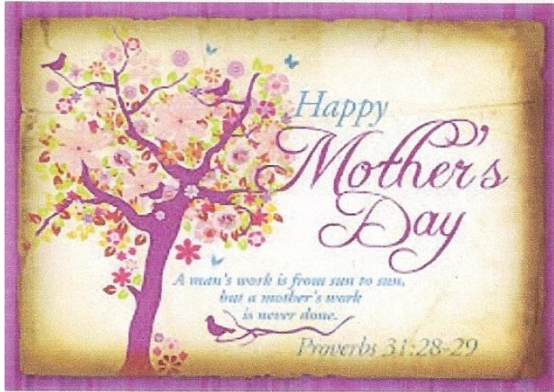


GENESIS LUTHERAN CHURCH - NALC



Proverbs 31: 28-29 "Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her; Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all."

Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it."

May 2016 Newsletter

*Genesis Lutheran Church
NALC
102 Walnut
Piedmont, SD*

Evelyn Johnson, Pastor
605-391-2403 home
Email: ejsd@usa.com
Church: 605-877-0899
Email: genesislutheran@gmail.com
Website: genesislutheran.com

Worship and Meetings Schedule

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Child care is now available during worship service.

**Church Council meeting, 2nd
Sunday of the month following
worship.**



**Prayer
meeting
each week
– call for
day and
time.**

Message from the Pastor

Psalm 126 says, "When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy! Then they said among the nations, 'the Lord has done great things for them.' The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad." The Psalmist was talking about the Israelites return from captivity – they had been exiled in Babylon for 70 years. When they were finally able to return to their beloved Holy City, Jerusalem, they were like men who dream. They couldn't comprehend it – it was too good to be true!

Do you relate? How did this happen? How did we, little Genesis Lutheran Church, suddenly find ourselves owning a church? And no mortgage? On April 17th, we first looked at the building. We met on Tuesday night, the 19th, we agreed with the seller on a price, and we voted to buy it! On Wednesday a thousand dollars was put down as earnest money. On Friday Del and Jim signed papers and paid cash! April 24th we had our last service at the Kansas City Street location and those in attendance packed up and moved to our present location! We had our first service here in Piedmont on Sunday May 1st! What a blessing! But what a blessing all of you people are! So many have worked so hard to get this place in order!

Oh, the joy! The joy of the blessing of our God! Yes, we are filled with laughter! We don't quite get it! We shout for joy! If we ever doubt we have a miracle working God, all we have to do is remember how God worked in our behalf! We were like the Israelites in Egypt. They had no way to free themselves. They had no money to buy their freedom; they had no weapons to fight their way out. They were slaves; they had taskmasters supervising them constantly. God sent plagues on the Egyptians! Pharaoh's heart was softened long enough for them to get out of town! Similarly, we had no way to free ourselves. We had no way to purchase this church. God moved and we are glad!

Continued on page 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR continued -

I visited the church today with two friends. They had such a sense of God's presence here. They marveled at how clean it is! How much storage area we have! How beautiful the sanctuary is! How our furniture fits! The chairs! The sound system! The kitchen! Most of all, they marveled at the goodness of God. They wanted to sing so we sang, "We Are Standing On Holy Ground." It felt holy!

The question is, "What next, Lord?" May we be prepared to love those He sends our way. There is a world of hurting people out there – no one knows the pain another walks in until the person tells us. May the love of Jesus shine through us regardless of what anyone has been through or any burden they still carry. My friend Kim's favorite definition of a church is "a place where one beggar shows another beggar where to get food." We are all destitute without the love of Jesus. We are all saved by the marvelous grace of God – a God who loves you with a fierce, undying love.

May we always hold each other in high regard – we are brothers and sisters in Christ. May we be quick to pray, quick to forgive, quick to remember that it was amazing grace that saved a wretch like me! God is soooo good! He hears the cries of His children. He loves it when we are thankful – and we are! Thank You, Lord, for Your goodness toward us! We are eternally grateful!

Blessings, P. Evelyn



PRAYER CONCERNS:

Wayne, Alice, Brandon, Jerry & Lynn Nelson, Nelson, Lori Hoyum, Denise's sister Michelle, Debbie's mom, "Babe", Ladonna's sister Diane, Cody and Dylan.

Renewing the Church Through Senior Ministry

The local congregation is "graying" at a rapid rate. More than 10,000 people a day turn 65. Instead of lamenting the "aging of the church", we need to embrace it and help older adults grow in their discipleship of Jesus. Through "second half ministry" a congregation can be renewed and "refired" for mission. The NALC is hosting a video series through a free webinar on the 1st Thursday of each month. To register, go to: <http://bit.ly/1Umux8V>.

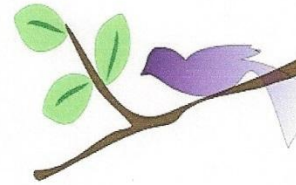
Women's Luncheon - The luncheon that was scheduled for April 30th was cancelled because of the church move. Should we reschedule, and if so, when?

Walk for Wishes - Part of "Make A Wish South Dakota", will be held May 14th. The event will begin and end at Main Street Square in Rapid City. It will start with an inspirational program, a brief walk and then return to the square for food, drinks and music. Jerry & Ladonna Behnke are collecting donations. Register at walkblackhills.org.

Ladies, now that rummage sale season is upon us, maybe we should think about collecting items for kits for Lutheran World Relief. School kits, personal care kits, and baby care kits are sent as needed to many areas of the world. Our donations could be collected in a box in the church basement, then assembled and boxed in the fall. Boxes can be dropped off at Midway Motor Express and will be delivered to the LWR warehouse in St. Paul at no charge. Lists of items needed are on the bulletin board in the basement.

"We have been among the living from our first moments inside our mothers. God's holy angels and many wonderful people worked very hard to keep it that way. Because they did, we have fulfilling lives in Jesus Christ. And there is hope for others through us as we live for Him. We owe a great debt. Let us pay it forward as guardians of life and hope." Jason Nelson, www.timeofgrace.org – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

*Gaze on Jesus,
Glance at circumstances!*



Church Council meeting April 10, 2016

Council members present: Del Jacobson, Jim Shimon, Wayne Johnson . Absent: Alice Pahkamaa, Jerry Behnke.

The meeting was called to order by President, Del Jacobson. Evelyn opened with a prayer. There was no secretary or treasurer's report. The financial secretary's report was read and approved. Motion to accept by Deb, seconded by Roger.

Old business: It seems that the church sign lettering is done and they are waiting for the brackets to mount it.

On the church website, Mike is willing to make changes to the site when we get the information to him. We decided to continue that way for now and see how it goes. Ed will contact the NALC and get our address updated.

New business: Del suggested getting together for a work day to start updating the record books.

Pastor Evelyn will be gone on April 24th and May 15th. Del will fill in on those Sundays.

Ed talked about the remodeling to be done to the building. We will be left with 416 sq. feet (we are paying for 400 sq. ft), but the space will seem quite small. It's probably a good idea to start looking for another location for church. Ed will ask Jerry to contact Ann and see when construction will begin. There is a church building for sale in Piedmont that Del will look into.

Women's luncheon: We decided to wait to hear from the churches in Newcastle and Whitewood to see their numbers that plan to attend before selling many tickets, since space may be limited.

A motion to adjourn was made by Walt, seconded by Steve.

Submitted by: Deb Shimon, acting secretary

Piedmont is a French word meaning "the foot of the mountain".

Monthly Financial Report

March Giving:	\$1784.50
March Expenses:	\$1647.98
Balance in Checking:	\$1278.03
Balance in Savings:	\$4229.43
(includes \$375.80 balance from Holiday Bazaar)	
Submitted by:	
Jerry Behnke, Financial Sec.	



*May 7 -
Debbie Johnson
May 29 -
Pastor Evelyn*

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

President, Del Jacobson	391-4948
Vice President, Jim Shimon	255-4276
Secretary, Alice Pahkamaa	415-5472
Treasurer, Wayne Johnson	787-6614
Financial Sec., Jerry Behnke	431-8606

Newsletter Editor, Deb Shimon
255-4276 home, 515-3995 cell. Email:
debshimon@yahoo.com . Please contact
me with any news, information or events
to add to the church newsletter.

Special Days, and weird & wacky days in May: National BBQ Month; Date Your Mate Month; National Salad Month. 1-May Day, 8-Mother's Day, 13-Friday the 13th (the only one in 2016), 14-Dance Like a Chicken Day, 15-Police Officer's Memorial Day, 16-Love a Tree Day, 16-Wear Purple for Peace Day, 18-Visit Your Relatives Day, 20-National Bike to Work Day, 25-National Missing Children's Day, 30-Memorial Day, 30-Water a Flower Day !