

messenger

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how".

Mark 4:26-27

Although July seems to be too late for it, we spend a lot of time in the summer planting seeds. We plant seeds as we reach out to incoming freshmen who come for summer orientation and as we mail letters welcoming them to come to Memorial when they come to Ames in the fall. We plant seeds as we teach children in Vacation Bible School; with opportunities to share God's love with kids who might not get to hear about it otherwise. We plant seeds as we hear from missionaries back in the United States on furlough and send our support payments off to Kebede in Ethiopia. We plant seeds as Judy and others go from Iowa to Hong Kong to help with Vacation Bible School programs there.

But like farmers in July, we don't always know how the harvest will turn out. We see the corn and the beans rising up out of the ground, but we don't know how much sun or rain or heat they'll get. We don't know if they'll dry out or be flooded out. We don't know what bugs and animals will eat them. We don't yet know what the harvest will be.

We'll see some harvests soon. The new students will be here before we know it, and Ames will fill up again. We'll see pictures from all over the world as we hear of mission-

aries sharing God's love with those around them. We may even hear of how kids who attend VBS talk to their parents about God or how they got connected to a church for the first time.

Other times, we don't even know where the seeds are planted. Like dandelion seeds carried by the wind, people come to Ames, come to Memorial and hear God's word; and then they are carried off all over the country and all over the world. Sometimes we'll get to hear how a seed planted in Ames becomes ready to harvest in Taiwan or Texas or Hong Kong or elsewhere. Other times, we'll be surprised when we get to heaven by all that God did.

Ultimately, though, God gives the growth. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how." (Mark 4:26-27). We don't know how the seed will sprout. We don't know when God will bring in the harvest. But we're blessed to know God can plant seeds, and water seeds, through us. What a blessing!
~ DRB


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Drawing by K. F. Dunker

Worship Schedule

JULY SCHEDULE	Sunday, July 1	8:30 AM	Creative Worship (HC)
	Sunday, July 1	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, July 7	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, July 8	8:30 AM	Creative Worship
	Sunday, July 8	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, July 14	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, July 15	8:30 AM	Divine Service 1 (HC)
	Sunday, July 15	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, July 21	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, July 22	8:30 AM	Prayer & Preaching
	Sunday, July 22	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, July 28	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, July 29	8:30 AM	Creative Worship (HC)
	Sunday, July 29	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, August 4	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, August 5	8:30 AM	Divine Service, 4 (HC)
	Sunday, August 5	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, August 11	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, August 12	8:30 AM	Creative Worship
	Sunday, August 12	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Saturday, August 18	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, August 19	8:30 AM	Beginning of the School Year (HC)
	Sunday, August 19	11:00 AM	Beginning of the School Year (HC)
	Saturday, August 25	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	Sunday, August 26	8:30 AM	Divine Service 1
	Sunday, August 26	11:00 AM	Divine Service 1(HC)
	AUGUST SCHEDULE		

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Worship Notes

During July and through August 12 our Saturday service at 5 PM and our Sunday service at 11 AM will be informal. The 11 AM service is also held in the Student Center in the summer due to the smaller attendance.

Beginning August 19, the week classes begin at ISU, we will switch to our regular schedule of traditional service at both 8:30 and 11 AM on Sunday. The Saturday service is held in the MLC Student Center to make it easier for those who have trouble climbing stairs to commune.

Youth Activities

MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School youth met on June 17 after the 8:30 AM service to have a snack and play basketball. They will meet again July 8 and August 12.

Middle school and high school youth went to Adventureland on June 20, which was Lutheran day at the park

HIGH SCHOOL

High school youth meet each Tuesday during the summer.

The high school youth plan to hold their annual fundraising summer car wash on July 22. Bring your car to church and have them wash it while you worship.

Also they will be making and selling egg rolls on July 22. Sign up on the board in the Narthex for the kind and amount you want.

Committee Report

Summary of the June 10 Board of Directors meeting

Deb Freese was elected Chairman of the Board. Tim Dacken was chosen as secretary.

The board received a proposal from Steve Ringlee to form groups to go out to Iowa District West churches to share about our ministry and gain support for our endowment. The board chose to ask Steve to form a committee with Rich Weiss from the board to begin work on this.

Pastor Mark will be Sunday School superintendent for 2018-9.

\$250 from the fund for mission trips to Hong Kong will be used to help fund Judy Newhouse going there in July.

\$250 will come out of the mission fund to help with the "Hope in Christ" backpack program for school children.

Carl Balvanz was hired as a janitor.

The next meeting will be July 10.

Education

June Vacation Bible School Report:

Our June daytime VBS served 41 children, including many from other countries. Almost twenty people volunteered their time including middle school, high school, and college students. The theme was “Splash Canyon,” and focused on events in the Bible that show God’s love and involved water—baby Moses in the basket, the crossing of the Jordan River into the promised land, Syrian general Naaman being cured of leprosy by washing in the Jordan, Paul’s shipwreck at Malta, and Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan.

The VBS students contributed cleaning supplies, toilet paper, and paper towels to ACCESS, funds for Kebede in Ethiopia, and underwear and socks to Moulton Elementary School in Des Moines. Our thanks to volunteers Sarah Teske, Marianna Mendes Bahia, Chinmayee Sahu, Achol Lual, Amy Balvanz, Eliza Teske, Paula Dacken, Bridget Dirks, Jan Beagley, Jeanette LaGrange, Haruko Nakagowa, Krista Klocke, Pam Millen, Ethan Laughery, Rosie Balvanz, Noah and Lani Krull, Peyton Stewart, Emma Dacken, Ateyag Kear, Achol Lual, Lois Stoltze. Special thanks to director Judy Newhouse; Jeanne Noack for making “Splash Canyon” in the MLC Student Center; volunteers who helped decorate, Jan Ostermann who manned the office during VBS, and all who contributed for the snacks.

Family Vacation Bible School in August

“Jerusalem at the time of Jesus” is the theme for our evening VBS, August 6-9 from 6-7:30 PM. We will be looking at the events in Jesus’ life during Holy Week, from Palm Sunday through Easter. This will be an evening class which will begin with a meal and then have activities for the whole family. This is designed for families who cannot schedule their children during the June daytime VBS. (Sign up on the website or call the office.) <https://vbsmate.com/events/MLCAmesIA/16972>

Confirmation for 2018-9

This fall confirmation classes will be divided into three classes: 6th, 7th, and 8th. The 6th grade class will be taught by youth leader Elaina Soulek and will study the Bible. The 7th grade class (Pastor Dave) will study the Ten Commandments and Apostle’s Creed. The 8th grade class (Pastor Mark) will study the Lord’s Prayer, Baptism, Confession, and Holy Communion. Classes for all grades will start Wednesday, September 6. **A parents’ meeting** will be held on August 29 at 7 PM.

Sunday School

Due to concerns about the heavy load of work and coordination of the program, Pastor Mark will be serving as Sunday School superintendent during 2018-9. This will mean there will be no 10 AM service on Sundays when Sunday School is taking place. The hope is to begin to transition the Sunday School ministry into a staff position as we do with our music groups, financial records, international ministry, and youth ministry.

Students Sarah Kreutner and Misa Hamanaka will be working as student assistants under Pastor Mark to add new elements to the ministry. Among these will be brief prayer meetings at the end of Sunday School for all teachers, “Connection groups” between middle school students and older members in the congregation, activities in place of crafts for older students, and more direction for the college students who serve as teachers.

You can register your child for Sunday school online at this address for Rally Sunday on September 9. <https://vbsmate.com/events/MLCAmesIA/17038>

Adult Summer Bible study

We continue on Sunday mornings at 10 AM in the MLC student Center our look at the background of the Bible. In July we will look at the history, peoples, and religions in Bible times and in August at life during the time of Jesus.

Student Ministry

Student Ministry at Memorial

During June the pastors manned a table with other campus ministries from other churches at the orientation fair held during summer orientation for new ISU students at the Memorial Union. We also mailed a letter to all possible incoming Lutheran students in June, inviting them to come to Memorial when they come to campus. In July we will send a follow-up letter to their parents. A *Memo*, our newsletter to students, will be sent to the new students in August.

Classes at Iowa State begin August 20.

On Sunday, August 19, the Discipleship Committee and the Campus-International Committee will be organizing a **welcome lunch** to students at noon. Volunteers will be needed to help prepare and serve the food and to clean up.

Memorial's team in the Ames City Church Softball League has had fun and occasionally won games. Thanks to the Beta Sigs, we've always had enough players to field a team. Members of Memorial of all ages have participated in the team this year, and it's been a good community building experience.

Kebede Financial Report

	<u>Budget Amt.</u>	<u>Collected Amt.</u>	<u>OTHER NEEDS</u>	<u>Budget Amt.</u>	<u>Collected Amt.</u>
<u>Salary, wires, & Work Program</u>	40,760	18,757	Gidola Cong.	5,000	1800
			Women's Grp.	4,000	1500
			Youth Grp.	4,000	1500
			Hursa Outreach	3,000	2100
Next payment on September 1			Seed Project	6,000	1100

Kebede Mission

Tools are great things. Try fixing something without the right sized screw driver or wrench. The right tool can make a job a lot easier and better to do.

Tools are not just a way to make life a little simpler in Ethiopia. People in the country can't jump in the car and run to a discount store to get the right tool. And tools don't just fix little problems—they can be the difference between enough crops and starvation.

Evangelists at the Arsi Negele Center use tools purchased by the funds we send to Kebede. The sickle, hammer, spade, digging fork, machete, and saw help them to plant trees, harvest crops, and repair plows. These tools, along with the fertilizer in the picture, help them to produce enough crops, not only to support their families, but to have extra time to do evangelism work and give them an inroad into their communities because they are productive farmers.

We are like God's tools. We all have different abilities and situations. Put together, like the way Kebede collects the right tools for the farmer, we can do far more than we could without each other. And behind all of that is Christ Jesus, the one who strengthens, directs, and enhances all our work as His people—His tools on this earth.

Getting Involved

Lyle Groth—our coordinator of volunteer ministry, is still recuperating from shoulder surgery which keeps him from driving. But you can still contact him at legroth1@gmail.com to volunteer.

Ushers-Greeters-Sound system— We will be working on the fall schedule. We need ushers for 8:30 and 5 PM Saturday, greeters for the 8:30 AM services, and sound system people for both Sunday services.

Audio-visual help—Volunteers are needed for both Sunday services to man the sound system and the video. It takes a little training to do the visual work. Let Pastor Dave know if you can help.

Parking lot—We can use volunteers to be here from 8:15-8:30 to help direct people as the parking lot gets full. This is especially important for new guests and to help the elderly and parents with young children.

Altar Guild

Work on the Altar Guild (monthly cycle) preparing Holy Communion. Contact Brenda Smith.

Prayer Pals

Would you like to be a prayer pal for a Confirmation student this year? Contact Jan Anderson for details.

Property Needs people to serve on the committee that meets almost every month. Contact Rod Berryman for details

August 19 Student Luncheon—The Discipleship and Campus-International Committees need help with the lunch for new students on August 19. Let the pastors know if you can help.

Get involved with the International Ministry

Help us out with driving! If you are available to volunteer any of your time to help transport internationals (i.e. Worship services, Sunday school, ISM activities or trips, English classes) please let us know.

English class teacher or substitute Monday-Wednesday 10 AM, Monday-Tuesday 2 PM, Monday 7 PM

Worship service host (11 AM)

Bible study leader (Sundays or weekdays)

Financial Report

As of June 25, 2018

	<u>Budgeted Amt.</u>	<u>Received</u>
Expenses	244,180.00	254,096.00
Synod	23,077.00	10,890.00
Missions	3,558.00	00.00
Kebede	22,895.00	18,757.00
Totals	\$293,710.00	\$283,743.00

To date, members and friends of Memorial Lutheran have donated their Thrivent for Lutherans “Choice Dollars” in the amount of \$2,243.00.

Thank you for your support.

International Student Ministry

Many international families participated in the Family Group fishing day on June 3.

A group went to the Berry Patch to pick strawberries.

There was a baby shower for an International woman expecting her baby soon.

Trips are being explored to go to Living History

Farms, the Omaha Zoo, and the Story City Carousel. Student Ethan Laughery is studying the Bible with a Chinese woman who was learning from Joel Heilman before he left to take a job out of town.

Ethan is the current president of the Beta Sigma Psi fraternity and in the spring received the Barry and Jan Thomas scholarship awarded to Beta Sigs. We

International Summer English lab classes on Tuesday are taught by visitors from other churches around Ames and surrounding cities like Boone or Carroll. They come to teach, and end up learning instead. We give them conversation topics and the International's can practice their English by answering questions about themselves or their country. So the teacher's take something they have learned home with them as

Take Note

Missionary Visits

Pastor Jon Clausing and his family will be visiting us on Wednesday, July 18. We will start around 6 PM with a supper and then hear him share about their experiences in Kenya, Africa. Pastor Clausing is a former Iowa State student who went here to church as a student. He preached here in October, 2015

Amanda Groshek is the granddaughter of Irma Nissen, who died several years ago. We first supported Amanda as a missionary in Taiwan. Now she is working in Hungary. She will be with us on Sunday, July 29 and share between the services.

July☆☆☆

Anniversaries

August

1	Gil & Ella Marten	67 yrs.
1	Bill & Carolyn McCall	62 yrs.
2	Ray & Cleo Kolpin	51 yrs.
2	Trevor & Jill Baier	7 yrs.
5	Aaron & Lisa Clayberg	21 yrs.
11	Bill & Mary Breitinger	17 yrs.
12	Sophia Magill & John Tillo	10 yrs.
15	John & Sandra Slaughter	13 yrs.
15	Ryan & Alicia Smith	18 yrs.
20	Randy & Connie Mortvedt	23 yrs.
21	Luke & Stacey Larson	11 yrs.
22	Keith & Heidi Jensen	23 yrs.
24	Daryl & Elizabeth Herzmann	8 yrs.
29	Mary & Simon Ater	14 yrs.

6	Tim & Diane Baldrige	30 yrs.
3	Jerry & Paula Wiebel	44 yrs.
9	Jim & Donna Sogard	43 yrs.
12	Ryan & Belinda Meis	12 yrs.
13	Logan & Brianne Anderson	13 yrs.
13	Lyle & Kristine Groth	13 yrs.
16	Ted & Pam Millen	49 yrs.
16	Carol & Robert Streit	10 yrs.
16	Nathan & Heidi Gruis	4 yrs.
17	David Heddendorf & Susan Yager	33 yrs.
19	Miles & Sarah Pankonen	18 yrs.
22	Anthony & Toni Lehman	20 yrs.
22	Rich & Rhonda Weiss	42 yrs.
23	William & Mary Sue Brown	54 yrs.
26	Travis & Sherry Hosteng	12 yrs.
30	Marshall & Kathy Jurgens	54 yrs.



BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY



July 1	Amelie Newstrom	July 10	Damian Franzenburg	July 23	Dwight Herold
July 2	Josie Lehman	July 11	Diane Baldrige		Teagan Johnson
July 4	Kathryn Handy		Pam Ferris		Linda Jordening
July 5	Linda Vogtlin		Amanda Hogenson		Joyce Sievers
July 6	Lois Conover	July 12	Ian Baier	July 25	Penelope Neubauer
	Jal Gatwas		Jan Beagley	July 27	Joyce Bahrenfus
	Craig Klocke		Tom Doyle		Jennifer Voaklander
July 7	Kuol Deng	July 14	Neil Smith	July 28	Camren Smelser
	John Kluge	July 15	Judirae Obrecht	July 29	Lynn Astleford
	Ayuel Lual	July 16	Rhonda Johnson		Brinley Battles
July 8	Mike Coles	July 17	John Slaughter		
	Dan Voss	July 18	Ireland Doyle		
	Autumn Weaver	July 19	Joline Dye		
July 9	Logan Anderson	July 20	Delbert Gleason		
	Aaron Bruner	July 22	Tim Dacken		
	Jon Hatt		Byron Schulke		
<hr/>					
August 1	Casey Frye	August 14	Amy Balvanz	August 25	Randy Mortvedt
	Keith Jensen		Cleo Honold		Addison Hosteng
	Justin Schoppe		Gabby Lempiainen	August 26	Natalie Battles
August 2	Toni Lehman	August 15	Bryant Soulek		Drake Johnson
August 4	Amahirany	August 17	Marvin Babcock	August 27	Karen Babcock
	Oyerveidez-Ramirez		Ron Honold		Matthew Neubauer
August 5	Erick Rivera		Katie Petersen	August 28	Cale Jensen
August 6	Jai Millen		Rhonda Weiss		Zach Rastetter
August 7	Addelyn Doyle	August 18	Keo Nakama	August 29	Sally Gleason
	Marlys Hindman	August 19	Cathy Smelser		Rose Marie Kluge
	Carol Hundertmark		Joan Welch	August 30	Jane Frerichs
	Susan Yager	August 20	Jeanne Dory		Sandra Slaughter
August 8	Sally Hartman	August 21	Del Koch		Doug Ward
	Jack Wignall		Linda Martens		Tanner Winterhof
August 9	Brianne Anderson		Daniel Stoltze	August 31	Dan Greder
August 10	Gatwas Gatwas	August 22	William Brown		Maria Tringides
August 11	Randy Ausborn		Brytni Miller		
	Aboul Deng		Jennifer Wicks		
	Stella Gruis	August 23	Michelle Hamer		
	Sophia Magill		Jan Ostermann		
	Martha Norton		Jett Schon		
August 12	Carol Berryman	August 24	Ella Marten		
	Molly Neubauer		Daniel Stoltze		