

The Spirit

June 2019

Dear friends in Christ,

Well it has been a very busy few months and things are winding down a little bit for the summer. About Eastertime we concluded, for the most part, our program of *40 days of Prayer*. It is my prayer that for those of you who had the opportunity to participate that you've been blessed through your participation.

How exciting it was for us to have the blessing of the quilts on April 28. To see the number of quilts and the effort that went into making them is truly inspiring, a blessing that we can pass on to others. It was also exciting to see many of our confirmation students involved in this project. Our quilters have made the decision to continue through the summer months and we hope that some of our young people will continue their participation.

Confirmation classes have concluded for this spring session. What a tremendous job our confirmation guides have done through this past year, and a particular "shout out" goes to Randy Iverson who led our confirmation classes this past year.

Our prayer shawl ministries shall continue as well. Each of the shawls, as they are completed, are prayed over that they will be a blessing for those who receive them.

Pastor Winters class will be drawing to a close soon. What a blessing that class has been for so many, not only from our congregation, but for many others who have been in attendance.

We have been blessed also through the music ministry of our congregation. The choirs, special music and other groups in the community have been appreciated. And of course, the consistently good music that comes to us every Sunday morning through our organist Kathy Murray certainly blesses all of us.

As I begin to write this, I realized this article could go on and on and on. There are so many ministries and volunteer efforts that go on in this congregation that are a blessing to all of us. One of the things that has come through the study of our task forces is the realization that Decorah Lutheran Church and its members are involved in over 60 different ministries. I'm sure many of us are surprised by this number, but it gives you a sense of the diversity in the outreach of the congregation in so many ways.

I referenced the task forces as they are currently studying all the ministries, missions and staffing of our congregation. Their findings will impact the future direction that we take as a congregation. A thank you to all members of our three major task forces for their time and effort. Their findings will be passed on to our church council. All this information will be very valuable as we begin the process of securing and calling a lead pastor for Decorah Lutheran.

Again, thank you all who make this congregation what it is, a place of fellowship, worship, study, prayer and service. Continue to pray that God will lead and direct us in the way that we should go as we seek to serve our God and our neighbors.

Serving Christ with you,
Pastor James Glesne

Announcements

Congregational Meeting June 2. Meeting will be held after worship and will elect a committee on the call process.

Do Day Quilters

We have decided to extend our tying days into the summer. Mark your calendars. We will be meeting May 6 and 20 and then move into summer with meetings on the first and third Mondays in June, July and August - 9:00 am to Noon. Come join the fun!

Prayer shawl meetings will continue through the summer on the regular schedule.

Outdoor Service

There will be an outdoor service at Phelps Park on June 23rd at 9:30AM. There will still be a worship service on Saturday night, June 22 at the church. See page 9 for more information.



Ruth Circle will not be meeting in June or July.

Happy Birthday to our 90+ Members!

6/10: Marjorie Severson (94), 105 Ohio St. Decorah, IA

6/11: Lucille Smock (90), 706 Maiden Ln, Apt. 4, Decorah, IA

6/21: Margaret Usgaard (95), 4 Ohio St. G11, Decorah, IA

Margaret Wikan (93), 602 2nd St. SW Apt. F22, Waukon, IA 52172

6/27: Vernetta Cline (91), 2709 Clay Hill Rd. Decorah, IA



Parish Statistics

Baptisms

5/5: Ezra Michael Jacob Smith

Deaths

5/18: Carl Hjelmeland

Weddings

Education News

Vacation Bible School Dates for 2019: July 22-25, 8:30-Noon. Sugar Creek Day Camp counselors will conduct our VBS this year at DLC. For grades entering 1st-8th this fall. VBS registration forms can be found on the poster in the narthex or on the church website.



2019 First Communion Class

Henry Brynsaas, Olivia Brynsaas, Luke Franzen,
Jacob Hageman, Shawn Holzer, Morgan
Miculinich, Kyle Pattison, Chase Vick, Renae
Wilson



Congrats 2019 Graduates!

Camrin Chyle, Drake Duffield, Marlee Duwe, Emma
Fretheim, Mara Frieden, Mikel Fullhart, Sara
Gehling, Dalton Green, Beirgen Gunhus-Dansdill,
Sarina Guzman, Thomas Hendrickson, Austin Hill,
Jace Johnson, Josie Kleckner, Alice Laybourn,
Kaden Liliefeld, Skyler Malone, Maillie McCabe,
Bailey Miculinich, Elise Miller, Josie Numedahl,
Desirae Pitz, Emma Rolfs, Cory Rude, Mitchell
Rude, Ryan Schneberger, Daniel Schwartzhoff, Kai
Sims, Sawyer Vanden Brink, Hailey Wilkins, Sam
Wilson

Wednesday Bible Study at
9:30am in the Fellowship Room.

Sunday School Memory Awards

November:

Psalm 23—Nadia Johnson

January:

Apostle's Creed—Kate Pattison, Carlton Nordschow

John 3:16—Brinley Lechtenberg

1 John 4:7a—William Baker, Bethany Curtis, Klay
Monteith, Ossie Nordschow, Colton Onsager, Ellery
Schwickerath

February:

Lord's Prayer—Grace Rahlf, Khloe Henning, Karissa
Steines, Mara Olson

March:

Lords's Prayer—Austin Erickson

April:

Lord's Prayer—Knute Carlson

Ten Commandments—Colby Leiran, Ellis Thompson

Apostle's Creed—Colton Elsbernd, Brody Leibold,
Anastasia Leibold

Books of the Bible—Miles Sullivan, Madison Dahl

May:

Lord's Prayer—Jake Hovden

Ten Commandments—Isaiah Bonnet

Apostle's Creed—Braden Ramstad, Jeremiah Leiran,
Kennedy Carlson, Eva Hurley





5th and 6th graders put together 46 LWR Personal Health Kits! Materials provided by Thrivent grant.

THANKYOU

Thank you to the following Sunday School Teachers, Substitutes, Sunday morning Office Assistance, Music Staff, Senior High Forum facilitator, Adult Forum representative, Sunday Adult Bible Study facilitator, Wednesday morning Bible Study leader:

Tina Onsager, Jenn Sullivan, John & Shannon Nielsen, Mya Sullivan, Trista Thompson, Maddie Putnam, Marissa Nordschow, Teresa Dehning, Lynette Borsheim, Karla Lechtenberg, Kim Vorwald, Cindy Hansmeier, Kathy Elsbernd, Amanda Leibold, Garnita Erickson, Peggy Rovang, Jackie Ramstad, Alice Laybourn, Ambria Pipho, Emma Rolfs, Emma Fretheim, Rhonda Storlie, Katie Storlie, Judy Moen, Becca Brynsaas, Bridget White, Cortney Holm, Dennis Wohfeil, Becky Curtis, Parker Fretheim, Randy Iverson, Lee Stock, Chris Storlie, and Pastor Winter.

Thank you to the Confirmation Teachers, 1st Communion Teachers, Confirmation Guides and Confirmation assistants: Randy Iverson, Teresa Dehning, Kris Franzen, Michelle Duwe, Jim Burns, Lori Ostlie, Cortney Holm, Dawn Deines-Christensen, Pastor Glesne, Pastor Brenda, Randi-Kate Canoy, and Kathy Elsbernd.

If a name has been omitted, please call the church office.

Church Council Minutes

April 9, 2019

Members Present: Interim Admin. Rev. Jim Glesne, Dave Sacquitne, Tamie Onsager, Scott Nordschow, Julie Askelson, Jim Sims, Susanne Twedt, Renee Lillibridge, Dennis Young, Dennis Wohlfeil, Connie Kuennen, Tim Wilson, Andrea Wilson, Cortney Holm, Danielle Askelson, Jeremy Thompson, Deb Myhre, Matt Burkey, Rick Twedt

Members Excused: Ron Stoskopf, Rebecca Swella-Smedsrud, Randy Iverson, Ted Wilson, Richard Cole, Greg Pattison

Call to Order: Dave Sacquitne

Devotions: Pastor Jim Glesne provided insight on core values and led Council in prayer.

Review of Agenda: Motion to accept by Dennis Young, 2nd by Susane Twedt; Carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Tamie Onsager to approve minutes with corrections, 2nd by Tim Wilson; Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Expenses "looking good", had 2 Sundays in March that helped; reminder that expenses are low due to decrease in payroll. Motion to approve financial reports by Rick Twedt, 2nd by Tamie Onsager; Carried.

Visitor Recognition & Communications: Chris Storlie, representing Mutual Ministry.; proved reminders to Council regarding carrying out the 4 Goals recommended by the Mutual Ministry Team focusing on communication... possibly Committees could present for Adult Forums to keep members informed of Committee activities/goals/projects.

Committee reports:

Education - Attendance Mar 1st 70 2nd 55 3rd 71 4th 77 5th 71

Palm Sunday Parade – PreK-K at 9:45 in Social Hall; 1st-6th 10:45 worship

Tina & Jenn will hand out palms Students will sit with their class – students exit after Narrative.

Confirmation Service Project – scheduled for May 8 – clean up at Springwater church – alternative service project – Lutheran World Relief health kits (Thrivent Grant to pay

for supplies.) Motion by Tina 2nd by Aaron to check with Spring water members to see if they can supply the supervisory personnel.

Needed someone to read graduate names May 19 at 10:45 service.

Needed someone to read names of 1st communion students May 12 at 10:45

VBS/ Day Camp – July 22-25 – 8:30 – Noon, Kids entering 1st – 8th grade

Housing – Sunday School rooms, we have two sofa beds and can borrow air beds. They can shower free at Luther or the Middle School.

Meals: Breakfast at church: Juice, cereal, milk, bagels, muffins. Lunch & Supper- Gift cards – Culvers, McDonalds, Pizza Hut

Cost: \$1500 + mileage (\$60.00) for 3 staff members, up to 34 kids); \$240.00 each additional staff member /10 kids. Church Volunteers: one volunteer per 10 kid to assist camp counselors must be 18 years of age. Will seek freewill offering to defray part of the costs.

Youth – Purchased a new popcorn machine; inserting Lenten soup vouchers in popcorn bags, some are coming in; youth are preparing the Easter Sunrise Service and making plans for the Easter pancake breakfast.

Stewardship- Noisy Offering met the \$1000.00 for Water to Thrive donation, next recipient will be Sugar Creek Bible Camp for VBS; looked into number of envelopes needed for DLC; Jenna prepared statistics showing 199 member units give through EFTs reducing the number of envelopes significantly.

Worship - Committee talked about ideas to enhance the worship service: More music, Enhance hospitality, reviewed liturgy for summer service- Holden Evening service for Saturday and may use Feast and Celebration service for Sunday. Matt is looking into purchasing more rope for roping off more pews for the Saturday evening service. Reviewing changing style of bulletins and trying them out for summer. We have pastors secured through the first two weeks in June and various other dates in summer. Diane Gossman is continuing to work on this. Diane is reaching

out to seminary students. Made a list of goals and will review and prioritize at next meeting.

Evangelism- Working on developing a “Welcome Center” in the Narthex with completion goal of mid-August; 156 people attended the Community Meal on April 4, 2019; have 2 potential families joining DLC.

Property & Mgmt- Personnel Committee member, Shirley Finley spoke and made a recommendation on behalf of Personnel to grant Jenna Iverson & Ken Amdahl, 10 days of Paid Time Off (PTO) retroactively to Jan. 1, 2019; Approved PTO; Heating/Cooling units are being installed and should finish this week; wall paper in Social Hall is completed, a grant will be sought through Depot Outlet for help with wall paper expenses; pews in sanctuary have been moved to help with handicap accessibility; 1 building rental was approved; Thanks to Tim & Carol Stoddard who donated money to pay for the new stove; Thanks to Ken & Ruth Proctor for a \$1951.98 donation to DLC; Rita Kerns Estate gift of \$157,575.36 has been received; Church Mutual Insurance will visit DLC on April 10, 2019 to review current policy of church.

Pastors’ Report- Interim Admin. Pastor Jim Glesne shared handouts regarding the main purposes of the DLC Self-Study Groups tasks: studying DLC information/statistics in relation to Scripture and Mission of DLC, use to inform the Congregation in preparation of the Committee on the Call Process. There will be a couple Temple Talks and inserts in the bulletin about the work of the groups. Three dates have been confirmed for presentations by Lutheran affilia-

tions: **April 28** – ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America), Bishop Steven Ullestad; **May 5** - NALC (National American Lutheran Church), Pastor Marshall Hahn; **May 12** – LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ), Pastor Mark Vander Tuig

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. There will be a June 2, 2019 congregational Meeting for the Committee on the Call Process
2. Mutual Ministry rep, Chris Storlie, see Visitor communication above.

Other Discussion: None noted

New Members: none

Transfers In: none

Remove from Membership: none

Transfers Out: none

Next Executive Mtg: May 7, 2019 @6:30PM

Next Council Mtg: May 14, 2019 @7:45 PM/committees meeting at their scheduled times

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Tamie Onsager, 2nd by Renee Lillibridge; Carried.

Closed with Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Askelson
Council Secretary

Outdoor Service at Phelps Park!!!

When: June 23rd, 2019

Coffee and fellowship at **9:00** and Service begins at **9:30**

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.

There will be a service at church on Saturday at 5:30 June 22nd



Health Ministry



Eye See You! A Health Ministry Check-Up By Krista Vanden Brink, RN

You may have noticed that your vision is changing. Perhaps you need glasses to see up close or you have more trouble adjusting to glare or distinguishing some colors. These changes are a normal part of aging. These changes alone cannot stop you from enjoying an active lifestyle or stop you from maintaining your independence. In fact, you can live an active life well into your golden years without ever experiencing severe vision loss. But as you age, you are at higher risk of developing age-related eye diseases and conditions. These include: age-related macular degeneration, cataract, diabetic eye disease, and glaucoma.

- ♦ **Diabetic Retinopathy:** Is the most common form of diabetic eye disease and a leading cause of blindness. The most common form is diabetic retinopathy which occurs when diabetes damages the tiny blood vessels inside the retina. This affects and impairs vision in nearly half of all diabetics to some degree over their lifetime. Blood vessels of the retina can break down, become blocked or leak. Effective treatment includes laser surgery and some medications. Diabetics require annual dilated eye exams.
- ♦ **Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD):** AMD is a disease associated with aging that gradually destroys sharp, central vision. Central vision is needed for seeing objects clearly and for common daily tasks such as reading and driving. AMD is the most common cause of legal blindness and vision impairment in the elderly. There is no generally accepted treatment, but laser therapies may reduce the risk of further vision loss.
- ♦ **Cataract:** A cataract is a clouding of the lens in the eye. Vision with cataract can appear cloudy or blurry, colors may seem faded and you may notice a lot of glare. This usually appears with advancing age but can be linked to smoking, diabetes and excessive exposure to sunlight. Surgical treatment can eliminate vision loss by replacing the eye's lens.
- ♦ **Glaucoma:** Glaucoma is a group of diseases that can damage the eye's optic nerve and result in vision loss and blindness. It is usually associated with high pressure in the eye and affects side or peripheral vision. Vision loss is not noticed until significant nerve damage has occurred so screenings are important for early diagnosis when it can be controlled. Any vision loss cannot be restored.

Make an appointment with an eye professional for a thorough eye exam. Save your sight!

[God's] eyes are on the ways of men; He sees their every step. Job 34:21

Youth Ministry



- There will be an event for high schoolers at Whalen cabin on June 12th, at 6:30pm.
- We are looking for volunteers for the children's message for Sunday mornings, resources and ideas for the message will be provided.
- If you are going on the Montana trip don't forget to be registered on the website by July 1st!

DLCW Ministry



Coffee Hour Schedule: June 2 & 9 Deborah Circle
 June 16 Prayer Shawl Ministry
 July 7 & 14 Priscilla Circle

June 25 - Wellington Place Bingo - Priscilla Circle

June 22nd is the 32nd Annual NE IA ELCA Women's Gathering at Wartburg College in Waverly. The in-kind offering will be personal hygiene items for Bremwood and rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries. The regular offering will be divided between church-wide, Katies Fund and AMMPARO.

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

Thank You received from Decorah Community Meal for the gift of \$75.00 for meat served on the May 16 meal from the WELCA.

Received Thank You from Bethel for the stamps sent to them. Stamps help in many ways. Resale of cancelled stamps to collectors provide a profit which benefits the work at Bethel. Many disabled people can work with these postage stamps on a daily regulated structure workshop

Save cancelled postage stamps. Cutting a ¼" to ½" border around stamp. Containers in Library. Also saved Box Top labels help the Navajo Christian Academy financially, containers found in Library.

The WELCA Booklet for 2019 is ready and may be picked up at church.

Ladies here is the corrected address for the Quarterly Bible Study Magazine if your group chooses to switch to a different study. LWML, 801 Seminary Place, Suite #L010, St. Louis, MO. 63105

June 22: 32nd NE IA Women of ELCA Gathering at Wartburg College in Waverly. Speaker is Mary Jo Mettler from Minnesota telling her story of faith and trust. Also will hear more on how we can help with the mission of Global Health Ministries while rolling bandages for those ministries.

A Kitchen Cleaning Committee has been organized. Names from the Time & Talent list have been contacted and a schedule and suggested duties list has been mailed out.

Please check Kitchen for pans or dishes you may have left.

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

Sandy Kittelson & Nancy Spilde, Co-Chairpersons of DLCW

Decorah Lutheran Library



Firefly Cove by Davis Bunn is a novel of first love and second chances that also has a connection to the California seaside town of Miramar Bay. It features Lucius Quarterfield who has always had poor health but has survived to adulthood, turning a small car dealership into a successful chain. On a business trip to Miramar Bay, Lucius met Jessica whose carefree approach to living and playful, quick wit, actually gave their complete opposite temperaments the perfect complement.

The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris is based on the powerful true story of love and survival. In April 1942, Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, is forcibly transported to the concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau. When his captors discover that he speaks several languages, he is put to work as a tattooist, tasked with permanently marking his fellow prisoners. Risking his own life, he uses his privileged position to exchange jewels and money from murdered Jews for food to keep his fellow prisoners alive.

Two Weeks by Karen Kingsbury is a story about love, faith, and what it really means to be a family. Cole Blake is months away from going off to college to pursue his dream of a career in medicine. But as he starts his final semester of high school, he meets Elise, a mysterious new girl who captures his attention and his heart.

The Tinderbox by Beverly Lewis is part one of two books about the secret contents of a special box owned by Sylvia Miller's father. As Sylvia one day finds the tinderbox left unlocked, she opens it, not realizing that what she is about to discover will splinter apart her happy life and alter everything for her close-knit Old Order Amish family. The conclusion to **The Tinderbox** will be in **The Timepiece**, available in September.

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

Message From Council

One of the early recommendations from the Mutual Ministry Committee to the council was to communicate with the congregation on what is happening along the way as we prepare to call a new pastor.

Now that we find ourselves past the presentations from the ELCA, NALC and LCMC, many of you are wondering...WHAT'S NEXT?

It is important to emphasize the intent of these meetings - to learn information that will help us dig deep into the congregation of Decora Lutheran Church and its missions in order to understand where we come from, who we are now and how we can do our best to make a positive impact and grow as we move forward. At the conclusion of all of those presentations, there was a survey asking for your feedback. If you were unable to attend the presentations or have not yet submitted the survey, there is still time! The presentations are on the church website. Please reach out to the church office or a council member if you would like assistance in viewing these...all of us are very willing to help! You may still fill out the survey and submit it to the office. The Mutual Ministry Committee is collecting the results and will use your feedback to make a recommendation to the council. Presentation results will not be a part of the June 2nd congregational meeting.



WHAT'S NEXT?

The Congregational Meeting on June 2nd is for the sole purpose of calling a Committee on the Call Process. Before taking action on a pastoral call, the committee has a lot of homework! There are demographics to study, committees to consult with and a profile to build which will take time and will require the service of congregation members who are focused on finding the right person for our congregation.

If you have any questions, we really urge you to reach out to a council member or a member of the Mutual Ministry Committee (Keith Christensen, Jim Gilbert, Jane Hildebrand, Marissa Nordschow, Lori Ostlie & Chris Storlie). All of us are here, really working hard to do right by all of you. We are here...we are listening.

We ask you to keep the church in your prayers, pray for patience, pray for wisdom, pray that we may show empathy towards one another but, most of all, pray that we are all doing our part to do God's work in the way He envisions.

Worship Assistants

Ushers

June 1

5:30 pm – Jim & Kari Burns

June 2

8:30 am – Dave Sacquitne, Pat Lien, Victor Fye

June 8

5:30 pm – Tom Little, Scott Nordschow

June 9

8:30 am – Robert & Becky Smedsrud

June 15

5:30 pm – Cal Anderson

June 16

8:30 am – Steve Darrington, Larry Thompson

June 22

5:30 pm – Roger Timp, James Gilbert

June 23

8:30 am – Jeff Martin, Dave Hansmeier

June 29

5:30 pm – Gene Sanderman, Scott Lang, Tony Gossman

June 30

8:30 am – Stan Moellers, Victor Fye

Nursery

June 2

8:30 am – Cristy Nimrod

June 9

8:30 am – Riley Wilson

June 16

8:30 am – Sarah Chyle, Nadia Johnson

June 23

8:30 am – Elaine Ward, Ruby Sullivan

June 30

8:30 am – Melinda Steinlage, Bryar Duwe

Greeters

June 1

5:30 pm – Julie Askelson, Craig & Sarah Chyle

June 2

8:30 am – Steve & Karen Darrington, Elaine Ward

June 8

5:30 pm – Elsie Kittleson, Theola Haugen

June 9

8:30 am – Todd & Jennifer Sime, Virginia Sacquitne, Mary Ellingson

June 15

5:30 pm – Tom Little, Jerry DeLong

June 16

8:30 am – Ray & Judy Koshatka, Ruth Jauert, Cindy Hansmeier

June 22

5:30 pm – Linda Isenberger, Jim & Bonnie Gilbert

June 23

8:30 am – Gerry & Becky Weiland, Deborah Myhre

June 29

5:30 pm – Willard & Verna Hanson, Sharon Roher

June 30

8:30 am – Linda & Keith Johnson, Nadia Johnson, Luane Skaim Henzler

Readers

June 1

8:30 am – Ron Onsager

June 2

5:30 pm – Ted Wilson

June 8

8:30 am – James Gilbert

June 9

8:30 pm – Jill Wilson

June 15

5:30 pm – Marissa Nordschow

June 16

8:30 am – Kari Burns

June 22

5:30 pm – Jim Burns

June 23

8:30 am – Ron Stoskopf

June 29

5:30 pm –

June 30

8:30 am – Carol Gaustad

Altar Guild for June

Kathy Vick, Kathy Elsbernd

Communion Set-up

June 2

8:30 am – Rebecca Smedsrud

June 8

5:30 pm – Jim Burns

June 16

8:30 am – Renee Smock

June 22

5:30 pm – Stephanie Steines

Communion Assistants

June 2

8:30 am – Terry Ramlo, Robert & Rebecca Smedsrud

June 8

5:30 pm – Jim & Kari Burns

June 16

8:30 am – John Boehm, Renee Smock, Laurann Gilbertson

June 22

5:30 pm – Elsie Kittleson, Kari Tjossem, Janice Tyler-Blanchard

Acolytes

June 1

5:30 pm –

June 2

8:30 am – Dylan Elsbernd

June 8

5:30 pm –

June 9

8:30 am –

June 15

5:30 pm –

June 16

8:30 am –

June 22

5:30 pm –

June 23

8:30 am –

June 29

5:30 pm –

June 30

8:30 am –

2019 June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	May 31	1 5:30 PM Worship
2 8:30 AM Worship w/ HC 9:30 AM Congregational Meeting 9:40 AM Coffee Hour	3 6:30 AM Men's Group 9:00 AM Do-Day	4 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting 6:30 PM Executive Committee	5 9:30 AM Ole's Bible Study 6:30 PM Channels 15 & 79.2 Broadcast	6 5:00 PM Decorah Comm. Meal	7 6:30 AM Men's Group	8 3:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal 5:30 PM Worship w/ HC - Noisy Offering
9 8:30 AM New Member Sunday 8:30 AM Worship w/Noisy Offering 9:40 AM Coffee Hour 2:00 PM Freeman/Snell Wedding (1st)	10 6:30 AM Men's Group	11 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Committee Meetings 7:45 PM Council Meeting	12 6:30 PM Channels 15 & 79.2 Broadcast	13	14 Synod Assembly - Waverly IA 6:30 AM Men's Group	15 5:30 PM Worship
16 Synod Assembly - Waverly IA 8:30 AM Worship w/ HC 9:40 AM Coffee Hour	17 6:30 AM Men's Group 9:00 AM Do-Day	18 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:30 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting	19 11:00 AM Eastern Star 1:00 PM Wellington 2:00 PM Aase Haugen 6:30 PM Channels 15 & 79.2 Broadcast	20 9:00 AM Ruth Circle 12:00 PM Spirit Deadline 2:00 PM Priscilla Circle (Betty Storla) - Fellowship Room	21 6:30 AM Men's Group 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal	22 2:30 PM McEnaney/Mennen Wedding 5:30 PM Worship w/ HC
23 9:00 AM Worship @ Phelps Park 9:40 AM Coffee Hour	24 6:30 AM Men's Group	25 7:00 AM Men's Group 9:00 AM Staff Meeting	26 6:30 PM Channels 15 & 79.2 Broadcast	27	28 6:30 AM Men's Group 5:00 PM wedding rehearsal	29 3:00 PM Einck/Inde Wedding 5:30 PM Worship
30 8:30 AM Worship 9:40 AM Coffee Hour	Jul 1	Notes				

Decorah Lutheran Church
309 Winnebago Street
Decorah, IA 52101
Address Service Requested

563.382.3601

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

Non Profit Org.
Permit No. 106
U.S. Postage
Decorah, IA

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

**If you would like to
view the SPIRIT on
the church website
only, please inform
the church office
and we will take you
off the mailing list. If
the office is not noti-
fied you will receive
a paper copy. If you
DO NOT want a pa-
per copy please call
or email the church.**

Special Events

- **Congregational Meeting** for establishing a committee on the call process will be June 2nd.
- **New Member Sunday** June 9th at 8:30 worship.
- **High School Event** at Whalen cabin June 12th at 6:30.
- **Outdoor Worship** June 23rd at 9:30.
- **Vacation Bible School** will be July 22-25, 8:30-noon. Kids entering 1st-8th grade in the fall.

Dear Decorah Lutheran Church members,

Greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus! Because of our faith in him and his love for us – we are saved! This, above all, is an important statement. It goes along with a greeting from the Mutual Ministry Committee (MMC) that we want you to hear: It's all good!

We know there are many questions, and even some concerns and uncertainty, among the congregation that are being voiced. In this hectic and busy world of ours, it is easy to overlook or misunderstand the “craziness” surrounding us on a daily basis and the noisiness of the world. But again, in that loud clamor, it is the still, strong voice of one that says, “You are my beloved, you are mine.” So again, it is all good!

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on what has been going on and what lies ahead for our church and for all of you, its members. A common theme should be this: your input has been welcomed throughout the process and continues to be welcomed by us (MMC) and the Church Council and leadership. Continued communication among all constituents will allow us to inform everyone, share opinions and updates, and avoid anxiety or fear.

Three “self-study groups” have been created to assist the Church Council as we consider our mission and vision. The MMC was identified over 18 months ago and became active last fall. We have been in communication with both the Council and congregation members (hosting two listening posts, being open to input at all times, reporting at temple talks, etc.) This is a long-term committee that will continue to provide support for the congregation, staff/pastor, and the Council. Two task force groups were recently recruited and are working on their respective roles. They are the Ministry & Mission Task Force and the Staffing Task Force. These are both short-term groups who are providing valuable input on their respective focus areas during this transition time.

One of the key messages from the MMC to the Council earlier this year was for the church/congregation to focus on the question “**who are we and who do we want to be?**” – especially as we consider the call for any new staff (pastor, youth director). This question encompasses many aspects of our church. First, the direction of our mission and our staffing needs are being studied by the task forces during this discernment.

Second, presentations by three different Lutheran organizations/affiliations were an opportunity to hear, learn, and discuss another portion of this discernment process. There has been some confusion regarding these presentations. At this time, we are only seeking feedback from all members on your feelings toward which affiliation (ELCA, NALC, LCMC) you feel aligns most with DLC. [If you missed any of the presentations, they are available on the website. Go to decorahlutheran.org, hover over the tab “Listen” and click on “Synod Information Sessions.”] We encourage you all to stop by the church office and provide input on the sessions

using the forms provided.

Third, YOUR input on any and all issues are welcome. Please share your thoughts, questions, ideas or concerns with a member of the MMC or Council at any time.

Finally, notice has been given about the congregational meeting on Sunday, June 2 after the 8:30 service. We will discuss the call process for a new pastor. We hope you will attend this meeting.

Blessings and warm wishes to each of you!

Mutual Ministry Committee

Keith Christensen, Jim Gilbert, Jane Hildebrand, Marissa Nordschow, Chris Storlie, Lori Ostlie