

messenger



But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. – Matthew 6:33

The first two weeks of August are usually quiet in Ames. Here at Memorial, it's been noisy because of the work on the Student Center and parsonage roof. The roof looks good now, but it took a lot of work to make it that way, clearing away the old shingles, replacing the damaged parts, laying down new insulation, and laying down the new shingles. The most important thing they had to do, though, was to lay the first shingle straight. If that's done correctly, you can measure and align off of it and the rest of the shingles will be straight and true. If it's not, though, the whole roof could be messed up.

As we begin another school year, we see that's true of our life, as well. It's a chance to reevaluate priorities and time, and set schedules for the coming months. What gets added to the calendar first? Is it school events? Is it sports practices? Is it dance recitals or music concerts? Is it work trips, or a special vacation? Is it birthdays and anniversaries and family gatherings? Whatever is added first gets the highest priority, and everything else falls into place around that.

How is God going to fit into your new schedule? Is God going to be the first shingle that everything else aligns

with, or is God going to get tacked on somewhere towards the end? Is church going to get the first priority, or are sports practices? Is your daily devotional time scheduled in first, or does it get crowded out by catching up on your favorite TV show? Do you have time to pray fit in, or does it just get squeezed in whenever you are in need?

As Jesus teaches the Sermon on the Mount, he tells his hearers not to worry about what they will eat or what they will wear. Instead, he tells them to seek first the kingdom of God. God knows we need food and drink, time with family and time to rest. But if we put God first, everything else falls into place. As you look at your schedule for the fall, how can you put that into action in your life? How can you make God a part of everything you do, not just something marked off on the calendar for an hour on Sunday? How will you align your life? Join us to grow in your faith and seek first the kingdom of God. -DRB

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Drawing by K. F. Dunker

Worship Schedule

 <p>September Worship Schedule</p>	September 3	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	September 4	8:30 AM	Divine Service, Setting 2 (HC)
		11:00 AM	Divine Service, Setting 2 (HC)
	September 9	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	September 10	8:30 AM	Rally Sunday
		10:00 AM	Contemporary Worship (HC)
		11:00 AM	Creative Worship (HC)
	September 16	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
	September 17	8:30 AM	Divine Service, Setting 4 (HC)
		10:00 AM	Contemporary Worship
		11:00AM	Divine Service, Setting 4 (HC)
	September 23	5:00 PM	Informal Worship (HC)
September 24	8:30 AM	Creative Worship	
	10:00 AM	Contemporary Worship (HC)	
	11:00AM	Creative Worship (HC)	

Worship Notes

Our 10 AM Contemporary Service will resume September 10th with the beginning of Sunday School. We meet after the children sing for Sunday School in the MLC student Center. Parents can watch their young children sing during the beginning of Sunday School, then stay for worship. Holy Communion is held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

On September 10 we will hold our Rally Day service at 8:30 AM to begin a new year of Sunday School

The Memorial Messenger, published monthly [except August] Current Issue September 2017, Volume 56, Issue 8
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Education

We resume Sunday School Classes on Sunday, September 10 from 9:40-10:40 AM. The classes will begin with choir. The Grade 3-8 choir, led by Luke Heilman, rehearses on the east side of the church basement at 9:40 AM. The PreK-Grade 2 Choir, led by Connie Ringlee, rehearses in the Student Center at 9:40 AM. Please talk with superintendents if you are willing to help as a teacher or a substitute.

Our **Rally Day** at Memorial on September 10 includes recognition of the children who will be beginning Sunday School in preschool ages 3, those who will begin kindergarten, who have learned to read by third grade, and who are beginning sixth grade Confirmation class instruction. The preschool age 3 children will come up with their parents, who will repeat their promises made at Baptism to bring up their children in the faith. Their children will receive a Bible story book. Kindergartners will receive a children's Bible. Third graders receive Bibles. Sixth graders receive Luther's Small Catechism. We encourage parents to have their kindergartners, third, and sixth graders in church on September 10 at the 8:30 AM service so that they can be recognized by the congregation as they grow in God's grace.

In fall 2013 we began to use our own Sunday School lesson material based our lessons for Sundays. Since we have completed the three year cycle of lessons, we will be using material this fall similar to what we did in 2013-4. Jeff & Denise Balvanz have agreed to be our superintendents this year.

The fall adult instruction class taught by Pastor Dave will begin September 13th. This six week class is a brief introduction to a biblical understanding of Christianity and of the Lutheran faith. Those who are interested in more information about the Lutheran class will find this class preparatory to membership. There is no obligation to join.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class will learn about the impact of the Reformation using a Lutheran Hour study titled "A Man Named Martin - Part 3: The Movement." It meets in the Sanctuary at 10 AM. Looking ahead, Lutheran Bible Translator missionaries Carl and Kelsey Grulke will be here Oct 1.

Confirmation Classes Begin

Confirmation this year will be for Middle School age youth, 6th-8th grade. Classes will begin Wednesday, September 6. Youth leader Elaina Soulek will be teaching a summary of the Bible to the 6th graders. Pastor Beagley will be teaching the Ten Commandments and Creed to the 7th graders. Pastor Mark will teach the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Confession, and the Lord's Supper to the 8th graders.

Youth Activities

The High School youth met weekly on Wednesday throughout June and July. Our thanks to William and Betsy Arce for hosting on June 28, and for Chad and Liz Higgins for hosting on July 12 and August 2. The high school group had a farewell for those going off to college—Erin Kimle, Gabby Cole, and Richard Yang on July 19.

July 23 the High School youth had their third annual summer car wash. Over \$360 was contributed to their funds to attend the next youth gathering in Minnesota.

Parents of high school youth will be asked to meet with them on Sunday, September 10 after the 8:30 AM service (9:40) downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

The Middle School youth will resume monthly meetings with an activity on September 20. The 6-8 graders will meet each third Wednesday of the month for supper and an activity after confirmation.

Evening VBS

Youth and adults enjoyed the food, games, crafts, and stories at the evening VBS program. Thanks to everyone who helped with the event.

Musical Activities

All the musical groups at Memorial begin this month.

Beginning Bells led by John Anderson (oldogjohn@hotmail.com) meet on Tuesdays from 6 to 7 PM on Tuesdays.

The Memorial Bells is led by Mary Peterson (maptrs@msn.com). Bells will begin on Tuesday, September 5 at 7 PM.

Our Junior Bell Choir will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, September 13 The choir is open to all youth in grades 6-8.

The Memorial choir meets on Wednesdays this semester at 7 PM and is led by Jackson Daubitz (jack.daubitz@gmail.com) Carol Weber will accompany the rehearsals.

The Memorial brass will meet on Thursdays at 8:15 PM and is led by student Alec Garringer (alecdg@iastate.edu).

Member Updates

Transfer Out:

Deborah Martinez

To: Christus Victor Lutheran, Athens. GA

Transfer In:

Janice Beagley

From: Prince of Peace Lutheran, Crystal Lake, IL

Baptism:

Finn Michael Reilly

Child of Michael & Jessica (Ensley)

Reilly

Take Note

Carolyn McCall's Email address:

Carolyn.mccall1937@gmail.com

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!

Memorial Bells will begin rehearsals Tuesday, September 5 from 7-8 PM in the organ loft and play for the 8:30 service about once a month. Mary Peterson has agreed to be interim director with assistance from John Anderson and Linda Vogtlin.

We hope to grow our number of ringers to return to full choir size. All are welcome, music readers and non-readers!

If you have questions, are interested or just curious, please contact Mary Peterson at 232-2155 or maptrs@msn.com...Or, just come on September 5!

Dear Memorial Family,

THANKS
from the
HEART

The family of Paula Kay Newhouse would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who comforted us in our time of profound grief.

We have been overwhelmed and touched with the many expressions of sympathy and support. God bless you for all of your kindness, which will never be forgotten. ~Judy Newhouse & family

Church Softball Team

Memorial once again participated in the Ames Church Softball League this summer. We won almost as many games as we lost, and our final game came down to a walk-off run by the best team in the league. We had a lot of different players from a variety of ages this year, and had a lot of fun. Special thanks go to Dennis Atkinson for providing shirts, Bryant Hogenson for serving as our manager the last four years, and for Steven Leege and Eric Charter who have agreed to serve as co-managers for next season.

Committee Notes

Summary of the July 11 Board of Directors Meeting

The group discussed the constitution and responsibilities of board members especially for the new members.

Denise Balvanz is working on a flier to help orient new people to our congregation.

The financial situation looks good especially for the summer.

Don Beitz will hold a meeting on the 23rd for the Reformation festival.

The endowment committee meets July 16.

Mary Peterson was hired to be the bells director.

Volunteers are needed to be Sunday School superintendents, and to head the August 20 student luncheon.

Next meeting: August 15.

Summary of the August 15 Board of Directors Meeting

Dave McCall, Carolyn's son, shared about church mission from his experiences at his church in Des Moines.

Bob Anderson will lead a group including board members staff, and task force members in "storyboarding" for a new mission statement, possibly September 17.

The board voted to have Pastor Dave enroll in the Pastoral Leadership Institute (PLI). This involves a two-year commitment with 5 4-days meetings in Denver involving pastoral leadership.

The board voted to remain with the same health plans from Concordia.

The board voted to reimburse Conrad Lyford for the expenses for Kebede's son Solomon in Texas. They will wait for further information on getting a car to get him to school for his senior year.

The board voted to see if Dave Anderson can lead worship either November 5 or 12. He led worship at the 1985 LWML convention held here.

Jeff and Denise Balvanz have agreed to serve as Sunday School superintendents.

The next meeting will be September 12.

October 15 is the date set for the celebration of the Reformation's 500th year at C Y Stephens. Paul Meier will be speaking on Luther, Simon Estes will sing, there will be impersonators of both Martin and Katie Luther, and singing of songs.

Student Ministry

University Student Ministry at Memorial Lutheran Church

In August a letter was sent out to new students welcoming them to Memorial. Throughout the school year six mailings will be sent to students. We hope to make contact with students who worship at Memorial through our peer ministers, the Outreach callers, emails, and phone calls. Our website has a student section which informs students about activities we have for them. Student interest surveys were also made available to students on August 20 and 27 to help them identify how they might want to get involved.

A **student Welcome Lunch** was held on Sunday, August 20 at noon. We thank all those who helped with that event. Special thanks to John Anderson for cooking the main dishes.

On Wednesday, August 23 our first **Wednesday fellowship time** for students began.

The student task force has these activities set for the beginning of the school year:

August 27 at 5:30 PM - Kickoff of the Fall Semester with a grilled supper and indoor and outdoor games in the green space on the east side of church.

September 10 at 10:30 AM - Free Casey's Breakfast Pizza and fellowship in the basement of church before the late service.

September 16 from 9 AM to noon - Fall Workshop - "Finding Peace in Life's Challenges - College Survival Guide: How to Handle Stress and Anxiety, and Still Get a Decent Night's Sleep." Lutheran Family Service Counselors will present this interactive workshop which will be filled with practical advice. A free lunch will follow the workshop.

September 17 following the late service – Fellowship while enjoying coffee, hot chocolate, and mini cinnamon rolls in the basement following the late service.



Financial Report

As of August 13, 2017

	<u>Budgeted Amt.</u>	<u>Received</u>
Expenses	319,920.00	316,787.00
Synod	29,827.00	12,895.00
Missions	3,110.00	3,020.00
Kebede	31,279.00	27,328.00
Totals	\$384,136.00	\$360,029.00

To date, members and friends of Memorial Lutheran have donated their Thrivent for Lutherans "Choice Dollars" in the amount of 1,183.00.

Thank you for your support.

Getting Involved

Thanks to all who helped as ushers and greeters this summer! Also thanks to those who helped with the student brunch on August 20.

Service Volunteers--Serve or be on the substitute list as an usher, greeter, or communion assistant (weekly cycle).

The Board of Directors is still asking for volunteers who would be in the church office Sunday from 10-11 AM to help answer questions, have keys if people need to get into a janitors closet, and help with needs for the copier. I will be looking for volunteers (one each Sunday).

Volunteers are needed to watch the parking lot before the early service from 8:15-35 AM. Each week visitors come to our church who are not aware of alternate parking at the Union.

We have a list of volunteers who man the sound system and the computer to project images each Sunday. If you would be willing to learn how to do it and help, let me know. This a good task for youth!

Altar Guild

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

Prayer Pals

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

If you have a prayer request, or would like to be added to the prayer list, please submit to me at legroth1@gmail.com.

Get Involved with International Student Ministry:

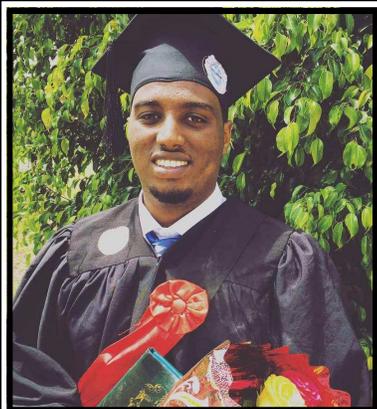
Teachers are needed for the fall semester: Call Judy if you have an hour to spare.

10 AM Monday - Advanced Level

2 PM Tuesday - Conversational activities

10 AM Friday - Mom's Group

Kebede Ministry



MUSE'S GRADUATION

We told you last month about Muse, son of Kebede and Workitu, who graduated from college. Here is his graduation picture. We will be praying for Pastor Mark and Ruth Gerken, who will be traveling to Ethiopia this month to see how Kebede and other Lutherans in Ethiopia plant churches. Pastor Gerken is our Iowa District West Missions Executive. The Gerkens were supposed to have gone last fall, but unrest in Ethiopia postponed their visit. We were also unable to get Pastor Dawit, the pastor Kebede works with, to come last year because of problems getting a visa.

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	35,628	Gidola Cong.	5,000	311
			Women's Grp.	4,000	1500
			Youth Grp.	4,000	1000
			Hursa Outreach	3,000	388
Next payment on September 1			Seed Project	6,000	2100

International Student Ministry

Suzanne Klocke is stepping down as leader of our weekly Mom's Group for internationals. We asked to reflect on her experience.

Why I Became a Moms' Group Leader

It has been my privilege during the past four years to lead the ISM Moms' Group at church, along with my co-leader Carolyn McCall. I became a Moms' Group leader to help ease the loneliness that I knew I would be feeling as my youngest child finished his homeschool education to begin college; and I continued volunteering out of gratitude to God for my mom, who has given me constant support and encouragement throughout my motherhood journey. My heart goes out to the international women, because they miss their support network from back home and almost never get to see their moms while living in Ames. Good parenting is a lot of work, both emotionally and physically; and moms need words of affirmation often, that the work they are doing to love and care for their children and husband is VERY IMPORTANT! It has been my hope that Carolyn and I have been able to create an atmosphere of love, support, and encouragement for the international women through Moms' Group.

Over the past four years, I've led lessons on how good parenting involves establishing boundaries using the Ten Commandments, being respectful, loving our children unconditionally, the importance of hugging, and how gratefulness can change our perspective. One semester we studied about how God not only chooses us specifically to be our children's parents, but also how God chooses our specific children for what they have to teach us.

We always began the class with introductions whenever we had a new member join the group, and we often asked the women to share an ordinary blessing from their past week. Through this sharing, we saw that we all shared similar family life and parenting struggles. Thus, we became friends and a support group for one another. It has been my privilege to go to the home of an international woman who was going through the pain of miscarriage to console her and give her hope. I also have gone to the homes of several women to rejoice and say a prayer of thanks with them for the blessing of a healthy new baby. It has been my joy to have the Moms' Group women in my home for Thanksgiving suppers and Christmas parties, and it's always a joy when I get pictures and updates from those who have moved away.

"That was exactly what I needed to hear today!"

Helping others gives my life more meaning and purpose. I looked forward each week to seeing which women God would bring to the Moms' Group class. I knew that God always brought the women who needed to be there; and it was especially heartening to me when a mom would come up to me after class and say, "That was exactly what I needed to hear today!"

Because of Moms' group, I have friends from all over the world, and I have a better understanding of what life is like in their home countries. Through our work together, I have become friends with my co-leader, Carolyn McCall, who is an encouragement to me. Co-leading Moms' Group has been a wonderful blessing to me. Friendships are waiting to be made – consider becoming an International Student Ministry Volunteer!

International Classes for Fall

Monday

10 AM English - 4 Levels (Weihua Zhu, Bruce Calhoun, Pam Millen)

11:15 AM Art Class (Cleo Lynch)

1 PM Bible Class (Judy Newhouse)

Tuesday

10 AM Basic English (Weihua Zhu)

10 AM English Lab - All Levels (Kristi Carlson, Ken Dunker)

10 AM American Literature (John Carlson)

11 AM TOEFL (Ken Dunker)

1 PM Basic Bible Study (Judy Newhouse)

2 PM Conversation Class (?)

6 PM Life in English Class (Judy Newhouse)

Wednesday

10 AM English Class levels (Cleo Lynch, Bruce Calhoun, Jewel Proctor, Bob Hunter)

11:15 AM Composition (David Heddendorf)

1:30 PM Health Class (Linda Vogtlin)

Thursday

11 AM TOEFL Class (Ken Dunker)

6 PM Life in English (Judy Newhouse)

Quilting Class (Linda Vogtlin, Sally Hartman)

Nursery (Kong Keichoi, Amy Balvanz)

International Ministry, cont'd

Our group from Memorial that traveled to Hong Kong to help with the VBS program there. is Sunny Hsu, Deby Freese, Judy Newhouse (Pastor Anthony is from Hong Kong) Pam Millen, and Paul Freese. Thank you for all your prayers and support during our time of traveling. It was a marvelous experience for everyone.

Sofie Gruver became a child of God in July.

Sofie is from China, but married an American and lives in Des Moines. She started coming to our church since she visits her son who is in Ames. She received instruction through the help of Sunny Hsu, who served as translator.

SAVE THE DATE!

Once again we will travel to Moulton Elementary in Des Moines on Saturday, September 30 to help the school with their Sports/Music day.

If you remember, 95% of the students are immigrants from many other countries that attend this school. The VBS children at Memorial collected items for the school this year as well.

More information will be coming later as plans are finalized. Watch the bulletin for updates.

I would like to thank everyone at Memorial who generously gifted me money towards my ESL endorsement two years ago. I finished this past March, and the very next day three opportunities came up in the Ames district. It's been humbling to watch God open several doors along the way, and I am excited to tell you I will be teaching ESL this coming school year - split between the middle school and Mitchell elementary. Thank you to so many who made it possible. ~Hannah Moore

September Birthdays

September 1	Pat Zierke	September 16	Luke Leidal
September 2	Lida Teske		Arlo Meyer
September 3	Rod Berryman		Hannah Moore
September 5	Deb Coles		Carol Weber
	Linda Weitzel	September 17	Ben Voaklander
September 6	Jennifer Bruner		Kebede Mulatu Ponta
	Michael Tringides	September 18	Ron Gloede
	John Dirks, Jr.		Destiny Lempiainen
September 7	Sarah Teske		Cameron MacKenzie
	Anthony Lehman	September 19	Daryl Herzmann
	Ayon Lual	September 20	Sarah Schoppe
	Tim Grotheer	September 21	Dale Hover
	Lisa Booms	September 22	Doug Gransberg
September 9	Averie Bruner		Marcia Holst
	Tracy Porter		Emma King
	Kathy Cole	September 23	Candace Flakoll
September 10	Eric Baldrige	September 24	Linda Kelley
	Tanner Johnson	September 25	James Arthur
	Myra Nell		Jeff Cesler
September 12	Dan Franklin		Patti Kimle
	Mary Sue Brown		Justin Nolting
September 15	Travis Hosteng	September 27	Bruce Battles
	Noah Krull	September 28	Ashley Smelser
	Max Noack	September 29	Teena Dory
September 16	Mary Ater	September 30	Lyle Groth
	Stacy Cesler		

September Anniversaries

1	Don & Judy Beitz	54 yrs.	7	Ron & Cleo Honold	60 yrs.
1	Jim & Diane Bengtson	27 yrs.	8	Scott & Melissa Ausborn	5 yrs.
1	David & Jennifer Evans	16 yrs.	12	Tim & Paula Dacken	25 yrs.
1	Hannah & Ian Moore	4 yrs.	12	Larry & Patricia Gilbert	42 yrs.
2	Max & Jeanne Noack	40 yrs.	13	Russ & Sally Gleason	37 yrs.
3	Bob & Jan Anderson	57 yrs.	20	Rod & Carol Berryman	48 yrs.
3	Daryl & Barbara Erickson	34 yrs.	21	Doug & Gwen Gransberg	43 yrs.
5	Dale & Pauline Balmer	63 yrs.	26	Ben & Jennifer Voaklander	25 yrs.
6	Rodger & Marcy Main	20 yrs.	27	James & Andrea Sharkey	9 yrs.
7	Keith & Angie Halfwassen	15 yrs.	28	Jim & Lojean Petersen	43 yrs.