

messenger

inside

Waiting

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!
Psalm 27:14

Spring is a season of growth. April showers bring May flowers, and whether you think May flowers bring June bugs or pilgrims, there's growth either way. The trees and grasses are green and growing. The flowers are beautifully budding.

Spring is also a season of waiting. We have to wait for the soil to be the right temperature and dryness before planting flowers or gardens. We have to wait for the plants to grow, for the buds to blossom, for the fruits to appear. We have to wait to figure out which jacket is appropriate to wear in the constantly changing weather. We sometimes even wait to see if another April snowstorm will come!

We also wait for the school year to draw to a close. We wait for family and friends to come to graduation parties. We wait for soccer and softball tournaments to be played, to learn which teams are advancing. We wait for the nights to get shorter and the days to get longer.

Spring is a season of waiting for the Church, as well. For the first disciples, the time between Easter and Pentecost was a time of waiting. They waited to

see what would come next. They waited to see what God had in store for them.

As they waited, though, God was at work. Like a seed beneath the soil is at work long before the plant sprouts up to be visible, so God was at work, preparing for what would come next. God was preparing them for where they'd be sent. God was preparing people there to meet them, to have hearts open to hear the good news they shared.

We still wait. Yet in the waiting, we know God is at work. When Jesus appeared after his resurrection, he changed lives – Mary who waited outside the tomb mourning, Thomas who waited for Jesus to appear again, Peter waiting out on the lake fishing. Individuals were raised from sorrow and fear and discouragement to life, but not until they'd waited. We have a saying, "Good things come to those who wait." The Bible promises great blessings to those who wait for the Lord. What are you waiting on God to do? ~DRB

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Drawing by K. F. Dunker

Worship Schedule

Saturday, May 5	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, May 6	8:30 AM	Confirmation Sunday DS1 (HC)
Sunday, May 6	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, May 12	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, May 13	8:30 AM	Creative Worship (<i>Ascension</i>) (HC)
Sunday, May 13	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, May 19	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, May 20	8:30 AM	Creative Worship (<i>Pentecost</i>) (HC)
Sunday, May 20	10:00 AM	Brookside Park Service (Maple Shelter)
Sunday, May 20	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)
Saturday, May 26	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
Sunday, May 27	8:30 AM	Creative Worship (<i>Trinity Sunday</i>) (HC)
Sunday, May 27	11:00 AM	Informal Worship (HC)

Worship Notes

April 29 was our last formal service at 11 AM. Our 11 AM services during the summer will be informal like the Saturday service.

Confirmation Sunday will be May 6.

May 13 we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus which takes place the Thursday before. Jeff Balvanz, Judy Newhouse, and her friend Teresa Immerfall will be providing special music this day.

May 20 our Sunday School will have their special worship service and picnic in the morning at Brookside Park, Maple Shelter. That is also **Pentecost**, when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit.

May 27 is Trinity Sunday. At the end of the service children will be invited to go outside and plant flowers. Dress them appropriately.

The Memorial Messenger, published monthly [except August] Current Issue: May 2018, Volume 57, Issue 5
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Education

May 6—Confirmation Sunday

We will observe the Rite of Confirmation for our 8th grade confirmands, during the 8:30 AM service. Our confirmands are: Logan Halfwassen, Trevor Jensen, Ateyag Kear, Gabby Lempi-
anen, Achol Lual, Majak Majak, & Madison Pankonen.

May 13—Families are invited to join us after the 8:30 AM service to make Mother's Day cards.

Sunday School picnic—May 20

Our Sunday School ends each year with a worship service and breakfast picnic at Brookside Park at 10 AM. You are invited to bring a breakfast baked good to share. The Sunday School will provide beverages and table settings. We will have a special worship service with children's songs and a children's sermon.

May 27 we will be asking God's blessings on the soil and the seed. Near the end of the 8:30 AM service we will invite the children to go outside and plant flowers around the church property. Make sure your children are dressed for this.

On Sunday, May 6, at 10 AM in the Student Center, Pastor Mark will share with us pictures sent to us recently from Kebede in Ethiopia.

Youth Activities

--Members of the high school youth group decorated the Fellowship Hall for the Easter breakfast and helped to serve it on Sunday.

--They also made finals week care packages for past alumni of the Youth Group who are college students.

--They plan to have an activity in May-June to welcome the newly confirmed into the youth group.

On Sunday, April 29, Elaina Soulek, our high school youth leader, presented scholarships to Luke Heilman and Ethan Baltz who helped this semester with our youth programs.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR 2018

Austin Clayberg, Brandt Dammon, Kear Kear, Ayon Lual, Zach Rastetter, Sophia Sorenson

The middle school youth had their last confirmation class on April 25. Their last activity was on April 18 for dinner and making cookies.

Committee Report

Summary of the April 10 Board of Directors meeting

The slate of candidates for the April 29 elections is set: President of the Congregation: Rich Weiss, Treasurer: Garry Gruhn, Members at-large: Denise Balvanz, Tim Dacken, Debra Freese, Lynn Nehls, and Andrew Smelser.

Don Beitz reported from a committee made of up him, Steve Ringlee, and Jeanne Noack and Judy Newhouse from the office. They recommended that all memorials and the Kapfer fund and St. Louis savings be put into a savings account to be used by the board for specific ministries. Judy and Jeanne would still keep track of any new contributions to those memorials. The recommendation passed.

Consolidation of funds

The Board of Directors approved a recommendation from a committee made up of congregational president Don Beitz, Steve Ringlee from the endowment committee, and Jeanne Noack and Judy Newhouse who handle financial matters as our staff. \$27,043 from various memorials will be placed, along with \$14,569 in the Kapfer fund and \$6,348 from a savings account, into a savings fund that can be drawn out by the Board of Directors for use in five areas: international ministry, student ministry, youth and family ministry, Kebede ministry, and parish support-special programs. The intent is that the funds will not be used for general funds, but for special ministry opportunities.

Greeters will be sent a note asking them to continue to greet through the first ten minutes of the service.

The next meeting will be May 8.

Take Note

Every year, many Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) groups and individuals join their hearts and hands in sewing mission quilts, making blankets, and assembling personal care, baby care, school, and fabric kits to be distributed to people in need through Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Delivering these materials to people in need is a long and sometimes complex process, involving trucking and rail transportation, warehousing, processing, and overseas shipping. This grant to LWR's Quilt and Shipping Fund ensures the ability to deliver more than 35,500 quilts each year to our neighbors in need around the world and sustains the ministry that so many LWML members have been a part of for generations. Your mites this month will go toward this project.

Bill and Mary Sue Brown want to thank all of you for your concern, notes, cards, calls, emails and most specially for all the prayers for Mary Sue during her heart surgery and follow-up procedures. We indeed have been blessed with a wonderful family here at Memorial. Thanks to our pastors too, for their thoughtful visits to the hospital.

Student Ministry

Ethan Laughery was selected to receive the Thomas scholarship for Beta Sigma Psi upperclassmen. Don Beitz awarded the scholarship to him in April.

Softball

SUMMER SOFTBALL LEAGUE

If you are interested in playing on the church softball team please contact

Steven Leege

email: leeges4ISU@yahoo.com

or

Erik Charter

email: erikjcharter@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS

Thank you-

We would like to thank all those involved with our music ministry this past academic year.

Memorial Brass: *Director:* Alec Garringer, *Trumpets-*David Eddy, Josh Neumann, Peter Bekkerus, PJ Vanderweide; *French Horns-*Matt Voss, Josh Buettner, Zach Heilman; *Euphoniums-*Jared Lancaster, Luke Heilman

Memorial Choir: *Director:* Jackson Daubitz; Jan Denner, Mark Astleford, Lynn Astleford, Denise Balvanz, Jeff Balvanz, Carl Balvanz, Barb Royer, Cameron MacKenzie, Candace Flakoll, Carol Weber, Connie Ringlee, David Beagley, Dean Holst, Marcia Holst, Ken Dunker, Garry Gruhn, Ken Hartman, Sally Hartman, Jan Anderson, Jeanette LaGrange, Kramer Grimes, Mary Peterson, Pam Millen, Sandi Slaughter, Janice Beagley, Dan Voss

Memorial Bells: *Director:* Jena Jahnsen; Dave & Dianne Brotherson, William Brandt, Mary Peterson, Sunny Hsu, Erin Wagner, Linda Vogtlin, Judy Newhouse, Misa Hamanaka, Jacob Vogts, John Anderson, Jacob Metzler

Bells II: *Director:* John Anderson; Linda Vogtlin, Ethan Hansen, Daniel Graham, Caleb Fails, Jessica Stadler, Michel Nelson, Jon Chapa, Camerson Johnson, Ben Halley, Evan Mahoney, Joel Wacker, Seth Jackson, Justin Jones, Joe Gremel, Jacob Wheaton, Matthew Poppens, Gavin Smith, Michael Flanscha, Ian Gesell, Aaron Gerdts, Ethan Laughery, Jacob Vogts

Sunday School music: Connie Ringlee, Carol Weber, Janice Beagley, Lois Stoltze, Jena Nahnsen, Luke Heilman and Carl Balvanz.

Organ and piano: Matt Jaschen, Emily Erickson, Zach Heilman, Carol Weber, Janice Beagley

Soloists: Mary Peterson-flute, Jacob Fedderson-violin, Michael Flanscha-violin, Carl Balvanz-clarinet

Our thanks to Connie Ringlee and those she organized to do the choral reading of the passion of Jesus according to St. Mark on March 27.

Kebede Ministry

Kebede, our missionary in Ethiopia hands out a Bible to one of the members of the “K” school in Melka Oda for their special “parent’s day.” “K” schools provide education to children in rural areas who would not get an education. The land that all churches are on in Ethiopia are officially owned by the government. The government allows churches to use the land if it “improves” it. (That is similar to what the Homestead Act required of people here in Iowa who settled here in the 1800’s). “K” schools are one way to “improve” the land and provide a service to the community that helps the mission churches grow. For many of these children, a Bible is the only book they have. Melka Oda is one of the special outreach missions our gifts support.

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	25,156	Gidola Cong.	5,000	1738
			Women’s Grp.	4,000	1200
			Youth Grp.	4,000	0
			Hursa Outreach	3,000	2000
Next payment on June 1			Seed Project	6,000	450

International Student Ministry

Though the regular schedule of classes ended with the semester in late April, special classes will be held during the weeks of May 6, 13, and 20. Each Monday and Wednesday a morning cooking class will be held. On each Tuesday there will be a craft activity. Regular summer classes will begin in June after the week of VBS.

Due to the late coming of spring, we have not scheduled a date to travel to Pella to see the tulips, but we hope to do that in May. We also hope to have some summer activities like berry picking, going to an Iowa Cubs game, and a visit to the Iowa State Fair.

Getting Involved

Volunteers from Memorial who participated in the sports/craft day at Moulton Elementary School in Des Moines on April 21. Our volunteers included college students, internationals, singles, and members. The event was organized by the Iowa District West “Ioway” (Iowa Adults and Youth) group which promotes mission events. “Ioway” has adopted Moulton School because of its high percentage of low income and refugee families.

Vacation Bible School

Be a part of *Splash Canyon* VBS!

Life is full of thrills and spills! We don't know what's around the bend, but God does! At *Splash Canyon* VBS, God's children of all ages learn the good news that God is with us and keeps His promises to us on life's wild ride!

As staff members for *Splash Canyon* VBS, you have fun and share the *Splash Canyon* message with the kids! If you can help full or part time, we have many ways to be involved to suit your schedule and interests. Call Judy Newhouse at 292-5005 or email ism.mlchurch@gmail.com for more information. Plunge in for VBS fun at *Splash Canyon*!

Children will receive an invitation in the mail if we have them on the list. Let the office know if you do not receive anything by May 24th. **You can register on line by going to: <http://vbsmate.com/events/MLCamesIA/16260>**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION June 4-June 8 9-11:30 AM

Parent Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone number _____

Emergency Contact _____

Phone _____

NURSERY aged children for parents going to Bible class. (N3 must have attended MLC Sunday School)

Child Name _____

Age _____

Child Name _____

Age _____

Kindergarten through 6th grade

Child Name _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____ Grade completed _____

Child Name _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____ Grade completed _____

Child Name _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____ Grade completed _____

Child Name _____

Age _____ Birthdate _____ Grade completed _____

To register: Fill in information and return to Church by May 27th or call 292-5005 and ask for Judy. Fee--\$5 for Pre-K and \$7 for K-6th.

6	Fred & Linda Vogtlin	45 yrs.
8	Franklin & Kay Ahrens	58 yrs.
16	Kurt & Helen Mackey	37 yrs.
17	Chad & Liz Higgins	21 yrs.
21	John & Rose Marie Kluge	4 yrs.
24	Gordon & Joyce Sievers	43 yrs.
24	Steven & Emily Leege	10 yrs.
25	Scott & Jean Hall	5 yrs.
26	Dayl & Julie Inglett	45 yrs.
27	Tom & Michelle Doyle	12 yrs.
28	Lee & Kristen Wilkins	41 yrs.
29	Joel & Stephanie Johnson	8 yrs.

May Anniversaries and Birthdays

May 1	Hailey Cole William Tillo	Jon Lempianen David Schoppe
May 2	Manuel Oyervidez Madison Pankonen	Rich Weiss
May 3	Mark Heilman Suzanne Klocke Janis Meier Joyce Meier Lynn Nehls	May 19 Mallory Schon May 20 Carl Balvanz May 21 Amber Charter Ben Noack Sophia Sorenson
May 4	Ray Kolpin	May 25 Dave Dieterich Daniel Heddendorf
May 6	Keith Halfwassen	Lani Krull
May 7	Kear Kear	May 26 Austin Clayberg Dave Brotherson
May 8	Mary Breidinger Gabrielle Cole Rena Damman	May 27 Evelyn Beagley Cleo Kolpin
May 9	Rodger Main Samantha McDaniel-Rold	May 28 Henry Nolting Charlie Jean Sharkey
May 10	Stewart Damman Stacey Larson Kim Petersen	May 29 Kevin Freese May 30 Morgan Hosteng May 31 Renee Novak Haley Voaklander
May 11	Lual Lual	
May 12	Don Booms Marjorie Smith Gabriella Winterhof	
May 14	Janet Schultz	
May 16	Kevin Kimle	
May 17	Sarah Higgins	

As of April 22, 2018

	<u>Budgeted Amt.</u>	<u>Received</u>
Expenses	156,275.00	180,654.00
Synod	14,769.00	7,285.00
Missions	2,277.00	0.00
Kebede	14,653.00	12,657.00
Totals	\$190,722.00	\$200,595.00

To date, members and friends of Memorial Lutheran have donated their Thrivent for Lutherans "Choice Dollars" in the amount of \$939.00
Thank you for your support.