

CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN  
APRIL 2024



4/7 Kyle Broders, 13  
4/10 Tate Petersen, 12  
4/11 Sau Man Weich  
4/13 Elizabeth Broders, 19  
4/14 Connie Petersen  
4/14 Duane Theil  
4/19 Olivia Olson, 5  
4/20 Bob Lutz  
4/21 Mike Finkral  
4/22 Katelyn Anderson, 21  
4/24 Jared Weich  
4/25 Steve Freese  
4/26 Brad Rogers

4/19 Al and Sharon Boelman  
4/27 Brad and Kathy Rogers  
4/27 Lonnie and Margaret Svitak  
4/29 Don and Marsha Burke



To the Love Meal team:  
Thanks so much for the  
gift certificate. We  
enjoyed it.

To the members of Christ  
the Servant: Thanks so much for the prayers  
and the cards and well wishes.

*Don and Mary Ann Knee*

Thank you for your sacrificial gift of \$278.82  
[local benevolence]. Your gifts, prayers and  
encouragement are a blessing to us.

*Orphan Grain Train*

NOTICE OF SEMI-ANNUAL  
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
Sunday, April 14, after worship.  
Minutes of the November annual  
meeting are on page 6.

NEW PHONE NUMBER  
Mona Jean Roberts, 402-992-4457

## From the Pastor – April 2024

Easter has come and gone, or at least we will be putting away the Easter eggs and decorations. But, the most important part of Easter remains, that is God's love for you and me. He came in order that we have life and a life that is worth living.

In these weeks ahead, we are in the growing season, both inside and outside. This is the time of year that I challenge you to look deep inside and discover who you are and how are you being called to serve in this time and place. Some of our lessons have been difficult to hear and respond to. Sometimes we feel that the sermon was close to our own lives and yet God is speaking through each of us.

When the readings feel close and personal, maybe God wants us to think about our mission, our vision, our place, our actions. He has done that to me many times and yes it hurts, but on the other side I find growth and a life that is enhanced.

I challenge us, as a congregation to think about our vision. What is it that we want to do and then are we willing to accept the changes that will be required by us? Are we focused inside or outside? Are we willing to look beyond what we have been to what the future could be? What external, in the world, difference are we making?

Yes, lots of questions. Maybe that's what we all have to do is ask the hard questions of each other and ourselves. Are you ready? Come along and let's talk about the reality of what we are to be in this time and place.

God's Peace, Pastor Cindy



Lonnie and Judy Sparks  
St. Patrick's Day greeters

# April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> office closed  7 Bible study (Facebook)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  6 meal 6:30 Chosen 2	<b>4</b>  9 PieceMakers 6:30 Alpha	<b>5</b>  6:30 Girl Scouts	<b>6</b>
<div>Pastor Cindy on vacation April 1--5</div>						
<b>7</b>  9 Sunday school 10 Worship	<b>8</b>  7 Bible study (Facebook)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  6 meal 6:30 Chosen 2	<b>11</b>  2 Bible study 6:30 Alpha	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  9 Sunday school 10 Worship Semi-annual meeting 11 Potluck Confirmation gathering	<b>15</b>  7 Bible study (Facebook)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  6 meal 6:30 Chosen 2	<b>18</b>  2 Card club 6 MOPS 6:30 Alpha 6:30 Council	<b>19</b>  6:30 Girl Scouts	<b>20</b>  12 Alpha
<b>21</b>  9 Sunday school 10 Worship Jared preaching	<b>22</b>  7 Bible study (Facebook)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  6 meal 6:30 Chosen 2	<b>25</b>  2 Bible study 6:30 Alpha	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  Shed/storage cleanout
<div>Pastor Cindy on vacation April 20--28</div>						
<b>28</b>  9 Sunday school 10 Worship Michelle preaching <i>Food Pantry</i>	<b>29</b>  7 Bible study (Facebook)	<b>30</b>  6-8A Prayer Breakfast, Divots Conference Center				<b>May 4</b>  Rummage sale Shredding event

## APRIL VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

*If you cannot serve on your assigned Sunday, please trade with someone.*

SUNDAY	COFFEE	GREETERS	USHERS	LECTOR	COMMUNION	OFFERINGS
<b>7</b>	LONNIE & JUDY	DEAN & DORIS	STEVE & JULIE	RICHARD	BRENDA LOUISE	NELL LOUISE
<b>14</b>	STEVE & NANCY	RICH & KAY	DANITA GREG	BRENDA	DUANE & SHIRLEY	DOUG & PAT
<b>21</b>	DEAN & DORIS	LONNIE & JUDY	MIKE & NELL	CONNIE	BRENDA MARY	NELL LOUISE
<b>28</b>	RICH & KAY	STEVE & NANCY	DUANE & SHIRLEY	GREG	LOUISE MARY	DOUG & PAT

Altar Guild: Kay Jaeger  
Communion bread: Margaret Svitak

Membership Care: Marsha Burke

## **Remodel of Confirmation/Sunday School Education**

**2024**

**This is a remodeling of how/what we are doing as the times have changed. Education was always to be in the hands of parents/sponsors of our youth. To move things back into this model will add to the depth of knowledge and encourage continued growth, not a model of graduation from church, but a model of growing into the church.**

**Baptism – all families will receive a copy of Luther’s Large Catechism, with explanation that this is the tool to be used at home and that parents begin to work on the contents, as promised in the Baptismal service.**

**This following material may be changed in order, but all will be accomplished with the year.**

**Resources: Sola Small Cat Series, Luther House of Study (when it becomes available – free to congregations), Sola Sunday School Bible Materials (copies of all years in office), and any other sources that the pastor/committee identifies.**

**Bible will be given during a youths education time. A young one for the beginning of the journey and a more advanced as the youth is able to read the more difficult version.**

**Communion instruction will be offered at the age of a youth understanding that God loves them and they can understand “I forgive you”. This is done with parents and youth conversation along with the pastor.**

### **Year 1 – 10 Commandments**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Apostle’s Creed**

**Red Year of Bible Study**

### **Year 2 – Baptism**

**Confession**

**Communion**

**Green Year of Bible Study**

### **Year 3 – Worship**

**Church year**

*(continued on next page)*

**Inclusion into Acolyte training to be done**

**History of the Church**

**Luther and the Reformation**

**Life of Luther**

**Get to Know Luther**

**Blue Year of Bible Study**

**Year 4 and beyond - Continuing this pattern, Sunday school would include all elements of instruction into materials. Videos will be used as youth age up and conversations about all these elements will be wove into how life uses each piece. Review will become important for all students.**

**Affirmation of Faith service to be done at the time a youth can affirm the promises made at the time of Baptism. This is a conversation with parents, youth and pastor and can happen at any age.**

**Adult Education should include the Catechism (especially Concordia's write in version), Sola's material on theology, Bible study, sermons, etc.**

**CTS Congregational Meeting      November 19, 2024**

**Brian opened the meeting with prayer.**

**Motion made and carried to accept minutes from last meeting. Motion accepted.**

**On the matter of ratification to Chapter 15 of the Constitution, amendment to Senior Pastor and minimum of five council members from Senior Pastor and ten council members. Motion made and seconded. Motion approved.**

**On the matter of ratification of Chapter 13, amendment      from members of the congregation must be present to vote in congregation meetings; to members may vote by remote if requested. Motion made and seconded. Motion approved.**

**Greg spoke briefly on the proposed 2024 budget. All members received a copy for review. Motion put forward for approval. Motion seconded. Motion approved.**

CTS Council Meeting

February 16, 2024

Present: Brian Andersen, Greg Moen, Brenda Beaudette, Linda Sheppard and Pastor Cindy

Absent: Tara Peters, Jared Weich and Linda Schaffer

Brian opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from December's meeting was reviewed. The January meeting was cancelled due to the weather. Greg moved to accept the motion, and Brenda seconded. Minutes approved.

Financial: Greg reported that offerings were higher in January. Bills are starting to come in for the kitchen and funds will be moved from Fidelity to checking as needed.

Property: Greg continues to work on the Ring security for the church property. Also looking into options for the small water heater. Brian is researching laptops for the sound booth.

Pastors Report: Lenten offerings will go to the Orphan Grain Train. Mailbox has been eliminated due to damage from snowplows. We now have a P.O. Box at the Post office. This is \$226 a year and adds to the security of our mail.

Pastor went over the remodeling of the Sunday School and Confirmation programs and will be talking about this at the congregational meeting.

Dedication of the kitchen to come in March.

Pastor brought to our attention the idea of becoming a teaching parish. Discussion will continue.

The congregational meeting will be April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Greg closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Sheppard

		Mar 6, 24
	<b>Designated Giving Checking Acct</b>	
	<b>DG Church Emergency Fund</b>	8,619.35
	<b>DG Good Samaritan Fund</b>	330.31
	<b>DG Memorials</b>	1,806.52
	<b>DG Missions/Growth</b>	3,365.71
	<b>DG Tanzania Travel</b>	9,088.20
	<b>DG Worship Fund</b>	2,323.47
	<b>DG Youth Checking Account</b>	3,609.03
	<b>Interest-Designated Checking</b>	363.87
	<b>Designated Giving Checking Acct - (At Fidelity)</b>	-27,250.00
	<b>Total Designated Giving Checking Acct</b>	2,256.46
	<b>Fidelity Investment</b>	37,656.58
	<b>General Checking</b>	19,483.83
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>59,396.87</b>



# Why Does It Matter? Lutheran Identity in 2024

Heartland District Annual Gathering  
July 19th and 20th

at First St. Paul's Lutheran  
501 N Burlington Ave  
Hastings, Nebraska

**Keynote speaker:**

**Sarah Stenson from Luther House of Study in Sioux Falls, SD.**

Friday afternoon (July 19th) is of special interest to pastors and other congregational leaders. We will begin with registration at 2:00 pm. Our topic will be Lutheran Theology and Identity—Why Does It Matter? Friday evening will include a meal and fellowship time.

Saturday morning (July 20th) begins with registration at 9:00 am and will include a presentation and discussion on Lutheran theology and identity for everyone—both lay people and clergy are encouraged to attend.

After lunch there will be a brief meeting to take care of the business of the Heartland District. We will be voting on a resolution prepared by the Heartland District council to address contract calls and guidelines for ministry support. We will be on the road by 3:00 p.m.

We encourage you to come and to bring a friend! Be encouraged by your LCMC neighbors. Share what God is doing in your congregation and hear what God is doing throughout LCMC.

Meals are provided and registration is just \$20. Preregistration is requested. Registration forms can be found on the website at:

<https://www.heartlanddistrict.com/>