**Nazareth Lutheran Church**

Website http://nazarethlutheranchurch.yolasite.com/

**We welcome all to join us every Sunday!**

**Worship service @ 10:15 am**

**Marcia Kisner, Pastor**

**Eileen Lewis, Administrative Assistant**

**April 2019**

Nazareth Lutheran Church

517 Vine St

PO Box 227

Cambridge IA 50046

**From the Pastor**

We had our annual Church Council Retreat in late March. It was a time of fellowship and defining who we are as God’s Church. I’m looking forward to many changes and new and exciting ministries. Since going to ¾ time as a Pastor I have been having difficulty visiting our members and the Council wishes to help with this ministry, especially Mark Lewis our President. He loves making Kringla and taking it to our members who are unable to make it to church.

So we begin a new ministry titles “Traveling Fellowship.” We will go visit on the last Sunday of the month and if we have more than two or three willing to go we will visit more than one or two members. We are looking forward to this special ministry.

The remaining part of this article is last month’s which we were unable to get out but I wanted to let you all know what we are doing during Lent this year…

Each Lenten season people choose to give something up like sweets or pop or swearing or smoking or drinking or eating snacks or other vices. It is a positive discipline for each of us that while we give something up we can spend that time reflecting on God and praying for others and helping others. Lent is a time of reflection and growth for each of us as Christians.

I have an idea for all of us during this Lenten season. This year’s theme for Lent here at Nazareth is “Let all that you do be done in Love” a quote from 1st Corinthians 16:14. We will be spending our Sunday’s together reflecting on Love. I found a poem that we can use in our daily reflections during this season and while we think of God, God’s people, and God’s church. “In God’s house…we do second chances…we do grace…we do real…we do mistakes…we do I’m sorry…we do loud hymns really well…we do hugs…we do family…we do LOVE!

My idea goes beyond reflection and prayer - every morning when you wake up think of something you can do in Love. For example the first day after ash Wednesday I am going to pray for someone who is applying for a job and I’m thinking of him all day… just praying for him… sending love his way… asking God to be with him… asking Jesus to surround him with care… all day.

Then the next morning I will decide another something I can do in love. Since I forget so often I’m writing my “doings” on my bulletin (Ash Wednesday’s) and each Sunday’s bulletin. The theme is right on the front so we won’t forget.

God Bless you on your Lenten journey. “Let all that we do be done in Love.” With Love

**Pastor Marcia**

**In Our Prayers This Week**

Janis Hovland, Ellen Olson, Lori Ness, Karen Harrelson, Tom, Aloha, Cindy & Dave Dunlap, , Shari Kisner, Beverly Way, Kathleen Erickson, Jessyca Espinoza, Arnie Pearson, Liam Griggs, Don Rhode, Neal Hovland, Ken Larkin, Eva Mae Sampson, Mary Ann Apland, Max Dobson, Scott, John, Janet & Roger Thorsen, &all the Veterans, and active military especially Taylor Bartleson and Jackson Ringgenberg

We lift up our community as we faithfully pray for peace and faith in our country and the world.

**April Birthdays**

12 Kimberly Rardin 15 Lisa Bartleson

29 Brayden Bartleson

If you wish to have your name added to the birthday list, or if

it is incorrect, please call Eileen at the office 515-383-4328.

**Feed the Shoes**



Please drop your change into the shoes at back of church for the school children in Africa that need shoes. Pam Travis will be going to Africa in June and she will be taking the money to purchase the shoes in Africa for the children in need. It is the Angel House Orphanage in Tarime Tanzania. It is a Methodist Ministry that we support at Nazareth.

**Feed the Box**

This is the second year during Lent that we are collecting yarn for “Feel Better Friends.” We are asking you to bring bits and pieces of yarn and place them in the box at back of church. See below to learn more about this ministry.

# About Feel Better Friends

Feel Better Friends are handmade dolls stuffed with love and well wishes, crafted by volunteers and donated to children battling cancer and other illnesses.

In May of 2014 Shanon Fouquet, artist and designer from [Shanonigans](http://www.shanonigans.com/" \t "_blank), came up with the idea when she saw [a picture of a little girl named Berkeley](https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=757056904323244&set=pb.710169172345351.-2207520000.1402854912.&type=3&theater) who was battling cancer and holding her American Girl doll.  Like most little girls who have this popular doll, Berkeley was “twinning”, or dressed identically to her doll.  Shanon looked at this particular photo of this brave little girl who was proud to be going ‘wigless’ to her doctor’s appointment that day, and Shanon couldn’t help but wonder if Berkeley would like for her doll to be able to go ‘wigless’ too.

It was then that Shanon decided to come up with a handmade doll created just for Berkeley with a wig and matching clothes that could go ‘wigless’ just like her!  Shanon had so much fun making Berekley’s doll that she decided to make more dolls for other children suffering from cancer and other illnesses, who would like the comfort of a Feel Better Friends doll custom made with their own likeness and characteristics.

It was then that the FBF project was started and quickly grew and soon there were enough children wanting FBF dolls that Shanon couldn’t keep up.  She started a volunteer group of other people who crochet that wanted to give just like Shanon.  Now with almost 300 volunteers across the US and some in other countries, there are children all around the world receiving the love and comfort of their very own FBF dolls.

You can find out more about the Feel Better Friends project and see all the fun dolls created on our [Feel Better Friends facebook page here](http://www.facebook.com/feelbetterfriends).

**Christian Education:**

**Intergenerational Sunday School**

During Lent this year the children and the adults are learning about Love and supporting our friends and neighbors. They have made the rubber band friendship bracelets (we are calling them Love bracelets) and giving them to members of the congregation and the community who we love, or need someone to show them someone loves and cares about them. Come and join us for these lessons about Love, bring your kids and yourself to Sunday school!

**Confirmation**

Confirmation will be finished on April 17th. The children will be confirmed during Easter Sunday worship. The next Confirmation class will be starting in September. If you know of any young people interested in learning about God and being confirmed, just give us a call at 515-383-4328 with their information and we will get things started!

**Weekly Income for January**

**February and March**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| January | Offering | Attendance |
| 1/6 | $2,753.42 | 25 |
| 1/13 | $ 385.00 | 23 |
| 1/20 | $1,060.00 | 21 |
| 1/27 | $ 465.00 | 24 |
| Total | $4,663.42 |  |
| February | Offering | Attendance |
| 2/3 | $1,785.00 | 25 |
| 2/10 | $ 335.00 | 21 |
| 2/17 | $ 0.00 | 9 |
| 2/24 | No Service | 0 |
| Total | $2,120.00 |  |
| March | Offering | Attendance |
| 3/3 | $2,720.00 | 20 |
| 3/6 Ash Wednesday | $ 55.00 | 16 |
| 3/10 | $ 690.00 | 23 |
| 3/17 | $ 533.00 | 21 |
| 3/24 | $ 935.00 | 20 |
| 3/31 |  |  |
| Total | $4,933.00 |  |

Your church needs $5,495.83 monthly to meet budget and does so through your generous giving.

**Nazareth Lutheran Church Council**

**Sunday, March 17, 2019**

Meeting was called to order in Jesus’ name at 11:46 by President Mark Lewis following fellowship. Present for the meeting were Mark Lewis, Dave Lewis, Steve Lewis, John Egeland, Vince Tomlinson, Nathan Hovland, Lisa Smith, Joyce Allen, and Pastor Marcia. No minutes were read from the last meeting (which was December due to the Annual Meeting in January, and no meeting in February due to weather.)

**Treasurer’s Report:** Balances were a bit bleak, but not as bleak as they appeared on paper. The General Fund balance began the month with $1,983.94. Offering was sparse for the month, as there was only one Sunday with at least average attendance, being February 3. February 10 only brought in $335, no offering taken on Feb 17, and services were cancelled altogether on February 24.

So, with deposits of $2,590.01, thanks to donations for the play set and Amazon Smile rebates, disbursements amounted to $5,724.82, which left a balance of $1,150.87 in the red. However, two fairly large payments were made in March rather than February ($1,218.06 for Pastor’s Pension / Medical, and $1,095.37 for gas and electric at the church and parsonage) so the account was never overdrawn. Funds will be transferred from the Capital Improvement Fund which currently is at $15,627.17. SCRIP balance began at $909.40, deposits of $400, disbursements of $388 left a balance of $921.40, Savings balance is $420.38, and Mission Investment Fund is $9,543.83.

**Pastor’s Report:** The play ministry is now over, but was quite a success. It not only brought in over $1700, but brought people together from Cambridge, and surrounding cities as well. What an exciting and worthwhile ministry!

Confirmation will end in April at Easter, and not sure if there will be any confirmation classes in the Fall.

Another new ministry was started on Wednesday nights – Ladies Game Night, with potluck. Only four ladies were there the first meeting on March 13, but more should be able to attend March 20.

**Committee Reports:**

**Property:** Nothing new as regards the leak problem across the street. An adjuster was out there surveying the damages, but has not gotten back to us. Lisa Smith then pointed out that when Tim was clearing the ramp of snow, a thick sheet of ice slid off the roof and landed on him. Concerns raised as to what might happen if that was someone in a wheelchair. Discussion given as to how this might be remedied? A roof over the ramp? Some means of damming it up? John Egeland stated he would talk to Alan Duhn to come up with a solution, possibly by inviting him to church to see first-hand where the problem lies. Fortunately, and hopefully, the days of ice and snow are behind us for the time being.

Next topic of discussion was the sink in the overflow room, which has been shut off since the water leak last month. Questions arose whether it needs a new heater or if there’s a leak that needs to be addressed, but Nathan will look at it.

**Christian Ed**: Just what was mentioned about confirmation class, and VBS which will be mentioned later.

**Stewardship**: Nothing to report.

**In reach / outreach**: Pastor Marcia is readdressing the ‘Feel Better Friends” ministry by asking for yarn donations, and passing out inserts explaining how these crocheted dolls are given to “children battling cancer and other illnesses.” Volunteers are also welcomed to crochet the dolls.

In addition, she has a pair of shoes on the table in the back of the church, asking donations be placed in them for children in Tanzania. Children there are required to wear a certain type of shoe in order to attend school, and our donations will be given to a missionary who will help them purchase these shoes.

**Music and Worship**: Nothing to report.

This year’s theme at Nazareth is, “Who Are We?” Who are we as a church, and where should we direct our ministries? In addition to those already mentioned – the annual play, ladies’ night, Feel Better Friends and school children in Tanzania – the last Sunday of each month will be devoted to “Traveling Fellowship.” All are welcome to go visit shut-ins throughout the community, and Mark volunteered to bring Kringla to share. This will be done following Fellowship.

Attention then given to the calendar year, which is as follows:

March

20th – next Ladies’ Night Out

24th – meeting for the Silent Auction following Services

April

3rd – 5th 2020 – Annual play (moved a month later in hopes of avoiding inclement weather)

14th – Palm Sunday Services at 10:15

18th – Maundy Thursday Services at 6:30 P.M.

19th – Good Friday Services at 6:30 P.M.

21st – Easter Sunday. Breakfast at 8:30, Egg Hunt at 9:30, Services at 10:15. Isaac will play trumpet again this year.

May

4th – Clean-up day at the church and parsonage

5th – Ladies’ Tea at 2:00, theme being “Lace and Grace”

Graduation Sunday and presentation of quilts

Last day of Sunday school

6th – 17th – Pastor vacationing in Ireland. John and Joyce will take care of services on May 12th

June

14th – 16th – Fireman’s Days in Cambridge.

14th – Choir sings in the park, time TBD

15th - Parade in the morning, facilitated again by Pastor Marcia.

Silent Auction in the afternoon.

Bingo in the evening. Discussion given as to whether these will be held at Dorcas or the Community Center.

July

6th – Frankie Ringenberg wedding at the church

8th – 12th VBS at Nazareth. Theme is “Rooaarr! Life is Wild, God Is Good.” Pastor hopes to have a representative from the ARL and the zoo come with some animals. The Methodist Church in Maxwell has also been invited to join us. Fundraisers for the ARL will be discussed.

August

Nothing in stone – two possible weddings in the works

September

15th – First day of Sunday School

18th – First day of Confirmation (no confirmants at the present time)

29th – Mark Lewis to lead in the making of Kringla. Time TBD

October

12th – Lefsa making at the church from 9-12

19th – Lefsa making 9-12

26th – last Saturday to make Lefsa

November

Annual shopping day in Cambridge. Date and time TBD. Kringla and Lefsa orders to be picked up, plenty available for purchase.

December

22nd – Christmas program / pageant during Services, play TBD

24th – Christmas Eve services at 9:00 PM

25th – Christmas Services at 9:00 AM with Palestine. Pot luck following services.

Pastor asked the Council what they thought of possibly having communion every Sunday. No formal motion was made, but no one objected to the idea.

Another question was about having a class for some of the younger members regarding communion, so they might receive it before confirmation. Again, no formal motion was made, and no one objected. Just food for thought, and ministry.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:59 by President Mark Lewis, and closed with the Lord’s Prayer. Respectfully submitted by Joyce Allen, Council Secretary.

**Upcoming Worship Volunteers**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| April | Greeters/Ushers | Lector | Alter Guild |
| 4/7 | John Egeland and Dave Lewis | John E | Wendy R |
| 4/14 | Nathan Hovland and Kevin Lewis | Ellen O | Dale D |
| Holy Thursday | Doug Larkin | Eileen L | John E |
| Good Friday | Mark Lewis and Mava Lewis | Multiple readers | |
| Easter Sunday 4/21 | Steve Lewis and Mike Lewis | Joyce A | Mark L |
| 4/28 | Ray Ringgenberg | Kevin L |  |
| May | Greeters/Ushers | Lector | Alter Guild |
| 5/5 | Vince Tomlinson | Maria T | Steve L |
| 5/12 | John Egeland and Dave Lewis | Mark L |  |
| 5/19 | Nathan Hovland and Kevin Lewis | Mike L |  |
| 5/26 | Doug Larkin | Nathan H |  |
| June | Greeters/Ushers | Lector | Alter Guild |
| 6/2 | Steve Lewis and Mike Lewis | Ray R | Vince T |
| 6/9 | Mark Lewis and Mava Lewis | Robin S | Wendy R |
| 6/16 | Ray Ringgenberg | Steve L | Dale D |
| 6/23 | Vince Tomlinson | Vince T |  |
| 6/30 | John Egeland and Dave Lewis | Wendy R |  |

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“In God’s house…we do second chances…we do grace…we do real…we do mistakes…we do I’m sorry…we do loud hymns really well…we do hugs…we do family…we do LOVE!

**Activities for the Month of April**

**Tuesday**

**April 2:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Wednesday**

**April 3:** 1:30 PM Confirmation

**Friday** American Legion

**April 3:** 5:00-8:00 PM Fish Fry

**Sunday** 9:15 AM Sunday School

**April 7:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 9:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Wednesday**

**April 10:** 1:30 PM Confirmation

**Sunday** 9:15 AM Sunday School

**April 14:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 16:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Wednesday**

**April 17:** 1:30 PM Confirmation

**Thursday** Maundy Thursday

**April 18:** 6:30PM Worship

**Friday** Good Friday

**April 19:** 6:30 PM Worship

**Saturday** Cambridge Library Easter

**April 20:** 10:00 Egg Hunt

**Sunday** 9:15 AM Sunday School

**April 21:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 23:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Sunday** 9:15 AM Sunday School

**April 28:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 30:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt**

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**What:** You're Invited to Cambridge Library Annual Easter Egg Hunt  
**Who:** All children ages 0-12 years are welcome to attend!  
The eggs are hidden in age appropriate zones. All ages start at 10AM they are not scattered start times, so make sure you are there promptly at 10am.  
**When:** Saturday, April 20, 2019 at 10 AM

**Where:** Ballard East Elementary 505 W 4th St, Cambridge, Iowa 50046

The Easter Bunny will make be visiting so make sure you bring your cameras!

**Wrap up of the play:**

What a great time we had at the play! The different productions were well attended. Everyone really enjoyed the play and the food on Saturday night.

We want to give a special Thank You to Ray and Wendy Ringgenberg for providing the meat and potatoes for dinner Saturday night. Also Thank you so much to our volunteers who helped serve and clean up the meal.

Despite the bad weather the weekend of the play we made approximately $1,700.00 on the play and the dinner. We had many people in the audience, cast and crew that are looking forward to next year!

Next year the play and the dinner are moving to April to avoid the winter weather. This is a really great fundraiser for our church. We hope that you will join us next year.

Here is a picture of the cast of Arsenic and Old Lace:



Back Row: John Griffith, Jacob Ervin, Kent Whitmore, Greg Romans

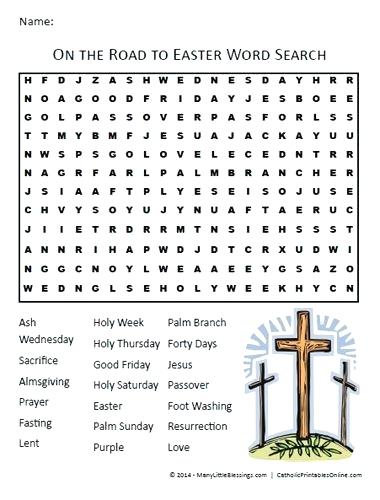
Front Row: Mark Benson, Joyce Allen, Eileen Lewis, Troy Gould, Becky Plager, Sheila Duhn, Ken Smith, Marcia Kisner and Nathan Hovland

**Dinner Friday Night**

The American Legion in Cambridge will be having their Annual Fish Fry on April 4th. Fabulous food – you don’t want to miss this!!

Come Early!! This is so popular they have been known to run out of food!

Word List

Ash Wednesday Jesus

Sacrifice Almsgiving

Prayer Fasting

Lent Holy Week

Holy Thursday Love

Good Friday Easter

Holy Saturday Purple

Palm Sunday Passover

Resurrection Forty Days

Foot Washing Palm Branch

