

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

*******August 2017*******

Dear Servants of Christ,

The Essential Invitation

You and I have been invited to the banquet of Jesus Christ. It is indeed a banquet that we share in. It is a heavenly banquet here on earth. The table is more than full, full of the presence of God. The banquet feast of God's presence includes: the bounty of creation, the magnificence of the morning sun, the touch of a child's hand, work, play laughter, tears, bread, wine, water, friends, hope, meaning, forgiveness, eternity, plants animals, pets, and the kitchen sink. Everything! What a banquet God has prepared for us! In the cold and ever expanding universe, the earth is like a round banquet table that God has created for his children. The entire surface is coated with food and water. What a gift to be alive! What a gift to know his gracious presence in, with and under all that is! What a feast we have been invited to! (What a world it would be if only God's children would share the feast and care for each other!)

Further, we have been invited to know a person, the person of Jesus Christ. We intuitively understand what it means to know another human being. Like you, I have known some great human beings who have enriched and changed my life. Therefore, we sense what it means to know Jesus Christ. We sense what it means to know his presence, his values, his feelings, his stories, his friends, his purposes, his experiences, his suffering, his death, and his resurrection. We have been invited to know Christ, and to know Christ is to know the presence of God.

The essential invitation of a Christian witness invites people to come and meet Jesus Christ. As Andrew said to his brother, Peter, "Come and see. Come and see the greatest person I have ever met." That is the essential invitation. Come and meet Jesus; spend time with him, be with him, listen to him. Your life will be changed for the better as you come to know him more fully.

We each have the privilege of issuing the invitation. Invite people to know Jesus. Invite them to worship. Extend the invitation!!

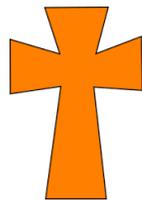
Ron

STAY INFORMED

Gospel of Mark continues through August. Join us at 10:15 following worship as we study the shortest gospel. Major themes of our study are: 1) Jesus Christ alone is the Son of God. In Mark, Jesus demonstrates His divinity by overcoming disease, demons, and death. Although He had the power to be the king of the earth, Jesus chose to obey the Father and die for us. 2) As the Messiah, Jesus fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament by coming to earth. He did not come as a conquering king; He came as a servant. By giving His life as a sacrifice for sin, He did the ultimate act of service.

And if you need a study Bible for this class and/or your home use, just ask Ron. He can provide you one at no cost to you.

Bi-monthly Brunch is August 27, following worship. Join us as we review and discuss our ministry in shared fellowship. Becky Cooper is providing the food.



Connections is a magazine of evangelical faith and renewal. If you would like to read a copy or have a two year subscription provided for you by the congregation, please let Ron know. Learn about your faith, be encouraged in your faith walk, find inspiration to share that faith.

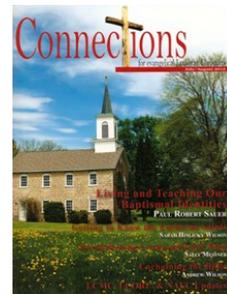
August Servants

Greeter/Usher: Lyle Gerdemann
Communion Assistant: Katheryn Oppeman
Snacks:
**August 6—Mary Collins
**August 13—Jackie Opperman
**August 20—Tami Gerdemann
**August 27—Brunch, Becky Cooper

Called to *Serve*

Lutheran Week

August 7-11, Nashville, Tennessee
Ron will be attending the theological conference/mission festival and annual convocation of The North American Lutheran Church. Pray that the actions taken by those in attendance will further the work of the church in North America and throughout the world.



OUR MISSION BUDGET

The mission budget of Servants of Christ is 28% of our 2017 anticipated income. In addition, Lenten offerings of \$970 were sent to Water Mission. Here is what your mission dollars support:

North American Lutheran Church General Fund	\$3,000
North American Lutheran Seminary	\$1,000
Iowa Mission District	\$ 500
Friends of Madagascar Mission	\$1,000
Trinity Lutheran Church, Warrenton, VA	\$1,000
Total Mission Budget	\$6,500

Thank you for your faithful financial support of this congregation and its outreach work.

Informational and Educational Materials

The following are available on the table at the entrance to our worship area:

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| <i>About Jesus</i> | <i>About Being Lutheran</i> | <i>Luther's Small Catechism</i> |
| <i>Steps to Peace with God</i> | <i>About Martin Luther</i> | <i>North American Lutheran Seminary</i> |
| <i>Booklet of Bible Memory Verses</i> | <i>Cults, World Religion, and Christianity</i> | |
| <i>The Work and Ministry of the North American Lutheran Church</i> | | |
| <i>Denominational Comparison Chart</i> | <i>History of Christianity</i> | |

Devotional Booklets: *Our Daily Bread* and *Portals of Prayer*

All materials are free. Take for yourself or to give to a friend. Materials are available in quantity if you need them; just ask Ron.



- Pray daily for outreach efforts that some will come to know and follow Jesus because of the invitations we extend on His behalf.
- Walk along with Ron as he visits in the community.
- Volunteer to be a follow-up caller on prospects and interested individuals.

“In nothing be anxious, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

What a release, what a privilege to be able to lay aside our cares!

