

messenger

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. - Ephesians 2:8-10

Pastor Beagley helped us celebrate in his cover article to the May *Messenger* the good news that our church debt had been paid off. This reminds us of how God in Christ Jesus has paid off all the debt of our sins. Paul said in Ephesians, “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”

Having our loans paid off means that instead of paying monthly to a debt, we can be more secure in paying our own local expenses. It also means that we are not paying on interest to a debt.

A sainted church layman talked about his feelings when his church paid off a long-term loan: “We took care of that debt. Now it is time for us to get into another one.”

That may sound crazy, but it is the feeling one can have when thinking about the mission of the Church. Paul did not stop by saying that God’s grace stopped with paying off our debt of sin. He goes right on to saying, “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Paying off our debt gives us the opportunity to direct our gifts in other directions. Some have talked about increasing our wit-

ness through the internet, having more staff to work with family and children’s ministries, and providing a way to better handle our parking situation. The point is not any specific direction to go, but to trust that God will be with us as we do the good that He wants to do through us.

Martin Luther famously said, “Sin boldly.” He didn’t mean by this to go out and purposefully sin. He meant that anything we do apart from God is sin. When we live in His forgiveness then we can be bold to do things trusting that He will forgive us as we make mistakes. We don’t have to be paralyzed by the fear of doing something wrong or complacent and simply live in our own comfortable little world. We can take the risk of going back into debt not just to do it, but to let God continue to work through us.

P.S. Our loans have come from Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). Though we paid interest on that loan, LCEF uses it funds to help churches with loans. The money we paid in interest went to help other churches. ~MTH

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Drawing by K. F. Dunker



**JUNE
Worship
Schedule**

Saturday, June 1	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, June 2	8:30 AM	Creative Worship (<i>Ascension</i>) (HC)
Sunday, June 2	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, June 8	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, June 9	8:30 AM	Divine Service 1 (<i>Pentecost</i>)
Sunday, June 9	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, June 15	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, June 16	8:30 AM	Creative Worship- (<i>Trinity</i>) (HC)
Sunday, June 16	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, June 22	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, June 23	8:30 AM	Matins
Sunday, June 23	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, June 29	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, June 30	8:30 AM	Divine Service 4 (HC)
Sunday, June 30	11:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)

Worship Notes

Sunday, June 2 we will celebrate the Ascension of Jesus which was on Thursday, May 30, forty days after Easter. We will be also installing the new board of directors.

Sunday, June 9 is Pentecost Sunday, fifty days after Easter when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and began the spread of Christianity. We will also be recognizing those who graduated from high school. (see page 4.)

Sunday June 16 is Trinity Sunday, when we acknowledge our Triune God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We are always looking for special music for the summer. If you would like to be a part of a special choir, ensemble, or solo contact one of the pastors.

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Education

Our summer Sunday Bible class, beginning on June 2, will be a study of the “Kings of the Old Testament” as we do a survey of the books of 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings. Some of the topics we will cover are: “Who Is Our King?” “Why Does God Spare David and Not Saul?” “God’s Judgment on Sin,” and “How Can We Lose Our Faith?” The class will meet after the 8:30 AM service in the MLC Student Center.

We plan to hold an evening VBS the week of August 5-8 from 6-7:30 PM. We will be looking at the journeys of St. Paul.

International Student Ministry

Regular summer classes will start June 10 after VBS. During VBS week a Bible class will be held each morning for internationals.

The summer class schedule with the teachers is:

Monday

10 AM Basic--Wei Hua
Level 1/2--Bruce
Level 3/4--Elaine Cox
Advanced--Pastor Mark

11 AM Life in English--Judy Newhouse
1 PM Bible study--Judy Newhouse

Tuesday

10 AM Advanced Literature--John Carlson
Conversation Lab--Kristi Carlson
1 PM Bible Study--Judy Newhouse
6 PM Idioms class--Judy Newhouse

Wednesday

10 AM Basic--Wei Hua
Level 1/2--Bruce
Level 3/4--Elaine Cox
Advanced--Pastor Mark
11 AM Life in English--Judy Newhouse

Student Ministry

This year will be different for our student ministry. For years the Admissions office at Iowa State has placed a space in their admission document for students to put down optionally their religious preference. This year they can place that in a separate document. The result is that we will anticipate having far fewer students respond. The list of names of Lutheran students will be reduced. We will have to depend on other resources to contact students rather than the effective way we have in the past through mailings. We will still send out a mailing this month to possible new students, a follow up letter to their parents in July and a special student *Memo* in early August.

Lyle Groth, our coordinator of volunteer ministry, will be at the student union during June for the group fair held there doing student summer orientation. We host a table there with other members of the Religious Leaders Association.

Pastor Anthony from Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in Hong Kong (who hosts the VBS programs that volunteers from our church and others have attended in Hong Kong)will be here on Wednesday evening, June 5 at 7 PM to share about his ministries.

Youth Activities

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

The high school youth plan for these activities in summer: bonfire, I-Cubs game in Des Moines, Lutheran Day at Adventureland on June 19, and Mini-golf. They will meet in early June to set a weekly meeting time for the summer.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

Middle school events will be held monthly this summer after the 8:30 AM service. The first meeting will be Sunday, June 16. The youth will meet for a snack in the east side of the Fellowship Hall and go outside to play kickball. Parents and siblings are encouraged to attend.

Summer Camp at Okoboji

offers these opportunities for kids:

Cubs Week (Grades 3-5) June 23-29 or
July 14-20

Junior High Week (Grades 6-8) July 7-13

Youth Week (Grades 8-12) July 21-27

Cost for these camps is \$355 (\$375 for late registration). Camperships are available from Memorial to help with payment. No youth are turned away from the camp because of financial reasons. Pastor Dave, who has worked at junior high week for years, is now Dean of that week.

High School Youth who are graduating this year.

Zane Charter
Jared Jensen
Tessa Johnson
Scott Junck
Noah Krull
Jaxon Lehman
Adam Voaklander
Will Voaklander

Lutheran Day at Adventureland

Wednesday, June 19
\$33/person

Vacation Bible School begins June 3-7, 9-11:30 AM

Register students and volunteers at:
<http://vbsmate.com/MLCAmesIA>

Committee Report

Summary of the May 14 Board of Directors meeting

The members elect were present for the meeting.

Our receipts are down significantly from a year ago. We should compare with earlier to see if this is a downfall for this year or an unusual high point in 2018.

Jeanne was authorized by President Weiss to lease a new copier which saves us monthly costs.

Pastor David and Debra Freese will be the congregational representatives to vote for the synod president.

Debra compiled summaries of the board evaluations.

Take Note

Readers needed! Summer Reading Buddies focuses on maintaining or improving literacy skills for children who have finished Kindergarten through 3rd Grade to prevent summer learning loss. Volunteers will go through a background check and are trained in the *Words Their Way* curriculum. Each student will have an individualized lesson plan created by site supervisors and volunteers will carry out the lesson plans provided for them. Volunteers then work one-on-one with their Reading Buddy twice a week for 45 minutes for six weeks during June 10th through July 25th. This is just 1.5 hours a week! We take one week off during July 1st through July 5th. For more information contact Randie Camp at: randie@raising-readers.org

Memorial is involved in the local church **softball league** which had its first game May 14th, but you are welcome to participate if you are 17 years and above. Contact Steven Leege at leeges4isu@yahoo.com.

Schedule of games at south River Valley Park.

June 4	6:15 PM	Field 5
June 11	6:15 PM	Field 5
	7:15 PM	Field 5
June 18	8:15 PM	Field 6
	9:15 PM	Field 6
June 25	7:15 PM	Field 5
July 2	8:15 PM	Field 6
	9:15 PM	Field 6
July 9	6:15 PM	Field 6
July 16	7:15 PM	Field 6

Getting Involved

Prayer chain: If you would like to be part of the prayer chain please share your email address. If you have a request, please email Lyle at legroth1@gmail.com

Service Volunteers

Serve or be on the substitute list as an usher, greeter, sound or video tech, or communion assistant (weekly cycle).

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.

Prayer Shawl Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month, (unless otherwise announced), in the Student Center at 7 PM. Yarn and projects are provided. If you have not learned how to knit or crochet we are very willing to teach you. Please join us for a fun evening!

Property Needs

The Property Committee could still use some people on the committee as well as people to help on tasks around the church.

Get involved with the International Ministry

Volunteers are needed to sit with internationals during the 11 AM service to help lead them through the worship. Or be a conversation partner!

Kebede Ministry

Muse Kebede is the son of Kebede and his wife Workitu. He graduated last year with a degree in IT from the local university in Awassa, Ethiopia. He has been hired by the Tabor Church, the church where Kebede's office is, to develop a website for them. Even though Ethiopia is a developing country, countries like it have been about to more rapidly assimilate to our modern world because of cell phones. Without a telephone infrastructure like we have and the lack of commercial television and radio, it has been hard for churches to get word out to the general public. There is little mail service since people don't have mailing addresses, which can also makes it hard to visit them, but with a cell phone, which only needs tower, people can link much more easily with the rest of the world. Even though electricity is often down in a city like Awassa, it is on *enough* that people can check websites for information.

We have contracted with Katie Raymon, who attended Memorial when she lived here, to help Muse develop a website for the Tabor Church. Katie has done this for other churches. She is working with Muse to set up a site in Ethiopia. This will provide the church in Awassa to reach out to more people, especially young people who are eager to use the modern technology.

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>	40,161	22,993	Gidola Cong.	4,550	4550
			Women's Grp.	2,000	1125
			Youth Grp.	2,000	1125
			Hursa Outreach	7,250	473
Next payment on June 1			Seed Project	4,500	4500

Birthdays and Anniversaries

June 1	Zach Heilman Karsyn Pankonen
June 2	Jessica Harris
June 3	Ariane Schmidt
June 4	Brenda Smith
June 5	Jakoby Cesler Korbin Cesler Chloe Dacken
June 7	Elaina Soulek Bailey Stewart
June 8	Faye Booth Kit Kitzman Isabel Smelser
June 9	Art Abel Don Braymen
June 11	Sherry Hosteng
June 15	Heidi Gruis
June 17	Jace Larson Luke Heilman Sarah Stark Zachary Larson
June 18	Kristine Groth Leyda Knapp
June 20	Brynn Baier
June 22	Tessa Johnson Belinda Meis
June 24	Kiir Deng
June 25	Muse Kebede
June 27	Judy Newhouse Paula Wiebel
June 28	Willie Struss
June 29	Judy Beitz Michelle Doyle
June 30	Chris Novak

1	Dennis & Sheila Atkinson	4 yrs.
1	Arlo & Lori Meyer	46 yrs.
3	Dave & Liz Beagley	8 yrs.
4	Richard & Anne Osslund	52 yrs.
5	Dean & Jane Stickrod	43 yrs.
6	Scott & Donna Neubauer	37 yrs.
9	Jeff & Rhonda Johnson	23 yrs.
9	Craig & Suzanne Klocke	40 yrs.
10	Kristine & Bret Lang	2 yrs.
12	John & Kathy Lawrence	43 yrs.
13	Alan & Vonda Junck	27 yrs.
13	Lynn & Thomas Nehls	32 yrs.
15	Ryan & Alicia Smith	19 yrs.
16	Randy & Sandra Ausborn	35 yrs.
17	Bruce & Natalie Battles	20 yrs.
17	Steve & Connie Ringlee	41 yrs.
22	Clay & Ellie Paciorek	6 yrs.
25	Mark & Lynn Astleford	25 yrs.
27	Kevin & Kathy Cole	27 yrs.
29	Brad & Joline Dye	34 yrs.
30	Casey & Tanja Frye	35 yrs.
30	Renaë & Stewart Damman	24 yrs.

Financial Report

As of May 19, 2019

	<u>Budgeted Amt.</u>	<u>Received</u>
Expenses	199,645.00	183,447.00
Synod	18,942.00	7,547.00
Missions	3,038.00	00.00
Kebede	18,927.00	12,834.00
Totals	\$240,552.00	\$203,828.00

To date, members and friends of Memorial Lutheran have donated their Thrivent for Lutherans "Choice Dollars" in the amount of 1,756.00.

Thank you for your support.