

# June Newsletter 2017



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## Church Picnic - June 11

**Ebenezer Lutheran Church – Port Hudson**  
**The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**  
9100 Highway YY Leslie, Missouri  
Parsonage 573-459-6432                      Church 573-459-6431  
Rev. William F. Zastrow, Pastor  
Mary Sprick, Secretary  
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## From the Pastor's Desk:

### To Have Unstoppable Hope

*In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. ... For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. 1 Peter 3:15,18*

What hopes do you harbor in your heart? The human heart may swell with hope for good health, only to be dashed by tragic accidents or serious sicknesses. The heart may hope for a brighter tomorrow, but shortly that hope is dimmed by the specter of death. The sinful human heart is often broken by a fixated pursuit of fleeting hopes.

Christ fills the empty and broken heart with hope that never disappoints. Jesus provides healing hope. This hope springs eternal through his life-giving gospel. Jesus saw our hopeless debt of misspent years and misplaced hope. The Savior paid the ultimate price of his life to assure us of his healing hope. The Savior sacrificed himself for us—for all! Jesus dispels our hopelessness with the certainty of the forgiveness he won for us.

Jesus fills us with confident hope. Questions abound in the hearts of many people concerning mankind's existence. "Where did we come from?" "Why are we here?" "Where are we going?" The Lord lovingly provides unchanging answers in the Bible. His word is truth. The Holy Spirit fills our hearts with faith to believe the Bible's life-giving message. He also strengthens us to confidently share that message with those who are searching for the firm answers that only the Bible provides.

Jesus graciously gives us lasting hope. Earthly hopes can quickly erode; Easter hope endures forever. The heart that sets apart Christ as Lord has hope that will never fade. The Savior who died for sins once for all has risen! We eagerly look forward to the eternal life in heaven promised to us by the risen and ascended Lord.

Our Christ-centered hope will always give us rest in the unrest of the world. It will also give us reason to give an answer to others for the sure hope that we have.

**Prayer:** *Risen Lord Jesus, thank you for the living hope you have won for me through your life-giving gospel. Renew my heart to be set apart for you now and always. Amen.*

### **Thrivent Dates for 2017**

**June 18 – Father’s Day Recognition**

**July 23 – Potluck** - Watch the bulletin for details.

**September 10 – Potluck** - Watch the bulletin for details.

**December 3 – Senior Citizens’ Dinner**

We will be working with the youth and their families to serve and help prepare the food.

Watch the bulletins for changes. There may be deletions and/or additions as the year progresses. Hope to see you at the dinners and other activities!

Remember to check and direct your Choice Dollars for Thrivent. Call the 800 number or go on line. If you have any fund raising project and would like to have \$250 for seed money to buy supplies, it is available to any Thrivent member just by applying for an Action Team card. It can be done by going to [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) and click on Action Team. This money is available and relatively easy to get as long as a service is done for some church, some community organization, charity or raising funds for an individual. Hope you give it a try!

**Vacation Bible School - 2017**

**Ebenezer Lutheran Church**

**9100 Highway YY**

**Leslie, MO 63056**



**Mighty Fortress - In Jesus, the Victory is Won!**

**July 24 - 28, 2017**

**9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Ages 3 through Grade 8**

**Closing Program July 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**

## Vacation Bible School 2017

It is almost Vacation Bible School time! Our theme for VBS this year is “**Mighty Fortress – In Jesus the Victory Is Won!**” Kids confidently celebrate that Jesus, their champion, has won the victory over sin, death, and Satan; that He acts through His Word and keeps His promises. God’s victory is shown in the Bible accounts of the fall of Jericho, God’s rescue of King Hezekiah’s kingdom, King Josiah’s reading of God’s Word, the Savior King’s triumphal entry, and Jesus’ victory through His death and resurrection.

Our mission projects for this year are Grace’s Place in Washington, MO, Otis Woodard’s Lutheran Outreach of St. Louis, and backpacks loaded with school supplies for area public schools. If anyone would like to donate toward the mission projects, we are accepting nonperishable food, hygiene supplies, and new school supplies (see the supply list in the newsletter).

In order to remember our 2017 VBS the children will be designing a T-shirt. Each child should bring a prewashed t-shirt (without fabric softener) on Monday, July 24, 2017.

Registration can be done online at:

<http://vbsmate.com/EbenezerLutheranPortHudsonMissouri>

Closing program will be Friday, July 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

### **New School Supply Collection List VBS 2017**

The following is a list of items that we are collecting for distribution to the local public schools in our area.

Pencil Sharpeners

#2 Pencils (Pack of 12) Dixon or Ticonderoga Brand

Pens – Black or Blue ink Pentel RSVP or Papermate Brand

Tissues – Rectangular box

Dry Erase Markers – Expo Brand

Small pencil case or pouch  
Back Pack – Elementary School Size  
Crayola Brand Crayons 24 count box  
Wet Wipes  
Crayola Brand Wide Tip Markers Packs of 8  
Crayola Brand Fine Tip Markers Packs of 10  
Wooden Rulers  
Spiral Notebooks – Wide Lined  
Child Scissors  
Beveled erasers  
Glue Sticks – Elmers or Scotch Brand

### **June Stewardship Thoughts**

One of the best known and beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the Shepherd Psalm. There we learn that the Lord is our shepherd. And since He is our shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord's sheep.

How do we do this? We do it when we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving the gifts that He won for us on the cross, a violation of the First and Third Commandments. We do it when we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we think we don't know what the future will bring, even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters. We do it when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves, we do this because we have a mind set on earthly,

temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We do this because we have stopped hearing the call of our shepherd, which comes through His Word.

The Word of God is how our shepherd calls us to himself. Through that Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through that Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead you to your true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here's the good news: The Lord is your shepherd still, even, and especially, for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the shepherd that lays down his life for His sheep. The Lord is your shepherd. Let us live then as His sheep.

**June Birthdays**

Chad Crego	6-1
Anne Allmeroth	6-2
Adam Henry Kassebaum	6-2
Eugene Scheer	6-4
Camron Jade Luechtefeld	6-10
Gilbert Voelker	6-12
Ryan Bunge	6-14
Judy Allmeroth	6-14
Jim Donatti	6-14
Warren Bauche	6-15
Colten Gardner	6-22
Phil Hubenthal	6-22
Robert Daniel Bunge	6-23
Andrew Kassebaum	6-25
Jamie Pitzen	6-26
Craig Monzyk	6-27

## **June Anniversaries**

Phil and Judy Hubenthal	6-2
Jim and Deborah Donatti	6-4
Rick and Cindy Scheer	6-7
Dennis and LaRayne Brune	6-7
Marvin and Tammie Pohlmann	6-11
Jeff and Angela Bopp	6-12
Lloyd and Karen Kassebaum	6-15
Pastor and Margaret Zastrow	6-16
Tim and Jennifer Huellinghoff	6-18
Roy and Estelle Brunkhorst	6-21
Brian and Heidi Koch	6-21
Gene and Doris Biermann	6-22

**We wish all of you a very Blessed and Happy Birthday  
and Anniversary!!!**

*If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed or listed incorrectly, please let Mary know – Thank you*

## **Usher Schedule for June**

- 1: Harvey Quinn
  - 2: Bryan Adams
  - 3: Mark Kassebaum
  - 4: Cody Adams
  - 5: Corey Adams
- Alternate: Don Kappelmann  
Head Usher: Wilbert Baumann

## **Altar Guild for June**

Barb Gilbert and Mary Adams

## **Bell Ringers for June**

**June 4, 2017**

Corey Adams

**June 11, 2017**

Jeff Hohlt

**June 18, 2017**

Trent Huellinghoff

**June 25, 2017**

Cody Adams

### **Monthly Treasurer's Summary April 2017**

Beginning checking balance	\$30,217.27
Receipts	\$13,554.98
Disbursements	\$10,459.24
Ending checking balance	\$33,313.01
LCEF savings balance	\$30,471.45
Thrivent FPDA balance	\$21,659.53
Pledged to Missouri District for year	\$4,800.00
Paid to Missouri District this year-to-date	\$1,600.00
Year-to-date income less expenses	\$381.61

## **Pastor and Margaret Trip to Germany**

From July 1 through July 12 Pastor and Margaret will be in Europe celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Besides Germany Pastor and Margaret will be visiting Austria and Italy. Pastor and Margaret will be taking the trip that is sponsored by Immanuel Lutheran Church, in Washington. Pastor Bangert will be the host of the tour. This trip was made possible by the gift that was given to Pastor for his twenty-fifth anniversary at Ebenezer. Margaret and Pastor would like to thank the congregation for this opportunity. Please watch the June newsletter for Pastoral assistance at this time. Pastor Walter Otten will be preaching on the Saturdays and Sundays that Pastor is gone.

## **Ladies Aid Country Store**

The Ladies Aid of Ebenezer will have a Country Store at our annual picnic on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Donations of baked goods, crafts, produce, and plants would be greatly appreciated. Our ladies support many missions of our Church (Missionaries Robin McCoy and the Robert Hilbert Family, Lutheran Hour, Lutheran Bible Translators, etc.) This fund raiser will help to continue our support of these missions.

## **Live Life to the Fullest**

Enjoy your life! Laugh a lot. Love a lot. Listen to your heart, and follow where it leads you. Do what you love. Love yourself, and share that love with others. This is the way that you will truly make a difference, add beauty to the world, and give something precious to yourself and others.

By Donna Newman in *The Heart of Happiness*



# June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Ladies Aid 1:30 PM  Wedding Rehearsal and Dinner 5:30 PM	3 Wedding Kohn/Riechers 2:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion 5:00 PM
4 Sunday School 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:00	5	6 Elders 7:00 PM	7	8 <b>Picnic Set Up Day</b>	9	10 Worship 5:00 PM
11 Sunday School 9:00 Worship 10:00  <b>Picnic</b> 11:30 AM till 5:00 PM	12	13 Pastor to St. Louis	14	15 Bible Study 10:00 AM	16	17 Worship w/Holy Communion 5:00 PM
18 Sunday School 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:00 Father's Day New Haven Care Center Ser. 1:30 PM	19	20 Circuit Pastor's Meeting – Faith, Washtington	21 VBS Preparation Teachers and Helpers meeting 7:00 PM	22 Bible Study 10:00 AM	23	24 Worship 5:00 PM
25 Sunday School 9:00 Worship 10:00  New Haven Care Center Ser. 1:30 PM	26	27	28	29 Bible Study 10:00 AM	30 Preparation for Pastor and Margaret for Europe.	1 Pastor & Margaret Leave for Europe and will return on July 12.

Pastor and Margaret will be traveling to Germany, Austria and Italy from July 1 through July 12