

# *Good News Journal May 2020*

## *St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring*

480 Ross Street Cat Spring Texas 78933 979-865-5444 www.stjohncatspring.org

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDEULE**

#### Pastor's Pen:                   **God's Mother-love**

"Happy Mothers' Day!" It's a special day in our nation. It's not a holiday, per se, nor are we mandated in the Bible to observe it. The Fourth Commandment, "Honor your Father and Mother", goes a bit deeper than a mere wish for a "Happy Mothers' Day".

At the same time, Mothers' Day can be for us a focal point of God's grace. There are numerous passages in our Scriptures in which God's love is communicated through a likeness to a faithful mother's love. Through Isaiah's words, God poses a question to people wondering if God's love is real and consistent:

*Can a woman forget her nursing-child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb?  
Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. (49:15)*

☐

Again, in Isaiah 66:13, the promise of God's love is,

*As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.*

God's love has touched us through the life examples of women who have demonstrated nurturing love in our lives. God is the Source of all authentic love. To the extent that mothers and mother-figures in our lives have helped us survive and thrive, to that extent has God's love been realized in a real and personal way.

In this age of the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing measures, it is so very important to remember this mother-love of God. By it, God is present with nurture and reassurance. We are held together as persons—and as a fellowship—by God's embrace.

This month of May, let's be blessed in the kind *mother-like* love of God and sustained in the grace of Christ.

#### **Pastor Bill**

Let us pray: God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

The call committee remained hard at work on the pastoral search process during the month of April despite the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 issue.

Two potential candidates have been identified, and as per Synod guidelines, the call committee is required to (digitally) interview each candidate.

As of the end of April, the call committee conducted the digital interviews (via Zoom) with both candidates. The digital interviews were limited in scope due to the meeting time limit associated with the Zoom application. So, the call committee may conduct an additional digital or in-person interview with one (or both) of the candidates if we feel additional questioning would be beneficial.

The call committee is in the process of evaluating each candidate based on their respective interview responses to determine if either would be a good fit for our congregation. If neither candidate is the right choice for our church, the Synod office will continue the search for additional matches.

Please keep the call committee in your thoughts and prayers as we seek God's guidance through prayerful contemplation in this candidate evaluation process.

**Yours in Christ,**

**Lacy Dittert**

**Secretary, Call Committee**

★**HAPPY**★  
**BIRTHDAY!**

1 Elaine Thielemann  
2 LaNell Waldrop  
3 Blake Biehunko  
5 Jack Brandes  
Sharla Bell  
6 Carrie Froebel  
8 Johnny Class  
15 Nancy Hartmann  
16 Ethan Meier  
20 Robin Haugen  
Vana Froebel  
21 Stone Diemer  
22 Chad Hugo  
23 Jessica Fogle  
25 Brianna Machinsky  
26 Brain Krause  
28 Susan Baumann  
Terry Hankins

**HAPPY**  
**ANNIVERSARY**

5-7 James and Carol Wenzel  
5-12 Alan and Jennifer Zahradnick  
5-15 Alan and Erika Restivo  
Dayne and Karla Rice  
5-17 Butch and Susan Baumann  
5-18 Ray and Sherry Menke  
5-23 Andrew and Susan Leschper  
5-24 Kenny and Jennifer Brast  
5-25 Karl and Karla Wolfmueller  
5-28 Chris and Jennifer Logan  
5-31 Rick and Lois Shilling

**Reminder from Pauline:**  
**The Annual Cat Spring Ag Fest, usually held in June, has been cancelled for 2020.**

**To St. John Lutheran Church of Cat Spring,**

I would like to thank everyone in the Church who had a hand in helping me receive the scholarship. It continues to help pay for my college education I'm currently pursuing at Texas State University in San Marcos. I was very happy and appreciative to learn I was selected as a recipient of the scholarship. I am sincerely grateful for the Church's generosity and blessed to be a part of such a wonderful and supportive congregation.

**With many thanks,**  
**Kayla Rice**

**PLEASE NOTE: Your prayer requests are very important. Your prayer request concerns are important. Please communicate these directly to Pastor Bill, to Chairman Ken Wienken, or to any Church Council member.**

**Residents of:**  
**Colonial Belle, Sealy:**  
Wilfred Eckardt  
**Arbors of Briarwood–Bellville**  
Carrie Froebel  
**Shut-ins:**  
Marjorie Criswell  
Sharla Bell  
Katherine Ludwig  
Sydell Swearingen