

June 2019

						1
2 <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00am Worship W/HC 10:30am Adult Bible Study	3	4 8:30am Quilter's Group 2:00pm Stephen Leaders 2:30pm Leadership Meeting 4:30pm Prayer Group 6:00pm Evangelism Meeting	5 7:00am Pastor B'fast Mtg 3:00pm Pastor's Little Lambs Time 7:00pm Worship Service <i>"The Ascension"</i>	6	7 3:00pm Little Lambs Story Time	8
9 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> 9:00am Worship 10:00am Carole White-LCEF 10:30am Adult Bible Study 5:00pm Birthday Celebrations	10	11 8:30am Quilter's Group 2:00pm Stephen Leaders 4:30pm Prayer Group	12 7:00am Pastor B'fast Mtg 3:00pm Pastor's Little Lambs Time 7:00pm Worship Service <i>"The Visitation"</i>	13 <i>"Commemoration of The Ecumenical Council of Nicaea, AD325"</i>	14 3:00pm Little Lambs Story Time 	15
16 <i>1st Sunday a. Pentecost</i> <i>Trinity Sunday</i> 9:00am Worship W/HC 10:30am Adult Bible Study 	17	18 8:30am Quilter's Group 2:00pm Stephen Leaders 2:30pm Leadership Meeting 4:30pm Prayer Group 6:00pm Elder's Meeting	19 7:00am Pastor B'fast Mtg 12:30pm Pastor & Teacher meeting 3:00pm Pastor's Little Lambs Time 7:00pm Worship Service <i>"Commemoration of Elisah"</i>	20	21 3:00pm Little Lambs Story Time 	22
23 <i>2nd Sunday a. Pentecost</i> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study	24 <i>"The Nativity of St. John the Baptist"</i>	25 8:30am Quilter's Group 2:00pm Stephen Leaders 2:30pm Leadership Meeting 4:30pm Prayer Group	26 7:00am Pastor B'fast Mtg 3:00pm Pastor's Little Lambs Time 7:00pm Worship Service <i>"St. Peter & St. Paul Apostles"</i>	27 1:00pm LWML Meeting <i>"Commemoration of Cyril of Alexandria, Pastor & Confessor"</i>	28 3:00pm Little Lambs Story Time	29
30 <i>3rd Sunday a. Pentecost</i> 9:00am Worship W/HC 10:30am Adult Bible Study <i>Reception for Dianne Clark's retirement from Stephen's Ministry</i>						

SHEPHERD OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

A Textbook Illustration of Grace



I always find it interesting to read the genealogy in Matthew as it traces bloodlines from Abraham to Jesus. The Christ is even introduced first as Abraham's son. This would have resonated with the sons and daughters of Jacob as the path of the One who was coming. They were always waiting for Yahweh to fulfill His promise to Redeem His people. The genealogy itself reads as expected; something of a "who's who" from the pages of the Old Testament. These his readers would have known well. We see Isaac, Jacob, and Judah; Salmon and Boaz the father of Jesse by Rahab—wait a minute, **Rahab??** The harlot from Jericho?

It's a blip in the New Testament. A blink. A breath. We're talking about the great-grandmother of king David, right? The same. The woman who interacted with the Israeli spies before the overthrow of that Amorite city. The land was corrupt, perverse, and deplorable to the degree that God had ordered its annihilation. Here sits Jericho, a wealthy, well-protected city on the outskirts. And there, high atop the wall in her home which also served as the office for her business (**Ahem) was Rahab. Here she 'served' the least common denominators in this wicked place. It was the Mos Eisley of that desert. And Rahab is the first person we meet in the account of the two spies sent by Joshua to do reconnaissance.

(continued page 2)

LITTLE LAMBS



Oh no... school is out, here comes the crazy! Just kidding, I am ready to kick back and take it a little bit easier.

Hopefully the weather will allow us to be outside more this summer. We have lots of fun things planned to do!!

Our Mother's Day Lunch went well. We had tacos in a bag! Thank you to everyone who came to the children's Concert and Preschool Graduation! It was another great turn out.



203 Port Neal Rd
Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054

Rev. Benjamin D. Perkins
Pastor

Pastor:

Cell: 636-328-5648
Email: pbenmin@outlook.com

Church Office:

Phone: 712-943-4502
Email: sopoffice@longlines.com

Preschool:

Phone: 712-943-4507
Email: sopll@longlines.com

Church Website:

www.shepherdofpeacechurch.com

Worship with Us

Sunday Morning

Worship Service 9:00am

Sunday School 10:15am

Adult Bible Study 10:30am

Wednesday Evening

Worship Event 7:00pm

Shepherd of Peace Mission Statement

We the members of the Body of Christ here at Shepherd of Peace, responding to God's love and selfless concern, dedicate ourselves and our congregation to: THE CONTINUAL GROWTH OF THE BODY OF CHRIST by unceasing efforts in the following areas: EDUCATION, WORSHIP, OUTREACH, AND SPIRITUAL CARE

Pastor Perkins continued...

As the king's messengers beat on her door, Rahab hides the spies and diverts the king's search effort. She confesses faith in the God of the Hebrews and asks for mercy from them if she is merciful with the spies. An agreement is struck, the walls of Jericho come down, and the next thing we know, Rahab's name is one of few mothers noted in Matthew's outline of Jesus' family tree.

The story is fascinating. Here we have a woman who is by no means reputable, virtuous, or moral. She was quite the opposite, in fact. As John MacArthur points out in his book, *Twelve Extraordinary Women*, she is never praised for these, but for her faith (see Hebrews). As such, she serves as a shining example of one rescued from sin and death and the power of the devil by None other than a gracious God. No one asked her to convert, to put off her life of sin, to give her heart to Yahweh; none of that.

In an impossible situation God puts an opportunity in front of her and she looks to him for saving. We don't have any clue what led to her action—mounting guilt at her life of sin or frustration with a culture that took and never gave. More than likely it was a combination of these.

But as Jesus will point out, the one who is forgiven much loves much. And Rahab becomes a joyful mother of children. And her grandchildren become kings.

God does amazing things in the lives of unworthy sinners, and through them He is glorified.

We'll look at Rahab and many others as we begin our Bible Study of 12 extraordinary women.

Pastor Ben

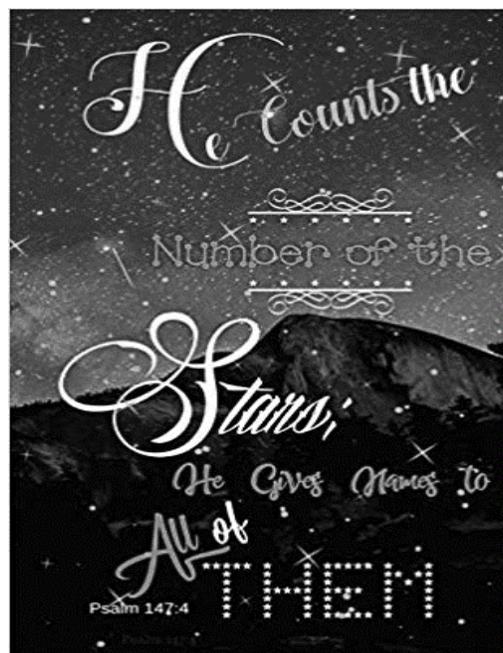
I'm glad God counts and names the stars. Most of us wouldn't know where to begin. Indeed, from **Genesis** (15:5) God uses the stars as metaphoric for 'countless'. The size and scope of God's creation never cease to amaze me as I learn about what He has made and done (as we know, the stars are only the beginning). The events He continues to orchestrate are also mind-boggling. More specifically, in the past year we have been introduced to a few of the countless mission groups and organizations at work in the world and around our synod. Member feedback has been very positive. To keep our perspective just a bit, we try and schedule one such visit every month.

I hope this month you will make it a point to meet **Carole White** from **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**. Carole is a dear friend and has much to share with us. LCEF is an amazing group with whom I have long had a great relationship. Some of you will be familiar with LCEF's loans and services to churches. They also have many services offered for the good of Christians and their families.

If your family needs financial guidance, lcef.org has many free helps like these:

- **Savings Calculator**—this is a great tool for strategy in paying down a mortgage.
- **Checkbook balancer**—great for doing just that, as well as teaching about budgets.
- **Emergency Savings Calculator**—gives you a picture of what you should keep in reserve.
- **Home Budget Analysis**—a great place to start if you are new to budgeting or need help.
- **Term Note Calculator**—when looking to invest, this can show you earning potential.

This list represents just one column under the 'Resources' tab at lcef.org! So many resources, so many products, services, and opportunities to learn, grow, and gain. Lutheran Church Extension Fund is an organization we will all do well to know better. Let's give Carole our best welcome and attention!





Summertime is such an exciting time for the kids and the SOP

Youth Group is adding to the excitement by announcing a Summer Youth Bible Study! I will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6p - 8p. The Youth Group will supply the materials and cool refreshing snacks or beverages. There will be no cost to the kids, but we will need to know if your child plans to attend so we can order the appropriate amount of materials. Please email Tawnya Wych (twych@yahoo.com) by June 5th if your child will be attending. A follow up email will be sent to all parents, of children attending, with more specific details.

We also have plans to spend some fellowship time with the senior center residents in Sergeant Bluff this summer. We will be playing BINGO at each Senior Center throughout the summer. We will announce dates and times by email and on the church website. The Youth Group will be inviting all members of the congregation to come share in the fun and spend some good quality time bridging the gap between generations for a day. Looking forward to another great Summer at SOP!

YOUTH FOR HIRE!!!

The youth and their families are available to help with tasks around the yard or house. Please go to www.shepherdofpeacechurch.com, click on the Youth Groups link, then on the Service Request link. This will open a form to complete. The youth board will coordinate a date

and time that works for you. Paper forms are also available at the church. Please fill out the form and give to a youth board member. Examples of service requests could be raking leaves, picking up sticks, etc....



It's hard to believe that we just celebrated Confirmation, Graduation and school

year's end, but before we know it VBS week will be here. A VBS planning meeting was held on Thursday May 23. Station leaders were identified...thank you to all for volunteering to lead these stations.

VBS is open to Preschool to completed 5th grade. Please invite friends and families with children to attend.

If anyone has any farm décor (aka overalls, bales of hay, and anything associated with farms) please kindly drop off to church by Friday July 26. Be sure to put your name on the items to ensure we get them back to you. If you do not want the items back, let us know this as well.

There will be a signup sheet in the fellowship hall for food items as we serve a meal to all participants each night (one of the meals will be pizza-requesting funds to help with the purchase of the pizzas). The kids make a craft each night so we will assess our current supplies on hand and then have a signup sheet for the items needed as well.

This is a great way to share the Good News of Jesus' love to the children of our congregation & community as well as with their parents.



Beneath the Big Top

If you have small children, you may get a chance this summer to go to the circus. Even with the advances in technology and entertainment options, the circus is not yet thing of the past. When you go, you want to arrive early to get your snacks and find a good seat. However, you don't want to arrive too early. You would see clowns getting on makeup, animals and the trainers practicing and maybe the trapeze artists stretching. That's not why you're here; you pay for the fully prepared and organized act beneath the big top. wait for the ringmaster. He directs everything and is our guide as we witness the many levels of the performance.

I am drawn to make a comparison between the circus and life. They say life is a circus; we can certainly all relate to this at some points in our lives. With family struggles on one side and worries about our job on the other, we still have to raise our children, go to meetings, and everything else in between. Everything has to be ready as we go from place to place. Meanwhile there are commitments to fulfill, bills to pay, houses and vehicles to maintain. If that doesn't describe a circus, I don't know what does. Thankfully, this "circus" that we call life has a very competent "ringmaster". His name is Jesus Christ. With him in control, we see life as going smoother. The next time our life is more of a "circus" than normal, I pray we can pass the responsibility to our Ringmaster, giving him the control that is his to begin with. Then we can effectively do the jobs that he has created us to do. Just like the ringmaster of a circus, no one else can do his job.

Kyle Hoogendoorn aka The Wheeled Worshiper-

Birthdays

Elizabeth Borkowski	June 2
Mindee Gaskell	June 3
Diane Zanter	June 3
Marjorie Haider	June 4
Hunter Wendel	June 4
Dale Peterson	June 5
Terry Moss	June 8
Cheryl Watterson	June 9
Alyssa Verros	June 10
Nathan Verros	June 10
Camden Wheeler	June 10
Kinley Wheeler	June 10
Tom Tainter	June 11
Rod Hefner	June 13
Jessica Wych	June 13
Brennan Perkins	June 14
Wayne Starr	June 14
Kayla Merryman	June 15
Jolene Tonner	June 15
Thomas Wych	June 18
Jackson Wych	June 22
Molly Umbrell	June 25
Kiandra Brenden	June 29
Michelle Colvert	June 29
Jean Johnson	June 29
Richard Zanter	June 30

Baptisms

Harley Starr	June 1
Darcy Burner	June 3
Diane Zanter	June 3
Marjorie Haider	June 14
Camden Baird	June 15
Abigail Marksbury	June 20
Arenne Marksbury	June 20
Brent Borkowski	June 20
Alexis Borkowski	June 22
Jillian Brenden	June 24
Kayla Merryman	June 25

Wedding Anniversaries

Jason & Lisa Bockelmann	June10
Greg & Linda Book	June10
Matthew & Jennifer Drees	June10
⁴ Allen & Lois Borkowski	June17

Open Letter To My Favorite New Confirmands

Dear Christian: It is with great joy that I reach out to you today. What an exciting time! The sun rises on a day of freedom! Opportunity! Your faith and the path you follow are under your own control.

Maybe you'll get a summer job. Maybe there is enough to do at home and with the summer schedule. You will almost certainly take part in some sporting event or camp. One thing's for sure—you have more things to do than you have time in which to do them.

If you are still determined (as I believe is the case) to keep those confirmation vows, you are Satan's target. If God's Spirit is pulling you toward the ministry, even more so. He will be coming for you. He doesn't attack in broad daylight—not at first. He waits. He watches. He observes patterns and looks for weaknesses.

When we got together last month to have your Christian Journey Launch Party, you were bold, confident, and determined. I pray that these have now become perseverance, steadfastness, and vigilance. Now, more than ever, you must stay alert.

Satan never bangs on the front door to tell you that God is bad. He taps on the window and whispers that *you are good. You are smart. You can decide for yourself. You can handle it. You deserve it.*

You see the pattern?

The devil tells these lies because we are eager and willing to believe them. All of those false claims are made of the same material as denial, willful ignorance, and self-disillusionment. Left to ourselves, these all will take us in the same direction: away from God's wisdom and toward our own desires and whims.

Board of Lay Ministry

The nature of the duties of this Board requires that only men noted for their Christian knowledge, zeal and experience in the spiritual work of the Kingdom of Christ shall be elected to membership. The Board shall consist of at least (five) 5 members, including the elected Director of the Board.

The basic objectives of this Board are the spiritual welfare of the Pastor and congregation members, individually and corporately, and the supervision of everything pertaining to congregational worship.

Tom Tainter	(712) 251-4576 ttainter@outlook.com
Michael Aguirre	(712) 943-3614 maguirre@1fbusa.com
Bob Lee	(712) 490-7016 robert.lee@royalcanin.com
Dan Umbrell	(651)-434-8223 dan.umbrell@crowniron.com
Mickey Haider	(619) 392-0544 mmmrbc7@yahoo.com

Do You Have A Prayer Request? Please contact Lannie in the church office at 712-943-4502, or email Lannie Knapp sopoffice@longlines.com and Michael Aguirre maguirre@cableone.net and they will get the prayer requests sent and to Pastor Perkins.

Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines: All information for the weekly **bulletins** should be turned into the church office by **12 noon on Wednesdays**. All information for the **newsletter** should be turned into the church office by **end on the third Wednesday of each month**.

Office Contact: Phone 712-943-4502, Email sopoffice@longlines.com

Church Website:
www.shepherdofpeacechurch.com

At your confirmation we talked about the cosmic Tetherball matchup that goes on with our souls. God is at the center, and we are connected to Him. Keep moving in the right direction (established at our baptism and reinforced at Confirmation) and we'll keep getting closer to Him. But Satan continues to pull us the other way—continues to batter us with attempts to change our direction. Sometimes he succeeds for a while. Again, hard to tell at first that we are drifting away; until we pick up speed.

Only the truth can keep our focus on the One who is truly wise. Only the means of grace and robes of Christ's righteousness can sustain your momentum and prepare you for the Feast that is to come. I pray you will avail yourselves of Christ's gifts and spend time in His Word and His Presence and especially His House as you get taller, tanner, and older this Summer. Some of you will grow a foot! God grant that you grow in grace also. Have an awesome Summer!

Pastor Ben