



APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER



April Sunday Worship

Following the resurrection Jesus appeared to the disciples and other followers for the next 40 days. In those moments He gave His peace, encouraged belief without seeing, broke bread, and reminded us to continue to grow in the love and knowledge of Him. As we live in the post-Easter season, let us gather and continue to grow in our love of Jesus. For it is as we love Jesus that He continues to reveal Himself to us.

April 8 – (John 20:19-31) – **Easter 2**

Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ

April 15 – (Luke 25:36b-48) – **Easter 3**

Eating with the risen Christ

April 22 – (John 10:11-18) – **Easter 4**

Christ the Good Shepherd

April 29 – (John 15:1-8) – **Easter 5**

Christ the Vine

Military Bible Stick Sunday

April 15

On Sunday, April 15, you will have the opportunity to help our troops who courageously volunteer to serve and protect our country. Every week military chaplains request up to 2,000 Bible sticks for the troops they serve. The testimony the soldiers give their chaplains is moving and convicting. "God's Words bring my soldiers comfort, security and peace." "I loved it, especially the book of Revelation. It was like a grand finale." "I've been pretty exhausted at the end of each day, and keep falling asleep listening to God's Word. No worries though. I just click the stick back to the last day I remember and start listening again." "I posted a message on all the ships and with such a large group they were all spoken for within the hour."

During our worship service, there will be a bulletin insert where you can make out a check, payable to Christ the Servant, for a military bible stick. Each bible stick costs just \$25. Won't you be generous and remember a serviceman with God's Word. We will take contributions during the month of April and mail in one check in May. Thank you!

Pastor Stephen J. Lund

1100 East Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701
Office hours 8:30-4:30 Mon-Thur, 8:30-12:30 Fri
Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

402.379-1775
christtheservant@cableone.net
Sunday school at 9:00 for all ages

Wednesday Night Alive

Services begin at 7 PM

Meals served between 6:00-6:30 PM

Wednesday Night Alive will begin again with a meal served between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m., followed by worship in the sanctuary. This is a great time of fellowship and worship together in the middle of our week. During the months of April and May we will be looking at the **Significance of the Resurrection**. Now that we have celebrated another Easter, the question we need to ask is not whether the resurrection happened, but whether it “matters” that it happened. Each week we will explain how the resurrection resonates with our human condition in a way that no other distant event does or could do. The resurrection is the mainstay of our Christian assurance regarding our past, our present, and our future. You are invited to join us on any Wednesday. The weekly themes will be:

April 11 – The Verdict Reversed

April 18 – The Assurance of Forgiveness

April 25 – The Symbol of Power

May 2 – The Conquest of Death

May 9 – The Resurrection of the Body

May 16 – Our Living Hope

May 23 – Worldwide Mission

Congregational Meeting

June 3, 2018

Our leadership (Board of Spiritual Oversight and Board of Administration) have been discussing and addressing our current church structure. Since 2010 we have been organized with two Boards – one that primarily deals with the development of our faith and spiritual growth and another that primarily deals with supporting our mission with financial support and property concerns. While the two board structure sounded good in theory, we have discovered it to be less effective in practice. As a result, our leadership has developed a new constitution for Christ the Servant which will operate with one Congregation Council (not two boards). This new constitutional structure has been approved by both boards and is now ready to be presented to the congregation for discussion and hopefully approval.

Since the new constitution (if adopted) would require a different election, we are postponing our April congregational meeting to Sunday, June 3, so that the new constitution can be mailed to every household. Our present constitution requires that the congregation receive this new constitution 30 days in advance. While most of the constitution will remain the same, the major changes will be found in the two chapters that deal with Officers and Congregation Council. The new constitution is proposing we elect four officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and six at-large congregation council members. If the new constitution is approved on June 3, we will have a congregational meeting on July 1 to elect our new congregation council.

Pastor Steve's Letter: "Seeking the Risen Lord among Us"

When Jesus first appeared to His disciples on that first Easter evening, the disciples were "overjoyed" when they 'saw' Jesus. One can only imagine what they felt and thought when the promised resurrection of Jesus had come true – He had truly done what He said would happen: "on the third day be raised from the dead." But Thomas was not there and we know his response to this news: "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25) One week later, Thomas was with the disciples when Jesus appeared again. Thomas, upon seeing Jesus and placing his hands on Jesus' side, replied in complete belief: "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28) And then Jesus said those important and yet puzzling words: "Have you (Thomas) believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29).

I categorized these words as puzzling because we live in a day of rational thought and reasoning. "Seeing is being" is our motto. And yet, is that really true? I have discovered that the mind is more powerful than reason. How often have you seen someone about to make a bad decision and you confront them with the facts? No matter how much you try to change their mind, they deny the very facts of truth that you have presented to them. Our eyes of belief are often "blind" to the truth when presented to us. Jesus even told a parable about this dilemma. When the Jews were demanding demonstrative proof that Jesus was the Messiah, Jesus refused because He knew these Jews had already made up their minds about who Jesus was. So Jesus told the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. (Luke 16:19-31) A parable is told to make one main point. The main point of this parable is explained in verse 31 where Jesus says: "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." If that is true, how will anyone in today's society ever believe that Jesus is alive (risen from the dead) and more importantly, has anything to do with our lives? It seems seeing is not always believing and believing without seeing seems even more impossible. But Jesus has given us the way – the method – to seeing Him in our midst. It comes through the Word – listening to the very words of Jesus and the words recorded of Him in the Bible.

Right now I am leading another class in learning the Seven Realities of Experiencing God. This is my fifth time leading this class and I continue to learn new things and recall things I have forgotten. (Hint: if you want to see the risen Christ in your life, learn of His ways and purposes, and have Him revealed to you, I would encourage you to take this course sometime.) This past week we learned again how God reveals Himself to us. Jesus will reveal Himself to us if we are willing to do five things: (1) when you want to know what God is doing around you, the first thing to do is **pray**. Although this seems obvious, how often do we fail to pray first? The letter of James reminds us: "You do not have because you do not ask God." (James 4:2) Once we pray, (2) **watch to see what God does next**. Our lives are so busy that we fail to pay attention to what is happening around us. Jesus reprimanded His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane when He said to them, "Couldn't you keep watch with

me for one hour.” (Matthew 26:40). So often we pray and that is it. We must watch and see what God does next. As we begin to pay attention to our surroundings, we can then (3) **make the connection**. We start to make the connection between our prayers and what follows. The world would call such activity a “coincidence” or “the luck of the draw.” But Jesus has promised if we ask we shall receive. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8) Next, (4) **find out what God is already doing by asking probing questions**. Here is a list of some probing questions to ask of yourself and others: “How can I pray for you?” “Do you want to talk?” “What do you see as the greatest challenge in your life?” “What is the most significant thing happening in your life now?” “Would you tell me what God is doing in your life?” “What is God bringing to surface in your life?” and “What particular burden has God given you?” And lastly, (5) **listen**. That’s right, listen. Listen to the inner voice of the Holy Spirit that will speak to you. When Jesus ascended into heaven, He did not leave us alone. He left us with this promise: ‘But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.’ (John 14:26)

So how will we be able to “see” the risen Lord in our lives today? Remember to pray, watch to see what God does next, make the connection, find out what God is already doing by asking probing questions, and listen. Our Lord arose from the dead, not just to announce His victory over sin, death and the devil, but with the promise to reveal Himself to us as we seek Him with the “spiritual” eyes of faith. May you “see” the risen Lord in your life and come to love Him more and more every day. For as we love Him, He will love us and make His home with us. As Jesus promised again: “The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.” (John 14:21b)

Seeking the risen Lord in faith,

Pastor Steve

Board of Spiritual Oversight
February 20, 2018
6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Pastor Steve, Steve Jessen, Linda Cyboron, Brian Anderson, Deb Olson, Doug Witte

Brian shared tonight's devotion, about being spiritually thirsty and spiritually exhausted, from "My Utmost for His Highest," based on Isaiah 40:28. Tonight's Bible study was on Ephesians 4:1-16. Pastor led the opening prayer.

Next meeting will be March 20, possibly a joint meeting with the Board of Administration.

Linda offered a motion to approve the minutes of our last meeting, seconded by Brian; motion carried.

Financial report (see handout) – let Brian know when funds are transferred from Mission & Growth into Tanzania Travel.

Faith chests will be assembled at the crafting retreat. Steve checked with B.J. regarding the materials, and everything will be ready to go. Lonnie thinks the pieces should be lightly sanded prior to staining.

Brian shared that the Worship Committee will meet on the 27th. Easter lilies will be ordered as in years past. The altar will be stripped on Maundy Thursday by members of the Altar Guild.

Linda shared that our congregation's turn to deliver Meals on Wheels has begun, but was cancelled yesterday due to bad weather. She has invited Joe Rystrom to come and speak to us the first week in May, but she hasn't heard from him. The Tanzania group is busy getting ready for their trip, and there will be more fundraisers. Brian is working on a video for Sunday. She is working on job descriptions for the daycare, and Emily will help her with this.

Deb offered a big "Thank You" to Michelle and Sharel for a very well-organized chili cook-off and game night. There was a good turnout and it was a lot of fun. The auction the next morning went very well also. Movie night is scheduled for February 23rd (Tara has posters on the doors). Mary Weich has lined up all the Lenten midweek meals. Second Sunday potlucks will continue.

See Pastor's Report. He and Mary suggested that the money raised from last year's Holiday Boutique be given to CTS Little Servants Childcare. Brian offered a motion to transfer these funds, in the amount of \$2,500, to the daycare, seconded by Deb; motion carried. Steve will authorize Greg to do this.

Doug reported that he and Richard have met a couple of times to work on a new constitution and bylaws. They looked at LCMC and our own previous constitutions (not bylaws) to infuse as much from what we currently have, and synthesized them into a Word document so it will be in the church office. They will meet with Pastor and then share their proposal with all board members so they have time to review it before a joint board meeting next month. There could possibly be a 10-member council. Pastor offered some times next week when he is available to meet with Doug and Richard.

(continued on next page)

Pastor shared that the Board of Administration approved last month a memorial gift from the Thompson family to drywall the sanctuary, and he wanted this board to be aware. All are in agreement and thank the Thompsons. Doug offered a motion in support of the Board of Administration, recognizing this gift and moving ahead to bring it to fruition, seconded by Linda; motion carried. Pastor shared that we will need to work around the weddings in May and July.

Pastor will talk to Susie about an audit report. He also shared that the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for March 29 (Maundy Thursday) at 6:30 a.m. We usually have a table of 10.

The feedback received when we replaced holy "catholic" church with holy "Christian" church in the Apostles' Creed has been positive.

There being no further business, Linda offered the closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:50.

Tanzania 2018

Jambo! That is just one word that I have started to learn in Swahili. I have been busy learning some of the simple words that I will be using when I go to Tanzania this July. This journey started several years ago when Mama Lui came to Norfolk. She shared how the children with disabilities were needing a bigger building for them to learn. That is when God placed it on my heart to one day go to Tanzania. I thought I would have been on the trip in 2015 to help build the center, however I was called to go build relationships with the women at Msaranga Mandaka. So now, I am not only preparing by learning the language, it is more than that, it is the relationships that I will form while I am there, long lasting relationships that will be more like family. I am excited to be able to work with the women in their villages side by side, learning how they live. The simplicity of living is something that I long to be a part of. In the United States we are always busy with whatever, to keep our time full. When I take my step off the plane, I will be entering a new culture, one that really looks for their faith in their daily life. This culture is something that will be different, the food, their daily living, and faith are just a few of them, but I am looking forward to living that way for the short 2 weeks that we are there.

As I continue to prepare myself, I am not only doing so mentally but most importantly spiritually. I am asking God to show me what He is wanting me to learn from the time I am in Tanzania. To prepare me in a way that He will be able to use me in the way He wants. I believe that I will build a closer relationship with Christ during all this too. I know that God has called me to be part of this new family that I am about to meet.

Nimebarikiwa na Mungu, (I am blessed by God)

Michelle Anderson

Board of Administration
February 19, 2018
6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Richard Hillrichs, Steve Freese, Warren Bennett, Judy Carstens
ABSENT: Jan Puls, Wanda Muhs

Richard called the meeting to order and Judy offered the opening prayer. The agenda was reviewed and approved. Motion by Steve to approve the minutes of our last meeting, seconded by Warren; motion carried.

Motion by Steve to approve for payment the bill from Canham Maytag Home Appliance Center in the amount of \$100.00 for service call and labor on the dishwasher, seconded by Warren; motion carried.

Motion by Steve to approve the financial report, seconded by Judy; motion carried.

Judy reported that the Membership & Stewardship committee is considering another neighborhood welcome like they did last spring. Al Boelman suggested inviting our new neighbors to a picnic when the shelter is reopened. Pat will follow up with Pastor regarding pastoral calls. Cards have been sent to visitors, also birthday and anniversary cards. They need an updated list from the office of missed attendance. At some point a new visitor book will be needed as there are only a few pages left in the current one.

Steve reported that the Staff and Personnel committee has not met as they are waiting until Linda gets back from Texas.

Warren reported that T&H Drywall is very busy right now, so no start date has been set to begin sheet-rocking in the sanctuary. He, Steve Jessen, and Josh from T&H will get together to do a walk-through, keeping in mind that there are two weddings coming up (May and July).

Warren will look for a new lawnmower for the church grounds, which was included in the budget.

Richard reported that he and Doug Witte are working on a new constitution. If the congregation approves, we would go back to having one church council.

Richard reported that the endowment account will be left as is. He would like an attorney to look it over.

Financial report attached. The board appreciated the check transaction report provided by Greg.

There being no further business to discuss, Warren offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Judy. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church			
2018 Income & Expenses			
	January	February	YTD
Income			
Member Offerings	14,517.58	14,164.15	28,681.73
Non Member Offering	250.00	210.00	460.00
Coffee Hour Donations	49.00	44.75	93.75
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)	319.50	329.55	649.05
Designated Church Property	100.00	400.00	500.00
Designated Memorials	25.00	-	25.00
Designated Missions	175.00	235.00	410.00
Designated A Cyboron	50.00	50.00	100.00
Designated B Cyboron	50.00	50.00	100.00
Designated Day Care/income	3,837.46	4,839.64	8,677.10
Designated Good Samaritan	50.00	50.00	100.00
Designated Tanzania & Travel	1,290.00	-	1,290.00
Total	20,713.54	20,373.09	41,086.63
Interest Income	2.32	2.13	4.45
Total	20,715.86	20,375.22	41,091.08
Expenses			
Administration	8,022.25	8,436.52	16,458.77
Church Building	3,831.88	3,499.36	7,331.24
Parsonage	391.41	356.17	747.58
Discipleship	248.40	286.27	534.67
Fellowship/Evangelism	168.12	192.82	360.94
Church Mission Giving	1,700.00	1,200.00	2,900.00
Local Benevolence	295.35	301.10	596.45
Worship	82.94	897.71	980.65
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)	9.35	199.76	209.11
Day Care	4,676.14	4,414.32	9,090.46
Total	19,425.84	19,784.03	39,209.87

News from 2018 Tanzania Team

As July comes closer for us to leave for Tanzania, we would like to invite you to some fundraiser opportunities.

Wednesday, April 4th from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. will be the first one. We will be having a Community Impact Night at Pizza Ranch. The team will be greeting customers, helping the staff at Pizza Ranch and talking with the customers while they enjoy some delicious pizza and their famous chicken. Pizza Ranch will give us \$100 for the evening and then we will get all the tips that come in during the time we will be there. We know that normally you would be joining those on Wednesday nights for a meal in the fellowship hall, but we want to give the wonderful cooks a break and have you join us at Pizza Ranch.

On Wednesday, April 25th from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. you can join us at Culver's for their Share night. They will donate a portion of their sales that night to the Tanzania team. We will be greeting, serving, and talking with customers. The weather should be getting warmer so you could get some of their wonderful custard. This will be another great night to give the wonderful Wednesday night cooks a break and join us at Culver's.

Who loved the First Fruits Fundraiser that we had in November? I know that we LOVED seeing a little Tanzania in Nebraska. We will be having another First Fruits Fundraiser on Sunday, April 29th following worship. Some items that you will be able to bid on are: homemade bread and homemade butter, sour cream raisin pie, a quilt, an assortment of pork, farm-fresh eggs, and some amazing baked goods are just a few items.

If you have any questions, please visit with one of the team members: Brian and Michelle Anderson, Amanda Cyboron, Tara Peters, Charlie and Louise Skoglund, Emily Svitak, Lonnie and Margaret Svitak, and Mary Weich.

Income Statement			
	January	February	YTD
General Income	15,188.40	15,200.58	30,388.98
Less General Expenses	14,749.70	15,369.71	30,119.41
Church General Income	438.70	(169.13)	269.57
Day Care Income	3,837.46	4,839.64	8,677.10
Less Day Care Expenses	4,676.14	4,414.32	9,090.46
Net Day care Income	(838.68)	425.32	(413.36)
Net Church Total Income	(399.98)	256.19	(143.79)
Day Care Income & Expenses			
	January	February	YTD
Income			
Donations & Grants			-
Other (private fees)	1,917.00	1,406.50	3,323.50
State Reimbursement(fees & food)	1,920.46	3,433.14	5,353.60
Total Income	3,837.46	4,839.64	8,677.10
Expenses			
Payroll Wages	3,669.75	3,776.73	7,446.48
FICA Expense	280.73	282.46	563.19
Food & Supplies	465.74	355.13	820.87
Training	50.00		50.00
Other	209.92		209.92
Total Expenses	4,676.14	4,414.32	9,090.46
Day Care Net Income	(838.68)	425.32	(413.36)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Matt Koeppe	4/1
Hannah Roberts	4/6
Kyle Broders	4/7
Tate Petersen	4/10
Blake Olson	4/12
Elizabeth Broders	4/13
Connie Petersen	4/14
Duane Theil	4/14
<i>Mick & Doreen Kullbom</i>	<i>4/16</i>
<i>Gary & Mary Weich</i>	<i>4/16</i>
Jeff Hrouda	4/17
Kay Skovsende	4/19
Bob Lutz	4/20
Daniel Rosberg	4/20
Kristy Rosberg	4/20
Mike Finkral	4/21
Katelyn Anderson	4/22
Brandon Jones	4/22
Mike Morton	4/24
Patrick Olson	4/24
Steve Freese	4/25
Brad Rogers	4/26
<i>Brad & Kathy Rogers</i>	<i>4/27</i>
<i>Lonnie & Margaret Svitak</i>	<i>4/27</i>
<i>Don & Marsha Burke</i>	<i>4/29</i>

God's blessings to everyone celebrating this month! If your name was not included, please notify the church office.

~~~~~

**RESURRECTION ROLLS**

Heat oven to 350. You will need:

- 2 cans of crescent rolls
  - 16 large marshmallows
  - 1/2 cup melted butter
  - 1/4 cup granulated sugar } combine in
  - 2 tablespoons cinnamon } small bowl
- Dip each marshmallow in butter, then roll in cinnamon-sugar mixture. Wrap one triangle of dough around each marshmallow, covering it completely. Bake 10-12 minutes; allow to cool. When you cut or bite into the roll, the marshmallow has disappeared!

**EASTER LILIES**

Thank you for sponsoring Easter lilies this year:  
*Dennis and Linda Miller*, in memory of Dennis' parents and Linda's dad  
*Charlie and Louise Skoglund*, in memory of Charlie's parents  
*Don and Mary Ann Knee*, in memory of family members who have gone  
*Chuck and Jeanne Nicholson*, in memory of loved ones  
*Rich and Deb Olson*, in memory of loved ones  
*Linda and Amanda Cyboron*, in memory of Dean  
*Dorothy Monson*, in memory of Don Monson  
*Bob and Susie Lutz*, in honor of their grandchildren and in memory of their parents  
*Mike and Nell Finkral*, in memory of loved ones  
*Arlynn and Sharon Boelman*, in memory of their parents  
*Jan Puls*, in memory of her parents  
*Jerry Hayes*, in memory of Judy and son Bill  
*Lonnie and Margaret Svitak*, in memory of their parents  
*Steve and Mary Lund*, in memory of Steve's parents and Mary's dad  
*Marilyn Nickols*, in loving memory of Lloyd Bohlken and Robie Nickols

~~~~~

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Two 2-person teams to count offerings once a month (3rd or 4th Sunday). Training provided. Contact the church office for more information.

~~~~~

**Kittens available:** two buff, one orange, ready for their fur-ever homes April 30. Contact Kathy in the office if interested.

