

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2021

God's Love for Ordinary People, in an Ordinary Time *from the Elders*

During the last few weeks in May we saw opportunity to celebrate the Ascension of our Lord, the Day of Pentecost – a Greek term meaning “fifty”, referring to the Old Testament feast held 50 days after Passover – today noted as fifty days after Easter, and Trinity Sunday. The long season of Sunday's now upon us are categorized by one of two names connected to an LCMS congregation's chosen liturgical lectionary. Perhaps different from their local sister congregation.

Most of the congregations in the LCMS follow a three-year lectionary cycle and a liturgical calendar that designates our newly begun season as the “Pentecost Season”. A small, but significant, minority follow a one-year lectionary cycle and a liturgical calendar that designates this new season as the “Trinity Season”. No one congregation is “wrong” by choosing one system over the other, or would they be out-of-step with any other sister congregation.

Each local church and pastor determine what is best for them in their local setting. It is also possible that a church family would alternate the use of those lectionaries. Either way, depending on a local church's practice, we, together with all our sister congregations, are beginning to enter this Pentecost or the Trinity season.

We know that on Pentecost the Lord poured out His Spirit upon the church. The gift of God, once limited to a chosen few, was given to all. The intimacy of the Father and Son is ours. Bound together in Christ, we are received into a most intimate fellowship with the Father. We are called by the Spirit to faith, the confession of sin, and a recognized need for Jesus, our Savior. The Spirit's testimony through us, and continues in prayer, is that together with us, our family, friends, neighbors, and the world will be called to repentance and salvation through Christ also. This remains the work of our church; its openness to sharing the Gospel.

The mention of our church seasons, the choice of lectionary, and for fun, a sprinkling of some previously overheard, strange Latin names like Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima, was perhaps prompted by an interest in learning that these Sunday's, while faithfully celebratory for sure, did not spring into existence fully fleshed out, but developed over centuries. Interestingly, there is recognized a huge chunk of time that does not fall within the earliest established seasons of Lent/Easter or Advent/Christmas. Back then, our newly begun, post-Pentecost season was simply called, “Ordinary Time.”

Hmm...ordinary time? Flushing out the origin of that early name “Ordinary Time” would be an interesting dig. A task like that might prove to be an indication of just how old the name and practice of using it was. The better knowledge, and easy enough for us to recognize as Missouri Synod Lutherans, comes from the faithfully given understanding that ALL our celebrated seasons focus on Jesus, who Jesus is, and what Jesus accomplished – on our behalf!

In so trusting, throughout the summer and fall months, let us not fail to give pause on Sunday to honor our Creator, because in so doing we are taught there is nothing “ordinary” about the healing power of the Holy Spirit – having provided us new life at our Baptism, about the gifts received in and with the body and blood of our risen Lord and Savior, about the promises of God with the announcement of His forgiveness, and the strength of faith provided in the hearing of His word – for this and every day in-between.

While we do not deserve His blessings, we continue celebrating them together alongside our worship opportunities, resting in service to our Lord, and growing evermore thankful that His promises and love are forever, “Extraordinary”. See you this weekend!

The Elders

PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:



VBS REGISTRATION is available on the church website! We're still looking for volunteers to provide dinners, lead groups, and participate in the puppet show...call, text, or email

Kaylie Brethouwer if you are interested! Thanks!

kaylieb1@icloud.com

(402)826-9432



&



BIRTHDAYS

2 Wendi & Austin Haufle
 3 Terry Dittmer
 4 Emma Hoyer
 6 Susan Tremblay
 7 Greg Kalkwarf, Ella Jo Hughes
 8 Verna Schultz,
 9 Devon Reitz, Dewayne & Henry Slama
 12 Madison Hestermann,
 Kelli Jordan
 13 Garrett Reitz
 14 Jeff Hollman, Verna Louch
 17 Roger Koch, Hunter Persing
 19 Theodore Muff, Jacob Wohl
 20 Trevor Wagner
 21 Kimberly Scott
 23 Ariana Munro, Morgan Wohl

24 Kyle Ochs
 25 Dave Musil, Elmer Reetz
 28 Colton Homolka,
 Cinder Johnson
 29 Steve VanAsperen, Victoria
 Rethmeier
 30 Patricia Behrens, Cindy
 Hoyer, Heath Dewey

BAPTISMS

1 Tonya Clark,
 Rylee Pospichal
 3 Doug Karl
 4 Nick Ellingson, Michael
 Ellingson, Diane Kahle,
 Kenneth Kastanek
 5 Irelynn Kirkpatrick, Shirley
 Vosika

7 Ken Behrens,
 Darleen Dittmer
 8 Gwendolyn Dewey,
 Eric Dewey Jr.
 9 Carsyn Ziemann,
 Samantha Wagner
 11 John Haufle, Lane Wendelin
 15 Caleb Markey,
 Charlie Slama
 19 Andrea Pomajzl, John Reitz
 20 Greg Kalkwarf
 22 Elliott Reitz
 24 Emma Hoyer, Bob Renner
 25 Michael Gropp
 28 Terry Dittmer, Verna Louch

OUR MISSION Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.



That All May Know Him

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

Worship Services (Sundays) 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Bible Class (Sundays) 9:15 am to 10:00 am

Elder's Meeting (June 7) 6:30 pm

Quilting in the Fellowship Hall (June 8) 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Constitution/By-Law Committee Meeting (June 9) 6:30 pm

Lutheran Women in Mission (June 15) 7:00 pm

Evangelism Committee Meeting (June 21) 1:30 pm

Ladies Aid Meeting (June 30) 2:00 pm

LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on May 26, 2021, with Donna Brunelle as hostess. We sang hymn #861 "Christ Be My Leader" and then Pastor Toensing led us in prayer and a Bible study on "Courageous Heroes of the Faith: Noah".

Roll call was taken with 7 members present. The minutes of the April 2021 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given.

The strawberry shortcake served after the Ascension Day service was a success.

The flower decorations made by the late Irene Reiss will be put out on the tables downstairs. They are divided by seasons.

Ladies Aid minutes from years past have been found. We will read through those at a later date.

Diane Kahle brought in a cookbook kit. We will discuss in the coming months whether we want to do a cookbook. If we do, we will then decide if we want to type the cookbook up ourselves or send it to the company to type up.

Diane Kahle will talk to the trustees to see if they would like us to share ideas on making a list of rules on how to clean up the kitchen.

It was motioned and seconded to plan a Ladies Night Out. Motion passed. We will pick a date and place for this event at the next meeting.

Darleen Dittmer, Noreen Wild and Diane Kahle celebrated birthdays in May. We sang the birthday song to Diane and signed cards that will be sent to Darleen and Noreen. We also sang the anniversary song to Pastor for his and Shelley's anniversary.

Carol Brinkmeyer will be the hostess for June.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and the common Table Prayer.

Deb Walker, Secretary

