**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 2020**

Nazareth Lutheran Church

517 Vine St

PO Box 227

Cambridge IA 50046

From the Pastor

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41: 10*

Yesterday, March 16th was a long and sad day. The decision to not have worship for the coming weeks (March 22 and March 29) made me very sad. I know it is for the best and a responsible decision made by the leadership of the church but still I love gathering with all of you on Sunday morning and praising God in prayer, singing, and listening.

But….we now have a new and different way to worship.

I will attempt to put a message on face book and message some of you but know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Also, you might get a phone call from me. You know how social I am and this staying home is going to be hard.

The other major decision we made was to postpone the play “Drinking Habits” by Tom Smith from April 24, 25, and 26 to hopefully the fall. We will keep you updated.

Our theme of “Let Us Pray” for the Lenten season is so important as we look to our future. Pray for those who are ill, pray for those who are vulnerable, pray for our elderly, pray for our young, pray for those with underlying conditions, and pray for the joy, blessings and love in our lives.

See you all soon and call if you want to chat. I love to chat. Love you all.

 *Pastor Marcia*

*Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! 1 Corinthians 16:11*

**In Our Prayers This Month**

All the people of the world as COVID-19 threatens.

All people with cancer, Pastor Melisa Bracht-Wagner, Brandon Sorenson, Jean Olson, John Leoni, Tim Barker, Dale Dunlap, Amy Chapin, Lori Ness, Shari Kisner, Jessyca Hovland, Liam Griggs, Neal Hovland, Eva Mae Sampson, Mary Ann Apland, Max Dobson, Scott, John, Janet & Roger Thorsen, all Veterans, & active military especially Taylor Bartleson, Alex Kuberry, Jackson and Winter Ringgenberg.

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

**Sunday School**

Our plan for Sunday School and the play on Sunday, April 5 (Palm Sunday) has changed for the near future. We are still planning to have the plays for the children, we just don’t know when. Keep an eye out, here in this space, for the new dates.

**Weekly Income for March**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| March |  Offering  | Attendance |
| 3/1 |  $ 1,743.00  | 28 |
| 3/8 |  $ 686.02  | 21 |
| 3/15 |  $ 230.00  | 20 |
| 3/22 | cancelled | cancelled |
| 3/29 | cancelled | cancelled |
| Total | $ 2,659.02 |  |

The church needs $5,587.50 monthly to meet budget and does so through your generous giving.

**Coronavirus News**

 I know that I am getting tired of emails about how everybody is sending emails about how this company or that is making changes due to the virus. I am getting tired of all the changes that are happening because of this virus. But I am most tired of the fact that we can’t do what we want or go where we like. Why do we have to be careful, I am healthy, family is healthy.

 But then I realized that we are the lucky ones. I was speaking to a dad whose son is diabetic, and has other health issues and I could see the worry in his eyes. By doing the things that the CDC and the Governor recommends, I am helping to protect my friend’s son.

 It is with this realization that we have made the difficult decision to not have worship service and change our plans for the play and Sunday school. The plan is to reassess the situation for worship services on the first of April. We will be emailing everyone, or calling, when things change.

 FYI – if you have placed yourself in self quarantine, and you need someone to bring you groceries, supplies or medicine; call us at church 515-383-4328 and we will be happy to help you if we are able to.

Quote for the day:

**You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give. ~~Winston Churchill**

**Special Prayers**

 For the past few weeks we have been praying for all people with cancer. There is a book that we have been using here at church called “One Minute Prayers for those with Cancer” by Nick Harrison. There is a bible verse, a thought or a sentence or two to think about, and then a prayer. It is a good book to help someone get through a diagnosis, whether your diagnosis or a loved one’s.

**Nazareth Lutheran Church Council**

**Sunday, March 15, 2020**

Meeting of Nazareth Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 11:21 by President Mark Lewis following fellowship. Present for the meeting were Mark Lewis, Nathan Hovland, Lisa Smith, Dave Lewis, Vince Tomlinson, Pastor Marcia, Joyce Allen and Church Secretary Eileen Lewis. Minutes from the February 16th Council Meeting were approved as read, with the correction of adding the Cross Your Heart Ministry during Lent to collect money for shoes for children in Africa.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Still have a nice balance in the General Fund despite disbursements being greater than deposits, thanks in part to Vince’s (not) Memorial Kumla Dinner that brought in $677, and $100 for a wedding. February’s opening balance of $5,253.55 added $5,095.31 in deposits, but disbursed $6,060.27, leaving a balance of $4,288.59. Nothing needed to be transferred from the Capital Improvement fund, leaving its balance at $11,214.40 after adding $1.34 in interest. SCRIP had no activity this month, beginning and ending at $569.45.

**Pastor’s Report**: Unable to do much visiting these days due to COVID-19 with most facilities under lockdown. Play practice is still going on and going well, and all necessary props are found. Still looking for pictures of Jesus to hang on the wall, and looking for another Jesus for the children’s play on Palm Sunday. Trying to voluntold Nathan to play the part, and Kevin will be the donkey.

A young lady named Hannah Lee is a friend of the Ringenbergs who sings and plays guitar. She was invited to come and play for us some Sunday since she isn’t getting a lot of work right now as most gatherings are cancelled. Pastor will soon be starting on the Silent Auction. Still looking for a theme for the Fireman’s Days, and Joyce Williams was suggested as the Grand Marshall for the parade. Pastor and Joyce are excited that Jackie Schmelling will be interviewing them on the CW sometime in April to promote the play. Last but not least, Harmonie will be going through First Communion class.

**Committee Reports**:

**Property**: John extended all the church’s down spouts, put in a new water heater, and Vulcanize the corner points. Still trying to figure out what’s wrong with the drain in the kitchen at the parsonage. It doesn’t have the right fall. Vince will be working on it.

**Christian Ed**: Working on the next play with the Sunday School children that will be done Palm Sunday.

**Stewardship**: Nothing to report

**In reach / outreach**: Still planning on forging ahead with the play and dinner in April

**Music**: see Pastor’s Report

**Old Business**: Joyce, Arlyss, Lisa, and Pastor managed to get at least one fleece blanket done for Lily, our one graduating senior whom Pastor confirmed. Next meeting time will be later than 9:00 AM. As regards the church pews, the representative from Waggoners will be at church at 11:00 on the 30th, and Vince volunteered to meet with him. He will be dropping off samples of some cushions and more material samples. So far, $700 has been donated, and $200 will come from the Don Rohde Memorial Fund.

**New Business**: Communion will be handled differently now due to the Coronavirus, with Pastor cutting up the bread ahead of time to distribute, rather than tearing it apart by hand at the rail. Wine will be served as before. However, no communion was done today. Pastor was going to use wafers rather than the bread, but the mice evidently had communion first. Discussion then given whether to continue having service at all. Since the deciding number to date was “no gathering of 50 or more” we will plan on going ahead with service. That would change, however, if one of our parishioners or community members tests positive, or are all advised to not leave home.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:00 by President Mark Lewis and closed with the Lord’s Prayer. Respectfully submitted by Joyce Allen, Council Secretary.

**Pew Cushions**

The representative from Waggoner’s (the Pew Cushion Company) will be coming on March 30th at 11:00. If anyone wants to meet with the representative you are welcome to come.

With the cost for the cushions for the long pews ranges from $255.00 to $265.00 and for the shorter pews $175.00 to $185.00. We will be taking up collections for the cushions.

Donations can be sent to Nazareth P O Box 227, Cambridge IA 50046. Please add the note Pew Cushion in the memo section.

**![C:\Users\Marcia\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\0WYCLSVO\happy_birthday_balloons[1].jpg]()April Birthdays**

1 Jordan Aust

2 Doug Larkin

2 John Egeland

4 Richard Ness

6 Bill Hook

8 Lilli Hasbrouck

9 Ellen Olson

26 Jason Hasbrouck

28 Becca Hasbrouck

31 Joan Weatherman

1 Jordan Aust

2 Doug Larkin

2 John Egeland

4 Richard Ness

6 Bill Hook

8 Lilli Hasbrouck

9 Ellen Olson

26 Jason Hasbrouck

28 Becca Hasbrouck

31 Joan Weatherman

2 Arlyss Peterson 12 Kimberly Rardin

15 Lisa Bartleson 29 Brayden Bartleson

Please call Eileen at the church office, 515-383-4328 to let her know if you know of a birthday that is missing or incorrect.

**Upcoming Worship Volunteers**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| April | Greeters/Ushers | Lector | Alter Guild |
| 4/5 | Mark | Joyce | John |
| 4/9 Holy Thurs | Mike | Mark | Joyce |
| 4/10 Good Fri | Nathan |   |   |
| 4/12 Easter | Ray | Mike | Kevin |
| 4/19 | Steve | Nathan  | Lisa |
| 4/26 | Vince | Ray | Mark |
| May | Greeters/Ushers | Lector | Alter Guild |
| 5/3 | Dave | Steve | Mike |
| 5/10 | Doug  | Vince | Nathan |
| 5/17 | John | Wendy | Steve |
| 5/1 | Kevin | Eileen | Vince |
| 5/31 | Mark | Ellen | Wendy |
| June | Greeters/Ushers | Lector | Alter Guild |
| 6/7 | Mike | John | Jessica |
| 6/14 | Nathan | Joyce | Jane |
| 6/21 | Ray | Mark | John |
| 6/28 | Steve | Mike | Joyce |

**Church Funny**

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

**Activities for the Month of April**

**Sunday** 9:30 AM Sunday School

**April 5:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 7:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Thursday** Maundy Thursday

**April 9:** 6:30 PM Worship Service

**Friday** Good Friday

**April 10:** 6:30 PM Worship Service

**Sunday** 8:30 AM Easter Breakfast

**April 12:** 9:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt

10:15 AM Worship Service

**Tuesday**

**April 14:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Sunday** 9:30 AM Sunday School

**April 19:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 21:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Sunday** 9:30 AM Sunday School

**April 26:** 10:15 AM Worship

**Tuesday**

**April 28:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Sunday** 9:30 AM Sunday School

**May 3:** 10:15 AM Worship

 2:00 PM Ladies Tea

**Tuesday**

**May 5:** 5:00 PM Food Pantry

**Some funnies to brighten your week**

**RELIGIOUS TRIVIA**

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married?

A.Ruthless.

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?

A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. What was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?

A. The area around Jordan. The banks were always overflowing.

Q. Who is the greatest baby sitter mentioned in the Bible?

A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

**THEOLOGY AS EXPLAINED BY CHILDREN**

The first book of the Bible is Guinness’s, in which Adam & Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.

Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

Unleavened bread is bread made without ingredients.

Moses went to the top of Mt. Cyanide to get the 10 commandments.

The 7th commandment is 'Thou shalt not admit adultery.'

Joshua let the Hebrew in the battle of Geritol.

David fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.

Solomon has 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

The people who followed Jesus were called the 13 decibels.

The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

One of the opossums was St. Matthew.

Paul preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.

A Godly person should have only one wife. This is called monotony.