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Lutheran Church of Our Savior

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May 2023

ELDER'S CORNER
Trust, Faith and Love

We all know these words. Do we hear them much outside the home, at work, or school? It seems as though we hear them less and less every day.

Why do we struggle with life's troubles, challenges, or failures? The first thing that comes to mind is "lack of Trust." When we were children, we always trusted that Mom or Dad would provide for us. The older we are, the more we realize the genuine need to trust in Jesus. Some people trust in chariots, some people trust in horses; as for Christians, we trust in the Lord!

To overcome challenges or troubles, we need to make the first move by asking God to give us the strength and courage to carry on with His guidance. We can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens us. He said we can move mountains. We will receive blessings from God if we trust in Him.

People carry around mountains of troubles, fears, hate, loss, grief, loneliness and want. I believe Jesus was speaking of all these things as "mountains" and that humanity carries all of this around on their shoulders. We can ask Him to help us carry our burdens.



He also gives us rest. Matthew 6:33 says that when we seek the "Kingdom of God," all the needs of mankind could be "added unto them" if they just trust in Him.

Faith is a gift from God. He chose you to be a child of His. When we have faith as small as a mustard seed, we can do mighty things through Him who strengthens us. (Matthew 17:20). Faith gets us through trials and difficulties when Jesus delivers us from them by His death on the cross and His resurrection. His atonement was "our gift from God through His Son!"

God loves us all. GOD IS LOVE! His promises assure us that He will never leave or forsake us. We need to keep our hearts open and willing to let God's love, grace, and peace in us flow

out of us and into people we meet and those around us. Sometimes we feel unworthy of God's love because of "our sin," but God loves us with an everlasting love that flows out to us without limits or conditions. Our successes or failures have no bearing on His love for us. His love is wonderful and never ending. ✿

...In His Love, Tom Heuchert



- May 01 Dick Scholar
- May 02 Deborah Maddison, Eliora Maddison, Rudy Stowell, Marilyn Wagner
- May 05 Doreen Fasig
- May 09 Dennis Payne
- May 10 LaDene Hersman
- May 14 Lori Williamson
- May 15 Gene Forsythe
- May 17 Shelley Klotz
- May 19 Jeremy Schofield
- May 21 Lucy Chaney, Matthew Foley
- May 22 Cheryl Williams
- May 23 Cheri Forsythe, Helen Prior
- May 24 Nancy Andersen, Ellen Kristensen



- May 02 Paul & Lisa DiModica
- May 20 Arlin & Sharon Weiting
- May 25 Randy & Danielle Tate
- May 29 Devin & Caitlin Miller

MOWING IN MAY

May 6 – Corey Maddison, Harold Oliver
 May 13 – Bill Williamson, Arlin Weiting
 May 20 – Reese Riddiough, Nathan Schofield
 May 27 – Art Atrops, Jim LaBelle



ALTAR GUILD & FLOWER SCHEDULE



May



May 03	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small Grp. Bible Study
May 04	5:30 – 7:00 pm	Nat'l. Day of Prayer
May 04	6:00 pm	Elders' Mtg.
May 07	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
May 07	10:00 am	Comm. Svc.
May 08	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Men's Group
May 10	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small Grp. Bible Study
May 13	9:00 am	Quilters (HH)
May 14	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
May 14	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
May 15	9:00 am	June Ministry Schedule Due
May 16	4:00 pm	P/S Board Mtg.
May 17	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study
May 21	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
May 21	10:00 am	Praise/Comm. Svc.
May 21	2:00 pm	Adult Fellowship
May 20	9:00 am	June Newsletter Deadline
May 24	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study
May 27	4:00 pm	Farewell Dinner for Pastor Eckert & Deborah Maddison
May 28	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
May 28	10:00 am	Worship Svc. - Pentecost
May 28	11:00 am	Council Mtg.
May 31	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study

May 07 – Comm. Svc.

10:00 AM – Lori Williamson – Set-Up
 Caydee Eckert – Take-Down

Flowers: Jim LaBelle – Mother's Day and
 Chris LaBelle's birthday

May 14 – Worship Svc.

10:00 AM – Peggy Payne

Flowers: Shelley Klotz's birthday

May 21 – Praise/Comm. Svc.

10:00 AM – Susan Wilcox – Set-Up

Stephanie Clavin – Take-Down

Flowers: Lucy Chaney and
 Michael Williamson's birthdays

May 28 – Worship Svc.

10:00 AM – Becky Zielke

Flowers: Pentecost

PREPARE TO BE EMPOWERED

Contrary to common perception, Jesus' disciples weren't frightened and hiding during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Instead, they were actively preparing for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. They "all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14, NIV) and took steps to replace Judas.

After that inward focus, the disciples were ready to boldly burst forth on Pentecost, empowered and "enabled" (Acts 2:4) by the Spirit. They proclaimed Christ's death and resurrection, leading 3,000 people to faith that day, now known as the church's birthday.

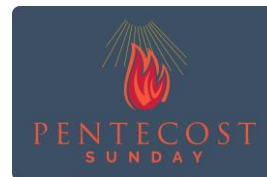
"A great wave of faith and love swept through this newborn community," writes Suzanne de Dietrich in *Free Men*. "These Christians could not keep silent. Their joyful liberty had broken down all the walls behind which people would like to keep them; no prison could silence them." ✠

NEWS FROM THE PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR CALL COMMITTEE

A committee was formed to start a search for a new Preschool Director last month. We have had bi-weekly meetings to put together a job description, a job announcement, and to find the best way to get the job posted in our community and to our Synod. If anyone knows of someone who would be qualified and interested, please reach out to Anne in the church office. Please



pray for guidance in the process for our committee members: Terry Murdock, Mark Hathaway, Reese Riddiough, Diana Brown, Becky Zielke, Kelly Olney, and Melanie Mayes. ✠ *(Please see letter from Deborah Maddison on page 5.)*



May 28, 2023

FAREWELL TO PASTOR & DEBORAH


Save the date!! Pastor Eckert’s retirement and Deborah Maddison’s going-away celebration will be held on **Saturday, May 27, at 4:00 PM**, in Stahnke Hall. Dinner will be catered by the Foleys. Check your Sunday bulletins for further information. ✿

?? ? ?

Bible Quiz

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



Answer: A (See Acts 2:15.)

National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 4, 2023
5:30 – 7:00 PM
Santa Maria Fairpark
(in the Park Plaza Pavilion)


Join the people of Santa Maria Valley for a Community of Prayer. Theme: *Pray Fervently in Righteousness*

OUR PROPER ROLE

“We’re called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.” This quip may bring a chuckle, but it’s also a good reminder as we celebrate the **Ascension of Our Lord (May 18 this year)**. Jesus directed his disciples to spread the good news he had taught them: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses ...” (Acts 1:8, NRSV).

While professional lawyers and judges certainly have their place in society and can serve God by working for genuine justice for all, we are not called in daily life to judge others’ morality or relationship with God. “Do not judge,” Jesus says, “and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be

forgiven” (Luke 6:37, NIV). And what is one of the most powerful forms of witness to Christ? Forgiveness. ✿



PUZZLE


Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

1. HEAV
2. ABLE
3. AY OF PENTECOS
4. ONGUE
5. PIRI

6. OGETHE
7. ES
8. ONGUE
9. A
10. IND



“When the _____³ came, they were all _____⁶ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent _____¹⁰ came from _____¹ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They _____⁹ what seemed to be _____⁴ of fire that separated and came to _____⁷ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy _____⁵ and began to speak in other _____⁸ as the Spirit _____² them.”

ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind

MAY 2023

CHRISTIAN MINISTERS AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

DAY	TIME	ACOLYTE	ELDERS	USHERS	LESSON READER	SOUND SYSTEM	ALTAR GUILD/ FLOWERS
7 Sunday Comm.	10:00 am	Emma Olney	Todd Martin	Bill Williamson	Gary Lange	Dennis Payne	Altar: Lori Williamson – Set-Up Caydee Eckert – Take-Down
							Flowers: Jim LaBelle – Mother’s Day and Chris LaBelle’s Birthday
14 Sunday	10:00 am	Riley Olney	Tom Heuchert	Michael Southern	Lisa DiModica	Karl DiModica	Altar: Peggy Payne
							Flowers: Shelley Klotz’s birthday
21 Praise Sunday Comm.	10:00 am	Ali Mayes	Art Atrops	Paul Mattson	Melanie Mayes	Chad Thorstenson	Altar: Susan Wilcox – Set-Up Stephanie Clavin – Take-Down
							Flowers: Lucy Chaney and Michael Williamson’s birthdays
28 Pentecost Sunday	10:00 am	Elder	Rudy Stowell	Jim LaBelle	Michael Southern	Estelle Schofield	Altar: Becky Zielke
							Flowers: Pentecost
Please phone person* at right of any change OR if you are unable to find a replacement>>>>>		ACOLYTES *Mark Hathaway 937-9675	READERS *Todd Martin 801-3873	USHERS *Dennis Payne 934-1101	ELDERS *Mark Hathaway 937-9675	SOUND *Dennis Payne 934-1101	ALTAR GUILD Connie Hathaway (805) 937-9675 FLOWERS Connie Hathaway (805) 937-9675 FLOWER MINISTRY Noel & Clara Rowe (805) 623-5161

1. PLEASE ARRANGE FOR ANY CHANGE(s) BY TRADING WITH ANOTHER MINISTER.
2. PLEASE NOTIFY THE PERSON WHO OVERSEES YOUR ASSIGNMENT OF ANY CHANGE(s).
3. INFORM CHURCH OFFICE ONLY AFTER CHANGE(s) IS/ARE MADE TO SCHEDULE – 937-1116

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

MAY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	3 10:00 – 11:30 AM – Small Grp. Bible Study	4 5:30 PM – Nat'l. Day of Prayer 6:00 PM – Elders' Mtg.	5	6
7 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Comm. Svc.	8 6:00 – 8:00 PM – Men's Group	9 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	10 10:00 – 11:30 AM – Small Grp. Bible Study	11	12	13 9:00 AM – Noon - Quilters – HH
14 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc.	15 June Ministry Availability Due	16 4:00 PM – P/S Board Mtg. 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	17 10:00 – 11:30 AM – Small Grp. Bible Study	18	19	20 9:00 AM – June Newsletter Deadline
21 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Praise/Comm. Svc. 2:00 PM – Adult Fellowship	22	23 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	24 10:00 – 11:30 AM – Small Grp. Bible Study	25	26	27 4:00 PM – Farewell Dinner for Pastor Eckert and Deborah Maddison
28 Pentecost Sunday 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc. 11:00 AM – Council Mtg.	29	30 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	31 10:00 – 11:30 AM – Small Grp. Bible Study			



Dear Members of LCOS,

While many of you have been made aware of our plans to move through the voters' meetings about the call process for a new pastor, I wanted to let everyone know about the plans for my family. My family and I have decided to relocate for my husband's job opportunity in Kansas City, Kansas. Corey has been transferred to a new division within his company, so he will do some training in Kansas City, and then will need to locate there at the beginning of June. I will be here through the end of May and potentially longer if our house doesn't sell, but we do plan to list our house by the end of April.

This church and preschool have always felt like home to me, and the thought of not being here to see the children or the congregation has been difficult for me. At the same time, I look forward to the new experiences that life outside of California might bring. I will hopefully be able to spend more time with my daughter and any new children should we be blessed with them. And for those of you who know I lived in St. Louis, Missouri, until I was 10, this is a return to the Midwest and seasonal weather for holidays, which I have missed.

There are already plans in place for Diana Brown to act as Interim Director of the preschool until a permanent Director is found who can meet the long-term needs of the preschool. They will be searching for someone who has a passion for working with children and has a love for the Lord in their heart. This committee and church leadership will also be determining how best to meet the needs of the church by finding someone who will take on the Family Ministry roles that I have undertaken.

While this news of my move may come as a surprise to you, I thank you so much for your understanding, support, and prayers. I cannot express the gratitude I have that the Lord led our family to LCOS 23 years ago. I know I will never find a more loving church family than the one I have here. I will miss you all so much.

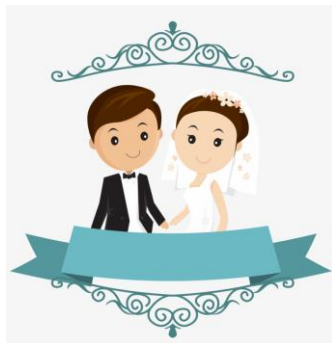
**Love,
Deborah**

THANK YOU

from Seminarian Noah Russell

The following is a letter sent to the LCOS congregation from Noah Russell, a student at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, dated March 14, 2023. LCOS has been supporting Noah with prayer and financial assistance.

To begin, thank you all for your continued support; truly, you are a wonderful blessing in my life. As far as things go here, we're working towards prepping for vicarage and call day is just on the horizon.



It seems like this season of Lent is going by rather quickly, but it might just seem that way for me since, as I write these lines, I am currently 3 days and 4 hours away from getting married to the love of my life. With that in mind, things have been rather busy around here lately with vicarage preparation, classes, working on getting ready to move into an apartment, planning a wedding, figuring out all those last-minute details, and trying to keep up with my Lenten devotions. It's been a slightly crazy time, but as I look forward to what is to come, I can't help but be excited!!

As things continue on here, I want to take a moment to once again thank you for all of the support you have given and continue to give me. You are the reason I am able to be here and I am ever so grateful for it. Thank you once again!

May you have a blessed Lententide. May your focus be ever placed upon the great love of God in sending His Son to die in our place; may you look forward to the remembrance of His resurrection which won salvation for us. May your thoughts also be guided to looking ahead to

the horizon of His second coming.

I'd like to offer you a prayer to close this letter. It's one that we've used in chapel and the title of it is, "For Living Lives Worthy of the Lord."

O God, You have rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of Your beloved Son. Fill us with the knowledge of Your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, that we may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings,
Noah Russell