, Rachel Wise, Jan Wiltse, Greg Johnson, Sandy Husar, Mona Tanksley, Roger Moderow, Carl Magnusson, Jim Pelan, and Jon Seagren. Also in attendance were Pastor Eldal and Audrey Unwin.

After devotions were given by Greg Johnson, Audrey Unwin presented the financial report. She reviewed with the council the annual budget, the profit and loss statement and discussed the various fund reports. It was noted there are also two youth accounts not listed in the annual report. A motion was made by Sandy Husar that the high league account and the high school youth account both be listed in the annual report. Motion seconded by Roger Moderow and carried. A motion was then made by Rachel Wise, seconded by Mona Tanksley that these two accounts also be audited along with the rest of the financial records. Motion carried.

Pastor presented his report of activities for February and March.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and a motion was made by Jan, seconded by Sam to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Evangelism Committee: Rachel reported that the committee met recently and have future plans to meet prior to the council meetings. They will be setting their goals for the year. They have discussed the use of social media as a means of reaching more people. A hands on demonstration of the church's website is scheduled for April 12 after the service. Other items the committee has addressed are the distribution of Bibles to children as well as including information in community welcome packets. Jan Wiltse reported that the Kids Against Hunger activity was a success.

The Property Committee reported that the outdoor sign is again lit and the lights have been replaced in one of the fixtures in the sanctuary. Jim reported the estimate he was given for remodeling the multipurpose room to install a counter and opening between the room and the kitchen was around \$12,000. Other items discussed included: the need to re-varnish the railing on the east stairway, the need to repair the closet doors where the choir robes are stored, the need to take the stable down, the need to work on the fence covering the air conditioning unit. There was discussion about purchasing a television to install in the annex to allow an overflow crowd to better view a service/funeral. It was noted there is no longer a glass cover on the top of the organ. The idea of installing a water softener was discussed. Roger reported that the windows were last caulked 12 years ago. The landscaping on the north side of the parking lot was discussed whether to seed or sod it as well as installing a sprinkler system. It was decided to get an estimate from Sean Linder regarding the sprinkler system option. A table built by Ed Anderson is now in place holding the replica of the church building.

Old Business: Roger reported on the status of the head ushers. A list will be compiled detailing the items that ushers should be aware of i.e. how to run the elevator, etc. Cheryl and Mona will meet soon to review the list of members. We will check with Kylie regarding Sunday School room situation.

New Business: Bryan Bohn was thanked for his work as an organist and choir director. Confirmation will be April 26 and Pastor recommended that all nine students be approved for confirmation. A motion was made by Greg Johnson, seconded by Carl Magnusson to approve the following for confirmation: Ashley Denton, Rylee Stevenson, Jamie, Johnson, Katie Miller, Jacob Deemer, Garrison Dodge, Jared Mulder, Brady Jorgensen, and Gavin Saxton. Motion was unanimously carried.

Communion Helpers: May 2 - Arla Ogden
May 3 - Mona Tanksley

Devotions for May 4 Meeting - Rachel Wise

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

April Attendance

2(Maundy Thursday) ...68
3(Good Friday)75
5(Easter).....374
11 & 12179
18 & 19190
25&26(Confirmation)...299

April Finances

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Commitments | \$8,483.36 |
| Building Use | \$ 450.00 |
| Easter | \$6,015.30 |
| Holy Week | \$ 974.00 |

Designated

Faith Comes by Hearing\$220.00

Outreach

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Building Maintenance | \$7,946.58 |
| Leadership | \$2,648.86 |
| Outreach | \$529.77 |
| Sewing/Quilting | \$2,119.08 |
| Sunday School | \$5.75 |
| Memorial | \$10.00 |
| Misc | \$553.15 |

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Total | \$29,955.85 |
|--------------|--------------------|

May 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | | | | | 1 MAY DAY | 2 5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE |
| 3 9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY | 4 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS | 5 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS | 6 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS 8:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE | 7 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS | 8 | 9 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE |
| 10 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE Sunday School Sings 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY MOTHER'S DAY | 11 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 4:00PM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING | 12 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS | 13 9AM 2 PM, 6PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS 8:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE | 14 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS | 15 | 16 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE |
| 17 9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY 6:00PM KOINONIA MEETING | 18 8:30AM SEWING GROUP | 19 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS | 20 9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 8:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE | 21 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS | 22 | 23 5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE |
| 24 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY | 25 8:30AM SEWING GROUP MEMORIAL DAY | 26 8:30AM SEWING GROUP 7:30PM A.A. MEETINGS | 27 8:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE | 28 8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS | 29 | 30 |
| 31 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00AM BIBLE STUDY |  | | | | | |



May 2015 Ushers :

May 3rd: R. Moderow, C. Seagren, Zakk Lierman & Josh Mulder
 May 10th: J. Nelson, N. Case, Delwin Slatt & James Unwin
 May 17th: J. Egbers, N. Case Dan Tanksley & Sam Schmidt
 May 24th: C. Wiltse, N. Case, Perry Rogers & Norman Wallerstedt
 May 31st: J. Nelson, C. Seagren, Tom Eckhart & Darrell Schneekloth



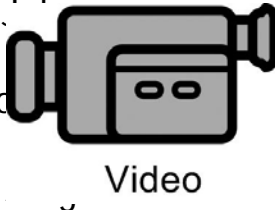
May 2015 Greeters

May 3rd: Natalie Dixon and Jenna Bromm
 May 10th: Sandra Slatt and Audrey Unwin
 May 17th: Mona Tanksley and Tammy Schink
 May 24th: Teresa Rogers and Ruth Wallerstedt
 May 31st: Linda Von Essen and Lois Schneekloth



May 2015 - Acolytes

3 - Selena
 10 - Wyatt
 17 - Jamison
 24 - Jared
 31 - Brady



May 2015 - Video

3 - Colton Thomsen
 10 - Selena Johnson
 17 - Wyatt Seagren
 24 - Jamison Johnson
 31 - Jared Mulder



May 2015 Organists

3 - Bryan Bohn
 10 - Billye Pearson
 17 - Ruth Wallerstedt
 24 - Bryan Bohn
 31 - Bryan Bohn



May 2015 - Sound

3 - Dan Tanksley
 10 - Tess Johnson
 17 - Jim/Dan
 24 - Jim Pelan
 31 - Tess Johnson

Coffee Servers

Amy Jo Krutilek, Judee Dix
 Elisabeth Linder, Pamela Linder
 Diane Lindstrom, Valerie Lindstrom
 Joan Magnusson, Sandra Slatt
 Patricia Moderow, Casey Moseman
 Jane Moseman, Susan Moseman

Date of Service

Sunday, May 3
 Sunday, May 10
 Sunday, May 17
 Sunday, May 24
 Sunday, May 31
 Sunday, June 7

Coordinators

Tess Johnson
 Cheryl Denker
 Jan Wiltse
 Patty Miller
 Cheryl Denker
 Tess Johnson



CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



Abraham in retirement



"Where's the hers?"

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



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.firstlutheran-oakland.com
