



June 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer	4	5	6 6:00pm Worship
7 10am Worship 11:15am Education Meeting	8 9:30am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study Vacation 5:30pm-8:30pm	9 7:00pm Council Meeting Bible 5:30pm-8:30pm	10 9:00am Wed Weeders 12:00pm Book Bunch 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer School	11 St Lukes 5:30pm-8:30pm	12	13 8:00am Hole in Roof Gang 6:00pm Worship
14 10am Worship At Harmon Park	15	16	17 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer	18	19	20 6:00pm Worship
21 10am Worship	22	23	24 9:00am Wed Weeders 12:00pm Book Bunch 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer	25	26	27 8:00am Hole in Roof Gang 6:00pm Worship
28 10am Worship	29	30				

AND
SUNDAY JUNE 14
WORSHIP AT HARMON PARK (Sertoma Pavilion)

We have worship with our St. Luke's Vacation Bible School friends from the week. Our service begins at 10 a.m. in the Sertoma outdoor pavilion (just south of the Harmon swimming pool).

***Fried Chicken** will be brought in for picnic lunch – and we ask families to bring a salad or dessert for the rest of the potluck.*

The Brown Bag Book Bunch
2nd & 4th Wednesdays at noon

We're finishing the *Unbroken* at the June 10th gathering ... and be determining their next book to read together! Come on in; visitors are welcome, and you may find yourself engaged in a neat discussion on some enthralling topics. 12 noon to about 12:45.

HOLE-IN-THE-ROOF GANG

The guys continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8 a.m. If you know of anyone (single mom, widow, handicapped, senior) who could use some assistance with a project around the house – give a call to the church: 236-7704. The guys have been assisting with the church basement renovation, but are available for some other types of project!

NOISY OFFERING!

THE NOISY OFFERINGS through Easter will be designated to the special *Lutheran World Relief* health kits. In weeks to come we will also be gathering health items (soap, towels, etc). More details will be forthcoming for our *Baskets of Promise* Lenten offering.

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

June 25, 2015

Family of Christ

Pastor	John Gosswein
Church Council	
<u>President</u>	Mike DeBoer
<u>Vice President</u>	Lanny Johnson
<u>Secretary</u>	Chris Denton
<u>Treasurer</u>	Ronnie Sanchez
<u>Financial Secretary</u>	Jane David
<u>Members at Large</u>	Cheryl Hedstrom
	Dave Wiebe
	Lance Knoedler
Committee Chairs	
Education	Judy Gosswein
Fellowship	Svoboda, Albers, Peterson
Evangelism	Julie Garaffa
New Properties	Brad Anderson
Church Properties	Lynn Tacha
Youth Group	Deb Middleton
<u>Ministries Coordinator</u>	Tamara Sanchez
<u>Publication Secretary</u>	Maury May
Stewardship	
Mutual Ministries	Vickie Schaepler
Worship	Iola Fougeron



June Birthday's

Shelly Hove	6/1
Vickie Schaepler	6/1
Jasmin Wagner	6/2
Brad Driml	6/2
Katherine Reynolds	6/03
Jesse Keel	6/3
Ashlea Denton	6/3
Stephanie Straatmann	6/01
Vickie Schaepler	6/01
Ellianna Salinas	6/05
Gabriel Salinas	6/07
Amy Wolfe	6/09
Lorna Wiebe	6/9
Brooke Anderson	6/10
Barbara Sitzman	6/13
Randy Straatmann	6/13
Abigail Carey	6/14
Dan Kossmann	6/15
John Gosswein	6/16
Bryan Fahnholz	6/18
Joni Weed	6/20
Jayden Hove	6/21
Nathan Byrne	6/27
Jeremy Sanchez	6/30



June Anniversaries

Jesse & Erica Keel	6/13
Mark & Winona Svoboda	6/13
Ken & Polly Petersen	6/12
Chris & Jill Peterson	6/23
Gary & Stephanie Straatmann	6/22
David & Lorna Wiebe	6/23



KEARNEY WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

YANNEY PARK
ERC BUILDING
2020 WEST 11TH

AUGUST 30, 2015
1:00PM WALK

Free Family Fun Day

11:30 - 1

- . Dog Contests with Prizes
- . Free Runza Lunch
- . Hula Hoop Troupe
- . KHS Band, Dance Catz and Cheerleaders
- . Games for children
- . Life-size Jenga
- . Fire truck & Ambulance Tours
- . Face-painting & Crafts
- . Superheroes and princesses from Party Perfect including Elsa, Anna, Belle, Ariel, Spiderman, Batman & Bumblebee

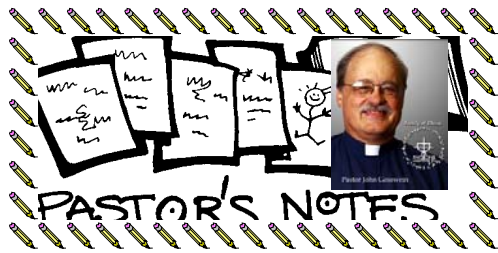
and so much more!

START A TEAM | act.alz.org/kearney15 | 308.520.3146

NEW MEMBERS/ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We will be welcoming new members/associate members at one of our summer services during this next month. In the meantime, get to know some of the folks who went through the last Inquirer's sessions!

- Wanda Davis
- Steve and Betty Heggemeyer
- Gayle and Margie Miller
- Marshall and Peggy Nelson



PROVING GOD...

Just preparing for another look at Trinity Sunday, that day that we try to explain the three natures of God (Father, Son, Spirit), and find ourselves immersed in language that attempts to objectify the Deity (*omnipresent and omniscient*, for example), I came across an old reference from Henri Nouwen's book, "Our Greatest Gift." Nouwen, a Catholic monk, wrote profound and deeply spiritual, and sometimes difficult, works. But I found this parable to be a wonderful way to realize how we *come to faith*. It actually brings an appreciation to the verses in Romans 8 that explain how the spiritual journey is more 'birth pangs' than 'comprehension', and the Spirit's job is to interpret those birthpangs.

Nouwen imagines twins in a womb, boy and girl, having a conversation before birth. *She has faith in what is not seen, he thinks he is realist:*

The sister said to her brother, "I believe there is life after birth."

Her brother protested vehemently, "No, no, this is all there is. This is a dark and cozy place, and we have nothing else to do but to cling to the cord that feeds us."

The little girl insisted, "There must be something more than this dark place. There must be something else, a place with light where there is freedom to move."

Still she could not convince her twin brother.

After some silence, the sister said hesitantly, "I have something else to say, and I'm afraid you won't believe that, either,

but I think there is a mother."

Her brother became furious. "A mother! He shouted. "What are you talking about? I have never seen a mother, and neither have you. Who put that idea in your head? As I told you, this place is all we have. Why do you always want more? This is not such a bad place, after all. We have all we need, so let's be content."

The sister was quite overwhelmed by her brother's response and for a while didn't dare say anything more, but she couldn't let go of her thoughts, and since she had only her twin brother to speak to, she finally said, "Don't you feel these squeezes every once in a while? They're quite unpleasant and sometimes even painful."

"Yes," he answered. "What is so special about that?"

"Well," the sister said, "I think that these squeezes are there to get us ready for another place, much more beautiful than this, where we will see our mother face-to-face. Don't you think that's exciting?"

She felt another hard squeeze. The brother didn't answer.

I imagine that many of us came to appreciate and understand more about God when we interpreted the reality of life around us. The intellectual and theological terms help us put words to the experience –

realizing there is a 'parental – even maternal' presence that nurtures us while we are still not comprehending all of life;

that the pangs and pains of life are normal and can't be removed, but there is a divine presence *groaning with us*;

that we can't see what is beyond our understanding, but can learn to trust what the future holds;

we come to acknowledge, as my AA friends remind me, there is a God and I'm not it,

And ultimately come to appreciate that 'Trinity' is about relationship: we are *children* of God, born, loved, redeemed and sanctified by grace.

That really is the purpose of the 'doctrine of the Trinity'.

Grace and peace!

Pr. John

CONGRATULATIONS

- **Mike and Allison Reifenrath** on their wedding this past month! Their family now brings together Aubrey (11), Serenity (6) and Calvin (born this past November).

-

- **Kristin (Wiebe) & Sonny Lacey** were married in Baltimore on May 30th!

SMALL GROUPS TO CONSIDER VISITING...

(you can contact the church office for any more information!)

Aside from the Sunday School, Youth, and Adult forums on Sunday morning, there are other times you may want to consider connecting in your faith growth>

WEDNESDAY WEEDERS They meet every Wednesday morning at 9 a.m., and take up tasks around the church (once in awhile they take a field trip, too!), and then gather for prayer and devotion at 10:30 in the basement. Oh, it's not only 'open', they appreciate anyone coming to share!

HOLE IN THE ROOF GANG The guys meet on the second and fourth Saturdays at 8 in the morning. After having some devotions and donuts, they generally pick up a project to work on together – whether it be around the church, or for a household task that someone has requested (especially for persons in need), or supplying.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY have their Bible studies in three gatherings during the second week of the month: Monday morning at 9:30 a.m., or Monday evening at 7 p.m.

COMFORT CARE uses their sewing skills to make *prayer blankets, baptismal banners and new banners for the sanctuary* (among other things!). They meet on the 2nd Saturdays at 9 in the morning (sometimes coming in early enough to share with Hole-in-the-roofers discussion and donuts!). **Will not meet in June, July or August.**

BROWN BAG BOOK BUNCH The noontime book group is discussing the book *Unbroken*. Just come on one of those **2nd or 4th Wednesdays** at noontime (bring a lunch if you desire!). We finish by about 12:45 – no, you don't need to 'enroll', but we'd love to have you share in the discussion!

PRAYER GROUP gathers during the school year at about 6 p.m. in the sanctuary on Wednesdays to offer prayers. Yes, they do need to keep focused on the prayers while the confirmation group gets noisy in the basement. But, that's a great time for confirmation parents to pray for their kids. And pastor.

Family of Christ now has a WELCA chapter!

As stated in our constitution, our purpose is “as a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”

Our commitment also comes from the constitution. It is “to accomplish the purpose of Women of the ELCA, women in this unit shall commit themselves to

- a. come together for study, support, and action;
- b. participate in the ministry of Women of the ELCA beyond the congregation;
- c. support financially the total program of Women of the ELCA; and
- d. designate leadership that shall be in communication with the synodical and churchwide women's organization.”

We meet on a quarterly basis, January, April, July, October. We usually meet right after church, have a bit to eat, a business meeting, a program, and a chance to share with other women in the church family.

NOISY OFFERING!

For the summer – our noisy offering will be designated through Mosaic International, specifically to assist in purchasing in ministries visited by Cheryl and Lois on their recent trips. The funds will buy *sewing machines* for home industries among the families in Moshi Tanzania, and wheel chairs for children.

Family of Christ Lutheran Church
 1319 5th Avenue
 Kearney, NE 68845

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 KEARNEY, NE
 68847
 PERMIT NO. 135

Returned Service Requested

Worship Workers for June 2015

June 6-7	Communion Prep	Communion Asst.	Worship Asst.	Lector	Acolyte	Counter
sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Kelly Hauff	Kelly Hauff	Kelly Hauff		
Sun 10 am	Sue Buss-Sands	Lois Adamson	?????	Nancy DeBoer	???????	Lois Adamson
June 13-14	Communion Prep	Communion Asst.	Worship Asst.	Lector	Acolyte	Counter
sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Joyce Albers	Joyce Albers	Laura Buehner		
Sun 10 am	Iola Fougeron	Patty Reifenrath	Layne Knoedler	Ken Reifenrath	Dominique	Layne Knoedler
June 20-21	Communion Prep	Communion Asst.	Worship Asst.	Lector	Acolyte	Counter
sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Ken Petersen	Kelly Hauff	Kelly Hauff		
Sun 10 am	Sue Buss-Sands	Brett Sanchez	Jane David	Jantha Jamison	Jeremy Sanchez	Rod & Jane Behrhorst
June 27-28th	Communion Prep	Communion Asst.	Worship Asst.	Lector	Acolyte	Counter
sat 6pm	Bryan Sall	Joyce Albers	Joyce Albers	Dan Kossmann		
Sun 10 am	Iola Fougeron	Nancy DeBoer	???????	Nancy DeBoer	Nigel Holmes	Ronnie Sanchez



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 8th – 11th

6-8:30 p.m. (5:30 light supper)

Family of Christ and St. Luke's – together again!

Thailand Trek

Take a Walk with Thai Christians

New friends – Experience Thailand – Thai games

Thai snacks – Bible adventures – Incredible music

Date: **4 DAYS! Mon – Thurs, June 8th – 11th**

Time: Kids meal 5:30, Program is from 6:00 - 8:30

Location: St Luke's Episcopal Church

Ages: Just completed Preschool – 5th graders; older students become volunteers. Kids & volunteers can be registered online in May! When notified, a link will be provided in our church website: [http://](http://familyofchristkearney.org)

familyofchristkearney.org Crew Leaders can sign up to build trust and guide kids safely through the VBS experience. When you are called, please be willing to help. See you soon!

SOME JUNE EVENTS...

June 7th: An *education team meeting* will happen after the worship service in the basement at church.

June 8th -11th : **Vacation Bible School!!!**

Sunday June 14th: Service and potluck salad and dessert at Harmon Park.

Yes, we still have usual Saturday evening worship on June 13th!

June 18th may be the day the high school youth leave for Colorado for a service project in Denver and an exploration of the mountains around Breckenridge.

SUMMER MIDWEEK WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY!

Wednesday evenings

Church Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

We're into **GENESIS** this summer, continuing where we left off in our Thursday meetings this spring.

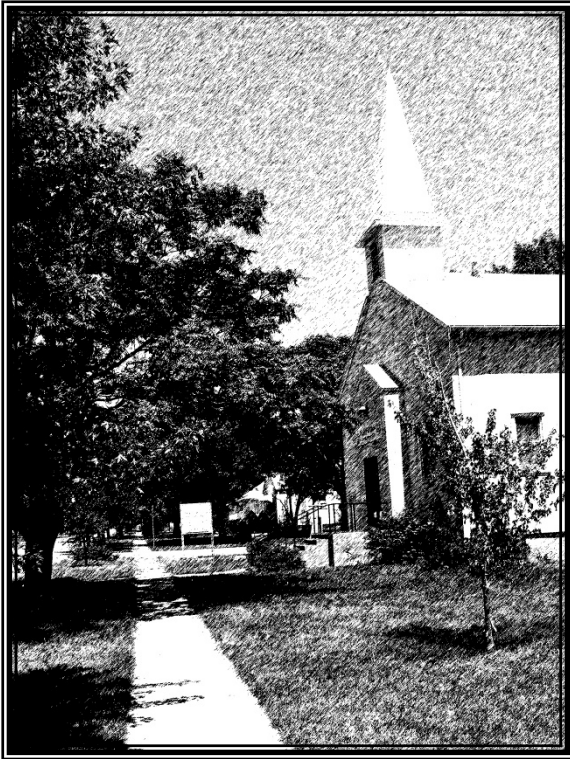
Our June 3rd gathering will begin right at Abraham and Sarah – Genesis 12.

Come when you can ... don't worry about 'intruding'. The prayers and the study are intended to give us opportunity for fellowship and growth, and are informal!

AND... we'll have some ice cream following!!!



Check out the QR code...where does it get you ??



Family of Christ Lutheran Church
1319 5th Ave
Kearney, NE 68845

Phone: 308-236-7704

E-mail: familyofchristkearney@gmail.com

Web: www.familyofchristkearney.org

Pastor e-mail: pr.john.foc@gmail.com

Pastor: John Gosswein

(Office Tu, W, F Afternoons)

Publications Secretary: Maury May
(Office: Tu, We, Thur 1:30-3:30pm)

Ministries Coordinator: Tamara Sanchez
(Tues & Thur 10:00am-1:00pm)

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Saturday: 6:00p.m. Evening Worship
(signed for the Hearing Impaired)

Sunday: 10:00am Worship

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 Issue 6

All in The Family

SWING TO SUMMER SCHEDULE

*REMEMBER .. we change the service times
 from Memorial Weekend through Labor Day
 Weekend!*

Saturday worship remains at 6 p.m. (and is interpreted)

But **SUNDAY MORNING** will be at
10 a.m. during the summer Sundays!

(We don't have Sunday School, but
 we'll be having the 'children's church' during
 the Sunday service.)

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