



thegoodnews

David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

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“Praise God for Our Freedom”

by Pastor Loescher

July 2017

Volume XIX, Number 11

On July 4th, 1776, The Second Continental Congress signed and published the Declaration of Independence. In this document the congress laid out all of the reasons they were compelled to declare independence from the British Crown. They listed a wide variety of tyrannical actions from not recognizing the legislature of the colonists and not accenting to the passage of necessary laws, to the murderous acts of the British military, and the unjust trials by judges who did the King's bidding. The oppression become so great and the colonies so unsustainable that each of the signers declaring the colonies' separation from Britain were willing to “pledge their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.”

Christian consciences raise up the question, “Was it right for the colonists to rebel against the government of Great Britain?” “Are we not suppose to submit ourselves to the governing authorities” (Romans 13)? The counter argument to that is that the Christian Church and individual Christians have no right to rebel against the government. We must be about higher things, the salvation of souls. But those governing the colonies were under pledge before God to the concerns of the colonists. They who were charged with the welfare of the colonists believed separation from Great Britain was a necessity.

However you look at it, the Lord always takes the actions of humanity, sinful as they may be, to work it for the good of his Church. And how he has blessed his Church through this great nation that he has established! Just the establishment of personal freedoms assured by this nation's constitution has made our country the dream of many oppressed. Nowhere in Europe or the rest of the world for that matter could a Christian worship in truth and teach God's truth unless the governing powers allowed it. And in every case, the governing powers overstepped their positions of secular governance and dictated what people will believe. There is no telling

how many people died under the torture of the Spanish inquisition which forced citizens to comply with Roman Catholic doctrine. William Tyndale, a contemporary of Martin Luther, was burned at the stake for his English translation of the bible and salvation by faith alone teachings. The Thirty Year's War (1618-1648) attempted to force Protestant Christians back into the Roman Catholic fold. An

estimated 8 million people died, but the Gospel of Jesus did not die. Two hundred years later the governing forces were still trying to force people to worship as they dictated. The Prussian Union forced, upon threat of imprisonment, Lutheran Churches and schools to teach Reformed doctrine regarding the sacraments. Frederick Willhelm III, the king of Prussia was attempting to unite the German states and demanded that the Churches all be the same. It is in the aftermath of the Prussian Union that David's Star's own forefathers looked to this great nation established by God for the freedom they so desired. Finally a land where you can worship according to the Word of God and conscience. Here was a land where they could teach their children the truths of God's Word without a governing tyrant telling them what they must teach.

Praise God this 4th of July for the freedom we have to worship our Triune God without fear or threat. Praise him that we, by right, can operate a Lutheran Elementary School, teach Luther's Catechism, and proclaim to others the saving message of forgiveness through Jesus. Salute the flag with pride and pray for all our governing officials who uphold our right to freedom here on earth, and our right to preach freedom from sin and death through Jesus Christ.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS

*Paul Weis (7/4)
Marcella Schultz (7/14)*

JULY 2017 GREETERS

- July 2, 2017 7:45 Joel & Linda Pless
9:30: No one signed up.
- July 9, 2017 7:45: LaVern Oehler & Chris Dahl
9:30: Brian & Pam Lee
- July 16, 2017 7:45: No one signed up.
9:30: Paul & Krista Kuber
- July 23, 2017 7:45: No one signed up.
9:30: No one signed up.
- July 30, 2017 7:45: No one signed up.
9:30: John & Ruth Anne Geldon.

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KML TUITION ASSISTANCE David's Star provides a small amount of tuition assistance to David's Star members who may need financial assistance with KML tuition. If you are interested in applying, please contact the church office or Pastor Woldt for an application. Deadline for application submission is the end of July.

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DAVID'S STAR ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOKS have arrived. If you did not preorder your cookbook, don't worry, we have a one available for you too! If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Tews, [262-377-2051](tel:262-377-2051). The cost is \$15. Please make checks payable to: David's Star Lutheran Church. Cookbooks are also available in the church office.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS The office is open during the summer. The church secretary is in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30am until 3:30pm. The school secretary is in on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:30am until 3:30pm.

THE COMPASSION BRIDGE

Building bridges of compassion to help one another through difficult times is what this group is all about. A group of members who are grieving or have grieved the loss of loved ones, have recently completed an eight week grief support group. They intend to keep meeting to support each other and anyone else who is suffering. This group will meet once a month over the summer and invite any others struggling through loss of life, marriage, job, or any other struggles of life.

Here's what you need to know:

1. You don't have to say anything. No need to share, you can simply come and benefit from the gathering.
2. You don't have to be the one struggling, you can benefit from this group so that you might help someone else who is struggling.
3. You don't have to be suffering a loss, just struggling with life.
4. What is said in this group, stays with this group.
5. No need to sign-up, just come.
6. It will be a sort of running Bible study/devotional reading led by Pastor Loescher with discussion and encouragement interspersed. Kind of like a conversation where you let the Lord speak first. And we will speak to the Lord in prayer.
7. The next meeting will be July 12th from 7-8pm in the multipurpose room, across from the gym.

Dear brothers and sisters of David's Star,

My 30th anniversary in the ministry kind of snuck up on me, but you did not let it go unnoticed and unrecognized. Thank you very much for all your kind words and gifts! I give thanks to God for this calling to which he has brought me. Your pastors are often amazed at the high level of support and gratitude you show us. Your honor for the Gospel message and the ministry comes through in your love for us, Christ's servants. May the Lord continue to bless our efforts together.

In gratitude to God,
Pastor Kurt Loescher

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

Church Council Minutes

**David's Star Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson, WI
June 13, 2017 7:00pm**

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Pastor Woldt, Mark Ahrens, Josh Boeldt, Dennis Bell, Nelson Erdmann, Jon Kruse, Paul Steinbrenner, David Zarling

Excused: Todd Backus, Tim Gustafson, Kurt Henning, Mike Willis

The meeting was called to order by Paul Steinbrenner at 7:01 pm. 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 May 16, 2017.

Committee Reports

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming: None

Outgoing: Kohlmeier, Lynn; Aaron
Transfer to Riverview, Appleton, WI
Korthals, James & Jean
Transfer to English, Viroqua, WI

Pastors' Report

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

Please encourage your circle of family and friends to remain faithful in worship during the summer months. Online resources of WELS provide assistance in finding a worship service near your cabin/vacation spot. Please share any positive experiences with the pastors. We are always interested in enhancing worship in ways that will best honor the gospel and serve the membership of David's Star. The summer sermon series on the Lord's Prayer will commence on Father's Day and continue through most of the summer. The pastors are staying relatively close to home during June and July, with a day or two away scattered throughout these months. Loescher's have a family wedding coming up at the end of June. Pastor Woldt will be going to Minnesota several weeks later in the year. Pastor Loescher will be off in July.

President's Report

(Paul Steinbrenner)

No written report. Met with LifeTouch regarding pictures.

Board for Buildings and Grounds

Kurt Henning

klhrconst@gmail.com

No report.

Board for Elementary Education

Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com

Principal Tim Gustafson

tgustafson@davidstar.org

May 22, 2017

Meeting location: David's Star

Attending: Pastor Woldt, M. Willis, T. Gustafson, T. Oestrich, B. Campbell, J. McCoy, M Kempfert
excused

Open with Prayer – Pastor

1. Approval of minutes from the April 18, 2017 meeting Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion carried
2. Council Report – Tim, Pastor, Mike
3. Financial Report – Mike K
4. Principal's Report – Tim
 - Technology- Currently the faculty is trying to determine if all of the Chromebooks are working properly, and they are checking the power cords as well. Anything that needs to be fixed or purchased during the summer, will be handle by Mr. Watts.
 - Hot Lunch- There is nothing new to report. Mrs. Miller will have a larger report in June for us to look at and discuss.
 - Tuition Assistance- I received three applications which will cover five children. I will have my report and recommendation for the meeting concerning the disbursement of funds. Motion to approve 2017- Three families have applied with a total of 5 children. Currently the fund is \$5,563.70 (as of April 30). I am suggesting that we disburse \$2,200. The disbursement amounts are as follows: Free Hot Lunch (\$500), Reduced Hot Lunch (\$400), Did not Qualify (\$150). I followed the formula of 100%, 80%, and 30%. This would leave us with a balance of about \$3,363.70. Seconded. Motion carried.

- Playground Mulch- The Parents' Group would like to purchase mulch for the two playgrounds. This mulch is for playgrounds, so it will reduce the amount of slivers and it should last a little longer. Arborscape would provide the mulch and the work that needs to be done. There is two parts to the bid: the mulch would cost \$1,200, the labor, prep, leveling, and edging would be another \$1,200. The Parents' Group would like to do both. They currently have \$11,767.18 in their fund. Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion carried.
 - Moving the ELC- I have come up with a solution so we can move the 5K coat area and move the ELC too. I will share how this can be done at the meeting.
 - English/Writing curriculum- These new curriculums will need to be approved. I will send them out before the meeting so you can look them over Tabled to June meeting
5. Parents Group Report – Bob
 6. Approval of Reports Motion to approve. Seconded. Motion carried.
 7. Old Business
 - a. Team Ministry – Pastoral Analysis
 - b. ELC Call
 8. New Business
 - a. K Henning would like to clear out the shed. Clear out of old school equipment.
 - b. Action in Jackson parade update
 - c. Year-end survey
 9. Next Meeting June 27th 6:30 pm 8th grade room.

Close with Blessing. Meeting adjourned 7:34 pm.

Board of Elders

Dennis Bell

dandmbell55@yahoo.com

No printed report. Kris Eggers attended the meeting to discuss plans for music in worship.

Evangelism Committee

Nelson Erdman

theerdmans@hotmail.com

No printed report. New member welcome occurred, but only a few new members attended, but still had about 30 individuals attend. Postcard mailer sent out highlighting several events. Another coming out in July. 175th Anniversary Committee is looking to have a mailer for the event.

Stewardship Committee

David Zarling

david.zarling@gmail.com

No report.

Spiritual Growth Committee

Jon Kruse

krusejon@hotmail.com

No written report. VBS starting later in the month, and working on guest Bible study presenters. Many people attending Oasis groups.

Treasurer's Report

Josh Boeldt

joshua.boeldt@gmail.com

June 13, 2017

2017 May Operating Budget Financial Update

Thanks be to the Lord! The total offerings for May were \$57,905, which is about 1% more than the budgeted offerings. The total income for the month was nearly 1.5% higher than budgeted for and is up almost 2% from the budgeted amount for the year to date. The actual expenses for May were about 1.7% higher than the budgeted amount but are still about 2% lower than the budget for the year to date. Looking at the chart below, the actual net loss for the month was \$405 larger than the anticipated budgeted loss for the month. The overall fund balance at the end of May shows a deficit of \$13,729.

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenue	\$72,693	\$71,691	\$1,002
Expenses	\$84,515	\$83,108	\$1,407
Net Profit/(Loss)	(\$11,822)	(\$11,417)	(\$405)

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

The remittances in May for the WELS mission were 30% lower than budgeted for, while the KMLHS operating mission remittances were about 22% less than the budgeted amount. The KML Joyful Noise remittances were about 56% less than the amount budgeted for. The total amount remitted for all missions was about 13% lower than the amount budgeted for the year to date.

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Wisc Ev Lutheran Synod	\$6,205	\$8,867	(\$2,662)
KMLHS Operating Fund	\$3,003	\$3,862	(\$859)
KMLHS Joyful Noise	\$421	\$950	(\$529)

2017 May Building Fund Update

The mortgage loan balance as of May 31, 2017 is \$1,222,566. The council’s objective is to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in the building fund debt account—our balance at 5/31/17 was \$93,124. This balance is up 3.8% from April.

Josh Boeldt, Treasurer

Old Business

There was a question regarding the status of a gift from last year. Currently, it is sitting in the bank right now. Gift was intended for bathroom renovation or creation of an endowment fund.

Waiting to remove front pews until we get chairs to replace them.

New Business

Update on 175th Anniversary Worship Plans

The worship pieces are coming together. Special kickoff 2nd week in January. 2nd service at KML, Christian Education (service, luncheon, and musical presented by the children) in April. 3rd event to have a Saturday picnic in June. July 1st weekend to have a service in the woods. Mission festival service in August and have a preacher from Hong Kong preach. Last event 2nd Sunday in October (one service Sunday) at KML. Seminary chorus to sing at the final service. Mission advancement being planned by Gary Heckendorf with help of Brian Lee. Looking for assistance for history of the

congregation. Publicity committee working to get word out about the events. Planning is going well so far. There is about \$2,000 of seed money budgeted for the event. Have some money for guest preachers and use of KML. Larger items to be budgeted.

Church Woods—May need a special committee regarding where we are going with the woods (masterplan) before we start spending money. May look to hold a worship service on the last Sunday July in the woods for one worship service (9:30 am service) on a non-communion Sunday with a more casual dress attire.

Items for Annual 2018 Voters’ Meeting (TBD)

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

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting @ 8:04 pm. Motion carried.

Pastor Woldt closed with the Blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Ahrens—Secretary

(Cell # 955-4032, mrahrens1@yahoo.com)

WORSHIP IN THE WOODS ... ANOTHER TRY.

On Sunday, July 30th, the second service (9:30am) will be held in our church woods ... weather and grounds permitting. You don’t have to come in your “Sunday best.” We are encouraging casual attire that would be typical for an outdoor gathering in a park or around a campfire. You may bring your own lawn chairs if you find them more comfortable than the provided wooden planks. Invite some friends who might enjoy worshipping outside in this relaxed atmosphere.

CONSIDER “TAILGATING” after the service in the woods. Bring your own cooler with picnic food and beverages. We will get a few grills going for people to use. Enjoy some extended fellowship with your brothers and sisters at David’s Star. Pray for sunshine and a mysterious demise of the Washington County mosquito population! If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer for set -up or clean – up, please speak with Pastor Woldt.

If the grounds are too wet for use, we will use the church building for the second service, and still try to have an “indoor” tailgate with grills near the south carport for those who might be interested.



Parish Nurse News

***“For we are God’s handiwork,
created in Christ Jesus to do
good works,
Which God prepared in
advance
for us to do.”
Ephesians 2:10***

Some might wonder, and I myself, do well to remember the reason why we have a parish nurse ministry at David’s Star...why do we encourage the Lord’s people to take good care of themselves physically, emotionally and spiritually? It’s because God loves us and created us to love and care for one another! And so we visit our shut-ins to help keep them connected to God’s Word and the body of Christ, strengthening them spiritually. We offer compassion and support as God’s people experience difficult times. And we offer health education to so that we may serve the Lord to the best of our ability. We all have heard that keeping active and a healthy diet can be most helpful as we age. Nothing new about that! But there are some ideas to help us preserve brain health in an effort to prevent or delay cognitive decline. By the time symptoms of a decline in brain function appear, it may be too late to reverse any damage and so prevention is key! A study by Harvard Medical School found that volunteering, caring for others and pursuing hobbies may be of benefit. Another study found that “those who reported ***higher levels of purpose in life*** exhibited superior cognitive function despite the accumulation of amyloid plaques and tangles, a hallmark of Alzheimer’s disease”. In addition to the general wisdom of keeping active and a healthy diet, those who want to boost brain health can consider a few other strategies:

- Start exercising your brain early on! It’s never too early. Challenge your mind with a new activity. Take a class (we offer a variety of Bible classes!), work on puzzles, games, or a hobby can all benefit the brain!
- Read more books! The Bible would be beneficial on multiple levels! Join a book club and enjoy the social interaction as well.
- Exercise! Elevating your heart rate pumps more blood to the brain. We offer an

opportunity to walk with others on Tuesday mornings at 8:00am in the gym or up and down David’s Star Drive if the weather cooperates. Join us!

- Adhere to a Mediterranean diet, which is generally high in natural sources of omega-3, a fatty acid that is dominant in the brain. Good sources of omega-3 can be found in fish and mono-unsaturated fats from olives, olive oil, nuts and seeds. Check with your doctor before starting any kind of supplement.
- Keep a close-knit group of friends with regular conversation and social interaction. Stick around after worship for a bit and greet each other! There are all sorts of groups to consider joining. Need help in finding something to get involved with? Check with me!

Together as we serve the Lord and his people,
Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse
parishnurse@davidstar.org 677-3485

PART-TIME JOB AVAILABLE (MALE OR FEMALE - MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER)

There is one position still available for the 2017-2018 school year. The position would be for our After School Child Care. Hours are 3:15-6:00, on days we have school. Pay: \$10 per hour. Our after school child care program exists to care for our school children who need to remain after school for parent pick-up. Staff helps with homework when needed, and supervises play and activities. Hours and days are flexible. If interested or if you have questions, please contact Mrs. Eunice Washburn ([262-305-4622](tel:262-305-4622); ewashburn@hotmail.com).