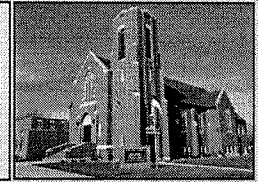


APRIL
2018 NEWS

Mabel First Lutheran Church

Serving God Since 1891



Our Mission Statement!

We, the family of Mabel First Lutheran Church, will constantly strive to be a place for all to come together to worship and learn in peace and harmony in a spirit of forgiveness to further the Kingdom of God.

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK . . .

Brevard Childs, a professor of Old Testament at Yale University, once wrote: "Unless you grasp in some measure the terror of Good Friday, you can never understand the good news of Easter." There is no resurrection without death; Jesus had to die before he was raised. But Good Friday is about more than our Lord Jesus' death on cross, and Easter means more than his defeat of death. Good Friday is the depiction and consequence of human sin. It is a terrifying matter indeed to know that our sinful rebellion, inherited through Adam and Eve, brought the Holy One of God to the cross. To kill an innocent person is a grave violation of all that is good, and it is especially grievous to know this crucified One was the Son of God who came to bring salvation. Without grasping the terror of knowing that Good Friday shows humanity's willful separation from God, people can never understand that Easter then means God does not allow these sinful wills to have the final word.

If we are courageous enough to make a moral inventory of ourselves and the world then we will surely find all roads in life lead to the cross where Jesus died. So we openly confess in the order of confession and forgiveness in our Lutheran hymnal, "we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves." When we know our soul is in bondage to sin we also recognize our need to be saved from our sins. Hearing Jesus Christ came to save us from our sins makes sense only if you know you're a sinner. We confess because we know it is the truth as told in Scripture: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (NRSV, 1 John 1:8). It was the mission of Christ's first apostles and it remains the mission of the church today to proclaim the Truth to the world, knowing the Truth sets people free (John 8:32).

As Christians, we live in a mainstream culture where many believe truth is relative. For this reason, sociologist Christian Smith says the belief system of the majority of people in America is "muddled." People may live in the shadow of Good Friday, witnessing the destructive power of sin and death that surrounds us, but they are unable to understand spiritually what it means. Sin produces sorrow not spiritual fulfillment. Freedom and peace does not come by fleeing from God, but by fleeing to God who is our refuge and strength. God saves us from our sins and eternal death. Good Friday is the dark dead end of the road. On Easter, the new road opens before the faithful into endless light.

Pr. Elliott Malm

CELEBRATING
20 YEARS

Midwest Mission Bible Training Center 20th Graduation Banquet

on Saturday, April 14, 2018
at the Expo Center in Cresco, Iowa.
Doors open at 5 pm. Dinner is at 6 pm. Tickets are \$15.00.
Everyone is invited!

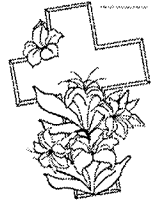
Come, join them to praise the Lord and celebrate the works of His hands.

For reservations, call Mike or JoAnna at 563-547-3286.
Reservations are needed by Friday, April 6.

**EASTER SUNDAY
April 1**

Easter Breakfast—serving from 7:00 am to 8:30 am

- Served by MFL Luther League—free will offering.
- Proceeds support the youth ministry of our congregation.



Easter Festival Worship Service—9:00 am

- NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday

**THE
STORY**



Purpose statement for *The Story*:

"Through The Story, Mabel First Lutheran Church will bring the chronological story of the Bible to all people so they know God's word, feel God's love, and foster Christian community."

Join us for a journey through ***The Story*** – a book of selections from the Bible, arranged chronologically, that reads like a novel. During this unique 31-week experience, every member of the family reads their own version of *The Story*.

Classes and small groups will be available for
 Preschool (ages 2-5),
 Early Elementary (ages 4-8),
 Elementary (ages 9-12),
 Confirmation/Youth (ages 13-15),
 and Adults (age 16 and older).

The chapters and readings for April are as follows:

Week 27 — April 1—Resurrection

Biblical references
 Acts 10:34-43; vPsalm 118:1-2, 14-24
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8

Week 28 — April 8

Biblical references Psalm 118:19-29; Luke 19:36-44
 Chapter: New Beginnings

Week 29 — April 15

Biblical references 2 Peter 1:16-21; John 8:51-59
 Chapter: Paul's Mission

Week 30 — April 22

Biblical references Psalm 118:19-29; Luke 19:36-44
 Chapter: Paul's Final Days

Week 31 — April 29

Biblical references 2 Peter 1:16-21; John 8:51-59
 Chapter: The End of Time

Come discover together with us how our story is found in God's story!

**MEN'S
BIBLE STUDY**

Pastor Malm will lead a **Men's Bible Study** at Green Lea Manor on the second Saturday of every month from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Join him on Saturday, April. 14. Men of all ages are welcome to participate. Please talk to Pastor Malm if you have any questions.

**MABEL FIRST
LINE OF CARE
507-493-5293**

Mabel First Line of Care—if you need a ride to an appointment, of any kind, or know of someone who needs a ride to appointments, Mabel First would like to assist those in need of this type of service. Simply call **507-493-5293** and leave a detailed message. Also, if you are available to give rides, you can talk to Pr. Malm, Lori Schutte, or call Mabel First Line of Care and leave your name and phone number. Thank you.

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER BIBLE CAMP

Registration is now open for summer Bible camps. Brochures are available in the narthex of the church and information is also available online at goodearth-village.org. Families with children and youth interested in attending Bible camp this summer are encouraged to talk to Pastor Malm to learn about the availability of financial help.

2018 MABEL AREA VBS

Mabel Area Vacation Bible School (VBS) has been scheduled to take place at Mabel First Lutheran Church on Monday, June 11 to Thursday, June 14. VBS is open to all children in kindergarten through grade 5. Four staff from Good Earth Village will join us to lead our program this year. Additional adult volunteers will be needed. Registration will begin in late May.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

April 29 is the final day of Sunday school for spring 2018. Recognition of teachers and students will take place during the worship service on Sunday, May 6. Parents are encouraged to attend worship with their children, who will be receiving certificates for participating in Sunday school.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS FOR 2018 EARTH DAY

Every fall and spring, our confirmation students participate in a roadside clean-up of litter along Minnesota Highway 44 north of Mabel for the MnDOT Adopt a Highway program. This spring, in observation of Earth Day (April 22), a Thrivent Action Team is being formed to do additional projects around the community on Wednesday, April 25, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. People of all ages are welcome to join in this day of service.

Led by Pastor Malm and Pastor Safe from Henrytown Lutheran Church, confirmation students as well as any adults from our congregations and community will gather at MFLC on April 25 at 3 p.m. Participants will depart for work on a group service project of choice (to be determined) from 3:30-5:30 p.m. After our projects, everyone is invited to return to the church for pizza or some other food. For more information or if you are an adult interested in helping serve as volunteer or project leader, please call Pastor Malm at 507-493-5293.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BISHOP

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod invites men to come for breakfast with the bishop at Cabela's in Owatonna, Minn., on Saturday, April 21, from 9-11 a.m. The guest speaker for the event this year is Al Batt, a newspaper columnist whose writing about wildlife and the outdoors is featured regularly in the Bluff Country Reader. Cost to attend is \$10 a person. Those who are interested in attending must register with Pastor Malm by April 10, as he will be organizing a trip for the men from our area.

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL First Wednesday of every month

Mabel First Lutheran Church will be serving a meal in the lower level of the main church from 5:00 to 7:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month. April 4 is the next Community Meal. The meal will have a simple soup and sandwich type menu and is open to all members of the community at no cost.

**All are invited and welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors!
It's free and open to the public!**

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation April Schedule
Confirmation class is at 3:30pm

April	4	Confirmation Class
	11	Confirmation Class
	18	Confirmation Class
	25	Community Service Projects

PASTORAL ACTS
(March)

Baptisms:	None
Funerals/deaths:	None
Transfers in:	None
Transfers out:	None
Weddings:	None

PRAYER CONCERNS



Bereavement:

family and friends of Lorren Tingesdal, Charlotte Edwards and Maynard Johnson (siblings of Odell Johnson) and Stanley Torgerson (brother of Dale Torgerson)

Long-term care:

Rodney Benner, Violet Pederson, Mel Ruehmann, Marlys Schulte, Dorothy Treangen, Alice Wilbur

Health concerns:

Gary Adams, Gwen Allen, Alex Arneson, Jack Arneson, James Arneson, Gage Dahlberg, Danny Donlan, LaVonne Donlan; Kiley Eiken, James Gunderson, Shelly Henry, Betty Johnson, Rosemary Ketchum, Gary Kruse, Ryan Lee, Kay Marin, Joe Osbourn, Steve Remick, Irene Rice, Becki Russell, Susan Snell, Tim Sollien, Gloria Torgerson

Service members:

Gregery Johnson, Luke Johnson, Adam L. Johnson, Benjamin Lee, Jeannie Vick

WELCA NEWS

April WELCA information:

WELCA Meeting — Thursday, April 5 — 2:30 pm
Bible Study follows at 3:30 pm

Hostess: Rachel
Coordinator: Ruth
Flowers/Coffee: Rachel



April 14, 2018 — ROOT RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING EVENT
at Henrytown Lutheran Church (9am-1pm)

WELCA Do Day — date to be determined / as needed

**SE MN
SYNOD
Prayer
Calendar
for APRIL**



**God's work.
Our hands.**

April 1, 2018: Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter
Peace and justice in all places

April 8, 2018: Second Sunday of Easter
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Wells
St. Paul's of German Lake, Cleveland
West Freeborn Lutheran Church, Hartland
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Le Center
United Lutheran Church, Frost
Dinka Sudanese Worshipping Community in Austin
Nzega Lutheran Church, Tanzania

April 15, 2018: Third Sunday of Easter
North Blue Earth Lutheran Church, Bricelyn
People of Hope, Rochester
Deer Creek Valley Lutheran Church, Glenville
Kinakumi Lutheran Church, Tanzania
Nkuhi Lutheran Church, Tanzania

April 22, 2018: Fourth Sunday of Easter
Union Prairie Lutheran Church, Lanesboro
East St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Byron
Evanger Lutheran Church, Dexter
LeRoy Lutheran Church, LeRoy
Mampanta Lutheran Church, Tanzania
Choma Lutheran Church, Tanzania

April 29, 2018: Fifth Sunday of Easter
Pontoppidan Lutheran Church, Ellendale
United Redeemer Lutheran Church, Zumbrota
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Plainview
Mazoezi Kitusha Lutheran Church, Tanzania
Shelui Lutheran Church, Tanzania
Palliative Care Program, Iambi Hospital, Tanzania
Seniors Programming Soacha, Colombia

**HELPERS FOR
APRIL**

ACOLYTES FOR APRIL

(confirmation students)

April 1	Molly Lee
April 8	Kennedy Sorum
April 15	Rien Crawford
April 22	Rien Crawford
April 29	Veda Gerleman

COUNTERS SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

April 1	Lynn Sollien
April 8	Barb Davis
April 15	Candy Erickson
April 22	Diane Fishel
April 29	Donnie Garness

USHERING TEAM FOR APRIL

Jerry Jacobsen: Chairperson
Daylon Jacobsen
Justin Jacobsen
Vonda & Richard Budde

**CHURCH
COUNCIL
MINUTES**
March 6, 2018

President Pam Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Members present: Barb Davis, Myron Sylling, Diane Fishel, Pastor Malm, Donnie Garness, Joe Larson, Pam Johnson. Absent: Tyler Mikesch, Sherry Johnson, Lynn Sollien.

Secretary's report was reviewed and approved by consensus.

Treasurers report was reviewed and approved by consensus.

Pastor's report was reviewed and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Cemetery Committee: none

Endowment Committee: none

Executive Committee: none

Memorial Committee: none

Mission Committee: none

Music & Worship Committee:

- Garret will be gone this summer, so Linda Gjerdrum will help fill in July.

Nominating Committee: Didn't meet.

Property & Management Committee:

- The leak in men's bathroom has been fixed.
- Donnie has checked with Haugerud in Harmony to do the painting and repairs of inside church. No estimate has been given.
- License for the elevator has expired so Myron will check into this.

Youth & Education Committee:

- Pastor talked about the Lock-in that is coming up. Luther College Ministries will be there. Pam Johnson will make the food and stay all night.
- Sunday School concerns is that the attendance is slipping. A comment by a parent that children are bored with material. It was discussed and decided that we will remain with present material.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Still no financial secretary.
- Pastors mileage was approved. Motion by Myron and seconded by Diane.

NEW BUSINESS:

- On Feb 16, staff from school, Don, Joan and custodian met and was approved for Mabel First Lutheran Church to be the designated site for an evacuation site.
- Ecumenical Vacation Bible School has been set for June 11-14 from 6p.m. to 8 p.m. Good Earth Village again will do the program. June 11 will be followed by a dinner and June 14 will be concluded with a program. Need volunteers.
- Committee for studying the condition/use of education building have not yet met. John Westby name was nominated as chairman, with alternate to be Steve Darrington. Diane volunteered to call John and Steve. All motions were tabled till next Council Meeting in April, which at the time all committee members will be voted on. Peyton Klemish name has been added to list of Committee members along with John Westby, Lori Schutte, Don Garness, Myron Sylling, Steve Darrington, Orel Tollefson, and Pam Johnson.
- Copier needs repair which was approved. There is a service contract to fix copier. Myron will call and talk to them.
- Good Earth Village Retreat was tabled till April council meeting to get more input on dates to go.
- Easter Sunday is April 1. Pastor asked for approval for a vacation day of April 3. He will return on April 4. Diane made motion to approve Pastors holiday, it was seconded by Donnie.
- Pam Johnson is now President of Church Council. Motion was made by Myron for Pam Johnson to have her name put on all accounts that Darlene Larson had at the bank for church, approved by consensus.

Meeting adjourned by consensus.

Meeting was closed with readings and prayer in the sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Davis