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**August 2017 Vol. 11 No. 08**

**“Growing in the Word”**

 As you travel the countryside or work your gardens in this season, you realize the power within nature in bringing forth crops and fields, plants and flowers.

 In this Pentecost season of growth, we are aware of a greater spiritual growth in our hearts and lives through the Word of God. Like seed that falls to the ground, germinates, sprouts new life and brings forth a harvest, so the Word of God does all of this in a powerful way. Often it seems invisible and insignificant to the naked eye or the natural heart, but Jesus teaches us otherwise…there is power in His Word and work, and the kingdom of heaven is among us through the Word and work of Jesus Christ.

 Many parables are agricultural, and so he “throws alongside” (parable) of our daily experiences the higher truths of the kingdom. In Matthew’s gospel the parables are one of the five discourses as he teaches his disciples and leads them to spiritual growth. His teaching and his work has eternal meaning. “The Word of the Lord endures forever.”

 The seed of God’s Word has been planted in us in our Baptism. That life is watered and nurtured through the regular preaching and teaching of God’s Word. The power of the Holy Spirit causes that seed to germinate and grow, and to bring about much fruit. In fact, our life in Christ means we have a new creation, and in Him alone can we bear much fruit. Without Christ the vine, we can do nothing.

 We are approaching the harvest when the wheat will be separated from the chaff and the weeds. For the faithful who receive and share the Word which God gives, the harvest will be a time of great joy and celebration. For those who ignore and reject the Word of God the harvest will be a time of “weeping and gnashing of teeth,” just as Jesus says in his teaching parables.

 May we at SOTL be people of faith who are growing in the Word of God, and anticipate with confidence and joy the harvest of God. May we be motivated by the Spirit of God to share this confidence and hope with others before that great and awesome Day of the Lord.

As we sing in one of our hymns,

**Almighty Father bless the Word/Which through Your grace we now have heard/Oh, may the precious seed take root/ Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!**

**We praise you for the means of grace/As homeward now our steps we trace, Grant Lord that we who worshiped here/May all at last in heav’n appear. (LSB 923)**

In His Service,

Pastor Thomas Petersen



***PRAYER REQUESTS:*** If you have someone or something that you would like Pastor Petersen to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request card, located on the guest book stand, and place it in his box or contact him at the Church Office. It is important that all of our members receive pastoral care when it is needed, especially during times of sickness or other difficulty. If you know of an individual, even if it is a non-member, who would appreciate and benefit from a pastoral visit, please contact the church office or Pastor Petersen.



**PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS:** Pastor Petersen will plan to be in the church office Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There are exceptions to this schedule as there will be a circuit pastors meeting on the first Monday of each month, a Wednesday morning chapel at the Aitkin nursing homes every six weeks, and other meetings or activities within the church during those morning hours. If you wish to meet with the pastor for a specific and personal reason, you can always make an appointment for most any time during the week – morning or afternoon – and if need be, in the evening. He would prefer that you call his cell phone at 608-334-5718 or email him at sotlpastortom@gmail.com to ensure prompt response to your requests or need. The Church secretary is in the office on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s from 7:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. if you need her for anything.

**ELDER OF THE MONTH**

Ken Stokes

320-692-5535

**USHERS FOR THE MONTH**

Darwin Beck

Jim Stigen

**ALTAR GUILD:**

Sheila Anderson

**FELLOWSHIP SERVERS**

06th

13th Church Picnic-Potluck

20th Dennis & Sheila Anderson

27th

 Many thanks to all our volunteers! If you are able to help, please see the bulletin board for opportunities. Thank you!



**BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST**

01ST Jean Stokes

05th Kylie O’Neil

07th Brandy Loux

 Lauren Rogers

11th Dennis Dzubay

 Mitchell Rubbelke

 Megan Rubbelke

20th Mike Drahosh

24th Robin Bruckhoff

 Terry Thurmer

27th Gaylord Ryg

28th Chase Hoese

30th Mike Forte



**ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST**

11th Rev. Curtis & Sandy Foreman

12th Rev. Tom & Jo Petersen

18th Marlen & Marilyn Reinking

21st Todd & Messena Smude

26th Darwin & Shari Beck

27th Rev. Matthew & Heather Ruesch





We extend our Christian sympathy to Jean & Ken Stokes and family with the recent loss of Jean’s brother. Also to Cathy & Kurt Buhlmann and family at the recent loss of Cathy’s mother. We pray for God’s peace in the risen Christ and comfort in the hope of the resurrection and the life of the world to come.

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**GARRISON PLAY DAYS PARADE FLOAT:** Thank you to everyone for your help with putting together the float for the parade: to the Rasmussen family for the use of their place for this project; the Drahosh family for the use of a trailer & ATV and car; and to all who donated to and participated in the Parade.



**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Sunday Morning Study: at 8:30a.m.

Studying about the Apostles

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: at 9:30 a.m.

Finishing up with, Luther’s “Large Catechism.”

We will soon be starting up a LifeLight Bible study.

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**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC:** All are invited to come to our annual Church picnic on Sunday, August 13th. We will start with an Outdoor Worship Service, non-Communion (weather permitting). We will then set up the potluck luncheon followed by games: bingo, water balloons, etc., and an afternoon of great fellowship.



***QUILTS—QUILTS—QUILTS: “Tied in Faith, Sent in Hope, Wrapped in love”*:** The Ladies are busy making quilts again and welcome all who would like to help in any way with putting together quilts for Lutheran World Relief. The Ladies are getting together on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. They welcome all donations of old sheets, old thin blankets and odd materials that can be used to make quilts. They are also looking for more volunteers to help in making these quilts.



**CHURCH LAWN MOWING:** The Trustees are looking for help with mowing the lawn at the church again this year. If you are able to help please check the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact Larry Collison.

**COFFEE/FELLOWSHIP DONATIONS:** Just a reminder about the “free will” donation basket on the counter during our Sunday morning fellowship. The purpose of this is to help defray the various kitchen expenses we have, such as: coffee, creamer, sugar packets, Kool-aide, lemonade, napkins, dessert plates, etc. This money is not used for the special donuts, cakes, cookies, etc. These are provided by the host couples or persons serving that Sunday. If you are serving, please be sure to take all leftovers home with you. Thank you!

 We would like to invite everyone to attend fellowship after our Sunday morning service, it is nice way to socialize with other congregational members and our guests.



**WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS:** We are planning to gather school kits this fall for Lutheran World Relief. The plan is to begin the in-gathering on August 6, 2017 and end it on September 3rd.

 Education is important for every community, especially where poverty or disaster has limited the options for young people to reach their potential. School kits contain essential supplies to help children—and in some cases adults—continue learning despite the hardships they face. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

**School Kits Items:**

* **Four** 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper; no loose-leaf paper
* **One** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other.
* **One** pencil sharpener
* **One** pair blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
* **Five** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
* **Five** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
* **One** box of 16 or 24 crayons
* **One** 2 ½” eraser
* **One** sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14” x 17” with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

Please do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in bag and close. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

**BRAT SALES:** We will be having a Brat Sale at the Super Value store on Friday & Saturday, September 1st and 2nd from 9AM to 5PM. We are looking for help with this project. If you can help please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



26th Annual Lutheran Island

**Quilt Auction**

On Saturday,

August 5, 2017

Saturday, August 1, 2015

• Silent Auction

• Sing-Along

• Lunch Available

• Inflatables for Kids

• Free Ice Cream Sundaes

• Rides from Parking Lot

• Over 300 Handmade Quilts and Craft Items

• Ponies

**Lutheran Island Camp**

**& Retreat Center**

45011 230th Street

Henning, MN 56551

**FOR 65 YEARS BUILDING BRIDGES**

LUTHERAN ISLAND CAMP

**1952-2017**

*Viewing opens at 8:30 a.m.*

*Sale begins at 11:00 a.m.*

*• Rain or Shine*

Proceeds will help children and families to enjoy Christian camping experiences @ Lutheran Island Camp, a camp of the Lutheran Church –Missouri Synod.

**View Quilts Early at:** [www.islandcamp.org](http://www.islandcamp.org)

**NEW MEMBER:** We welcome Kurt & Cathy Buhlmann to Shepherd of the Lake. Kurt & Cathy transferred their membership to Shepherd of the Lake. Welcome, Kurt & Cathy!



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**BAPTISM:** On Sunday, July 16th Taya Marie Spicer, child of Zach & Jessica Spicer became a child of God through the waters of Holy Baptism. We rejoice in the new life that God has created in Taya, by uniting her to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Taya is the granddaughter of Mark & Kim Spicer and great granddaughter of Nancy Aarsvold.

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**LAYERED LETTUCE SALAD**

**From the kitchen of:** *In Memory of Marlene Rynard*

1 head Lettuce (medium), shredded

½ c. Celery, chopped

½ c. Green Peppers, chopped

½ c. Onion, chopped

1 box frozen Peas (uncooked)

2 c. Mayonnaise

2 Tbsp. Sugar

4 oz. Cheddar Cheese, grated

Bac-O’s or Bacon Bits

Layer the first five ingredients in a 9X12 inch pan (or bowl equal in size). Spread with mayonnaise. Sprinkle on the sugar, cheese, and bacon in that order. Cover with foil or saran wrap and refrigerate overnight.





**Shepherd of the Lake**

**Wishes to invite everyone to their…**

**Annual**

**Church**

**Picnic**

**Sunday,**

**August 13, 2017**

**With a 10:00 a.m. Outdoor Church Service**

(Depending on the weather)

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***Followed By:***

**Potluck *Luncheon***

***Games,***

***Water Balloons,***

***Bingo***

***Good Fellowship***

*Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church Garrison, MN*

***August 2017***

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| ***Sunday*** | ***Monday*** | ***Tuesday*** | ***Wednesday*** | ***Thursday*** | ***Friday*** | ***Saturday*** |
| *http://download.churchart.com/ArtLineLibrary/c/co/corn_6054cn.gif* |  | ***1****9AM-Quilting Group* | ***2****9:30a.m.-Bible Study* | ***3*** | ***4*** | ***5***11AM-Annual Quilt Auction @LIC |
| ***6****8:30 a.m.-Bible Study* *10AM-Divine Service w/LS* *11AM-Fellowship Hr**Brill Anniversary* | ***7****4PM-Board of Elders Meeting* | ***8****9AM-Quilting Group**1PM-LWML Meeting* | ***9****9:30 a.m.-Bible Study* | ***10******http://download.churchart.com/ArtLineLibrary/b/be/beachball_10729c.gif*** | ***11****Wedding Rehearsal* | ***12****Wedding* |
| ***13 Annual Church Picnic****10AM-Divine Service w/ LS* *11AM-Potluck Luncheon & Picnic* | ***14******http://download.churchart.com/ArtLineLibrary/p/pi/picnic6.gif*** | ***15****9AM-Quilting Group**9AM-Board & Committee Meetings**10AM-Church Council* | ***16****NO Bible Study**9AM-Services @ Aitkin Nursing Homes* | ***17****Articles Due for September Newsletter* | ***18******http://download.churchart.com/ArtLineLibrary/s/sn/snowcone_12581c.gif*** | ***19*** |
| ***20****8:30 a.m.-Bible Study* *10AM-Divine Service w/ LS* *11AM-Fellowship Hr* | ***21*** | ***22****9AM-Quilting Group**Printing September Newsletter* | ***23****NO Bible Study**9AM-Services @ Aitkin Nursing Homes* | ***24******http://download.churchart.com/ArtLineLibrary/p/po/popsicle_9199c.gif*** | ***25*** | ***26*** |
| ***27****8:30 a.m.-Bible Study* *10AM-Divine Service w/ LS* *11AM-Fellowship Hr* | ***28*** | ***29****9AM-Quilting Group* | ***30****9:30 a.m.-Bible Study* | ***31*** |  | *http://download.churchart.com/ArtLineLibrary/p/pi/picnic4.gif* |

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***Vision Statement: “Share the GOSPEL”***



P.O. Box 155

10583 US Highway 169

Garrison, MN 56450

 **To Those Loved by Christ:**

 

 **2017**

** Email Addresses:**

**Pastor’s email: sotlpastortom@gmail.com**

**Secretary’s e-mail:** **SOTL1982****@gmail.com**

**Phone Numbers:**

**Church’s #: 320-692-4581**

**Pastor’s Cell #: 608-334-5718**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday Education Hour: 8:30 a.m.**

**Sunday Divine Service: 10:00 a.m.**

**Fellowship Hour: 11:00 a.m.**