

ENGLISH - NEWS - ST LUKE

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

May 2015

English Lutheran

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St. Luke Lutheran

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May 10th, 2015

Our Mission:

Called to be shepherds, doing God's work, daily.

To the faithful saints of the Medina-Streeter Lutheran Parish, greetings in the name of the Risen Lord, Jesus the Christ.

As we come to the final core Lutheran teaching that I wish to highlight in my letters to you all, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the core teachings that have led us to this point. We started at the most appropriate point a few months back in talking about how we are only justified by grace through faith for Christ's sake. This is a teaching that becomes abundantly clear when we read Scripture through the lens of Law and Gospel; the law pointing out our sinfulness and the gospel pointing out God's faithfulness. The gospel message of God's love for us through Christ is brought then to our level through the means of grace; the physical elements that allow us to experience God's grace and love first hand. This then led us to our topic last month in which we found that God's grace is found in the most unexpected place: the cross. For the cross is the place where God came down to us, in order to give us the free gift of his grace. And so we now turn to the last core teaching of Martin Luther which now describes our role in God's grace.

According to some faith traditions humanity is separated into two categories. People are either a saint, one who obeys God's will, or they are a sinner, one who disobeys. Martin Luther saw a problem with this theology. If a person is either a saint or a sinner, where saints come under the grace of God, and sinners do not, through their obedience, or lack thereof, to the will of God, then there really is no hope for anyone. In Luther's opinion, formed by Scripture, no human being would then ever rightfully be called a saint. It is as the Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the church in Rome, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (3:23). Remember back, then, to Luther's theology of justification by grace through faith, where we are told that we do not receive God's grace by what we do, but instead by what Christ does. This tells us then that the only way we are seen by God as saints is through the cross of Christ, where God came down to us instead of us trying to climb our way up to God. However, if we are all now saints because of Christ, what then do we say about sin. For as we all know all too well, sin is still very much alive and well in our world. Enter in Luther's teaching of being simultaneously a saint and a sinner.

Since our righteousness only always depends on God's grace, the definition of a saint then changes in Luther's understanding. Instead

MOPS

The next MOPS meeting will be held on May 17th @ 3 pm at the English Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall in Medina, ND.

If you know of any mothers of preschoolers who may be interested, please mention the date and time.

They can also check out the website: mops.org or call Renae Olson @ 701-320-7567 (leave a message) for more information.

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ELC Library News

Following is a list of new purchases of books & videos:

Books:

The Last Lecture—Randy Pausch
Candle in the Darkness—Lynn Ashin
When Bad Things Happen to Good People-Harold Kushner
Made to Crave—Lysa Terkeurst
Breaking Free— Beth Moore

Videos: (for children)

Happy Two Feet
All Dogs Go to Heaven
How to Eat Fried Worms
Life at the Pond
Gigi
Yogi Bear

There is a wide selection of books and videos for both adults and children. Check us out!

GOD'S HELPERS NEWS

Six members were present for the Bible Study on Jeremiah presented by Pastor Ryan.

Esther and Joanne had readings for offering meditation.

The Jamestown Cluster Meeting will be held in Valley City on May 2. At this time no one is able to attend.

We will send our \$80.00 fee and an offering and a donation for in-kind gifts. Loose fitting, two piece pajamas in any size are requested for in-kind gifts. These will be given to Project Ignite Light for abused children.

We will select charities for our annual donations at the May meeting. Please come with suggestions.

We will discuss "Coffeetime for Fuel" when we have nine o'clock services again.

The youth from Medina will participate in the "Diapers for Detroit" project. Diapers of any size are needed. These will be collected in June and taken with them to the Youth Gathering.

Our next meeting will be May 19 at 12 o'clock. Bible Night for the children will be held at 3:30 on the 19th as well. This is the reason for the time change. Pastor will bring lunch. Lydia will provide dessert.

We closed with "The Lord's Prayer."

Esther served refreshments. Thank you , Esther.

Judith Williams

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50th Anniversary Open House

Everyone is invited to a 50th Wedding Open House honoring

Bob and Joyce Pestal

Saturday, June 13th, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Cobblestone Inn and Suites
410 W. Brewster
Harvey, ND
No gifts, please!

Cards maybe sent to: Bob & Joyce Pestal
PO Box 273
Harvey, ND 58341

Easter Sunrise Service



The Medina Youth Group held Easter Sunrise Services on April 5th @ English Lutheran Church in Medina. They served a luscious breakfast brunch afterwards.

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VBS IS COMING TO A TOWN NEAR YOU!

This summer there will be three opportunities for the kids of our community to learn more about the love that God has for them through Vacation Bible School. The dates for these VBS programs are listed below. Please contact Pastor Ryan if you need more information or would like to register your children for any of these VBS opportunities!

Medina—May 29th-31st
Streeter—June 1st-7th
Gackle—June 8th-12th

English Lutheran WELCA

Spring is here and we have some changes for the summer. We will not have Bible Study for the months of June, July or August.

English Lutheran will be serving at the Legion Fall following services on Memorial Day, May 25th.

We are planning our Guest Night for June 18th. All of the area churches are invited. More details will be posted later. Don't miss this special evening!

Coffee Hour will be served by the Altar Guild starting on May 24th.

Pat, Secretary

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ELC Angels Among Us

“Angels Among Us” met on Sunday, April 26th.

*We will have Marlene Ham make us a banner that will be used for Confirmations and Baptisms.

*We will purchase 2 pots of geraniums for Pentecost.

*Altar Guild will serve coffee beginning May 24th. Julie will get the scheduling out.

*Thank you to all of our “Angels” for working together during our Easter season.

*Looking for more “Angels”. If interested, let Julie know.

God Bless,

Julie

Sat, May 2 **Jamestown Cluster Spring Gathering**
Trinity Lutheran Church—Valley City beginning @ 8:30

***Service times change**

Sun, May 3
English
English Sunday School
St. Luke

Fifth Sunday of Easter
9:00 am
10:00 am
11:00 am

Wed, May 6
@ English Lutheran

Joint Parish Council Meeting
8:00 pm

Happy Mother's Day

Sun, May 10
English
English Sunday School
St. Luke

Sixth Sunday of Easter
9:00 am
10:00 am
11:00 am

Sun, May 17
English
English Last day of Sunday School
St. Luke

Seventh Sunday of Easter
9:00 am
10:00 am
11:00 am

MOPS meeting @ ELC 3:00 pm

Tues, May 17
Bible Study
Kids Bible Nite (last one)

@ St. Luke's
2:00 pm
3:00 pm

Thurs, May 21
English Lutheran

Bible Study
7:00 pm

Sun, May 24
English
St. Luke

Day of Pentecost
9:00 am
11:00 am

Fri—Sun, May 29-31

VBS @ English Lutheran

Sun, May 31
English
St. Luke

First Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 am
11:00 am

Sun, June 7
English
St. Luke

Second Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 am
11:00 am

June 1-7

VBS @ Streeter

June 8-12

VBS @ Gackle

May Worship Times & Events

English Lutheran Church
PO Box 515
Medina, ND 58467

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