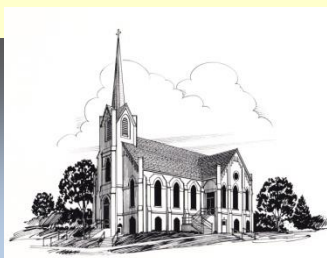


THE SPIRE



July & Aug. 2016
Volume 4, Issue 7

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Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

A few Sundays ago we read in our gospel lesson the poignant story of a demonic man whom Jesus healed.

The passage said this man was often chained and lived in the tombs. We also read that Jesus traveled across the Sea of Galilee to the region where this man lived, cast out the demons and healed him. He then sat at the feet of Jesus in his right mind.

The demons were sent into some nearby pigs, which then ran into the sea and were drowned. The people in the town then asked Jesus to leave, which he did. When the healed man asked to go with him, Jesus told the man to tell others what God had done for him.

In the end, Jesus healed just this one man in that visit, but of course, he was worth the trip.

The passage touched my heart in many ways. It said to me that Jesus cares about each one of us individually. We are "worth the trip." It reminded me that Jesus can set us free from the tombs we sometimes find ourselves living in; perhaps tombs of discouragement, fear or other inner struggles. It encouraged me to remember we can sit at the feet of Jesus and experience his company and peace. We can then tell others what he has done for us.

I am glad we have a God who cares for us personally, and who can heal our inner struggles and give us his peace.

As we trust in Jesus, may we sit at the feet of Jesus this summer and experience all he has for us.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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July & August 2016 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in July & August are:

- Independence Day — July 4
- Purple Heart Day — August 7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

First Lutheran will have a congregational meeting on Sunday, July 17th at 10:45 following the morning worship service to decide on whether to install new furnaces and air conditioners in the church.

This summer (July-August) we will not have assigned Ushers and Greeters. We will have anyone who wishes to help fill in. There will be the normal head ushers present to help direct.

We would like to congratulate Harley and Vernelle Nelson as the king and queen of the Swedish Festival and Karl Lundquist for organizing the Swedish Festival. A great time was had by all!!

Thank you to Becca Bedrnicek, the Mixed Quartet members and Mona Tanksley for their gift of music on Sunday mornings in June.

OUR COMMUNION SERVICES for July will be on July 16th and 17th during our regularly scheduled services.

ANNUAL MUSIC OUTING is at Way North on July 22nd at 6:00 for supper. Everyone involved in our music ministry is welcome!

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARGE AND ROGER MALLER on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. There was cake and coffee to celebrate during fellowship on June 24th.

I LOVE AMERICA! - Musical Presentation Starts at 9:30p.m. July 3rd. Like to sing? Be sure to join the effort to reunite Burt County's 1976 Bicentennial Choir to sing a few numbers from the cantata performed on the steps of the Nation's Capital 40 years ago. New Voices WELCOME!! A final rehearsal will take place on July 3rd at 4:00 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church, Oakland.

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? They can use most anything!!

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.

PAY IT FORWARD. Recently in our church we have had a family whose been impacted by breast cancer. This family has found a way to make a positive out of a negative. Brad Bousquet wanted to get his wife, Alissa roses for her last chemotherapy treatment. But what came out of Brad's plan to include family and friends in the celebration of her last chemotherapy treatment is nothing short of miraculous. They were able to deliver 500 roses and more than \$4500 has been donated to the Susan G. Komen foundation in Alissa's name. Alissa chose to give many of the roses to others who were receiving cancer treatments. To see the news story here is the link: <http://www.kmtv.com/news/up-front-at-4/husband-gets-wife-500-roses-for-last-chemo>. What an amazing story and an amazing family!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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 now be meeting every other Wednesday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. during the summer. Snacks will be provided. It will open it to all current Junior and Senior High school kids in the community. There will be sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wishes to donate for the treats

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. 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!

IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE INCLUDE:

Dorothy Wallace, Arizona Riecken, Doug Carlson, Alicia Nebuda (safe delivery and healthy triplets), Gerald Groene, Stacey Long (Marilyn Peterson's daughter), Roger Maller, Aubreigh Huso (Ann Anderson's great granddaughter), Kent Bunderson, Tim Dame, Chuck Frahm, Morris Fleishman, Marilyn Bures, Moe Johnson, Ed Forks, Alissa Bousquet, Lincoln Nobel Hangman, Janelle McClusky (Donna Preston's Daughter), Andy Kruse, Sandra Johnson, Landon Johnson, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, and Grace Meints, the family of Bertha Mellor, the family of Kent Bunderson, all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins, and our youth ministry.



THANKS YOU'S

We would like to thank in a very special way, Mary Alice Pearson for providing lodging for the young man who lead our Vacation Bible School. In addition, we would like to thank Delwin and Myrna Swanson for providing meals. This helped to make VBS this year another great success!!!

A special thank you to everyone who brought treats for fellowship during the months of May and June. Thank you also to Gerald and Judy Groene for all of their years of making the wonderful rolls we cherish during our Sunday morning fellowship. We are all glad to have you back!!

Candace Johnson and Laurie Schold - July
Janice Johnson and Sharon Peterson - August



SEWING MEETINGS are off for the summer. They will begin again in the fall.



Women of the Word

-JULY-

July 6 Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m..... Hannah
 July 11.....Executive Meeting 9 AM
 July 1312:00 PM - July Brunch—Ruth has Program,
 Hannah/Mary serves brunch
 Clean Kitchen Ruth

-AUGUST-

August 3.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m.Ruth
 August 7.....Devotions @ O.H. @2:30 p.m.....Hannah
NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST !!!!!!!
 Clean Kitchen HS Youth

WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW) are collecting:

- **SPRING AND SUMMER CLOTHING** to be donated to the Open Door Mission.
- **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.
- **FRESH FRUIT ORDERS.** The WOW groups are holding a fundraiser with a fruit sale. You may purchase a box of peaches (\$26), Bartlett pears (\$20), Ginger Gold Apples (\$21), Nectarines(\$26) or Blueberries(\$34). Please contact any of the women or add your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the annex. Order need to be turned into Mona Tanksley (380-0459) or Connie Anderson (685-5329) by Thursday, July 21. The shipment will arrive on August 7th @ TBD. The money will be donated to the Backpack and Pay It Forward programs.

The Women of the Word would like to invite all the women of the church to a brunch on July 13th at 9:30 a.m. All mothers are encouraged to bring their daughters/granddaughters for a morning filled with fun times and fellowship. See you then!!

-Connie Anderson, WOW Coordinator

Dorcas Society is invited to attend the WOW Brunch on Wednesday July 13 at 12:00 PM.

Dorcas Society – July 27 @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights

Dorcas Society – August 31 @ 2:00 p.m. @ Oakland Heights



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Tom Olson, Bill Dix, Annie Magnusson, Georgia Johnson
- 3 - Ostern Heineman, Joan Johnson
- 4 - Larry Shelley
- 6 - Phillip Hall, Phyllis Meyer
- 7 - Cindy Blanc, Bradley Denker, Gordon Olson, Shirley Bromm
- 10 - Dolores Anderson, Michael Blanc
- 11 - Jack Carstensen, Courtnie Rokusek
- 12 - David Schold
- 13 - Zakk Lierman
- 14 - Clinton Johnson
- 15 - Jenna Bromm, Jace Frahm
- 16 - Travis Lindstrom, David Mallette, Delwin Slatt
- 17 - Tonya Hemmer, Rhett Kloth
- 19 - Dillon Johnson, Kendra Moseman, Aaron Tomasek
- 20 - Arla Landholm, Christina Morley
- 22 - Dan Olson, Joanne Peterson, Arick Tomasek, Betty Dixon
- 23 - Patricia Moseman
- 24 - Jon Seagren
- 26 - Alissa Bousquet, Carole Johnson
- 27 - Justin Stevenson
- 28 - Corbin Guill, Harley Nelson
- 30 - Steven Satree
- 31 - Kimberly Guill, Marysa Moseman

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Donna Baldwin, Jakob Krutilek, Kiley Nelson, Ed Forks
- 2 - Carl Osterdorff, Tawsha Peterson, Max Blanc, Connie Larson, Katie Selk
- 3 - Audrey Unwin, Jodi Peterson
- 6 - Jill Johnson, Justin Trout, Kiley Blanc Faller
- 7 - Alan Johnson, Delwin Swanson, Morgann Kloth, Charlotte Hyslop, Logan Ehlers
- 8 - Tanner Heineman, Ryan Jones
- 9 - Karen Ahrens, Curtis Mallette
- 11 - Jana Lindstrom, Shirley Olson, Cody Peterson, Natalie Dixon, Loren Ehlers
- 12 - Kent Andersen. Samantha Canarsky, Jon Holmes Lee Peterson
- 13 - Sandra Slatt, Kelli Johnson, Brenda Andersen
- 14 - Jill Stucky, Kylie Penke, Nancy Moate
- 15 - Gavin Johnson
- 16 - Rex Landholm, Mia Thomsen
- 17 - Dean Brudigam, Hayden McCartney
- 19 - Charles Frahm
- 20 - Gabrielle Linder, Marjorie Maller, Mary Strom, Ava Johnson
- 21 - Morgan Corwine, Andrew Rennerfeldt
- 23 - Mark Carlson, Betsey Florell, Lyndsey Johnson, Robert Moseman, Kameron Shelley, Robert Moate
- 24 - Caleb Bousquet, Clara Frahm Anisten Rennerfeldt, Merle Richards
- 25 - Roger Bailey, Karen Johnson, Elisabeth Linder
- 26 - Ramona Benson, Tess Johnson, Brian Jones, Adrianna Bittner, Vincent Lindstrom, Joan Wolf
- 27 - Bryan Frahm

**JULY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 10 - Vicki & Jeffrey Nelson
- 12 - James & Tamera VonEssen
- 14 - Janelle & Evan Muller
- 15 - Johnnie & Melinda Johnson
- 16 - Donald & Joan Wolf, Mike & Molly Miller
- 18 - Scott & Valerie Lindstrom
- 21 - Charles & Debbie Krutilek
- 22 - Eric & Tara Miller
- 26 - Jill & Mark Johnson
- 27 - Donald & Lura Johanson
- 29 - Chris & Laurine Karstens
- 31 - Travis & Keri Thomsen

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Diana & Peter Kruse
- 2 - Lee & Sharon Peterson
- 3 - Ronald & Delaney Brudigam, Edwin & Betty Hanna, Franklin & Janice Johnson, Joseph & Jane Stucky
- 8 - Don & Candace Johnson, Tanner & Tricia Heineman
- 9 - Boyd & Ruth Blomenkamp
- 11 - Tom & Sandra Mallette
- 12 - Ed & Connie Anderson, Julie & David Jones, Nancy & Robert Wonka
- 15 - Delwin & Hilda Benne
- 16 - Larry & Karla Shelley
- 18 - Delbert & Joanne Peterson, Jason & Amanda Huntington
- 19 - Norm & Sally Johnson
- 21 - Loren & Julie Ehlers
- 25 - Carl & Julie Easton
- 28 - Jim & Leann Jorgensen
- 29 - Tony & Nancy Bromm, Chad & Elisabeth Linder
- 30 - Jeffrey & Judith Troupe, Tom & Phyllis Meyer



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met June 6, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. with the following persons present: Greg Johnson, Jim Pelan Carole Johnson, Jon Seagren, Sam Schmidt, Sandy Husar, Mona Tanksley, Karl Lundquist, Rachel Wise and Pastor Eldal. After devotions were given by Mona, the meeting was called to order and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Profit and Loss statement was reviewed noting that through May the income has exceeded expenses by \$1578. Pastor presented his report for activities in the month of May. He reported that this year the attendance at the monthly youth pizza event has been the greatest ever.

Old Business: We discussed the purchase of individual listening devices for hearing impaired and Greg agreed to check out what other companies have to offer. The heating and cooling project was discussed noting that we have received two bids. A motion was made by Sandy Husar that we accept the bid from Olson Heating and Plumbing to replace our heating and cooling systems. Motion seconded by J. Seagren. An amendment to the motion was made by R. Wise that we take money from the parsonage fund to pay for this project and repay the amount borrowed using funds from the Outreach Fund within a five-year period. The motion was unanimously carried. After discussion, it was decided to schedule a special meeting for July 17 to seek the congregation’s approval of this project. All members will be notified per mail and by announcement at worship services. In the meantime, we will check to see if there is any financing available through the furnace/air conditioning company and check on the warranty given. The exterminator has checked out the building, but Greg has not received any report of his findings to date. It was felt the new outside lights are working well. J. Seagren reported on the project of removing a wall between two Sunday school rooms. He learned that it was not a load bearing wall, but will check with a contractor once more before work begins to remove it. Volunteers will be needed to assist with this project. Also Jon will check on the status of insulation in that part of the building.

The Evangelism Committee met recently and they reported that a Praise Service will be scheduled for June 12, July 10 and August 14. R. Wise reported on the next steps with the faith milestones noting that a kickoff is planned for Sunday School, youth and volunteers. A calendar is planned that will list activities such as the pub, youth pizza day, youth meetings, etc. Some family activities are also being planned.

New Business: The property committee reported that two window well covers have been broken. Options were discussed and J. Pelan agreed to research ideas to replace these. The idea of purchasing an AED to have onsite was discussed. M. Tanksley will look into the cost of purchasing a unit.

Volunteers have provided rolls and treats for the coffee hour on Sunday morning during the time Gerald Groene has been unable to provide rolls. It was felt that we should do something special for Gerald to express appreciation for all he has done for our church. The LCMC conference is October 2-5 in Denver. Two delegates will attend from our congregation, but if anyone else is interested in attending they may do so. Communion for June and July will be moved to the third weekend of the month. The white altar cloth was noted to be soiled so it will be taken to be dry cleaned.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with all saying the Lord’s Prayer. The next meeting will be July 5 at 7:30 p.m.

- Communion Helpers - June 18 - Arla Ogden
June 19 - Karl Lundquist
- Devotions- July 5 - Sandy Husar

Mona Tanksley, Secretary





June Finances

Commitments	\$9,667.25
Designated	
Special Benevolence-	
Pay It Forward \$	445.00
Building Use \$	200.00
Memorial Fund	\$1,650.00
Misc	\$ 60.00
TOTAL	\$12,022.25







June Attendance

4 (No Sunday Service)..	26
11&12	137
18&19.....	118
25&26.....	153

July 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<p>1</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>3</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>4</p> <p> INDEPENDENCE Day</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p> <p>7:30PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS</p> <p>6:30PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:30AM PRAISE SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00PM WOW BRUNCH - RUTH-PROGRAM & HANNAH/MARY SERVE</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>10:45AM CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</p> <p>6:00PM KOINONIA MEETING</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>6:30PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICES</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>27</p> <p>2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>31</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>						

August 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<p>1</p> <p>7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS</p> <p>7 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>County Fair Starts</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>2:30 PM DEVOTIONS @O.H.</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>  <p>County Fair Ends</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9AM 2 PM, 6PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:30AM PRAISE SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p> <p>Back To School</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:30AM CONTEMPORARY/ COMMUNION SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>6:00PM KOINONIA MEETING</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:00PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7 -8:30 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p> <p>2:00PM DORCAS SOCIETY</p>			

We will not have our normal Ushers and Greeters stipulated for the summer months of July and August. This year we will have the Church Council Members and anyone who wishes to help fill in. There will be the normal head ushers present to help direct.

JULY 2016 USHERS :

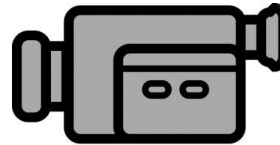
3rd: S. Schmidt, Roger Moderow
 10th: Jim Nelson, Norm Case
 17th: Dr. Charlie Seagren, N. Case
 24th: C. Wiltse, N. Case
 31st: Dr. Charlie Seagren, Norm Case

August 2016 USHERS :

7th: S.Schmidt, Roger Moderow
 14th: Jim Nelson, Norm Case
 21st: Dr. Charlie Seagren, Norm Case
 30th: C. Wiltse, Norm Case



Jul 3 - Selena Johnson
 10 - Wyatt Seagren
 17 - Ashten Rennerfeldt
 24 - Marissa Mulder
 31 - Josh Deemer
 Aug 7 - Jared Krutilek
 14 - Megan Bousquet
 21 - Lane Peterson
 28 - Ian Lundquist
 Sep 4 - Zoe Linder



Video

Jul 3 - Colton Thomsen
 10 - Selena Johnson
 17 - Wyatt Seagren
 24 - Ashten Rennerfeldt
 31 - Marissa Mulder
 Aug 7 - Josh Deemer
 14 - Jared Krutilek
 21 - Megan Bousquet
 28 - Lane Peterson
 Sep 4 - Ian Lundquist



July 3 - Bryan Bohn
 10 - Billye Pearson
 17 - Ruth Wallerstedt
 24 - Bryan Bohn
 31 - Bryan Bohn
 August 7 - Bryan Bohn
 14 - Billye Pearson
 21 - Ruth Wallerstedt
 28 - Bryan Bohn



July 3 - Dan Tanksley
 10 - Tess Johnson
 17- Jim/Dan
 24 - Jim Pelan
 31- Tess Johnson
 August 7 - Dan Tanksley
 14 - Tess Johnson
 21 - Jim/Dan
 28 - Jim Pelan

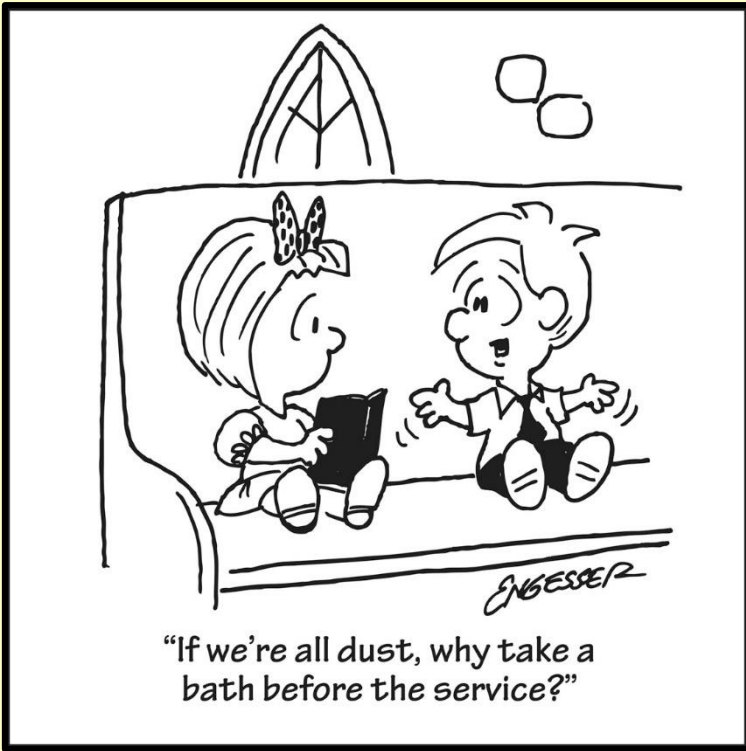
COFFEE SERVERS

<u>COFFEE SERVERS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Elisabeth Linder and Pamela Linder	Sunday, July 3, 2016
Diane Lindstrom and Valerie Lindstrom	Sunday, July 10, 2016
Tess Johnson and Joan Magnusson	Sunday, July 17, 2016
Annie Magnusson and Sandra Mallette	Sunday, July 24, 2016
Heidi Johnson and Brenda Andersen	Sunday, July 31, 2016
Phyllis Meyer and Patty Miller	Sunday, August 7, 2016
Patty Moderow and Casey Moseman	Sunday, August 14, 2016
Jane Moseman and Susan Moseman	Sunday, August 21, 2016
Susan Mulder and Suzie Nelson	Sunday, August 28, 2016
Arla Ogden and AnnaBelle Olson	Sunday, September 4, 2016



**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



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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