



# CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN

## MARCH 2021

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3/2 Kelcie Hall  
3/5 Sharon Koeppe  
3/7 Carol Olson  
3/16 Colin Broders  
**3/16 Mona Jean Roberts**  
3/17 Pastor Dennis  
3/18 Steve Jessen  
3/18 Maddie Moen  
3/22 Devon Beed  
3/28 Nevin Peters

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

3/12 Rich & Kay Jaeger

*Please help Mona Jean Roberts celebrate her 95th birthday! Cards and notes will reach her at Heritage of Bel Air, 1203 North 13th Street #109, Norfolk, NE 68701.*

### MEETING NOTICE

Semi-annual congregational meeting and elections will be **Sunday, April 11**, after worship.

### MARCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

**March 7** Steve & Darla Jessen, greeters; Mike Finkral, usher/acolyte; Michelle Anderson, lector; Bob Lutz, communion assistant

**March 14** Rich & Kay Jaeger, greeters; Delilah Broders, acolyte; Danita Broders, usher; Greg Moen, lector, Louise Skoglund, communion assistant

**March 21** Connie Atkinson, greeter; Steve Freese, usher/acolyte; Lonnie Svitak, lector; Mary Weich, communion assistant

**March 28** Dean & Doris Hoffart, greeters; Lucas Petersen, acolyte; Greg Moen, usher; Richard Hilrichs, lector; Michelle and Katelyn Anderson, communion assistants

# March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 7 Boy Scouts	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 6 Confirmation 7 Lenten service	<b>4</b> 9 PieceMakers	<b>5</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9 Sunday school 10 worship	<b>8</b> 7 Boy Scouts	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6 Confirmation 7 Lenten service	<b>11</b> 9 Agape Circle	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9 Sunday school 10 worship 11 potluck	<b>15</b> 6:30 Council 7 Boy Scouts Meals on Wheels - - - - -	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6 Confirmation 7 Lenten service	<b>18</b> <i>Pastor out</i> 2 Card club 6 MOPS <b>**CRAFTING*</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 Girl Scouts <b>**WEEKEND*</b>	<b>20</b> <b>**3/18 -- 3/20**</b>
<b>21</b> 9 Sunday school 10 worship Meals on Wheels - - - - -	<b>22</b> 7 Boy Scouts	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6 Confirmation 7 Lenten service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28 Palm Sunday</b> 9 Sunday school 10 worship w/ palms	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> First Communion class, 6-7:30 pm	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	

### **First Communion**

All Christ the Servant students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade or age 10 and up who have not attended a First Communion class are invited to attend on Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. First Communion will be on Maundy Thursday or the student may take communion at any regular service after that. Any questions, please contact Pastor Dennis at the church office or at (253) 508-7381. If your child plans to attend, please notify the church office.

**Are you ready** to serve and help CTS grow? If you are interested in filling a position on the congregational council or on the call committee, please contact any of the CTS council members or the church office. Also, if you have website development skills and would like to help re-design the CTS website, speak to Brian Anderson or Tara Peters.

**The quilting ladies** keep all of their scraps while sewing. We put them in an “old” pillowcase. We sew them up and then take them to the Animal Shelter for the sick animals to lay on. We need old pillowcases. Drop them off in the quilting area.

Thanks in advance.

The Quilters

### **Card of Thanks**

Thank you for your gift of \$1,000.00! We believe that together, we will make a difference! Our unemployed guests are finding jobs, our unchurched guests are coming to Christ and going to church, our drug and alcohol abusing guests are abstaining, and our guests estranged from their families are being reconciled! It brings us great joy to see the Lord provide for these basic needs through the various ministries of the Norfolk Rescue Mission and through your generosity in partnership. Our guests may come to us lacking in all these areas, but during their stay, many leave with satisfied hearts, full bellies, and a new hope for the future! Thank you for partnering with us as we seek to serve the least, the last, and the lost.

Sincerely,

*Pastor Will Perrigan, Executive Director  
Norfolk Rescue Mission*

Thank you so much for allowing the O’Neill FFA Chapter to use your facilities. We are so appreciative, and you helped make this experience so much better! The kids would have had to stay on a bus for four hours otherwise.

Thanks again!

*Kelli Meusch  
O’Neill FFA Advisor*

**Parkinson’s Support Group** of Northeast Nebraska meets the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (11th and Georgia Ave). Meetings are held in the fellowship hall basement (enter through the double doors under the canopy on the west side of the church).

## Does the Past Inform Our Future?

Sometimes looking to the future can be a bit disconcerting. In fact, the future can be downright frightening. I've mentioned before that I don't do uncertainty very well, and for me, that's what makes an uncertain future so disturbing—not knowing drives me crazy! Uncertainty leads to anxiety which may produce feelings of tension, frustration, and even anger. When a church is facing change, especially the change of pastoral leadership, uncertainty can produce those same unsettling feelings which may then ripple through the entire congregation. But there is good news—as we are reminded by scripture, we have a great cloud of witnesses who are ultimately guiding us from what was—the history of Christ the Servant—to what will be—the future of Christ the Servant. In other words, the past informs the future.

In the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus tells his disciples, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me.” This is one of my favorite Bible verses—the confidence in Jesus' words are both powerful and life giving. Another favorite, Paul's words in Romans 8, verses 28-39. How could we let anxiety and uncertainty rule our thoughts when the Bible makes it so crystal clear that we have nothing to be afraid of—God is on our side and there is nothing that can or will ever separate us from God's love through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sadly, we are human and often lack the confidence to fully trust God. Fortunately, the Lord is well aware of our weaknesses and we are forgiven and even blessed because the reign of God does not depend on human effort. The future of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church is filled with awe-inspiring opportunity that will bring blessings to all of you and the entire community of Norfolk. The key to the future is the word of our Lord Jesus—“Trust in God, trust also in me!” And, I firmly believe you will.

I cannot adequately put into words how blessed I feel to have been given the opportunity to be here with you and to serve as your intentional interim pastor these past 8 months. You all have been gracious beyond words and your hospitality has rivaled that of Abraham and Sarah. The author of Hebrews tells us, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” I know that to be true. But I would have said you all are the angels who have entertained the stranger—and I am so grateful that you have chosen me to be that stranger. From the bottom of my heart I give thanks to God for each and every one of you. Thank you so very much!

Donna and I felt accepted from the very first Sunday and we have so enjoyed being here with all of you. I am confident that as the congregation develops a profile and forms a Call Committee the Lord will guide you to the best candidate. And, I know when that person arrives they will be surrounded by love and support just as Donna and I have during our time here. As I have mentioned to many of you, Christ the Servant is a wonderful congregation—in my 30 years of pastoral ministry I have not experienced any better. Norfolk is a blessed community because of this congregation. I know there are some members who are anxious to Call a new pastor, and I recognize their desire—but I would also caution you to allow the process to work. Taking the time to develop an authentic profile should be one of the highest priorities before seeking a candidate. There are issues needing to be resolved—such as worship styles and worship leadership—youth programs and leadership—and a clear and attainable vision for the congregation. I will continue to pray daily for God's guidance and blessings for the leadership and all of the members of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church as we all move forward into the future.

*Soli Deo Gloria!*

*Pastor Dennis*