



Partners in Ministry

Serving God and others through
the Evangelical Lutheran Churches of
America

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

1409 South Eighth Avenue, East
Newton, Iowa 50208
Church Phone: (641) 792-1683
www.HTLchurch.com

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 242, 8290 Hwy. F-62, East
Sully, IA 50251
Church Phone: (641)-798-4651
www.standluth.com

Words from Pastor Kari's Pen.

"We are not what we know but we are what we are willing to learn" - Mary Catherine Bateson

This is perhaps one of my favorite quotes about wisdom (besides the words of Proverbs).

Much of how we value ourselves and our life experiences is by showing people how much we know. For kids this may look like naming all the Pokemon, doing long division in our minds, remembering all the words to the preamble to the Constitution. For adults this is memorizing not just your social security number, but also the numbers for your spouse and children. Or remembering which year which storm happened and what championships were won. Maybe knowing all details to the hardest part of our job.

If we "know" these things we consider ourselves capable, smart, and able. But knowledge is not a stagnant thing. Just think of all the times you have memorized African or central Slovakian countries only to have them change, merge, or be overthrown. You can "know" something only to have it change.

It is also much the same with our faith. It is not how much you know that makes you the person of faith you are, but what you are willing to learn. We "know" Christ died to save us from sin. But it is not knowing it theoretically that changes our lives...

It's learning about it first hand.

Are you willing to learn just how deep God's love for you flows?

Are you willing to learn humility, justice, and peace, not for your own personal gain but for the gain of your neighbors?

Are you willing to learn what it feels like to approach a tomb only to be confused, scared and joyful that it is empty?

You and your faith are not what you know, but what you are willing to learn.

Be a student. Study Christ's love, compassion, and mercy. You will fail some objectives and still learn. You will learn somethings and still not "know" anything.

Be willing to learn. Together let's see what God makes us into!

"Let the wise hear and increase in learning,
And the one who understands obtain guidance." - Proverbs 1:5

Pastor Kari Lee



We had an amazing month of March at both churches. From delicious breakfast , an amazing Easter play, to 1st communions, to baptisms! Here is just a small glimpse into what you can expect from St. Andrew's and Holy Trinity.



**HAPPY
Birthday
FROM YOUR
CHURCH FAMILY**

Marcia Goodrich (April 10)

Hannah Neleman (April 16)

Peggy Hiemstra (April 26th)

Kari Lee (April 29)

McKenzie Downing (April 29)

Melanie Sharp (April 30)

SUNDAY MORNING ASSISTANTS

Any questions contact Linda Bennett
Phone 641-218-1547

LITURGIST

04/07/24 Ange Sevenbergen
04/14/24 David Nilles
04/21/24 Staci Arnold
04/28/24 Wes Ranard

READER

Ange Sevenbergen
David Nilles
Staci Arnold
Sue Ranard

USHERS/GREETERS

04/07/24 Wes & Sue Ranard
04/14/24 Bill & Vicky Bennett
04/21/24 Bill & Linda Bennett
04/28/24 Dianne Clemon & Marilyn Butler

ACOLYTES

Runa or Eloise
Runa or Eloise
Runa or Eloise
Runa or Eloise

A wakeup call

God — let me be aware.

Let me not stumble blindly down the ways,
Just getting somehow safely through the days,
Not even groping for another hand,
Not even wondering why it all was planned,
Eyes to the ground unseeking for the light,
Soul never aching for a wild-winged flight,
Please, keep me eager just to do my share.
God — let me be aware.

God — let me be aware.

Stab my soul fiercely with others' pain,
Let me walk seeing horror and stain.
Let my hands, groping, find other hands.
Give me the heart that divines, understands.
Give me the courage, wounded, to fight.
Flood me with knowledge, drench me in light.
Please — keep me eager just to do my share.
God — let me be aware.



—Miriam Teichner

Bible Quiz

What does the newly risen Jesus tell his disciples — twice — when he appears in the locked room where they are hiding?

- A. "Love one another as I have loved you."
- B. "Peace be with you."
- C. "The last shall be first and the first shall be last."
- D. "I am risen!"



The Answer is on pg. 4

2024 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church - Service Helper List

updated 01/08/2024

| Date | Greeter | Lector | Candle Lighting | Comm. Asst. | Altar Guild |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 4/7/2024 | Marcia Goodrich | Teri Bowlin | Easton Collum | John Freeborn | Barb Freeborn |
| 4/14/2024 | Mark & Amy Collum | Jessica Winegar | Hudson Winegar | | |
| 4/21/2024 | Beth, Madie & Charly Fenner | Carol Naeseth | Jacob Bell | | |
| 4/28/2024 | Sophia & Jacob Bell | Doug Bell | Peyton Sharp | | |
| 5/5/2024 | Stacey Simbro | Nancy Wright | Payton Bowlin | Amy Collum | Nancy Wright |
| 5/12/2024 | Katie & Hunter Neleman | Teri Bowlin | Sophia Bell | | |
| 5/19/2024 | Wayne & Marlene Sharp | Jessica Winegar | Charly Fenner | | |
| 5/26/2024 | Mike & Norene Paulson | Carol Naeseth | Hannah Neleman | | |
| 6/2/2024 | John & Barb Freeborn | Doug Bell | Kahila Sharp | Vicky Bell | Carol Naeseth |

In March, our mission support to the synod was \$498. There was also a donation of \$300 to ELCA Disaster Response.

Our monthly mission emphasis was for Jasper County Hunger Relief who received a donation of \$770 from a combination of member donations and budgeted funds.



For April, the council has chosen the Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach (LCO) for our monthly mission. The mission of LCO is “to compassionately share the good news of God's healing love and grace through providing an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America chaplain at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.” If you'd like to contribute to this mission, please write “LCO” on your check or offering envelope.

Our church will be hosting a meal packaging event for Jasper County Hunger Relief on April 20th. Holy Trinity's team will be packaging at 10am. Please sign up on the sheet on the hallway bulletin board if you'd like to participate. Another way you can support this mission and our church's volunteers is by donating to the JCHR team funds.

Superimposed love

Maybe you've heard how salvation is like a total solar eclipse: God doesn't see our sins because Jesus' holiness covers them completely. Or maybe you've heard how trials can cause an “eclipse of faith.”

At WorldChallenge.org, Pastor Gary Wilkerson explains that in Greek, eclipse means “I am absent” or “I cease to exist,” because people once thought the gods temporarily extinguished the sun. “For Christians, a ‘spiritual eclipse’ is a dark hour when God seems to be absent from our lives,” Wilkerson writes.

Wilkerson points to Peter being sifted like wheat, Elijah and Jeremiah facing extreme discouragement, and David collapsing morally. Amid Satan's attacks, “God seems completely absent,” writes the pastor. “In that dark moment of eclipse, the devil has created such chaos we can't possibly see a way out.” During times of testing, Christians must cry out to God and trust his faithfulness. Completing the eclipse analogy, Wilkerson shares Titus 3:4, the “love of God our Savior appeared” (NIV). The Greek meaning of appeared here is superimposed, he

writes. God looks on our fraught-filled times of eclipse and “superimposes his divine love over us.”

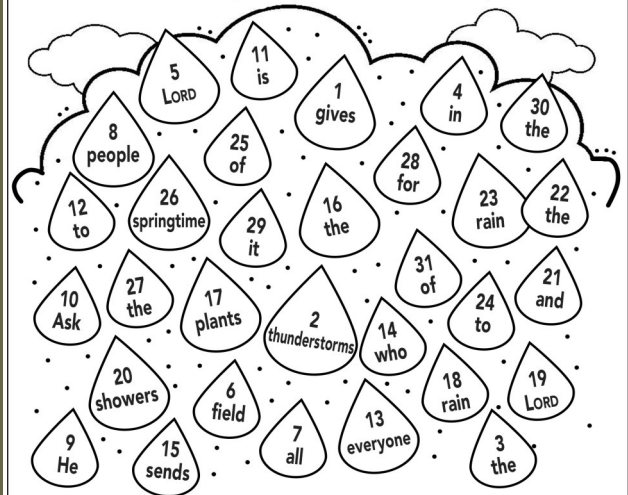
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Amen.



Puzzle!

Complete a Bible verse about spring by writing the word from each raindrop on the correct numbered line below.



10 _____ 16 _____ 5 _____ 28 _____ 18 _____

_____ 4 _____ 22 _____ 26 _____ ;

29 _____ 11 _____ 3 _____ 19 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____

_____ 27 _____ 2 _____

9 _____ 1 _____ 20 _____ 31 _____ 23 _____

12 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 21 _____ 17 _____ 25 _____

30 _____ 6 _____ 24 _____ 13 _____

Zechariah 10:1, NIV

Answer: Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone; Zechariah 10:1, NIV

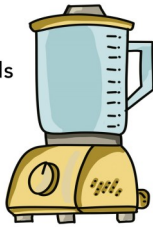
Answer: B (See John 20:19, 21.)

SOMETHING OLD, Something New

Use scrap paper to fuel new growth and make a gift that keeps on giving.

What you need:

- Scrap paper
- Water
- Herb or flower seeds
- Blender
- Strainer
- Cookie sheet
- Towel
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Tear the scrap paper into strips and place in a bowl. Cover the paper with water and let it soak overnight.
2. Pour the mixture into a blender and blend about 10 seconds.
3. Strain and squeeze the paper pulp to remove excess water. Place in a bowl.
4. Sprinkle seeds over the pulp and mix to incorporate them into the pulp.
5. Shape the pulp into a flat layer on the cookie sheet. Use a towel to soak up excess water. Allow the paper to dry completely.
6. Tear paper into shapes or fold into a card. You can plant the paper directly into soil. Water it and then watch your plants grow!



Blessed are you

The Beatitudes receive little attention, lamented novelist Kurt Vonnegut. "But, often with tears in their eyes, [Christians] demand that the Ten Commandments be posted in public buildings. And, of course, that's Moses, not Jesus. I haven't heard [anyone] demand that the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, be posted anywhere."

Jesus' Beatitudes have much to teach about selflessness, mourning, peacemaking and more. Jim Berger, author of *Being Sermon on the Mount Christians*, explains that those teachings were once "viewed as a mandate for the faithful." Post-Reformation, they became less law-like and more of a "liberating directive." Berger writes, "For Jesus, being and doing are inseparable. The Sermon is at once theory and praxis. It is not enough to read it or hear it. Jesus intends it to be how we live."



PLANT, WATER, GROW

Building a faith community takes work. How did the church in Corinth come to be?

Directions: Use the code to fill in the words and complete a teaching of the apostle Paul.

KEY

- = God
- = seed
- = planted
- = watered
- = grow
- = one
- = anything
- = only

I _____ the _____, Apollos _____ it,
 but _____ has been making it _____.
 So neither the _____ who plants nor the
 _____ who waters is _____,
 but _____, who makes things _____.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7, NIV

Answer: planted, seed, watered, God, grow, one, anything, only, God, grow, one, one, grow, God, watered, seed, planted, grow

Christian symbol

VICTOR'S CROSS — Also called the conqueror's cross, the victor's cross is composed of the Greek cross, recognized by its four equal arms, adorned with Greek letters in each quadrant. The top left letters stand for Jesus and the top right letters stand for Christ (the horizontal lines above them indicate that they are abbreviations). The four letters across the bottom spell the Greek word for conqueror.





Holy Trinity/ St. Andrew's Lutheran

1409 South Eighth Avenue, East
Newton, Iowa 50208
Church Phone: (641) 792-1683
www.HTLchurch.com

**Worship Times are
as follows...**

**St. Andrew's
9:00am Worship and
Sunday school,
10:00 Fellowship.**

**Holy Trinity
10:30 am Worship
Fellowship @ Holy Trinity
11:30 am.**

