What do you need? People are offering many different answers to that question in these days of isolation at home. “We need to get back to work.” “We need to receive our stimulus check.” “We need our children to get back to school.” “We need more tests for virus infections and antibodies.” “We need more ventilators.” “We need a vaccine.” “We need to get a haircut.” “We need the government to do more.” “We need the government to do less.” “We need to get out of the house.” “We need money to pay our bills.” “We need to hug our grandchildren.” “We need toilet paper.” “We need … fill in the blank.”

As we focus on the individual circumstances of our lives, our list of needs and wants can grow fairly long. Yet, if you are reading this article today, the Lord has provided you with “daily bread.” He has given you everything you need for life in this world today. And he will give you everything you need for life in this world tomorrow, and each and every day after that until he calls you home to heaven. Sometimes our list of “needs” gets so long that we forget to appreciate the blessings we are receiving from the Lord day after day.

Unusual circumstances have a way of shaking up our lives. Difficult times can be times of great blessing for all of us if we become more laser focused on what we truly need. I’m sure you remember the Bible account of Jesus’ visit to the home of Mary and Martha. Martha was caught up in making everything just right as she hosted Jesus. She worked hard at preparing the meal. She had a vision for how the visit should unfold. According to her plans, what she thought she needed was more help from her sister Mary. To Martha, it looked like Mary was wasting time, lounging around listening to Jesus talk when she could have been doing something useful. Jesus had to teach Martha an important lesson about what was truly needed. You remember his words: “Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, but one thing is needed. In fact, Mary has chosen that better part, which will not be taken away from her.” (Luke 10:41,42)

We may want circumstances to change quickly. We may want to get back to the normal life we love. We may not receive all the things we think we need in a timely way. We may have to wait a while longer. But as we wait for what we want to happen, we remember that the Lord is always giving us what we truly need. He gives us our daily bread … but so much more: “What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him? (Romans 8:31, 32)

My prayer is that our loving Lord will use these difficult days to focus all of us on what we truly need, and what we already have, thanks to our risen and victorious Lord Jesus! In him we have forgiveness of sins, life and salvation!
Happy Birthday Seniors!

Eleanor Gronemeyer (5/8)
Dave Martin (5/18)
Janet Kannenberg (5/19)
Robert Coldewe (5/20)
Prof. David Kuske (5/28)
Lorain Kison (5/29)
Wayne Lammert (5/30)
Al Laverenz (5/31)
Rudy Zarling (5/31)

ALTAR FLOWER UPDATE

Groth's Country Gardens, the greenhouse that supplies our fresh flower bouquets, are no longer able to get fresh flowers at this time. Nelson & Frieda Erdman who were scheduled for Altar flowers on May 2nd, will be donating two peace lilies for the altar instead of flowers. These plants will be used until we are able to begin using fresh bouquets on our altar once again. Many families had signed up to donate fresh flowers for their wedding anniversaries in the month of May. The list of those couples can be found below. Please keep them in your prayers.

Gary & Holly Heckendorf 30 Years (5/10)
Dave & Jeanie Martin 24 Years (5/17)
Brian & Pam Lee 35 Years (5/24)
Stan & Sherry Miller 30 Years (5/31)

LADIES’ AID SPRING PLANT SALE

The Ladies Aid group will again be selling Gift Certificates for use at Groth's Country Gardens. Due to the social distancing requirements at this time, orders for certificates will need to be made by contacting either Lois Traska; 262/375-3877; or Marlene Bell; 262/677-2248. Arrangements can be made to get your certificates to you by mail, pick up at either Traska or Bell residence or they can be delivered to you. Certificates are available in $25.00 denomination. They are usable on annuals/perennials/vegetables. Certificates expire June 30, 2020. Proceeds from this sale will be used for church improvements.

MORNING BIBLE CAMP UPDATE

We are still planning to hold our Morning Bible Camp in June (15th through the 19th). Doris Koeller is already thinking about some of the precautions and practices we may have to follow to assure a safe environment for our children, helpers and teachers. Any decision to cancel or reschedule our Morning Bible Camp would be made toward the middle of May.
Mr. Scott Beyersdorf received a call to serve at St. Matthew’s Lutheran School in Stoddard, Wisconsin. Mr. Beyersdorf’s response to that call is below:

After prayerful consideration and input from my family, colleagues, friends, students, parents, etc. I have decided to continue serving you here at David’s Star.

In Christ,
Scott Beyersdorf

Under normal conditions, our summer worship schedule would begin on Thursday, May 21, 2020 with the addition of weekly 6:30 PM worship services. Also, beginning Sunday, May 24, 2020, the start of our second service would move from 10:15 AM to 9:30 AM. However, adjustments may take place depending upon mandates and suggested guidelines for distancing in the days ahead. Please keep checking emails for information. Service information will also be available on our church voicemail message.

DVD’s of the weekend services will continue to be produced and made available on the Woldt porch. Audio CD’s could also be produced if there was a need. Please let us know!

The weather is starting to turn and spring might really be here. With the current situation, it most likely will not be possible to host Arbor Day. However, work still needs to be done. Bushes need to be trimmed, mulch needs to be spread, the cemetery needs attention, along with other projects. So, if you, and your family or social circle are looking to get outdoors, Building and Grounds would like to hear from you. They are organizing a number of tasks and a list of areas that need work. These tasks could be done in your own time frame. You would have to bring your own wheelbarrow and shovels. We want to make sure we have enough people to start and finish all tasks in a timely manner. We don’t want the work to start, and not be completed.

Example of the tasks would be:
1. Spread mulch on the west playground
2. Clean up the front of the church and spread mulch
3. Clean up the circle in the front-drive and mulch
4. West side of the school

Many more tasks could be organized. Mulch or topsoil will be brought as close as possible to each task. Once it is determined there are enough groups interested, work could be assigned and start. If you are interested or have a social circle willing to take on one of the tasks, email Brian Lee at BandG@davidssstar.org (preferred) or call 262-377-9419. Please don’t call between noon and 2:30 pm. That’s naptime for Brian’s granddaughter!
STAY CONNECTED TO JESUS

There are many ways to stay connected to Jesus and to your brothers and sisters in Christ at David’s Star during the Stay at Home state mandate! A few are listed below:

**LIVESTREAM BIBLE STUDY**—Pastor Woldt is continuing the Livestream Bible Study on Phillippians. Watch for the email blasts from the pastors for the time and study sheet. These studies are recorded, and can be watched at anytime. Visit www.davidsstar.org and click on the Livestream link.

**JAM! (Jesus and Me)** - Jennifer Mueller will be offering a Facebook Live “JAM” sessions periodically. These sessions will be streamed on the David’s Star Church Facebook page. “Jesus and Me” is designed for toddlers, young children, and their parents, grandparents, or other caregivers. Give it a try! Watch the email blasts for upcoming dates.

**FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE CHAT**—Pastor Loescher hosts a brief Bible study on Friday mornings at 9:00 AM utilizing Zoom, a web conferencing application. Watch the email blasts for the session link. Everyone is invited to join in on the conversation.

**WOLDT PARSONAGE PORCH PICKUP** - There are many items are available for porch pickup, including: printed copies of the weekend sermons, Meditations, Forward in Christ, the monthly newsletter, OWLS newsletter, and DVD’s of the services for those who do not have internet access. (Please let us know if you will use DVD’s in the future so we can produce the appropriate amount.) Everyone is welcome to stop by for materials!

**NORTHWESTERN PUBISHING HOUSE** - visit online.nph.net for free downloadable resources, including Christ Light Sunday School lessons, the monthly Kids Connection, and many hymns from various sections of the Christian Worship Hymnal. An electronic version of the quarterly Meditations can also be found here!

**WELS WEBSITE** - The WELS website contains a wealth of tools, including the current issue of the Forward in Christ, daily devotions for families, individuals, and teens, and the WELS Connection. The WELS website address is www.WELS.net, or visit our website and click on the link.

**PRAYER REQUESTS** - If you have any special prayer requests that we could include in the daily pastor update emails and weekly bulletin, or during our Livestream service please contact the church office (church@davidsstar.org) or one of the pastors.

**PERSONAL BLESSINGS?** Have you noticed any personal blessings in this time of separation from others? You are welcome to submit your stories for inclusion in the pastors daily email blasts. Email your story to church@davidsstar.org

“*If you are deeply troubled by personal guilt or fear, and feel a deep need for a time of private confession and absolution, please contact one of the pastors. We will set up a special time to meet you at church, or if necessary, in your home. Confession, absolution, and possible private reception of the Sacrament rises to the level of “essential services” that we provide for our members, in addition to Livestream and other internet, digital and email options.”*
A NOTE ABOUT OFFERINGS

We have received many questions about how to continue to support the ministry of David’s Star during the ‘stay-at-home’ mandate. At this time, David's Star offers several different ways to support our ministry: Mail your offering envelope to the church office, drop it off in the basket located on the Woldt parsonage porch, or take a more 'automated' approach. The first 'automated' approach is to issue David's Star a check through your own online banking. If you choose this option, you can use the memo line to indicate where you would like the funds credited (i.e. operating fund, building fund, missions, etc.) If you have a number of different places you would like your offering credited, please send an email to church@davidsstar.org and we will process your offering accordingly. If you give without designation, your offering will be deposited into the operating fund. The second “automated” way is through the Simply Giving Program. This is a program that allows your offering to be withdrawn automatically from an account of your choice. You choose the date(s) of the withdrawal, where your offering is credited, and you also control how long you would like automatic withdrawal to continue! The form for the Simply Giving Program can be found on the Woldt parsonage porch, our website or by contacting the church secretary. Once you complete the form, you can fax it back to the church office (262.677.8960), email it to church@davidsstar.org or send it via U.S. Mail to the church office. Whichever method you use, your offerings will be credited to your annual giving statement. Thank you for your continued support!

We have been receiving cards from the school and Sunday school. As shut-ins we are thanking the students for the joy that their cards have brought us. We have received much encouragement from their efforts.

Joe and Jean Stickney

KML BAND RECRUITMENT

The Elementary School Band Program offered by KML has begun online registration for the 2020-2021 school year. Parents and current fourth through seventh grade students who wish to learn more about the program and our free summer band camps are invited to tune in for a live online presentation on Sunday, May 3 at 2:00 PM. A link to that presentation and much more can be found at www.kmlhs.org/kmlesbands. If you would like more information you can contact Nate Amundson, the Director of Elementary School Bands, at nate.amundson@kmlhs.org.

LWMS CONVENTION CANCELED

The 2020 Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society convention in Georgia has been canceled. LWMS is working with the missions office with an alternative plan. There is a video that you can watch on the LWMS Facebook page with Cynthia Natsis, the president, explaining the tentative plans. https://www.facebook.com/LWMS.WELS/
Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and Stay-at-Home orders from the Governor of Wisconsin, the Church Council did not meet in person or via conference call in April 2020. Instead, reports were submitted by the Chairmen and New Business was carried out via email.

**Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)**

**Outgoing:** Henning, Kirsten *(Transfer to Shepherd of the Hills, West Bend, WI)*

**Pastor’s Report (Pastor Woldt)** We remain thankful for the encouragement and ongoing support of David’s Star’s ministry during this current mandate, “Safer-at-Home.” We will work with the elders to monitor opportunities for on campus and visitation ministry as the current restrictions are lifted. We are grateful for the work of those who participated in “members calling members.” Our directory information is being updated as a result of these calls. Among the issues that we need to address going forward are: Confirmation Service, School Closing Service, Special “door offering” to support our ministry students attending Martin Luther College through the Congregational Partner Grant Program, and a celebration service when we can worship together again? (Outdoor?) Pastor Woldt continues to offer his bible study on Philippians on livestream. Pastor Loescher plans to add another Bible Study to our livestream offering. Still thinking about the title. It will be an overview of the Formula of Concord with a view of the importance of clear doctrine in a time of crisis.

**Evangelism (Paul Zietlow)** Investigating the addition of YouTube, work continues on brochures for visitors, non-Lutherans, and members. Banners were hung advertising Lent and Easter and now our website for Livestream services.

**Elders (Dan Bolha)** 24 volunteers plus the elders have made over 250 member-to-member calls to date. The elders approved paying organists for two services: one for preparation and one for the service. Nancy Ebeling was asked to collect a history of current events and how David’s Star is coping with COVID-19 restrictions. Once the restrictions are lifted she will compile the information for the archives. The pastors continue private visits for critical member concerns. Elders recommended they limit visits as much as possible for their safety and the safety of those they are visiting.

**Buildings and Grounds (Brian Lee)** Getting quotes for various options for the black top area, David’s Star Drive and the shoulders. Investigating light replacement for the marble sign on Western Ave. 8th grade carpet is scheduled for replacement, as well as the asbestos tile under it. The second tile sample from under a pew in church came back asbestos free. Getting a third carpet replacement estimate. Woods logging will continue throughout spring. Looking to get the chapel area cleaned up and benches in place. Arbor Day plans on hold. Considering offering a number of small tasks that could be completed by one or two people, then offer a sign up.

**Board of Education (Jason Walz)** - Mark Oestreich & Randy Watts are working on the ability to log into the school network from home. The Safety Grant has been extended until 12/31/20. A small group of financial people have been helping the bookkeeper fill out the cash flow report required for participation in Wisconsin School Choice. There are currently 9 students signed up for the choice program and there are potentially 5 others. Due to class size, may need to add an aid in the kindergarten classroom and possibly an additional aid in the 4K Preschool room if class sizes continue to increase.

**Stewardship (Dave Zarling)** - Looking into options for online giving. The Ad-Hoc David’s Star/Morning Star Joint Effort Committee has postponed meetings until the state gathering mandate has been lifted.
Spiritual Growth (Jon Kruse) - Thank you to the pastors and everyone involved with putting online services together. There is a lot that goes into making this happen and we are certainly blessed with the technology that allows Livestreaming during this time of uncertainty.

New Business — A motion was made and seconded to spend up to $2,500 to remove the asbestos from the 8th grade classroom and up to $950 to replace the flood lights on the sign at the Western Ave entrance. Motion Carried.

Treasurer’s Report (Joshua Boeldt) - 2020 March Operating Budget Praise be to our Risen Lord! Incredibly, despite the safe at home mandate, the total offerings for March were 2% higher than the budgeted offerings, with a total of $75,257. The total income for the month was 4.8% higher than budget for March and 8.8% higher for the year to date. The actual expenses for March were 5.6% lower than the budgeted amount for the month and are 3.8% lower than budget for the year to date. The actual change for the month was $9,543 better than the anticipated budgeted change for the month. The overall fund balance at the end of March shows a surplus of $29,935.

2020 March Ministries Beyond our Congregation The remittances in March for the WELS mission were 29% lower than budgeted, while the KMLHHS operating mission remittances were 12% lower than budget. The KML Joyful Noise remittances were 2.8% higher than the amount budgeted for. The total amount remitted for all missions was about 17% lower than the amount budgeted for March and 10% lower for the year to date.

2020 March Building Fund The mortgage loan balance at the end of March is $769,454. The council’s objective is to maintain a $100,000 cushion in the building fund debt account —our balance at 3/31/20 was $48,232. This balance is down about 7.6% from last month. Finally, the economic downturn did have a negative impact on some of our investment accounts, including our tuition assistance fund accounts and our DS Gift Trust Fund account.

Next Council Meeting: 7pm; May 12, 2020

SEASONAL CEMETERY DECORATIONS

Mowing season will start soon. Temporary seasonal decorations from fall and Christmas have been removed from the cemetery. Removed seasonal items have been placed on the north side of the storage shed. If you are interested in recovering your items, please check there. Some items may be missing because they have been blown away or damaged by the weather.
UNCERTAIN TIMES

“‘The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?’”
Psalm 27:1

 uncertain times. We are in the midst of unprecedented days which may linger. What do we do to combat fear associated with a pandemic? Where do we turn for comfort? Think about a dark alley. You hear a noise and are instantaneously afraid. Could there be a bad guy in the alley or could there be a cat? Either is possible. Fear of the unknown is very common. Take heart. God reminds us to not be afraid and to trust His Word. Traversing the dark alley can create fear unless we have a light. We have that light! God the Father is the light that shines for the world and God’s Word guides our path. That light is available to us every day.

If you are stir crazy with too much time on your hands, what might you do to busy yourself physically? If possible, take a walk around your yard or down the street. Listen for the sounds and sights of the spring. Flowers are just starting to peek through the soil, the birds are singing and the buds are just beginning to form on the trees. Can’t get out? Open your windows as able. To start a walking routine indoors, walk in one place for 2 minutes and progress to 5 minutes or walk briskly around your house on a designated route using the same time schedule. Rest if you get tired, keep track of your time and try to increase your minutes weekly.

Toe rises require a minimal amount of balance. Shift the weight of the body onto the ball of your feet by raising your heels. Use a chair for support. This exercise keeps ankles flexible; you moving and improves the musculature of the calves.

Sit in a chair and lift your lower legs by flexing your knees. Start with 1 repetition and progress to 5. If this is too much, consider flexing your toes upward while you are seated using the same repetition schedule. You might raise your arms in the same manner while seated. If you want to add resistance to your workout, add a can of soup or bottle of water to your arm lifts. If you are so inclined bend your arms at the elbow and do arm curls. This strengthens the bicep.  

As always, be mindful about how much exercise you attempt with your current physical limitations. Start slow. If you have questions about whether or not you should engage in any physical activity, please consult your primary physician.

While you are increasing your activity, listen to the WELS devotions, the sermons and Bible Study. Never forget that our Savior is with us in this dark alley right now. Pray. He is our light. Focus on Him and let His word light your path.

Resting in His Care,

Polly Schellinger, RN, BSN
Parish Nurse, David’s Star

2020 Blood Pressure Screenings

Screenings will resume once we can all safely gather together once again.
Philippians 4:6-7 “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Worry. Anxiety. Panic. Dismay. Fear. Uncertainty. Despair. We can keep listing words about all the feelings that are going around right now during this unprecedented time in the world’s history. There are enough to fill this letter. In times of uncertainty, our human-ness makes it easy to forget that God is in control and that He knows what He is doing and rather to start coming up with all of these ideas on what we need to do to “fix” this situation. “God didn’t ask for my help when He created the world, why would He need it now?” That really gives us a very clear picture of who is in control.

Right now, as this letter is written on Saturday, 28 March 2020, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (or CoronaVirus) in Malawi and there are 22 in Zambia – most of which are confined to Lusaka, which is more than 100 km from our clinic in Mwembezhi. Even though there is limited exposure, the Central Africa Medical Mission is still forced to make decisions about the clinics and our staff. In Zambia, the government has done a good job of educating their citizens about the spread of the virus and the preventative measures that Zambians can take now. They have been supporting us out at our clinic – including getting us some extra supplies, providing a statistician to help keep them updated on what is happening and making sure that their Environmental Health Technician is out in the villages educating them, as well. Our clinical director, Jackson Kalekwa, and our Administrator, Alisad Banda, have been closely following the instructions of the government and have been requiring hand washing of every patient as they come into the clinic and limiting the number of people who can be in the clinic at one time. CAMM will continue to monitor the situation in Zambia to keep our staff and our patients as protected as possible during this pandemic.

The Malawi government, on the other hand hasn’t done nearly as much work in preparing their citizens as they have in Zambia. Although there are no confirmed cases at this point, the Malawi government knows that the best preventative measure will be to try to keep the virus from coming into the country. They will be restricting travel on April 1st airports will be closed to international flights, border crossings will close and there will limits to travel on buses, taxis, trains and boats. There have been radio spots informing people about the disease but to date the Government run rural health centers have received little or no training. Our staff with the LMC has been teaching about COVID-19 to our patients at each clinic site. We know that although the government has given some social distancing recommendations (such as staying a meter away from another person and no gatherings over 100 people), it is nearly impossible to follow them. We regularly have over 200 people at clinic on any given day right now due to it being the rainy season. We are keenly aware that as we operate a mobile clinic and travel out to 4 villages from the largest city of Malawi, Lilongwe, we are in a precarious position of being carriers from one of these places to another. The government has shut down its own mobile clinics. All of this could cause us to be overwhelmed with what to do.

Instead, we reach our hands out to God. We ask that he continue to watch over Malawi and if it is His will, that Malawi continue to be protected against COVID-19. We ask that if the country does see the virus, that He limit the number of deaths. We thank him that Zambia and Malawi are about to come upon the maize harvest and we ask for a plentiful harvest so that the both the Zambians and the Malawians have food to eat. We ask that He lead us to make the best decisions for our staff and patients when it comes to the operations of the clinic. We thank him for his grace and mercy and for sending his Son to save us. Finally, we ask for the peace of mind, heart and spirit that in him, we are always safe. Won’t you please pray with us?

Psalm 121: 7-8 “The LORD will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.”

Written by Gary Evans, CAMM Field Director and Shelly Sievert, CAMM Committee Chair

To learn more about CAMM or how you can get involved contact Linda Liesener at cammcontact@charter.net or 262.677.3844

Visit www.camm.us for updates
Mission Statement
David’s Star Evangelical Lutheran Church

This congregation shall strive to proclaim the Law and Gospel; to lead sinners to repentance and faith in Christ Jesus for life and salvation; to strengthen believers in faith and sanctification through the Means of Grace; to equip believers as disciples, stewards, and witnesses for sharing the Gospel of Jesus with our fellowmen.

The continuing purpose of this congregation, as a group of Christians, and ultimate objective, is to serve all people in God’s world with his Gospel. All members of this congregation shall strive to proclaim the joys of Christian life and to witness for Christ to the best of their individual abilities.

(1 John 5:1-10)