ST. PAUL’S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Number: 885-2221

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Elders: Bruce Mohr: 269-8771; John Greder: 269-8337; Deryl Hennings: 885-2877; John McCall: 269-5163

May 2019

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ:

 A blessed Easter season to you all! Easter is a time for us to think about new life. As we look around us we see new life springing up in the trees, the plants, the fields. As we look to our church we see new life springing up as we welcome new confirmands into communicant membership. But most importantly we see new life springing up as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

 In celebrating Christ’s resurrection from the dead, we use a number of different symbols. Jesus himself used the “sign of Jonah” as he referred to His resurrection from the dead (Matthew 12 and 16). Others have used different signs over the years to symbolize and remind us of the resurrection.

 The butterfly makes a good symbol for the resurrection as it reminds us of St Paul’s words:

**Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. - 1 Cor. 15:51-52.**

In the butterfly we have a symbol of the change that takes place. The caterpillar enters its cocoon, much like a person is laid in the tomb, but doesn’t remain there. It emerges, changed, but filled with new life.

 Another symbol we see often around Easter is the “Easter Lilly”. These flowers remind us of the hope and new life we have in Christ as we see them spring forth and bloom beautifully each spring. In addition, their color is a reminder of the purity and holiness Christ brings to each of us by faith in Him. Finally, the beauty they show forth is a reminder of the beautiful gift we have been given through Christ’s death and resurrection. This gift of forgiveness and life is ours through our “Beautiful Savior”.

 One final remind we have of Christ’s resurrection comes on a weekly basis. It is the day of worship itself, Sunday. Each week we gather together on the day of Christ’s victory over death and the grave, to worship God and receive the gifts He has to give us, gifts He won for us through the death and resurrection of Christ.

 All these symbols work together to remind us of this one thing, this one day. It is this day that gives us our confidence of faith. It is this day that gives us our hope, our comfort, and our peace. For as St Paul puts it,

**And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. - 1 Cor. 15:17**

But Christ has been raised and our faith is not in vain. We put all our hope in Him because He is the one who rose triumphantly that Easter morn.

 So I encourage you, enjoy the little reminders of Easter and the resurrection that surround us. Watch with joy as anew life springs forth on the branches of the trees, in the songs of the birds, in the flowers of your garden, and all around us in the fields. And let them all remind you of the new life, the resurrection hope, and the eternal life that we have all been promised in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ is risen!

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

**LYF MEETING**

LYF Meeting is Wednesday, May 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the LYF room.

**LCW MEETING**

LCW Meeting is Wednesday, May 8th at 1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

**CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation questioning will be held on Wednesday, May 1st at 7:00 p.m. All Catechism families 5th-7th Grade will host and provide refreshments afterward.

On May 5th, three eighth grade members will make a public confession of the faith given in their baptism and nurtured through years of instruction in Sunday School and weekday classes. Confirmands in 2019 are Jenna Hanson, Brenner Jung, Keenan Riddle, Emily Sorensen



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

The last day of Sunday School will be May 13th. Sunday School will start back up in the fall on September 9th. Have a great summer.

**BACCALAUREATE**

The Blessing of our High School Graduates will be during the Service on May 12th. Our graduates are: Caleb Creese, Elizabeth Jones, Kaitlyn Conto



Thank you for all the donations to Orphan Grain Train in April. The next month will be October.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Please mark your calendar for Monday, July 15 – Thursday, July 18 evenings for Vacation Bible School.

Please talk to the Pastor or Board of Education (Korey Meseck, Angie Teut, Tina Bernholtz) if you would like to help.



**The Denison & Mapleton Circuits’**

 **Ascension Service at Mission Central**

**Thursday, May 30, 7:00 pm**



**Guest Speaker**

 **Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer,**

**President of Concordia Seminary,**

**St. Louis**

**Supper**

**Beginning at 5:30 p.m.
in the M.C. Fellowship Hall**

**NEWSLETTER SPONSORS**

The newsletter this month is sponsored in honor of cancer patients & their families.

Please contact the office if you’d like to sponsor the newsletter. The cost is $37.

**GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR**

This program is a ½ hour worship service heard on Sioux City, KSCJ, 1360 AM, at 8:00 am.

**“THY STRONG WORD”**

**‘**Thy Strong Word’ is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 a.m. Monday through Saturday on KDSN 107.1FM).

May 6-11 Rev. Merle Mahnken

 Immanuel, Schleswig

May 13-18 Rev. David Loeschen

 Bethlehem/Our Savior

May 20-25 Rev. Richard Merrill St. John, Charter Oak

May 27-June 1 Rev. Nathan Peitsch

 St. Paul’s, Ute

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY**

 We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit.

Kristina Bernholtz, Austin Leitz 3

Kendra Creese 4

Bernice Schuitema 6

Jennifer Burbridge 7

Jacob Sorensen 8

Jeffery Mordhorst, Matthew Leitz, 9

Roger Krohn

Ruth Seieroe, Elaine Vogt 11

Justin Hanson 12

David Hageman 13

Evelyn Thies 14

Joan Hennings 17

Fred Mohr, Carol Ullerich 18

Kimberly Creese, Korey Meseck 19

Mason Kuhlmann 21

Lillian Carritt, Josiah Peitsch 22

Matthew Sorensen 23

Matthew Hanson 27

Steven Gust, Kimberly King, Nina Leitz 31

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**VOTERS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**APRIL 7, 2019**

**REPORTS**

**-Elders-**2nd Tues. each month designated for Council Meetings-Voters Meetings following Sunday.

**-Trustees**-Proceeding with floor tiling/Utilizing volunteers for church cleaning/Gathering bids & info on front step repair.

**-Board of Education**-2019 VBS-Week of July 15 - 18/SUMMER Sunday School recess begins May 12th - FALL Sunday School begins 9th.

**-Stewardship**-Contribution envelopes ordered/All cash collections to home use.

**VOTER APPROVALS/DIRECTIVES**

**-Yard Care-** approved contract with a yard care company

**-New Pictorial Directory**-Requested several companies’ info before proceeding with Directory*-(Directory book/pics free to congregation-if individual/family wish additional photos avail for a fee)*

**-2019 Special Mission Projects**-3 Chosen:

 **-Lutheran Blind Mission**-Aid work among blind/sight impaired.

 **-LCMS Disaster Relief** – Aid flood victims in Nebraska/Iowa

 **-Lutherans for Life**— Aid educational programs/work in areas of abortion

