



THE SPIRIT

Greetings!

It's quite a year of change for our family! Our daughter is getting married and our youngest son is graduating from high school. I know for many that is old news in your own lives but it's quite new to us! We are excited and nervous and the reality of all that is still sinking in. Not to have a child in school programs and activities will be an adjustment. I mean for the past twenty-six years we've been going to concerts, games and contests. I think it will sink in more when the new school year kicks in this August. There is always something new to experience isn't there?

This coming school year will be different at Decorah Lutheran Church as well. Todd Hove, our Youth & Family Director is wrapping up eleven years with the congregation at the end of the summer. We will all miss Todd and ask God's blessings upon him as he heads into the next chapter of his life. Todd has been a fantastic staff member and friend to many in and out of the church. He has been a champion of the families he has worked with and made a tremendous difference in their lives. Plans for a farewell will be announced when that time comes.

Like all losses in our lives we feel grief when we go through a periods of transition. We must find the way forward into a new reality and expect that it won't be easy. But it will happen, and we will make it through this change into a new future. Why? Because we are Easter people who believe in things like rising from the dead! Scripture teaches us that God is doing new things all the time.

"Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. 19 I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:18-19

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5

"24 clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness." Ephesians 4:24

God makes a way!

Pastor Dave Sorenson

May 2018

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Decorah Lutheran Church | 309 Winnebago Street, Decorah, IA 52101 |

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From the Pastors

Dear Friends,

During the season of Easter, the weather felt a bit more like Advent/Christmas and we routinely joked about that fact. Well, in May 31, we celebrate the visit of Mary to Elizabeth, a bit of Advent in the Spring. We hear Mary's reaction to Elizabeth calling her "blessed among women" in the Magnificat which we sing during Holden Evening Prayer. (Luke 1:39-57)

While we tend to focus on Mary, Elizabeth is the first person to recognize the great thing that is happening to Mary. Elizabeth is pregnant with John and John leaps in her womb at the sound of Mary's greeting. Elizabeth responds, "and blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Mary replies with the song called the Magnificat. This song echoes Hannah's, thanking God for bringing down the powerful and lifting up the poor. Usually this would be a strange way of talking about your pregnancy. But Mary knows what great things are ahead of her child just like Hannah did.

Another question we may ask is, who is Hannah? What we know about her is found in 1 Samuel 1:2- 2:21. She was the wife of Eikanah and is considered a prophetess. In her prayer, she asked God for a son and in return she vowed to give the son back to God for the service of God. He was named Samuel, which means heard by God. Hannah's song is a poem in which she gives thanks for Samuel and tells of how God is going to defeat enemies and there is going to be a cosmic reversal.

But while Hannah sings her song in the official house of worship, Mary sings hers in what may be seen as the example of the Christian ekklesia. Not a holy building but a gathering of the faithful: two women meeting in a home, who rejoice together in what God is doing in the coming of Jesus.

These prayers/songs/poems from these women, include their current situation but are expanded into the whole world. God is going to change the world through these pregnancies/babies.

Let us pray the prayer of the day: Mighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord: look with favor on your lowly servants that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy name and rejoice to acclaim her Son as our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

May we celebrate the cosmic reversal of lifting up the lowly and poor and filling the hungry with good things.

Pastor Brenda

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR 90+ MEMBERS!

05/22/1926
Arndt Braaten
3601 Greysolon Road
Decorah, IA 52101

05/26/1928
Marcella Iverson
302 Winnebago Street
Decorah, IA 52101

PARISH STATISTICS

Deaths

Glorianne Wicks 04/06/2018

Education News

SUPPLIES NEEDED

Needed: clean uncrushed vegetable or soup cans and yarn for Bible School activities. Items can be put in the food pantry carts in the Narthex and Foyer.

SAVE THE DATES!

Preschool VBS will be held May 29 - June 1 from 9:00-11:00 am.

K-7th grade VBS will be held June 5-8 from 8:30 am-12:00 pm.

Note the date change.



BACCALAUREATE

The service for graduates will be Sunday, May 20 at the 8:30 service.

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion Sunday will be May 20 at the 10:45 service.

MARCH MEMORY AWARDS

Joseph DeVore – The Lord's Prayer

Jaedyn Hageman – The Lord's Prayer

Olivia Nelson – The Lord's Prayer

Tegyn Sanderman – The Apostles Creed

FEBRUARY MEMORY AWARDS

Isaiah Bonnet – The Lord's Prayer

McCoy Bonnet - John 4:7A

Margaret Hahn - The Apostles' Creed

Jayden Lundtvedt – The Apostles' Creed

Ruby Sullivan – Psalm 23

Riley Wilson – Psalm 23

Congratulations First Communion Students:

Elizabeth Bjork, Bryce Elsbernd, Logan Frye, William Hahn, Jacob Maret, Cassandra Nelson, Lillian Olson, Jackson Piphoo, Ava Reed, Mckenzie Riley, Ellie Rolfs, Jordan Sims, Kenzie Snyder, Kamryn Steines, Ivy Sullivan, Kinsey White, Mercedes Wilkins

Congratulations Graduates:

Tye Anderson, Michael Cook, Cody Dostal, Sierra Duncan, Joseph Elsner, Chance Elton, Peter Gerleman, Kacie Henry, Cortney Holm, Philip Ihde, Andrew Kephart, Andrew Kozelka, Janaye Lundtvedt, Logan Monteith, Austin Myli, Jenna Na, Kaitlyn Nimrod, Mercedes Olson, Emellia Sims, Garrett Sorenson, Tony Spilde, Luke Stock, Curtis Wilkins, Grace Womeldorf

ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Morning Bible Study:

All are welcome. Sundays in the Bonhoeffer room during Sunday School.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study:

Thursdays in the Bonhoeffer Room from 9:00-11:00am. All are welcome.

Adult Forums:

May 6 - Liz Fox: "Silver Cord Program"

May 13 - Keith Christensen: "DLC Stewardship/Planned Giving"

Youth News



Ewalu Dirty Feet Retreat

DLC Middle School youth spent 3 days at Camp Ewalu. This year's retreat theme was "Face the Storm," based on 2 Timothy 1:7. God did not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love, and self-control. The weekend included great food, faith conversations, a variety show put on by the youth, the zip line and low ropes course, campfires and a Sunday worship done entirely by the youth! The weather was a bit chilly, but that didn't prevent the group from having a great time together!



Senior League

On a Wednesday night, high school youth play some games in the DLC Social Hall before heading down to the youth room for Senior League.



Next Houston Prep Meeting

Wednesday, May 30 @ 7:00pm in the First Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. This will be our last meeting before the trip and parents are invited to attend. The trip itinerary and all remaining details will be provided..

YOUTH COMMITTEE MTG

Tuesday, April 10 @ 7:00pm

KWIK STAR CARDS

\$25, \$50, and \$100 cards are available. Makes a great graduation gift! Thanks for your support of our youth!

2018 Houston ELCA Youth Gathering

St. Paul reminded the community of the Ephesians: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." **This changes everything!**

Change

Many of you have by now heard of my announcement that I will be stepping down from my position as youth director at DLC. My last working day will be July 31st. It is my hope that this lead time in my notification will allow you as a congregation to decide on a plan of action, advertise, and appoint a new quality person before the start of the next school year. I look forward to leading the youth on what I know will be another fantastic youth gathering this summer in Houston. Since I am not saying goodbye for several months, I will keep this short. I want you to know that I am at peace with my decision and that I have thoroughly enjoyed all the support I have received from the congregation and staff. I cannot put into words what working with the youth of this church for the past 11 years has meant to me and my family. I look forward to the remaining time I have here and hope and pray that we are prepared as a church to continue to value our youth and their faith formation.

Blessings,
Todd

Announcements

DO-DAY

The “Thrivent Action Team” spring quilting Do-Days are Monday, May 7th and Monday, May 21st from 9:00 am to noon. We hope many of you will come to help before our “summer vacation” begins. The spring LWR truck will be loaded Saturday, May 5th. Remember, quilt tops/middles (60” x 80”) and backs (64” x 84”) and layette items are always welcome. A reminder to watch at garage sales for sheets and layette items. - Sarah Andersen, Jean Iverson, and Carol Stoddard - DLCW Stewardship Committee

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—MAY 6

The ministries of DLC are sustained by voluntary offerings. Our financial gifts are a way to express faithfulness and gratitude to God. On May 6th, Church Council invites members to give input to Council regarding the financial health of DLC. The meeting will be held in the Social Hall between services. Financial information has been placed on the credenza in the narthex and in the display rack going into the Social Hall. Council looks forward to hearing from you.

MEN’S BREAKFAST

Men’s breakfast is Thursday, May 10th at 7:00 am. Jim Womeldorf and John Carlson are servers.

MUSIC SUNDAY—MAY 13

Join us at either the 8:30 or 10:45 service on May 13th for a music-filled worship service. What a great way to spend Mother’s Day!



OUTDOOR SERVICE AT PHELPS PARK

When: June 24th, 2018

Coffee and fellowship at 9:00 and Service begins at 9:30 am.

Bring a lawn chair.

Change of location due to weather will be announced on the local radio stations and posted on Decorah Lutheran’s Facebook page.

Text Notifications from Decorah Lutheran Church!



Stay in touch with DLC! Text the following keywords to “81010” to get signed up for text notifications about the following DLC topics:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Keyword</u>
DLC News	@dlcnews
Sunday School	@dlcss
Youth Group	@dlcyouth
Confirmation	@dlcconf
Acolytes	@dlcac

*Brought to you by the Remind.com App

Decorah Lutheran Church

2018 Church Council & Church Sub-Committees

PRESIDENT: Dave Sacquitne
VICE-PRESIDENT: Ron Stoskopf
SECRETARY: Julie Askelson
TREASURER: Mary Fitch

PROPERTY & MANAGEMENT (Council)

Ron Stoskopf (21) (Chair)
Randy Iverson (21)
Dave Sacquitne (20)
Scott Nordschow (20)*
Jake Hildebrand (19)
Tim Wilson (19)

STEWARDSHIP - (Council)

Richard Cole (21)*
Rebecca Smedsrud (21)
Susanne Twedt (20)
Julie Askelson (20) (Chair)
Steve Johnson (19)
Rick Twedt (19)

WORSHIP - (Council)

Matt Burkey (21)
Renee Lillibridge (20) (Chair)
Diane Gossman (19)

WORSHIP - (Non-Council)

Wendy Jermier (21)
Beth McDonough (20)
Lori Ostlie (19)

EVANGELISM (Council)

Sherry Alcock (21)
Tom Little (19)*
Ted Wilson (20)*

EVANGELISM - (Non-Council)

Angie Sadler (21)
Karla Meine (20)
Betty Storla (19)

YOUTH – (Council)

Danielle Askelson (21)
Andrea Wilson (20) (Chair)
Cortney Holm (19)

YOUTH – (Non-Council)

Kirstie Bower (21)
Dawn Deines-Christensen (20)
Shannon Nielsen (20)

EDUCATION - (Council)

Jeremy Thompson (21)
Dennis Wohlfeil (20)
_____ (19)

EDUCATION - (Non-Council)

Peggy Rovang (21)
Teresa Dehning (21)*
Tina Onsager (21)*
Connie Kuennen (20)
Amanda Hahn (20)
Shanna Putnam (20)
Becca Brynsaas (19) (Chair)
Jenn Sullivan (19)
Paul Oftedahl (19)

BENEVOLENCE - (Non-Council)

Connie Kuennen (19)
Jan Tyler-Blanchard (19)
Marybeth Cary (19)
Tim Stoddard (19)

LUCE-BERGESON - (Non-Council)

Leona Hoth (21)*
Randy Emerson (20)*
Rick Twedt (20)
Tracy Dostal (19)
Todd McDonough (19)*

DLC ENDOWMENT - (Non-Council)

Claire Askelson (21)*
Steve Vanden Brink (21)
Victor Fye (19)*
Ron Stoskopf (19)*

FINANCIAL REVIEW BOARD

Rick Burras (19)
Tracy Dostal (19)
Keith Christiansen (19)

SPRINGWATER CEMETERY

Tina Malone (20)
Dave Amdahl (19)
Lorna Sande (19)

UNION PRAIRIE CEMETERY

Tom Hovey (20)
Dave Sacquitne (19)

LUTHERAN CEMETERY

Les Askelson (19)
Ray Koshatka (19)
Stan Moellers (19)
Dennis Wohlfeil (19)
Tim Stoddard (19)

AASE HAUGEN HOME DELEGATES

Nancy Meyer (19)
Jim Gilbert (19)
Jim Womeldorf (19)
Dave Amdahl (19)
Jill Amdahl (19)
Roger Buhr (19)
Arlene Lage (19)
Jim Lage (19)

DEPOT OUTLET - ANNUAL MEETING

Garnita Erickson (19)
Pat Gjere (19)

DELEGATES

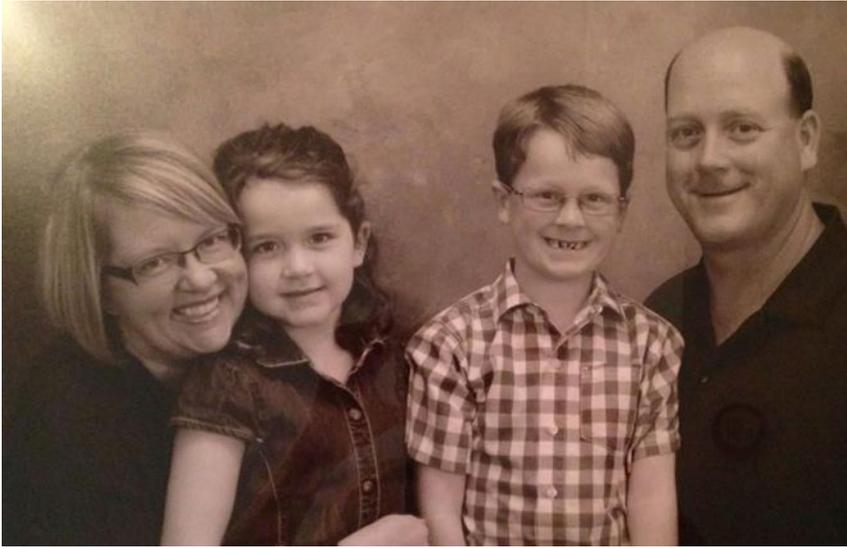
SYNOD ASSEMBLY
Diane Gossman (19)
Angie Sadler (19)
Ted Wilson (19)

2019 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Steve Vanden Brink
Kari Iverson
Ron Onsager

*2nd Term on Council

Announcements



Karen and Gregg Pattison relocated to Decorah from the Decatur County area of Iowa. Gregg is a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They enjoy canoeing and kayaking as well as hiking with their children Kyle, 9 and Kate, 7.

Adam and Dr. Caroline Schwickerath joined the Decorah community following a move from Grand Rapids, Michigan in 2016. Dr. Schwickerath is a surgeon at WMC. Adam is a proud stay-at-home dad with Ellery age 3 and Koen age 2. They enjoy golfing, running, skiing and travel.



Walter McIntosh is a native of Decorah. He once served as Mayor of Lime Springs. Walter currently lives at Aase Haugen and enjoys visitors and good conversation.

March Council Minutes

Decorah Lutheran Church

March 13, 2018

Members Present: Pastor Dave Sorenson, Dave Sacquitne, Ron Stoskopf, Ted Wilson, Scott Nordschow, Julie Askelson, Richard Cole, Rebecca Swehla-Smedsrud, Steve Johnson, Susanne Twedt, Rick Twedt, Matt Burkey, Renee Lillibridge, Diane Gossman, Sherry Alcock, Dennis Wohlfeil, Randy Iverson, Tim Wilson, Andrea Wilson, Danielle Askelson, Cortney Holm

Members Excused/Absent: Tom Little, Jake Hildebrand, Jeremy Thompson, Pastor Brenda Crossfield

Call to Order: Dave Sacquitne

Devotions: Pastor Dave

Review of Agenda: No prepared agenda as Executive Committee did not meet the prior week. Open discussion.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to accept, with corrections/additions by Rick Twedt, 2nd by Ted Wilson; Carried

Treasurer's Report: Mary Fitch reported that were behind in income compared to 2017 Jan-Feb, budget at (\$18,420.49). Motion to accept report by Renee Lillibridge, 2nd by Tim Wilson

Visitor Recognition & Communications: None noted.

Committee reports:

Education - Attendance; Feb First 80 – Second 86 – Third 74 - Fourth 60. Need one more person to serve on Church Council/Education Committee. Decision made for inscription on Pebble to graduates – DLC/2018 April 15th was decided for Teacher appreciation treats – Jennifer Sullivan will make treats. Election of Chairperson (Becca Brynsaas) and Secretary/report to council (Dennis Wohlfeil). Motion by Connie and 2nd by Tina. Palm Sunday Parades: 1st-6th practice will be this Sunday, March 18 during Sunday School. Preschool and Kindergarten Parade at 9:45 on Palm Sunday in Social Hall – Jenn is directing 1st-6th Grade Palm Sunday Parade during worship at 8:30 & 10:45 -Becky Smedsrud directing Becca will read Memory awards on Palm Sunday Preschool VBS – May 29-June 1 9am-11am. K-7th grade VBS – June 4-8 Rally Sunday discussed alternatives to Balloon release. Possibly “confetti poppers” Looking at option of conducting during Sunday School hour. Devotions in April Connie Kuennen. Closed with the Lord's Prayer. Submitted by: Dennis Wohlfeil

Youth - Present: Danielle, Cortney, Todd, Andrea Snow tubing trip: 2/25/18, 38 people attended and had a lot of fun! Will consider doing again. Soup suppers: Going well, 2 more to go. Chili cook-off 3/14/18. (advertisements out in Spirit, facebook and bulletin). Todd will get small bowls-idea is to encourage sampling Wednesday youth room: Lower level closed during Lent, still opened to choir and confirmation kids. Seeing better attendance to sermons on Wednesday. New youth event being considered: Family Twins game with bus transportation. Easter Sunrise Service: 6:30 Led by HS kids, plan for choral reading as in the past. Easter Breakfast: 7th/8th grade bring cinnamon rolls. Need egg cookers-will ask Ted/Tim/Claire to help. Ham/egg donation sheets to be out starting week of 3/12/18. Breakfast meal cost is free will offering. Houston 2018: So far 3 prep meetings done with youth and adult leaders. Information for parents to come. •Monday: Leave by 5pm, drive straight through to Houston •Tuesday: Arrive Houston 5pm, check in order pizza in for dinner and settle in. •Wednesday: NASA trip 10am, then NRG dome check in 6pm and 1st mass gathering. •Thursday: Synod day-Band •Friday: Service day (20% toward Hurricane work, the rest will likely be with local schools/kids) •Saturday: Convention Center •Sunday: Host communion/last events and head home •Monday: Back into Decorah early morning. EWALU Dirty Feet Retreat: open to 5th-8th grade. 4/6-4/8/18. Sheets handed out at Sunday school and registration sheets are outside Todd's office. Families responsible for \$50 of \$85 registration fee, the rest covered by Youth Committee. Next meeting: 4/10 at 7pm.covering community, relationships and justice. Next few meeting will work on room assignments and work with adult leaders.

Stewardship- Devotions: Susanne Twedt Members Present in March: Rick Twedt Susanne Twedt, Julie Askelson, Richard Cole, Rebecca Swella Smedsrud. Member Absent: Steve Johnson We were able send a gift of \$1000.00 to the Midwest Bible Mission in Cresco, IA with the noisy offerings collection. We also have \$249.47 for the next donation from the noisy offering that will be given to the NEIAC in a category that we determine with a phone call to the organization. Working on maps to help us update our Run Sunday. More on this in the Summer. We are organizing a couple of Temple talks that will give information on planned giving electronically and also the common way of envelopes and also financial health of DLC and estate giving in an adult forum setting, with a very interesting panel with a wealth of information,(No pun intended)!!!!

Worship - We talked about a send off at the outdoor service on June 24th for the Youth going to Houston the following Monday. Perhaps giving them prayer pebbles. Renee will contact Todd about what he thinks and we will discuss ideas at our next meeting. We discussed the Worship attendance books in the pews. They are in bad repair. Luther has small binders, we could get for free and make copies of the current visitor sheets to put in them. Lori is going to look into it and report back next meeting. It has been brought to our attention that several things on the Altar are in need of attention. Pastor Brenda has given us a list and Diane and Renee will address who and how these tasks will be done, beginning with talking with the persons serving on Altar Guild. Submitted by Renee Lillibridge 3/14/2018 Attendees: Matt Burkey, Renee Lillibridge, Diane Gossman, Lori Ostlie

Evangelism- Pastor Dave joined our committee for a conversation on upcoming events. The community meal is March 15th- We have had a great response in volunteers making desserts, salads, working during the evening. April 22nd is new member Sunday, we are currently welcoming two families to the church. Welcome book/Pamphlets are being looked at again. We need to work with Communications Committee to refresh the content. Next fall we will host a Family Night, including the purchase of Church merchandise for prizes or donations, bingo, games, videos, magic show etc. The church directory organization is being led by Angie Saddler, the dates will be Sept. 11-22nd. We discussed the possibility of doing an Easter Egg hunt during Easter. After consulting with the council we will work on offering an Easter Egg hunt next year, perhaps during Palm Sunday. Submitted by: Ted Wilson

Property & Mgmt- Pastor Dave told us that final preparations for Easter services are being completed. Pastor Dave also told us the one of Pastor Brenda's seminary graduates had passed away and that Pastor Brenda was attending the funeral. Are thoughts and prayers are with you Pastor Brenda. The committee decided again to wait to vote a for a chairperson until all members of the committee could be in attendance. Tim Wilson has agreed to be payroll security person for the church this year. This we have three rental agrees for the use of the church this spring. We will be preparing a new wedding contract for couples getting married. The current contract needs revisions. This will help the church and staff when people come in and inquire about using the church for weddings. P & M approved the purchase of a new floor scrubber/waxing machine. The machine we are using is only a 10 diameter scrubber and the new one will be 20 inches. This will allow a better cleaning and waxing of the floor. This is a good time to buy a new scrubber at it is on sale at a savings of \$400 to the church. The cost will be \$560 plus freight. *Will be submitted to Endowment fund to pay for this purchase.* Discussed audio visual equipment upgrades again and will be seeking additional people and companies for the best solutions to our AV needs. P & M approved the purchase of 45 new chairs for the fellowship room. The current chairs have lost all of their support and are very uncomfortable to sit on. We checked on reupholstering the current chairs but the cost would be \$200/chair. We are purchasing the new chairs with side arm rests for \$89/each. The circles selected a color for the cloth cushions. *Will be submitted to Endowment fund to pay for this purchase.* P & M also approved a contract to have the bell tower power washed, primed, painted and *sealed* by a Caledonia Minnesota firm. The cost of this project is \$9,500. It has be 25 years since the last painting of the bell tower and we need to get this done before the rust takes over tower. *Will be submitted to Endowment fund to pay for this purchase also.* We are also looking at the state of the west wall in the social hall. The wallpaper is peeling and mold can be seen behind the wallpaper. We will get a few people to look at this and see what is the best solution for us to solve this issue. We are also looking for volunteers to paint some of the woodwork around the church. There are many chips in the paint and this would freshen up the building. Treasurer's report from Mary Fitch. Mary reported to the P & M that our lease agreement on copier is now on a new year by year agreement. This copier was leased to the church in the fall of 2012. We were also informed that the folding machine and printer that the church owns is on a service agreement. We would like to look at some ideas of how we can reduce the cost of these agreements and or look at updating our church copying and printing needs

Pastors' Report- Continue to have several funerals, finishing up Lent activities; made note that Keith Christensen has become part of the ELCA Endowment committee; working on DLC Facebook page

Old Business: Names that were submitted in December have yet to be voted on for Mutual Ministry Review Team; anticipate voting in April

New Business: Check on and proved Mutual Ministry hand out for new Council members (hand out copied and handed to them that evening); council to think about which summer month to not meet...2017, no meeting in July and no quorum in August; Choir question, 2 choirs? Payment for 1 or 2 choirs.

Other Discussion: Treasurer, according to Constitution, needs to be bonded.

New Members: none

Transfers In: none

Remove from Membership: none

Transfers Out: none

Next Executive Mtg: Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Next Council Mtg: Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Ted Wilson, 2nd by Randy Iverson

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted: Julie Askelson, Council Secretary

Ministry

DLCW MINISTRY

Coffee Hour Schedule:	May 6 & 13	Jr. & Sr. League
	May 20 & 27	Priscilla Circle
	June 3 & 10	Ruth Circle
	June 17 & 24	Deborah Circle



May 3 - 2:00PM - DLCW Spring Gathering Program & Meeting. Every one welcome & bring a friend.

Program by Marcia Engebretson on her trip to the Amazon

May 4 - 9:00AM - May Friendship Gathering - Hosted by Decorah Lutheran Women

May 5 – LWR Truck Loading – Decorah – Olson Explosives

May 18 - 1:00PM LSI Bremwood Auxillary Spring Salad Luncheon & Meeting at St. John's, Arlington

June 16 – NE IA Synod Women ELCA Gathering-Wartburg College, Waverly

November 3 - LWR Truck Loading

2018 DLCW BOOKLETS are ready. Please pick up a copy at the Church Office.

Anyone celebrating a special day who would like to furnish treats for coffee hour, please call the Church Office, 382-3601.

Looking for a project? Personal Care Kits through Lutheran World Relief – These kits are shared with people who have lost everything from a natural disaster or life-threatening violence. See supply list on bulletin board near the church office or on DLCW bulletin board in social hall.

Save your Education Box Tops and cancelled postage stamps. Important to cut at least a ¼" border of envelope around stamp. Find containers in Library for stamps and Box Tops. Box Top labels assist the Navajo Christian Academy financially and is much appreciated for this support.

Campbell soup labels are no longer being accepted. Milk tops should be given to your local school.

Please check the kitchen for pans or dishes you may have left.

Questions, concerns, or suggestions, please call the church office.

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people. Galatians 6:9-10

Sandy Kittelson & Nancy Spilde, Co-Chairpersons of DLCW

CHURCH LIBRARY MINISTRY

Hitler, My Neighbor: Memories of a Jewish Childhood, 1929-1939 by Edgar Feushtwanger with Bertil Scali, translated from the French by Adriana Hunter. This is a fascinating account about Hitler's rise to power from the perspective of his young Jewish neighbor. Countless books have been written about this dark chapter. What makes this one special is its child's-eye view. We are there with a young boy, age five in 1929, as he hides under a table and eavesdrops on conversations between his father and uncle. We overhear assessments, predictions, and descriptions of the escalating chaos and its chief instigators: Goebbels, Goering, and Hitler. For the next nine years Edgar lived virtually side by side with a man bent on exterminating him, his family, and every family like his. He decided, at age 88, to tell the story of his buried childhood and his infamous neighbor.

In Places Hidden by Tracie Peterson is book #1 in the Golden Gate Secrets series. Camrienne Coulter's brother Caleb is a successful San Francisco attorney. But when three months go by without a word from the usually communicative Caleb, Camri boards a train to the booming West Coast city to find out for herself why he hasn't written. Camri's search for her brother leads her deep into the political corruption of the city.

Out of the Ashes by Tracie Peterson and Kimberley Woodhouse is book #2 in The Heart of Alaska series. After the death of their father, Collette and Jean-Michel Langelier are no longer tied to post-war France. While his sister dreams of adventure, Jean-Michel is hoping to finally escape reminders of the horrors he faced in the Great Syrian Revolt of 1925. When an unexpected invitation for them to visit Alaska and the Curry Hotel arrives, it seems like that perfect opportunity.

The Masterpiece by Francine Rivers features a successful Los Angeles artist, Roman Velasco who appears to have everything he could possibly want. Only Grace Moore, his reluctant, newly hired personal assistant, knows how little he truly has. The demons of Roman's past seem to echo through the halls of his empty mansion and out across his breathtaking Topanga Canyon view. Like Roman, Grace is wrestling with ghosts and secrets of her own.

DLC Library Committee Members: Sue Boehm, Marian Brynsaas, Marcia Fox, Dianne Fye, Bonnie Gilbert, Ruth Jauert, Elaine Sims, Cheryl Thompson, Jan Tyler-Blanchard, Jeri Wilson, Laurel Womeldorf, and Lilly Womeldorf.

HEALTH MINISTRY

A Message for the Graduates (and the Rest of Us)

A Health Ministry Check Up
By Krista Vanden Brink, RN



Rules for Living by Larry Luchino

10. Life must be fun. Kindness is essential. Have a good time. Hurt as few people as possible.
9. Be bold—do be prudent—but please take risks.
8. Smile, laugh and be pleasant.
7. Be strong enough to say, "I don't know."
6. Life is too hard to be lived alone. Find time for your family.
5. Stay in touch with the people who matter to you.
4. Hold within yourself a capacity for outrage at injustice.
3. Don't be colorblind. Enjoy our enriching differences.
2. Seek balance. A rich life is a balanced life.
1. Help some people along the way.

Vitamin C (she's a rapper) sang **Graduation (Friends Forever)** and its message still rings true today. Here is the chorus (yes, you should listen to it on YouTube).

'As we go on; We remember; All the times we had together; And as our lives change; Come whatever; We will still be friends forever.'

Graduates, you will always be our friends and you are always welcome here. Jesus is your forever friend. Count on him to always be there.

"My best friend is Jesus. Praise him. Praise Him." ~ from the song "My Best Friend is Jesus."

Evangelism Committee 04/18

Present: Sherry Alcock, Pastor Dave, Karla Meine, Angie Sadler, Betty Storla, Ted Wilson

Excused: Tom Little

- 1) Church directory: September 11-15 and 18-22.
- 2) New members on April 22nd at 8:30 am service: Gregg and Karen Pattison family, Adam and Caroline Schwickerath family.
- 3) Talked about ordering "Christ in Our Home" devotion books as some church members want to use them for their daily devotion books. We voted to continue to buy those books for people who wish to receive them.
- 4) Talked about having Easter Egg Hunt and potluck (maybe on Palm Sunday) in 2019 year.

Submitted by Tom Little

Property & Management Committee 04/18

SUMMARY

Meeting was called to order by President Dave Sacquitne.

ATTENDEES

Dave Sacquitne, Tim Wilson, Scott Nordschow, Ron Stoskopf and Randy Iverson

Ron Stoskopf was named co-chairman of the Property and Management Committee.

Pastor Dave talked about Easter Services and he thought things went great. Pastor Dave said, "this is a wonderful time in the church year to re-energize and celebrate the risen Lord. Pastor and the P & M committee discussed some possible options for filling our office personnel needs. Pastor also talked to us about the Mutual Ministry Committee and their role.

We also have several new rental agrees for the use of the church this spring and summer.

Some of our committee are meeting with technology experts to discuss possible ideas to improve our audio visual equipment.

Members from the P & M committee met with painters and wallpapers for an estimate to repair the west wall of the social hall that has been damaged by water over time. The water problem has been fixed but the damage to the wallpaper and wall finish needs to be addressed.

Treasurer's report was given by Mary Fitch. Mary told us that Decorah Bank and Trust needs a revised list of people church members and staff that are allowed to sign checks.

The committee agreed to advertise an office manager position.

SUBMITTED BY : Randy Iverson

Worship Committee 04/18

Outdoor Service – June 24

- Will be held at Phelps Park
- Coffee at 9:00
- Service at 9:30

Choirs

- Decision made to advertise for another choir director
- Position will cover grades 3 - 6
- Will advertise in Spirit, church bulletin, and newspaper
- Will need approval from Property Committee before advertising for position.

Easter Flowers

- Will continue with flowers displayed on alter this year; Calla lilies, crocus, and Hyacinths.
- Next year will expand choices to include tulips and daffodils.

Pew Worship Attendance Books

- Agreed to replace the present blue books in the pews
- Evangelism Committee is addressing the topic and will be presenting to the Church Council to replace the books with cards at Church Council
- Worship Committee agrees with idea of replacing book with a card.
- Suggested separate cards for prayer card and communion/attendance
- Cards should be differentiated via color and size and be located in pews
- Will get feedback from council and go from there.

Alter Guild

- Diane and Renee will address updating volunteers on revised responsibilities
- Binder will be prepared for future reference on these new responsibilities

Wednesday Night Summer Worship

- Wednesday night services are at 5:15
- Services will be held at in the sanctuary

Summer Music

- Beth will contact Decorah music instructors asking if any students would be interested in sharing their musical talents with our congregation at our summer services.

Serve Coffee

- Worship Committee will serve coffee hour Sunday April 29, 2018

Other

- Topic of coffee at the church service was discussed

SUBMITTED BY Renee Lillibridge

ATTENDEES Renee Lillibridge, Wendy Jermier, Matt Burkey, Lori Ostlie, Beth McDonough, Diane Gossman

Education Committee 04/18

Members Present: Pat Gjere, Dennis Wohlfeil, Teresa Dehning, Tina Onsager, Amanda Hahn, Connie Kuennen, Becca Brynsaas, Jennifer Sullivan, Paul Oftedahl, Jeremy Thompson, Peggy Rovang

Members Absent: Shanna Putnam Dibble.

Devotions: Connie Kuennen

Minutes were approved; by Tina Onsager, 2 nd Jennifer Sullivan.

Attendance; Mar First 99 – Second 78 – Third 83 - Fourth 91

Need one more person to serve on Church Council/ Education Committee)

Teacher appreciation treats this Sunday – April 15 Jennifer will provide Treats /coffee/juice will also be provided.

Exploring possibility of using “Frolic Nursery program” to replace baptism bibles. (looking into costs for the program)

Acolyte pebble – inscription will read “DHS Class 18”

Thank you to Jenn and Tina for handing out palms

Thank you to Jenn for directing preschool- K Palm Sunday singing

Thank you to Becky Smedsrud for directing 1 st-6 th grade Palm Sunday Parade. Discussed option of doing program for one service.

Thank you to Becca for reading memory awards on Palm Sunday

Preschool VBS – May 29-June 1 (registration will be on line) Paper copies will also be provided.

1-6th Grade VBS June 4-8 (registration will be done on line), Paper copies will also be provided.

Rally Sunday: Dunk Tank and Bouncy Castle have been reserved. Discussed options to replace Balloon Release, one suggestion was to provide seedlings so students could plant a tree.

Devotions for May Amanda.

Close with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted;
Dennis Wohlfeil

Youth Committee 04/18

SUMMARY

Minutes from 3/11/18-approved

Soup Suppers: End review: costs down due to volunteers providing all soups this year. Numbers served comparable to previous years.

Easter breakfast: Claire Askelson, Ray Koshatka, Andrea Wilson-egg cookers. Numbers eating seemed to be low but comparable to previous years for free will offering.

Sunrise service: lots of families traveling this year, able to bring together enough kids for good service with music.

EWALU Dirty Feet Retreat: Opened this year to 5th-8th grade. Our group attending were all 6th graders and participated in cold outdoor activities! These included cooperation events, bonfire, talent show, and a worship service on Sunday.

Confirmation: Back to usual routine now with Lent over. They will be handing out updates on sermon note status.

Upcoming Family Event in the works: Twins game-decided a weekend game date will be best for families. Proposed dates June 9th or 10th.

Coffee Hour youth to host:

May 6th- 7th graders to host with Cortney, Kristi, Danielle or Andrea helping. Kristi will pick up doughnuts from Quillin's
May 13th-This is Mother's Day and Music Sunday. Todd will organize.

Houston 2018: Hotels all lined up for attendees and bus drivers.

Next prep meeting scheduled for 4/18 7:30 pm at DLC.

Youth Director: Todd will be stepping down, last day is July 30 after 11 years with DLC. He will be talking with youth next confirmation night (4/11) and informing congregation in the Spirit. Youth committee to start plans to develop outline for replacement.

Next meeting May 6th - plan to meet with goal for committee to discuss youth director replacement process and brainstorm our next youth director replacement qualifications.

SUBMITTED BY: Andrea Wilson

Attendees: Todd, Danielle, Kristi, Andrea

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Swella Smedsrud

Stewardship Committee 04/18

Present: Steve Johnson, Rick Twedt, Becky Swella Smedsrud, Sue Twedt, Julie Askelson

Absent: Richard Cole

Devotions: Sue Twedt

There will be an Adult Forum on May 13th on "Planned Giving". There will be a panel of people to give information on this topic. We also suggested that a card be print on put in the Run Sunday packets that each family could fill out and we will have someone meet with people individually.

Noisy offering was able to send a check to NEIAC for \$1000.00 and we have \$385.67 for the next recipient. We are looking for suggestions for organizations and or people that are in need of help. Please let someone on Stewardship know.

We are experiencing a large debt for our church as of the end of March, (neg approx \$26,000.00). This has us very concerned. Stewardship will do a couple of temple talks before our May 6th Congregational Meeting/Adult Forum. We want to hear from you. You can put your questions and/or comments in a basket and we will address them in the meeting and everyone will also be able to speak at the meeting, your choice. PLEASE COME BECAUSE WE WANT TO GET THIS TURNED AROUND. YOUR HELP WILL HELP US!!!! THANK YOU!!!

We suggested looking at budget items, the spending (over spending) that has occurred, ETC.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Swella Smedsrud

Worship Assistants

Ushers

May 6

8:30 – Kevin Weselmann, Tim Wilson, Daniel Schwartzhoff, Mike & Michelle Schwartzhoff, Garrett Sorenson

10:45 – Jim Burns, Kent Kleckner, Mark Franzen

May 13

8:30 – Jim Sims, Dennis Myhre, Don Wurtzel, Duane Larson, Dave Gilbert

10:45 – Mark Steffens, Jake Hildebrand, Jason White, Gerry & Becky Weiland

May 20

8:30 – Mike Thompson, Randy Peterson, John Boehm, Mark Nelson, Terry Ramlo, Claire Askelson

10:45 – Jon Piphon, Keith Johnson, Andrew Kephart

May 27

8:30 am – Ron Stoskopf, Scott Kirkeberg, Rick Twedt, Ted Wilson

Wednesday, May 30

5:15 pm – *The new ushers schedule is in progress, please signup online or contact the church office if you can help.*

Nursery

May 6

8:30 – Joelle Nielsen

10:45 – Tiffany Lundtvedt, Janaye Lundtvedt

May 13

8:30 – Bruce Frieden, Dane Frieden

10:45 – Sawyer Vanden Brink, Andrew Kozelka

May 20

8:30 – Kurt & Janice Hanson

10:45 – Elaine Ward, Jade Frye

May 27

8:30 am – Angie & Michael Leiran, Emma Johnson

Greeters

May 6

8:30 – Dave Hansmeier, Carmen Johnson Family, David & Jill Amdahl

10:45 – Jason & Bridget White Family, Mark Steffens, Jonathan & Sarah Carlson

May 13

8:30 – John Baker, Rick & Susanne Twedt, Randy Peterson, Willard & Verna Hanson

10:45 – Larry & Judy Moen, Cheryl Frye

May 20

8:30 – Merlyn & Shirley Finley, Tina Onsager

10:45 – McKenzie Riley, Steve & Julie Munkel, Jason & Bridget White Family

May 27

8:30 am – Carol & Gordon Gaustad, Diane & Dennis Young, Norma Wangness

Wednesday, May 30

5:15 pm – Ron & Carole Fox, Jim Burns

Readers

May 6

8:30 am – Andrea Wilson

10:45 am – Lee Stock

May 13

8:30 – Ron Stoskopf

10:45 – Tiffany Lundtvedt

May 20

8:30 – Dean Beckman

10:45 – Paul Oftedahl

May 27

8:30 am – Linda Christopherson

Wednesday, May 30

5:15 pm – Jim Gilbert

Altar Guild for May

Linda Isenberger & Laurie Christen

Communion Setup

May 6

8:30am – John Nielsen

May 13

10:45 am – Rosalyn Samuelson

May 20

8:30 am – *If you can help, please signup online or call the church office*

Communion Assistants

May 6

8:30 am – Gary & Norma Hall, Marilyn & Francis Peterson

May 13

10:45 am – Keith Christensen, Rosalyn Samuelson

May 20

8:30 am – Tamie & Ron Onsager, Marilyn & Francis Peterson, Sue Boehm

Acolytes

May 6

8:30 – Riley Wilson, Daniel Schwartzhoff

10:45 – Hogan Smith, Katie Storlie

May 13

8:30 – Gavin Sims, Cassidy Steines

10:45 – Jenna Lundtvedt, Ruby Sullivan

May 20

8:30 – Sawyer Vanden Brink, Jade Frye

10:45 – Hogan Smith, Eliot Kleckner

May 27

8:30 am – Sawyer Vanden Brink, Riley Wilson

Wednesday, May 30

5:15 pm – *Please signup online at Signup.com or contact the church office.*

**View our calendar at
decorahlutheran.org
to see the most current
events, service times
and activities.**

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office@decorahlutheran.org

*Purpose: To openly accept God's
call to teach, serve, and share His
gifts faithfully.*

STAY CONNECTED!

Visit us on the web at
www.decorahlutheran.org for
a current calendar, weekly
sermons and much more!

Change of phone number,
email address, etc.? Please
call the church office or fill out
the form on our website to
keep our records up-to-date.

Office
Hours: M-F: 8am-5pm
563.382.3601
office@decorahlutheran.org

SPECIAL EVENTS/DEADLINES

- Be sure to attend the Congregational Meeting on May 6th between services.
- Mark your calendars to attend Music Sunday on May 13th.
- Baccalaureate will take place at 8:30 am on Sunday, May 20th.
- First Communion Sunday will be at the 10:45 service on Sunday, May 20th.
- Save the dates! Preschool VBS will be held May 29 - June 1 and K-7th grade VBS will be held June 5-8. More details will be available soon.