



David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

thegoodnews

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“KEEP THAT EASTER JOY ALIVE!”

by Michael Woldt

Wow. 445 people in our first Easter Festival service. 327 in the second. Not to mention Easter Vigil on Saturday night, and Easter Dawn at 6am. Fewer people in those services, but the same glorious message. He is risen!

So what about today? On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your Easter joy? Easter joy is easy to lose. A superficial Easter joy disappears as soon as the egg hunt is over and candy wrappers litter the house. Easter joy is endangered when the din of daily life drowns out the strains of “He’s risen” we share in church. Easter joy is challenged by the cynical world around us, a world that all but ignores the most significant event in the history of the planet.

Holding on to Easter joy can be difficult, even for life-long believers. The story is told that one day Martin Luther’s wife Katie decided to dress all in black, complete with a black veil over her head and face. When her husband got home from wherever he was, he barely got two steps in the door before he took one look and said “What’s the matter with you? Why are you all dressed in black?” “I am in mourning,” Katie declared. “In mourning?” Luther said. “What for? Who died?” “God died,” Katie said. “What do you mean God died?” Luther said. “That’s crazy! God is not dead.” “Well,” Katie said, “the way you’ve been acting this past week I assumed God *must* be dead.”

Do we sometimes act as if God is dead ... as if Jesus was still in the grave? Do we sometimes feel as if there is no hope in life, no relief from despair, no possible end to our troubles? Does our sour attitude spill over into our relationships with others in our home,

at work, or within the church? It’s time to rekindle that Easter joy!

The apostle Peter knew what it was like to live without Easter joy. On the first Easter night, Peter and the rest of the disciples found themselves fearfully secluded behind locked doors even though Jesus’ grave was empty. But by the power of the Holy Spirit, Easter joy filled Peter as the reality of Easter, together with the words and promises of the risen Jesus, assured him of forgiveness and a place in God’s family for eternity. Peter shares that Easter joy with us as he writes in his first epistle:

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Peter 1:3-5 NIV)

Easter joy is kindled in the heart as we stay close to the risen Jesus through Word and sacrament. Easter joy is joy to share as we live our lives reflecting the love of Jesus.

If you find your mood turning sour in the coming days, remember that God is not dead. The tomb is empty. Jesus lives. Listen to the Good News! Remember your baptism. Receive the Holy Supper. Keep that Easter joy alive!

April 2016

*Volume XVIII,
Number 8*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
SENIORS**

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

BIBLE CLASS OFFERINGS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Mr. Dave Bartelt, from KMLHS , will be leading a study on Islam beginning April 3rd during the month of April.

WOMEN’S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at 9:30 am in the multi-purpose room of school. Please join us for a little bible study and fellowship. Bring your bible!

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 has resumed. This group meets on Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the multi-purpose room of school. We will study in the book of Leviticus.

“DROP OFF” BIBLE STUDY When you come to David’s Star to drop off your children on Friday Mornings, stay a few minutes longer and discuss the truths of the Holy Scriptures and pray with other parents. Come in your work clothes, work-out clothes, even your pjs if you have to. No make-up? Unshaven? Uncombed hair? It’s all good. You’re dropping off your children, there are no high expectations. There will be the Holy Word of God and good encouragement to start off your day. If you have a toddler at your side, no problem—bring him or her along. We are all parents, we can cope with children in the room.

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**APRIL 2016
GREETERS**

- April 3, 2016 7:45: Joel & Linda Pless
 10:15: Brian & Pam Lee
- April 10, 2016 7:45: Rick & Nancy Ebeling
 10:15: Tony & Lynn Gromacki
- April 17, 2016 7:45: Dave & Von Martin
 10:15: Cory & Jessica Schumacher
- April 24, 2016 7:45: Ray & Linda Liesener
 10:15: Joel & Carrie Hinz

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THE “LITTLE ONES” GATHERING will take place on **the first Saturday of the month (May 7th) from 9:30am to 10:30am in the new gathering space of church. Please enter through the west side door of church.** 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. “Little Ones” is not designed to be a drop off program. “Little Ones” activities will include circle time, simple Bible lessons, Christian songs, dancing, art/craft time, and snacks. Please feel free to contact Jessica at jc.schumacher@gmail.com with any questions you may have about the program.

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FAMILY RESTROOMS "Starting May 1st the woman's and men's restrooms in the old narthex will be converted to family restrooms. There will be locks installed on doors. When using these restrooms please make sure to lock the door."

COUNCIL CAPSULE SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

David's Star Church Council Minutes
March 15, 2016

Members in attendance: Pastor Woldt, Josh Boeldt, Dennis Bell, Glen Miller, Tim Gustafson, David Zarling, Keith Rusch, Brian Lee, Jon Kruse, Kurt Henning.
Absent: Pastor Loescher, Mike Willis, Nelson Erdmann

The meeting was called to order by Brian Lee. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Woldt. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on February 16, 2016.

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming: Incoming: Mueller, Peter & Jennifer,
Noelle, Luke
*Transfer from Garden Homes,
Milwaukee, WI*

Outgoing: no changes

Pastors' Report

Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919
kloescher@davidstar.org &
Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019
woldt@nconnect.net

We look forward to hearing 12 young people confess their faith this week as part of the examination/confirmation rite. Please keep these young people in your prayers. We are grateful that the Lord of the Church provided an upper grade teacher for our school. Please keep Mr. Scott Beyersdorf in your prayers as he transitions into his new call this summer. The three funerals coming up this week remind us of the importance of the work we have together as a church. When life comes to an end, the only thing that really matters is a person's connection to Jesus through faith. Continue to pray that we have the wisdom and courage to proclaim it faithfully. We pray that you all enjoy a blessed Easter.

President's Report

Brian Lee
brianandpam1@att.net

Due to scheduling conflicts, the endowment committee did not meet as planned on March 10. Another meeting date will be set after the council meeting. After a DNR inspection we were notified that a drain on the water softener and the height of the well cap above ground

are not in compliance with state statutes. Both items need to be corrected. There is no issue with the water safety. Thank you to Bill Bublitz for his efforts as certified operator of our water supply.

**Board for
Buildings and Grounds**
Kurt Henning
klhrconst@gmail.com

Maintenance was needed on the lift. The board is looking at getting some signs that encourage the use of the south entrance as the handicapped entrance. This should make it less likely that the lift will need to be used. Because the cemetery drive is used frequently, we will be getting bids for paving the cemetery drive. The funding for that would come from the cemetery fund. Plans for how the bathrooms in the old narthex can be converted to family bathrooms are being worked on. The board of elders recommended that the pads of the church pews should be cleaned.

Board for Elementary Education

Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com
Principal Tim Gustafson
tgustafson@davidstar.org

The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. Scott Beyersdorf accepted the call to teach upper grades. The combination of Bertram and AT&T for internet service seems to be working well.

Board of Elders

Dennis Bell
dandmbell55@yahoo.com

We will reach out to synod for a list of names of potential speakers for Mission Festival. The focus will be on world missions. The David's Star 175th anniversary is approaching, and a committee will be formed to plan this yearlong celebration. Pastor Loescher reported that the youth group is looking to hold a fundraiser. Some options include holding a Mother's Day brunch between Sunday services. Paul Schreck informed us that the next OWLS meeting will be after the Wednesday morning Bible class on March 16. The speakers will be Rick Kneaser and Sara Snyder discussing estate planning and planned giving. There was some discussion regarding how to commemorate the departure of John Giddings as well as his 10-year anniversary, and also the retirement of Jean Korthals. Pastor Woldt informed us that David's Star would be hosting the Pastoral Conference on April 5. There is a normal rotation by congregation, and this year is our turn.

Evangelism Committee
Nelson Erdman
theerdmans@hotmail.com

The spring mailer was mailed last week to 4,838 homes. The Easter Egg hunt is scheduled for March 19 and will likely be indoors. An outdoor worship service in the woods is being considered for Saturday July 23 with music from Tom Miller and the possibility of a picnic afterwards. The intention is to make this outdoor service an outreach event. Because it would no longer conflict with KMLHS graduation, there is now some interest in reinstating the church picnic on the Sunday of the 8th grade graduation.

Stewardship Committee
David Zarling
david.zarling@gmail.com

We discussed the responsibilities of the Stewardship chair including aggregating ministry budgets each year and communicating financial reports at annual meetings. The committee brainstormed some areas that could be focused on including:

- Formalizing communication campaigns (Example: integrating messages from synod and the KML federation)
- Becoming a connector for new member assimilation/integration.
- Virtual stewardship fair
- Virtual dashboard of giving
- Retain stewardship corner in the newsletter

We will be reaching out to several people for additional help with the efforts of the Stewardship Committee.

Spiritual Growth Committee
Jon Kruse
krusejon@hotmail.com

Mark Hendrix shared a new contribution to the church library. Doris Koeller reviewed the cradle roll and children's Bible studies. David Bartelt will be a guest presenter in April. As we are having a guest speaker, this will be the only Bible study offered at this time. The committee agreed that a presentation on Islam would be a timely topic for a Bible study. The 2016 VBS program was presented by Doris Koeller. It will remain a half day in length.

Treasurer's Report

(**Josh Boeldt**, joshua.boeldt@gmail.com)

The printed report for February was presented. The YTD operating fund balance is currently a deficit in the amount of \$7,656.24. The YTD offerings to our WELS missions were \$12,544.42 which was 120.27% of budget. The YTD offerings to the KMLHS operating fund were \$7,927 which was 126.57% of budget and KML Joyful Noise was \$854.95 which was 98.72% of

budget. The mortgage loan balance is \$1,362,196 as of the end of February. The church council's objective has been to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in the building fund for those months when receipts are less than the loan payment. Our building fund balance on 2/29/2016 was \$92,581 which is a slight increase from the previous month.

A motion was made and carried to accept the reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Called Worker Staffing Policy – There was some discussion regarding first reviewing the existing compensation handbook before approving this policy. This was tabled until next month.

Exploration of Endowment Fund at David's Star – Brian will set up a meeting after the council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

175th Anniversary – Committees and organizations are encouraged to begin discussing this.

Next month's meeting is **Tuesday, April 12, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.**

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting was closed with a blessing.
Respectively submitted,

Keith Rusch, Recording Secretary
keith_rusch@yahoo.com.



PARISH NURSE NEWS

Spring Has Arrived! Thank the Lord!

Finally! By this time of year many of us are itching to get outside, start new projects or just to be out and about! Winter is long and dreary in Wisconsin... Debbie Dietrich from The Lutheran Home Association talked to the OWLS group in January about the physical, emotional and spiritual benefits of getting involved in our congregation or community! So what will you do this spring to get up off the couch or out of the house? Even Scripture tells us in **Hebrews 10:25**, ***“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”***

Is this the time to start attending the Wednesday morning bible class, where encouragement in God's Word is found? Or is this the time to become more regular in worship? The weather is no longer a factor to be considered! There are also multiple opportunities for service and fellowship within the congregation or in your community! Delivering Meals on Wheels or helping a senior with transportation needs could be very helpful for a senior and rewarding for the volunteer! There are people in local nursing homes who would love a visit. Do you like to play Sheepshead? Play cards with a few gentlemen one evening a week in an assisted living facility! Do you like to play outside in a flower bed? Offer to water the flowers here at church or at a local nursing home! Do you like to read? Offer to read the weekly sermon to a member with vision problems!

What are the gifts that God has given you? What do you like to do? Are you retired and have some time on your hands? Do you need an idea on what to do? Pull me aside or give me a call and we could talk about it! One of my roles as your parish nurse is to coordinate our volunteer efforts at David's Star. I can help you find an area to serve your Lord and His people. There really are physical, emotional and spiritual benefits to serving others!

Why do we love others? Because He first loved us!

“I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the Lord has done for us – yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel....” *Isaiah 63:7*

Together in Christ,
Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse
parishnurse@davidstar.org
262-677-3485

YOUR DAVID'S STAR OWLS APRIL EVENT

Please join us on Wednesday, April 13 as we welcome Jesse Kremer, WI State Representative of the 59th District. Jesse will share with us his experiences as one of our State Representatives, what the position entails, how the position serves the District that is represented and answer the questions that you may have about the position.

We will meet in the multipurpose room in the school where you are welcome to attend bible class at 10AM or join us at 11:10am for Jesse's presentation. Following the presentation we will have a pot blessing meal provided by the David's Star OWLS and anyone who wishes to bring along a dish to pass. Hope to see you there (note you do not have to be an OWLS member to attend).