

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Mexico Mission Trip in May

We are planning a mission trip to Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, TX. The focus of the trip will be to build a home for a family in Juarez and share the Gospel. The week-long trip will include various mission activities, including handing out Bibles and blessing the people with the Good News of Jesus in a region filled with poverty.

We currently have about ten individuals interested. We ask that you keep this trip in your prayers regarding those who are on the team as well as those who God appoints to place in our paths. Also be watching for fund raising opportunities for you to help with financially. If you want to know more, please contact Dennis Ryckman or the Church office. The trip will be one

ing



week
long
start-
May
25th.

Rent-A-Worker - Mexico Mission Trip Fundraiser - The mission group traveling to Mexico May 25th would like to help you with your Spring projects. They can do yard work, mowing, tilling garden, leaves, weed eating, house cleaning, tree trimming, rain gutters, windows, baking, errands like grocery shopping, painting, sewing, repairs, building, child care, animal care, planting, cooking, and other. Please sign up in

Our 2019 Confirmands

Katelynn Marie Axtell

Caleb Taylor Davis

Rylan Vance Derry

Ayvrie Schambre Kaiser

Tayler Kuper

Ellie Anna Noyes

Collin Matthew Pope

Emma Jenay Reitzel

Eric Glenn Spitzer

Alyssa Kaye Stahl

Jazmine Lynn Elk Yaeger





***“Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
... tell of his salvation from day to day.”***

Psalm 96:1-2 (ESV)

The older I get, the more I dislike winter. I think the winter of 2018-2019 will especially be remembered as particularly harsh! Sure, it's nice to have snow for Christmas. After all, how can we dream of a “white Christmas” without snow? But having grown up with it all my life, after December 25th, I'm okay if it all just goes away. In my book, there is no comparison, I prefer spring over winter.

But the lack of snow is not the only reason I like spring. I like spring because it reminds me of new life. I like to hear the birds announcing a new day. I like the smell of freshly cut grass and the air after a refreshing rain. And I don't think I'm alone when it comes to spring. I think God likes spring too! You see, our God is a God of new life. Listen to what He says in His Word:

2 Corinthians 5:17—Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Colossians 3:10—Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

Revelation 21:5—And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also, he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

Jesus Christ has come and made everything spring. His perfect life, His death, and His resurrection, Jesus has given us new life. No longer do we have to be concerned about our past mistakes. No longer do we have to worry about whether we're good enough for heaven. Jesus came to bring forgiveness for all of our sins. He came to give eternal life to all who believe in Him. And He still comes through water and wine and bread and Word. He comes so that we may enjoy the gifts He has purchased for us. That's what we celebrate each and every Easter. Jesus comes to bring us life.

Today and every day, God invites us to bask in the sunlight of His grace and the warmth of His love. Every day is a day to celebrate God's gifts to all who trust in Jesus. Every day is an opportunity to praise God with new songs that tell of His love and new life.

It's true, this winter season is quickly drawing to a close. And though I know it will eventually return, I don't have to be discouraged. You see, behind winter is spring. And because of Jesus, behind death is life. It doesn't matter what dark and cold days lie ahead, God is always with us. He is there to help us when we struggle. He is always there to pick us up when we fall. He is always there to give us life when we face death. Sing to the Lord, indeed. Sing a new song of thanksgiving and praise.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed. Alleluia. Amen.

In Service to Christ and Neighbor,

Pastor Coy T. Rji





“Good, Right, and Salutory”

Last month, we began our inspection of the Service of the Sacrament. We were able to progress through three entire lines. These seemingly small lines between pastor and people are full of meaning. We needed to spend time discovering what they say about Christ and what he is about to do in the Sacrament. This month we continue with the next section, the Proper Preface.

The Proper Preface is “proper” because it changes based on the season of the church year. Each season (Advent, Christmas, Easter, etc.) has its own distinct phrasing. Some days are important enough to have a preface dedicated just to that event. For example, Jesus’ baptism, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints’ Day each have a preface spoken only on that Sunday. Each preface is written so that the importance of the day or season is clearly heard.

Before looking at an example, we will describe the general flow of the Proper Preface. They all begin and end with the same phrases. They open by describing how we give thanks to God through Jesus Christ. Then comes some sentences about the particular season or day. Each Proper Preface ends by calling our attention to the universal church. We sing not only as members of Faith congregation, but our song combines with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven. Christ’s entire holy Christian Church joins together in praising him. They are not bound by time or space, but in the mystery of this one Church, all believers sing together.

The middle portion of the Proper Preface focuses our attention on the season or day. An example is now helpful. The preface for Lent, our current church season, says, “[Christ], who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave his life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth.” Lent is especially focused on our preparation for the day of Easter. To that effect, we inspect ourselves and our sinful choices. They led Christ to sacrifice his life on the cross. We have “cleansed hearts” by his death. As our inspection builds, we cannot help but celebrate Christ’s victory over death on Easter day (“celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth”).

The next time you hear the Proper Preface, try to determine which aspect of Christ’s life is highlighted. This will give you insight into the meaning of the particular day or church season. Having heard Christ’s words, we will join together in prais-



THREE DIMENSIONS

*"Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live."
John 14:19*

As I am writing, we just embarked on the journey of Lent this past week. During Lent, we are looking ahead for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. So while we ponder the past, we are living in the present, but we are also looking ahead to the future.

Christ is risen, Christ is living, dry your tears, be unafraid!
Death and darkness could not hold Him, nor the tomb in which He lay.
Do not look among the dead for One who lives forevermore;
Tell the world that Christ is risen, make it known He goes before.

*He's
Risen!*

The future is basically just around the corner. Tomorrow, next week, maybe next year or five and ten years from now. We generally tend to live in the future; waiting to retire; waiting to graduate; waiting for the weekend; waiting to get a job; waiting for a raise; waiting for a vacation; waiting for life to get better. It's very easy to use up the present by looking ahead and focusing our attention on the future.

If the Lord had never risen, we'd have nothing to believe.
But His promise can be trusted: "You will live, because I live."
As we share the death of Adam, so in Christ we live again;
Death has lost its sting and terror, Christ the Lord has come to reign.

Sometimes we can get bogged down in the past... trying to get over old hurts; trying to forget unpleasant memories; trying to heal from an old wound. Maybe we can't get past the "good old days," and remembering how things "used to be." Again, it's very easy to use up the present and focus on what is past.

Death has lost its old dominion, let the world rejoice and shout!
Christ, the firstborn of the living, gives us life and leads us out.
Let us thank our God, who causes hope to spring up from the ground;
Christ is risen, Christ is giving life eternal, life profound.

But then, we are an Easter People, made new by Jesus' death and resurrection. We have a unique opportunity to live in three dimensions at once. While I have wonderful memories of years gone by and sometimes wish things didn't have to change, I am very thankful for them. I am also grateful that my past wrongdoing is behind me. My sins are forgiven and forgotten; grateful for new life in Christ. God has forgiven the past! I am also looking ahead to the future and wondering what God has in store for me, my family, Faith Lutheran, our country. I'm grateful that God holds the future in His hands. As Easter People, we rejoice daily, being reminded that God walks by our side, and grateful for what is right now. God owns the present! The God of the Empty Tomb is the one, true God. He is God of the past, the present and the future. May we all trust Him with all of the dimensions of our lives!



I
am the
RESURRECTION
and the
LIFE.

He who
believes in
me will
LIVE,
even though
he dies.
John 11:25

Preschool News

Finally! Spring weather! As if God would ever break His promise of Spring! Everyone seems to be in a better mood and looking forward to outside activities again!

We have had a busy month at preschool and April is no exception! In April, we will be learning about the Easter story, the color purple, the oval shape, the number 6 and the letters WXYZ. The highlight of this month is new life and animals, what a great way to explore God's wonderful creation! In April, we will be visiting the Discovery Center. We will also take a spring walk to look at all the beauty in God's creation.

We are in the middle of registration for next fall! We are full in our MWF class but still have some space in our Tuesday/Thursday classes! If you are still interested in signing up your child for the Tuesday/Thursday classes please do it soon, as space does fill up quickly.

Thank you to all of you for collecting the Dakotamart receipts. Every penny helps! God's blessings to each of you as you enjoy this beautiful spring weather and experience the joy of the Easter season.



Hope LaForest, Director/teacher
preschool@faithluth.com



Palm Cross Assembly

If anyone would like to help make palm crosses for Palm Sunday our assembly day is Saturday, April 13 at 9:00 a.m. Many hands will make the large job go much

He is Risen!

Passover Meal

April 15, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Come, begin Holy Week as we remember the Historic Passover meal. We will eat the historic foods, follow a historic service and sing songs that celebrate this historic meal that Christ had with His disciples the night He gave us the Lord's Supper. There is a sign-up in the



quicker. It is a fun time of fellowship for the many who come each year.

There will be some veteran folders on hand to help show everyone how to fold the crosses.

Please bring a pair of scissors with you.

Good Friday Schedule

5:30 pm-6:30 pm

Women of Faith: Upcoming events for your involvement:

LWML NEWS

LWML welcomes Julie Moore from Avera Suicide Prevention Program as a guest speaker at our April 8th meeting. LWML will be holding a Silent Auction that night in the fellowship hall. The proceeds will benefit Pierre Area Referral going specifically for Hygiene items. Baked goods and gently used White Elephant items are welcome on the Silent Auction. Please join us for the evening.

The LWML will be collecting cotton or muslin fabric in one yard lengths of any solid color for Harvest Winds quilt factory at Rosebud. If you would like to donate some fabric or batting, please place in the container in the Narthex before April 21st. The items will be taken to the Spring Retreat in Black Hawk, SD on April 25th. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Larson

The District LWML will be holding a Spring Fling in Summerset near Black Hawk on April 26 & 27 starting Friday evening at 6:00 with registration. It will conclude on Saturday around 3:00 PM. Check out the details in the latest Lutheran Witness. Please contact

Jan Larson (224-6574) if you are interested in attending this fun time of fellowship with other mission minded women!

Little Dresses

Anyone who has completed Little Dresses for Africa is asked to bring them to the church narthex by May 12. The LWML will be meeting on the 13th of May to pack



them and send them to the organization. Thank you for helping with this project.

Official Acts



UNCLAIMED DISHES

Baptisms

Harper Lynn Bonn 3/17/19

Softball League

Faith Lutheran is again planning to have a men's softball team. We need a few more players to fill the roster. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Dennis Ryckman as soon as possible. Must have parent's permission if under 18. The team plays on Friday nights during the summer months of May to early August. Factor 360 is also looking for another business to help co-sponsor the team registration fee.



Luke 24:6

“He
is not
here;
He has
risen!”

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

YOUTH PAGE

Page 8

LCMS National Youth Gathering

July 11-15th, 2019

REAL. PRESENT. GOD.

For More Info Check Out: www.lcmsgathering.com

Circuit Bible Camp

July 9-12, 2018

In Pierre



More information to come!

Camp Minneboji

June 17-23, 2018

Theme: "Delivered"

Website: www.minneboji.com

Registrations are on the information table in the Narthex. **Registration forms deadline is May 1.** Sign up early as space goes quickly.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP meets every Wednesday @ 8:00 p.m. at Faith. Open to anyone in high school and is intended to be a safe place where high school aged youth can come together to spend time and fellowship together as young Christians each week. Pastor Handschke

ACOLYTES

FOR

APRIL



April 3 (7:00PM Lenten midweek)
Gracie Zeeb and Deni Zeeb

April 7
Early: Carissa Ott and Shelby Roman
Late: Adam Schochenmaier and Hannah Schochenmaier

April 10 (7:00PM Lenten midweek)
Austin Fawcett and Natalie Fawcett

April 14
Early: Addison Cumbow and Maria Noyes
Late: Andrew Axdahl and Kennady Hanig

April 18 (7:00PM Maundy Thursday)
Daysen Titze and Madyson Titze

April 19 (7:00PM Good Friday)
Casey Keller, Cassidy Miller, and Ladd Kramme and Lane Kramme

April 21 (8:20AM and 11:00AM Easter services)
I am looking for 5 acolytes at each service. If your student will be available please call me.

April 28
Early: Kaylie Rathbun and Brilie Schulz



Sent Forth By God's Blessing