

# Our Class of 2018



**Emma Jorgenson**

Emma plans on attending Nebraska Wesleyan in the fall, majoring in English and Musical Theater.



**Grant Sell**

Grant plans to attend Northeast Community College in Norfolk where he will play golf on scholarship. Following that, he will go to a 4-year college to complete his degree in elementary education.



**Kayla Weyers**

Kayla will be attending UNL in the fall where she will be majoring in Pre-Physical Therapy.



**Tucker Bartlett**

Tucker plans on attending Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis and majoring in Diversified Agriculture. He plans on returning to the family farm when he is done with school.



**Gracie Stienike**

Gracie will be attending the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She will be majoring in Elementary Education and will be a member of the Loper Volleyball Team.



**Noah Gugelman**

Noah plans to wrestle in the fall at Hastings College while majoring in Business, with his ultimate plan of becoming a Firefighter.

# The Beat

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Gothenburg First United Methodist Church



**Sidnee Ostendorf**

Sidnee plans on attending UNL in the fall, her major is undecided.



**Noah Larson**

Noah plans to attend Concordia College and major in Secondary Math Education and play baseball.



**Ali Bartels**

Ali will attend UNL in the fall and major in Bio-Chemistry. She plans to become a medical doctor.



**Jeremy Pearson**

Jeremy plans to attend Mid-Plains Community College and study criminal justice.



## May Birthday's

### Happy Birthday

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 4— Jim Hotz   | 27— Tucker Bartlett |
| 5— Robert Lane  | 28— Amanda Larson   |
| 6— Bowe Oliver  | 31— Regi Lane       |
| 8— Lois Shea, Pastor Jamie, Maverick Macek                        |                     |
| 11— Karen Peterson  |                     |
| 12— Harold Vass   |                     |
| 14— Glenn Bartels   |                     |
| 16— Zeb Blauvelt  |                     |
| 17— Evelyn Miller   |                     |
| 19— Taylor Burge  |                     |
| 20— Tom Abramson, Nick Kirkpatrick,<br>David Loostrom, Grant Sell |                     |
| 21— Ty Bartels, Tara Foster<br>Carolyn Peterson, Kelly Phillips   |                     |
| 24—Emma Jorgenson   |                     |
| 26— Dennis Kirkpatrick  |                     |





# Pastor's Perspective

A number of years ago, the United Methodist Church refocused on our purpose as Christians in this faith tradition. After much conversation around the world and careful word-smithing (editing), we came up with the phrase that our purpose as Christians is: “To make disciples, who make disciples, for the transformation of the world.” We have lived with that phrase for much of the time that I have been serving local congregations, and we still seem to struggle a bit with just exactly what that means—in the local church and in the larger connectional church as well.

For the last two years my continuing education has been through The Academy for Spiritual Formation. This Academy is operated through the Upper Room of the United Methodist Church and consists of eight 5-day retreats over a two year period. In the first year, these quarterly retreats follow a curriculum (both reading and presentation) that invites us to do the interior work of growing in our love of God; the second year focuses on how we live this out in the world, touching the lives of others. In other words: we are being made disciples, who make disciples, for the transformation of the world. In April I completed this program and was commissioned into the Academy Forum. Thank you for your help in that process!



This is a very methodical approach to the work before us. And that is very fitting, as our name “Methodist” grew out of the teasing John Wesley received concerning his methodical approach to everything. Our local churches also need to grow and develop methodical approaches to disciple-making. In my experience, these have not been as organized as one might expect, and often reflect one of the places where we need to do some of our work. If you listen carefully to the conversation around leadership groups here in Gothenburg you might hear this in the conversations about worship services—how many and when?; Sunday School for all ages—even in the summer?; small groups like Coffee and Conversation, Bible studies, Youth Group, etc.?; confirmation—what age and how long? Even our Endowment Committee looks at this in its decision-making around which youth will receive a scholarship from the congregation.

One of my colleagues from the Academy shared the story that one of the very faithful men in his Men’s Group asked him: “Am I a disciple of Jesus? What does it mean to be a disciple?” Such a comment from someone who is regularly in church reminds me that our language often gets in the way of the work that we are trying to do, and if one person asked this, how about all of those who are too afraid to ask? It also reminded me that this work needs to be intentional and methodical to every generation, because we lose the words and concepts as we go along. We also need to be constantly deepening our own relationships with God and one another as we grow in following the teachings of Jesus.

Because, of course, that is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We are called to live out of, and into the teachings of Jesus. It isn’t just about saying the right thing, it is about living in the way that Jesus taught. And our disciple-making plan of helping people to learn what Jesus taught and encouraging people to live it? We are very much in the middle of that conversation! Come and be a part of it—at worship, in small groups, committees, teaching and learning! Blessings, Pastor Jamie



## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

We are proud to announce that \$700 was given to the Backpack program from the offerings given throughout the Sunday School year. Pre-K through adult students demonstrated the act of service and giving to others.

On Sunday May 6th, we will be honoring the students who are members of the graduating class of 2018 and of our church. The Education Committee will provide the food, and Sunday School students will be the servers and the entertainers.

On the 13th of May, the Pre-K through 6th grade students will be planting flowers in the flower boxes. They will also be planting flowers in painted pots to take home.

Thank you to Sarah Anderson, Danette Anderson, Lindsey Tederman, Jami Brundage, and the Junior-Senior high students and Lisa Jorgenson for leading the students during the month of April. The visited about creation and earth day throughout the month of April.



Back in early March, all ladies of the church were sent a letter from our Funeral Committee asking for their yearly donation of \$5.00. This money will be put into the funeral fund to help defray some of the costs for food and supplies for the meals that we offer for the bereaved families after a funeral service. If you have not already done so, please make your donations, and mark it as “funeral donation” on your memo line. Thank you for your kind generosity.

## Music Minute

Once again I would like to thank each one of you who are a part of our worship services, you are greatly appreciated!! We are in the process of figuring out our summer schedule and am not sure what will be coming up, but we will try to give you a variety of music in our worship experience.

Also, if you are wanting to provide special music during a service, please let me know.

Thank you

~Karla





## Figures and Finances



Mission Shares	Percent of Budget	100%
	Paid to date	\$5,861
YTD General Expenses	(through April 22)	\$61,183
YTD Budgeted Expenses	(through April 22)	\$58,866
% of Budget		103.9%
YTD General Giving	(through April 22)	\$56,459
YTD Budgeted Giving	(through April 22)	\$58,866
% of Budget		95.9%



2018 GIVING AND ATTENDANCE REPORT					
	1-Apr	8-Apr	15-Apr	22-Apr	TOTAL
Early Worship	30	30	20	37	117
Late Worship	114	88	62	78	342
Sunday School	18	28	18		64
BUDGET					
Undesignated	\$ 2,909.00	\$ 5,215.77	\$ 1,504.00	\$ 3,034.75	\$ 12,663.52
"Local Only"	\$ 150.00		\$ 600.00	\$ 1.10	\$ 751.10
"Apportion"		\$ 50.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 450.00
GENERAL TOTALS	\$ 3,059.00	\$ 5,265.77	\$ 2,354.00	\$ 3,185.85	\$ 13,864.62
Budget + or -	\$ (566.00)	\$ 1,570.77	\$ (1,341.00)	\$ (509.15)	
NEEDED PER WEEK IN 2018 TO MEET OUR BUDGET - \$3695					
IN & OUT					
Camp Comeca	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00
Camp Scholarship		\$ 500.00			\$ 500.00
Native Amer Minis.			\$ 78.00		\$ 78.00
Endowment		\$ 40.63			\$ 40.63
SS Mission	\$ 22.00		\$ 7.00		\$ 29.00
Youth Projects				\$ 65.00	\$ 65.00
IN & OUT TOTALS	\$ 32.00	\$ 550.63	\$ 95.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 752.63
Memorials	\$ 20.00				\$ 20.00
MEMORIAL TOTAL	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20.00
ADA Restroom	\$ 250.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,150.00
BLDG/MAIN TOTALS	\$ 250.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,150.00



## Mark your Calendars!

### Retired Persons Lunch Bunch

This month we will honor mothers at our Senior Lunch Bunch Gathering on Wednesday, May 2nd. We meet in the fellowship hall and ask that you bring a covered dish to share. If you are 55 or older or retired, please come and join us, the food is good, and the fellowship is better! We would love to see you there.



Happy Mother's Day



### POOL PARTY... COMECA STYLE

Camp Comeca Pool Party is set for Sunday May 20th as part of the Education Committee's Sunday Fundays!! Free to all so come enjoy the camp's pool and take a tour of the campgrounds we call our own. Swimming starts at 12:00 Noon and the staff will provide a hot dog feed! We are encouraging everyone who comes to bring a friend!! See ya at the pool!!



### DAY CAMP

### A.K.A. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Dates for Vacation Bible School have been set!! It will be Monday June 4th through Thursday June 7th and we will once again be teaming up with folks from the American Lutheran Church, and counselors from Camp Joy Holling will lead the Day Camp. Kindergarten through 5th grades will stay all day and Pre-schoolers will stay for half day. At the time of publishing, I did not have exact cost of registration, but the United Methodist Camp Fund will help with the cost of registration for families from our church attend. There will be more information coming soon. Watch your weekly bulletins, our Facebook page, and our website!