

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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May
2016



A MOTHER'S LOVE

There is no love, like a mother's love,
no stronger bond on earth-
like the precious bond that comes from God,
to a mother, when she gives birth.

A mother's love is forever strong,
never changing for all time-
and when her children need her most,
a mother's love will shine.

God bless these special mothers,
God bless them every one-
for all the tears and heartache,
and for the special work they've done.

When her days on earth are over,
a mother's love lives on-
through many generations,
with God's blessings on each one.

Be thankful for our mothers,
for they love with a higher love-
from the power God has given,
and the strength from up above.

- Jill Lemming

“Again See”

You may be asking yourselves, “What on earth is Pastor John trying to say?” If you conclude that my years spent overseas must have caused me to forget my English you will not be far off. ☺

What you don’t know is that the title of this article is me speaking to you in Cantonese. When Hong Kong people say good-bye they say, “Joi gin.” (joy geen), which in English is, “Again see,” or as we may say, “See you again.” In Cantonese there is no “good-bye,” only “see you again.” When Hong Kong friends want to say good-bye they choose to use the English, “Bye-bye.”

So, what am I getting at? My Cantonese-speaking friends have helped me to say what I want to say to you in this month of May, which is my last month with you as your interim pastor, under our current contract. I don’t want to say, “Good-bye.” I want to say, “See you again.”

In discerning the road ahead for Our Savior’s Lutheran Church I am grateful that the Church Council has chosen to extend the interim ministry time. They understand that the two main options under consideration for solving the church’s need for pastoral leadership both require more time.

Time is needed if we are to explore the option of calling a pastor. Our current budget limits this call to a part-time pastor. At our Sunday, April 17, Interim Ministry small group discussion, following worship, the majority of people stayed to look at what it might take to increase our giving incrementally to reach the level of calling a full-time pastor.

Time is also needed if we are to continue our discussions with Hope and Peace Lutheran Churches about the possibility of having a

cooperative ministry where we share pastors. This, too, provided a meaningful topic of discussion at the April 17 meeting. Questions were raised in the various groups. Some uneasiness was felt as people considered charting these new waters.

So, what do we do? Wisely, our council has advised us to take the time we need to make a good decision and a prayerful decision. They want us to discern how God is leading us.

In the meantime, we have the summer months for the three churches, and possibly more, to carry on the discussions about cooperative ministry. The council is open to receive input from the people of our church about options we might explore for financial giving that would sustain the hiring of a called pastor. The work of the Ministry Site Profile Committee will continue, but at a slower pace until a clear direction is discerned. The council is also committed to hold Sunday information meetings as things develop over the summer months.

During this time period you will have the blessing of a bridge pastor being here to serve with you. The care teams in the areas of visitation, prayer, phoning, sending cards, and driving will also be at work. We’ll be sending kids to camp. You’ll certainly be reminded to make the “post-moderns” feel welcome. It’s all part of what Jesus called his disciples to do when he called them to join in the Kingdom work, *“A new commandment I give you. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”* It takes us all to grow the church. ☺

See you again, in the fall, as your Interim,

Pastor John

Article for May newsletter

What's New at Luther Park?

Reminder: The spring work retreat is scheduled for May 6th & 7th. We realize it is the beginning of fishing plus other events. Call camp (715-859-2215) or email Keith@lutherpark.org to let him know what day/time is most convenient for you or your congregation. All help is very much appreciated!!

Keith reports that three college age girls and three boys are still needed to fill out the summer counselor roster. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact camp or go online and complete an application.

Right now, 80 more campers are registered for summer camp compared with last year at the same time. That is awesome!!

Luther Park is sponsoring a raffle and tickets are available for purchase. The names of those selling in our congregation will be announced soon. A beautiful quilt valued at \$1,000, two week-long camperships for 2017, or a two-foot-tall bear will be offered. All proceeds will go toward the ministry at Luther Park Bible Camp.

Camp Recharge Dates are: October 14-15, 2016; November 4-5, 2016; January 6-7, 2017; March 3-4, 2017

Quilt Retreat Dates are: September 15-16, 2016; October 20-23, 2016; November 10-13, 2016; February 2-5, 2017

Please also keep these dates in mind:

June 4 - Way Club Banquet

August 13 - Heart for Luther Park – to include silent auction, quilt auction, chicken dinner, and learn the winner of the raffle PLUS purchase raffle tickets to win a pizza party hosted by Dave Dobbs (within 40 miles of Luther Park).

We are so thankful for the ministry at Luther Park, for the camp staff, volunteers, and summer staff, for parents/churches who send their children to camp, and for the lives that have been changed and will be changed after attending Luther Park Bible Camp. Thank you for your continued prayers.

Kay Moen-Urseth

Member of the Board of Directors

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Council Minutes – April 3, 2016

Present: Peg Hipsher, Howard Lehman, Kathy Rewalt, Nan Olson, Tammy Sipsas, Cindy Knapp, Lynette Kesler
Pastor John Peterson-Excused, Finance: Doug Thyberg

Meeting was called to order by President Howard Lehman at 10:30 am.

Secretary's report was reviewed. Motion by Lynette and seconded by Nan to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was presented by Peg and Doug. We heard from Portico that Pastor Kristina's disability has been approved. In the process we have been given one day's worth of credit on her insurance. We paid the mission of the month for March. No other outstanding bills. Finance gave out copies of the budget they wish to present to the congregation at the May annual meeting. Motion made by Cindy and seconded by Lynette to approve the treasurer's report and the budget for the annual meeting. Motion carried. It will be filed for audit.

President's report

- Our bridge pastor will be Terry Stratton. Pastor Stratton along with synod staff member, Greg Kaufmann, will meet with council on May 2nd. More info coming in the near future.
- Third IM Meeting will be held on April 17. This meeting will be looking at "Our Savior's Future." This will provide more info for the Ministry Site Profile Committee.
- Annual meeting will be on May 15 immediately following the church service. We will notify members by mail, email, Sunday announcements, and bulletin inserts.
- A call committee will be formed later this year as the process continues. We will not hurry this process. We want to be certain what we need at Our Savior's.

Pastor's Report

- Care committees are being formed. Pastor would like to give instruction for the members who wish to be on the visitation/communion serving team. A date will be planned for the near future. Nan offered how important prayers have been for her and how important it is that our congregation continues to care for each other.
- Pastor John will come back in September if we still need an interim at that time. We will make that decision later this summer and make a second contract with Pastor at that time. His last Sunday will be May 22nd.

Committee Reports

- Education Committee – Sunday School and Confirmation on Sunday evenings.
- Finance/Stewardship/Memorial – Both finances and attendance are up over last year. Memorial monies for Buz Buran has been designed to the landscaping fund.
- Food Shelf Committee – 40 people were at the breakfast last month.
- Mutual Ministry – No report
- Outreach & Evangelism – No report
- Property/Landscaping Committee – Plowing should be done for the year.
- Worship Committee – We will have camp Sunday on April 24. Luther Park rep will join us in worship.
- Executive Committee – No report

Motion made by Cindy and seconded by Lynette to approve the committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

- Our next three -church conversation will be on April 9. We will continue to build relations with the churches and share discussion and information.

NEW BUSINESS

- Terrorism Risk Insurance Act – Our insurance company is offering this coverage for \$14 per year. After discussion a motion was made by Nan and seconded by Tammy to take the coverage. Motion carried.
- Synod Assembly will be one day only this year, Saturday, May 21 in Eau Claire. Howie and Pastor John will be going. We still need one more voting rep from the congregation. Others may attend as visitors at a \$35 cost.
- Council rep replacements – Lynette, Cindy and Tammy's terms are up. At this time Lynette will be leaving, Cindy will be staying. Tammy will inform us soon.
- April 10 will be a potluck meal with a program by Pastor John on China Service Ventures. Can we check to see if the presentation can be recorded?

Kathy made a motion, seconded by Peg, to adjourn the meeting. We ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 9 at 5:00 pm.

May devotions and communion assistant: Nan Olson

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Rewalt, Secretary



Volunteer Schedule May 2016

Prayer for Families

We will continue this year to include three families or individuals in our Sunday morning prayers. I know there are many of you that pray for individuals and the needs that we know of, but there are many times we don't know when someone is in need of a prayer. This is one more way for us to care for each other placing them in God's hands.

May 1

Jerry & Julie Peck
Bill & Linda Pepping
Bruce & Judy Pohjonen

May 8

Ken & Bonnie Rantala
Jim & Sandy Rau
Dick & Kathy Rewalt

May 15

Bob & Roberta Ruef
Shirley Saker
Chris & Alice Sand

May 22

Mark & Melinda Santikko
Desi & Tammy Sipsas
John Schrock &
Mary Berube

May 29

Greg & Kathleen Skoraczewski
Wayne & Lynette Smith
John & Doreen Swanson

Date	Coffee	Lector
May 1	Ken & Linda Watters w/ Carrie DeRosia	Rozie Maki
May 8	Jane Bragiel & Kent Getty	Kent Getty
May 15	Rodney & MaryAnn Lahti	Dick Rewalt
May 22	Mark & Melinda Santikko	Lynette Kesler
May 29	Merv & Rozie Maki	John Joseph



BIRTHDAYS this month

Dorothy Kangas -5th
Lynette Kesler -5th
Karen Boggess -7th
Julie Anderson -9th
Sandy Rau -14th
Janice Anderson -14th
Leo Drougas -16th
Bill Pepping -16th

Tom Boggess -18th
Pr. Kristina Jensen -18th
Howard Lehman -28th
Ray Kangas -29th
Reenie Modeen -29th
Jens Gregerson -30th
Ryan Johnson -30th
Ken Watters -30th

Monthly
Ushers: Reen Modeen & Karen Wicklund
Greeters: John & Jeanne Joseph
Altar Guild: Rozie Maki



Kent Getty & Jane Bragiel -1st
Wayne & Lynette Smith -3rd
John & Doreen Swanson -17th
Phil & Cindy Knapp -27th

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:00 a.m. Worship First Communion Celebration 10:30 Care Team Training 6:00 Confirmation & Sunday School Food Shelf Item — Cans of soup	2 9:00-3:00 Community Quilters 5:00 Worship 7:00 Al-Anon	3 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	4 9:30 Bible Study	5 Choir	6	7 12:00 Yoga
8 Mother's Day 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 Council <i>No Confirmation & Sunday School</i> Food Shelf Item — Cans of vegetables	9 9:00-3:00 Community Quilters 7:00 Al-Anon	10 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	11 9:30 Bible Study	12 Choir	13	14 12:00 Yoga
15 9:00 a.m. Worship Annual Congregational Meeting 4:30-7:00 Special Activity for Confirmation & Sunday School Food Shelf Item — Cans of fruit	16 9:00-3:00 Community Quilters 7:00 Al-Anon	17 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	18 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 Smiling Faces Spring Program	19 WELCA Choir	20	21 Food Shelf 9:00-11:00 8am-4pm Synod Assembly 12:00 Yoga
22 9:00 a.m. Worship Graduate Sunday Pastor John's last Sunday 6:00 Confirmation & Sunday School Food Shelf Item — Cans of SpaghettiO ^s or RavioliO ^s	23 9:00-3:00 Community Quilters Newsletter Deadline 7:00 Al-Anon	24 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga	25 9:30 Bible Study	26 Choir Produce Distribution	27	28 12:00 Yoga
29 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:00 Confirmation & Sunday School Food Shelf Item — Boxes of Kleenex	30 Memorial Day Office Closed 7:00 Al-Anon	31 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS 5:30 Yoga				

Pastor John's Contact Information-

Email- osl@cheqnet.net
Parsonage- 715-372-8701
Cell- 715-813-7266

Pastor John's April Schedule

First Weekend—April 30-May 1 (Sat. 10:30am-Sun. 12:30pm)
(Sun. aftn. & Mon. May 2 CSV Banquet & Board Mtg.)
Second Weekend—May 7-9 (Sat. 3:30pm-Mon. 4:00 pm)
Third Weekend—May 14-16 (Sat. 3:30pm-Mon. 4:00 pm)
Fourth Weekend—May 21 (Sat. Synod Assembly) May 22 (Sun.
8am-4pm)
Fifth Weekend—May 28-30 (Family days after son, Noel's,
wedding 5/27)

Not receiving a newsletter? Either by email or regular mailings? Let the church secretary know that you would like to be added to either the email list or the regular mailing list and one will be sent right to you. You can also access our newsletters and other church information on our website ironriverlutherans.org

REGISTER EARLY FOR LUTHER PARK! Have you taken time to look at the summer camp programs offered at Luther Park and Luther Woods? While June and July may seem a long way off, the staff at Luther Park is already gearing up for another exciting summer filled with fun and spiritual growth. Luther Park offers a variety of programs for campers who have completed Kindergarten through 12th grades. Whether you are a first-time camper or a veteran senior high, there is something for everyone at Luther Park! If you register and pay in full before May 1st you will receive the Early Bird Discount. Also, through the very generous donations from the Philby family, Our Savior's has monies available to help with the cost of the camp registration. If you would like more information and/or would like to register for camp, please contact either Nancy Thyberg or Cindy Knapp.

May's Mission of the Month-

China Service Ventures
"Not to be served, but to serve"

The mission of China Service Ventures is to develop mutually beneficial relationships between Christians of North America and the people of China. This includes relating to the largely poor rural communities in ways that are helpful for them, including education and community development. We are open about our Christian identity even as we also learn from them.

The Summer Youth Camp, one of the many programs hosted, provides an opportunity for rural Bo Ai students to experience the joys and adventures of summer camp. Pastor John spends his summers in China working with this program.

China Services Ventures, 1407 Cleveland Ave. No.
St. Paul, MN 55108

Let's Plan Ahead-"God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday will be September 11th. We know it seems like a long time away but the Evangelism Committee needs everyone to help us plan for that day. We are hoping we can all work on some big project. We just need to know what that will be. Please send all your ideas the Evangelism committee or send them to Evelyn and she will pass it on.

First Communion Celebration-We are happy to announce that on Sunday, May 1, Emalee Anderson and Gavin Williams will celebrate their first communion. We want to be sure to support them. Emalee is the daughter of Robert and Lori Anderson. Gavin is the son of Scott Williams and Kamie Wiss.

Care Team Training-Also on May 1, Pastor John will hold a training session for those who have signed up or who are interested in serving on one or more of Our Savior's five care teams (i.e., Visitation/Communion, Prayer, Phone Calling, Card Writing, and Driving). The session will run from 10:30-11:45 a.m. All are asked to attend the opening half hour portion and Q&A time. Those serving on the visitation/communion team will remain to receive some additional materials and training.

Special Closing Activity for Sunday School and

Confirmation-On Sunday, May 15, from 4:30-7:00 p.m. the Sunday School and Confirmation programs will hold a combined closing activity. Everyone will gather at the church and then travel to the selected site for fun games, activities and a picnic meal. Parents are welcome to join. We are so thankful that the Sunday School has been having up to 9 children in attendance and the confirmation program has a faithful group of 6 young people. Nancy Thyberg, Kathy Rewalt, Cindy Knapp, and Pastor John are the contact people.

Graduate Sunday-This year Our Savior's high school graduates will be recognized on Sunday, May 22. During the worship service they will be presented with their quilts and following the service we will also celebrate this milestone in their lives with a cake in the fellowship hall. This year's graduates are: Samantha DeRosia, Zachary Hipsher, Reiley Luoma, Taya McClure, Desarae Sipsas, and Austin Talso. We give special thanks to the women of the quilting group for their loving service to make the quilts for this year's six graduates.

Pastor John's Last Sunday-Pastor John Peterson will be with us until the end of May, but his last Sunday will be May 22. Pastor John has served as Our Savior Lutheran Church's interim pastor since the beginning of November. His first term of contract finishes on May 31. Please know that Pastor John will be returning to serve for a second term of contract beginning in September 2016, after his summer youth camp work in China with China Service Ventures. Pastor John has asked that there be no special celebration for him on May 22. He simply requests your prayers. He said, "Our focus is to be on our high school graduates this day. Let's celebrate their achievement."

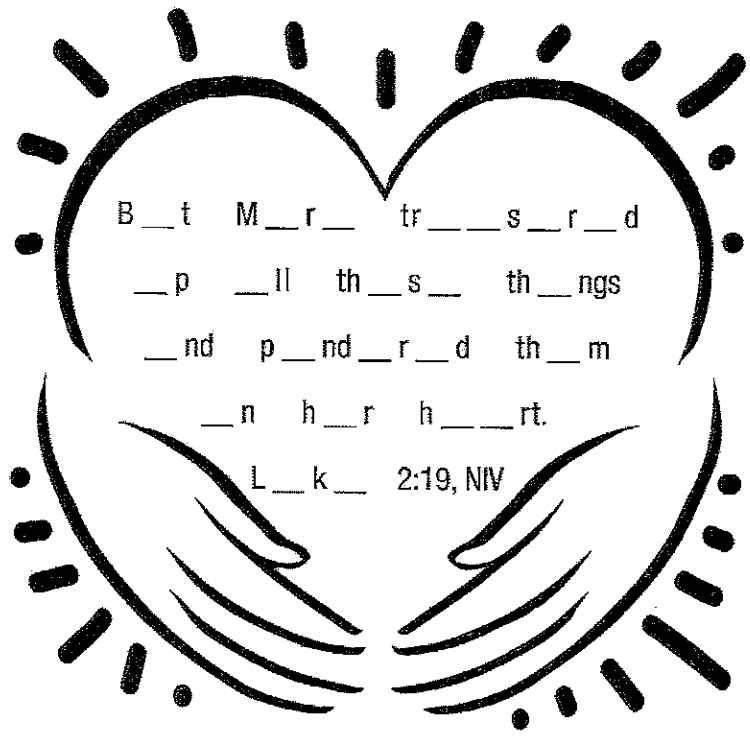


A mother's love

At age 12, Jesus was left behind in Jerusalem. His parents later found him in the temple, discussing Scripture. What did Mary, Jesus' mother, think about this?

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to complete the Bible verse.

A E I O U Y



Answer: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19, NIV



LOOKING INTO THE SKY

As Jesus ascended into heaven, two angels had a message for his disciples.

Directions: Underline the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write it on the line below to complete the angels' message in Acts 1:11, NIV.

- 1. strange same odd
- 2. Lazarus Jesus Martha
- 3. who then there
- 4. pear been apple
- 5. taken cat dog
- 6. sky from earth
- 7. you work toil
- 8. desk chair into
- 9. house halfway heaven
- 10. can't will won't
- 11. breakfast come lunch
- 12. nose back mouth
- 13. see the hear
- 14. oval round same
- 15. way girl boy
- 16. his her you
- 17. white have black
- 18. one seen two
- 19. go low high
- 20. sea heaven ocean

"This _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ has _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____ 13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____ 16 _____ 17 _____ 18 _____ him _____ 19 _____ into _____ 20 _____."

Acts 1:11, NIV

"This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11, NIV