



thegoodnews

David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Enjoy Spring! Enjoy Easter!

by Pastor Mike Woldt

April 2017

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That's what the calendar says anyway. We've enjoyed a few warm days. Everything feels better when the sun shines. Spring holds out the promise of better days to come. We know that warmer weather will finally come to stay. It always does. We just don't know exactly when.

The message of Easter holds a wonderful promise too! Better days are coming. Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19). Yet sometimes, because we live in a sin-filled world, it seems as if the Easter promise will never be kept. Global troubles, security threats and personal heartaches often combine to crowd Easter joy out of our hearts. We worry about health, crime, and terrorism. It seems that there is no relief in sight. We watch our loved ones die, but we never see them come back to life. We fall into the devil's trap called despair. We wonder whether our personal day of resurrection will ever come!

Listen carefully to the words of our Lord once again this Easter season. You will discover anew that the Easter promise of eternal life is even more certain than the eventual coming of spring. The apostle Paul put it this way. "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him" (1 Corinthians 15:20ff).

We don't have to wait for the benefits of Easter. As believers, we know that the promise of Easter has already been kept. We enjoy Easter peace right now. Easter frees us from having to worry about troubles. Easter proclaims that we have a living Savior who cares deeply about every detail of our lives, even when life takes difficult turns. Most of all, Easter assures us

that we will spend an eternity of happiness in the presence of Jesus.

Someday, our Easter joy will be complete, without any tears or despair. The apostle Paul gives us a glimpse of that future. "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:51-57)

Enjoy the warmth of spring! Enjoy Easter even more!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS

- Betty Vogel (4/3)
- Chrysta Schmelzer (4/15)
- Clarice Nicol (4/19)
- Eugene Kannenberg (4/29)
- Evelyn Guhl (4/30)

THANK YOU for the donations of food for the six Wednesday Lenten meals. We appreciate the efforts of the eight organizations that hosted the meals. We are also thankful for all who prepared, served, and cleaned up. We hope everyone enjoyed the opportunities for fellowship.

APRIL 2017 GREETERS

GREAT NEWS! We have more tickets to sell for the screening of "A Return to Grace". The full length motion picture of Martin Luther and the Reformation has 126 more tickets. The theater graciously agreed to upgrade us to a bigger theater since we sold out so far in advance of the showing.

So, if you didn't get around to buying your tickets and thought you lost out, go to this

link: <https://www.tugg.com/events/a-return-to-grace-luther-s-life-and-legacy-0hqq>

- ~~April 2, 2017~~ 7:45: No one signed up.
10:15: Tony & Lynn Gromacki
- ~~April 9, 2017~~ 7:45: No one signed up.
10:15: Mel & Eunice Heckendorf
- April 16, 2017 7:45: Joel & Linda Pless
10:15: Brian & Pam Lee
- April 23, 2017 7:45: Dave & Jeanie Martin
10:15: No one signed up.

BIBLE CLASS OFFERINGS

HOUSING NEEDED Pastor Ben Reichel will be moving into our KML Federation to join the faculty of Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School. He, and his wife Lynette and newborn baby (due in May) are seeking a rental home; 2-3 bedrooms with 1-2 bathrooms.

MOVE IN DATE is close to May 29th.

Please contact Pastor Reichel directly at

pastorbenreichel@gmail.com

or [281-906-3320](tel:281-906-3320)

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will resume on Sunday, April 23, 2017. Pastor Woldt & Pastor Loescher will lead a study of Galatians in church.

WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY (WNW) We will be meeting the first and third Thursday mornings of each month at 9:30 in the multi-purpose room. Please bring your bible and a notebook.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY at Jimmy's in Jackson meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 am. This group meets year round.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets on Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the multi-purpose room.

THE "LITTLE ONES" will meet on May 6th at 9:30 am in the church gathering space. We meet on the first Saturday of the month throughout the school year. This program is designed to be a Christ-centered, nurturing and encouragement group for young children and their mothers, fathers, grandparents, or caregivers. Children from infancy to preschool are welcome to attend with a parent/grandparent or caregiver. Please contact Jessica Schumacher at [262.339.0976](tel:262.339.0976) or jc.schumacher@gmail.com.

**COUNCIL CAPSULE
HIGHLIGHTS OF
THE MARCH 2017 COUNCIL MEETING**

David's Star Church Council Highlights
March 14, 2017

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Pastor Woldt, Mark Ahrens, Todd Backus, Dennis Bell, Josh Boeldt, Tim Gustafson, Paul Steinbrenner
Absent: Nelson Erdmann, Kurt Henning, Jon Kruse, Mike Willis, David Zarling

The meeting was called to order by Paul Steinbrenner at 7:01 pm. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Loescher.

A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on February 14, 2017.

Committee Reports

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming: Breidel, Kathy
Profession of Faith

Outgoing:

Pastors' Report

Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919
kurt.loescher@gmail.com &
Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019
woldtma@hotmail.com

Pastor Loescher has been asked to serve as the pastoral advisor for the Lutheran Women's Mission Society. He is currently considering his response, and accepted earlier. A class of 16 confirmation students is on schedule to be confirmed April 9th. 12 members of the class attend our school. One student, currently living out of our area, attends a different WELS school. Three students attend public school. Please pray that these young people remain faithful to their confirmation promises. Four adults are currently in various stages of bible instruction with the pastors in preparation for potential membership in our church. David's Star will be hosting a screening of the new Luther movie at the Marcus North Shore Cinema in Mequon at 7:30pm on Thursday, April 20th. (Closest available theater for the screening). Please watch for details on how you can purchase a ticket for this special event.

President's report

(Paul Steinbrenner,
Cell Phone # 389-1289,
pstein@howardcompany.com)

I have started the investigation relative to a new church fellowship/pictorial directory. I will be getting input from Dave Zarling this month. My thoughts are to have this task be another initiative under the 175th anniversary project. We would plan on having all tasks for this completed by the date we formally celebrate the anniversary. It would then be ready for printing shortly thereafter. I will have a chat with Brian Lee soon to obtain his thoughts on this. Obtaining volunteers for this would make sense as part of the 175th versus outside of it. If the new committee determines to include a directory, the committee needs to be sure directory has valid information (phone numbers, addresses, etc.). Look to have a separate committee to handle directory.

Board for Buildings and Grounds

Kurt Henning

klhrconst@gmail.com

No report. Check valve work done on the well. A day of school was missed due to no water. Will be working to remove pews in the future.

Board for Elementary Education

Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com

Principal Tim Gustafson

tgustafson@davidstar.org

No report. Discussed tuition assistance, so parents know how much is available at registration. Also looking to see if policy needs to be updated. Hot lunch program taken over by J. Miller. May need to raise the price for lunches next year.

Board of Elders

Dennis Bell

dandmbell55@yahoo.com

No report.

Evangelism Committee

Nelson Erdman

theerdmans@hotmail.com

Spring/Summer mailer is being worked on and will be in-home late March. Easter Egg Hunt is being planned for April 8th. We discussed a New Member Welcome and working with Northside Ministries. No date set for New Member Welcome, but possibly May 21st. Working on a food and clothing drive for Northside Ministries.

**Stewardship Committee
David Zarling
david.zarling@gmail.com**

No report. Looking for stewardship of talent and time for members and then promoting our website that has opportunities. A few items on website need some modifications.

**Spiritual Growth Committee
Jon Kruse
krusejon@hotmail.com**

Pastor Loescher has been contacted about showing the movie “A Return to Grace: Luther's Life and Legacy” at a local theater. This is tentatively scheduled for April 20 at Marcus North Shore Cinema. (We are awaiting confirmation from the theater). Can buy tickets through link sent from church office. Need to sell 75 tickets in order for screening to occur.

**Treasurer’s Report
Josh Boeldt
joshua.boeldt@gmail.com**

See written report.

**March 14, 2017
2017 February Operating Budget
Financial Update**

The Lord continues to shower us with His blessings! The total offerings for February were \$58,891, which is about 5% lower than the budgeted offerings. The total income for the month was about 3% lower than budgeted for and is down about 7% from the budgeted amount for the year to date. The actual expenses for February and year to date were 4% lower than the budgeted amount. Looking at the chart below, the actual net loss for the month was \$1,339 smaller than the anticipated budgeted net loss for the month. The overall fund balance at the end of February shows a deficit of \$18,201.

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenue	\$74,946	\$77,045	(\$2,099)
Expenses	\$80,528	\$83,966	(\$3,438)
Net Profit/(Loss)	(\$5,582)	(\$6,921)	\$1,339

**2017 February Ministries Beyond our
Congregation Financial Update**

The remittances in February for the WELS mission were 1% higher than budgeted for, while the KMLHS operating mission remittances were about 4% more than the budgeted amount. The KML Joyful Noise remittances were nearly 30% higher than budgeted for. The total amount remitted for all missions was about 1% lower than the amount budgeted for the year to date.

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Wisc Ev Lutheran Synod	\$6,047	\$5,997	\$50
KMLHS Operating Fund	\$3,748	\$3,592	\$156
KMLHS Joyful Noise	\$466	\$360	\$106

2017 February Building Fund Update

The mortgage loan balance as of February 28, 2017 is \$1,250,185. The council’s objective is to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in the building fund debt account—our balance at 2/28/17 was \$95,804. This balance is up about 3.5% from January.

Josh Boeldt, Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the reports.

Old Business

New Business

Items for Annual 2018 Voters’ Meeting (TBD)

Next month’s Council Meeting is scheduled on Tuesday April 11, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting @ 7:57 pm. Motion carried.

Pastor Loescher closed with the Blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Ahrens—Secretary
(Cell # 955-4032, mrahrens1@yahoo.com)



Parish Nurse News

“The Journey of Grief”

Consider David’s words in the 23rd Psalm, “*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for you are with me.*” These words can be especially comforting and reassuring during the life-changing challenges in our lives. Those challenges can take many different forms, and how each of us travels *through the valley of the shadow of death* is unique. This journey could be the death of a loved one, a divorce, loss of employment or financial setback, the losses associated with caring for a loved one with Alzheimer’s disease or other debilitating illness or even the loss of independence as a person ages.

Here are a few ideas on what might be helpful to say and a few things to avoid saying when offering comfort to a fellow member of the body of Christ:

Helpful things to say:

- I am so sorry for your loss (or to hear about your situation).
- I don’t know how you feel, but I am here to help in any way I can.
- You will be in my thoughts and prayers. How may I pray for you?
- My favorite memory of your loved one is...
- Give a hug instead of saying something!

Things to avoid saying:

- I know how you feel.
- Be strong
- She did what she came here to do and it was her time to go.
- There is a reason for everything.

Many of us have said things from both the *helpful* list and the *not so helpful* list. We mean no harm, in fact the opposite. We were trying to comfort! That desire to comfort is communicated even when we just don’t know quite what to say. A card or a call around a birthday, holiday or anniversary will help the lingering hurt. Encourage the person to talk about their loved one! “I was thinking about you today, how are you doing?”

A **Grief Support Group** has begun here at David’s Star. These groups are not counseling sessions or even therapy groups but a chance to learn and understand grief, supporting one another in one of the most intense trials of this earthly life. We are blessed to have **John Schuetze**, a WLCFS grief counselor and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary professor facilitate our first group.

Have you lost a loved one and experiencing the struggles of grieving? Questions? Call Sue!

Together in Christ,

Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse

parishnurse@davidstar.org 677-3485

Grow in Grace, the Institute for Pastoral Growth at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS), is seeking an executive assistant who will work under the seminary’s director of continuing education and partner with the **Grow in Grace** team to coordinate the work that supports WELS pastors.

Applicant must be a WELS member who displays excellence in communication and organization and is conscientious, detail oriented, and technologically confident. An associate’s or bachelor’s degree in a related field or equivalent job experience is preferred. Knowledge and/or experience in office management, project management, social media, event coordination, and customer relations is helpful. Position is 30 hours per week, on campus.

Contact Brian Treichel, Business Manager (262-242-8103 or brian.treichel@wls.wels.net) to submit resume.