

Nazareth Lutheran Church

Newsletter April 2022

Website <http://nazarethlutheranchurch.yolasite.com/>

Marcia Kisner, Pastor

Eileen Lewis, Administrative Assistant

From the Pastor



Gathering at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Ames. Front row: Deacon Jodi Schuman (Assistant to the Bishop), Pastor Kari Lee, Pastor Daniel Rinelart ; 2nd Row: Pastor Marcia Kisner, Pastor Mike Herschberger, 3rd Row: Pastor Kathleen Lotz, Pastor Robin Coughenower, Pastor Greg Anderson, Pastor Melissa Watherman, Pastor Paul Watherman, Bishop Amy Current, Kristi Swanson, Pastor Erick Swanson, Pastor Ryan Arnold, and Pastor Dan Soloman.

Normally on Tuesdays I attend a "text" (study of scripture for the upcoming week) study in the morning and in the past 3 months in the afternoons. Call me crazy but I love gathering with pastors to study scripture and share life in the church.

Last Tuesday, Bishop Amy Current invited us (pastor's and church leaders to attend worship, lunch and fellowship. As you can see by the photo it was a small group yet there was such joy as we gathered together in celebration of our ministries. It may be a little hard to believe but pastors are "fun" people. We spent our time together praying, listening, sharing, singing, laughing, and sharing our joy with each other. I have learned in the 24 years how important it is to spend time with others in the ministry.

In the sermon from Bishop Current that gave me pause were 2 main points. One was "it's all about Jesus!" Continuously and constantly we need to remind ourselves about that statement... It's all about Jesus! The other point that I took away from her sermon was we are not alone. Even those times when we feel alone and unable to break out of dark clouds that surround us...God is there! God uses others to stand with us in our lives together. The gospel message the Bishop

shared with us filled my heart. It was so important to be reminded that it's all about Jesus and God is always and forever with us.

Lastly, I heard the Bishop say she is praying for each and every one of us. She wishes joy to surround us. Also, I did take our beloved Bishop a gift...2 dozen kringla from Nazareth to remind her that we love her and think of her. Mark said it was a bribe, well maybe, but she did appreciate the gift. Bishop Current sends her greetings and looks forward to seeing us again.

We were reminded of the upcoming Synod Assembly on May 20—21 which will be held in Coralville (near Iowa City). We hopefully will gather in person this year and we do need 2 representatives. If you are interested contact Pastor Marcia or any of the Council members.

Blessings to all.

Pastor Marcia

In Our Prayers This Month

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

All people with cancer, Jayna Grauerholz, Ken Bauge, Allan Duhn, Nancy Reed, Sharon Burrier, Richard Ness, Neal & Denise Kisner, Greg Leavengood, Alyce Madren, April Leber, Brandon Sorenson, Mike Peterson, Jean Olson, Lori Ness, Shari Kisner, Liam Griggs, Neal Hovland, Mary Ann Apland, Scott, John, Janet & Roger Thorsen.

And all Veterans, & active military especially Drayke & Dylan Eshelman, Jacob Morgan, Taylor Bartleson, Alex Kuberry, Jackson and Winter Ringgenberg.

April Birthdays

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 someone's birthday is missing or incorrect.

Cambridge Community Coffee Hour

On March 19th we had a Community Coffee hour. And while it was not a huge turn out, we did have some people join us. It was great fun! We had coffee and a number of different kinds of cookies. We missed seeing you there.

Our next Cambridge Community Coffee hour will be on April 16th from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. We will be here at the church and there will be coffee and tea and cookies. You are welcome to bring something else to drink if you would like.

There is no age limit on coming, bring your kids (there is entertainment for them), bring your friends, and your neighbors.

We would love to see you!!

Special Healing Service

On Sunday, April 3 we will gather at 10:15am for a very special worship service. We begin with music, prayer, followed by anointing of oil for healing, Holy Communion and the sharing of the peace for our community and the world. We would love to see you on this special day.

Updating the Parsonage

This past month and going forward the council has decided to make some updates to the parsonage. There have been no changes made since the parsonage was built in the early 1960's. If you are interested in seeing linoleum, carpet or other décor from that time period, ask Pastor Marcia for a tour.

The first project is to move the washer and dryer to the main floor. The pantry is being converted to a laundry room. A stackable washer and dryer combo has been purchased, and will be installed the first week of April.

We are also in the process of looking for a company to update the bathroom. The shower and tub combo are not working. The flooring has also been worn out and will need to be replaced later this summer.

If you have questions or suggestions please contact a council member regarding these updates.

Easter Sunday Activities



Dear Brother's and Sister's in Christ;

Join us for church on

Sunday mornings at 10:15am.

We are looking forward to seeing you Holy Week:

Palm Sunday, 4/10 at 10:15am

Maunday Thursday, 4/14 at 6:30pm

Good Friday, 4/15 at 6:30pm

Resurrection Sunday, 4/17

Breakfast 9am

Egg Hunt for children 9:45am

Worship 10:15am



Nazareth Lutheran Church Council

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Mark Lewis at 11:21 in Jesus's name following fellowship. Present for the meeting were Mark Lewis, Vince Tomlinson, Dave Lewis, Nathan Hovland, Lisa Smith, Joyce Allen, Church Administrator, Eileen Lewis, and Pastor Marcia who joined us after Children's Sunday School. Minutes from the February 20 meeting were approved as read by Eileen Lewis since Joyce had a touch of laryngitis.

Treasurer's Report: Disbursements were greater than deposits this month, but since the \$11,000 kindly donated last month is still in the General Fund, we're in pretty good shape. \$3,560 was collected in offering, and \$342.24 in donations / gifts. Kringla and lefsa sales are still coming in which added another \$75, and the Kumla dinner raised \$438, less \$194.03 in supplies. \$400 was given for a July wedding, \$100 of which goes to Dave for his custodial fee, making a total deposit of \$4,815.74.

After the usual monthly payments, an extra \$490.05 went to the cost of a new candle, sign letters, and devotionals, totaling \$5,609.53. This brings the \$20,657.61 opening balance to \$19,863.82. Savings has a balance of \$421.67, Capital Improvement is at \$21,972.22, and SCRIP's balance as of the end of Feb is \$2,005.54. (The opening balance needs adjusting but wasn't known as of council meeting.)

Pastor's Report: Pastor has been to Newton twice this month to do pastoral care at their church, which she finds very enjoyable, and feels quite appreciated. (Almost as much as she does here.) She also got word that the pastor at Holy Trinity in Ankeny is retiring, and needs someone to do a service on Thursdays at Mill Pond. So, she'll be in Newton every first and second Thursday, and in Ankeny on the third and fourth.

She also attended the City Council meeting to procure the City Center on the last weekend of July for the play, which she did. Ray Ringgenberg has agreed to prepare the meal for the Saturday performance, and Pastor Marcia will make sure we don't run out of pork loin this year and will ask Fareway for six instead of three. Costumes for the show have been obtained, and work has begun on the Silent Auction.

Committee Reports:

Property: Work has begun at the Parsonage. The washer / dryer unit was purchased at Lowes' but work still needs to be done on the pantry before it can be installed. A 220 plug will also need to be wired in for it. Some contents in the basement have been hauled away with last Tuesday's trash, and Bath Planet will stop by for a bathroom remodel estimate this week. Vince talked to them at the Home and Garden Show, so if we go with them, we'll get a discount for signing up at the show, a church discount, and a military discount as well. A couple more estimates will be obtained before making any final decision.

Christian Ed: Children's Sunday School is coming along really well, and everyone is having fun learning. Confirmation class is likewise doing just fine, placing a lot of emphasis on the Bible and its stories. Adult class is coming along as well.

In reach / outreach: Eileen will get a flyer out to advertise Kumla and Kringla sales during Lent

Music and Worship: Music is needed after Easter. Pastor Marcia wants to do a Prayer and Healing Worship Service on April 3, the 5th Sunday of Lent. The Bible readings will address prayer and healing, and rather than a sermon, we will have prayer and meditation, and laying of the hands and anointing for anyone who would like to participate. Suggestion given to perhaps invite those on the prayer list, and special music was also discussed.

Old Business: A representative from American Church Group, who provides insurance here at Nazareth, has requested updated pictures of the church and parsonage in order to get our account updated. Specifically, two photos of the front, back, and each side of both buildings, a clear view of the roofs, indoor photos of the sanctuary, front and back, kitchens, gyms, fellowship halls, etc. After some discussion, it was decided to just let them come out and take the photos they need themselves, provided there would be no charge.

Discussion was then directed to the rental contract started last month. We are getting closer its finalization, but still deciding on whether or not to charge deposits. No motions made, finalization hopefully next month.

New Business: Orkin, or some pest service, will need to be called for the box elder bugs and mice who have taken up residence. Hopefully this will happen sooner than later.

On an alert from the Methodist church, notice was received regarding our live streaming of services. Evidently, we need a license to do so, and we could be subject to a fine of \$100,000 and / or three years in prison without it. Yikes. A license can be purchased from CCLI for \$142 / year, but before signing on the dotted line, Pastor Marcia will find out from the Bishop if the Lutheran Church already has a blanket license in place for something like this. Again, hopefully sooner than later.

On a much lighter note, St. Andrews church in Sully, Iowa, wants to follow in Nazareth's footsteps and do a play as a fundraiser for their bell tower, and reached out to Nathan to build their set. The play hasn't been determined yet, but needed help from someone who is talented. Yay, Nathan.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 12:51 by President Mark Lewis in Jesus's name, and closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Allen, Council Secretary

Income Report

March	Offering	Attendance
3/2 Ash Wednesday	To MICA	10
3/6	\$ 1,720.00	19
3/13	\$ 387.00	20
3/20	\$ 1,163.75	19
3/27		
total	\$ 2,107.00	

The church needs \$5,545.83 monthly to meet budget and does so through your generous giving.

ELCA Good Gifts

During Lent this year we are do a special collection for Good Gifts a part of the ELCA Mission activities. To date we have collected \$61.43 on March 13th, and \$15.62 on March 20th. Thank you to everyone who is donating to this cause.

Upcoming Worship Volunteers

April	Ushers	Lector	Alter Guild
4/3	Mark	Joyce	John
4/10	Mike	Mike	Kevin
4/14 Maundy Thursday	Nathan	Mark	Joyce
4/15 Good Friday	Ray		
4/17 Easter Sunday	Steve	Nathan	Lisa
4/27	Vince	Ray	Mark
May	Ushers	Lector	Alter Guild
5/1	Dave	Steve	Mike
5/8	Doug	Vince	Nathan
5/15	John	Wendy	Steve
5/22	Kevin	Eileen	Vince
5/29	Mark	Ellen	Wendy

Activities for the Month of April

Sunday 9:15 Adult Sunday School
April 3: 10:15 Worship
 11:15 Kid's Sunday School

Tuesday
April 5: 6:00 PM Food Pantry

Wednesday
April 6: 1:30 PM Confirmation

Sunday 9:15 Adult Sunday School
April 10: 10:15 Worship
 11:15 Kid's Sunday School

Tuesday
April 12: 6:00 PM Food Pantry

Wednesday
April 13: 1:30 PM Confirmation

Thursday Maundy Thursday
April 14 6:30 Wordship

Friday Good Friday

April 15: 6:30 Worship

Saturday Cambridge Community
April 16: 9:00-11:00AM Coffee

Sunday 9:00 AM Easter Sunday Brunch
April 17: 9:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt
 10:15 AM Worship

Tuesday
April 19: 6:00 PM Food Pantry

Wednesday
April 20: 1:30 PM Confirmation

Sunday 9:15 Adult Sunday School
April 24: 10:15 Worship
 11:15 Kid's Sunday School

Tuesday
April 26: 6:00 PM Food Pantry

Wednesday
April 27: 1:30 PM Confirmation

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

According to the most recent Iowa Department of Human Services data, 10,539 Iowa children were subject to abuse or neglect. The most common forms of abuse included denial of critical care, physical injury, exposure to illegal drugs or dangerous substance, and sexual abuse.

It is our responsibility as a Christian and as a human to protect those weaker than us. As part of our responsibility we provide the following information on what to look for and how to help the child that may be abused.

I know that no one wants to get involved, but imagine how you would feel if you don't get involved and the child you suspect is being abused dies because you didn't take action. Reporting the possible abuse may save a life and **all reports are confidential**, no one will know you made a report.

The following signs may signal the presence of child abuse or neglect. The Child:

- Shows sudden changes in behavior or school performance
- Has not received help for physical or medical problems brought to the parents' attention
- Has learning problems (or difficulty concentrating) that cannot be attributed to specific physical or psychological causes
- Is always watchful, as though preparing for something bad to happen
- Lacks adult supervision
- Is overly compliant, passive, or withdrawn
- Comes to school or other activities early, stays late, and does not want to go home

Types of Abuse The following are some signs often associated with particular types of child abuse and neglect: physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse. It is important to note, however, that these types of abuse are more typically found in combination than alone. A physically abused child, for example, is often emotionally abused as well, and a sexually abused child also may be neglected.

Consider the possibility of physical abuse when the child:

- Has unexplained burns, bites, bruises, broken bones, or black eyes
- Has fading bruises or other marks noticeable after an absence from school
- Seems frightened of the parents and protests or cries when it is time to go home
- Shrinks at the approach of adults
- Reports injury by a parent or another adult caregiver

Consider the possibility of neglect when the child:

- Is frequently absent from school
- Begs or steals food or money
- Lacks needed medical or dental care, immunizations, or glasses
- Is consistently dirty and has severe body odor
- Lacks sufficient clothing for the weather
- Abuses alcohol or other drugs
- States that there is no one at home to provide care

Consider the possibility of sexual abuse when the child:

- Has difficulty walking or sitting
- Suddenly refuses to change for gym or to participate in physical activities
- Reports nightmares or bedwetting
- Experiences a sudden change in appetite
- Demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior
- Becomes pregnant or contracts a venereal disease, particularly if under age 14
- Runs away
- Reports sexual abuse by a parent or another adult caregiver

Consider the possibility of emotional maltreatment when the child:

- Shows extremes in behavior, such as overly compliant or demanding behavior, extreme passivity, or aggression
- Is either inappropriately adult (parenting other children, for example) or inappropriately infantile (frequently rocking or head-banging, for example)
- Is delayed in physical or emotional development
- Has attempted suicide
- Reports a lack of attachment to the parent

Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

Each State has a system to receive and respond to reports of possible child abuse and neglect. Professionals and concerned citizens can call statewide hotlines, local child protective services, or law enforcement agencies to share their concerns.

The Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline

Call or text 1.800.4.A.CHILD [1.800.422.4453]. Professional crisis counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in over 170 languages. All calls are confidential. The hotline offers crisis intervention, information, and referrals to thousands of emergency, social service, and support resources.

Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect: Signs and Symptoms www.childwelfare.gov This material may be freely reproduced and distributed. However, when doing so, please credit Child Welfare Information Gateway. Available online at www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/signs.cfm.

