



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



The Parish News

**Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl,
Jr. Pastor**

**Bonnie Kabrick
Director of
Christian Education**

**Kristin Kaldahl
Carolyn Blau
Dennis Avery
Organists**

**Karen Hargens
Kristin Kaldahl
Keyboard Players**

**Julie Moran
Office Manager**

**Tammi Dickman
Preschool Director**

**Ruth Obermeier
Preschool Secretary**

**Don Conlon &
Cindy Kunzmann
Custodians**

**Sunday
Worship Services
8:00 & 10:45 A.M.**

**Fellowship
9:00 A.M.**

**Nursery 9:15-Noon
Sunday School &
Bible Classes
9:30-10:30 A.M.**

**1311 E. 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301
(712) 262-5598 Phone
(712) 262-8396 Fax
Website —
www.spencer-
church.com**

**E-Mail —
felcoffice@smunet.net**

**Preschool
(712) 262-3699**

Jesus is My Savior from Sin

Dear friends and family of FELC, as we celebrate our nation's Independence Day, we must also thank the Lord for the freedoms that we enjoy. Our nation's history is replete with brave men and women who have fought and shed their blood so that we might enjoy living in the best country on the face of the earth, and we do them a great service by honoring their sacrifice. But, as we celebrate July 4th with fireworks and food, perhaps it is even more important, that we thank the Lord for the part He has played (and continues to play) in the blessings our nation has enjoyed. God has always blessed our nation with prosperity and protection.

Indeed, the Lord has spared our nation from the threat of many evils, but the world is still filled with people who long to deprive us and take our freedom and success away. So, what do you think? What is the greatest threat to our national security and the freedoms we enjoy? War? Poverty? Terrorism? Crime? Political discord? Natural disasters? Financial collapse?

Actually, there is a threat that is greater than all of these. It is a national threat that few would list or even stop to consider. The greatest threat to our freedom is sin. It may sound like a simple answer, but sin permeates everything that threatens our good lives — and for that matter — our eternal salvation. However, it doesn't seem so dangerous or threatening. The threat of sin doesn't scare us like the terrorists do or like the threat of economic collapse.

Still, it impregnates everything we know and love because it is all around us. The power of sin hounds us throughout our lives. It is always there, so we get used to it. And, unfortunately, it doesn't always set off alarms in our minds, as do so many other threats. Even unbelievers would agree that sin is not good, but they would never worry that it has the power to kill us.

Can sin kill? Does it have that kind of power? The Bible says sin is a deadly force that is a threat to our body and our souls. It covers us like dirt and makes us unworthy to stand before a perfect God. In fact, it is so deadly that just one "little" sin is enough to keep us out of heaven!

Who could save us from such a great danger? Well, it is Jesus, of course. Like any soldier, who protects his country from evils without, Jesus gave His life and shed His blood to protect us and give us the spiritual freedoms we enjoy because, as forgiven sinners, we are forever free from sin. By His blood He has washed us and made us whole, that we might be made members of His family, members of a "holy nation" and a "people belonging to God." That is what Peter meant when he wrote, ***'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light'*** (1 Peter 2:9).

Jesus has set us free. As people of God and members of His Church, our true national independence flows from the veins of Jesus. We are a people of faith, and in Hebrews chapter eleven we read about the historical people of faith

from the Old Testament. These men and women of faith are listed because they trusted in the Lord, ***“All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country — a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”***

So, as our country marks another Independence Day, and as we ask God to continue to protect our land from whatever may threaten us, we also remember what the Lord has done to free us from the deadly peril of sin. We celebrate July 4th, and we celebrate Jesus. It is because of His work that we are able to look forward to a heavenly country, to an eternal land, where nothing will threaten us ever again!

Hospitalized and Want a Visit from Pastor?

The Hospital is reviewing current procedures pertaining to access of information. During this process the patient census will not be accessible. **Parishioners are encouraged to inform Pastor Kaldahl, 363-3204 or the church office, 262-5598 if you wish to be visited while in the hospital. Please provide your contact/room information, as it will not be available at the front desk.** Patients who request clergy outreach will be assisted by hospital staff to make contact with either their regular clergy or be offered the opportunity to be visited by an authorized clergy member.

Discipleship

Week	Attendance			Communion			Offering	Sunday School	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total		Kids/Adults	Offering
June 4	133	92	225	117	68	185	\$ 9,835.00	8 /	\$ 60.00
June 11	131	108	239		—		\$ 6,721.00	21 / 47	\$ 12.00
June 18	146	69	215	124	62	186	\$ 7,266.00	/	\$ 0.00

	2016 Year-to-Date	February, '17	March, '17	April, '17	May, '17	June, '17	2017 Year-to-Date
Income	\$ 467,360.65	31,422.54	36,896.78	44,846.94	38,815.20	30,568.00	\$220,262.92
Expenses	\$ 478,009.54	50,524.78	38,896.35	37,948.28	44,889.32	35,356.35	\$250,991.74
Gain				6,898.66			
(Loss)	(\$10,648.89)	(19,102.24)	(1,999.57)		(6,014.12)	(4,788.35)	(\$ 30,728.82)

July, 2017

Youth and Family Life

Dear FELC Family,

By most standards, I believe we would say that this year's Vacation Bible School was a success. The new 3-day morning VBS had a few challenges with finding enough volunteers to man all the positions but enough volunteers stepped in to make it happen. Attendance was up by approximately 20 students too.



With the new format, we needed to plan out new schedules for our station rotations but, overall, it seemed to go quite smoothly. We also added a continental breakfast for the first time and that went well. The kitchen crew was also tasked with preparing and serving lunches as well. On the first day, the kitchen staff learned a few new tricks to make serving easier. By the second day, onlookers may have assumed the staff had been doing this for years. The children were happy with the meals and the parents were appreciative of having their children fed.

With crafts for the older children, we began something new this year. In reality, it is actually a repeat of a craft that had been done years ago. We had them paint the first three pieces of a nativity set. Each year, we will add on more pieces until they complete the entire set. For those who are aging out of VBS, we invited them to purchase the entire 15 piece set if they chose. For the younger children and preschoolers, we offered a variety of crafts which fit in well with our Mighty Fortress theme.

Each station leader and their staff did a tremendous job of leading and teaching the children each day's lessons, songs, and take home points as well. We completed all five lessons in three days. Overall, feedback from both parents and volunteers has been very positive. I am sure that we will take what we learned this year and apply a few changes for next year. We pray that the children grew in their knowledge and relationship with Christ, with the church, and with each other.

Thank you to our many volunteers who made our VBS possible!

Music: Macey Newhouse

Audio Video: Keith McCloud

Photographer & Slide Show: *Kristin Kaldahl

Stronghold Story Telling: Pastor Paul Kaldahl

Bible Challenge: Mr. Stephan Gonzales

Games: Jeff Chalstrom

Archery & Crossbow: Marty Eby

Games & Archery Helper: Micah Iedema

Registration: *Mary McCloud, Sarah Kladstrup, Becky Church, Emily Wassom, Ellie Thompson, + others who stepped in

Crafts: *Krystal Dahlman, Jenna Schauer, Emily Wassom, Ellie Thompson, Lynn Huffman

Meals & Snacks: *Ashley Olberding, Veronica Doede, Lori Dallman, Libby Stricker, Lynn Eby, Melissa Loehr

Master hotdog griller: Bryan Kladstrup

Crew Leaders: Kendrix Johnson, Brandon Nolin, Kashia Nolin, Matthew Nolin, Maggie Norgaard, Vanessa Unger, Chloe Jones, Cadence Rutter

Preschool Teachers: Rachel Gonzales, Krista Determan, Becky Norgaard, Katie Kladstrup, and sub Julie Chalstrom

Preschool Helpers: Andrea Kabrick, Allison Nolin, Olivia Ruden, Kaylee Iedema, Megan Schauer, Allie Norgaard, Kim Cloyd

Preschool Games: Lynn Eby

Childcare: Connie Loughery, Lynnea Loughery, Breanna Wacker

Backdrop construction: Mike Iedema & Corey Langer

Décor: Bonnie Kabrick, Beth Miller, Krista Determan, Andrea Kabrick, Kendrix Johnson, Diane Determan, Chloe Turner, Quinton Crouch, Angelina Kabrick, Mercedes Unger, Ashley Olberding, Sarah Kabrick

Jack of all trades who helped anywhere needed: Julie Chalstrom, Corey Langner, Kris Unger, Jeff Chalstrom, Lynn Eby, Kenny Bishop

T-shirts: Steve, Linda & Katie Kladstrup Bus driver: Jeff Chalstrom. Bus Monitor: Lynn Eby

Thank you to Sherwin Williams who donated paint sticks for one of our crafts and Pizza Ranch who donated empty #10 cans.

July, 2017

Lutheran Women's Missionary League



Sunday, July 9, 2017

Mitey Mission Miracle Sunday

Serving coffee, rolls, coffee cake, & muffins during fellowship time at 9:00 a.m.

Thank you to the members of First English for their support of the LWML National Convention. I was able to take \$366 for the Mission Walk, which begins the mission mite goal for 2017-2019. I also took 22 gift cards totaling \$395 and packages of underwear for children for the Gift of the Heart for Lutheran Family Service and Albuquerque Children's Home. Your mission heart is greatly appreciated. Praise be to God for this mission work.

On Sun. July 9, join us for a Ham Dinner, and bake sale! Profits will help defray travel expenses for FELC college student Krista Determan as she travels to Hong Kong for a 2-week mission trip. While there, she will be leading VBS and teaching English to older students. The meal begins at 11:45 a.m. This fundraiser is sponsored by the Bd. of Youth and Bd. of Christian Outreach. If you are willing to donate baked goods or help with this event, please contact Bonnie Kabrick or any Board member



Sunday School Superintendent Needed Immediately for summer and for the 2017-18 school year. If you'd like to help but would rather be a co-superintendent please contact Corey Langner or Bonnie Kabrick.

We are still looking for Summer Sunday School teachers to fill the schedule. Currently the youth have signed up for different Sundays but no one else has. The lessons are all ready to go so there isn't much prep work to do. Please consider taking a Sunday or two. There is a signup sheet in the Opportunity Corner.

Sunday School Teachers Needed for the 2017-18 school year. Anyone interested in teaching please contact Corey Langner or Bonnie Kabrick and let them know what age you would like to teach.

Searching for a Preschool Teacher's Aide- First English Christian Preschool has an opening for a part-time TA. If you enjoy working with young children and sharing your faith with them, please stop in or contact the Preschool, 262-3699. Must meet DHS requirements and a background check with fingerprinting will be done upon hiring.

July, 2017

**Church Council Minutes
Thursday, June 15, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

Members present: Mark Nothwehr, Pastor Kaldahl, Barb Muetzel, Priscilla Nagel, Kay Wilson, Ashley Olberding, Keith McCloud, Deb Hinkeldey, Tim Hoffman, Jeff Chalstrom, Steve Hallgren, Leonard Langner, Bonnie Kabrick

Opening Prayer at 7:10 p.m. by Pastor Kaldahl

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Kay Wilson, seconded by Priscilla Nagel to approve May minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Kay Wilson.

General Fund at 6/14/17

Ck. Book Balance	\$ 67,074.57
Dedicated Funds	67,135.30 (\$50,000 designated for west drive & parking lot paving)
Memorial Funds	764.00
<u>Tax Liabilities</u>	<u>4,865.70</u>
Available Funds	(\$ 5,690.43)

Preschool Fund at 6/14/17

Ck. Book Balance	\$ 45,748.46
<u>Dedicated Funds</u>	<u>9,294.73</u>
Available Funds	\$ 36,453.73

IGLLS Building Fund at 6/14/17

Ck. Book Balance	\$ 74,410.27
LCEF Loan Balance	\$1,307,095.64

Motion was made by Barb Muetzel and seconded by Deb Hinkeldey to approve treasurer's report. All in favor, motion carried.

Mark Nothwehr reported that many designated funds remain and suggested Council consider transferring responsibility for oversight of these funds to New Horizons. Discussion was held with consensus that New Horizons may be in better position to contact donors to make sure these funds are used for their dedicated purposes or, if approved by donors, transferred into another fund. Tim Hoffman made motion to transfer responsibility to New Horizons. Jeff Chalstrom seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion was made by Keith McCloud to approve bills. Steve Hallgren seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

IGLLS Board report: Leonard Langner

- New first grade teacher, Rachel Pfofenhauer, will be arriving June 26 and moving in on June 27 - will need help unloading and would appreciate any volunteers
- Desks and chairs have been ordered; will now have same desks for all students
- Currently have 80 students registered for 2017-2018 school year; Mr. Gonzales projects final enrollment to be near 90 students
- IGLLS will be co-sponsoring a Trivia Night with Camp Okobojo on July 6th at Camp.
- Annual IGLLS Golf Outing on July 8th at Spencer Golf & Country Club.

Board of Elders : Tim Hoffman

- Planning a reception for Pastor Sharp's 35th anniversary, looking at some time in August
- Still looking for new members

Board of Trustees: Jeff Chalstrom

- Outstanding bills have been paid
- Continue to work on the bell tower
- Roof leaked during last rain - Mark reported manufacturer will be on site early next week to address issue
- Cleaned up around storage container
- Plan to take out items at old camp ground
- DeLoss plans to start west drive in 2-3 weeks

Board of Education: Ashley Olberding

- Contracts have been offered to two new teachers. Logan Eglund has accepted a position.
- Katie Campbell has resigned her position as teacher's aide. Will be advertising for this position.
- We are continuing to look for help with the Sunday School and Summer Sunday School. The high school students have offered to help teach with some of the summer classes. We continue to look for a Sunday School Superintendent.

- VBS is currently underway - have around 90 kids attending each day so far.
- We are still searching for another board member. We would like to recommend that the terms for board members be extended to 4 years and have 2 people per year.

Board of Youth: Bonnie Kabrick

- Summer activities planned for LYF & Jr. LYF include miniature golf and paintball
- Starting new youth program called "CIA" which will meet at Terrazzo on Tuesdays for coffee and fellowship

Board of Finance: Priscilla Nagel

- Continue to count each week
- Will send out mid-year statements at the end of the month

Board of Christian Outreach - Keith McCloud

- Flagfest float build went well - 2 day build is ideal
- Low turnout for recent events
- Continue to search for new members

Board of Christian Life - Barb Muetzel

- Hosting a Progressive Picnic on Saturday, July 15, 4:30-9:00? Will be selling tickets for this event @ \$10 per person to help cover cost of food. Event will begin and end at church. Hosts: Ruden's – Appetizers; Roti's, Muetzel's – Salads; Langners – Entrée; back to the church for ice cream sundaes and prizes.
- A new ladies' Bible study, Psalms in the Park, began last Wednesday, June 7, and will continue on Wednesdays, 10:00, at Deerfield Park. 18 women have signed up for the study, led by Shari Crew and Bonnie Ewoldt.

Board of Assimilation - Deb Hinkeldey

- Five private baptisms this month - three children, two adults.
- Six families assimilated this month.

Pastoral Items:

- Plans to take vacation days June 25 and July 2. Pastor Short will be here on the 25th and Pastor Wolfram on the 2nd.
- IGLLS Omelet Breakfast and "Food for the Poor" presentation scheduled for June 25th – will need an elder to help start the presentation during Sunday School hour.

Director of Christian Education Items: Bonnie Kabrick

- Fundraiser meal for Krista Determan's mission trip to Hong Kong will be held on July 9th. She will be teaching VBS over 2 weeks on this trip.
- Handed out over 800 flyers for VBS and First English Preschool during Flag Fest parade.
- VBS is going well - would like to evaluate changes made to see what worked well and what can be improved.

Old Business:

- RAGBRAI committee - due to difficulties getting together to plan, have decided to forgo a food stand.
- 125th Anniversary - Celebration of 125th Anniversary and Reformation tentatively being planned for October 29th. Executive committee currently looking for a speaker. Looking at possibility of all-church photo on this date.
- New Church Picture Directory being explored.
- Discussed how to get more members involved in open board positions. Will explore possibility of combining existing boards and other ways to successfully operate with fewer members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. with Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Olberding, Council Secretary

Expressing Your Gratitude

In John 12, we read about Mary of Bethany, who along with her sister Martha, gave a dinner for Jesus. This dinner was held shortly after Jesus raised Lazarus, Mary and Martha's brother, from the dead (See John 11). While Jesus was reclining during the meal, Mary anointed Him with expensive perfume carried in an alabaster jar. She poured the expensive nard on his feet (Verse 3). The beautiful fragrance would have filled the whole room.

The disciples, especially Judas Iscariot, looked on in shock. Then they said with indignation *"Why was the ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"* (Verse 5). From a human perspective, we can understand their dismay. A denarius represented a day's pay. In a few fleeting moments, Mary had lavished on Jesus an offering worth a year's wages! Some scholars have suggested the perfume may have been her dowry. Except for Jesus, Mary's sacrifice left most of those present numb with astonishment; perhaps they considered it scandalous. Jesus received the sacrifice as Mary intended it, as an act of deep adoration. Jesus said, *"Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me"* (Verses 7-8).

We know that Jesus would soon pour out His own blood and life for Mary and all of us. He allowed her the honor of breaking the alabaster jar and pouring it on His feet as an expression of love and commitment. Mary may have had some small idea what Jesus was going to be doing for her. However, you and I know that Jesus was about to be nailed to the cross, broken, and humiliated for us. Through His death on the cross, we, as did Mary, experience the freedom from the power of sin and Satan.

The Holy Spirit works in our hearts just as He worked in Mary's, and we respond in faithful use of our lives and blessings in worship and service to our Lord. As the Spirit works within us, we give generously, even sacrificially of our time and money to help others and extend God's kingdom. We know that God has created us and recreated us through Jesus' life and death for which we are eager to show our gratitude. In our serving and giving, we express our gratitude. We have been blessed to be a blessing. *"Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!"* (2 Corinthians 9:15).



1531 Edgewood Drive
Milford, IA 51351
E-Mail : info@campokoboji.org
Phone: (712)337-3325



Trivia Night - Are you looking for something fun to do during the 4th of July week? Well, on July 6th, 2017 at 7:00pm, Camp Okoboji is hosting a Trivia Night in the new Discover Center! The cost is \$10 per person and teams of 8 are requested!

The proceeds will go to the Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School and Camp Okoboji's Annual Fund. You are encouraged to bring your own snack for the event. There will be a pie auction going on as well!

If you have any questions, please contact Camp Okoboji by calling (712) 337-3325 or e-mailing camp@campokoboji.org. Hope to see you there!

Calendar of Events

- July 2 —9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Omelet Brunch
- July 2-8 July 4th Family Retreat
- July 9-15 Jr. High Week
- July 13-16 Ginny DeWall Joy Camp II
- July 16-22 Concordia Cubs Week
- July 23-29 Youth Week
- July 30-Aug. 4 Family Retreat I
- Aug. 6-11 Family Retreat II

Serving IDW Congregations: Camp Okoboji is committed to reaching out to, and serving the congregations and members of Iowa District West. Camp Okoboji is your lake-front property in the beautiful and entertaining Okoboji area. Take advantage of it! Many programs are planned and organized so that all you have to do is sign-up. Afternoon events, weekend retreats, week-long camps offer something for everyone. Camp Okoboji hopes to see you soon!

Holy Land Tour

Hosted by Doug Kading November 5-15, 2017. Rev. Ken Klaus and his wife will be tour hosts. Visit the land Jesus walked; places that saw the likes of Abraham, Moses, David, Esther, John the Baptist, and Mary; and sacred sites of the Old and New Testaments. **Contact Doug for a detailed brochure.**

Lodge Availability: There is still room for groups to reserve Bethel Retreat Center, Joppa Memorial Hall, The Discover Center, and the Picnic Shelter. Get groups together for an afternoon picnic, weekend

July, 2017



PROGRESSIVE PICNIC

(Traveling Picnic)

SATURDAY,

JULY 15, 2017

4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

TICKETS - \$10

Purchase Tickets in Opportunity Corner after services or from Christian Life Board Members until July 9, 2017

(Checks Payable to FELC Board Christian Life)

Non-FELC friends welcome – ADULT-ONLY event

To add to the evening's fun, and help with congested parking at residential destinations, we will provide car-pooling and drivers. Assignments will be given when you receive your nametag at the beginning of the evening at FELC.

FELC for instructions at 4:30

Ruden's for appetizers at 5:00

Roti's for salads at 6:00

Langner's for main course at 7:00

5th Annual IGLLS Golf Outing

Come join us **Saturday July 8, 2017** for a fun filled afternoon at the fifth annual Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School Golf Outing. This year's tournament will be held at the Spencer Golf & Country Club in Spencer, Iowa. Sign-in for this 9-hole best-shot tournament will start at 2:00 pm with a shotgun start at 3:00 pm. The outing will conclude with an awards banquet following the afternoon of golfing.

This is an excellent opportunity to show your support for IGLLS while relaxing and enjoying a round of golf, a great meal, and lots of prizes, great fellowship and fun!

Registration forms can be found online at www.iglls.org/golf **Registration Deadline is Saturday July 1, 2017.**

For more information please contact Mike ledema at 712-346-8817 or e-mail golf@iglls.org

