



JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER



Summer Worship

Don't Forget to Worship

The summer months are a great time to get away and enjoy our weekends with the nice weather, vacations and longer days. We need the summer weeks to refresh and renew us, but don't forget that the best renewal comes in worship as we celebrate the season of Pentecost in the church. This is the longest season of the church year (June through November) and is also one of the most important because our lessons speak of living in the Spirit. If you are in town, remember to worship, and if you are out of town, try visiting another congregation and enjoy the variety of worship in God's Church. If you know you will be gone on the weekend, please join us for worship on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

July 1 – (Mark 5:21-43) – **Pentecost 6**

Christ heals a woman and Jairus' daughter
Election of Congregation Council

July 8 – (Mark 6:1-13) – **Pentecost 7**

The Twelve sent to preach and heal
Jared and SauMan Weich will share during worship

July 15 – (Mark 6:14-29) – **Pentecost 8**

The death of John the Baptist
Commissioning of Tanzania Team

July 22 – (Mark 6:30-34, 53-56) – **Pentecost 9**

Jesus healing the multitudes
Guest speaker: Bob Blank (Norfolk Rescue Mission)

July 29 – (Mark 6:1-21) – **Pentecost 10**

Jesus feeds the five thousand

Worship on Wednesday

6:30 p.m. during July and August

During the summer months we are looking at the book of Acts under three different themes: (1) **June**: The Church in Jerusalem: God's Vision for His Church, (2) **July**: Satan's Counterattack to God's Church, and (3) **August**: Foundations for World Missions.

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

During July we will look at Satan's counterattack upon God's church. These same tactics are still prevalent today and we need to recognize them and be prepared to respond to them.

July: Satan's Counterattack to God's Church

July 11 – Satan's Counterattack: Persecution

July 18 – Satan's Counterattack: Moral Corruption

July 25 – Satan's Counterattack: Social Distraction

Adult Sunday School Class

Promptly at 8:30 a.m.

“Life-Changing Prayer: Approaching the Throne of Grace”

Since the CTS team going to Tanzania will be in Africa from July 17 until August 1, Pastor Steve's class on prayer will begin when the team has arrived home. This class will begin on Sunday, August 5. The entire congregation is invited to join Pastor Steve in the fellowship hall for six sessions called **“Life-Changing Prayer: Approaching the Throne of Grace.”** This class with Pastor Steve will be a DVD Bible study led by Pastor Jim Cymbala of Brooklyn Tabernacle Church in New York City. Pastor Cymbala has seen incredible things happen when a congregation gathers and commits itself to prayer. In this Bible study he shares his story and insight of the power of prayer. His Tuesday night prayer service is the most powerful service of the week. I would like to share his story and, more importantly, the power of prayer with you.

Pastor Cymbala's study is based on Hebrews 4:16 where we are told that we can always “approach God's throne of grace with confidence” knowing that you will “receive mercy and find grace” to help you in your time of need. We will start promptly at 8:30 a.m. so that we have plenty of time to learn, listen and discuss each weekly topic. We will meet until 9:45 (75 minutes). Each person will have their own study guide (sign up by July 22 so books can be ordered). Our weekly format will be: Opening Reflection, Icebreaker Question; Video Teaching (24 minutes); Group Discussion; Closing Prayer with Between-Sessions Personal Study Time. We will miss one Sunday as Pastor Steve will be on vacation. Dates and topics will be:

August 5 – Throne of Grace

August 12 – Receiving Mercy

August 19 – Perfect Peace from God

August 26 – Praying with Faith (Develop Your Life)

September 2 – **NO CLASS** (Labor Day weekend)

September 9 – **NO CLASS** (Rally Day celebration)

September 16 - God Brings the Answer (Encourage Your Life)

September 23 – The Church that Prays Together (Choose Your Life)

PASTOR STEVE'S LETTER: "LIFE-CHANGING PRAYER"

Whenever you read the pages of the Bible it doesn't take long to notice how often prayer is used. The people of God would stop and ask God for direction, guidance, protection, discernment, etc., to face the situations and circumstances in which they found themselves. At one point in the New Testament, the disciples were unable to drive out a deaf and mute spirit. When Jesus encountered this same person and was able to drive out this spirit, the disciples asked Jesus, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" to which Jesus replied, "This kind can come out **only by prayer**" (Mark 9:28-29). After witnessing and observing how often Jesus prayed (and the results of His prayer time), the disciples one day asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples to pray" (Luke 11:1). At that moment Jesus taught them the Lord's Prayer (a model on how to pray to God).

While we understand the importance of prayer, we often struggle with how to pray and in ways to increase the effectiveness of our prayers. Pastor Jim Cymbala, when he received the call to start a congregation in the middle of New York City, built his church upon prayer. Here are some of his first instructions to his congregation in those early years:

"From this day on, the prayer meeting will be the barometer of our church. What happens on Tuesday night will be the gauge by which we will judge success or failure because that will be the measure by which God blesses us. . . No matter what I preach or what we claim to believe in our heads, the future will depend upon our times of prayer. This will be the engine that will drive the church. Yes, I want you to keep coming on Sundays—but Tuesday night is what it's really all about." (*Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*, pp. 27-28)

Seated in a pew that Sunday was a minister from Australia who happened to be present that morning—a rare occurrence. When he was introduced, he asked to say a few words (which I – Pastor Steve – have never forgotten):

"You can tell how popular a church is by who comes to Sunday morning. You can tell how popular the pastor or evangelist is by who comes on Sunday night. But you can tell how popular Jesus is by who comes to the prayer meeting." (*Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire*, pg. 28)

With that, he walked off the stage and was never seen again. A messenger of God, an angel among us, or a guest God sent to this new congregation? Whoever he was, his message was received, and the Tuesday night prayer meeting is the most popular meeting of the week at the Brooklyn Tabernacle Church (a church I would love to visit in my retirement one day). Since that day, Pastor Cymbala has penned three books about the "success" of this meeting – *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire: What Happens When God's Spirit Invades the Hearts of His People*; *Fresh Power: Experiencing the Vast Resources of the Spirit of God*; and *Fresh Faith: What Happens When Real Faith Ignites God's People*.

This year (2018), Pastor Cymbala has put his life story experiences of prayer in a DVD Bible study which I am inviting the ENTIRE congregation to attend before worship on Sundays during August and September (see article in the newsletter for details). I know most of you pray, but I also know there is much you and I can learn from a congregation that made prayer its top priority. Pastor Cymbala uses Hebrews 4:16 as the primary teaching verse: "Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." What a wonderful verse to memorize and, more importantly, use in our daily lives.

I am praying that many of you will be moved by the Spirit of God to attend, learn, and apply this incredible gift of prayer in your life. May you have a spirit like the disciples and say, "Lord, teach me to pray!"

Praying for a large crowd to gather!

Pastor Steve

CARD OF THANKS

Thanks for the prayers and cards at the time of my foot surgery. All seems to be going good since that surgery. You are all truly a blessing and may God bless you all.

Mary Ann Knee

We would like to thank our church family for the support and prayers during the last few weeks with our Mom, Grandma, and mother-in-law Dorothy Monson. We appreciate all the love and care.

*Louise & Charlie
Linda & Amanda*

A sincere thank you for your prayers and sympathy in the death of my Mom. Christ the Servant always held a special place in my Mom's life.

Mary Lund

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." — 1 Peter 4:10

A huge "Thank You" goes out to Jo Roberts, Merlin and Kris Lee, Rich and Kay Jaeger, Steve Lund, Nell Finkral, Linda Miller, Doris Hoffart, and Shirley Theil for serving at the Norfolk Food Pantry June 1 thru 15. God's blessings!

*Organizer, Shirley Theil
for Linda Cyboron*

Board of Spiritual Oversight
May 15, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Linda Cyboron

Devotion: Doug shared "The habit of rising to the occasion" from My Utmost for His Highest and led the opening prayer.

Bible study: Ephesians 5:1-20, closed with prayer by Pastor Steve.

Minutes of last meeting: Deb offered a motion to approve the minutes of the joint board meeting and Board of Spiritual Oversight meeting, seconded by Brian; motion carried. The financial report was reviewed.

Reminder of special congregational meeting June 3 after worship to vote on the proposed new constitution. Richard Hillrichs will lead the meeting as Steve Jessen and Pastor Steve will be gone that weekend.

REPORTS

Worship: Brian reported that he is having a checkup done on the sound area in the next few weeks. The crackling in the fellowship hall is possibly an amp going out, and there is no sound in the cry room. He stated that the speakers and brackets in the sanctuary will need to be removed during dry-walling. WOW Worship on Wednesdays resumes May 30 at 6:30 p.m. During the summer months, we will use the Service of the Word on the first and third Sundays. This Sunday is Pentecost, followed by Holy Trinity Sunday the next week.

Youth: Steve reported that youth group is going well. Their service project for this year is cleaning up Roger Young's yard this Thursday evening. Day camp meetings are taking place, and Pastor is working on the sign for out front. Housing is still needed for the camp counselors from Okoboji.

Fellowship: Deb reported there are two more Wednesday Night Alive meals, then they will take the summer off. They will do something for Father's Day, and will help with the bonfire the night before day camp starts. They are thinking about doing a bonfire on June 13 and maybe a W.O.W. service if the weather is nice. The hospitality group would provide hot dogs, buns and drinks. Boomfire is Saturday of Big Bang Boom, June 30. Meet at 5:00 at CTS; they will be grilling burgers and brats. For the 4th of July parade in Norfolk they will be using Nell Finkral's trailer, and her group is planning to walk in the parade and toss out candy. Anyone can join them and are encouraged to wear their CTS t-shirts.

Pastor's Report (see attached)

The LCMC fall gathering is October 7 thru 10.

Ade Pederson will fill in for Pastor on June 3. He suggested paying her \$100 plus mileage, which was approved. Charlie will lead worship on July 1, and a pastor from the Rescue Mission is tentatively scheduled to preach on July 22. Steve Jessen will facilitate the election meeting on July 1.

Susan Reed gave Pastor \$1,000 recently for pews, though they were paid for long ago. Pastor asked what we should do with it. Doug suggested putting it in the memorial fund. We will have some expenses related to dry-walling and could use these funds for painting, blinds, electrical outlets/box extensions (this will not require an electrician). Doug offered a motion to this effect, seconded by Brian. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Pastor reported that the nominating committee will try to get together next week.

There being no further business, Pastor closed the meeting with prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Next meeting is June 19, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Administration
May 21, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Warren Bennett, Steve Freese, Wanda Muhs, Richard Hillrichs

ABSENT: Jan Puls

Richard called this meeting to order and offered the opening prayer.

The minutes of our last meeting were reviewed. Steve offered a motion to approve, seconded by Warren; motion carried.

The minutes of the joint board meeting were reviewed, and Steve offered a motion to approve, seconded by Wanda; motion carried.

Tonight's agenda was reviewed, and Steve offered a motion to approve, seconded by Warren; motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The parsonage deck account was closed April 20, with funds transferred to our checking account in the amount of \$878.37.

The proposed new constitution was mailed to voting members May 3. A vote will be taken by ballot at the June 3 special congregational meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

We were notified by our accountant that our version of QuickBooks needs to be updated. Warren offered a motion to approve this expenditure up to \$300, seconded by Wanda; motion carried. Kathy will notify Greg Moen.

Kathy was asked to put something in the bulletin about the oak desk for sale in the fellowship hall.

Wanda will call Greenfiber about the overflowing recycling dumpster.

Cherlyn has difficulty stepping up to the organ. Wanda has something we can use for a step, otherwise Warren can build something. A hand rail will also be installed.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL

\$251.00 to G&B Sprinklers: spring service, 2 rotary sprinkler heads, 6 spray heads, repair costs

\$275.00 to Amen Snow Removal: snow removal March 6, April 14; salted parking lot April 15

\$4,700.00 to Green Line Equipment: purchase of John Deere mower (reflects \$600 trade-in)

Wanda offered a motion to approve all bills, seconded by Warren; motion carried. Kathy will put something in the bulletin if anyone wants to contribute toward the cost of the mower.

REPORTS

Church finance: We started the month of April with \$35,282.43 in the checking account, and ended the month with \$42,728.82.

Financial report (attached) was reviewed. Steve offered a motion to accept the financial report, seconded by Warren; motion carried.

Membership/Stewardship: no report

Personnel: no report

Property: T&H Drywall will begin installing sheet rock August 1. They will provide a list of painters so we can seek bids. Brian Anderson will work with someone to take down the speaker system when he returns from Africa.

Wanda and Warren cleaned out the closet behind the kitchen. Warren reported that the dishwasher is working. He and Wanda will look for a new refrigerator this week.

Warren offered to take down the pine tree in the daycare's fenced area, but he will need a pickup to haul it away. We were informed by a neighbor that others in the area have been dumping pine needles and pinecones on our property, and we will monitor if this continues to be a problem.

Thank you to Warren and Wanda for the nice job they did on the bathroom.

There being no further business, Steve offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Warren. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Next meeting will be June 18, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church		
2018 Income & Expenses		
	May	YTD
Income		
Member Offerings	11,652.62	72,378.02
Non Member Offering	210.00	1,230.00
Coffee Hour Donations	33.85	205.95
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburs	55.00	1,275.04
Designated Church Property	435.26	1,935.26
Designated Memorials	50.00	2,355.00
Designated Missions	370.00	1,615.00
Designated A Cyboron	50.00	270.00
Designated B Cyboron	50.00	250.00
Designated Weich	-	20.00
Designated Rystrom	50.00	50.00
Designated Day Care/income	3,424.57	22,498.77
Designated Good Samaritan	50.00	250.00
Designated Tanzania & Travel	-	5,074.00
Total	16,431.30	109,407.04
Interest Income	2.36	13.43
Total	16,433.66	109,420.47
Expenses		
Administration	8,205.66	44,684.10
Church Building	1,883.91	15,768.67
Parsonage	364.96	1,794.59
Discipleship	264.34	1,053.31
Fellowship/Evangelism	363.22	1,131.09
Church Mission Giving	1,225.00	6,525.00
Local Benevolence	381.02	1,679.00
Stewardship	183.64	183.64
Worship	521.97	1,775.53
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)		722.36
Day Care	5,524.37	28,061.96
Total	18,918.09	103,379.25
Income Statement		
General Income	12,489.09	79,517.70
Less General Expenses	13,393.72	75,317.29
Church General Income	(904.63)	4,200.41
Day Care Income	3,424.57	22,498.77
Less Day Care Expenses	5,524.37	28,061.96
Net Day care Income	(2,099.80)	(5,563.19)
Net Church Total Income	(3,004.43)	(1,362.78)
Day Care Income & Expenses		
Income		
Donations & Grants		3,100.00
Other (private fees)	1,378.90	8,922.82
State Reimbursement(fees & food)	2,045.67	10,475.95

July 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 10:00 worship 11:00 elections 11:30 Mission & Ministry team	2	3 9:30 Stewardship 5:30 Childcare 6:30 Women/CTS <i>Amanda Cyboron (b)</i>	4 Office, day-care closed (no evening worship)	5 9:00 Quilting	6 5:30 Girl scouts <i>Jesse Meyer (b)</i>	7
----- Pastor on vacation (Minn.) -----						
8 10:00 worship 11:00 potluck	9 5:30 Welcome & Hospitality 6:00 Ultreya	10	11 6:30 worship 7:30 Youth	12 9:00 Agape	13	14
15 10:00 worship Tanzania team commissioning 11:00 potluck Beed reunion @ noon (fell. hall)	16 <i>Brian Anderson (b)</i>	17	18 6:30 worship 7:30 Youth	19 2:00 Cards <i>Harold Dunlap (b)</i>	20 <i>newsletter deadline</i> 5:30 Girl scouts <i>Charlie & Louise Skoglund (a)</i>	21
				----- Pastor on vacation (Yankton) -----		
22 <i>Pastor (vacation)</i> 10:00 worship 11:00 fellowship <i>Jerry Hayes (b)</i>	23 <i>Kathy (vacation)</i> <i>Lu Carter (b)</i>	24 7:00 Worship committee <i>Michelle Anderson (b)</i> <i>Samuel Cordner (b)</i> <i>Bill Thoendel (b)</i>	25 6:30 worship 7:30 Youth	26	27 5:30 wedding rehearsal <i>Linda Miller (b)</i> <i>Jan & Dallas Puls (a)</i>	28 Borer-Stingley wedding 3:00
----- Pastor on vacation (Yankton) -----						
29 10:00 worship 11:00 fellowship	30 <i>Connie Atkinson (b)</i> <i>John Lund (b)</i>	31 <i>Susie Lutz (b)</i>	No adult Sunday school during July			

Altar guild: Sharon Koeppe, Linda Cyboron
 Communion bread: Sharon Koeppe
 Membership care: Marilyn Woolard, Doris Hoffart