

MAY 2021

Light *of* Life

GARAGE
SALE
July 9-10

8am - 4pm daily

Indoors! Fantastic Bargains! Lunch Available!

SAVE THE DATES

The BLCW is excited to announce the return of Burke's indoor garage sale, set for July 9 and 10. So start your spring cleaning and set aside sellable items now. All proceeds will go to the Building Fund.

We're looking for clean gently-used household items, small working appliances, furniture, toys, books, sporting equipment, etc.

(NOTE: We cannot accept clothing, tv's, computers, or other electronics.)

Please drop off items at the church beginning the week of June 28 between the hours of 8:00am—noon.

Volunteers will be needed to help organize and price items, set up, man the lunch station and tear down.

More details will be coming via our usual channels.

Let Linda Klinger know if you can help by calling 608-241-0445 or sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

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

BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP UPDATE

In-person weekly Sunday Worship in May will be one service at 9:00am by reservation only. A friendly reminder that masking and social distancing still apply. Sign up online via [SignUp Genius](#) or by emailing or calling the church to reserve your spot.

Please sign up early to save your seat(s). As needs may, a second service option might be added, and we will need time to do so.



We will continue to offer live streaming of services as well for an online option. Watch our website, Facebook page and email blasts for more information.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROBERT.....

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am huge fan of Star Trek, particularly the Next Generation series which ran during my teen years. Besides the characters, cool new worlds, and species that are introduced throughout the series, what drew me back week after week was seeing how these characters would deal with a situation that challenged their set moral code. Just in case you don't know anything about Star Trek, all the Characters are part of a group called "Starfleet" who are explorers in the future guided by what is called "The Prime Directive" which dictates how they should deal with new species they encounter. Alongside this they are all part of a multispecies society where everything is shared and they do their best to settle disputes between various people in order to avoid violent conflicts. In nearly every episode they are presented with situations that cause them to question this strict moral code by which they live and must learn to resolve the issue by either using that code, finding a way around it, or breaking it. No matter how the situation resolves there are both positive and negative consequences that our protagonists have to deal with, and while many of the situations may seem bizarre from our 21st century perspective, each situation is rooted in moral dilemmas that nearly all human beings encounter, or at least read about, throughout their lives.

- What happens if our moral code causes an innocent person to get hurt?
- What if we are called to do no violence, yet there is someone out there who must be stopped from hurting others?
- How do we discern between solutions where one solution resolves immediate issues, yet may cause long term issues, or a solution that may cause harm in the short term but help in the long term?
- How do we deal with those who do not share our moral code, yet we must somehow get along?
- How do we deal with situations that call our moral code into question? Do we adapt or dig our heels in?
- How should we deal with these and other questions?

Well before I try to answer any of those questions I would like to bring up another TV show that just ended its run a few years ago, Breaking Bad. If you are unfamiliar with this show its basic concept revolves around the idea of how a seemingly normal person could potentially become an evil person without fully realizing it. The story focuses on a middle aged high school science teacher who is diagnosed with terminal cancer and is looking for a way to make sure his family is financially

secure after he passes. This leads him into the business of manufacturing and selling Methamphetamines. As he falls deeper and deeper into the drug world doing things he never thought himself capable of he keeps finding justification for his actions in the idea that all of this is for his family. This program provides a great (though extreme) example regarding how someone when working in isolation can easily find excuses as to why they should compromise their beliefs. Sure the protagonist does have family and friends he could look to for support, but he keeps them all in the dark as to what his true purposes are, thus only trusting his own judgment.

In contrast to this the characters in Star Trek do everything as a community, and it is when one of them decides to act out of self-interest rather than the good of the community that the group suffers.

For me these two programs help reinforce the Bible's teachings about being accountable toward each other, such as: *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.-Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*

I can't count the amount of times I have heard people tell me, "I already know Jesus, I don't need to go to Church." Unfortunately knowing Jesus is different than being a follower of Christ, and to be a follower of Christ one must be a part of a faith community. As a community we hold each other accountable to the faith based morality that we all share. When people attempt to follow Jesus on their own it is too easy to continually compromise their beliefs to the point where Jesus stands up for everything we want him to stand up for, rather than what Christ actually stands for. Accountability and community are essential in our lives as Christians and it is empowering to see us starting to come back together and I look forward to seeing where this community goes together into the future.

Or in other words: This is Burke Lutheran church, continuing its already 170 year mission, to spread God's love, to new people, and new communities, to boldly proclaim God's love in ways nobody has done before! *cue theme music*

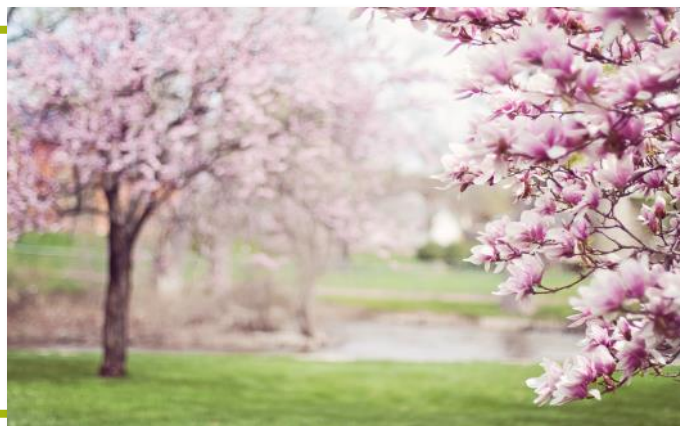
Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Robert

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Lisa Thompson	Virginia Steward	Harper DeBauche
Lucy Wisner	Diane Moore	Nancy Bartlett
Amy Mueller	Shelby Branzanti	Marilyn Wolff
Heather & Liam Gehrke		

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



MEN'S BREAKFAST



The Men's Breakfast group will meet Wednesday, May 12th, 9:00am, at Gus' Diner in Sun Prairie. Masking and social distancing as mandated by Dane County will also apply.

Please contact Dave Weinberger at 608-225-0588 or Roger Kittleson at 608-843-9895 if you'd like to attend.

BIBLE STUDY RETURNS

In-person Bible Study begins Wednesday, May 5 at 1:00pm. Drop in as you are able. Masking and social distancing will apply.



BURKE CHECK-IN

Join us Thursdays online at 1:00pm as we continue via Zoom to meet informally and catch up with each other. Link is posted on Facebook each week.



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 (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

Burke Lutheran Church Endowment Foundation 2020

The foundation met three times during 2020.

- The foundation provided financial assistance to two individuals.
- Articles of Incorporation and By-laws were reviewed and updated.
- The foundation provided a loan to the church for up to \$100,000 for the new building.
- The foundation will continue to honor its \$10,000/year towards the building fund as part of the \$50,000 commitment (Year 3).

Name	2020 Ending Balance
Assets	\$323,033.65
2020 Disbursements/Expenses	6,571.00**

* of the above total assets, \$285,000 is principal.

** Does not include loan to the church.

Treasurer's Report – 2020

I am happy to report that despite the global pandemic, we ran our 2020 general operating budget at a surplus of \$16,697. Expenses ran about \$35,000 under budget and contributions were up by about \$12,000. Thank you to everyone who responded to our funding concerns. Here are a few things to note:

1. General Fund contributions increased by \$11,583 (8.4%).
2. We received \$19,508 from the federal PPP fund.
3. Through judicious spending, expenses ran under budget by \$35,102.
4. We operated at a surplus of \$16,697.
5. Our payroll was approximately 59% of general revenue. (2019 was 67%, 2018 was 72%)
6. We had \$108,530 of undesignated funds in the bank as-of Dec 31. (Up \$15,111 from last year)
7. The building fund had \$41,780 on hand on Dec 31.
8. We have paid out \$1,793,438 so far, for the church remodel/relocation project.
9. All budgeted benevolences have been paid.
10. All pass-thru contributions have been remitted to their beneficiaries.
11. Our books and records are maintained in "Church 360" a web-hosted site, which is working well.

Our 2021 projects include:

1. Appeal to members for help in meeting financial goals.
2. Continuing attention to expense management.
3. Completion of the building project.
4. Selling the surplus land.

Gratitude is owed to Tim Sandridge who has devoted many hours to the job of Financial Secretary, entering all the contributions into the accounting records. Tim has recently turned over the job to Kim Hanson, who has been doing well at it.

Behind this report is a 2020 Income & Expense Statement, a Chart of Account Balances, and a summary sheet comparing 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020. A complete set of all accounting records has been provided to the Council Secretary for inclusion in the permanent archive.

Bruce Bosben
Treasurer

Burke Lutheran Church 2021 Budget					
Executive Council Budget			Preach Board		
Pastor Salary	\$ 46,000.00	63,181	Guest Pastors	\$ 400.00	
Pastor Housing	\$ 18,000.00		Music Supplies	\$ 400.00	335
Pastor Social Security			Altar Supplies	\$ 200.00	67
Pastor Benefits	\$ 11,700.00	10,124	Worship Materials	\$ 150.00	0
Staff Salaries	\$ 18,000.00	12,028	Organ/Piano Maintenance	\$ 200.00	0
Payroll Taxes	\$ 3,500.00	2,815	Total Expenditures	\$ 1,350.00	
Payroll Service	\$ 1,750.00	1,685	Reach Board		
Coffee Hour/Kitchen	\$ 500.00	0			
ELCA Synod Support	\$ 2,750.00	2,750			
Lutheran Social Services	\$ 600.00	600	Evangelism	\$ 150.00	0
Conferences & Conventions	\$ 550.00	0	Devotional Materials	\$ 250.00	74
Campus Ministry	\$ 500.00	500	New Member Activities	\$ 100.00	0
Special Benevolences	\$ 1,000.00		Fellowship Activities	\$ 100.00	0
Total Expenditures	\$ 104,850.00		Total Expenditures	\$ 600.00	
Pastor's Budget			Teach Board		
Auto/Travel	0	0			
Professional Expense	0	0	Sunday School	\$ 650.00	221
Continuing Education	0	0	Vacation Bible School	\$ 300.00	0
Books/Periodicals	0	0	Confirmation	\$ 300.00	0
Total Expenditures	\$ -		Adult & Family Ministry	\$ 100.00	0
Office Admin Budget			Youth Group	\$ 300.00	0
			Total Expenditures	\$ 1,650.00	
Copier	\$ 4,000.00	3,431	Property Board		
Computer	\$ 375.00				
Software	\$ 1,100.00	1,005	Church Maintenance	\$ 1,500.00	1351
Postage	\$ 700.00	648	Church Gas	\$ 4,000.00	3810
Office Supplies	\$ 300.00	181	Church Electric	\$ 5,000.00	4001
Web Page	\$ 350.00	0	Janitorial Supplies	\$ 500.00	0
Advertising	\$ 100.00	100	Audio Visual System	\$ -	149
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,925.00		Snow Removal	\$ 3,800.00	3790
Treasurer's Budget			Furnishings/Equipment	\$ -	0
Telephone	\$ 2,000.00	1,607	Moses - Property Tax	\$ 2,800.00	2647
Government Fees	\$ 50.00	10	Moses - Maintenance	\$ -	0
VANCO Fees	\$ 500.00	460	Total Expenditures	\$ 17,600.00	
Loan P&I	\$ 22,000.00	4,731	Est. Contributions	\$ 155,600.00	
Insurance	\$ 7,500.00	7,315	Total Budgeted Expenses		
Stewardship	\$ 350.00	328		\$ 165,375.00	
Total Expenditures	\$ 32,400.00		Projected Deficit	\$ (9,775.00)	

Youth & Kids Corner

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Online Confirmation Classes will run through the end of June. Confirmation Sunday will probably be in the fall again this year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Serving on your Teach Board:
Council Representative: David Hanson
Superintendent: Jean Schnick

Watch for upcoming news via email!

CONGRATULATIONS SENIOR HIGH GRADUATES!

We celebrate your success: Chloe Baumgartner, Kimberly Brown, Kendyl Hughes, Hope McFarlin and Aysha Romeis. Congratulations!



NEW CROSS

Atonement Lutheran Church in Beloit has closed. They are disposing of everything in the church and invited other churches to come in and take any items they could use. They were only asking for a donation to the Synod office. We were able to get a couple of new carts for the quilters, a chair for the office and this beautiful cross that will go outside. We hope to put the cross in the v shaped area between the church and the fellowship.

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
						1
2 Worship, 9:00am & live stream	3	4 May the 4th Be With You!	5 Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1:00pm Online Confirmation Class	6 Zoom Burke Check-In, 1:00pm	7	8
9 <i>Mother's Day</i> Worship, 9:00am & live stream	10	11 Council Meeting, 6:30pm	12 Men's Breakfast, 9:00am Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1pm Online Confirmation Class	13 Zoom Burke Check-In, 1:00pm	14	15
16 Worship, 9:00am & live stream	17	18 Foundation Mtg, 7:00pm	19 Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1:00pm Online Confirmation Class	20 Zoom Burke Check-In, 1:00pm	21	22
23 Worship, 9:00am & live stream	24	25	26 Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1:00pm Online Confirmation Class	27 Zoom Burke Check-In, 1:00pm	28	29
30 Worship, 9:00am & live stream	31 					

Save the Dates: June Watch for return of Coffee Hour
June 28 Begin dropping off items for garage sale
July 9-10 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...

	May 2 9:00am Service	May 9 9:00am Service	May 16 9:00am Service	May 23 9:00am Service	May 30 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist
Music Leader	Darrell Foss Joann Foss	Dave Wisner Linda Truitt	Darrell Foss Joann Foss	Dave Wisner Linda Truitt	Darrell Foss Joann Foss
Reader	Nancy McClurg	Barb Hennings	Hope McFarlin	Clara Neubert	Jean Schnick
Ushers	Bob Lenzendorf	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon			

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendars for the following dates and plan to join in the fun and fellowship!

August 15 **Open House & Ice Cream Social, 11am-2pm**
September 12 **Rally Sunday**
October 30 **Trunk or Treat**
November 13 **Craft Sale**
December 5 **Advent by Candlelight**



COMING SOON

Thanks to the work of Deb and Gary Brown, Jo and Ted Cooper, Jeannette Gerhke and Bill Lien we are going to be selling these lighted church blocks. The glass blocks are from the former church basement windows. They have a picture of the church on and are lighted. Cost is \$40 with all proceeds going to church. There will be a sample in the narthex if you would like to see it. We have a very limited number so if you want one get your request in early. Make checks payable to Burke Lutheran Church.