

THE LAKE NOKOMIS LUTHERAN (USPS 302-480) is published monthly by Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, 5011 31st Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55417. Periodicals class postage paid at St. Paul. MN post office.

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# The Lake Nokomis Lutheran

monthly newsletter

May 1, 2019 - Volume 74 No. 5

***Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." John 20:21***

The evening of the Resurrection, Jesus appears and speaks these words of hope and future. In the midst of grief, loss and bewilderment, Jesus comes and unleashes the church.

Christ's church is a *sent* church. We exist for the sake of the world. We are blessed so as to be a blessing. Jesus was sent by God to redeem the world; we are sent by Jesus as agents of grace.

Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church has a strong, deep value of being a welcoming place. Our website reads "You Are Welcome Here!" And the very next sentence is *We are God's people being transformed by the Holy Spirit to live out the gospel of Jesus Christ in the world in word and action.* The great commission in the Gospel of John is written into our purpose statement, "to live out the gospel of Jesus Christ in the world."

***We now have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of, in a sense, being sent to where we are.***

We are in conversation with two other congregations about all being located in one place, three congregations with three sanctuaries in cooperative ministries out of one campus.\* LNL is not financially able to sustain this facility along with our high quality ministries. Three congregations in one place will ease our financial stress, *but more importantly* the ministries offered here will be multiplied by the others. The corner of 50<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> can become a hub of care

and service for this corner of the city. LNL is being sent to a new way of being and a new way of serving. Not leaving this corner but sent to a new way of existing as one catholic church with two other churches. Not leaving our Lutheran identity and witness, but sent to be unique and different in a Holy Trinity of churches that not only speaks but demonstrates ecumenical diversity.

God is testing just how true is our commitment to "You Are Welcome Here!" Are we welcoming to new partners in this place?

Pastor Chris



*\*See Three Churches Initiative Committee Updates on page 4*

## The Lake Nokomis Lutheran

May 1, 2019  
Volume 74, No. 5

*Lake Nokomis Lutheran is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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**Office Hours: The Church office is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday—Friday (beginning June 1, we close at noon on Fridays during the summer).**

## **Celebrations & Faith Milestones**

### **May Birthdays**

May 1—Faith Lindell  
May 2—Anna Oberlander, Dane Borgerding  
May 3—June Mazzola, Jon West  
May 7—Greg Dutton  
May 8—Arvid Mauland, Deb Swanson  
May 9—Kevin Ogaard  
May 10—Barbara Lehmann,  
Roseanne Oberlander  
May 12—Steve Bianucci, Lindsey Deeb,  
Nissa Rolf  
May 13—Diane Tennison, Jennifer Munson,  
Callie Christensen, Evelyn Berggren  
May 14—Lillian Hedensten, Blake Frankeberger  
May 15—Vic Snider, Lincoln Berggren  
May 17—Aubrey Van Liere, Cole Thompson,  
Katie Jung, Francis Payseur, Gladys Seibel  
May 18—Thomas Stacy  
May 19—Justin Falness, Cynthia Olson  
May 20—Jim Richards  
May 21—Marilyn Cierzan, Dean Larson  
May 22—Marilyn Klonecz, Erica Thorson  
May 23—Kristi Lind, Beverly Petersen  
May 24—Virginia Rudloff  
May 25—Carl Osberg, Joshua Meza  
May 26—Maggie O’Groske  
May 28—Luka Krkaby  
May 29—Sophie Lamo  
May 31—Hannah Davis

### **May Anniversaries**

May 9 - Oberlander, Paul and Roseanne (38 years)  
May 14 - Rolf, Ilse and Jason (25 years)  
May 16 - Nelson, William and Mavis (55 years)  
May 25 - Pederson, Ronald and Jerrilyn (55 years)  
May 27 - Dutton, Greg and Sarah (24 years)  
May 28 - Snetting, Lee and Kathryn (42 years);  
Bronn, Kevin and Johnson, Jessica (4 years)  
May 31 - Falness, Justin and Alexis (11 years)

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## **WELLNESS BITS from BARB, ypn\* May is Mental Health Month.**

Mental health is so important in our overall wellness. But feeling mentally healthy can be a really big challenge. Sometimes it feels like all around us is toxic energy (toxic people, toxic talk, toxic actions)...and it has an impact on us. How can we (you & me), take on this toxic reality? How do we identify it and stand up to it head on?

This is the topic Sarah Dutton (one of our members, health coach, yoga instructor) and I will take on at our Faith & Life Conversation on May 19. Sarah will lead our discussion on how and why it's important to be aware of toxic energies. We will focus on tools to help us Remove, Replace & Repair. Tools that will help us choose actions, and therefore outcomes, that positively impact our mental health. My challenge to you this May? Join me and spring into summer 2019 with the goal of raising your mental health awareness...and choose actions that nurture your mental health. This will help you feel better in body, mind & spirit. I guarantee it!  
BE BOLD. BE KIND. BE HEALTHY.  
Peace & love in Christ,  
Barb Tauferner, Your Parish Nurse\*

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## **Parent Resource Group Meets in South Minneapolis**

NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) provides support groups to help parents of children under 18 discover resources to meet the challenges of raising a child with mental illness, learn coping skills and develop problem-solving skills. The groups are facilitated by a parent who has a child with a mental illness and who has been trained to lead support groups. A parent resource group meets in south Minneapolis on the 1st Saturday of each month, from 2:15-3:45 p.m., at Lake Nokomis Community Center; 2401 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

## **Thank you for a welcoming worship environment!**

*Do you ever wonder what worship would be like if someone didn't come to usher or read and greet other members and guests?*

*Thank you to all those who make worship a blessing:*

*Ushers, readers, greeters, hospitality/Connect, baptism cloth and chest and font preparers, Altar Guild, communion servers, van drivers, worship environment team members, reader scheduler, prayer chain members, children and adult choirs, children drummers and all of our volunteer musicians.*

## **May Worship Assistants**

### **May 5**

**Communion servers:**

*Ginny Rudloff, Maggie O’Groske*

**Ushers:** *Jerry Sellman, Jeff Kendall,  
Jerry Winzig, Arvid Mauland*

**Van driver:** *Dan Buys*

### **May 12**

**Communion servers:** *Charles Boothe*

*Barb Tauferner*

**Ushers:** *Mavis Nelson, Steve Frankeberger,  
Nancy Johnson, Bob Wold*

**Van driver:** *Mike Grundeen*

### **May 19**

**Communion servers:** *Bonnie Lindstrom,  
Jane Wheeler*

**Ushers:** *Charles Swanson, Eleanor  
Swanson, George Hawkins,  
Arvid Mauland*

**Van driver:** *Eric Grube*

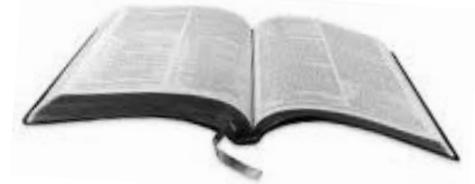
## **MAY 26**

**SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS BEGIN  
(One service only at 9:30 a.m.)**

**Communion Servers:** *Maggie Snetting  
Jenny Dowzak*

**Ushers:** *Jerry Larson, Bob Wold,  
Eric Grube, Teresa Doyle*

**Van Driver:** *Jerry Sellman*



## **May Lectionary Readings**

### **May 5**

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]  
Psalm 30  
John 21:1-19

### **May 12**

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
John 10:22-30

### **May 19**

Acts 11:1-18  
Psalm 148  
John 13:31-35

### **May 26**

Acts 16:9-15  
Psalm 67  
John 14:23-29

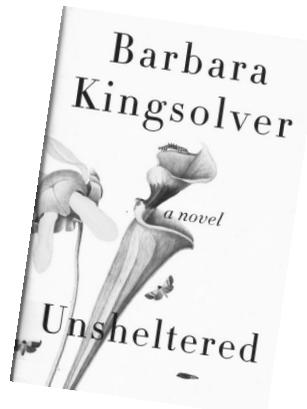
## THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY!

### THANK YOU EVERYONE!!

Thank you to everyone who took the time to come in and visit the library during our Open House on Sunday April 28. If this was your first time visiting our library, we hope that you will return again. We'd also like to say THANK YOU! to all of you who make anonymous donations to the library, your gifts are much appreciated and help to extend our budget. Current members of the library committee are Carol Ivens, Carol Tierney, Kathy Schou, Nancy Johnson and Judy Loomis. New members are always welcome.

### A NEW NOVEL BY BARBARA KINGSOLVER READERS WILL ENJOY!!

*UNSHELTERED*, Is the latest book written by Barbara Kingsolver and it is a page-turner about the end of time. It is the story of two families, in two different centuries who live at the corner of Sixth and Plum in Vineland, New Jersey, navigating what seems to be the end of the world as they know it, in a house that seems unfortunately, doomed. The characters paint a startling portrait of life in times when the foundations of the past have failed to prepare us for the future. In the Afterword at the end of the book, the author sums up her reasons for writing this novel with this quote. "These might be the best or worst of times, but with the news outlets all betting on the latter, most of us would rather read a



novel. Because this is what I know for sure: stories will get us through times of no leadership better than leaders will get us through times with no stories."

### NEW EXCITING NOVEL FOR TEENS BY A LOCAL AUTHOR!!

Minneapolis author Jane St. Anthony has written several titles that pertain to the struggles that teens and young adults face while coming of age. She recently completed her fourth book in a series where she follows three friends Margaret, Grace, and Isabel during the 1960's as they navigate relationships and new questions about love and identity. Nancy Johnson recently donated an autographed copy of her fourth book *WHATEVER IS NORMAL* to our library. If there is an interest in this type of novel, the library would like to add the other books in this series. St. Anthony's third title in this series, *ISABELLE REFUSES TO DIE OF A BROKEN HEART*, was the recipient of the Midwest Booksellers Choice Award for Young Adults and Middle Grades. Please leave a note and let the committee know what you think.

### BOOK SUGGESTION FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

*WHEN GOD WAS A LITTLE GIRL*, was written by Pastor David Weiss. This is a story about creation with a whimsical twist. Pastor David first told this story orally to his daughter Susanna, while the family was on a long road trip from Madison, WI. to Decorah IA. The book has some great illustrations and a signed copy was donated to our library in 2014 but it has spent it's time on the shelf waiting for readers. Stop in the library and check it out.

## Faith Formation

### Faith & Life Conversations – 9:15 a.m. Sundays in the Nokomis Room

**May 5: *Clare Housing*** – Today, over 8,000 people in MN are living with HIV/AIDS. Fifty percent of them will be homeless or have a housing crisis during the course of their illness. Clare Housing provides a continuum of affordable and supportive housing options that create healing communities and optimize the health of people living with HIV/AIDS. Come to hear more about this organization that shares our vision of affordable housing for all.

**May 12: *3 Church Initiative*** – What might it look like to have 3 churches housed together under 1 roof? How might we strengthen our ministries by working together and sharing resources? Bring your questions and hear an update from the task force.

**May 19: *Mental Health for Summer!*** Sometimes it feels like all around us is toxic energy – toxic people, toxic talk, toxic actions – and it takes a toll on our mental health. How can we identify and stand up to this toxic energy? Health Coach and yoga instructor Sarah Dutton will share tools to help us Remove, Replace & Repair, so that we can choose actions and outcomes that positively impact our mental health. Let's head into summer with a healthy mind, body, and spirit!



### Christ & Culture in Film

In *LITTLE BOY*, an eight-year-old boy is willing to do whatever it takes to end World War II so that he can bring his father home. The story reveals the indescribable love a father has for his little boy and the love a son has for his father. Bring a snack to share and join us on Sunday, May 19, 6:00 p.m. to view and discuss the

film. For more information, contact Glen Wheeler at 612-724-2655. Come once to check out your favorite film or join us every month!



### Vacation Bible School

Get ready for an African adventure that engages the whole herd. Life is sometimes wild, but God is always good! Every night at **Roar**, July 14-18, 6:00-7:30 p.m., kids will explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life! Children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade grads can participate; and 6<sup>th</sup> grade grads through adults will help with games, crafts, experiments, snacks, bible discovery and music. Registration forms are on the kids table in the narthex. Contact Kathryn Selin at 612-849-0381/ [piakat04@hotmail.com](mailto:piakat04@hotmail.com) or Erica Larson at 612-810-3893/ [elarson@lakenokomis.org](mailto:elarson@lakenokomis.org) to volunteer.

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### Faith Milestones

On Sunday, May 19 at the 10:30 a.m. worship service we will celebrate the milestone of **graduation** with our high school seniors. We will honor Brandon Bingham, Kathleen Grube, Emma Munson, Lily Myers, Thomas Winzig, and McKenna Ritterman; and have a place for you to leave cards or gifts. Look for more about their future plans in the June newsletter.

Are you or a family member who is a part of this congregation graduating from college or graduate school this year? If so, please contact Director of Faith Formation Erica Larson so that we can celebrate this great accomplishment!



### Three Churches Initiative Update

We're seeing the pace accelerate with this committee. Here's a summary of our activities:

**Shared Campus survey:** as of April 17, we've received 60 responses. Here are the results:

How do you feel about the shared campus concept?

Very positive/somewhat positive: 77%  
Somewhat negative/very negative: 23%

How do you feel about sharing youth education & activities?

Very positive/somewhat positive: 88%  
Somewhat negative/very negative: 12%

How do you feel about occasional shared worship?

Very positive/somewhat positive: 84%  
Somewhat negative/very negative: 16%

How do you feel about sharing ministry activities?

Very positive/somewhat positive: 89%  
Somewhat negative/very negative: 11%

We have received comments that indicate more conversations are needed to clarify this process. Please watch for announcements of upcoming meetings to discuss this important initiative, including the Faith & Life Conversation on Sunday, May 12.

**Meeting with David Raymond:** David is a Lutheran "church futures" consultant. He has a number of recommendations for us, including, but not limited to:

We should discuss feelings about growth. Do we want to grow? Do we have a plan to grow? What is the vision? Note that growth requires resources, and a willingness to change. We should plan to keep and strengthen separate identities for each congregation. The next steps for each congregation should include:

Criteria for space requirements: what are the "must haves"; the possible compromises; "willing to share" spaces.

Building design options, using the criteria outlined.

Financial feasibility

Please continue to pray for our committee!  
Robbie Becker, Eric Grube, Neil Oxendale, Rev. Chris Hagen

### Would you like to know a bit more about our friends in the 3 Church Initiative?

**Here's your chance!**

**Join us for....**

**WHAT:** *A Grand Tour! A peek into each congregation's space and culture*

**WHEN:** *Saturday, June, 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 am – 1:30 pm*

**WHERE:**

*10:00 am: Living Table United Church of Christ; 3805 E. 40<sup>th</sup> St; 55406*

*11:00 am: St. James Episcopal on the Parkway; 3225 E. Minnehaha Parkway; 55417*

*12:00 noon: Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church*

*Each congregation will give a tour of their space, and a bit of refreshment! See Eric Grube for more information, or to help with the LNL portion of the tour.*

### Interim Update 2019 May

A Transition Team has been appointed by council to guide this time of change at LNL. The team is responsible for assessing our current state of ministry, the opportunities God is holding out to us, and leading congregation discernment as to what God is calling us to be and do. The results of their effort will be written into a *Ministry Site Profile* which will serve as LNL's promotion document for prospective candidates.

#### Transition Team members are:

Will Awe,  
Sheri Buys,  
Robin Huiras-Carlson,  
Cindy Olson,  
Tanya Refshauge,  
Ginny Rudloff,  
Steve Schou,  
Bette Stacy

Dovetailing their work is the on-going conversation of three congregations in one location. LNL is exploring the idea of a Lutheran congregation, an Episcopalian congregation and a United Church of Christ congregation sharing a campus as three distinct ministries. This conversation will certainly influence the transition and call processes.

Besides all this, LNL is at risk financially. 20% of our budget comes from a single source, that of Hennepin Middle School. Even with the school revenue, we still are deferring maintenance, running short-staffed and limited in the direct ministries we can offer.

In the coming months please stay engaged and informed. The Transition Team will be soliciting your views and ideas. The 3-Church discernment will take thinking about LNL in different ways. And we will be addressing our financial challenges.

Pastor Chris

### Mission of the Month for May

#### Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP)

SWAP is a service and learning program of the Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes that provides week long service opportunities for groups and individuals to participate in home repair work and be immersed in community and cultural experiences in Kentucky. Our high school youth volunteered with SWAP in 2015 and 2018 and have chosen this as one of our mission partners.

To donate, please go to our website, Online Giving page or leave a check with SWAP written on the memo line in the offering plate. You can also mail your donations or bring them into the office during the month of May.



#### MEALS ON WHEELS

Thank you to everyone who delivered meals in March. Our next week to deliver will be May 20th. We pick up the meals at Nokomis Square at 11:15 a.m. and it takes about an hour. If you can help contact Andrea Bolstad or watch for her SignUpGenius email.

## Church Council Update

### - April Meeting summary

One of the functions of council members is to act as representatives for the teams, committees and task forces within the church. Council members typically attend meetings held by these groups and report back to the council each month on their activities. Council members have volunteered for these teams as follows:

**Worship: Diana Grundeen**

**Education: Kathryn Selin**

**Property: John Becker, Cody Anderson**

**Connect: Karen Ojeda**

**Service: Lynn Walsh**

**Outreach: Will Awe**

**Racial Justice Task Force: Lynn Walsh,  
Kami Hopkins, Karen Ojeda**

**Three Church Initiative Task Force:  
Pastor Chris Hagen**

**Transition Team: Cindy Olson**

**Personnel Committee: David Miland**

**Racial Justice Liaison with the  
Minneapolis Area Synod: Karen Ojeda**

**New business** discussed at the April Council meeting includes the following items:

**Church Software:** The software package we currently use for membership records and financial records has been discontinued, with little or no notice to our staff. After researching several options, and consulting with the synod and other churches, Pastor Chris recommended, and the church council approved transitioning to CDM+ as our church software package.

Advantages of this package include the ability for the pastor and staff to access member contact information remotely through an app on their phone.

**New Funeral Procedure:** The need for this is, first, that funeral luncheons have been interfering with Hennepin Middle School lunches. Both use the same kitchen space. Second, it is becoming common for families to not have funeral home directors present at funerals at church, to save money. The result is that our church staff has to perform those duties, which is not in their job descriptions and takes away from their other work. The main changes in this procedure include:

Funeral Coordinator role is added.

Two or three coordinators need to be recruited.

Custodian function is formalized.

Reception Coordinator role is expanded to two or three leaders who recruit their own teams.

Fees are standardized.

There is still some work to do to recruit and set up the teams. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

**Posting Council Minutes:** The council secretary will post Council Meeting Minutes on the bulletin board in the Narthex for church members to review. Please note that minutes will not be posted until they are approved by the Council at the next council meeting. Therefore, the current month's minutes typically will not be available until the following month.

John Becker [Beckercom@aol.com](mailto:Beckercom@aol.com)

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## Foundation 2019

### Foundation Officers May 2019

**Chair:** Keith Atkinson

**Vice Chair:** Patty Grube

**Secretary:** David Miland

**Treasurer:** Eric Grube

### Scholarships awarded:

The following students have received a Foundation Scholarship for education. Each student will receive \$1,000.

- Thomas Winzig
- Brandon Bingham
- Vince Grube
- Nick Kendall
- Will Kendall
- Katie Fernandez
- Sarah Zaepfel
- Nissa Rolf

### Grant Monies distributed:

- \$750 for backup and technical updates for office computers
- 2019 high-adventure canoe trip - Christian leadership awards for Erin Grube and Nathaniel Grundeen-\$575 each
- **Sound System**  
\$2,600 for help to cover the cost of upgrading the Sanctuary and Undercroft sound systems. (We hope you have noticed the improvements!)

## Families Moving Forward

### SAVE THE DATE!

Our week of hosting this year is August 4-11. Can you give a couple of hours to:

Entertain a group of children?  
Play a board game with adults?  
Cook and serve a meal?

Join us this summer and make a big impact on families experiencing homelessness!

Check the LNL website to sign up.

Thank you.  
Ginny Rudloff and Robbie Becker  
Your FMF Host Coordinators

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### It's that time of year again! Please join us to help clean up the church grounds!

Please join a team of workers for spring cleaning of the church grounds on Saturday, May 18. Come anytime you are able between 9 and noon and help with general yard cleanup. Bring your rake and gloves-if you don't have your own, we'll have some extras. If you can't make this time around, please contact the church office anytime to let us know you would like to help out with the gardens in some other way this summer. There are many ways to use your individual talents. Just let us know!

# May 2019

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b> 5:30pm Simple Dinner 6pm Good News Choir, Salt & Light, Faith Club 6:30pm Spirit Drums 7pm Adult Choir, Confirmation, The Deep End	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 4pm Crafty Women setup	<b>4</b> <i>MAS Assembly</i> 9am Organ Practice 9am Crafty Women Sale 10:30am OA
<b>5</b> 8am Worship 9:15am Education 10:30am Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 5:30pm Simple Dinner 6pm Good News Choir, Salt & Light, Faith Club 6:30pm Spirit Drums 7pm Adult Choir, Confirmation, The Deep End	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9am Organ Practice 10:30am OA
<b>12</b> 8am Worship 9:15am Education 10:30am Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7pm Church Council	<b>15</b> 1pm Rebecca Circle 5:30pm Childrens' Music Family Picnic 6pm Faith Club, Building & Property 7pm Adult Choir, Confirmation, The Deep End	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9am Organ Practice 9am til Noon-Church Grounds Cleanup 10:30am OA
<b>19</b> 8am Worship 9:15am Education 10:30am Worship 11:45am Service Trip Meeting 6pm Christ & Culture in Film	<b>20</b> 1:30pm Worship at Nokomis Square 4:30pm 3 Church Discernment Meeting	<b>21</b> 5pm Worship Planning	<b>22</b> 7pm Adult Choir, 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mentor Meeting and Faith-in-Action Planning	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8am MinneHarvest 9am Organ Practice 10:30am OA
<b>Meals on Wheels Delivered this Week</b>						
<b>26</b> 9:30am Worship	<b>27</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	