

# Light of Life

MAY 2019



## WE FILLED THE ALTAR AND THEN SOME!

Our annual Fill the Altar challenge during Lent resulted in three huge pallets full of food, toiletries, and household supplies. We had so much to donate that the River Food Pantry brought a truck to pick it all up. Thank you to everyone who donated funds, went shopping, dropped off items, and helped load the truck.



## GARAGE SALE JOY

SAVE THE DATES: JUNE 21 AND JUNE 22



Been watching Marie Kondo on Netflix? Did you tidy up? Have things that don't spark joy for you? Let those things spark joy for others at our garage sale! More info coming soon.

## OUR STAFF

### Pastor

Robert Neubert,  
240-215-5176  
gumby523@yahoo.com

### Administrative Secretary

Peri Beal, 608-244-8486  
burkelutheran@att.net

### Maintenance Engineer

Dave Wisner

### Nursery Supervisor

A Volunteer

## BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718  
608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net  
www.burkelutheran.org

## CARDMAKING W/ BARB

Join Barb on Wednesday, May 8, at 1:00pm, 6260 Sommer Valley Circle, DeForest. No experience necessary, supplies & instruction provided. Please RSVP to Barb at 608-445-0566 or email bjhennings@aol.com.



## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY MAY 19

Join us as we celebrate our six confirmands and their faith statements:

Stephen Bosben  
Emma Dobbs  
Olivia Otis  
Annaliese Romeis  
Kaitlyn Schramer  
Maggie Stalbaum



# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROBERT.....

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Contrary to popular belief Easter is not just a single day event, it is a full season in the liturgical church year. The celebration of Easter lasts for fifty days, beginning with Easter Sunday and ending on Pentecost, which is celebrated on June 9th this year. So in honor of our continued Easter celebration I would like to take this space to expand upon some of the ideas I introduced in my Easter Sunday sermon.

When I was nine years old I awoke in the middle of the night crying uncontrollably because I did not want to die. I wasn't sick and I wasn't in any danger, at least that I knew, of mortal harm but I just had this sudden awareness of my own mortality and that at some point in my life I would die. This realization shook me to my very core and I just laid there and cried. My mother, hearing my sobs, came and comforted me saying, "do not worry for when we die we will all be able to go to heaven and be with Jesus." This comforted me at the time and when we went to church it was constantly backed up by the pastor and my Sunday school teachers who continuously reminded us that "Jesus rose from the dead so that we too could have eternal life in heaven".

This is a comforting idea but unfortunately a few years later I went to a bible camp where our cabin councilor introduced us to the book of Revelation. He used the scary imagery of beasts and dragons littered throughout the narrative to let us know that we were all going to go to hell unless we truly began following Jesus.

Once again that fear gripped me and for the next couple of years I lived in constant fear that God was going to throw me into hell because I wasn't good enough. Finally I broke down and had my own reformation moment and asked, "Why am I so concerned about what comes after death? Isn't what we do now with this life more important?"

I love being a Lutheran because at the central heart of our theology is that Jesus already opened up heaven for ALL OF US! We no longer need to worry about where we are going after death as that question has already been answered—our responsibility is to live in thanksgiving for what Jesus has already done for us.

Life is not about loving God, helping those in need, and caring for God's creation so that we can earn a spot in heaven. Life is about loving God, helping those in need and caring for God's creation because we are giving thanks for what God has already done for us. Since we do not have to live with that anxiety floating over our heads we are free to express our love without fear of God's judgement.

What if we don't live a life of thanksgiving toward God? What if we continue to stumble and fall by doing things we know aren't right?

Each Gospel narrative is a little different from the others. Events are changed, left out, or presented in different orders, yet in each Gospel Jesus' betrayal, trial, death and resurrection are given center stage. Some of the details are changed in each narrative but each one spends several chapters detailing the importance of this event. This part of the Gospel is known as the Passion and within this narrative we see Jesus betrayed, abandoned, mocked, tortured and finally put to death in an extremely horrific and painful way, yet despite all that he forgives us.

This means that no matter how deep a hole we find ourselves in and no matter how many times we keep falling in that hole we always will have a place at the table. Amen.

Peace and Blessings,  
Pastor Robert

## PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of April, we have remembered the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Tina Bauman	Owen Storlie	Lisa Thompson
Jamie Falk	Mary Skinvik	Bev Lowe
Madison Smith	Harper DeBauche	Darwin Thompson
Fred Sandridge	Jane Ford Bennett	

Our sympathy to the family & friends of Helen Chadwick.

*We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional*





## FOOD PANTRY

May's focus is on "Household Supplies": paper towel, foil, plastic wrap, paper plates, baggies, plastic cups, toilet paper. Please place items in the designated basket in the Narthex and it will be delivered to the pantry.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is Wednesday, May 8 at Gus' Diner, Hwy 19, Sun Prairie, at 9:00am. Stop in for a cup of joe, a hearty breakfast and connect with brothers in Christ.



## MEN'S RETREAT—SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2019



Find Some New Coaches at the Next One Year to Live Retreat for Men!

Mackenzie Environmental Education Center  
W7303 County Road CS & Q - Poynette, WI

This retreat has been life changing for many attendees! Join with men of all ages seeking to follow the guidance of Proverbs 27:17. For more info and to view participant testimonial videos; <http://www.lutheranmenmission.org>, or call Paul Beckman (608-241-2346).



## PENTECOST PICNIC

JUNE 9, 3-5:00PM

Join us as DeForest and Sun Prairie area Lutheran churches are hosting a Pentecost Picnic, Sunday, June 9 from 3:00-5:00pm at Token Creek Park. More information coming soon.

## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

MAY 5, 5:30PM—8:30PM

Heartland Church needs volunteers and donations for 2019's a Night to Remember. This special evening is a prom-like experience designed to celebrate kids, teens and adults with special needs. Participation is completely free of charge, and includes dresses, tuxedos, make-up, hairstyling, jewelry, flowers, limo rides, a walk down the carpet with a cheering crowd, photography, a gift bag, snacks and a night of dancing! It all takes place at the Monona Terrace, 1 John Nolen Drive, Madison. If you would like to help out, please contact Heartland Church at [ntrheartland@gmail.com](mailto:ntrheartland@gmail.com) or 608-834-1900.



## BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

High noon on Wednesday, May 22, at Buck N Honeys, 804 Liberty Blvd, Sun Prairie. Please join us!



Served 4:30-7:00pm

Lutherdale, N7891 US  
Hwy 12 Elkhorn, WI

All meals include salad bar, beverages and generous portions. Guests are encouraged to try some of everything! Reservations Requested for Parties of 8 or more. Adults \$16, Children (10 & Under) \$8.

May 31st GERMAN SPARGELZEIT  
Kielbasa & Sauerkraut, Chicken Schnitzel, Beer Cheese Potato Soup, Boiled Red Potatoes, Seasoned Asparagus, German Potato Salad, Rye Rolls and Apple Tarts

## LIGHT OF LIFE & SUNDAY BULLETIN ARTICLES

If you have news you'd like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

1. Email your submissions to [burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net) (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or 3. Turn it into the church office with Attn: Peri

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays

LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 15th of the month

# Youth & Kids Corner

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST THANK YOU

We served ninety-two people at the Youth Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday, raising a total of \$615.25 for confirmation camp. Thank you to all those who donated food and their time. The breakfast was a great success and could not have happened without everyone.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our last Confirmation Class will be Wednesday, May 15 at 6:30pm.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Serving on your Teach Board:

*Chairperson:* Open position

*Council Representative:* David Hanson

*Superintendent:* Jean Schnick

*Treasurer:* Rudy Nielsen

*Secretary:* Sonja Nielsen

## SUNDAY SCHOOL RECOGNITION SUNDAY

We will honor our Sunday school teachers and students during our last Kids in Service worship on May 19th. The teachers have worked long and hard, preparing lessons and leading classes. Thanks to these dedicated teachers and helpers, our students have moved forward in their Christian faith.

John Bosben

Shaney Iturbide

Charley Hanson

David Hanson

Kim Hanson

Clara Neubert

Patrice Neubert

Jenny Nielsen

Amy Proebstle

Sue Rittmann

Abby Stalbaum

Rebecca Stalbaum

*NOTE: The last day of Sunday School will be May 12.*

## ATTENTION SENIOR HIGH GRADUATES!

We will be celebrating your success on May 26 at our 9am worship service. Following the service there will be cake during coffee hour. Please let the church office know if you will be able to attend—and Congratulations!



Late one night, a burglar broke into a house he thought was empty. He tiptoed through the living room but suddenly he froze in his tracks when he heard a loud voice say: "Jesus is watching you!"

Silence returned to the house, so the burglar crept forward again. "Jesus is watching you!" the voice boomed again. The burglar stooped dead again. He was frightened.

Frantically, he looked all around. In a dark corner, he spotted a birdcage and in the cage was a parrot.

He asked the parrot: "Was that you who said Jesus is watching me?"

"Yes," said the parrot. The burglar breathed a sigh of relief and asked the parrot: "What's your name?"

"Clarence," said the bird.

"That's a dumb name for a parrot", sneered the burglar. "What idiot named you Clarence?"

The parrot said, "The same idiot who named the Doberman Jesus."

# MAY CALENDAR

The staff at Burke Lutheran meets most Thursday mornings at 9:00am. We will return phone calls after our meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

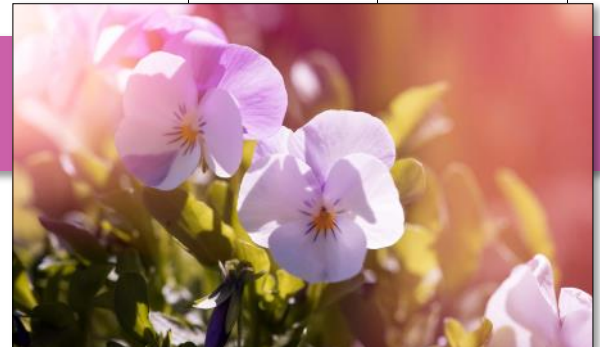
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>2</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Synod Assembly
<b>5</b> Worship, 9am Sunday School Choir Practice Synod Assembly	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Men's Breakfast, 9am Quilting, 9:00am Cardmaking, 1:00pm Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>9</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Worship, 9am Sunday School Mother's Day	<b>13</b> Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	<b>14</b> Council Meeting, 6:30pm	<b>15</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>16</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>17</b> River Food Pantry, 5-8pm	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Worship, 9am Confirmation Sun- day Kids in Service	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Foundation Mtg, 7:00pm	<b>22</b> Quilting, 9:00am Preach Board, 9:00am Birthday Luncheon, noon	<b>23</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Worship, 9am HS Grads Recog. Choir Practice	<b>27</b> Memorial Day Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Quilting, 9:00am	<b>30</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>31</b>	

Save the Dates:

June 2  
June 9  
June 21-22

Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting  
Pentecostal Picnic at Token Creek Park, 3-5pm  
Garage Sale



**Happy Birthday!**

**Have a birthday in May?**

**Hope your birthday is spectacular,  
totally cool, really fantastic, wonderful,  
exciting, majorly awesome, fun-filled,  
rocking and HAPPY!**

**Happy Anniversary!**

**To all who said "I do"  
in the month of May!**







## MAY WORSHIP LEADERS...

	<b>May 5</b> <b>9:00am Service</b>	<b>May 12</b> <b>9:00am Service</b>	<b>May 19</b> <b>9:00am Service</b>	<b>May 26</b> <b>9:00am Service</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Jamie Falk	Susie Kittel Moore
<b>Music Leader</b>	Beni Hupf	Kathy Sandridge	Beni Hupf	Kathy Sandridge
<b>Music Leader</b>	Bob Rittmann	Dave Wisner	Darrell Foss	Bob Rittmann
<b>Communion</b>	Darrell Foss	Pat Graham	Kids in Service	Barb Hennings
<b>Communion</b>	Jeannette Gehrke	Julie Clark	Kids in Service	Kim Hanson
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Jean Schnick	Mary TeWinkel	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Bob Boettcher	Joann Foss	Kids in Service	Sharon Hughes
<b>Prayer Readers</b>	Jean Schnick Peri Beal	Barb Hennings Sue Rittmann	Kids in Service	Diane Moore Beni Hupf
<b>Acolyte</b>	Olivia Otis	Annaliese Romeis	Abbey Harris	Danni Queiser
<b>Ushers</b>	Al Klinger Bob Lenzendorf	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Karl & Shari Patzer & students	Tim Wachs Chris Otis
<b>Greeters</b>	John & Linda Schramer	Ted & Jo Cooper	Kids in Service	Kathy Sandridge June Chadwick
<b>Coffee Hour</b>		Men's Group	Quilters	No Coffee Hour Memorial Day Weekend
<b>Counters</b>	Gloria Lundquist Kim Hanson	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Patrice Neubert Julie Clark	Sharon Hughes Kathy Sandridge
<b>Sunday School</b> Pre K—K 1st—2nd Grades 3rd—4th Grades 5th-6th Grades	John Bosben  Sue Rittmann Patrice Neubert	John Bosben Amy Proebstle David Hanson Kim Hanson	Kids in Service	No Sunday School

## SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 2  
10:00am

Burke's semi-annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following the 9:00am Worship Service on June 2.

The meeting will address Board and Officer vacancies, as well as an update on the building project with a vote allowing the building committee to proceed with the plans and allow them to pay bills as needed.

The following Board and Officer positions will be open: Council Vice President, Council Treasurer, two people for the Preach Board, three people for the Teach Board, two people for the Reach Board, two people for the Property Board, and two people for Foundation. Watch for a posting soon from the Nominating Committee of candidates.

Please prayerfully consider filling one of these positions. This is your congregation and it needs you.