



David's Star  
Evangelical Lutheran Church

thegoodnews

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## **“Good Faith Habits “**

*by Pastor Kurt Loescher*

Bad habits die hard; good habits die swiftly and unnoticed. Bad habits start with, “It won’t matter if I do it this once. It’s not like I do it all the time.” Good habits end with, “It won’t matter if I don’t do it this once. It’s not like I’m going to quit doing it completely.” It’s never the other way around is it? We never say of a bad habit, “It won’t matter if I don’t do it this one time.” We never say of a good habit, “It won’t matter if I do it this once.” We don’t need any help keeping up a bad habit. We can do that all by ourselves. We rarely keep up good habits all by ourselves, though. We often need support from like minded friends and family.

The inspired writer to the Hebrew Christians seemed to understand the nature of good habits dying while bad habits gain strength. The Hebrew Christians needed encouragement to stay faithful to Jesus and his teachings. They finally understood. They realized that their sinfulness was too deep and too hideous for them to ignore. And they finally understood by faith that only God could do anything for them, that Jesus is God and has sacrificed himself to pay for all their deep and hideous sin. Now he was pointing out a bad habit that could result in them losing what they had in Christ. “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.” (Hebrews 10:15). Not gathering with like-minded family and friends in worship around the Word of God and

the sacraments is a bad habit. One that can be hard to break.

Bad habits typically have bad consequences, that’s why we call them bad. Staying away from worship and God’s Word has horrible consequences. A Christian always begins in a very good place, humble before the Lord, happy knowing Jesus. A Christian begins as a free person, totally unburdened of sin and guilt. But then life gets busy, and it’s hard to keep up a good worship habit.

So easily the bad habit of doing something else instead of worship becomes the habitual part of life. Before you know it, the attitude changes and humility brought on by clarity of our sinfulness is gone. Joy in Jesus seems like a distant feeling, and the burden of guilt is always there, like white noise in the background that you don’t really hear until it stops. That’s when you realize how burdensome it was. The bad habit of staying away from God’s Word, the sacraments and worship with other Christians can result in a false pride of claiming, “I am a Christian,” but not really remembering what that means, forgetting how joyful we can be and what great strength we have in dark and painful times. Forgetting just exactly how we get to heaven, but believing or maybe just hoping that we will get there.

The Day is approaching and we are being bombarded with lies to throw us off from our faith in Jesus Christ. Now as much as any other time, we need the encouragement we get from our oasis of mercy and strength, the gospel of Jesus.

*March 2016*

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What a marvelous and uplifting service we had on Christian Education Weekend. For me personally, the most uplifting part of the weekend next to the gospel of Jesus Christ was all the faces and families I don’t see very often (and of course all the faces of people I do see often). To be honest, I would love to see those faces and families way more often. I really don’t care about the attendance numbers, I care about the attendance in worship where I know our families will be nurtured in the faith and find again and again the renewal of hope in Jesus and the forgiveness of sins, where the white noise of guilt is shut down and clarity is restored.

Faith habits like all good habits need encouragement from others, they are impossible to keep up by ourselves. Look for ways to encourage good habits like personal bible reading, daily prayer, family devotions and certainly weekly worship. Encourage and invite family members and friends whom you’ve noticed have gotten into the habit of not worshipping.

Easter is coming up. Many will take that opportunity to worship even if they haven’t for some time. Use this as an opportunity to start a fresh new habit of washing your heart with the love and mercy of God regularly, of encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS

*Donna Gutermann (3/18)*

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### MARCH 2016 GREETERS

- March 6, 2016    7:45: Joel & Linda Pless  
                  10:15: Tim & Rachel Gustafson
- March 13, 2016    7:45: Dave & Jeanie Martin  
                  10:15: Dave & Sheila Krause
- March 20, 2016    7:45: Jim & Jean Korthals  
                  10:15: Dennis & Marlene Bell
- March 27, 2016    7:45: Ben & Krista Traucht  
                  10:15: John & Ruthanne Geldon

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**THE “LITTLE ONES” GATHERING** will take place on **the first Saturday of the month (April 2) 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](mailto:jc.schumacher@gmail.com) with any questions you may have about the program.

## BIBLE CLASS OFFERINGS

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

**2 Peter: Encouragement for Living in a Society Hostile to the Christian Faith.** Do we withdraw? Do we concede defeat? Do we fight fire with fire? 1 Peter helps us think through our response to 21<sup>st</sup> century attacks on those who believe the gospel. Pastor Woldt will lead this study of 2 Peter in the church.

**RAINBOW SAVIOR.** This is a Bible study on working lovingly but in a clear and godly way with the sin of same sex attraction. It may be fair to say that most of us would just as soon not have to talk about this. But it is a real struggle for brothers and sisters in Christ and they are being tempted beyond measure and need our aid in the fight. Taught by Pastor Loescher in the Multi Purpose Room.

**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.

**COUNCIL CAPSULE SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

**David's Star Church Council Minutes**  
*February 16, 2016*

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

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 January 12, 2016.

**Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)**

**Incoming:** Olson, Erich & Jennifer, Jacquelyn, Elisabeth, Samuel  
*(Transfer from Morning Star)*

**Outgoing:** no changes

**Pastors' Report**

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

Welcome to the new council members. Thanks for serving Jesus and his Church in this important way. This past month has been relatively routine with Lent beginning, students being prepared for confirmation, hospital and shut-in visits, Bible classes, weekly worship and a funeral. What a blessing to be able to live and work under the shelter of Jesus' love each new day. Our EFT seminary student Noah Willitz needed a preaching date, and will be preaching on February 27 and 28th. Following Easter, both pastors will be taking time away. Pastor Woldt (and Betsy) will again be presenting a workshop on "Empty Nest" years for pastors and their wives in San Antonio, TX. Pastor Woldt will also be attending governing board meetings at Martin Luther College. Pastor Loescher is planning a trip to visit his son and family in California for a week in early April.

**President's Report**

**Brian Lee**  
**brianandpam1@att.net**

Thank you to everyone who was willing to be nominated for an elected position, and a special thank you to new council members Josh Boeldt, Jon Kruse, and Dave Zarlring. Some special offerings were received and should be acknowledged with a letter or a thank you card. One of these gifts was designated for starting a David's Star endowment fund.

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

An exterminator was called in to take care of a problem with ants in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade room. Some memorials to Carl Schramm were designated for the church woods. The lift in school broke again when it was used at the basketball tournament. It was suggested that visitors should be encouraged to use the south entrance as the preferred handicap entrance to the gymnasium. Two schools rooms will have carpeting replaced. There is interest and a need for a family bathroom for the church. The board will look into converting one or both of the bathrooms in the old narthex into family bathrooms. No responses were received to the note in the bulletin asking for someone willing to volunteer to clear the snow from the sidewalks.

**Board for Elementary Education**

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

The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. The parents group discussed school bathroom renovation. Todd Oestreich was welcomed as a new member of the board. The board recommended to church council that a call be issued for an upper grade teacher, either male or female, for departmentalized teaching with an emphasis on mathematics, athletic director, and other duties as needed.

**Board of Elders**

**Dennis Bell**  
**dandmbell55@yahoo.com**

The newly elected members were welcomed to the board and given a copy of the minutes of the last meeting which included the first draft of the 2016 Ministry Goals. Pastor Loescher presented copies of the church constitution that referred to the duties of the board of elders. Pastor Loescher also handed out a communion assistance instruction sheet and answered many questions about communion assistance. The duties of the board members were realigned:  
Paul Shreck – Church Office and Senior Ministry  
Roger Tews – Worship and Ushering  
Terry Hansen – Secretary and Technology Liaison  
Clif Koeller – Fellowship, Decorating, Ladies Aid  
Jim Abitz – Parish Nurses, Family Ministry  
Rod Hendrix – Care for Called Workers

**Evangelism Committee**  
**Nelson Erdman**  
**[theerdmans@hotmail.com](mailto:theerdmans@hotmail.com)**

Spring mailer is being worked on and will be sent in early March. The Easter Egg Hunt is being planned for March 19<sup>th</sup>. Summer worship in the woods with music from Tom Miller was discussed. Early Childhood Education strategy was reviewed to see how we can better communicate our school's mission to the community.

**Stewardship Committee**  
**David Zarling**  
**[david.zarling@gmail.com](mailto:david.zarling@gmail.com)**

Nothing new to report.

**Spiritual Growth Committee**  
**Jon Kruse**  
**[krusejon@hotmail.com](mailto:krusejon@hotmail.com)**

Nothing new to report.

**Treasurer's Report**

(**Josh Boeldt**, **[joshua.boeldt@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.boeldt@gmail.com)** )

The printed report for January was presented. The YTD operating fund balance is currently a deficit in the amount of \$8,160.99. The YTD offerings to our WELS missions were \$6,443.04 which was 124.22% of budget. The YTD offerings to the KMLHS operating fund were \$4,165.91 which was 133.91% of budget and KML Joyful Noise was \$472.45 which was 106.17% of budget. The church restricted building fund balance is \$89,669.51. The church council's objective has been to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in this fund for those months when receipts are less than the loan payment.

A motion was made and carried to accept the reports.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Called Worker Staffing Policy** – This was tabled until next month. Mike will distribute the latest revision for the church council to review before the next meeting.

**Exploration of Endowment Fund at David's Star** – Brian appointed a subcommittee to look into establishing an endowment fund. The members of the subcommittee tentatively are Pastor Woldt, Pastor Loescher, Brian Lee, Josh Boeldt, and David Zarling.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Special Call Meeting** – A special call meeting for calling an upper grade math teacher and athletic director was scheduled for February 25 at 8 pm.

**Hosting Pastoral Conference** – David's Star is hosting the pastor's conference on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Ladies Aid will provide lunch

**Distribution of Scholarship Funds to David's Star Students at WELS Ministerial Ed. Schools** – Funds will be distributed in April or May instead of December in order to take advantage of MLC's pilot program for matching these scholarship funds for incoming freshman.

**Tech Committee Proposal** – The Tech Committee received two quotes for installing a video surveillance system for the church and school. The system includes 4 cameras, a digital video recorder, and a monitor for viewing the live video feed in the office. The system is easily expandable for up to 16 cameras. The Tech Committee recommended accepting the \$7,301 quote from S.O.S. Electronics because they are willing to allow us to install the cabling ourselves. The Tech Committee is willing to install the necessary cables for a cost savings of \$2,675 lowering the price from S.O.S. to \$4,626. Over \$5,000 has already been donated for a security system, and the Golf Committee has agreed to cover the rest. A motion was made and carried to allow the Tech Committee to install the recommended video surveillance system at a cost not to exceed \$6,000 using the funds that have already been donated for this, and the balance to be covered by the Golf Committee.

Next month's meeting is **Tuesday, March 15, 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](mailto:keith_rusch@yahoo.com)**

**CALL NEWS**

David's Star Evangelical Lutheran Church and School  
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for extending me the Call to be the 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Athletic Director of your school. I feel extremely blessed that the Lord would guide you in this way. The Lord is certainly blessing your ministry at David's Star!

Please keep me in your thoughts and prayers as I deliberate on my two Calls. Wherever the Lord leads me, I know that He will use me in His ministry to the best of my abilities.

May God bless the rest of your school year. If it is God's will that I accept your Call, I look forward to working with you for the benefit of Christ's Kingdom. If it is God's will that I return your Call, my thoughts and prayers would be with you as you move forward.

In Christ's service, Scott Beyersdorf

## Parish Nurse News

What are the Risk Factors **for Heart Disease or Stroke?**

According to the American Heart Association, several factors increase our risk of heart disease and stroke. The more risk factors you have, the greater your chance of having a heart attack or stroke. Some of these you can't control, such as increasing age, your family health history, race or gender. But you can **modify, treat or control** most risk factors to lower your risk!

High blood pressure, exposure to tobacco smoke, high cholesterol, physical inactivity, being overweight or obese, diabetes, a previous heart attack or stroke or TIA, heart or artery disease, and certain blood disorders **are all risk factors that you can control** and thereby reduce your risk of a future heart attack or stroke!

**Do you know the warning signs of an impending stroke?**

- ❖ Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
- ❖ Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
- ❖ Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- ❖ Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- ❖ Sudden, severe headache with no known cause

Not all of these warning signs occur in every stroke. If some start to occur, don't wait. Get help immediately.

**Stroke is a medical emergency – call 911.**

Your David's Star Parish Nurses have restarted the Blood Pressure Sunday's between services in the Health Office on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Feel free to stop in and have your blood pressure checked. An elevated blood pressure will have no symptoms that you can feel! And yet, an elevated blood pressure can be treated to reduce your risk!

*"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you Hope and a Future"*  
*Jeremiah 29:11*

Together in Christ,

Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse  
[parishnurse@davidstar.org](mailto:parishnurse@davidstar.org)  
677-3485

## TWO LITTLE STORIES

For many people stewardship is a difficult subject or a touchy topic or one that is easily ignored. Give thought to these two little stories.

- 1) When you go to a doctor for your annual check-up, he or she will often begin to poke, prod, and press various places, all the while asking, "Does this hurt? How about this?" If you cry out in pain, one of two things has happened. Either the doctor has pushed too hard, without the right sensitivity. Or, more likely, there's something wrong, and the doctor will say, "We'd better do some more tests. It's not supposed to hurt there!" So it is when pastors preach on biblical stewardship, and certain members cry out in discomfort, criticizing the message and the messenger. Either the pastor has pushed too hard. Or perhaps there's something wrong. In that case, I say, "My friend, we're in need of the Great Physician because it's not supposed to hurt there."
- 2) The story is told of a farmer who was known for his generous giving and whose friends could not understand how he could give so much and yet remain so prosperous. One day a spokesman for his friends said. "We can't understand you. You give far more than any of the rest of us and yet you always seem to have more to give." "Oh that is easy to explain," the farmer said. "I keep shoveling into God's bin and God keeps shoveling back into mine and God has the bigger shovel."



The David's Star Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am We are still in need of volunteers. Help is needed for "hiding" Easter Eggs, setting up tables, serving refreshments, and cleaning up post event. If you are interested in helping, please provide your contact information on the sign-up sheets located in the gathering space.



## LENT 2016

- March 2 Swenson Luke 23:6-12  
Wanting to See Jesus
- March 9 Rohrback John 19:12-16a  
No King But Caesar
- Mar 16 Woldt Luke 23:39-43  
Don't You Fear God?

### MID-WEEK LENTEN MEALS 2016

We will be serving a supper between our six mid-week Lenten services, starting Ash Wednesday, February 10. The meal will be offered between 4:45 and 6:30 PM in the gym. Eight organizations or committees at David's Star are willing to serve a meal. **Please consider joining them to help** with the food and/or serving, as we have another opportunity for fellowship. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the gathering space. Thank you.

- March 2: Adult Choir and Handbells will serve baked potatoes and casseroles.
- March 9: Barnabas Bible Study will serve spaghetti and tossed salad.
- March 16: Dartball Team and Children's Bible Study Teachers will serve "build-your-own" hot dogs and a variety of salads.



## HOLY WEEK CHURCH SERVICE TIMES

**Maundy Thursday**  
March 24, 2016  
3:45 & 7:00 pm

**Good Friday Services**  
March 25, 2016  
1:30 PM – Service of the Cross  
7:00 PM – Service of Darkness

**Easter Eve Service w/Holy Communion**  
March 26, 2016  
7:00 pm

**Easter Dawn Service**  
March 27, 2016  
6:00 am

**Easter Festival Services**  
March 28, 2016  
7:45 and 10:15 am

Easter Breakfast serving from  
7:00 – 10:00 am (School gym)



### Confirmation 2016

On Sunday, March 20 in the 10:15 service  
Twelve students will be confirmed.

Kelly Lynn Beine, Casey Marie Doering,  
Jackson John Hinz, Allison Grace Klug,  
Andrew Ceylon Landon,  
Katelyn Nicole Miller, Angelee Lyn Schaller,  
Nicholas Anthony Thoma,  
Michael Dennis Wagner, Carmen Joy Wagie,  
Madeline Elise Walz, Luke Matthew Willis.