

Voice of Faith

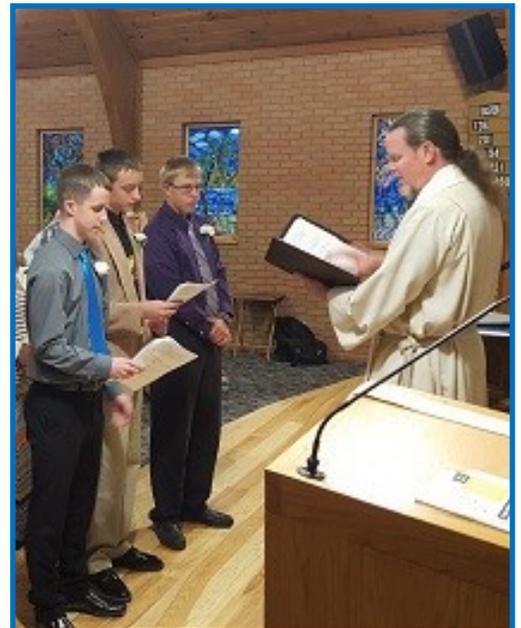
May 2017

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA
1245 North Second
Seward, NE 68434
(402)643-6116
office@faithseward.org
Web site: www.faithseward.org



Facebook: Faith Lutheran Church,
Seward, NE

Worship Sundays at 9:15 am
Sunday School 10:45 am



Confirmation



God and Me Class

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 1-4 pm Quilters 1-5:30 FLC Blood Drive 1pm Congo Life Meeting 7pm-Confirmation	4 11:30 am Nat'l Day of Prayer at Civic Center	5	6
7 9:15am-Worship 10:30 am -Grads Reception -Last Day of Sunday School	8	9 7pm-Council Meeting	10 1-4pm- Faithful Piecemakers 7pm-Confirmation	11	12 11:45am-Seward Local Lunch at Spare Time	13
14 9:15am-Worship 10:15 - Fellowship Mother's Day	15	16	17 1-4pm- Faithful Piecemakers 7pm-Confirmation	18	19 6pm- Family Game Night with Pizza	20 9am - 1pm FLC Garage Sale
21 9:15am-Worship 10:45am -Adult Bible Study	22	23	24 1-4pm- Faithful Piecemakers	25 Ascension Day	26	27
<i>PASTOR ROB ON VACATION- and the Office is Closed - 18th - 29th</i>						
28 9:15am-Worship 10:45am -Adult Bible Study	29 Memorial Day	30	31			AA meets weekly at Faith Lutheran on Sundays at 7pm and Tuesdays at 7:30pm
<i>Office Closed - 18th - 29th</i>						



The Voice of Faith

May 2017

An Easter Message from Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton



After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb.

So begins the Easter story in the Gospel according to Matthew.

The women had lived through the pain of Friday and the emptiness of Saturday and were expecting death. All of their hope had come to a dead end.

And just then, as the first day of the week was dawning, hope was restored. The angel said, "Do not be afraid; I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here: for he has been raised, as he said."

Instead of death – life. Instead of the end – the beginning.

On Easter, we will have glorious celebrations in our congregations and worshiping communities. There will be rejoicing and music and flowers and alleluias. And that's a good thing.

But when the flowers fade and the pressures of life seem so heavy, when the brokenness of this world breaks our spirits, when we have come to a dead end ... rejoice. Because it is exactly there where the risen Christ meets us. It is precisely there where we are given resurrection life. It is at that point that we say, Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah.



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

The Nebraska Synod has been invited by our partners in the ELCA Northern Diocese in Tanzania and our ELCA partnership church in South Sudan to respond to a critical need for funds to help with drought relief. This appeal is close to our hearts because of our historical ties to the Northern Diocese in Tanzania, the many Sudanese communities located in Nebraska, and our ongoing support of hunger relief around the world through the ELCA.

The Nebraska Synod is asking each person to consider a gift of 50, 100, 200 dollars or more to help this critical need. Donations will be sent to the Northern Diocese and ELCA World Hunger in support of South Sudan immediately. Please send your gift to the Nebraska Synod marked "East Africa Drought Relief" or give on-line at <http://www.nebraskasynod.org/>.

Thank you on behalf of The Nebraska Synod Global Mission Committee and the Tanzania Roundtable.

Sharing God's Bounty

Whom Are You Looking At?

The disciples were thrilled. They had their Lord back in their presence once again. Since his resurrection, he had appeared to them and others several times. They were still a little confused, though, when he talked about “wait[ing] for the gift [his] Father promised” (Acts 1:4), and, then, “He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight” (Acts 1:9).



You can imagine their bewilderment. He had died and been buried and then had risen from the dead! He had walked among them and taught them again, and now he is taken up into the clouds. No wonder they stood ... probably with mouths agape ... looking into the sky where they had last seen him.

It took “two men dressed in white” (Acts 1:10) to bring them back to their senses. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into Heaven” (Acts 1:11).

Back they went to Jerusalem. Their eyes were no longer on the clouds, but they were still looking at Jesus. They waited. They prayed. They chose another disciple. And they waited some more ... all the while looking at Jesus.

Whom are you looking at? Yes, Jesus had ascended. We can only imagine his joyful triumphant return as all the hosts of Heaven welcomed back the risen victorious Savior. Because he is that Savior, because he is the “author and perfecter of our faith,” “let us fix our eyes on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2). Through his Word and Sacraments, he will lead us in his ways; he will teach us obedience and self-sacrifice; he will teach us love for our neighbors. With joyful and generous hearts, we celebrate the new life that Easter brings us by sharing the message of the Cross and the Empty Tomb with all who listen. Keep looking at Jesus until in Heaven you see him face to face!

God comes first, not last. Otherwise, we give him only the leftovers after we have made sure that we have provided for our own comforts.

The principle of sacrificial giving is that our giving to God comes off the top of all that he has given us. Otherwise, some would say it is not a true offering, just a tip left at the table. Pray to be enabled to give generously.

NEBRASKA COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK was at Faith Lutheran May 3, 2017. The day started with sun but no computer. But the staff did a great job in keeping things going. We had 39 donors attend and collected 37 units. Donors from Faith are Ron W, Pastor Rob, Janice H, John, Maralee M, Jeanette R, Jannine L, Paul N, Sheila B, Amber R, Jessie S, and Don R. The next drive is June 28 from 1pm to 5pm. It is a Hometown Hero Drive. If we have a full schedule of 43, or collect at least 38 units of blood, Foster Friends will receive \$7 for each unit collected. So eat all those leafy greens and good protein. You can schedule on line using FLC as sponsor code or call me at 402-643-3060. Thank you for your support. Cindy

GIVE BLOOD



SAVE LIFE

Congregational Corner



Eldeen Karl's Secret Recipe:

This is a recipe that Eldeen learned from her grandmother and mother.

Boil potatoes with skins on until fork tender. Remove from water and peel off the skins when easy to handle.

Sauce

For very 2 pounds of potatoes.

Fry cut up bacon (6 slices) until crispy brown. Remove bacon from frying pan. Remove most of the grease, leaving enough to cook onion in.

Add small onion finely chopped and heat until shiny

Add 3/4 cup sugar, stir

Add 1 cup water, mix well

Add 1 cup apple cider vinegar mix well

Mix in the crispy bacon

Mix together 3 Tablespoons of cornstarch and 1/4 cup cold water

Pour slowly into above mixture. Stir until thicken.

Add salt and pepper to taste, approximately 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper to start with

Slice potatoes in to bowl (or other container) pour sauce over and stir.

Eldeen recommends layering some of the potatoes, pouring some sauce over and repeating the layers.

You can make the sauce ahead and heat it up before pouring over the sliced potatoes. It's really good when served warm!

The sauce also makes a nice gravy for ham and mashed potatoes.

Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School is May 7th. Celebrate the end of the Sunday School year with some outdoor activities! The kids are singing in church and it's a GWOH Sunday so wear your yellow shirts. We may be doing some painting of items for the Children's Garden so wear shoes and clothing suitable for that activity!

Faith Friends

(formerly "Adopt-a-Sunday School Student)

Remember to stay in touch with your Faith Friends over the summer months while Sunday School is not in session. Many connections between older members of Faith and our Sunday School students have led to some special friendships! Plan to join them on the last day of Sunday School on May 7th to help with the activities, send them a postcard while on your summer travels, find out their summer t-ball schedule and plan to watch a game or join them at a Faith Family Fun night this coming summer! Keep those connections going! Please see Janice H if you would like to become a Faith Friend to a Sunday School student or if your availability to participate has changed. Thank you for all you do for our youth of Faith!



Scholarships for attending summer camp are still available.

There are brochures for Camp Carol Joy Holling in the Narthex on the message table. Once a camp date has been chosen and the application completed, please place the application in Janice's mailbox! The camp scholarship fund has money in it and we want to send our Faith Kids to camp. Scholarship applications can be found in the mailbox kiosk on the bottom row.



Thank you for all the help for another successful Easter Breakfast! Thanks to the "Pond Chicas" of Two Dog Pond for the Farm Fresh Eggs. Tom

Easter Flowers

The beautiful assortment of Spring Flowers for the Easter Altar were donated by the following:

Tom & Vicki

In memory of Robert

John & Maralee

In memory of their parents

Kathy

In memory of her parents

Tim & Rachel

In memory of their parents

Annette & Ron

In memory of their fathers: Jerry and Alvin

Bernice

In memory of her husband and daughter

Loretta

In memory of Lyle, Steve, Dad and Mom

Sheila & Jeanette

In memory of Jaxson Beins and Dean and David

Wanda & Hillary

In memory of Larry and John

Don & Pam

In memory of Laverne Clyde & Helen Marie

The K Family

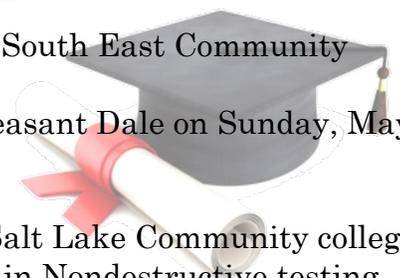
In memory of their Grandparents

Congratulations to our graduates!

~**Paige**, Seward High School. After she graduates, she will be attending South East Community college in Beatrice majoring in Agricultural Management.

Paige would like to invite you to her Graduation BBQ! 1038 196th Rd. Pleasant Dale on Sunday, May 14 at 5pm.

~**Tristan**, Malcolm High School. After graduation, he will be attending Salt Lake Community college in Utah., as they will be moving there this summer. He will be majoring in Nondestructive testing.



We Give Thanks and Praise For....

*The offerings from our Lenten worship services which totaled \$856.00. This will be given to **the Orphan Grain Train**, which is celebrating their 25th year of providing “relief for human need worldwide.”

*The offerings from our Lenten meals were dispersed as follows: **Pine Ridge Mission trip** - \$291.00, **Camp Scholarships** - \$248.00, **Relay for Life** - \$168.90, **Nolan’s cancer awareness project** - \$328.00, and **the Youth Gathering 2018 trip** - \$487.00. Thank you for your generosity! Proverbs 11:25 says, “The generous will prosper: those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.”

*Pastor Rob for leading the midweek Lenten discussions, centering on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation of the Church. It was very informative, with good dialogue with the members who attended.

*Everyone who contributed cash for the Easter Egg hunt. Thanks to Parish Ed for filling and hiding the eggs. The kids had a blast on Palm Sunday!

*Everyone who brought beautiful spring flowers to decorate the chancel for Easter. Thanks to Sheila B., Jeannette R., and Cindy F. for arranging them so nicely!

*The always delicious Easter Breakfast made and served by our FLC men – for the 5th year in a row! Thanks to all the guys who helped and to Vicki H. for making the Easter table decorations again this year!

*The special music that was shared on Easter Sunday by Ron W. and Jennifer L., Todd and Kelli K., and the annual piano duet by Maralee M. and Kelli K. - playing the Hallelujah Chorus.

*All our volunteers who spruced up the church for Easter - both inside and out on Spring Clean-Up Day April 8th!

*The magnetic Lenten bookmark for our refrigerators, made by Rachel P., with all the important dates to remember during Lent.

*The “God and Me” Awards Party on April 22nd. Liam H., Cora K., Kylee S., Gabriel F., and Dylan W. received their awards for completing the “God and Me” curriculum. They played two games which showed how much they had learned. The adults were very impressed with their knowledge. Thanks to Pastor Rob for leading this class.

*Our three confirmands who reaffirmed their baptism on April 30th – Levi, Eddie, and Nolan.

*All the wonderful music that was shared for Confirmation Day – two songs by our Faithful Choir and all the music performed by Kurt’s Krew. Plus, we can’t forget the duet by Audrey B and Drew W who sang a special song for their brothers for their Confirmation Day.

*The cake reception and decorations in the Fellowship Hall for the confirmands by Parish Ed. and Congo Life.

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS: Don’t forget about the option of on-line giving through Vanco as a one-time offering or as an Automatic Withdrawal especially during this busy upcoming Summer Season! It’s easy—go to our website, www.faithseward.org and click on the “Online Giving” tab! Even if you can’t make it to church, your contribution can!

Faith in Pictures



Confirmands / Friends



21 People Learning Zentangle:



Prayer Requests

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Lois – Ongoing health concerns from lymphoma and pneumonia
Spencer – Chemo resistant brain tumor (husband of April, Dad of Nolan & Drew)
Bonnie & Dan -Bonnie has cancer (brother & sister-in-law of Robin)
Charlie – Cancer (Maralee 's Cousin)
Mary Lou – End stage Cancer (Aunt of Cindy)
Suzanne –Pancreatic Cancer (friend of Congregation)
Trevor – health concerns (former member)
Ruth – Bone Cancer (Maralee's Cousin-in-law)
Jan – Lung cancer – friend of the congregation
Duane – health concerns and in need of a kidney donation
Fred – lymphoma cancer (Brother-in-law of Rachel)
Teri – Serious Health concerns (friend of Kathy)
Gary – cancer (in-law of Jeanette & Sheila)
Roy – Serious health concerns (Cousin of Tom)
Laura – Recovering from a stroke (Sister-in-Law of Bernice)
Don – Healing and patience after surgery (Son-in-law of Bernice)
Della – Health concerns (Friend of JoAnn)
Larry – Hospitalized again after surgery (friend of Kathy)
James – Prayers for successful surgery and rehab (SIL of John & Sheila)
Mindy – diagnosed with breast cancer (Friend of Kathy)
TJ – Brain Tumor (Family friend of John & Maralee)
Baby Carson –Multiple Health concerns
Rebecca – Recovering from serious bicycle accident (Don's daughter)
Esther – recovering from triple bypass surgery (Friend of Kathy)

† **Family of Randy**

† **Family of Millie**

Serving in the Military:

Kaleb - Deployed to the Middle East

Pastor Rob Will Be Out Of The Office - And the Office will be closed!

Pastor Rob and Chris will be on vacation from May 20 – 28th.

If you need Emergency Pastoral Care during his vacation, please call:

Pastor Andrew K from Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Office will be closed while Rachel, the Church Secretary, is on vacation from May 18 through the 26th. In the event of a copying emergency, or other office quandary, please contact Janice.

