

PATHFINDER

MAY 2020



WHEW! What a month this has been. When I wrote last month's article I was hoping this COVID-19 thing would be all done, but knowing it was a long shot that it would be. Today it looks like we will be lucky to be back to normal by the summer. But this month has been exciting for this pastor because I have had to look at church, and being church, in a whole new way.

We have had to figure out how to do church without being in the building together. The idea we decided on was to do a live-feed on Facebook. Our Facebook page is Salem Lutheran Parkston. You can find our previous worship services there, and you can watch them live at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings.

In this time of "thinking outside the box", I want to thank some people who have jumped in and helped to make the best of an unusual situation.

My first thanks I want to give is a gigantic **THANK YOU** to Jason, Patty, Caleb, and Mackenzie Titzel!!!! They have helped out in so many ways to make "worship live" go well. Patty is our camera person. Jason is our time keeper and technical advisor. Caleb and Mackenzie have been playing piano, acolyting, and reading so it can seem a little more like church for us. I couldn't do it without you all. You all are always so willing to do what we need to have done, and go with the flow as we keep trying to improve each week. Well done, good and faithful servants! Way to use your gifts to proclaim the gospel!!

None of this has been easy on us here; and I want to thank so many others who have done their best to deal with what has been set before us. Tina Polreis has been our Education Director almost as long as I have been here and had decided before all this to give up her position. She has served well past her three year term; and we thank her for her efforts with Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Both of them have been cancelled for the year, and since we don't have a formal time to thank Tina for all her work she has given to the children of Salem Lutheran, informally, and with a grateful heart, I want to say, **THANK YOU!!!** I have appreciated all you have done to share the good news with our children.

To the Altar Guild, a **THANK YOU** for dealing with circumstances out of our control. Altar Guild is always behind the scenes and that is how they all like it; but if I could, I would make you come out and take a bow. Your love for the church, even when no one is there to see it, is overflowing. Thank you for caring for God's house with the respect and honor it is worthy of.

Also I need to give a continuing **THANK YOU** to Annie Thury, our Luther League advisor. As you may know, the Luther League was planning on a mission trip to New Orleans in June, but it has been decided to cancel the trip. I know Annie was looking forward to this trip, probably more than the kids, but we all felt it was best to cancel. Hopefully we can plan another trip soon. We are still planning on going to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis next summer, so please keep supporting the fundraisers that are sure to come our way.

And a **THANK YOU** to our confirmation parents who made sure to seeing their kids continued as best as possible with learning their confirmation lessons. The support of parents is certainly what makes the success of their children in all areas of their lives.

Of course **THANK YOU** to those who are continuing to support the church in a financial way. It's not an easy time for any of us, but your support tells us we are an important part of your life; for that we are grateful.

THANK YOU to those who agreed to call members to make sure our family here at Salem Lutheran is doing OK. A quick phone call means a lot when you can't get out of the house like you used to.

My last and hugest (is that a word?) **THANK YOU** is to Marlene. This month has been full of new ways of doing things and she has heard my joys and my frustrations, but she keeps me smiling and realizing we can do it. It may not be perfect, but we keep getting the Good News to the people; and that is all we are asked to do. Thank you Marlene, for being my secretary, my sounding board, my cheerleader, and most of all, my friend.

I also owe a '**You're Welcome**' to the many of you who have thanked me for my efforts this past month. It has been a challenge and a joy for me to find new ways to connect to you. Thank you for your understanding and patience with this new way of living and being church.

We don't know what is next. It is not expected that we will be back together worshipping inside Salem Lutheran for at least a month or two; but whether we are together, or apart, know God is with us all. *"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Romans 8: 38-39 ~ that we do know! Thanks be to God.

Your sister in Christ,

Pastor Tammy

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK . . .



MAY

Due to the Corona Virus precautions, all worship services and other activities here at Salem have been cancelled until further notice. As a result of that, several reports will be missing from this issue of the PATHFINDER. For those who have access, you can watch our abbreviated worship service on Salem Lutheran's Facebook page each Sunday morning at 9:00. If that time isn't convenient for you, the video will remain on Facebook for some time, so you can watch it later..

If you, or a member of your family is moving, *please* let us know the new addresses.

If you, or someone you care about, are in need of pastoral care, call Pastor Tammy at the church office at 928-3752 (leave a message if there's no one here to take your call), parsonage 928-6800, or cell 605-765-4043, church president Bart Lorenz at 605-770-3346, or church secretary Marlene Wuertzer at 928-3577 or 505-1027, and they will get you the help that you need.

If you'd like to receive your *PATHFINDER* via e-mail, please let us know; and make sure that we have your e-mail address. Stay well; and wash your hands, wash your hands, wash your hands!!!

Marlene Wuertzer
Secretary

Hello Salem,

There's not a lot to report this month with the church still being shut down. The Facebook-live services have been a great option for worship during this time. Thanks to everyone who has been helping to make this possible.

Thank you also to everyone who continues to donate. Even if we aren't attending services, the bills continue to come in. I have heard of a lot of people using one of the automatic giving options. This is an easy way to make your contributions. The form was in last month's *PATHFINDER* (and is again in this issue) to go through Farmers State Bank, Parkston; OR, you can pick one up at the church office.

If you'd like to do the giving program from the ELCA, log on to the "tithe.ly ELCA" app on your smart phone, create an account and a pin number, then choose Salem Lutheran Church, Parkston.

Hopefully everyone is staying healthy and taking advantage of this extra time to be with family.

God Bless,

Bart Lorenz
President of Salem

*President's
Corner*

TO OUR GRADUATES:

As you accept your diploma, we remind you that you step into new relationships with your friends, your family and your community. We assure you that you will always be a part of our community of faith. We commit to God all of our past efforts to show you, by example, the life of faith and love through Christ, and all our attempts to instill within you life's true values.

With your degree, you have earned more than freedom; you have earned the right to prove that you can handle freedom responsibly, that you are trustworthy, dependable and mature enough to try your own wings. Know that the world will test your true character with fire. And remember that you are always fully accountable to God, who loves you and believes in you far beyond your comprehension.

We assure you of our continued love and promise to remember and uphold you through our prayers. We pledge to always be your "family". No matter where you are, or in whatever circumstances you find yourself, we care about you and stand ready to rejoice with you in your accomplishments, to support you in your failures, and to grow with you in faith.



Justin Ganley
Tawni Griebel
Devlin Harrison
Braydon Hurley
Deanna Luikens
Bennett McIntosh

ALTAR GUILD

We hope everyone is staying safe during this time of Covid-19. We will wait until September to meet again.

Thanks to Pastor Tammy and the Titze family as they have made services possible on Facebook Live. Thank you to those who changed the paraments and banners in March and April.

Thank you to Margaret Kiunke for donating the Easter lilies; we always appreciate her generosity. She also polished the brass, so we thank her for her faithful service. Patty donated the palms; we had originally ordered 125 but cut it back to 75.

Altar duties:

May: Jill Squires and Amy Mattheis

June: Barb Semmler and Lynette Boehmer

July: Patty Mogck

August: Nancy Lorenz



Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 2nd at 2:00 p.m. with Bernetta doing devotions and hostess.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Mogck

Secretary

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PARISH EDUCATION

SALEM LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS ~ MAY 2020

Just a reminder that Sunday School will resume again in the fall; and VBS has been canceled for 2020. We will plan for 2021 at PCC with *Shipwrecked* as the curriculum.

We are still looking for someone to fill the Education Coordinator role. If interested, please let Tina, Pastor Tammy or church president, Bart Lorenz, know.

I hope everyone has a safe & healthy summer.

Tina Polreis

Education Coordinator

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Advice from Farmer, Jed Olbertson

(Edited ~ used by permission)

Well, fellow farmers, things have obviously changed for EVERYONE! Yes, we need to be getting ready for spring ... yes the coming year looks like a mess ... but I'm gonna throw another sabot into the gears ...

More than likely, a farmer we know, or one of their loved ones, is likely to contract C-19. We don't just need to be ready to plant our own crops; we need to be ready to help plant someone else's, too. That's just how it goes. Grease your iron and have it ready to go.

That being said, the person that's affected could be you. Think about it ... we are sole proprietors. We are literally the only person that knows the weird stuff that it takes to get our operations through the day.

Take a half hour and write up a short list of what needs to be done to get through a couple months of running your operation. Rations. Which seed dealers you have seed at. Where you want your fertilizer and herbicide purchased. What crops are to be planted on which fields. Which starter or electric motor that may occasionally need to get whacked with the handy 15/16" wrench to engage. Which bins of stored grain a guy needs to really be keeping an eye on.

Give this list to your significant other and your best friend. And hope they never need to use it. Just be proactive.

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Granted, we're not all farmers; but this advice applies to everyone of us. Do you know how to do all the things your husband normally takes care of? Does he know how to do the many things that are considered "your job"? NOW would be a good time to make some notes, and put them where the other person can have access to them, JUST IN CASE they're ever needed. These notes could make someone's life MUCH easier,

LUTHER LEAGUE

The only thing new is that our Mission Trip to New Orleans has been cancelled, so we will have to look to possibly going next summer.

Praying that everyone stays well, and I look forward to seeing you all again in the fall!

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Thury

Luther League Coordinator

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Connecting faith & finances for good.™

Each year there are a number of Thrivent members who direct their Choice Dollars to Salem Lutheran Church; and we want to thank them for their generosity.

Thrivent members are given an opportunity to direct where they want some of Thrivent's charitable monies to go, and they have numerous choices. Quite a number of members have chosen to direct their Choice Dollars to Salem Lutheran Church. In 2017, Salem received a total of \$3,625.00, based on the recommendations of those members, and we THANK them!!! You can see from this, that the Thrivent Choice program helps Thrivent members make a very positive impact in their communities.

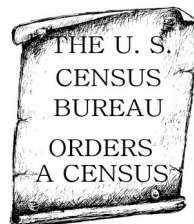
Thank you to all who chose to donate to Salem Lutheran Church over the past years.

Especially for the month of March, 2019 we wish to thank

Marlene M Wuertzer	Ernest J Wuertzer	Kenneth J Henke	
Michael Darold Mattheis	Darold J Mattheis	Kristi J Goehring,	
Chris E Craker	Bradley J Henke	Scott A Goehring	Willard R Maas
Betty Lee Mattheis	Michelle Vilhauer	Karen Marie Zanter	

for the direction of their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Salem Lutheran.

The 2020 Census is coming up and the U. S Census Bureau is looking for people to help with the job of making sure everyone is counted. For each person that is not counted, the state / town loses \$1600.



If you are interested in helping out, and want to earn some extra money, apply online at 2020census.gov/jobs or call 1-855-JOB-2020. These are temporary positions which will last until August 2020. Pay range is **\$15 - \$18 per hour**. They will train you and supply a smart phone to use.

Remember to return the postcard from the Census Bureau when it comes to you in the next months to **make sure you are counted**.



CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

Violet ~ The violet, a symbol of humility, is used most often to refer to the Virgin Mary, whom St. Bernard (1090-1153) de-



scribed as "the violet of humility". The purple flower also is sometimes used to express Christ's humility in assuming human form.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS all those who have had to postpone some big moments in their lives. When COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, we hope to celebrate with the families who will baptize their child including Kent and Nicole Frickel who will baptize their daughter Kennedy and Sadie and Jon Thomas who will baptize their daughter, Elaina.

ALSO, WE HAVE YOUTH who have taken their first communion class, but wait to have their first communion including Trinity Luikens, Elle Goehring, and Rilyn Thury.

WE HAVE SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE WAITING to become new members here at Salem including Kent and Nicole Frickel and Justin and Jenna Moege.

THERE ARE SIX YOUTH who are hoping to celebrate their high school graduation: Tawni Griebel, Devlin Harrison, Deanna Luikens, Bennet McIntosh, Brayden Hurley, and Justin Ganley.

PLEASE ALSO PRAY for those who are in Confirmation Class: Amedea Luikens, Mackenzie Titze, Ella Pollreisz, and Hilary Polreis.

Keep all of these people in your prayers and be ready to celebrate with them as soon as we can.

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IN THIS TIME OF NOT BEING ABLE TO COME TO CHURCH we would like to remind you there are other options to give your offering to church. You are always invited to mail your check to church, or drop it by the church office. You can also make your payment come out of your checking account automatically by signing up for Simply Giving. Further explanations and the form are available in last month's newsletter, or you can get a form from the church office. We also have a new way to give to the church via on-line with a phone app. It is called tithe.ly and is endorsed by the ELCA. Just look for the "tithe.ly ELCA" app on your smartphone. You will need to create an account and a pin number and then choose Salem Lutheran Church, Parkston. You can decide how often you want an amount taken out of your credit card or bank account, but there is a charge for each transaction so once a month transaction would be a better deal. For you techy people it is pretty easy to do, so if you are not afraid of apps we invite you to give it a try. For the church, knowing what amount we have coming in each month makes for a more relaxed church council; and we can concentrate on our ministry and not our checking account. If you have further questions contact our treasurer, Walter Schoenfish.

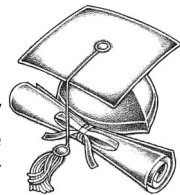
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From Avera St. Benedict Health Center ~

Better Choices Better Health **Diabetes Self-Management Workshop**. Mondays, April 13-May 18, 2020, 1 pm - 3:30 pm- Avera St. Benedict Health Center. To register, www.BetterChoicesBetterHealthSD.org or call 1-888-484-3800 or . Why should you attend? Those who have taken the workshop show: better health, increased confidence managing diabetes, improved A1C & blood sugar levels, decrease in hypo/hyperglycemia, fewer doctor/ER visits & hospitalizations.

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Senior Recognition ~ will be Sunday, May 10 (catch it on Facebook, 9 am). Seniors this year include **Bennett McIntosh, Tawni Griebel, Devlin Harrison, Deanna Luikens, Brayden Hurley, and Justin Ganley**. Ordinarily, on this Sunday, we would be presenting each of them with a quilt and finding out about their future plans. Graduates ~ please stop by church at your convenience to pick up your quilts; and bring a note telling us about your future plans that we can share in next month's *PATHFINDER*. Please keep these graduates in your prayers in this exciting and joyous time.



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If you'd like to read Pastor Tammy's sermon from last Sunday, you can go to the Salem Lutheran Church website (www.salemlutheranet.com); on the home page you will see a link of a Bible verse. Click on it, and Pastor Tammy's sermon will come up. While you are there, make sure to check out the latest news. You will find the acolyte schedule and a copy of the latest newsletter. If you have any suggestions on how to improve the website, or if you have the gifts to be the editor of the web page, please talk to Pastor Tammy.

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*"Courage does not always roar.
Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying,
'I will try again tomorrow.'"*
~ Mary Anne Radmacher

Do You Remember When . . . ?

30 years ago (May, 1990) ~ Plans are underway this year to have one community Memorial Day Service in Parkston. Watch for further details. To insure perpetual care for the future upkeep of our cemeteries, whether church or community, special gifts are welcome to keep building up the interest-bearing funds so that the upkeep can be paid from the interest received each year.

25 years ago (May, 1995) ~ Memorial Day has been made into a big holiday weekend instead of a day of respect and tribute to the departed. Out of 365 days in any given year, can't we stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones . . . and especially those who fell in battle on distant shores while helping preserve the liberties of America? Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to our various cemeteries and stop long enough to say "Thank you, Father, for the life that has been lived and for friendships that we have shared".

20 years ago (May, 2000) ~ We can celebrate the anniversary of Jesus' resurrection, but the truth of the resurrection always comes as a surprise ~ God's surprise to people and creation consumed with sin and death, God's surprise, not our idea, or plan, or accomplishment. God burst into the tomb to create new life through the power of forgiving love. And still, God finds ways to surprise us with the same word of promise and hope. The Holy Spirit will use our faith in that powerful love, in that surprising new creation, to lead and inspire and surprise us as God's people during worship and in life during the 50 days of Easter. Just when we think all has returned to normal, watch out! God will still have more to say. ~ from Pastor Randy Koeller's letter

15 years ago (May, 2005) ~ The Senior Meals Program, a non-profit organization that recognizes the needs of the aging population 60 and over to maintain independence, while living at home is coming to Parkston. Well-nourished people have longer, healthier lives, fewer health complications, lower health care costs, faster healing and shorter hospital stays. The goal of Senior Meals is to provide high quality meals to as many aging friends as resources will allow. These services are provided in a compassionate, caring way and in a cost-effective manner. Senior meals are served in a group setting in Parkston at *Papa B's*, Monday through Friday, starting Monday, May 2, 2005, at 12:00 pm. Cost of each meal is \$2.50. Funding for meals is a joint effort between federal and state governments, community support, and participant donations. Participants are encouraged to donate what they can afford. No one is denied meals for inability to pay. Senior Meals can also be delivered to individuals who are homebound.

10 years ago (May, 2010) ~ Our faith can grow ~ The suspension bridge over Niagara Falls was begun by a thread attached to a kite. When the wind blew, the kite floated across the water to the other side. Workers then attached a string to the thread and pulled it across. To the string, they attached a rope and pulled it back. By this slow-but-sure method, the bridge was built. Our faith may be just a little thread or no larger than a mustard seed, but we must act on it (see James 2:14-18). Through action, our faith will be strengthened (Colossians 1:23) as it moves us to do even greater works of faith for our Lord (2 Thessalonians 1:3). And in this slow-but-sure way, our faith can grow exceedingly (Ephesians 4:15-16).

5 years ago (May, 2015) ~ Pastor Tammy, and Pastor Erika from St. John's, Dimock, will be starting a Bible Study at Avera Bormann Manor. This is for not only residents of the Nursing Home and the Assisted Living, but for anyone who would like to share some time with us in God's Word. Our first session will be held Thursday, April 30, at 3:45 pm. All are welcome.

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Trust the Artist . . .

We must offer ourselves to God like a clean, smooth canvas and not worry ourselves about what God may choose to paint on it, but at each moment, feel only the stroke of his brush. . . . It is the same with a piece of stone. Each blow from the sculptor's chisel makes it feel . . . as if it were being destroyed. . . . All I know is that I must stay immobile in the hands of the sculptor. . . . I have no idea what he is doing . . . but I know his work is the best possible. ~ Jean Pierre de Caussade





Find us on: facebook®

One of the biggest changes for Salem Lutheran Church in this COVID-19 time is that we are having church on Facebook. We show it live at 9:00 am on Sunday and then it stays on Salem Lutheran Parkston's Facebook feed after that so you can watch it anytime. In the past six weeks we are not alone in trying to find ways to get church to people's homes. Many churches have started recording worship and then have it available on Facebook or YouTube. For years churches have broadcast their worship on TV or radio on Sunday mornings.

At this time, with so many churches doing remote church, the idea of how to record the attendance number to reflect those not sitting in the pews has come to the forefront of people's minds. We have been given a way to calculate that number and it will be noted in addition to our weekly attendance. Personally I think tracking the number of church goers is fixating more on how good we look compared to others or in the past rather than what good we are doing as Christians. However, after looking at the number of people we are reaching with having worship on Facebook, I believe we as a church should seriously think more about how we are spreading God's word and how we can make sure even more people can hear it.

I have long thought the ELCA should have more outlets for talking about our faith. The Catholic Church has a whole TV network and radio station that broadcasts 24-7. Maybe this situation we have found ourselves in is our opportunity to speak to a larger audience than ever before.

We, here at Salem Lutheran Church, are indeed reaching more people than ever before. To track our on line viewing we will be looking at how many "views" we have. A view is when someone clicks to watch the video of a church service either live or recorded. We are to look at the number of views one week after the video was put on Facebook. So far in six weeks of being on Facebook our average number of views, as we have been told to calculate them, is 220 views.

Not only do our members get to see the worship, but so do our family and friends, former members who live out of the area and community people. More than ever so many people have the opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. I don't know what things will look like when we get back to "normal", but I sincerely hope things get back to "better than normal" and that our church will seriously consider keeping all the new ways we have learned to be church together even when we have been apart.

Pastor Tammy

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Ministry in daily life . . .

Thomas Dreier (1884-1976) was on the path to ministry, according to a biographer, but then decided to "preach broadly, free from orthodox limitations". During careers in publishing and business, he offered much inspiration ~ including these words to which we all can aspire:

"To greet the day with reverence for the opportunities it contains . . . to hold ever before me, even in the doing of little things, the Ultimate Purpose toward which I am working; to meet men and women with laughter on my lips and love in my heart; to be gentle, kind and courteous through all the hours; to approach the night with . . . the joy that comes from work well done, this is how I desire to spend wisely my days."



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

April 2020

Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

We are writing to you to share the news that the South Dakota Synod Council at its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, March 20, 2020, voted to cancel this year's synod assembly. The assembly was scheduled to convene June 5-6, 2020, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. This was a difficult decision, and one that was made after much discussion. Considerations included the predicted longevity of the COVID-19 pandemic, recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), input from Presiding Bishop Eaton and the ELCA Office of the Secretary, the SD Synod Constitution and Bylaws, and South Dakota state law.

The Rev. Jonathan Vehar, secretary of the South Dakota Synod, has prepared a document "Effects of Canceling the Synod Assembly of the SD Synod." This document outlines what this cancelation means for our continued journey as the SD Synod. Please find the resource sheet in this mailing as well as on the synod's website sdsynod.org/assembly.

Please know that the Synod Council has not taken this step without prayerful discernment. This was a hard and disheartening step as we looked forward to this annual gathering as God's people in South Dakota. We especially were looking forward to celebrating the 50-40-10 anniversary, the installation of the Bishop's associates, the Rev. Jonathan Steiner and the Rev. Renee Splichal Larson, and sharing our five-year vision plan of *Journeying Together in Christ*.

Although canceling the June assembly was painful, the decision opened new possibilities. We are delighted to share with you that we are planning a celebration of the 50-40-10 anniversary and the five-year vision of *Journeying Together in Christ* later this year when guidelines will once again permit gathering in large groups. In preparation for this anniversary, the installation and vision sharing, we invite your ministry site to tithes your synod assembly registration fee to the SD Synod. This thank offering for the partnership between the synod office and the congregations of the SD Synod will provide seed money for a meaningful Fall synod-wide celebration.

Please know that both of us would be happy to visit with you about any questions or concerns you may have regarding the cancelation and the fall plans. In closing, we leave you with Paul's words from his letter to his siblings in Rome:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35-39)

God's peace be with you,

Carla Borchardt
Synod Vice President

The Rev. Constanze Hagmaier
Bishop, South Dakota Synod



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Effects of Canceling the Synod Assembly of the South Dakota Synod

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Synod Council of the South Dakota Synod decided to cancel the Synod Assembly scheduled for June of 2020. This document seeks to address the consequences of that decision for our joint ministry. Sections of the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions* that outline the roles and responsibilities of the Synod Assembly are presented below. Only matters that would be affected by the canceling of the 2020 assembly have been placed for consideration. For example, no officer of this synod is up for election; therefore, it is not of concern at this moment to address those duties of the assembly. I don't presume to have all the correct answers here or that I have considered every possible implication.

Resolutions and Memorials:

The Synod Assembly has the sole authority to act on Resolutions from Conference Assemblies and to adopt Memorials to be submitted to the Churchwide Assembly. Many of the Conference Assemblies were not able to meet, so were not able to submit resolutions. If a matter were to come forward, depending on the nature and scope of a response, it might be in order for the Synod Council to address. Any matter requesting action from the Churchwide Assembly must be adopted by the Synod Assembly as a Memorial. However, since the next Churchwide Assembly will not meet until 2022, there is no urgency.

Elections:

A prime function of the Synod Assembly is the election of the Synod Council, committees, boards, and partner ministries.

Synod Council: Members of the Synod Council are nominated from conferences and elected by the Synod Assembly to a four-year term. In general, when persons are elected, they serve their term or until a successor is elected. This will give us a grace period to allow current members to continue to serve until their successor is elected. There are several complicating factors. First, assuming that current members are willing to serve an extra year, at the 2021 Synod Assembly, 1/2 of the Synod Council would be up for election. This causes problems in staggering term-limits into the future and to ensure that there is not too much turnover in one year. Another option is to have the Synod Council fill vacancies. If a Synod Council member whose turn is expiring were to resign, the Synod Council could vote to fill the position. S10.03.f. states that vacancies are filled until the next regular meeting of the Synod Assembly. However, to fill a vacancy, the position still needs to be nominated by the appropriate conference. Some conferences have already met, and this would fulfill the letter of the provisions. We still have the same problem with 1/2 of the council being elected at one assembly.

Board for LSS: S9.01.11. stipulates that the Synod Assembly elects members to the Board of Directors for LSS. This was a new provision in 2019, and the assembly elected members to staggered terms. Because this provision serves the needs of LSS, we should check with Betty Oldenkamp about what they need moving forward.

Other Committees: the Mutual Ministry, EOC, and MCC, vacancies are filled by the conferences. Although reading the Constitution more in-depth with election questions in mind, I wonder if our practice in electing these committees matches what the Constitution says. Thoughts for later.

Consultation Committees and Discipline Committee: are filled by the Synod Council until the next Synod Assembly. We can argue the same points as the Synod Council.

Synod Related Ministries not specified in the governing documents:

The Synod Assembly has, in the past, also elected the Board of Directors for the Chapel on the Hill and the Augustana Association. If they need offices filled, I assume the same authority granted the Synod Council would work, but we should check with them as well.

Budget and allotment to Churchwide:

S15.13. Based on estimated income, the Synod Council shall authorize expenditures within the Budget for the fiscal year. Expenditure authorizations shall be subject to revision, in light of changing conditions, by the Synod Council. We would need to tread carefully if the Synod Council wanted to act in ways counter to the will of the Synod Assembly. For example, approving a 3rd Associate to the Bishop or changing the funding model used for supported ministries. The Synod Council cannot change the percent allocation that is directed to the churchwide organization.

Amending the Constitution:

We will have to wait until the next regular Synod Assembly to adopt changes.

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“God is not a workaholic” . . .

In *Sabbath as Resistance*, Walter Brueggemann likens our consumerism-driven society to ancient Egypt. Hebrew slaves made bricks for storehouses for the wealth of the upper class, at the top of which sat Pharaoh. Now, as then, the push is always to do more, earn more, make more; we worry there’s not enough time or money. “In this system there can be no Sabbath rest,” says the author.

Yet, at the culmination of creation, “God rested on the seventh day. God did not show up to do more. . . . God did not come and check on creation in anxiety to be sure it was all working.” and “because the creator is anxiety-free,” we can be too. “God is not a workaholic,” writes Brueggemann. “God does not keep jacking up production schedules. To the contrary, God rests, confident, serene, at peace.” God’s rest, in turn, gives us ~ who are created in his image ~ a “restfulness that contradicts the ‘drivenness’” of Pharaoh’s Egypt and modern society.

Adopted by God . . .

Anecdotes abound of couples who become pregnant soon after finalizing a long-awaited adoption. *A Reader’s Digest* contributor recounts how one such mother later handled well-meaning inquiries about which child was “hers” (biologically). She replied: “I’ve forgotten.”

That mindset, perhaps, is why John Piper calls adoption “a picture of the Gospel”. God, through his Son Jesus, makes us his very own eternally beloved children.

Max Lucado writes: “If anybody understands God’s ardor for his children, it’s someone who has rescued an orphan from despair, for that is what God has done for us. God has adopted you. God sought you, found you, signed the papers and took you home.”



South Dakota Synod's Neighbors in Solidarity: What you can do to help

Our partner ministries in the South Dakota Synod are requesting your support! Here is what you can do to help during this unprecedented time.

Church on the Street: Write cards or letters of encouragement, to go into the hygiene and food kits. Send them love, and let them know they aren't alone.

- **Mail to:**

Rebel Hurd/Church on the Street
320 S 2nd Ave Suite 1660
Sioux Falls, SD 57101

First Lutheran African Ministry: Material donations for food and hygiene kits: Personal sanitary materials; Soaps and detergents; Hand sanitizers for daily use; Nonperishable food goods
Financial donations, especially to help meet rent for their meeting place where they gather digitally.

- **Mail to:**

610 N Kiwanis
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Pueblo de Dios: Material donations: Personal hygiene items; Laundry detergent; Food: rice, beans, corn, flour, eggs, milk, sugar, instant coffee, cereal

Financial contributions: Help out of work families to meet their rent and utilities

- **Mail to:**

Pueblo de Dios
235 N Prairie Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Woyatan Lutheran: Requesting infant supplies: Formula, Size 1 & 2 diapers. Also accepting gift cards to Target or Walmart.

- **Mail to:**

PO Box 3003
Rapid City, SD 57709-3003

From your South Dakota Synod Staff ~

You can also support these ministries by making a financial gift at sdsynod.org/donate and select "Neighbors in Solidarity." Thank you for your generosity and support! It's a mutual blessing and we are all stronger together!

In-carnation . . .

The official flower of Mother's Day is the carnation, the favorite flower of the mom of the holiday's founder, Anna Jarvis. Over time, the custom arose of wearing a white carnation on Mother's Day if your mother has died and a red one if she's living.

In fact, many carnation colors have special meanings. Pink carries the richest Christian symbolism. According to legend, carnations first appeared on earth as Mary wept while watching Jesus carry his cross. Where her tears fell, there appeared pink carnations, symbolizing a mother's undying love.

According to one theory, the English word for carnation comes from *carnis*, Latin for flesh. From the same root comes *incarnation*, God's coming to earth in flesh. Thus, carnations remind us of our loving mothers as well as our loving Savior.

~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~



A Prayer for Memorial Day



We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us

with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion ~ their very lives ~ for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Let us never forget!

The Knots Prayer

Author Known to God

Dear God:

Please untie the knots
that are in my mind,
my heart and my life.
Remove the 'have nots'
that I have in my mind.

Erase the 'will nots'.
'may nots', and 'might nots'
that may find
a home in my heart.

Release me from the 'could nots',
'would nots' and 'should nots'
that obstruct my life.

And most of all,
Dear God,
I ask that you remove from my mind,
my heart and my life all of the 'am nots'
that I have allowed to hold me back,
especially the thought
that I am not good enough.
Amen.

~ shared with us by 'a friend of Salem'

www.salemlutherannet.com ~ Have you visited our website lately? Admittedly, compared to many other websites, it could be better. Pastor Tammy is doing the basics, but her gifts are not in website design. If your gifts are in website design, please contact Pastor Tammy, 605-928-3752, so we can have another way to contact people and let them know who we are.



Salem is searching for someone who has some free time that they've been looking to fill with a volunteer position, loves books, and enjoys organizing them. Salem's Library has many good books just waiting to be reviewed and then to be checked out and read by someone; so, if the description above fits YOU, please contact the church office at 928-3752, and we'll visit about it!



Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota

Administrative Office
2001 S Summit Ave
Sioux Falls SD 57197

Friends of Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota,

Grace and peace to you from your South Dakota camps and retreat centers. You continue to be in our prayers each and every day—prayers for wellness and health, patience and courage.

As the past few weeks have progressed, we have continued to pay attention to the news of the world, the news around the region, and updates within our local communities here in South Dakota.

We live in extraordinary times.

We all face extraordinary new challenges in our lives.

We find ourselves making extraordinary decisions in response to those challenges.

And in the midst of it all, God continues to call us to love our neighbors in extraordinary ways.

For more than fifty years, Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota has been a profound outdoor ministry organization where thousands have annually gathered in community to partake in impactful and life-changing ministry experiences. It is within these communities that we have grown together in faith through fellowship, adventure, grief, joy, challenge, and exploration.

Our staff and volunteers at all four of our sites have put together another summer of fantastic programs, retreats, and summer camps. We've excitedly and eagerly awaited another summer filled with homecomings back to the camps that we cherish and love—those beautiful places where we experience Christ's love in community and creation on the back of a horse, in a kayak on the lake, on a mountain peak in the Black Hills, or around an evening campfire.

But for as much as we love and care for our camps, we love and care for our campers and guests even more.

We are living in a time when we have been given the important responsibility to refrain from gathering in community to make our best effort, the only effort we know to be true, to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

We have been directed by federal, state, and local governing agencies to put on hold, for some time, gatherings of people in close communities so that we might care for the well-being of all of our neighbors.

We've watched as schools have moved to on-line learning for the remainder of the school year, congregations have gathered for worship over social media, and community social events, tournaments, gatherings, concerts, celebrations, and more have had to cancel or postpone until further notice.

Through it all, we've had hope that summer camp might be exempt from this.

But the risks are just too great.

At the heart of our ministry, the well-being and safety of our campers and guests is our highest priority.

Therefore, based on the information we have available to us today, the leadership staff and Board of Directors have made the following important decisions:

- Cancellation of all summer programs at all Lutherans Outdoors sites for the 2020 summer season.
- Postponement of all hosted ministries/retreats for an indefinite period of time.

PHONE (605) 274-5326 / (800) 888-1464 FAX (605) 274-5024 EMAIL info@losd.org

www.LOSD.org

- Postponement of all programmed events for an indefinite period of time (including fundraising events, special event gatherings, and programmed retreats).
- Cancellation of summer worship services at all Lutherans Outdoors sites for the 2020 summer season.

Never before, in the history of this organization, has there been a decision so difficult to make. The financial ramifications will be great and may yield more difficult decisions.

But we, as an organization, are called to serve people.

This decision is what is best for the people whom we are called to serve during this time.

The leadership staff and Board of Directors have been diligently planning our response to this decision including the coordination of rescheduling groups at our sites, navigating operational decisions, and facilitating important temporary changes as they pertain to seasonal/summer staff as well as year-round staff and volunteers.

Over the course of the next few months, all summer camp participants, retreat guests, special events attendees/ticket holders, and volunteers will be contacted by members of the Lutherans Outdoors staff with options regarding deposits, rescheduling, and further information regarding LO's operations.

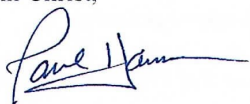
We also will continue to pay attention to how our federal, state, and local governments will direct us over the next few weeks and months. We are prepared to offer alternative intergenerational programs and opportunities at our sites for late summer and early fall in the event that we are given clearance to operate and provide safe gatherings spaces for communities of people.

God calls us to love our neighbors in extraordinary ways—and for the time being—we strive to create innovative ways to explore Christ's love within social-distanced communities and inspire our constituency to experience creation wherever we may be.

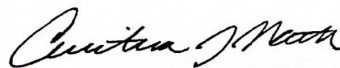
We know, without a doubt, that on the other side of this Covid-19 pandemic, Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota will be a stronger outdoor ministry organization. This situation will challenge us to pause, evaluate, and innovate our beloved ministry programs that happen at each of our four unique and wonderful ministry sites.

We are thankful for your continued partnership and support of Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota. As we continue to pray for each and every one of you, we ask for your prayers in return and your continued support and generosity towards this ministry that we cherish and love deeply.

Yours in Christ,



Paul J. Hanson
Executive Director
Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota



Christina Nath
Board of Directors President
Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota

PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

By Cameron Bellm

May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
remember those who must choose
between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to
care for our children when their schools close
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot
physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be
the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.
Amen.

THE FOUR BLESSED LOOKS

Look back and 'Thank' God.

Look forward and 'Trust' God.

Look around and 'Serve' God.

Look within and 'Find' God.

I asked God, "How do I get the best out of life?"
God said, "Face your past, handle your present,
and prepare for the future without fear!"

Without God, our week is:
Mournday, Tearsday, Wasteday,
Thirstday, Fightday, Shatterday and Sinday.
So, allow Him to be with you every day!

Life is short, so forgive quickly.
Believe slowly. Love truly.
Laugh uncontrollably.
Never regret anything that makes you happy.
And, have a wonderful journey!!
~ shared with us by "a friend of Salem"

The birth of the Church . . .

Fifty days after the Resurrection, the first Christians, most of them Jews, gathered to celebrate the Jewish harvest festival known as Pentecost.

At that gathering something happened that was so awesome and indescribable that when writing about it, St. Luke could only use metaphors. A sound like the rush of a violent wind seemed to fill the entire house where they were meeting. Something like tongues of fire appeared among them ~ a tongue rested on each of them.

It was then, that they "were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability" (Acts 2:4, NRSV). The crowd that gathered outside was amazed and perplexed. They wanted to know what it meant. Some observers thought it was a gathering of drunks.

But Peter interpreted it all correctly to anyone who would listen. He told of Christ, his life, his mission, his death and his Resurrection. Most importantly, Peter explained that God had made Jesus both Lord and Messiah. The proof of that was the Resurrection.

Three thousand people were so moved by Peter's words that they were baptized that day and "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42, NRSV).

"And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47, NRSV). The Church was born that day.



A child's perspective . . .

A group of second-graders was quizzed about what ingredients their mothers are made of. One child said, "God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world, and one dab of mean."

To the question "What does your mom do in her spare time?" one youngster said, "Mothers don't do spare time."

When the children were asked "Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?" one child replied, "God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me."

"SIMPLY" GIVING

With the vote at January's Annual Meeting to not purchase offering envelopes beginning in 2021, the Stewardship Committee would like to encourage all our members to consider giving your offerings electronically. You can decide the amount and when you want the donation to be taken out of your account—weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly.

There are many benefits to automatic payments, besides not needing your offering envelopes anymore. For instance, it's one less thing to think about Sunday morning. It becomes a part of your spiritual practice to monthly budget the amount you are giving to the church. If you miss church one Sunday your offering will still be given. You can always still give extra money above your automatic payment by cash or check. And the church can rely on a certain amount each month. In this day and age many people, young and old, pay bills automatically. Please consider starting automatic payments today. An Authorization Form appears below, or you may contact Walt Schoenfish, Treasurer, or Julie Krueger, Financial Secretary at 605-928-7241.

How do I get started? To set up electronic donations, simply complete the authorization form below and return it to the office of Walter Schoenfish / Julie Krueger at 105 East Main Street, PO Box 247, Parkston, SD 57366-0247; OR bring it with you to church and place it in the large envelope near the authorization forms on the table in front of the church offices. Contributions can be debited automatically from either a credit or checking account.

Are you wondering if this system really works? Quite a number of Salem's members have used the system for a number of years already, and have discovered absolutely no problems with it. They enjoy the freedom to come and go as they please; and, with no worry, their offering still arrives, just as it would if they were here in person.

Give it a try ~ you might enjoy the simplicity of the system, as well!

~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~ * ~

AUTHORIZATION FORM**Salem Lutheran Church**The **Simply Giving** Program
endorsed by

Thrivent Federal Credit Union

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		ENVELOPE/DONOR #		DATE	
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____					
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation					
Last Name			First Name		
Address					
City				State	Zip
Email Address					
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____		FREQUENCY OF DONATION:		FUNDS:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – Mondays <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-Weekly(every other week) <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th		<input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Benevolence <input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund	
				AMOUNTS: \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____	
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one):			Routing Number: _____	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)			Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____ 4123456789 123 2234567 8901 Routing Number Account Number Check Number	
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.				
Authorized Signature: _____					Date: _____

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.

As we commemorate Memorial Day this year, here is a bit of history . . . Lest we forget

Here is a great take on the corona virus from an elderly gentleman who's been through a lot.

I talked with a man today, an 80+ year old man. I asked him if there was anything I can get him while this Coronavirus scare was gripping America.

He simply smiled, looked away and said:

"Let me tell you what I need! I need to believe, at some point, this country my generation fought for . . . I need to believe this nation we handed safely to our children and their children . . . I need to know this generation will quit being a bunch of sissies . . . that they respect what they've been given . . . that they've earned what others sacrificed for."

I wasn't sure where the conversation was going or if it was going anywhere at all. So, I sat there, quietly observing.

"You know, I was a little boy during WWII. Those were scary days. We didn't know if we were going to be speaking English, German or Japanese at the end of the war. There was no certainty, no guarantees like Americans enjoy today.



And no home went without sacrifice or loss. Every house, up and down every street, had someone in harm's way. Maybe their Daddy was a soldier, maybe their son was a sailor, maybe it was an uncle. Sometimes it was the whole entire family . . . fathers, sons, uncles...

Having someone, you love, sent off to war . . . it wasn't less frightening than it is today. It was scary as Hell. If anything, it was more frightening. We didn't have battle front news. We didn't have email or cellphones. You sent them away and you hoped . . . you prayed. You may not hear from them for months, if ever. Sometimes a mother was getting her son's letters the same day Dad was comforting her over their child's death.

And we sacrificed. You couldn't buy things. Everything was rationed. You were only allowed so much milk per month, only so much bread, toilet paper. EVERYTHING was restricted for the war effort. And what you weren't using, what you didn't need, things you threw away, they were saved and sorted for the war effort. My generation was the original recycling movement in America.

And we had viruses back then . . . serious viruses. Things like polio, measles, and such. It was nothing to walk to school and pass a house or two that was quarantined. We didn't shut down our schools. We didn't shut down our cities. We carried on, without masks, without hand sanitizer. And do you know what? We persevered. We overcame. We didn't attack our President, we came together. We rallied around the flag for the war. Thick or thin, we were in it to win. And we would lose more boys in an hour of combat than we lose in entire wars today."

He slowly looked away again. Maybe I saw a small tear in the corner of his eye. Then he continued:

"Today's kids don't know sacrifice. They think a sacrifice is not having coverage on their phone while they freely drive across the country. Today's kids are selfish and spoiled. In my generation, we looked out for our elders. We helped out with single moms who's husbands were either at war or dead from war. Today's kids rush the store, buying everything they can . . . no concern for anyone but themselves. It's shameful the way Americans behave these days. None of them deserve the sacrifices their granddads made.

So, no I don't need anything. I appreciate your offer but, I know I've been through worse things than this virus. But maybe I should be asking you, what can I do to help you? Do you have enough pop to get through this, enough steak? Will you be able to survive with 113 channels on your TV?"

I smiled, fighting back a tear of my own . . . now humbled by a man in his 80's. All I could do was thank him for the history lesson, leave my number for emergency and leave with my ego firmly tucked in my rear.

I talked to a man today. A real man. An American man from an era long gone and forgotten. We will never understand the sacrifices. We will never fully earn their sacrifices. But we should work harder to learn about them . . . learn from them . . . to respect them.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to ~

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5 ~ 3	Alan Wudel	5 ~ 14	Diane Wiechmann
5 ~ 4	Willard Maas		Adelaide Slater
	Gage Benson	5 ~ 15	Bennett McIntosh
	David Rotenberry	5 ~ 17	Paul Baumiller
	Paige Semmler	5 ~ 18	Nichole Ackerman
	Emersyn Morehouse		Jake DeLange
5 ~ 5	Kurt Bialas	5 ~ 19	Bart Lorenz
5 ~ 7	Patty Titze	5 ~ 20	Ron Thury
5 ~ 8	Roland Winter		Bryan Maas
	Doug Vilhauer	5 ~ 22	Gracie Benson
5 ~ 11	Stacy Weber	5 ~ 23	Brooke Bigge
5 ~ 12	Kathy Johnson	5 ~ 24	Laverna Mueller
	Rilyn Thury	5 ~ 26	Mark Wudel
5 ~ 13	Kennedy Morehouse		Avarie Crum
	MaKayla Linn	5 ~ 27	Courtney Ehlke
5 ~ 14	Bernetta Zanter	5 ~ 28	Allen Thompson

MAY



5 ~ 2	Katelyn Roth
5 ~ 4	Justin Ganley
5 ~ 4	Adley Gau
5 ~ 6	Charlee Gunnare
5 ~ 10	Jerid Gustafson
5 ~ 30	Piper Lorenz

The Four Candles

Four candles slowly burned.

The ambiance was so soft, one could almost hear them talking . . .

The first candle said, "I am **Peace!** The world is full of anger and fighting. Nobody can keep me lit."

Then the flame of Peace went out completely.

The second candle said, "I am **Faith!** I am no longer indispensable.

It doesn't make sense that I stay lit another moment."

Just then a breeze softly blew Faith's flame.

Sadly the third candle began to speak: "I am **Love!** People don't understand my importance, so they simply put me aside.

They even forget to love those who are nearest to them."

And, waiting no longer, Love's flame went out.

Suddenly . . . a child entered the room and saw the three unlit candles.

"Why aren't you burning? You're supposed to stay lit till the end."

Saying this, the child began to cry.

Then the fourth candle answered: "Don't be afraid, I am **Hope!**

While I am still burning we can re-light the other candles."

With shining eyes the child took the candle of hope and lit the other candles.

The Greatest of These Is Love . . .

But the flame of **Hope** should never go out of your life!

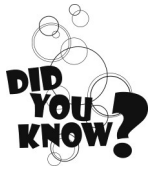
With hope each of us can live with **Peace, Faith and Love.**

Prayer:

Dear God, you are my light and salvation. You are my hope. Please come into my heart, forgive all my wrongs and give me your wonderful gift of eternal Life. Help me be an instrument of your love and cause your light to shine on others through me. Amen.

~ shared with us by "a friend of Salem"

BITS & PIECES



THE MAY NOISY OFFERING on Sunday, May 17, will benefit St. Dysmas Prison Ministries in South Dakota. St. Dysmas of South Dakota expanded to Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield, SD, when men, who had attended worship at SDSP in Sioux Falls, were transferred and requested continued ministry. To meet the need, Pastor Robert Hansen began Bible study in the summer of 1992 and worship was started on November 19.

South Dakota State Penitentiary is located in northern Sioux Falls, occupying approximately thirty acres. First constructed as a territorial prison in 1881, it became the South Dakota State Penitentiary when South Dakota was granted statehood in 1889. Though a large portion of the original buildings remain, numerous structural changes have occurred over the years.

Mike Durfee State Prison is located on the campus of the former University of South Dakota at Springfield. The 1984 legislature closed the college and authorized the establishment of a correctional facility. Springfield State Prison opened in December 1984 and from 1985 to 1997 was a coed facility. Since completion of a Women's Prison facility in Pierre, MDSP houses only male inmates. On September 10, 1999, the prison was renamed in honor of Mike Durfee, a former instructor at USD/Springfield who later served as deputy Director of the South Dakota Department of Corrections. A building project at MDSP in 2005, resulted in additional men being transferred there making it the largest prison facility in the state.

We can do more together than we can alone. ~ Pastor Tammy Craker

CONGRATULATIONS are due to proud grandparents, Denise & Joel Weber, on the birth of baby Coy Aaron to Amber & Lee Cope on Wednesday, March 25. Great-grandparents are Darold & Betty Mattheis. God's blessings to baby Coy and his family.

THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE has approved the suggestion of the W/ELCA to limit the time names are on Salem's published prayer list UNLESS that person needs to remain on the list for a longer time. Names will be removed after being published four (4) times; but, they can be put on again, as necessary. Notifying the church office that the name needs to be on the prayer list again will be the responsibility of the person who had put the name on the list, or of anyone else (including the person being prayed for) who feels the name should be there. If the person is to be removed from the list before the end of the four (4) week period, we must hear from the person who had requested the name be put on, or that person him/herself.

VISITING WITH HER PASSENGER, Uber driver Latonya Young mentioned her determination to finish college ~ and a \$700 debt that barred her from enrolling in more classes. "Every time I got ready to pay the money, my kids needed something," she said later. "I said, 'Okay, I'll just wait.'"

To Young's great surprise, a few days after that Uber conversation, she learned that her customer, Kevin Esch, had paid her debt; she could reenroll! In response, Young persevered to finish her degree with strong grades. "When he paid the balance, I had to do this for him," she said of Esch, who attended her graduation.

Young's self-sacrifice for her children and Esch's self-sacrifice for a stranger both pale, of course, in comparison to Jesus' sacrifice of his very life to save us. Like Young held back by debt, we were captive to sin until "the Son of Man came . . . to give his life as a ransom: (Matthew 20:28, ESV). Young did nothing to earn Esch's gift, and we can do nothing to earn salvation. But as she responded by using the gift to its fullest, we embrace God's gift by living in thanksgiving and praise, love and service.

IF YOU NEED A RIDE to one of our worship services here at Salem, or to one of our church events, please call the church office at 928-3752.

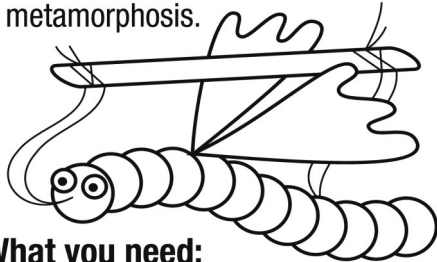
IF YOU'D PREFER to get your *PATHFINDER* by e-mail, let Marlene know your e-mail address, and we can do that. Also, please let us know any new addresses of your college students, or other family members that may have moved recently.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION ~ SD SYNOD web-page: <http://www.augie.edu/sdsynod>
ELCA web-page: ELCA.org



CHANGED!

Make this cute puppet to show and tell the amazing story of metamorphosis.



What you need:

- Needle and string
- 12 small pom-poms
- Wooden craft stick
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Coffee filter
- Markers

What you do:

1. Sew pom-poms together to make a caterpillar body. Tie off that string.
2. Thread another string up through the first pom-pom, leaving 12 inches to dangle. Repeat with the ninth pom-pom, leaving two dangling strings.
3. Wrap those strings around opposite ends of the stick, adjusting their length to about 6 inches. Tie in place.
4. Glue on eyes.
5. Flatten the coffee filter and draw a symmetrical design on it. Pleat in the center to create wings.
6. Move the caterpillar puppet by holding the stick. Glue on the wings as you describe the transformation into a butterfly.



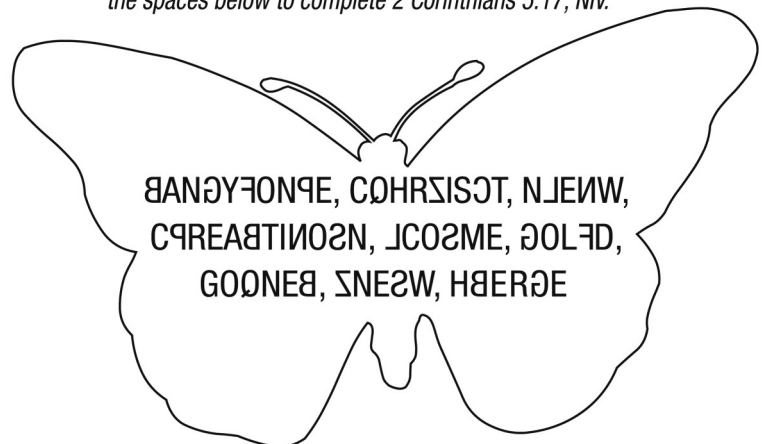
TransformationPOWER



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,
God transforms us from old to new.



Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.





Therefore, if _____ is in _____ ,
the _____ has _____ :

The _____ has _____ ,
the _____ is _____ !

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here

MAY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<div> <p>At this time, all worship services and activities are cancelled until further notice. Events on this calendar are pending, depending on CDC recommendations for the COVID-19 updates at that time.</p> </div>					1 10:45 ~ Meals On Wheels	2
3 9:00 ~ Worship on Facebook	4	5	6 7:00 ~ Church Council	7	8 10:45 ~ Meals On Wheels	9
10 9:00 ~ Worship on Facebook	11 7:00 ~ Alpha Bible Study via ZOOM	12	13	14	15 10:45 ~ Meals On Wheels	16
17 9:00 ~ Worship on FB Noisy Offering for St. Dysmas Ministries	18	19 PATHFINDER deadline	20	21  Ascension Day	22 10:45 ~ Meals On Wheels	23
24 9:00 ~ Worship On Facebook ~ * ~ ~ 31 9:00 ~ Worship On Facebook	25  MEMORIAL DAY	26	27	28	29 10:45 ~ Meals On Wheels	30

VIDEOGRAPHER ~ Patty Titze
 PIANISTS ~ Caleb Titze, Mackenzie Titze
 ACOLYTES ~ Caleb Titze, Mackenzie Titze
 ALTAR FLOWERS ~ Gloria Schoenfelder
 MEALS-ON-WHEELS ~ Donald & Vernetta Schulz

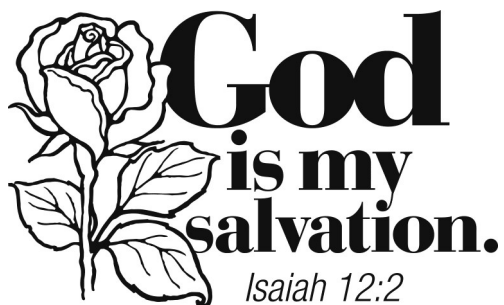
SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

301 South First Street ~
 PO Box 695
 Parkston, SD 57366-0695
 605-928-3752 ~ salemluth@santel.net

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301 South First Street
P.O. Box 695
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WORSHIP SCHEDULE ~

Sunday ~ 9:00 am Worship Service
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