

# ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Number: 885-2221

Pastor Nathan Peitsch

Elders: John Greder: 269-8337; Deryl Hennings: 885-2877; John Thies 882-3379; Jim Ewoldt 251-5576

MAY 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently I was reading the final chapters of Exodus where the details of the Tabernacle were laid out for the people of Israel. While I will not recount them all for you here since it spans several chapters I would like to call your attention to that section of Exodus chapters 36-39. The fabric for the curtains, the wood for the tent poles, the brass for the altar are all listed in detail.

While we don't have such strict regulations placed on us for the things we use in worship, these passages do suggest that we should take care in what our worship space looks like. We honor God with the way we decorate and keep our sanctuary. With this in mind, our sanctuary gets decorated with the beautiful altar you see, flowers placed upon that altar and around it during various celebrations. And we have different paraments that are used to help us mark the changing of seasons and the celebration of different festivals.

Throughout the year we see different colors adorn our altar, pulpit, lectern, and even myself with the different colored stoles I wear. Each color serves as a reminder of different things throughout the church year. Blue during the season of Advent reminds us of the hope we have in Christ as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the newborn king. Blue also calls to mind the heavenly kingdom Christ has promised to us all through faith in Him.

The color white can be seen in our sanctuary at various times throughout the year. Christmas, the Sunday's after Easter, and various holidays such as Epiphany, Transfiguration Sunday, and Trinity Sunday. White is often used to symbolize the holiness of God as well as reminding us of the white robes we too have been promised through our baptism.

Green is used for almost half the year since it is used during both the Sundays after

Epiphany and the Sundays after Pentecost. This color is used to symbolize our new life in Christ as well as reminding us how we grow in faith through the Holy Spirit and the study of Scripture.

Purple reminds us of the bruising Christ Jesus suffered on our behalf and thus it is used as the color for Lent. It also brings to mind the purple kingly robe used to mock Christ during His trial on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Black reminds us of the stain of sin as well as our sorrow for those sins, and is used on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday.

Then there are the rarer colors, ones you don't see in church as often. Recently we blessed our newest set of paraments the gold set for Easter Sunday. This color is to show us what a treasure Christ won for us through His death and resurrection. Gold helps to really set Easter Sunday apart as a truly special holiday and a day of great celebration.

Red is used on various occasions to symbolize the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives. You may see red at confirmations, ordinations, and specific holidays such as Pentecost and Reformation Day. But there is another type of Red that can show up. This red is a darker red with more solemn tones. It reminds us of the blood of Christ shed for us and is used for Palm Sunday and the celebration of Holy Week.

Finally I suspect some of you have heard me make mention especially during the season of Advent of the rose color. This is the one that many think of as the pink color. You see it on the advent wreath every year as the third candle we light (often called the pink one by the acolytes.) However, rose is also a traditional color for the 4th Sunday in Lent. In both cases these Sundays are emphasized as little days of celebration in the midst of seasons of preparation and reflection. While this color is not necessary for these days and is typically substituted with the blue or purple of Advent or



Lent, the rose color symbolizes that little bit of beauty and rejoicing in the midst of the more solemn seasons of Lent and Advent.

Most of these colors you can now see represented in our sanctuary at various times in the year. Rose is one of those that is not normally seen, but a set of rose paraments has been added to our memorial list to help us in our celebration. These colors all aim to draw our attention to the many things God has done and continues to do for us. May God continue to bless your worship as you enjoy the beauty of His sanctuary.

In Christ,  
Pastor Nathan Peitsch

## **CONFIRMATION**

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, four 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 2021 are Matthew Hanson, Brooklyn Leitz, Sara Rosener, William Sorensen.



## *Easter lilies in Memory of:*

### **Given by**

Dorothy Gust & Family  
Mohr Family  
Harvey & Lynette Thies

Beth & Jim Ewoldt

Aronson Family  
Family  
Timm

Malone  
Loretta Hinrichsen

### **in Memory of**

Loved Ones  
Fred & Loved Ones  
Clara & Kermit  
Amunson  
Elmer & Marina  
Thies

Warren, Marilyn, &  
Lori Bretthauer

Swede Aronson  
Donna (Jacobs)

Myrna (Jacobs)

Loved Ones

**Thanks to all who brought lilies.**



## **BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY**

The Blessing of our High School Graduates will be during the Service on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our graduates are: Kendra Creese, Katy Krohn, Jamison Thies, Teja TenEyck & Thomas Sorensen.



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

The last day of Sunday School will be May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sunday School will start back up in the fall on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Have a great summer.



Sunday School class outside on Easter Sunday.



## **DRIVE UP COMMUNION**

On Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, there will be drive-up communion from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the back-parking lot.



## LCW

LCW meeting is Wednesday, May 12 at 1:00 pm in the LYF room.

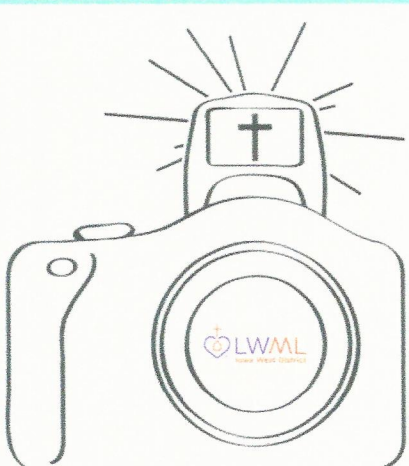
## NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

The newsletter for May is sponsored in honor of Mother's Day. Thank you!

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

**Starting May 3rd:**  
**Virtual 6 Week Bible Study**

Join us on our YouTube channel: [lwmliwawestdistrictsocial](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmliowawestdistrictsocial)  
Every Monday at 6:30 pm a new study will be posted to view



Every Picture Can Tell  
**GOD'S** Story



### **Mission Central – Visiting Missionaries 2021**

LCMS World Mission 40718 Highway E16  
Mapleton, IA 51034 712-882-1029 Gary Thies  
(gary.thies@lcms.org) [www.missioncentral.us](http://www.missioncentral.us)

- June 10, 2021 – Phil and Cheryl Magness – West Africa – 10:00 am
- June 19, 2021 – Rev. Michael Paul family – Taiwan – 1:00 pm
- June 19, 2021 – Rev. Joel Fritsche family – Dominican Republic – 1:30 pm
- August 21, 2021 – Rev. David Baker family – Asia – 6:00 pm
- September 25, 2021 – Erin MacKenzie – Dominican Republic – 1:00 pm

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meeting is Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

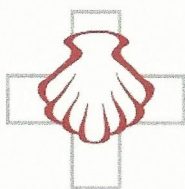
## **Orphan Grain Train +**

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

## **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, Jesse Thies	7
Jacob Sorensen, NiKay Schaffer	8
Jeffery Mordhorst, Matthew Leitz,	9
Roger Krohn	
Elaine Vogt	11
Justin Hanson, Lainey Bernholtz	12
Shawn King	
David Hageman	13
Evelyn Thies	14
Joan Hennings	17
Carol Ullerich	18
Kimberly Creese	19
Paul Tuttle	20
Mason Kuhlmann	21
Lillian Carritt, Josiah Peitsch	22
Matthew Sorensen	23
Matthew Hanson	27
Travis Meadows	28
Steven Gust, Kimberly King, Nina Leitz	31



## **PLEASE GIVE US A CALL**

- before going to the hospital
- birth of your baby
- death in the family
- making wedding plans
- address and name changes
- private communion

## **GOOD SHEPHERD HOUR**

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

## **MAIN STREET LIVING**

Main Street Living is a television ministry of the Lutheran churches of Missouri-Synod and of the Iowa West District. The worship service is on Sundays at 10 am on channel 9 KCAU, the ABC Network from Sioux City.

## **“THY STRONG WORD”**

Thy Strong Word is a 5 min. daily devotional message given by LC-MS pastors of the Denison area and sponsored by area congregations including St. Paul’s. It is aired at 6:25 a.m., Mon.-Sat. on KDSN, FM107.1

May 3-8 Rev. Richard Merrill  
Multi-Point, Charter Oak

**May 10-15 Rev. Nathan Peitsch**  
**St. Paul’s, Ute**

May 17-22 Rev. Mark Kluzek  
St. John, Kiron/Faith, Deloit

May 24-29 Rev. Josh Keinath  
Zion, Denison

May 31-June 5 Rev. Merle Mahnken  
Immanuel, Schleswig





## **April 18, 2021, Voters Meeting Recap**

The meeting opened with prayer, and the minutes of the previous January 17, 2021 meeting were on the screen. The General Fund went from \$21,374.95 as of January 1, 2021, to \$14,643.64 as of March 31, 2021. Confirmation questioning will be April 28, 2021. A letter from Synod was received that said the request from the Council of Presidents to extend the Triannual Convention had passed, so the Synod convention will be held in 2023, and the Iowa District West Convention will be held in 2022. The Wednesday Bible Study will resume when the weather warms up, and the Sunday morning Bible Study is continuing to meet in the sanctuary. Services have resumed at Silver Ridge and Eventide, and Pastor will rejoin the schedule next month after his second Covid shot. Attendance: January services-213, average-45. Communion-80, average-40. February services-81, average-20. Communion-74, average-37. March services-217, average-54. Communion-80, average-40. 122 attended the two Easter services on April 4. Because Pastor did not use any vacation days in 2020, he will start taking a personal day every Monday yet will still do Drive-up Communion and take calls. He will be gone a week in June to Camp Okoboji to lead devotions at one of the Cub Weeks. A collection plate will be set out for donations to Lutheran Family Services to help with counselling for Covid-related depression. The trustees are still looking for someone to paint the steeple. VBS was all on-line last year, and the board of education hopes to have children attending in-person this year, maybe using last year's material with modifications. They are still working on ideas, including maybe holding it outside and trying evenings or Saturday mornings. It is hard to set dates as there are conflicts with sports and other churches' VBS sessions. They are planning on getting the LYF activated again, and planning outside activities and devotions. The Stewardship Board is planning on asking the Grulkes of Lutheran Bible Translators come again to make a presentation, and the envelopes for 2022 have been ordered. The gold paraments were dedicated and used on Easter. There are two colors yet that we do not have: Rose for the third Sunday in Advent and the fourth in Lent, and also Crimson for Holy Week—Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday. There is \$400.00 set aside and it has been added to the memorial list. It was brought up that the green set is quite worn, and a motion was made and carried to look at the old paraments and if there is a need there to put them on the list as well. A memorial was given for a flagpole out front. After discussion, a motion was made and carried to add it to the list of memorials. Next Council meeting will be May 13, 2021. Next voters meeting will be July 18, 2021. A motion to adjourn was made and carried. Pastor led the voters in praying the Lord's Prayer.



**SPECIAL ASCENSION SERVICE  
AT MISSION CENTRAL ON MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021  
WITH A MEAL AT 5:00PM – WORSHIP AT 6:30PM**

# WANTED

**A GREAT NUMBER OF “NOT NORMAL” PEOPLE  
IN ATTENDANCE FOR A SPECIAL EVENT AT  
MISSION CENTRAL!**



President of the Nebraska District the Honorable Rev. Richard Snow

What a JOY and blessing to have the privilege of having Rev. Richard Snow as our guest speaker for the Ascension Worship Service at Mission Central on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021! A wonderful meal will be provided at no cost, and then Rev. Snow will have a very, very special message for everyone. Pastor Snow is an excellent speaker, and as president of the Nebraska District has excellent experiences, and has served as a parish pastor at Auburn and Battle Creek, Nebraska! With such a busy schedule we are so blessed to have Rev. Snow as our guest! Please save this date on your calendar and plan on attending this special service to celebrate the Lord's Ascension on Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2021 at the world famous Mission Central!





# Carl and Kelsey GRULKE

MaryJane, Audrey, Judah, Gideon & Isaac

*We all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done! - Acts 2:11*



March 2021 Update

## Hitting the ground running!

We have returned to Botswana! Since getting back at the very end of 2020, we have been busy. Here's a snapshot of what we've been doing so far here in 2021:

### Team checking



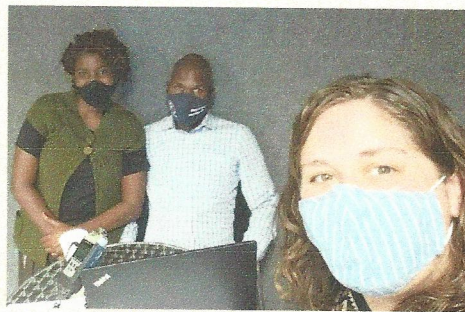
The Shekgalagari team has worked hard at team checking, the second phase of the translation process. We are so excited that we are on our **LAST** book of the New Testament in this stage. We are hoping to hold community checking workshops later this month, so pray for the communities where we will be working.

### House remodel



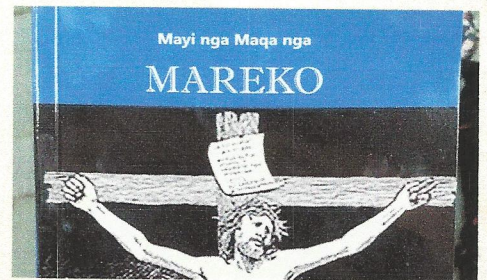
We are also remodeling a house owned by our local church to suit our family's needs. We are in the first part of this project and hope that this house, once finished, will fit our family for many years to come here in Botswana!

### Recording



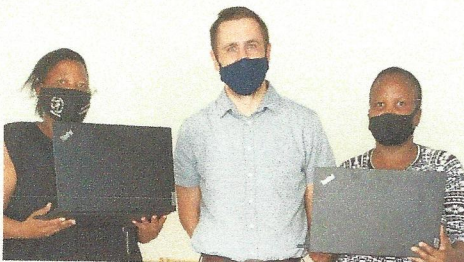
The Shiyeyi team was able to record the audio of the Gospel of Mark so that we will be able to release an audio version at the same time as the print version. This will be a great tool for engaging speakers of Shiyeyi who may prefer to listen to the Scriptures instead of reading it. We will also work to develop a smartphone app for Shiyeyi too.

### Mark mini-launches



The Shiyeyi team is planning COVID-safe mini launches for later in March. They will be traveling to 10 Shiyeyi speaking villages to share this new publication with them. Pray for this exciting step in the project progress!

### New computers



LBT was able to fund new laptop computers for our Shekgalagari and Shiyeyi teams, replacing machines that were 5 to 8 years old. These computers will be a great blessing to our translators for many years to come.

### Kids are back to school!



**CONTACT:** [carl-kelsey.grulke@lbt.org](mailto:carl-kelsey.grulke@lbt.org)  
PO Box HA 137 HAK  
Maun, Botswana

**CONNECT:**  The Grulkes' LBT Adventures

**GIVING:** <https://lbt.org/grulke>



Lutheran Bible  
Translators



# What's coming next?

**March 22-26** - Mark mini-launches in Gumare area

**March 26** - Happy Birthday MaryJanel!

**March 28-Apr 1** - Shekgalagari community checking in Maun

**April 1** - Last day of term 1 at school

**April 5** - Happy Easter!

**April 18** - Third anniversary of our arrival in Botswana

**Late April** - Trip to Gaborone (capital) for meetings with Bible Society of Botswana

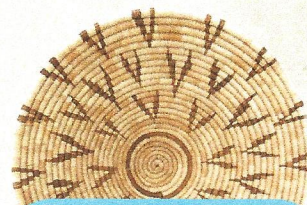
**May 4** - Term 2 starts at Matshwane School

**May 6** - Happy birthday Carl!


**May 10** - Shekgalagari Advisory Committee meeting

**May** - Shekgalagari community checking - TBD

**May** - Annual General Meeting for Bible Society of Botswana  
An opportunity to share these projects with other partners and to interact with local church leaders.



These meetings are important for developing our relationships with our partner organization here in Botswana. There is so much passion and energy for this work and we love to see that in our colleagues!



A rainbow along the roadside in the Kalahari Desert. A wonderful sight as rainy season comes to an end.

## How you can help

**PRAY** We need people praying for each of us, our family, the projects, the translators and more. Look right for more specifics!

**GIVE** We need the financial support of our partners to make our ministry possible. Give online at [lbt.org/grulke](http://lbt.org/grulke) or by mailing a check to LBT. Contact us if you want to set up a regular gift.

**TELL** We need people to support us in raising awareness for our ministry. You can share the mission of Bible translation with your church or friends!

## Cross cultural insights

One of my favorite parts about working cross-culturally is being able to hear how other people groups view God. I (Kelsey) recently had the opportunity to sit down with the Wayeyi translators and learn more about their culture and beliefs. The Bayeyi people refer to God (*Urezha*) as *Hana Idatje, Hana Idazimi* - "the father of the dawn and the father of the setting sun." That statement reminds us that God is the omnipotent creator of the world. God is in control of all things.

They also call God *hana ka tata ku inkhirizi*- "the father of the slippery anthill." You can't climb a slippery anthill. You can't manipulate God. God is great in power. May these pieces of wisdom give you a new and deeper understanding of the God of all of us!

## Prayer requests for our family

For our return to Botswana and as we continue to adjust to life here.

For the many blessings of being back among our co-workers, colleagues and friends here.

For the success and progress of the projects over the last few months.

For the excitement around the launch of the Gospel of Mark to invigorate the Shiyeyi community with excitement for the Word of God.

For the Shekgalagari team to push forward toward their goal of finishing the New Testament this year

For the construction project on what will be our home, that everything will go smoothly and come in under budget.

For the Bible Society of Botswana, that our partnership would continue to be a blessing to us, to them and to the language communities we serve.

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We are thrilled to share that we met our funding goal for 2020 thanks to your continued generous support. *Re a lebogile thata* (thank you very much!)



# Camp Okoboji

## JOIN THE SUMMER STAFF FAM!

Make a difference this summer! Join the Summer Staff Family! Camp Okoboji is looking for high-quality individuals who are ready to immerse themselves in a Christian community that is devoted to serving Camp Okoboji's campers, families, and guests!

Do you know a high school youth or college-aged young adult who would be a great fit for summer staff?

Refer them to us!



ACCEPT THE CALL... TO BE A  
volunteer counselor



## BE A VOLUNTEER COUNSELOR!

Accept the call to be a Volunteer Counselor! We are seeking high school youth and college-aged young adults to serve as counselors during Cub Weeks, Junior High Week, and Youth Week. [Apply at campokoboji.org](http://campokoboji.org)

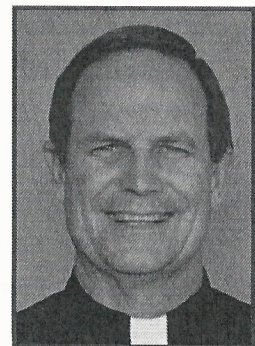
Camp Okoboji's Volunteer Counselor Program is designed to invest in leadership development and Christian Character Formation of youth and young adults. From their experience, youth and young adults will leave more confident and better equipped to fulfill their calling as a servant-leader in their various vocations!

## The Vocation of Raising Children in the Faith: A Family-Centered Congregational Approach

May 17-19, 2021

Dr. W. Mart Thompson, Associate Professor of Practical Theology & Director of the Specific Ministry Program (SMP) at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will guide pastors, DCEs, teachers, ministry teams, and lay people through this workshop. This workshop will explore helping ministries to be family-centered and church-supported in raising children in the faith. More vital than ever today, we need to incorporate into the ministry of the church and day school effective ways to serve families in raising up disciples of Jesus Christ.

*Register for the workshop through Concordia Seminary.  
Reserve Lodging & Meals through Camp Okoboji.*

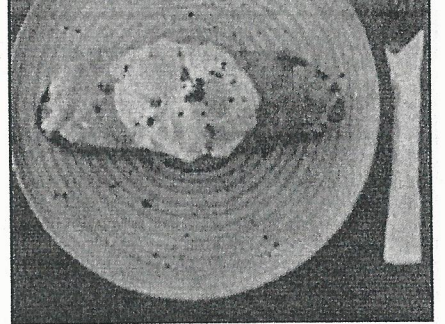




## OMELET BRUNCHES

Omelet Brunches are back at Camp Okoboji! Join us the first Sunday every month for some good grub and good company!

## Camp Okoboji Omelet Brunch



## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship with us! Sunday Morning Services will be every Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day at 9:45 A.M.



## ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION

Camp Okoboji's Auxiliary Quilt Auction & Craft Sale is BACK! The Auxiliary serves as a 'helpmate' to the Board of Directors - to Pray for, Promote, and Participate in God's ministry at Camp Okoboji. For decades, the Auxiliary has hosted a Quilt Auction & Craft Sale, which has contributed to funding nearly \$1,000,000 worth of projects and initiatives at Camp Okoboji. Please come and join us as we admire the beautiful quilts that were made and donated, and help support the Auxiliary in its missions at Camp Okoboji.

## COME TO CAMP SUMMER SCHEDULE

*June 4-6.....Kids' Kamp*  
*June 10-13....JOY Camp #1*  
*June 13-19....Cub Week #1*  
*July 8-11.....JOY Camp #2*  
*July 11-17.....Junior High Week*  
*July 18-24.....Cub Week #2*  
*July 25-31.....Youth Week*  
*August 1-6.....Family Retreat #1*  
*August 8-13...Family Retreat #2*

**Register today at [campokoboji.org](http://campokoboji.org)**

