

# ALL IN THE FAMILY

July 2017  
Volume 33 Issue 7

Family of Christ Lutheran



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

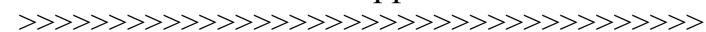
Phone: 308-236-7704  
E-mail: familyofchristkearney@gmail.com  
Web: www.familyofchristkearney.org  
Pastor e-mail: pr.john.foc@gmail.com  
Pastor: John Gosswein  
(Office Tu, W, F Afternoons)  
Publications Secretary:  
Ministries Coordinator: Barbara Laursen  
(Tues, Wed, Fri 9:30am-12:30pm)

**WORSHIP SERVICES:**

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

**Sunday: 10:00 am Worship**  
(We don't have Sunday School, but we'll be having the 'children's church' during the one service)

Family of Christ Church has an opening for a Print Secretary position. It is a part-time job with most tasks relating to typing, compiling and printing Newsletter and Bulletins for weekly use. Contact the church office at 308-236-7704 to obtain an application.



**SUMMER SCHEDULE**

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

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**Passport to Peru, Discovering God's Good Gifts**

Thanks to ALL who assisted in the *Passport to Peru* Vacation Bible School, June 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. The experience culminated in a wonderful tri-church worship experience at the park on Sunday, June 18th (*what a beautiful day!*) at Centennial Park.

The volunteering included food preparation, decorating, teaching and crew leading, bringing young folk back and forth, leading and worshipping, enthusiastic gaming and crafting!



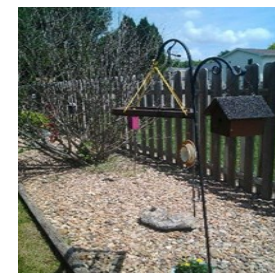
And we are especially grateful to First Presbyterian for being gracious hosts for this year's trek! Wow – thanks, all ..... *Gracias!*!



*Next year's Vacation Bible School* (according to our rotation) will be at St.

Luke's Episcopal, and we are **considering a weekend VBS.**

**BIRD FEEDER (HOLDERS)**



Gayle Miller is making more bird feeders for Bethphage Village, but solicits a little financial help for the poles (rebar) to hold the feeders – about \$8 per (and he may be making about 16 of them!). If you would like to contribute, you could either hand some cash right to Gayle, or put a little donation in the bird feeder in the entry way!

**OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION**

We've had a tradition of using one of our summer Sundays as a more casual forum for recognizing our high school seniors and graduates -- *Our 2017 students:* Evylynn Holmes, Jade Plambeck (graduated in December). We also recognize Nathan Gillen, moved to Colorado, as part of that class!

How about July 10<sup>th</sup> as a date to recognize these students this past year, and celebrate with a cookie and lemonade reception on the front lawn?



**BEFORE THE ROMANS BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAYS**

Join Pastor John getting to know people in the neighborhood! First you can have a dinner (hot dogs!) with him at 5:30, and then walk door to door soliciting prayers from our neighbors and getting to learn about them.

Family of Christ Lutheran Church  
1319 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Kearney, NE 68845

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## Returned Service Requested

Family of Christ Lutheran Church  
June 13, 2017 Minutes

**Present:** Pastor John, John Marsh, Tami Frye, Peggy Nelson, David Wiebe, Jane David, Connie Fie

**Devotion:** Pastor John gave the devotion from Psalm 100 noting worship results in action of the participants.

**Minutes:** President Marsh asked for a motion to approve the May 9 minutes. Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's report:** Gross profit on May 17 was \$15,456.00 with total expense of \$11,330.78 and a net income of \$4,132.61. Operating checking is \$77,007.15 with \$16,321.30 restricted funds. John M asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report (David/Jane). Approved.

**Church Secretary Vacancy:** Pastor John noted Council needs to approve Mutual Ministry team filling the church secretary position. The old job description was given to the Council for review. PJ noted the position had evolved into a 'print secretary'. It was noted a conversation with Barb Laursen and Joni Weed would clarify duties of the position. PJ made the motion to have Mutual Ministry team clarify the job description for 'print secretary' and put advertisement out for names to interview with Council approval. Motion carried.

Pastor John noted there are two items to be presented at the Congregational Meeting:

**Creation of special financial team:** As a follow-up to the Capital Campaign and a more accurate assessment of the congregation's willingness to investing in building, Hope Team has asked Council to create a team to develop a method for assessment. Names were suggested. PJ made the motion that suggested individuals be invited to be a part of the team to pursue stewardship strategies. Motion carried. David suggested personal contact be made with congregation members who were not part of the original contributors.

**Diaconal position.** Congregation will need to approve deacon ministry funding. A candidate is being sought and deacon ministry budget needs to be in place when the need arises.

**Youth Group trip:** Youth will be traveling to Sky Ranch in Colorado July 16. PJ asked Council for additional funding to help with transportation. Peggy noted there are funds of \$3500 from the sale of the car last Spring. PJ noted the cost per child is \$450. He asked if there might be some financial aid available to help families with this cost. David suggested covering \$250 per child drawing from unrestricted checking funds in addition to transportation expenses. President Marsh asked for a motion to approve (Peggy/Tami). Motion carried.

Motion was made (Jane/David) to adjourn.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Fie  
Recording Secretary



## Worship Workers for July 2017

### July 1/2

**Worship Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Kelly Hauff  
Sun10:00 Barbara Sitzman

**Lector:**

Sat:6:00 Vickie Schaepler  
Sun:10:00 Jantha Jamison

**Greeters:**

Sat: 6:00  
Sun10:00 Peggy Buettner  
& Lois Adamson

**Communion Assist:**

Sat:6:00:Kelly Hauff  
Sun10:00 Lois Adamson

**Communion Prep:**

Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall  
Sun:10:00 Lois Adamson

**Offering Counter:**

Lois Adamson

### July 29/30

**Worship Assist:**

Sat:6:00:Kelly Hauff  
10:00:Lane Knoedler

### July 8/9

**Worship Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Kelly Hauff  
Sun10:00 Jane David

**Lector:**

Sat: 6:00 Laura Buehner  
Sun:10:00 Peggy Nelson

**Greeters:**

Sat:6:00  
Sun:10:00 Mike DeBoer

**Communion Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Laura Buehner  
Sun:10:00 Nancy DeBoer

**Communion Prep:**

Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall  
Sun: 10:00 Fougerons &  
Sue Sands Buss

**Offering Counter:**

Peggy Nelson

### July 29/30

**Lector:** Dan Kossmann

Sun:10:00 Tami Frye

**Greeter:**

Nona Svoboda

### July 15/16

**Worship Assist:**

Sat: 6:00 Kelly Hauff  
Sun10:00 Lane Knoedler

**Lector:**

Sat 6:00: Cheryl Hedstrom  
Sun:10:00 Connie Fie

**Greeters:**

Sat:6:00 Hedstroms  
Sun: 10:00 David Wiebe

**Communion Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Ken Petersen  
Sun: 10:00 Mitzi Gifford

**Communion Prep:**

Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall  
Sun: 10:00 Fougerons &  
Sue Sands-Buss

**Offering Counters:**

Rod & Jane Behrhorst

### July 29/30

**Communion Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Joni Weed  
Sun:10:00 Deb Middleton

### July 22/23

**Worship Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Kelly Hauff  
Sun 10:00 Barb Laursen

**Lector:**

Sat:6:00 Linda Peterson  
Sun: 10:00 Bob Grabenstein

**Greeters:**

Sat:6:00  
Sun:10:00 Boyd's

**Communion Assist:**

Sat:6:00 Linda Peterson  
Sun: 10:00 Bob Grabenstein

**Communion Prep:**

Sat:6:00 Bryan Sall  
Sun:10:00 Fougerons & Sue  
Sands Buss

**Offering Counters:**

Lois Adamson

### July 29/30

**Offering Counter:**

Layne Knoedler



### OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR DISCIPLESHIP GROWTH

(This list is by no means complete ... but maybe you would like to consider trying one of these adventures!)

**BROWN BAG BOOK BUNCH** The Book Bunch meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays over lunch (12-12:45) in the church basement. They are studying *Tattoos on the Heart* by Greg Boyle for the next weeks — you can still get a book if you just contact the church. Come join us! *We will take a summer hiatus for July & August*

**WEDNESDAY WEEDERS** This faithful group meets almost every Wednesday, gathering at 9 a.m., and then breaking at 10:30 for coffee, fellowship and prayers. Yes, they are ‘weeder’ during the appropriate season, but they have so many other ‘hands on’ tasks they enjoy doing around the church – and taking an excursion once in a while. Consider just dropping in to see what they are about!

**WOODWORKING CLUSTER** O.K., we haven’t come up with a snappy name...but we’ve got several people interested in an idea and desire that Gayle Miller has developed. He has (and needs) old lumber that he turns into toys – cute toys to give away. He would love to let this ministry mature – if you may be interested, contact the church office or call Gayle directly! (402)376-5621.

**THURSDAY SANCTUARY BIBLE STUDY** resumes in September .

**SUMMER MIDWEEK WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY!** Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m.

**For 2017: We’ll finish the book of Romans!** Several years ago, we made it through the first seven chapters of the monumental book in the New Testament. We began with an overview of Romans 1-7 on June 7, and we’ll move into the last half of Romans, where Paul gives us direction on how to LIVE our lives of righteousness and justification in a complicated world. *It’s a marvelous epistle, which we’ll take in bite size portions over the months of June and July.* 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!

**HOLE IN THE ROOF GANG** -The guys continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8:00am. 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.

**COMFORT CARE GROUP** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. of the month to make handmade blankets for those who are sick or in need of comfort. *We will take a summer hiatus for May through August.*

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. of the month at 7-8 pm at the church. WELCA meets quarterly after a Sunday Service for a luncheon.



### July Birthdays

- 7/1 Coleen Brill
- 7/1 Charles Schaepler
- 7/1 Rick Tschirren
- 7/2 Justin Klute
- 7/2 Blaine Stewart
- 7/5 Stasha Shields
- 7/6 Peggy Riemers
- 7/9 Clinton Brill
- 7/10 Sean Campbell
- 7/12 Riley Kishkunas
- 7/14 Ron Anderson
- 7/14 Nona Svoboda
- 7/15 Carley Collison
- 7/16 Eva Einspahr
- 7/16 Bob Grabenstein
- 7/16 Brady Kuntz
- 7/16 Skylar Kuntz
- 7/17 Dave Grove
- 7/20 Myron Fougeron
- 7/20 Mike Tveit
- 7/21 Phyllis Sawyer
- 7/22 Taylor Hovve
- 7/23 Luke fisher
- 7/23 Jullie Tveit
- 7/25 June Collison
- 7/25 Mike DeBoer
- 7/25 Lance Knoedler
- 7/26 Madison Wulf
- 7/27 Joel Gosswein
- 7/27 Gary Straatmann
- 7/28 Rebecca Albers
- 7/28 Paislee Fiese
- 7/29 Kathy Morrow
- 7/30 Kayden Linner



### July Anniversaries

- 7/11 Tom & Cheryl Hedstrom
- 7/15 Rod & Jane Behrhorst
- 7/17 Chris & Ashlea Denton
- 7/18 Chuck & Tami Frye
- 7/28 Harold & Barbara Laursen

### CONDOLENCES:

- To Pat Beinhoff upon the death of her husband **Don** on June 20th.
- To Amy Fahnholz, upon the death of her father, **Dean Miller** of Cozad.

### Drinking From the Well

**... is a new ministry from Seeking the Spirit Within: The Nebraska Synod Institute for Spiritual Direction Formation. It is a unique opportunity to learn from spiritual directors from around the Nebraska Synod ELCA and grow in your experience of the Divine.**

**Participants will have access to an online instructional webinar each month and will meet one time a month with a small group. If we have individuals from the Kearney area who register for this program, Connie Stover will facilitate the small group meetings at First Lutheran Church. For more information about this new ministry and get the instructions on how to register, go to [seekingthespiritwithin.org](http://seekingthespiritwithin.org) or contact **Connie** at 308-440-4450 or [conniestover@nebraskasynod.org](mailto:conniestover@nebraskasynod.org). Registration is not limited to members of ELCA congregations, so we encourage you to share this information with any of your friends who might be interested in participating!**

**Registrations are now being accepted for the class beginning this September and going through April, 2018.**

### OUR NOISY OFFERING

Our June *Noisy Offering* will be combined with the Vacation Bible School offerings, **Operation Kid to Kid**. With this year’s Peruvian theme, the monies collected will bring water wells to Peruvian villages.

*“For just \$5 per person, the kids at VBS can help fund a well in a Peruvian village! Through a partnership between Group Cares and Living Waters, we can reach thousands of thirsty kids with life-giving water.”*



	<u>Family of Christ</u>
Pastor	John Gosswein
<b>Church Council</b>	
<u>President</u>	John Marsh
<u>Vice President</u>	Tami Frye
<u>Secretary</u>	Connie Fie
<u>Treasurer</u>	Peggy Nelson
<u>Financial Secretary</u>	Jane David
<u>Members at Large</u>	Lance Knoedler Dr. David Wiebe Jane David
<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
Education	Judy Gosswein
Fellowship	Svoboda, Albers, Peterson
Evangelism	Julie Garaffa
New Properties	Brad Anderson
Church Properties	Lynn Tacha
Web Resources	Joni Weed
Youth Group	Deb Middleton
<u>Ministries Coordinator</u>	Barbara Laursen
<u>Publication Secretary</u>	
Stewardship	
Mutual Ministries	Jane David
Worship	Pr Harold Laursen

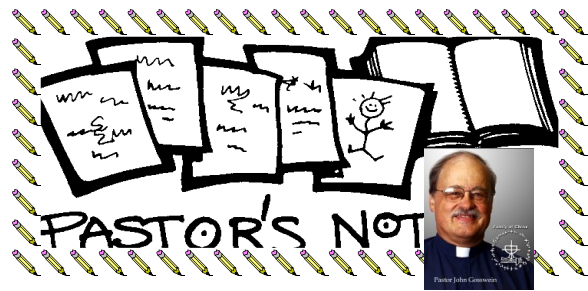
RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS**

**July 20, 2017**



## The Funny Side of Discipleship

Jesus has a sense of humor!

Remember that story he told about a man trying to pick a speck out of a friend's eye while he has an enormous plank in his own? It's a funny 'glance' at hypocrisy. Or the woman attempting to place yeast into enough flour for several hundred pounds of bread? A little can accomplish a lot! His farmer (Mark 4) scatters seed wildly about, unreserved in sending it onto hard roads, into thorns, or onto rocks. Just like our gracious Father!

And then – Jesus takes that cluster of disciples to a mountain and sends them into the world. That same gaggle of Galilean former fishermen and tax collectors, who “worship and doubt” at the same time (Matthew 28), who stare at the sky wondering “what's next?” (Acts 1)...Jesus *sends them out* to continue his work. Actually, it's funnier in John 20 where Jesus (according to the Greek words) “flings” or ‘hurls’ them into the world to start doing ‘spirit’ stuff.

Jesus does have a sense of humor that he would entrust this work to ... people like us. Jesus does realize his disciples limitations and strengths. *And Jesus also knows the wonderful power of God to work in ministry through those disciples.*


Don't presume that the ‘church’, newly formed by that Pentecost Spirit, would be perfect and problem free! Reading through the book of Acts brings the realization that the Spirit was **most** present during ‘uncomfortable opportunities’: places where forgiveness could be breathed, where walls of prejudice and separation could be toppled, and where newly formed apostles could learn how God's grace would provide even in difficult situations.

One group of scholars teach that the Gospel of Matthew is a ‘training’ manual for disciples. I like that – and, since we are in the Gospel of Matthew for this summer (and through 2017), we view it as we continue to grow, sensing God's nurture behind our gracious words and actions, wherever they may be sent.

We may realize Jesus does have a sense of humor. But he's not laughing at us. It's actually a glee at seeing the surprising and delightful ways we...

Share joy in Christ!  
Pr. John

# July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:00 pm Worship
2 10:00 am Worship	3	 Happy 4th of July!	5 9:00 am Wed. Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study	6	7	8 8:00 am Hole in the Roof 6:00 pm Worship
9 10:00 am Worship	10 7:00 pm Womens Bible Study	11 7:00 pm Church Council	5 9:00 am Wed. Weeders 7:00pm Bible Study	13	14	15 6:00 pm Worship
16 10:00 am Worship	17	18	19 9:00 am Wed. Weeders 7:00 pm Bible Study	20	21	22 8:00 am Hole in the Roof 4:30 pm Grief with Grace 6:00 pm Worship
23 10:00 am Worship	24	25	26 9:00 am Wed. Weeders 7:00 pm Bible Study	27	28	29 6:00 pm Worship
30 10:00 am Worship	31					