



# CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN

## JUNE 2019

### **Birthdays**

June 1 Doreen Kullbom  
June 5 Sharel Olson  
June 11 Jaiden Roberts  
June 14 Gary Weich  
June 15 Emily Svitak  
June 18 Darla Jessen  
June 25 Orlene North

### **Anniversaries**

June 6 B.J. and Sharon Koeppel  
June 11 Steve and Mary Lund  
June 14 Wendell and Wanda Muhs  
June 15 Dennis and Linda Miller  
June 20 Chuck and Jeanne Nicholson

### NEW MEMBERS

April 28, 2019

Jerry & Brenda Beaudette  
Vernon & Tama Krause, Angie, Phoebe  
Jon & Kandace Stineman, Alison, Anna  
Andy & Carmen Wolfe, Austin, Ethan

### TRANSFERRED

Kay Skovsende (to St. John)

**Day Camp 2019** with Okoboji staff will be at Christ the Servant June 24 through 27. Volunteers are needed as well as city prayer walkers. Be prayerful of children to invite in your neighborhood.

**Volunteers needed:** We are looking for two teams of two to count offerings once a month; training will be provided. Please contact the church office.

### **Stewardship Thought**

Giving is an important part of being a Christian. There are many reasons to give, and the following will help people understand the importance of giving:

**Giving is an act of worship.** God is glorified when we faithfully give Him our first and best. Proverbs 3:9 reads, *"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops."* When we make giving a priority, we honor God. If we give God our leftovers, we dishonor Him.

# June 2019

\*Pastor out of office on Friday  
Office hours 8:30-4:30 Mon-Thur,  
Fri 8:30-12:30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	*Fri	Sat
						1
2 Easter 7 (w) 10 Worship (C) 11 Fellowship	3 10:30 Myron Falter funeral 1:15 worship committee	4 <b>LIFELINE SCREENING</b>	5	6 1:30 Quilting	7 5:30 Girl scouts	8
===== FOOD PANTRY =====						
9 Pentecost (r) 10 Worship (T) Confirmation Baptism 11 Potluck	10 5PM Hospitality 7P Bible study (Gen. 1-5)	11 4:30 Stewardship	12	13 <i>Pastor out</i> 9:00 Agape	14 <i>Pastor out</i>	15
===== FOOD PANTRY =====						
16 Holy Trinity (w) FATHERS DAY 10 Worship [C] Installation 11 Fellowship Mission/Ministry	17 6:30 Council meeting	18	19	20 2:00 Card club	21 5:30 Girl scouts  <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	22
23 Pentecost 2 (g) 10 Worship (T) 11 Fellowship Day Camp blessing	24 6PM potluck 7PM Bible study (Gen. 6-11)	25	26	27	28	29
===== DAY CAMP =====						
30 Pentecost 3 (g) 10 Worship [C] 11 Fellowship						

Worship: T = traditional (Service of the Word)  
C = contemporary  
Parameters: (w) = white; (r) = red; (g) = green

Membership Care Team: Marsha Burke, Deb Olson  
Altar Guild: Linda Miller, Jo Roberts  
Doris Hoffart, communion bread

# My Letter to the Congregation

## “The HEART of Effective Disciplemaking”

Last month I began a series on discipling – the main priority of Jesus' mission for the church in the world. In Matthew 28 Jesus gives us His final command: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.” This month we are going to look at the “heart” of effective discipling.

Effective disciplers understand and live out the centrality of Jesus in discipleship. Discipling not centered on Jesus means making disciples of someone or something else.

Effective disciplers understand Who we follow, and the importance of ‘Jesus Is Lord.’

The Incarnation, God in the flesh, does not alter the fundamental, practical God-centered nature of the scriptures; rather it restructures it around Jesus Christ. Jesus becomes the focal point in our relationship to God. Jesus not only initiates the new covenant, he is the New Covenant. “Jesus is Lord” is the covenant claim of God over our lives—the unshakable center of the Christian creed and confession.

At its very heart, Christianity is a Jesus movement, one that seeks to consistently embody the life, spirituality, and mission of its Founder. “Jesus is Lord” is about our becoming like Jesus our Lord and Founder. This confession lies at the epicenter of the church's task.

But we do not just “try” to become like Jesus our Lord. The Lordship of Jesus changes us as we see Him and love Him as He really is.

In order to recover the ethos of authentic Christianity, we need to refocus our attention back to the Root and recalibrate ourselves around Jesus. The great truth of our faith is that Jesus is Lord!

But it is also true that it is Jesus who is Lord. The Jesus of the Bible defines our faith. We must strive to know him as he reveals himself to us.

Because Jesus is Lord, then we emphatically know that discipling is not Lord. Effective disciplers understand that discipling is not our God ... that God is our God. And effective disciplers understand that since we are all prone to run from God and make good things into ultimate things (i.e., make good things, even discipling, into ultimate things – gods), they live out the centrality of repentance in discipling. The best disciplers model repentance and belief to those they are mentoring.

Effective disciplers have a gospel identity and gospel fluency. We are not disciplers first. We are sons and daughters of God who recognize that every sin and shortcoming is a Gospel issue.

So the Gospel of the Kingdom is at the very heart of discipling. The gospel shapes us as disciples, and shapes those we are discipling. The gospel of Jesus – that Jesus is Lord – is the river from which all the tributaries of our lives flow.

Repentance lies at the very heart of effective discipling. Without repentance we will very soon begin to find our identity, worth, value and significance in our discipling, instead of Jesus. It is a subtle and dangerous trap.

Effective disciplers understand that discipleship is not our God, that God is our God. And effective disciplers understand that since we are all prone to run from God, they live out the centrality of repentance in discipling.

Effective disciplers are aware of how easy it is to run from God **by** making disciples. And they understand that repentance is the fuel for effective discipling. The most effective disciplers model repentance and belief to those they are discipling.

And at the end of the day, effective disciplers understand that love for Jesus and others is the end goal of repentance. They strive to keep Jesus at the center of every discipling effort.

Here are some quotes that leadership pastors across America are saying about the heart of effective discipling:

“. . . become disciples of Christ by seeing Christ more and more. . . And we have to transfer people to only depending on Jesus, otherwise they're constantly dependent on us, and that's going to kill them. . . And do the people we're walking alongside, do they love Jesus more, week after week."

"We have plenty of disciple makers. The question is: what are we making disciples of? That is the question. You are all disciple makers, you will make disciples, you will make them to the second, third, and fourth generation, every one of you, because that is how the world works. It is how God designed things to work."

"Our primary calling is not just to be a disciple-maker. Our primary calling is to be a disciple. It's to be a disciple. And our disciple-making is always going to be this inseparable overflow of our walk with Jesus Christ. That's always the case."

"What's sitting on the throne of your church's heart? Is it church growth? Is it cultural relevancy, buildings, money, theology? Or is it Jesus?"

Future topics will be:

- ◇ July – "The Barriers of Effective Discipling"
- ◇ August – "The 'What' of Effective Discipling"
- ◇ September – "The Habits of Highly Effective Discipling"
- ◇ October – "The Process of Discipling"
- ◇ November – "The 'How' of Effective Discipling"

Seeking to become a growing disciple of Jesus each and every day,

*Pastor Steve*

## Sunday Worship – Sundays in Pentecost

With the month of June we begin our summer schedule with the Service of the Word. Pentecost is the longest season of the church year, beginning with Pentecost Sunday and continuing until the season of Advent. It is an appropriate season of length because we now live in the coming of the Spirit given to all believers. We live with the indwelling Holy Spirit who continues to teach and remind us of all that Jesus said and did. As we live in the Spirit a fruitful life begins with the goal of producing much fruit that will last. Join us as we grow in the Holy Spirit each and every Sunday!

June 2 – (John 17:20-26) **7th Sunday of Easter** (contemporary worship)  
Jesus' prayer for His future disciples

June 9 – (John 14:8-17) **Pentecost Sunday** (traditional - Service of the Word)  
The Spirit of truth  
Confirmation Sunday

June 16 – (John 16:12-15) **Trinity Sunday** (contemporary worship)  
The Spirit will guide you into the truth  
Father's Day  
Installation of new council members

June 23 – (Luke 8:26-39) **Pentecost 2** (traditional - Service of the Word)  
Jesus casts out our demons  
Day Camp Blessing

June 30 – (Luke 9:51-62) **Pentecost 3** (contemporary worship)  
Jesus says: "Follow me."

## Confirmation Sunday

June 9

On Sunday, June 9, three 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be affirming their baptisms in our service of Confirmation. These three young people have been meeting with Pastor Steve for the past two years to review Luther's Small Catechism and its meaning plus reviewing the main themes of both the Old Testament and the New Testament. In the past few weeks they have been writing a faith paper and then meeting with Pastor Steve for 30-minute interviews to review their paper, ask any questions and discuss what confirmation means. During our worship service on Pentecost Sunday (June 9) the following young people will stand before God, their families and this congregation to declare their faith in our triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit): Elizabeth Broders, Carter Olson and Austin Wolfe. Your attendance is important for these young people to receive your blessing and feel your presence!

# Day Camp

June 24-27

Day Camp is set again this summer during the week of June 24-27 (Monday through Thursday) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Four counselors from the Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp will be leading us for youth ages 6-11 years old. Registrations can either be obtained from the church office or at the Okoboji website ([www.okoboji.org/register](http://www.okoboji.org/register) by using code: 19CTS). The theme this year is "Press On Expedition" where a team of trained, Christ-centered and energetic staff will be leading four days packed with games, arts and crafts, songs, skits and Bible-based lessons. The theme verse is Philippians 3:13-14. Our main aim is to fill the camp with kids!!! If you have children, grandchildren, neighborhood kids, or friends in this age group, please invite, invite, invite them. Here are some ways you can help:

- ◆ Look out for children to invite
- ◆ Pray for opened hearts and opportunities to share
- ◆ Provide food for the week (check the chart at the back of the church)
- ◆ Provide camping supplies to use as decorations for the week
- ◆ Be a city prayer walker (maps at the back of the church)
- ◆ Volunteer a day or more during camp hours
- ◆ Donate money to help defray costs

Fundraisers: You are invited to help with two fundraisers by eating out on one or both days at Culver's and Pizza Ranch. Both restaurants will be donating a certain percentage of the sales toward our day camp. Dates are:

- ◆ Culver's – Tuesday, June 18, from 5 to 8 p.m.
- ◆ Pizza Ranch – Wednesday, June 19, from 5 to 8 p.m.

If you would like to help, we need people to welcome customers as they arrive at Culver's and to help clear and clean tables at Pizza Ranch.

\*\*\* Any questions can be directed to Steve Jessen (402-992-0429), our Day Camp Director.

**IT'S GOING TO BE ANOTHER GREAT WEEK!!!!**

## Bible Study

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 7 PM

The Book of Genesis

You are invited to attend a summer Bible study on the book of Genesis in the church fellowship hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month. The study will begin at 7 PM. Please bring your Bible for a time of learning and discussion from the very first book of the Bible, regardless of your background of understanding. It will be a great time of fellowship in the Word of God as we look at the family of three generations: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Please read Genesis 1-5 before our first meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup>. We will list which chapters to read ahead of time in the Sunday bulletin.

Christ the Servant Council Meeting  
May 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Steve Jessen, Jan Puls, Emily Svitak, Warren Bennett, Al Boelman, Pastor Steve Lund, Richard Hillrichs, Doug Witte, Deb Olson, Steve Morton

Absent: Steve Freese

Guest to address partnership: Brian Anderson

Doug Witte moved to begin the meeting. Al Boelman seconded. Motion carried. Doug Witte shared a devotion from *God's Little Devotional Book* on Isaiah 7:9 that touched on the thought of 'If you don't stand for something you will fall for anything'.

Approval of Agenda

Richard Hillrichs would like a couple minutes to speak.

Warren would like to add two items to the agenda: discussion on the tree and microwave.

Doug Witte moved to approve the agenda with said additions. Al Boelman seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of April 15 Minutes

Richard Hillrichs moved to approve the minutes as presented. Warren Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Tanzania Update/Visit

Brian Anderson shared the hope of bringing members of our partnership parish of Msaranga Mandaka Lutheran Parish in Tanzania to Christ the Servant in order to build relationships as we have been able to send some of our people there. The hope is to help them in the cost of coming, not to pay in full, but to help with the realization that their means to travel in such a way are not as ample as ours. Brian shared an overview of what might be looked at as far as helping to fundraise in preparation. The council had some questions which Brian answered and continued to share on.

Financial Report

Several questions were raised about the remaining daycare business. It will continue to be on the account/summaries this year because there were transactions that took place in this fiscal year. There are several more things to be ironed out ASAP.

The council reviewed Greg Moen's financial report. He sought guidance as to what part of the report will be going into the newsletter. The council discussed that the Expenses by Class, Income, and Designated Funds (leaving out the line of 'TOTAL' at the bottom of the designated funds page) could be put in the newsletter. Steve Jessen will communicate this with Greg Moen. Jan Puls moved to receive the financial report as presented. Deb Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Steve thanked Richard Hillrichs and Deb Olson for all they have done while being a part of the council.

Pastor Steve would like to move forward with the vision of disciple-making. This will continue to be developed over the summer with a discipleship team.

The missions/ministry team is seeking how to move forward. Ways the team is looking to do this is through prayer cards for all the children/students of the congregation, doing prayer walks prior to day camp, and paying attention to who God is putting in front of us.

June 9<sup>th</sup> will be confirmation Sunday. Elizabeth Broders, Austin Wolfe, and Carter Olson are in this year's class. They have written faith papers in preparation.

Pastor Steve will be taking two vacations this summer. Preparations will be made for those Sundays that he is gone.

### Old Business

Doug Witte moved to approve the semi-annual minutes as sent. Steve Morton seconded. Motion carried.

Steve Morton moved to approve the special meeting minutes from April 23. Richard Hillrichs seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion about financial accounts and the ways that funds/accounts are to be dealt with was held. There will be two or so council members to work on each of the areas. More will follow on this. An update at the end of the summer from each team will be expected.

Memorial Fund – Doug Witte, Al Boelman

Policy for setting up special funds – Steve Morton, Jan Puls

Kitchen Fund planning – Warren Bennett, (TBD)

### New Business

Steve Jessen gave a Day Camp update. He has been encouraging all who can to be involved. It is to be held June 23-27. Progress in raising funds is going well. Share nights at Culver's and Pizza Ranch will be in the months to come.

Warren Bennett shared on the dead pine tree on the east side of the building. He got an estimate for taking it down. The estimate was round \$200, so he continued in having them take it down.

Linda Schaffer donated a microwave. With kitchen development plans, it will be able to be moved to where it may work best.

Richard Hillrichs took a minute to express thanks to all on the council, his appreciation of going back to one board, and his hopes/thoughts of how some memorial money could be spent in order to better edify some of the church property.

Discussion on Breakthrough Strategy #1 and #2 (Who Broke My Church?) Thoughts shared on were:

high accountability and low control

the way people could/should be invited rather than just informed. Excitement and involvement that brings the congregation together rather than bringing unconscious separations.

growth is NOT a program – how could we operate differently?

### Upcoming Events

Installation of New Council Members – June 2<sup>nd</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> (TBD)

Confirmation Sunday – June 9

Day Camp – June 23-27

Pastor Steve closed with prayer. Next month's meeting will be June 17<sup>th</sup>. Doug Witte moved to adjourn the meeting. Deb Olson seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Svitak, Secretary