

Praying

MORE WORKERS Pray ... earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few ... (Luke 10:2, ESV)

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS Each year, more persecuted believers are killed for their faith in Nigeria than in the rest of the world combined. Last year 4,000 Christians were killed. Pray for the courageous Christ-followers living in this nation gravely known as the Christian murder capital of the world. Pray for God to work in the hearts of the Nigerian government officials to step up and put policies in place to protect the vulnerable.

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Our president, governor, federal and state representatives, mayor, city and county representatives
- Teachers, Staff, and Students
- Farmers & Ranchers



HEALING

Those involved with the Israel & Russia-Ukraine Conflict, Juniper Power, Bryan Fevold, Jennie Stutsman & Hugo Sanchez (Angela's friends), Chris Schaffer (Rodney's friend), Rachel Meuchel, Brandon Kindred, Cole Houska (Jesse's nephew's son), Christina Smith, Harold Dragseth, Christy Hoffman (Lindsay's sister), David Fandrich, Joyce Hovland, Millie Yoder (Joe's mom)

HOPE AND COMFORT

The Beard family for the passing of Chris, Bonny's niece, The Iverson family for the passing of Lou, Merton's sister, The Rusk family for the passing of Pat, Barb's friend

FAMILY

Doug & Debbie Thompson, Caleb & Shylayna Timmons, Kelby & Andrea Timmons

SISTER CONGREGATIONS

Pilgrim Lutheran Brethren Church, Pastor Robert Heggstad, Mentor, Ohio



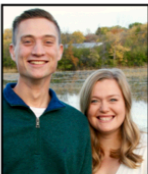
Faculty & Staff Dr. Jeff Seaver, Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology
Students Seth Vander Ley (Arianna & Lincoln)



Dan & Claire Rose and their children, Ashley & Austin, have transitioned to the village of Doh, where they will be commencing Fulfulde language learning and start engaging with their Fulbe neighbors. Please pray for smooth transitions, good health, and the Lord's guidance in decision making regarding their future ministry.



Carl and Emily are church planting in Lincoln, ND, a community next door to Bismarck. It is one of the fastest growing communities in the state, made up largely of young families who need to hear the good news of salvation in Jesus. A successful children's ministry has been the major focus. Pray that the Lord will add dedicated members to the launch team as they prepare to begin having weekly worship services and that he will provide resources to embark on a building program.



Growing & Serving



MONDAY, MAY 6

6:30 PM Women's Bible Study

TUESDAY, MAY 7

1:30 PM Coffee, Conversation & Courage

5:00 PM Elders Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 12

9:30 AM Morning Prayer

10:00 AM Worship Service



BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|--------|------------------|--------|-----------------|
| May 5 | Diana Johnson | May 5 | Kyler Channel |
| May 7 | Nathan Muri | May 8 | Daniel Marmon |
| May 10 | Cody Kirkland | May 10 | Savannah Warren |
| May 11 | William Wisness | May 14 | Fallon Sampsel |
| May 14 | Lexie Kirkland | May 15 | Laurie Hovland |
| May 17 | Christina Kindel | May 21 | Abigail Kindel |
| May 24 | Seth Vander Ley | May 26 | Kathy Tretter |
| May 27 | Grace Odenbach | May 27 | Aksel Jellesed |
| May 29 | Rixtyn Kono | | |



Welcome!

Sixth Sunday of Easter • May 5, 2024

We're glad you're here to worship with us. If you're visiting with us today, we hope you'll stick around for a bit after the service. We'd love to get acquainted with you. If you'd like us to contact you, please scan our QR code on the back of the bulletin, or fill out a visitor card at our Welcome Center.

BIBLE CENTERED Through God's saving Word we have been adopted into God's Family and share in the saving work of Jesus Christ.

FAMILY FOCUSED As brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we serve each other and worship, learn and work together.

MISSION DRIVEN We are engaged in Jesus' disciple-making mission - winning souls for Christ by the preaching of the Word and personal witnessing, and strengthening believers through Christian fellowship in the Word and Sacraments.



Order of Worship

Gathering Song * **God So Loved**
Welcome
Call to Worship Psalm 98
Prayer
Songs of Praise **I Believe**
The Love of God
First Reading Acts 10:34-48
Epistle Reading 1 John 5:1-8
The Apostles' Creed
Children's Message
Prayers of the Church
Tithes and Offerings
Hymn **Your Words Are Wonderful**
Gospel Reading John 15:9-17
Sermon *What a Friend!*
Hymn **Christ Our Hope In Life and Death**
Benediction
Doxology

* If you are able, please stand for elements of the service noted in bold.

Sermon Notes

Next Sunday's Readings: Psalm 1, Acts 1:12-26, 1 John 5:9-15, John 17:11b-19



HOME TALK

Making Disciples in the Middle of Everyday Life Mt 28:20a

Talking about The Third Article of the Creed Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, My Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the one true faith, in which Christian church he daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will grant everlasting life to me and all who believe in Christ. This is most certainly true.

271 How can you have eternal life?

I can have eternal life by continually receiving the grace that God offers me in the Gospel.

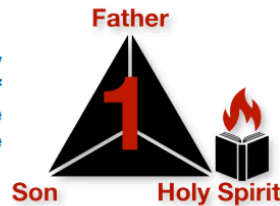
John 17:3 "And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."

Philippians 3:8-9 "Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith..."

272 What does the word Amen mean at the end of the Apostles' Creed?

The word *Amen* means *so be it* and is used to emphasize the truth of the creed that I confess.

Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version



The Lord's Supper

Who may participate?

This sacrament is meant for believers in Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). It is the way that God unites His church, sustains the church and grows faith, hope and love as the church participates in this shared grace together. Communion is God's way of delivering assurance of the forgiveness of sins to the flock.

What is received?

Christ gives to the communicants His body and blood - in, with, and under the bread and wine. He declares the forgiveness of sin to all believers, and strengthens their faith.

I feel I'm unworthy to receive

Being unworthy of Jesus' body and blood is the primary reason to receive the forgiveness of sins promised in communion. But it is possible to receive communion with an unworthy attitude. Therefore, self-examination is called for (1 Corinthians 11:28, 31).

I do well to ask myself:

1. Do I believe Jesus' promises? "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6).

2. Do I recognize Jesus' presence?

"Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Cor. 11:27, 29).

3. Am I reconciled with my fellow believers?

If we do not value reconciliation with others, we put ourselves in a place where we are distancing ourselves from God's will for us. We are living in rebellion.

4. Do I recognize my sinfulness and that it will be the death of me?

(1 John 1:5-10)

5. Is my hope in Jesus alone as the one who can give me eternal life?

We invite those who confess Jesus as their Savior from sin and death to receive the gift of forgiveness of sins offered and gifted in this sacrament.

A Note for Parents

Because communion requires time for self-examination, we do not encourage communion for children until they are old enough to be taught and old enough for self-examination. Through teaching they will appreciate its significance. Catechism Classes provide an opportunity to learn about the Lord's Supper. These classes are taught with the use of Luther's Small Catechism... If you would like a copy of the Small Catechism for personal instruction or to instruct your children please contact the Pastor or the church office.

- adapted from We Believe, Rev. Tim Sizemore, (Faith and Fellowship Press, 2009)

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Arianna Vander Ley

USHERING

Jesse Johnson

TECHNOLOGY

Rodney Sampsel - audio
Pieter Buckle - livestream
Emily Kindel - projection

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