



David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

thegoodnews

2740 David's Star Dr.
Jackson, WI 53037

(262) 677-2412
www.davidsstar.org

“Honor your Mother, God Does”

by Pastor Kurt Loescher

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On this Mother's Day, I remember my father teaching me to love my mother. In my idealistic, critical, teen mind, I ranted about all the Hallmark holidays, “It's just a moneymaking scheme--manipulating our hearts to buy cards and candy and flowers...” My father stopped my rant mid-stream with two simple lines of wisdom. “It's a chance to tell someone you love them. I take every chance I can get.”

So this month we honor our mothers and acknowledge the critical and beautiful role of motherhood. Take a lesson from our Heavenly Father. Let's hold up how the Lord has frequently honored motherhood by using its many virtues and challenges to demonstrate his own.

The Lord often compares the pain and anguish of his people or others who will suffer for their sins with childbirth. He uses this sudden and extreme pain for his example and in this way lets the rest of us know that the first task, the painful sacrifice of being a mother is no small thing. “I hear a cry as of a woman in labor, a groan as of one bearing her first child” (Jeremiah 4:31).

When a mother writhes through the pains of labor and delivery of her child, her suffering is soon forgotten, the crying and screaming drowned out by the dainty cries of her newborn, the real pain that seemed endless, now displaced with the wonder of her child upon her breast. The Lord Jesus honors this powerful contrast of painful labor and joyful birth when he uses it to encourage his children who must suffer now as they wait for the eternal joys of heaven.

Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy (John 16:20-22).

Of course, our Lord would not pass on using the wondrous nurturing bond that a mother has with her child to describe himself. When the new born baby is hungry and crying because of the pain in his tummy, he learns for the first time the satisfying taste of his mother's milk, and he feels her warming comfort. In addition and perhaps more importantly, the child is physically growing at a rapid rate through his mother's nurturing. The Lord honors motherhood using this craving of a child for his mother to encourage his people to grow spiritually through his Holy Word. “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good” (1 Peter 2:2,3).

How difficult it can be to go to God when we only struggle to think of God as joyful and loving? He is God over all things and needs nothing from us—he who hates mindless worship and hearts that are far from him. Can you go to him and expect loving joyful response? The Lord honors motherhood by drawing from her nurture and comfort to describe God's Church and the Lord's own comfort and nurture for those who are humble and come to him for rest.

For you will nurse and be satisfied at her comforting breasts; you will drink deeply and delight in her overflowing abundance.”

For this is what the LORD says: “I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem” (Isaiah 66:11-13)

What other God-ordained role on earth is more vital or more beautiful. Who on earth is more beautiful to you than your mother. She who bore you, nurtured you and loved you like no other. Only the Lord himself can claim a more beautiful and vital role than she. And he who is our great Nurturer, Redeemer and Sanctifier, has honored mother, drawing from her struggles, strength and beauty to teach us of his higher strength and beauty and encourage us in our struggles. Give glory to God for the dignity and vitality of motherhood. Honor your mother.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS

- Eleanor Gronemeyer (5/8)
- Janet Kannenberg (5/19)
- Bernice Johnson (5/23)
- Ruth Laverenz (5/26)
- Lorain Kison (5/29)
- Al Laverenz (5/31)
- Rudy Zarling (5/31)

MAY 2017 GREETERS

- May 7, 2017; 7:45 No one signed up.
10:15 John & Ruthanne Geldon
- May 14, 2017 7:45 Joel & Linda Pless
10:15: Joel & Carrie Hinz
- May 21, 2017 7:45: Dave & Jeanie Martin
10:15: No one signed up.
- May 28, 2017 7:45: No one signed up.
10:15: No one signed up.

BIBLE CLASS OFFERINGS

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY Pastor Woldt & Pastor Loescher are leading 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 Wednesday 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.

LINKING TO JESUS

Can you have too many opportunities to hear the voice of Jesus or pray to him in his name? In the interest of giving you more opportunity let us offer these links we believe will give you more opportunity for spiritual growth. We know that for our brothers and sisters who do not get this newsletter through email, you would have to type the addresses below into an internet browser. For those who are getting this via email, click on the links below or cut and paste them in your browser. Once you are on the devotion page, you can subscribe and the devotions will be sent to your email every day. Daily devotions (click on for electronic version) <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/daily-devotions> Women's devotions <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/womens-devotions> Military devotions <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/military-devotions> Teen devotions <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/teen-devotions>



MOTHER'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST hosted by DS Teen A.I.R. Youth Group. Sunday May 14th 2017 Serving from 8:30 am to 10:00 am in David's Star School gym.

Mothers will be treated with special love and care as they enjoy a hot breakfast with their loved ones. Mother's Day gifts will be available as well as a free will offering.

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 to 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.

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

**David's Star Church Council Highlights
April 11, 2017**

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Pastor Woldt, Mark Ahrens, Todd Backus, Dennis Bell, Josh Boeldt, Tim Gustafson, Kurt Henning, Jon Kruse, Mike Willis, David Zarling, Jacob Reich

Excused: Nelson Erdmann, Paul Steinbrenner

The meeting was called to order by Todd Backus at 7:00 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 March 14, 2017.

Committee Reports

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming:

Outgoing: Gustafson, Steve
Released from membership
Obry (Rusch), Caitlyn
Transfer to Faith, Sussex, WI

Pastors' Report

Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919

kurt.loescher@gmail.com &

Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019

woldtma@hotmail.com

What a blessing to participate as 16 young people confirmed their faith in Jesus. Please keep them in your prayers. We look forward to worshipping with our brothers and sisters in Christ this Holy Week. Please join in greeting and welcoming all who worship here. Our local pastoral conference will meet at Morning Star on Tuesday, April 25th. Pastor Woldt will be taking a week of vacation shortly after Easter. First year seminary student, Alex Kirchenwitz, will be preaching his first sermon at David's Star later this month.

President's report

(Paul Steinbrenner,

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

No report.

Board for Buildings and Grounds

Kurt Henning

klhrconst@gmail.com

Well problem resulting in a cost of \$5100. Bell entering a new church needs a new wheel. Arbor night is May 15th, Tuesday night is the rain day. A light pole was damaged during snow plowing. Looking at options for mulch in the playground. Looking to have grounds fertilized. There are ruts from plowing a road to the tower.

Board for Elementary Education

Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com

Principal Tim Gustafson

tgustafson@davidstar.org

Survey sent out to the school faculty. Results expected in the near future. Registration moving up this year to get better count. Moving up tuition assistance to May. Evaluate to get more funds for David's Star as KML does not have as much of a need. Had a pizza fundraiser recently, sold about 900 pizzas. Will have another fundraiser coming up.

Board of Elders

Dennis Bell

dandmbell55@yahoo.com

See written report.

Evangelism Committee

Nelson Erdman

theerdmans@hotmail.com

185 people attended the Easter Egg hunt. Northside Ministry is going well.

Stewardship Committee

David Zarling

david.zarling@gmail.com

Looking to have the online giving form updated. Suggestion to have the envelopes evaluated. Looking to have three signs replaced. A proposed date of July 1st was made to have the signs completed.

Spiritual Growth Committee

Jon Kruse

krusejon@hotmail.com

Meeting next week. Having another round of tickets available for the movie. Capacity for theater is 239 people.

Treasurer's Report

Josh Boeldt

joshua.boeldt@gmail.com

See written report. Should we have an outside group do an audit for the accreditation of the school as we failed that point in the last accreditation. Recommend to have another school swap the review processes, possibly Bethlehem in Germantown. Look at the constitution to see if there is any guidance. This may be better to have done closer to the next accreditation. Will there be a conflict of interest if two schools swap? This question was asked during the last accreditation and was told it would be acceptable. Tim Gustafson will continue to look into the process.

April 11, 2017

2017 March Operating Budget Financial Update

Praise be to God! He has blessed us with a great month during this Lenten season! The total offerings for March were \$73,478, which is about 26% more than the budgeted offerings. The total income for the month was about 19% higher than budgeted for and is up about 1.5% from the budgeted amount for the year to date. The actual expenses for March and year to date were 4% lower than the budgeted amount. Looking at the chart below, the actual net profit for the month was \$17,840 larger than the anticipated budgeted amount for the month. The overall fund balance at the end of March shows a deficit of \$14,907.

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenue	\$88,609	\$74,493	\$14,116
Expenses	\$85,315	\$89,039	(\$3,724)
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$3,294	(\$14,546)	\$17,840

2017 March Ministries Beyond our Congregation Financial Update

The remittances in March for the WELS mission were 3% lower than budgeted for, while the KMLHS operating mission remittances were about 6% less than the budgeted amount. The KML Joyful Noise remittances were only about half the amount budgeted for. The total amount remitted for all missions was about 2.5% lower than the amount budgeted for the year to date.

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Wisc Ev Lutheran Synod	\$7,312	\$7,507	(\$195)
KMLHS Operating Fund	\$3,958	\$4,192	(\$234)
KMLHS Joyful Noise	\$454	\$885	(\$431)

2017 March Building Fund Update

The mortgage loan balance as of March 31, 2017 is \$1,240,245. The council's objective is to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in the building fund debt account—our balance at 3/31/17 was \$92,019. This balance is down about 4% from February.

Josh Boeldt, Treasurer

Old Business

New Business

Request regarding cemetery.

Fee for WELS Convention delegate (\$275) Covers housing and food for synod convention. Can come from conferences and fees in the budget.

Mortgage Loan Refinancing See written document. We can take care of the options via email to the council. The council has approved the recommendation to refinance with PWSB for 4.375% fixed rate to the completion of our loan. All refinance closing costs would come out of the building debt fund.

Items for Annual 2018 Voters' Meeting (TBD)

Next month's Council Meeting is scheduled on Tuesday May 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

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

Pastor Woldt closed with the Blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Ahrens—Secretary
(Cell # 955-4032, mahrens1@yahoo.com)



Parish Nurse News

**“To the Lord I cry aloud,
and he answers me...”**

Psalm 3:4

The Grief Support Group with John Schuetze, Christian Family Solutions Grief Counselor, continues and we are learning about the hard work of grieving.

From J.W. Worden’s “*Tasks of Mourning*”, we learned of the TEAR Model of Grief. I found it interesting and perhaps you will too? Sounds like hard work!

- ❖ **T = To accept the reality of the loss**
- ❖ **E = Experience the pain of the loss**
- ❖ **A = Adjust to the new environment without the lost person**
- ❖ **R = Reinvest in the new reality**

The focus of last week’s class was on **Grief Milestones**, those “firsts” without our loved one. You know, the first holidays, the first birthday, the first anniversary when all kinds of thoughts and memories return to the surface. Extra support is needed and is easy to do. A card, a phone call, or simply listening are all appreciated. Research has shown that certain points of time other than the “firsts” can be particularly difficult for someone in mourning too. Three months after the loss of a loved one is one such point of time. Another important time to provide extra support is around the first anniversary when memories of the events of a year ago all come rushing back. Do you have someone special in your life who is mourning the loss of a loved one? Mark your calendar with a reminder to touch base with that friend around the **three month** point and those special **first** days. Granger Westberg, author of *Good Grief*, says “It is a wonderful feeling to know that someone still remembers.”

I think I can speak for the group in saying that this support group has been a blessing to all who attend. Thanks to those at David’s Star who have helped make this a reality!

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

WELS WOMEN’S MINISTRY

Last summer I was a first-time attendee at the WELS Women’s Ministry Conference. The theme of the conference was Mentorship. During some free time I checked to see if David’s Star had a contact person. We didn’t and I agreed to have information sent to me. Once I received their first email, I forwarded it to both pastors, thinking they would forward it to someone they had in mind to serve as the contact person. Since I am writing this article, you guessed correctly and I am now the contact person.

WELS Women’s Ministry is arm of the synod to reach out to women. According to their mission statement their purpose is: “Motivated solely by the gospel, WELS Women’s Ministry exists to assist our congregations in nurturing, encouraging and equipping women to faithfully and fully use their God-given gifts to glorify God.”

With the month of May being a month we set one day aside to celebrate our mothers, I thought this would be a wonderful time to introduce the Women of David’s Star to this ministry. As a member of David’s Star, we are trained to serve as ministers of God’s Word. But what happens when we are tired disappointed, and we have nothing left? As a woman, think of the many titles/roles you play at any given time: wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, aunt, and friend. Now think of the responsibilities you handle on a regular basis: childrearing, teacher, nurse, cook, homemaker, laundress, seamstress, chauffeur, babysitter, room mom, gardener, party planner, shopper, employee, employer, and the list goes on and on. Are you tired just reading the lists? Do you wonder where you can go for resources to spiritually renew yourself – lift you up – give you rest?

I encourage you to visit WELS Women’s Ministry website and check out what is available to assist you on your journey as the daughter of the King. When you visit their website <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/womens-ministry/> you will learn of the many resources available to you. From Bible studies, prayers for women, mentor moments, marriage topics and much more, you will find a wealth of knowledge and encouragement to lift you spiritually and refresh your soul.

When I agreed to serve as the contact person, I had recently undertaken an intense and emotionally charged project. I could honestly say I didn’t need one more thing on my plate. But the task is easy: to inform the women of David’s Star of resources, opportunities to serve and upcoming events that you may find of interest. How hard can that be when the Lord is directing my footsteps?

A blessing to serve you in His name, Jeanie Martin