



## **THE SERVANT**

The monthly newsletter of Servants of Christ Lutheran Church, a congregation of The North American Lutheran Church serving the Cedar Rapids area

Meeting at Robins City Hall Community Room, 265 South Second St., Robins, Iowa 52328  
Worship: 9:00 am; Fellowship & Coffee: 10:00;  
Bible Class and Sunday School: 10:15  
Ron Voss, Pastor

\*\*\*\*\*June 2017\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Servants of Christ,

*And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought to always pray and not lose heart. Luke 18:1*

The Lord encourages us to pray regularly and faithfully and to not lose heart. Prayer provides us with an on-going, personal, and close connection to our God.

In my daily prayers, **I pray for the leaders and servants of the North American Lutheran Church.** These persons constantly travel across North America and the world in service to the Church and the world. You pray for them, too.

**I pray for the congregations and pastors in our Iowa Mission District** that they might be faithful in their calls to proclaim the mystery of Christ. I pray for our dean, the Reverend Marshall Hahn, that God would give him strength, courage, and wisdom as he carries out his work across our state.

**I pray for the people that you have shared with me,** the individuals that we include in our congregational prayers on a weekly basis. I have been including their names in the weekly email I send. Please keep me updated on their needs. Pray for them daily.

**I pray for you** on a daily basis. I pray that God will bless your ministry and keep you faithful. We are a small group, but the positive of that is we know each other by name and context and can pray for each other with knowledge and compassion.

**I pray daily that the Lord will bless our outreach efforts** so many will come to know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is a joy and privilege to pray at all times and not lose heart. Join with me in daily prayers on behalf of the Church, the world, and the specific needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Prayer makes a difference.

May the Lord fill your heart with hope!  
Ron

# STAY INFORMED

Augsburg Confession study continues through June. The last two months we have read and the Confession. In June our explain the main areas of teachings and practices of in the early 16th century. Be what your church believes!



discussed many articles in focus is on the Articles that disagreement with the the Roman Catholic Church sure and attend. Know

Gospel of Mark study begins in July. Mark is the shortest of the four gospels, just 16 chapters. Interestingly, Mark records more of Jesus' miracles than His sermons. Jesus was clearly a man of power and action, not just words. The study Bible we use will enrich our understanding of the texts and give us helpful historical and social context in which the events took place.

Bi-monthly brunch will be Sunday, June 25 following worship. Every two months we hold this fellowship/information/discussion time to review and plan for upcoming events in our ministry. Plan to attend.

Dedication of Mission in Christ Lutheran Church in Strawberry Point is June 25 at 2:00 pm. This is indeed a joyous occasion for this congregation and the entire Iowa Mission District. You are invited and encouraged to attend.

June 4 is Pentecost Sunday. We celebrate the giving of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem (fifty days after Jesus rose from the dead). This event is recorded in Acts 2 (see enclosed insert sheet on Pentecost). We have a new Pentecost banner to celebrate this great day in the life of the Church.



**All of them were  
filled with  
the Holy Spirit!**  
Acts 2.4

Holy Trinity Sunday is June 11. On this Sunday in the Church Year we will use the Athanasian Creed to confess our faith. This creed is a precise as it articulates in detail the One God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit . . . the God in which we believe.



# Friends of Madagascar Mission

Evangelist Program—“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, **to equip the saints for the work of ministry**, for building up the body of Christ . . . “ Ephesians 4:11

Total Financial Support Needed for 2017:

- \$26,400 (for 44 current evangelists)
- \$ 3,600 (for 6 additional evangelists)
- \$ 4,400 (for Evangelist Training Events)

(NOTE: Servants of Christ included in its 2017 Spending Guide \$1,000 to support this program.)

Bible School Program—“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations . . . **teaching them** to obey everything that I have commanded you . . . Matthew 28:19-20

Friends of Madagascar Mission supported two Bible Schools in 2016 and will add a third in 2017. The Bible Schools train evangelists through a two year course of rigorous study of the Old and New Testaments, church history, Lutheran teachings, Christian ethics, and many “how to do courses” like how to lead a Bible study, how to preach.

Total Financial Support Needed for 2017: \$30,500

*Prayer: Holy Spirit, empower the evangelists to proclaim the Gospel. Holy Spirit, open the lives of those who have not heard the Gospel to accept Jesus Christ as Savior. Merciful Father, raise up additional sponsors to support an evangelist. Hear our prayer. Amen*



### June Servants

Greeter/Usher: Becky Cooper  
Communion Assistant: Mike Arnold  
Snacks:  
\*\* June 4—Mary Collins  
\*\* June 11—Lenore Heckart  
\*\* June 18—Arnolds  
\*\* June 25—Tami Gerdemann

### Tag Along??

If you would ever like to go with Ron as he does door-to-door canvassing, let him know. You do not have to say anything, just observe the process.



## Colorful Sayings of Colorful Luther



### Luther on Human Nature . . .

- Nothing is easier than sinning.
- Human nature is like a drunk peasant. Lift him into the saddle on one side, over he topples on the other side.
- A lie is like a snowball. The longer it is rolled on the ground, the larger it becomes.
- God uses lust to impel man to marriage, ambition to office, avarice to earning, and fear to faith.

### Luther on Christian Freedom . . .

- If our Lord is permitted to create nice large pike and good Rhine wine, presumable I may be allowed to eat and drink.

### Luther on Marriage and Family . . .

- Think of all the squabbles Adam and Eve must have had in the course of their nine hundred years. Eve would say, "You ate the apple," and Adam would retort, "You gave it to me."

### Luther on Church Practices . . .

- What lies there are about relics! One claims to have a feather from the wing of the angel Gabriel, and the Bishop of Mainz has a flame from Moses' burning bush. And how does it happen that eighteen apostles are buried in Germany when Christ had only twelve?

### Luther on Prayer. . .

- Oh, if only I could pray the way this dog watches the meat! All his thoughts are concentrated on the piece of meat. Otherwise he has no thought, wish, or hope.

### Luther on Church Growth . . .

- We should preach the World, but the results must be left solely to God's good pleasure . . . I opposed indulgences and all the papists, but never with force. I simply taught, preached, and wrote God's Word; otherwise I did nothing. And while I slept or drank Wittenberg beer with my friends Philip and Amsdorf, the Word so greatly weakened the papacy that no prince or emperor ever inflicted such losses upon it. I did nothing; the Word did everything.



**Luther on Himself . . .** If I rest, I rust.

