



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

*****July 2018*****

Dear Servant of Christ,

Jesus is our Pilot: *On that day, when evening had come, Jesus said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd, they took Him with them into the boat, just as He was. And other boats were with Him. And a great storm of wind arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But He was in the stern asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care if we perish?" And He awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" And they were filled with awe, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey Him?"* Mark 4:35-41

An old country pastor told his church there are three kinds of storms: the storm you are in, the storm you just got out of, and the storm you are heading into. Storms can stir up quickly on the Sea of Galilee. The sea sits below sea level and is surrounded by cliffs. Winds funnel through the hills and whip up sudden, violent storm. Jesus' disciples had most likely already experienced these.

Many times, our storms hit us quickly, seeming to come out of nowhere. We huddle in despair, like the disciples call out to the Lord, "Don't You care about us?" Jesus is with us through the storms, the only Pilot who can guide us safely now and eternally. Rev. Edward Hopper, pastor of the Church of Sea and Land in New York in the 1800s, wrote the following hymn, *Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me*:

Jesus, Savior, pilot me over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll, hiding rock and treach'rous shoal;
Chart and compass come from Thee. Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

In Christ's love,
Ron

STAY INFORMED

The Parables of Jesus

The parables of Jesus is the focus of our Sunday morning Bible studies through the summer. Our resource book is *The Parables of Jesus* by William Barclay.



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- July 1 - Hidden in a Field, Matthew 13:44
- July 8 - He Sold All He Had, Matthew 13:45-56
- July 15 - Go and Do Likewise, Luke 10:25-37
- July 22 - You Fool, Luke 12:13-21
- July 29 - The Children of This World, Luke 16:1-12

Join us whenever you can. Use your study book at home.

July Servants



Greeter/Usher: Lyle Gerdemann
Communion Assistant: Aaron Opperman
Snacks:
**July 1—Mary Collins
**July 8—Judy Waugh
**July 15—Lenore Heckart
**July 22—Tami Gerdemann
**July 29—Ron Voss
FLOWERS: Mary Collins

July Outreach/Mission Support

\$333 - The North American Lutheran Church General Fund

\$800 - Friends of Madagascar Mission (read article in this newsletter)

Thank you for your faithful giving that allows us to support various mission efforts!

Outreach Visitation will continue throughout the summer months. Let Ron know if you would like to tag along. We invite, we share the good news of Jesus, we encourage.



2018 Lutheran Week

August 13-17, Denver Colorado

The annual convocation of The North American Lutheran Church will be held at the Crown Plaza Denver Airport Convention Center. The theme focuses on the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:8. The Holy Spirit is always:

Calling

Gathering

Enlightening

Sanctifying



The week's events include:

- **a Youth Ministry symposium
- **Discipleship Coaching
- **Women of the NALC annual gathering
- **Braaten/Benne lectures on theology
- **NALC Mission Festival and Convocation

Representing Servants of Christ will be lay delegates Dan and Lenore Heckart and Pastor Voss.





GLOBAL MISSION CONNECT

We often complain about the disconnects in our culture. You make a phone call and a computer answers. Stores are going out of business because people shop online. It is difficult to have a person-to-person conversation. Instead personal interaction is on Face Book and other electronic venues. Friends of Madagascar Mission (FOMM) works to personally contact you with your financial support of global mission.

- *Each phone call, email, and gift to FOMM receives a personal response.*
- *Each donor will receive updates on a designated gift.*
- *Each donor stays connected with our newsletters and annual reports.*
- *Each donor is shown personal thanks and appreciation.*
- *The recipients of your gifts are informed that FOMM is not so much an organization as it is a group of donors who support God's Global Mission.*

If you haven't yet discovered the joy and satisfaction of supporting global mission projects with a personal connection, please consider supporting FOMM's mission projects!

Leave a Legacy to Global Mission - FOMM has an endowment fund with gifting opportunities for specific projects. These gifts may be from wills, estates, insurance policies, IRA's and other investments.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Program - An easy way to support FOMM's mission with designated funds accumulated through your Thrivent Annuities and/or insurance products. Contact Thrivent to give a gift to global mission through FOMM.

The Amazon Smile Foundation - If you shop on Amazon, The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. **FOMM's unique Amazon Smile link is**
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-2312947>.

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**Our Mission is to Know Christ
and to Make Christ Known**

CORE VALUES OF THE NALC

Christ Centered

Mission Driven

Traditionally Grounded

Congregationally Focused

The core values of the North American Lutheran Church are accomplished through the power and work of the Holy Spirit. The special work of the Holy Spirit is to sanctify each believer (make us holy) by bringing us to faith in Christ, so that we might have the blessings of redemption and lead a godly life.

****Being Christ-centered**, we confess the apostolic faith in Jesus Christ according to the Holy Scriptures.

****Being Mission-driven**, we believe that making disciples must be the priority of the Church in the present age.

****Being Traditionally-grounded**, we affirm the ecumenical creeds and faithful witness of the Church across time and space.

****Being Congregationally-focused**, we strive to be a church that is organized to facilitate the ministries of local congregations.

The Church is only as strong as its individual members who are rooted and grounded in the Word, in prayer, in worship, in study. To help in these areas, look over the resource and study materials that are available free of charge on the information table each Sunday morning. Take copies for yourself and for a friend.

For more in-depth study and growth, consider requesting a subscription (again, at no charge) to the magazine *Connections*. This magazine of evangelical renewal is filled with many articles that will encourage and inspire your faith walk. See Ron if interested.

