



August 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer	4	5 Youth Leave for Minnesota	6 6:00pm Worship 3:30pm Frye/ Nielson wedding Minnesota & Boundary Waters
7 10am Worship Minnesota & Boundary Waters	8 7:00pm Women's Bible Study Minnesota & Boundary Waters	9 7:00pm Council Meeting Minnesota & Boundary Waters	10 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer Minnesota & Boundary Waters	11 Minnesota & Boundary Waters	12 Minnesota & Boundary Waters	13 6:00pm Worship Minnesota & Boundary Waters
14 10am Worship	15	16	17 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer	18	19 6:30-7:30pm Ice Cream at Hammer Park	20 6:00pm Worship
21 10am Worship	22	23	24 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer	25	26	27 6:00pm Worship
28 10am Worship	29	30	31 9:00am Wed Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study & Prayer 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation Family			

CONFIRMATION CAMP

June 26th—July 1st

Allison, Aubrey, Carly, Dominique, Kormick, Mackenzie, Sam, Skyler, Sydney, Trenton all were at the Springs site for Confirmation camp (along with Pr. John and youth from 7 other churches). Our studies were around *The Hunger Games*, using scenes from the popular movie to give insight to the *third article of the Apostle's Creed*—how we are called, gathered, enlightened with gifts, made holy by the Spirit's work. Of course they also did the High Ropes course, "Co-op Adventures, swimming, devotions, hikes, games. *Can you find all ten??*



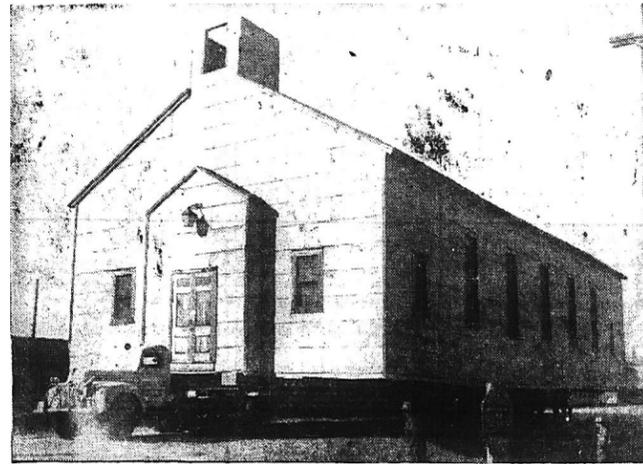
RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:
**TURN IN
 YOUR ARTICLES
 EARLY!**
 R E M I N D E R :
**DEADLINE FOR
 NEWSLETTER
 ARTICLES IS**
August 24th, 2016

Family of Christ	
Pastor	John Gosswein
Church Council	
President	Cheryl Hedstrom
Vice President	Lanny Johnson
Secretary	Connie Fie
Treasurer	Peggy Nelson
Financial Secretary	Jane David
Members at Large	John Marsh Chris Denton 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
Ministries Coordinator	Barb Laursen
Publication Secretary	Maury May
Stewardship	
Mutual Ministries	
Worship	Iola Fougeron



Nigel Holmes	8/01
Bob Nicklasson	8/03
Adriane Juel	8/10
Hannah Straatmann	8/12
Sadie Byrne	8/13
Frankie Sperry	8/15
Chuck Frye	8/16
Teagan Gifford	8/16
Konnor Kelch	8/16
Tim Kotschwar	8/17
Jami Wulf	8/17
Chris Denton	8/18
Sarah Hollander-Brill	8/18
Jason Kile	8/19
Taylor Lindeman	8/19
Lois Adamson	8/20
Barbara Einspahr	8/20
Ken Petersen	8/20
David Wiebe	8/20
Magdalena Denton	8/21
Evi Lynn Holmes	8/21
Ron Campbell	8/23
Katie George	8/23
Patricia Candy	8/24
Julie Garaffa	8/24
Nancy Straatmann	8/24
Tami Frye	8/25
Mark Brill	8/26
Arleta Engleman	8/27
Denise Christensen	8/29
Dusty DeBoer	8/30
Austin Adamson	8/31
Linda George	8/31

Recognize this building?



CHURCH ON WHEELS. Former nearby air base chapel, being moved by the Free Methodist church to a site at 5th and 14th street, is shown starting the trip into town. The church has obtained the building through the Corps of Chaplains in Washington, D. C., for \$500.

TO BE DEDICATED SUNDAY. Services of dedication will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at the Free Methodist Church, 1319 Fifth Ave. The structure, the former air base chapel, was moved into town two years ago and has since been given extensive remodeling and repairs. The building has been placed upon a basement which contains social and Sunday school rooms. Its exterior has been stuccoed and newly roofed, and the interior has been plastered. Living quarters for the minister occupy first and second floors at the rear of the building. Decorations of the sanctuary are in keeping with the reverent use to which it will be put. The Rev. Ernest Chambers is pastor.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mark & Chantel (Tucker) Stadler, celebrating marriage on July 16th.

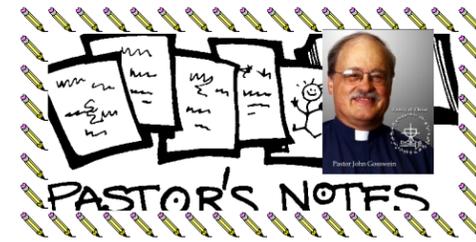
CONDOLENCES

To Jill Milligan and Joni Weed at the death of their aunt Doralene Weed
Bryan Sall upon the death of his aunt Shirley Dannehl
Upon the death of Jared Irwin, Tresa Lee's son & Dirk Christensen's stepson; July 9th.

PRAYERS continue for Koldin Linner, recuperating from his Denver surgery – and thanks for his return home the last week of July!



Chris & Shelly Hove	8/02
Brad & Paula Kraft	8/04
Jerry & Barbara Einspahr	8/12
John & Leslie Marsh	8/20
Dave & Cathy Campbell	8/23
Bob & Cindy Grabenstein	8/25
Gaynor & June Collison	8/29
Gosswein John & Judy	8/30



PURPOSE IN OUR LIVES

You've probably had friends that have made that age-old statement, "I'm not sure I understand the purpose of my life." Maybe you've caught yourself saying it! I, too, have wondered at what the 'purpose' is.

A moment of clarity came when I discussed this with a friend. While both of us reflected, we decided we don't really know about any 'absolute purpose', and then wondered if we

really should!

Paging through Scriptures, it becomes obvious that none of the Biblical followers of God had any *prior* sense of outline to their lives. In fact, they didn't really understand any 'purpose' until their skills had been sharpened through experience, and a passion came to flame in their lives; 'justice' was purpose enough for the prophets, while Paul's refrain became 'justified by grace.'

Some of the Bible folk even resented any hint of God *announcing* their purpose. Moses complained against any notion of being the first major civil rights leader and Yahweh's 'community organizer'. God challenged him to reassess his self-vision as more than a shepherd of sheep, making him aware of skills in leading a people through rough terrain.

Jesus, too, had to assist some fisherman to perceive their skills as more valuable than they considered, translating their experience as fishermen to fishers of men.

These 'callings' initially appeared to take these folk out of their perceived vocation; yet that same 'calling' challenged them to see *greater purpose* in their lives than they imagined.

Remember Paul? He perceived his purpose to protect God from Christian heretics. How intriguing that God would *blind him* to open his eyes to his real purpose – or *God's* real purpose: to bring that same Christian proclamation to the world. Paul later wrote (Romans 8:28) *and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

Notice that our 'calling' and our 'purpose' are more understood by God than by us, at least on this end of life. We may not be able to 'understand our purpose' in life because, at least from a Biblical sense, our perspective is short-sighted.

In the meantime, we still have tasks before us. We are encouraged to:

- Embrace the experiences we have endured
- Hone the skills we have been given
- Consider the obstacles before us as opportunities for us to clarify *God's purpose* working out in our lives

And define our passions (helping the poor, seeking justice, etc.)

While doing these things, listen for God's call in Jesus: *follow me, and I will make you*

Keep your eyes open for any bush that burns with God's passion.

There will begin an understanding of our "purpose."

HOT DOG!!

CONFIRMATION GET TOGETHER

6th, 7th and 8th Grade

We're planning a get-together on

**Wednesday evening, August 31st,
5:30-6:30 p.m.**

– it's meant as an 'all family' potluck (the church will provide the hot dogs – you get to bring a salad or dessert). Pr. John and Sue Buss will discuss the plans for the classes (6th, 7th-8th, and 6th) as they begin in the fall, along with the details and arrangements for the sessions.

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 evening at 7 p.m.

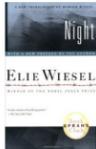
COMFORT CARE uses their sewing skills to make *prayer blankets, baptismal banners and new banners for the sanctuary* (among other things!). They meet on the 2nd Saturdays at 9 in the morning (sometimes coming in early enough to share with Hole-in-the-roofers discussion and donuts!). **Will not meet in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

BROWN BAG The noontime (second and fourth Wednesdays) meeting of the Book Bunch will take a hiatus (vacation) during August, resuming on September 14th. **In the meantime**, we will have some time to order our next book (and figure out costs accordingly). From our list of selections, we have a 'split decision' between these two books... If you would like to chime in (and have a copy ordered), send a message to pr.john.foc@gmail.com or Kelly.hauff@gmail.com. We will order by August 17th!

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

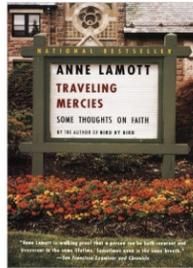
Returned Service Requested

1, Night Elie Wiesel



Night is Elie Wiesel's masterpiece, a candid, horrific, and deeply poignant autobiographical account of his survival as a teenager in the Nazi death camps. This new translation by Marion Wiesel, Elie's wife and frequent translator, presents this seminal memoir in the language and spirit truest to the author's original intent. And in a substantive new preface, Elie reflects on the enduring importance of *Night* and his lifelong, passionate dedication to ensuring that the world never forgets man's capacity for inhumanity to man.

2, Traveling Mercies Anne Lamott



Anne Lamott claims the two best prayers she knows are: "Help me, help me, help me" and "Thank you, thank you, thank you." She has a friend whose morning prayer each day is "Whatever," and whose evening prayer is "Oh, well." Anne thinks of Jesus as "Casper the friendly savior" and describes God as "one crafty mother."

Lamott's faith isn't about easy answers, which is part of what endears her to believers as well as nonbelievers. Against all odds, she came to believe in God and then, even more miraculously, in herself. As she puts it, "My coming to faith did not start with a leap but rather a series of staggers." At once tough, personal, affectionate, wise, and very funny, **Traveling Mercies** tells in exuberant detail how Anne Lamott learned to shine the light of faith on the darkest part of ordinary life, exposing surprising pockets of meaning and hope.

Worship Workers for August 2016

Aug .6/7

Sat. 6:00 pm

Communion Prep: Bryan Sall
Communion Asst: Barb Laursen
Worship Asst: Barb Laursen
Lector: Barb Laursen
Greeter

Sun. 10:00 am

Communion Prep: Lois Adamson
Communion Asst: Lois Adamson
Worship Asst: Jane David
Lector: Gayle Miller
Greeters: Lois Adamson & Peg Buettner
Counter: Lois Adamson

Aug. 13/14

Sat. 6:00 pm

Communion Prep: Bryan Sall
Communion Asst: Ken Petersen
Worship Asst: Kelly Hauff
Lector: Kelly Hauff
Greeters:

Sun. 10:00 am

Communion Prep: Fougerons
Communion Asst: Deb Middleton
Worship Asst: Barbara Sitzman
Lector: Connie Fie
Greeters: Gayle & Marge Miller
Counter:

Aug. 20/21

Sat. 6:00 pm

Communion Prep: Bryan Sall
Communion Asst: Joni Weed
Worship Asst: Joyce Albers
Lector: Dan Kossmann
Greeters:

Sun. 10:00 am

Communion Prep: Fougerons
Communion Asst: Patty Reifenrath
Worship Asst: Layne Knoedler
Lector: Ken Reifenrath
Greeters: Chuck & Tammy Frye
Counters: Rod & Jane Behrhorst

Aug. 27/28

Sat. 6:00 pm.

Communion Prep: Bryan Sall
Communion Asst: Cheryl Hedstrom
Worship Asst: Kelly Hauff
Lector: Cheryl Hedstrom
Greeters: Hedstroms

Sun. 10:00 am

Communion Prep: Fougerons
Communion Asst: Nancy DeBoer
Worship Asst: Barbara Sitzman
Lector: Marshall Nelson
Greeters: Mike & Nancy DeBoer
Offering Counters: Peggy Nelson

SUMMER SCHEDULE

REMEMBER .. we are in the summer schedule from Memorial Weekend through Labor Day Weekend!

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

SUNDAY MORNING is at 10 a.m. during the summer Sundays!

We don't have Sunday School, but we still have 'children's church' during the Sunday service.

**FAMILY OF CHRIST COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 12, 2016**

Present: Cheryl Hedstrom; Lance Knoedler, Peggy Nelson, John Marsh, Chris Denton, Pastor John; Connie Fie. Absent: Lanny Johnson

Pastor John opened the meeting with prayer and reading from Luke 10:38-42 about Jesus visit with sisters Mary and Martha. The passage reminds to focus on what is needful and recognize what the Lord would have us do.

Minutes: Motion made (PJ/John Marsh) to approve June minutes.

Financial Report was reviewed. Peggy reported on the inquiry about the higher water bill. It was found that a sprinkler head was broken and leaking. It has since been repaired. This and increased summer water usage account for the increase.

Pastor John reported the three churches participating in VBS at FOC will divide up expenses. Peggy reported \$659 has come in so far for VBS.

On July 1, Peggy deposited the total amount of Capital Campaign funds received as of June 30 (\$80,497) into Mission Investment fund which will earn .397% rate of interest. This is a higher dividend than either a savings/checking account at the bank.

PJ reported St. Luke's will not be going on the youth trip to Minnesota, There is a shortage of funding for the trip. He asked if the council might approve borrowing \$500 from the confirmation funds with the provision it be paid back in the fall. Peggy noted there are discretionary education funds available. PJ moved to allocate \$500 discretionary funds and \$500 from confirmation funds with proviso the Youth Group will reimburse \$500 in the Fall back to confirmation funds. Motion carried (Chris/John Marsh).

PJ received a call from a Jubilee board member to report the air conditioning is not working at Jubilee and will require \$12,000 to replace it. It was noted a covenant between FOC/Jubilee had been made for a donation of \$100 per month. Peggy reported she does not have anything recorded of any payment thus far being made to Jubilee. She will double check on any funds that may have been sent and forward covenant monies to Jubilee.

Pastor John report: Inquirers group will be meeting one more time; confirmation group returned from Camp Joy Holling and the youth group will be traveling to Minnesota in August.

Ministries Coordinator report: Barb Laursen reported twenty five people were fed at the Habitat lunch. She has also been helping with the Inquirer's class. Request to help with Meals on Wheels one day one month has been received. She has e-mailed those who participated previously to see if they will be available to assist. She has also e-mailed worship workers to find out which weekend they would like to assist in August.

Old business: Two teams have been formed (Team A – creative building) and Team B (Evangelism to SE Kearney). The first meeting will be July 19 at 7:30 p.m.

New Business: Pastor John noted the congregation has been invited to a free trial through October 15, 2016 to RightNow media. After the free trial it will cost \$80 per month. He said they provide access to videos for children through adult age groups for use at home, small group or congregational use. He asked for a couple participants to join him Friday July 22 at 10:30 for an online conference and to evaluate if this would be something from which the congregation could benefit.

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Fie
Recording Secretary



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Kearney, NE 68845

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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 1:30-3:00pm)

Ministries Coordinator: Barbara Laursen
(Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30am-12:30pm)

WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

Sunday: 10:00am Worship

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Issue 8

**All in The
Family**

All Are Invited!!!

We will be holding a *free* ice cream social on **Friday August 19th at Hammer Park**. There will be toppings, drinks, and don't forget the ice cream! All are welcome to join and did we mention it's free?
Time **6:30 p.m. to 7:30(ish)**.



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