

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN NEWS

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CRAZY TIME!

"Wow, this is crazy." This is about the only way I can describe the month of March. Never did I think that our country would be dealing with a virus that would completely change, at least temporarily, the way we live, work, and play. Schools are closed, kids are home navigating online learning. Businesses have scaled back, sending people to either work from home or not work at all. Churches have decided to start meeting online...things are different, and for now, this is our "new normal".

The Urban Dictionary defines the term "new normal" as, "The current state of being after some dramatic change has transpired. It replaces the expected, usual, typical state after an event occurs. The new normal encourages one to deal with current situations rather than lamenting what could have been." That's encouraging, but the problem is that our new normal changes every day. The event which has created a dramatic change is not over, and it does not look to be ending any time soon. Every day there seems to be new information; new statistics, new processes, new ways to cope with this growing pandemic. So, how are you coping?

I want to remind you that however you are coping, you are not alone! Through the prophet Isaiah God reminds us, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." (Is. 41:10) The Lord is *with* us. He will *strengthen*, *help*, and *uphold*

us. The God who calls us His own will not abandon us. These aren't platitudes. Before God tells us "do not fear," He reminds us of who He is and what He has done. He has *taken* us, *called* us, and *chosen* us. This reality lays the foundation of our fearlessness: We belong to God, who loves us and calls us His own. He's brought each of us to a place where we can know Him, and as His children, we've been rescued from the very worst thing that could ever happen—separation from Him. We're drawn in, and that gives us reason not to be afraid.

Matter of fact, not just unafraid, but consider how that transforms the way we see our world. Freed from fear of what tomorrow will bring we now can serve those in need today. What might it look like for the church to be a place of fearlessness? This isn't to say there are not real dangers and pressures we must face. But instead of letting fear drive us into the hidden enclaves of private faith, we should follow Jesus' invitation in the Gospel of Matthew, "What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops" (Matt. 10:27). In other words, be boldly present to a hostile world, and make the kingdom of God visible where it is invisible. Invite the world to know the God who tells them, "Fear not."

We do this by loving the community of people God has placed us in. Now I am not saying that we ignore the very real guidelines that have been put in place. But, even in this time of forced separation, we have the opportunity to care for others in very tangible ways. Can you pick up groceries for someone

who isn't able to go to the store? Can you watch a neighbor's child while he or she is at work? Can you share supplies with those who can't afford to buy the things they need because they're no longer able to work?

Another way you can help is by continuing to support the work here at Memorial with your own time, talents as well as treasure. As a church, we have partnered with Corona Help Sioux Falls (<https://www.coronahelpsf.com/>). Check out their web site for ways you can help, also watch our web-site or call the office for new information about how you can help. Lastly, take a look at our stewardship article in this newsletter for reminders of the importance of your support in the kingdom work.

This is a unique moment in the history of the modern world. My hope is that you view this moment as a chance to hear God speaking into the world. This is an opportunity to trust in something infinitely more reliable than science or medicine. In Christ, we're invited to trust a God whose faithfulness extends to us at all times and whose loving-kindness reaches to the skies (Psalm 36:5).

Blessings,
Pastor Doug

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
- Jeremiah 29:11

People To Contact:

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Andy Schmuck Joel Quist

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NOTE: THERE ARE NO CALENDAR OR SERVING SCHEDULES FOR APRIL. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES. THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL REMAIN OPEN M-F FROM 8AM-5PM.

PUBLIC WORSHIP GATHERINGS SUSPENDED THROUGH APRIL

Dear Family and Friends of Memorial –

Blessings from our God who gives us all things and holds our lives in His Almighty hands!

Two weeks ago we suspended our meeting together for worship through the end of March. As the month of April is just about upon us we've decided to **continue the suspension of our worship gathering through the month of April.**

While we strongly desire to be able to gather together physically with our Memorial family, especially as Easter draws near, we want to serve everyone's health needs by refraining from our large group gatherings. We reach this decision based on the best information available, the urging of our local and national officials, encouragement from our Church Council, and our concern for all of you.

Please see other notes in this newsletter regarding worship opportunities, concerns regarding receiving The Lord's Supper, and continued financial support during this time.

Blessings! Please, keep in contact with one another!

Pastor Aaron

OUR OFFERINGS

During these trying times of the Coronavirus pandemic, even though we are not physically meeting for worship, our offerings are still needed, as our church continues to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Below is a list of the different methods in which you can continue to support Memorial in its mission:

- Drop off your offering at the church.
- Mail offering: Memorial Lutheran Church
5000 S Western Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57108
- Give on line - <https://www.memorillutheran.net/giving-online> and click on Give Now.
- Give by text: Send a text to 605-269-0985 with the amount you would like to contribute. Include the dollar sign (\$) before the amount. You will be sent a text with a link to register. Once registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email.
(Call Kathy at the church office, 605-334-7133, for assistance.)

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.
Hebrews 13:16

Ken Tucker, Council President
Don Reichert, Stewardship Chairman

REGARDING THE LORD'S SUPPER DURING SUSPENSION OF WORSHIP SERVICES

We've become accustomed to having an opportunity to receive the Lord's Supper every Sunday at every service. Not gathering for worship has kept us from receiving this Sacrament.

What a wonderful gift we've been given of our Lord's promised physical presence and this special assurance of forgiveness! We cherish this gift. We must also note, however, that God's Word continues to powerfully proclaim His gifts to us even when we are not able to receive the Sacrament. Receiving the Lord's Supper is not a necessary means for salvation.

We have considered several options for sharing the Lord's Supper while not being able to gather, mostly the consideration of gathering small groups of people at various time periods at church or possibly offering a "drive-thru" method as we've seen some congregations do. However, each of these options introduces added concerns for spread of the virus.

At this time we are not planning to establish an alternate way of gathering people for the Lord's Supper. We are not considering an "on-line consecration" of elements to be used in individual homes. HOWEVER, PLEASE contact our church office and speak to Pastor Doug or Pastor Aaron if you have a special need with regard to receiving the Sacrament.

We really look forward to gathering at the Table of our Lord together as soon as possible!

BIBLE STUDIES

PLEASE VISIT THE MEMORIAL WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR SCHEDULING UPDATES. AND ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES.

VERTICAL MARRIAGE—

YOU'LL LAUGH WHILE WATCHING Dave & Ann Wilson share their intimate, and sometimes hilarious, journey of marriage! Hear how they reconnected to each other and to God.

Sessions include:

- The Elusive Secret
- Fight Me Like a Man!
- To Cheer and to Cherish
- God in the Bedroom
- All In!

JOIN US on Sundays at 9:20am

5 Weeks—

Beginning April 19

Watch for more info on facebook and our website.



Workbooks available \$5/person
Watch for opportunities to register!

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God"; trust also in Me.—*John 14:1*

LUTHERAN HIGH NEWS!

FlyBoy Donuts Fundraiser—LHSSF Booster Club is holding a Flyboy Donuts & Coffee Fundraiser! Our students are selling donut vouchers & coffee! Vouchers include: Glazed Dozen (\$12), Assorted Dozen (\$14), Flyboy Dozen (\$18), & 12 Donut Punchcard (\$15); Six unique blends of coffee are available in whole bean, ground (both 12 oz. for \$14) or K-cups (24 for \$20), and 2 hot cocoa options (12 oz. for \$14). **The deadline has been extended! Orders are now due Wednesday, April 15th!** Email heidialbers.lhssf@gmail.com if you have any questions or if you would like to submit an order. *Please make checks payable to LHSSF. Checks can be mailed or dropped off at Memorial. Thank you for supporting Lutheran High!*

~~~ The Madrigal Dinner: POSTPONED  
~~~ Basket Bingo Night - CANCELLED  
~~~ SCRIP Program On Hold Until Further Notice

## INSIGHTS FROM LIZ . . .

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**"He has risen! He has risen Indeed!!!"**

This is heard on Easter Sunday all over. When Maddy was little, she learned to say this and she was soooooo excited to go to church on Easter Sunday to tell her Pastor at the time this, so he could respond back to her. I am excited to shout to the world that Jesus is alive! But we also have to remember why we are excited about this. Our Savior died on the cross, but didn't



stay dead and rose from the dead just like our Father promised. We needed a Savior, and Jesus came to save us. He is risen! He is risen indeed! Come celebrate with us as we shout the good news that Jesus is Alive and at work in our lives.

*"On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like light-*

*ning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen!" - Luke 24:1-6a*

**Zingers**—This group for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders will meet on May 13<sup>th</sup> for a Pizza Party. We take a break during Lent & Easter.

### Club 345—The Armor of God

(Odd Wednesdays from 6:30pm—8pm)  
We will meet again on Wednesday, May 6th for the final Pizza Party.

## INSIGHTS FROM HAILEY JO. . .

### STUDENT MINISTRIES

At our last Bible Study together I had my Bible opened up to Matthew 28 and unknowingly kicked my coffee cup & spilled coffee on the page. The OCD in me partly panicked because I don't like messed up pages, creases, or horrible handwriting. But, alas, there was no erasing the coffee stain now permanent on page 835. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit reminded me that a Bible filled with pages that have been touched, scribbled in and marked up are well-loved and well-used. During this time of self-distancing and spending a lot more

time indoors, I encourage you to help your students connect with their own Bible and make memories in the pages. It will be good for us to gather together in God's word to hear that we are not alone, but that He is always with us.

"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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always, to the end of the age.**"  
Matthew 28:19-20

### Upcoming Schedule

- No Lent or Easter Breakfast

- **High School Small Group:** Sunday Bible Study on Zoom at 4pm. Check your email for instructions on how to connect to the meeting. If you don't receive an email from Hailey Jo, please let us know via phone, email or Facebook. Thanks!
- **Confirmation:** Confirmation classes will still take place as long as they fall within the meeting guidelines. Look for information from your instructor regarding your specific class & how you will proceed. Worship Reflections were sent in an email, please message Hailey Jo if you need them to be sent again. We'll be in contact with your mentors to let you know how to proceed forward.

## SIoux FALLS LUTHERAN NEWS!

On March 24, Governor Kristi Noem announced that all South Dakota schools will remain closed through Friday, May 1, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. However, learning continues for each SFLS student through flex (distance) learning led by our dedicated early childhood and K-8 teachers.

Likewise, we continue to enroll new students for the 2020-21 school year during our time away from our physical campus. While our preferred approach of scheduling in-person visits is on a temporary hold, our admissions director, Megan Baedke, is happy to help you obtain the information you need to make an informed enrollment decision for your family. Please email [mbaedke@sflutheranschool.com](mailto:mbaedke@sflutheranschool.com) with your name, phone number, and the age/grade level of the child(ren) for whom you wish to learn more about enrollment, and she will connect with you.

As we continue to await the day we can all return to Sioux Falls Lutheran School, take a peek at the creative ways our current families are learning at home by searching [#sflonlinegathering](#) on Facebook.

*"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

—Isaiah 41:10

## April Birthdays

- |                     |                   |                    |                    |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1- Greg Miller      | 5- June Stiles    | 13- Mary Andresen  | 21- Carsten Ling   |
| Camryn Mebias       | Kelli Tucker      | Lisa Boe           | Kim Niemann        |
| Katie Mlnarik       | Crystal Carlson   | Brianna Danley     | 22- Caleb Quist    |
| 2- Samantha Griebel | 7- Cheyanne Hays  | Madysen Pravecek   | 23- Gary Reil      |
| Rick Hanson         | McKenzie Nelson   | Sarah Swingdorf    | 24- Adam Asmus     |
| Julie Pike          | 8- Jackie Fick    | 14- Grace Letsche  | Peggy Baney        |
| Gaby Schmunk        | Jim Nord          | 15- Kelsie Gehrels | Lorna Friese       |
| Raina Weigelt       | 9- Lindsay Kaiser | Shamra Johnson     | Dave Hanson        |
| 3- Jason Ackmann    | Heidi Krabbenhof  | Kyra Knudtson      | Barb Knudtson      |
| John Cooper III     | Susan Ruml        | Sam Kueter         | 25- Carol Bedford  |
| John Fischer        | 10- Paige Boetel  | Elizabeth Larson   | Peter Illing       |
| Sarah Glawe         | Dean Bornitz      | Oliver Swanson     | 26- Calvin Keller  |
| Shanna Konz         | Jason Bosley      | 17- Larry Noah     | 27- Stephanie Baxa |
| Josh Mlnarik        | Doug Foster       | 18- Terry Brooks   | Gavin Warwick      |
| Kaylee Reil         | Jan Konop         | Lisa Cooper        | 28- Brynn Nelson   |
| Brooks Stein        | Alyson Rozeboom   | Heather Sand       | Diane Nelson       |
| Sophie Wood         | 11- Joy Bendt     | 19- Tyler Duin     | Stacey VanWesten   |
| 4- Kim Duprey       | Eddie French      | Katie Steffen      | 29- Matt Harsh     |
| Kurt Holdorf        | Jodie Parrish     | 20- Andy Berg      | Sean Konop         |
| Stacy Warwick       | 12- Emily Jackson | Jaxon Lindsey      |                    |
|                     | Sharla Ratzlaff   |                    |                    |

## April Anniversaries

- |                           |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2- Bob & Linda Gross      | 16-Steve & Sara Feuerstein      | 25-Terry & Lynda Boxdorfer |
| 5- Chad & Jan Konop       | Don & Joyce Rodman              | 26-Terry & Joy Bendt       |
| 6- Dean & Nadine Bornitz  | 20-Dane & Ronda Steffen         | Brian & Mandy Dumke        |
| 9- Jeff & Rhonda Hubert   | 21-Ron & Denise Greibel         | Tyler & Nicole Sullilvan   |
| 10-Ben & Stephanie Baxa   | Al & Kay Herrig                 | 29-Scott & Susan Ruml      |
| 12-John & Shirley Fischer | Chris & Erin Woodson            | 30-Doug & Dawn Borchert    |
| Steve & Marianne Perkins  | 24-Jordan & Steffanie St. Clair |                            |

## Memorial Lutheran Church

5000 S Western Ave  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

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SIoux FALLS, SD

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We're on the Web  
[www.memoriallutheran.net](http://www.memoriallutheran.net)

*"Living Hope-filled  
Expressions Of Faith  
in Jesus"*

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Thank you, Cole, Dusty, and Blake for helping us get going with online worship opportunities! Thank you all who have helped!

- Sundays, worship service at 9:30 AM
- Wednesday, April 1 – Lenten service at 6:30 PM
- Thurs, April 9 – Maundy Thursday service at 6:30 PM
- Friday, April 10 – Good Friday service at 6:30 PM

You can connect through Facebook or YouTube. Visit [www.memoriallutheran.net](http://www.memoriallutheran.net) for links. Access written devotional opportunities also through this website. Portals of Prayer devotions are also available for you to pick up at the church.

Also note, our SD District television worship offering "Main Street Living" airs on KDLT (NBC) in Sioux Falls on Sunday mornings beginning with "This is the Life" at 10 AM and a worship service at 10:30 AM.

## Stewardship Minute

Today we are called to give God our best, not because He needs our gift. God doesn't. We are called to give for 2 reasons -

- 1) He is worthy of our gift
- 2) It is a tangible way that we put Him first in our lives.

It is easy to give what we don't want, our used leftovers; but such gifts cost us little. A gift that honors God is one that requires sacrifice, because that is the gift that reflects our hearts. When we give our first and finest, we acknowledge the position God holds in our lives. In turn, the conversation becomes less about checking a box that a certain percentage was given and more about the heart with which people give. When you address the heart of the issue, rather than the topical behavior, lasting change is born.