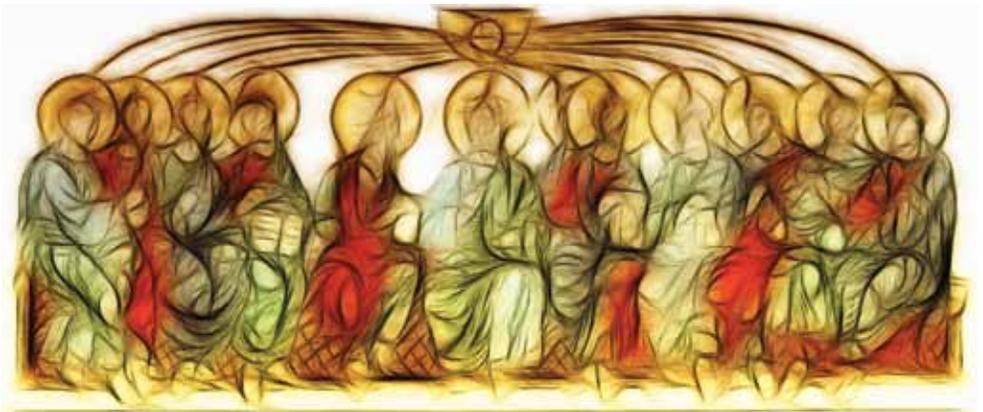


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Vol. 26, Issue 8 • Aug-Oct, 2018



# the *Voices* of english lutheran

the SEASON of PENTECOST

## PASTOR'S PRESS

In our Community Conversation on April 18, Bishop Jim Arends of the La Crosse Area Synod raised the question, "Should churches get involved in politics?" In response to his own question, Bishop Arends pointed out that the Bible has much to say about leadership and the responsible use of power in creating a just society. The Bible also addresses many themes often raised in the public square such as compassion, fairness, loyalty, authority and sanctity.

In response to our present political climate, I want to take a moment and reflect on the biblical concept of leadership. The term "Servant Leadership" has become popular in recent years following the publication of Robert Greenleaf's book, *Servant Leadership: A Journey into the Nature of Legitimate Power and Greatness* (New York: Paulist Press, 1977). However, the idea of servant leadership is as old as the Bible itself.

Aaron, Moses' older brother and his sister Miriam challenged Moses' leadership of the Hebrew people (Numbers 12). God rebuked Aaron and Miriam and referred to Moses not as the leader or king of Israel but as the servant of God. Furthermore, the Bible describes Moses as a "humble" servant: "Now the man Moses was very humble, more so than anyone else on the face of the earth." (Numbers 12:3)

*continued on page 5*

## The Day of Pentecost & the Long Season After

by Pastor Becky Goche

The celebration of Easter concludes with the Eighth Sunday of Easter, called the Day of Pentecost. This day is set on the fiftieth day following Easter Sunday. On this day, Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. We read about this event in Acts 2:1-42 when the Spirit came down upon Jesus' disciples while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Jewish holy day Shavuot. In Judaism, Shavuot, also called Pentecost, was a harvest festival in which people would bring their first fruit offerings, like wheat and other grains, to the Temple. When the Temple was destroyed by the Roman Empire in 70 CE, there was no longer a place for the people to bring their offerings. The focus of the festival then shifted to praising God for descending from heaven in fire (see Exodus 19:18) on top of Mount Sinai and speaking to the ancient Jewish people in the words found in the Hebrew Scriptures called Torah. The Torah is the first five books of our Old Testa-

ment: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

Since about the second century CE, Christians have celebrated the Day of Pentecost. Some congregations, like English, encourage everyone to wear red clothing on this day as we celebrate the "birthday of the church." Over the centuries Pentecost has become a season of its own. The "Time after Pentecost" is a long one, beginning this year in May and ending in November covering a span of 26 weeks! The liturgical color for this season, sometimes called "Ordinary Time," is green. Short of a few lesser festivals and commemorations, the color of the paraments hanging on the altar will be green throughout this season. The color green lends itself well to summer (at least in North America), and invites us to imagine this season as a time of growth, life, and abundance.

*continued on page 5*

IN CHRIST  
We welcome, worship & work  
IN THE WORLD

# WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday ... 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday..... 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.  
 Sept. 2 returns to 10:45 a.m.  
 Nursery Sun ...8:30 to 11:45 a.m.



## Worship Service HIGHLIGHTS

**August 26:** 8:30 at church  
 10:00 at Riverside Park with Faithlift

**September 2: SERVICE TIMES**  
**RETURN to 8:30 and 10:45**

**September 9:** Rally Sunday

**October 28:** Reformation/Confirmation

**November 4:** All Saints Sunday  
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

**November 21:** 7:00 p.m. combined Thanksgiving service with Good Shepherd, at English, pie social following.

To give some variety to the Saturday 5:00 p.m. services, we will worship with Holden Evening Prayer for two Saturdays per month, and looking into other options for the remaining days. This will give us opportunities to try other worship styles. We are currently looking at another Marty Haugen service.

## THE CHOIR NEEDS YOU

Martin Luther said, “Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul; it is one of the most magnificent and delightful presents God has given us.” As I look at this quote, I am reminded of all the work of our choir this past year. When people sing in our choir and share music, they are giving back to our church and are enriching the lives of others.

We need people of all ages to help maintain the tradition of the fine work of English Lutheran Senior Choir. You don’t have to have experience! You only need the desire to join. We are trying to make it easier for families to by coordinating our rehearsal time with the times that our church is offering activities for children, including a staffed nursery and Christlers on Wednesday nights. *Of course, starting in 6th grade, students are welcome to join the choir!*

Besides singing on the first and second Sundays of the month, we will be working on a several movement work to be part of the worship services on Dec. 9. The plan is to sing the Vivaldi *Gloria* with orchestra.

If I haven’t convinced you yet, please look at research that says singing is good for your health: <https://www.gethealthystayhealthy.com/articles/10-health-benefits-of-music>. According to the article, some of the benefits are:

1. Improves mood. Studies show that listening to music can benefit overall well-being, help regulate emotions, and create happiness and relaxation in everyday life.
2. Reduces stress. Listening to ‘relaxing’ music (generally considered to have slow tempo, low pitch, and no lyrics) has been shown to reduce stress and anxiety in healthy people and in people undergoing medical procedures (e.g., surgery, dental, colonoscopy).
3. Lessens anxiety. In studies of people with cancer, listening to music combined with standard care reduced anxiety compared to those who received standard care alone.
4. Improves exercise. Studies suggest that music can enhance aerobic exercise, boost mental and physical stimulation, and increase overall performance.

*continued on page 3*

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<p><b>Phil's</b> <b>APPLIANCE REPAIR</b> <b>608-792-2124</b></p> <p>washers • dryers • refrigerators stoves • ovens • dishwashers</p> <p><b>Veteran &amp; Senior Discounts</b></p>	<p><b>TRUSTPOINT</b> Investments • Trust • Since 1913</p> <p>www.trustpointinc.com</p> 	<p><b>River Bank</b></p> <p>Blodstad 608-427-2130   Falkner 608-791-9265          De Soto 608-548-2130   Sports 608-298-5277          Ferryville 608-734-3480   Watdy 608-634-2311          (WI) La Crosse 608-788-6330   (NE) La Crosse 608-794-8502</p> <p><b>FARMERS STATE BANK</b> Branches of River Bank</p> <p>Member FDIC</p> <p>Bozorg 608-485-2356   Rockland 608-485-1530          Evans Mills 608-785-2996</p>

# Why Do We Attend Worship Services?

In a world full of advance technology, why can't I download an app for my phone that replaces worship? It seems like there are so many apps available to do so many things, there HAS to be a worship app??

I decided to take a deeper look at worship to see if this is something a person could find a substitute for.

I found this: The primary reason for our worship is centered in one simple word "for" (the Hebrew word is even shorter, "ki," meaning "for"). We worship God for God, we worship because of who God is and what God has done. Our worship is a response to God, to God's nature and activity.

Yes, I'm sure an app on my phone could guide me through this, but something is missing. Something an app can't replace. What is missing is Atmospherics.

In the design world, we use the word "atmospherics" to describe the total package of a space or situation. Atmospherics could be physical aspects as well as psychological aspects.

Physical spaces such as The Grand Canyon, or a Gothic Cathedral have an enormous physical presence. They could be simply described as big. But there could be much more said

about these spaces, like a feeling one receives when standing on the rim of the canyon, or sitting quietly in an ancient cathedral. What do you see? What do you hear? Is that incense burning? How about the people you are with?

Atmospherics help prepare our hearts for worship. In a worship experience, these atmospherics could be our friends, family, favorite spot to sit, nourishing messages and scripture, variety of music, communion, fellowship, etc. The list is endless. None of these are downloadable to a phone or tablet!

Over the next two years we will be enhancing the atmospherics in the sanctuary at English. The first step will be replacing the worn out sound board, converting it to a digital system. The next will be exploring advanced speakers to create a more consistent hearing experience. In 2019, the tired, stained flooring will be pulled out and replaced. This will allow for a more advanced hearing loop system to be installed. Our hope is to improve your overall worship experience through atmospherics!

Trevor DuPey  
Director of Music

*Choir from page 2*

5. Improves memory. Research has shown that the repetitive elements of rhythm and melody help our brains form patterns that enhance memory. In a study of stroke survivors, listening to music helped them experience more verbal memory, less confusion, and better focused attention.

6. Eases pain. In studies of patients recovering from surgery, those who listened to music before, during, or after surgery had less pain and more overall satisfaction compared with patients who did not listen to music as part of their care.

7. Provides comfort. Music therapy has also been used to help enhance communication, coping, and expression of feelings such as fear, loneliness, and anger in patients who have a serious illness, and who are in end-of-life care.

8. Improves cognition. Listening to music can also help people with Alzheimer's recall.

Please email or call me if you might like to join us this fall!

Nancy Matchett, nancy@englishlutheran.org

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Terry Welch

## HISTORICAL REVIEW

Editor's Note: In this article and subsequent articles, Pastor Solyst will review the early history of English Lutheran Church and the Lutheran bodies that eventually formed the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

In 1898, there were Lutherans in La Crosse who worshiped in German and there were Lutherans in La Crosse who worshiped in Norwegian but there was no regular English language Lutheran worship service. Two Lutheran laymen from Minneapolis provided money to the Synod of the Northwest for the purpose of establishing Lutheran home mission congregations in Wisconsin. La Crosse was chosen and the Rev. Dr. Ernest Trabert began work as a mission developer in the spring of 1898.

Rev. Trabert held his first English language Lutheran worship service on Trinity Sunday, June 15, 1898. It was a small crowd that gathered for worship in a third floor room in the Lienlokken Hall on Fourth Street. The Lienlokken Hall is now Fayze's Restaurant. Most Lutheran clergy at the turn of the century opposed the use of the English language claiming that English speaking Lutheran congregations lacked sound doctrine. Furthermore, German and Norwegian pastors did not like the idea of losing members to an English speaking congregation. Establishing an English speaking Lutheran congregation in La Crosse would not be easy, but those early members of English Lutheran persevered.

On September 9, 1898, seven people representing four families signed the original charter of our congregation. Worship services moved to the YMCA on the corner



Rev. Dr. Ernest Trabert

of King Street and Market Square. At the first annual meeting of the congregation on January 4, 1899, the treasurer reported they had a balance in the treasury of \$7.39. The people of English Lutheran Church needed their own house of worship and the next big challenge for the fledgling congregation was building a building.

### FEATURED FAITH from back page

the City of La Crosse. Family play time includes staying active together, visiting area parks, eating out, working on projects around our home, exploring community events, and short trips to visit extended family. Days are pretty simple, but also really good!

### What's the best part of attending English Lutheran Church?

The people we've met and continue to meet, as these are the relationships that celebrate, encourage, listen, and cheer for us. These are also the people who live as kind, selfless examples and validate our desire to be followers of Jesus.

### Do you have a favorite Bible story? And why?

**Brooks:** *Baby Moses in a Basket, Moses Escaping Egypt, and Jesus Dies on the Cross*  
When asked why, he says, "Because I like them. And I like the crown of thorns."

### Trent: Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

This is a favorite biblical bedtime story we

read, usually followed by the correlating children's song.

### Kristen: Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors and the Woman Who Gave Two Coins

I saw Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat on Broadway with Donny Osmond when I was nine and fell in love! A year later when my church put on its own version of the production, I sang in the children's choir. In high school, my church drama department once again performed the show and I was part of the cast. I can probably sing the entire soundtrack from memory and know the story well.

The story of the widow woman who gives an offering of two coins has always intrigued me. It reminds to trust that God provides and that my humanly view of events can be quite different from God's view. It also challenges me to be generous.

### Dave: Christmas Story

Christmas has always been a favorite holiday and remembering the gift of Jesus gives it even more meaning.

### How do you incorporate faith outside of attending church?

Being purposeful about including it in our everyday. An aim for our family would be blurred lines between church and every other time. Christian values are something we regularly try to act out. We ask questions about what the kids learn during Sunday School or VBS. We seek those serendipitous moments, calling them "God Moments," and name them out loud to remind us and teach our kids. At dinner time we take turns sharing our daily highs and lows. We read bible stories and books making bible characters come alive and help explain big spiritual concepts like the Holy Spirit, God's grace, and creation.

### What's your family motto?

I chose to "ask" this question of myself, not because the Duchrows have a family motto, but rather because I want us to. I recently read an article about the importance of having a motto or mission statement for your family. We're still tweaking ours, but right now we like: Be kind to yourself and

*continued on page 5*



### *PENTECOST from front page*

There are a few festivals and other special events that we celebrate during this time after Pentecost. Rally Day is September 9. This day marks the kick-off of all our education programs for children and youth – Sunday School and Confirmation. English celebrates this day by hosting an outdoor block party complete with a barbeque and lots of fun activities for kids of all ages.

October 31 is Reformation Day. On this day in 1517, Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic priest and monk, nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the church door in Wittenberg in 1517 protesting some of the church's teachings and practices. This led to Lutheran and other Protestant churches to be formed. This year, we will celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 28. Several of our high school-aged youth will affirm their baptism during the Rite of Confirmation.

All Saints Sunday is November 4. On All Saints Day we light candles and ring bells as we remember and

give thanks for those who have gone before us. As we grieve the ones who have died, we also celebrate their victory over death through their faith in Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving Day is the fourth Thursday of November. It has been celebrated on and off since the late-1700s and became a national holiday in 1863. English Lutheran will host a joint community service with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on November 21. Pastor Harald Bringjord from Good Shepherd will preach. I've heard the rumor that pie will be served afterwards!

Christ the King is the last Sunday after Pentecost falling this year on November 25. Pope Pius VI established this day in 1925 during a time when the rise in global nationalism was becoming an increasing concern. Christ the King Sunday marks the end of the liturgical or church year. The new liturgical year begins with the season of Advent on the following Sunday, December 2. You will read about Advent in the next newsletter.

### *PASTOR'S PRESS from front page*

A bit later, the Levite Korah organized 250 leaders of the Hebrew people and demanded a share of power and leadership (Numbers 16). God destroyed Korah and his followers for their hubris and arrogance. The Rabbinic scholar, Jonathan Sacks commented "Korah and his followers did not understand (servant leadership)." (Lessons in Leadership: A Weekly Reading of the Jewish Bible, Jerusalem: Maggid Books, 2015, page 206) In contrast to other nations of the ancient world, Sacks says that Judaism is a protest against that kind of hierarchy. "A leader does not stand above the people. He serves the people and he serves God" (IBID, page 207).

As a pastor, theologian and fellow Christian, I feel compelled to point out that arrogance in leadership at all levels of society is condemned both by the Hebrew Bible and by Jesus (Mark 9:35, Luke 18:14). Because we are not a theocracy, our leaders are not bound by the Bible and voters are free to choose whomever they like to serve in public office. On the other hand, the Bible helps Christians define the kind of leadership we desire in our democracy.

Arrogance is a personal sin. For all our national leaders, excessive arrogance can be a grievous flaw with adverse consequences for an entire nation.

Pastor Mark Solyst

### *FEATURED FAITH from page 4*

others. It helps us each remember to be true to ourselves and respectful to others. If your family has a motto, I want to know it – come find me and tell me!

### **What does prayer look like in your home?**

Prayer in our house is fairly traditional. At family meals we'll link hands and recite our mealtime prayer: "God is great. God is Good. And we thank Him for our food." The boys have learned to anticipate and memorize it. At bedtime we say another familiar prayer and encourage the kids to share one thing from the day they're thank-

ful for. Often, I'll make a point to say my personal end of day prayer out loud while the boys are falling asleep to model what talking with God sounds like. Also at bed time we are working on teaching the kids to pray for others. Kristen made the boys "prayer sticks," which are popsicle sticks with photos of family members and friends glued to the ends.

A parenting prayer tip I learned from a girlfriend turns to prayer in the middle of chaos or during a child's tantrum in hopes of teaching children we can pray during challenges. When emotions get heavy and to avoid yelling, my friend instead hugs her kiddos and says a quick prayer. This tech-

nique is something I'd like improve on during in my own daily parenting adventures. Individually, Dave and Kristen seek prayer during quiet times. We would like to get better at praying together as a couple and make better habit of couple's devotion time.

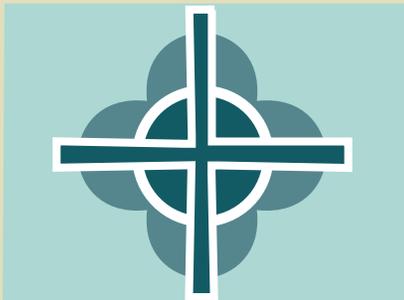
### **What are you most spiritually passionate about?**

Making all feel welcome in God's family. There is so much niche in our culture, but God's family welcomes all. We think it's important that everyone knows God's love and grace.

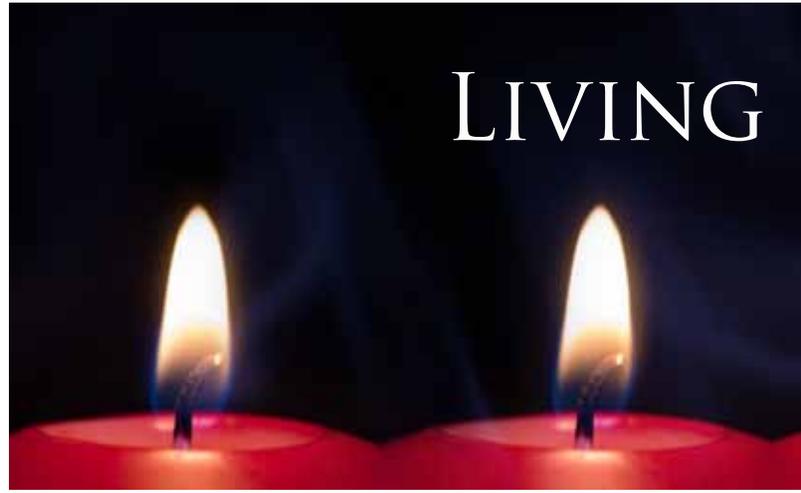
## President's Pen

At a recent family function I watched my grandson have a meltdown; crying, screaming, mad. My daughter patiently scooped up her boy, held him and rocked him and calmly spoke to him. The child quieted and his mother was able to determine the problem and together they developed a solution. How often in life, I have faced a problem and yearned for my parent to scoop me up, wrap me in their arms, and whisper, "Everything will be ok, I am here and I will fix this." As a child of God, I am never far from my parent's almighty hand and words of guidance and love. Earlier this year, the Vision Board defined the needs of our congregation, seeing spiritual life as a top priority. Growth in our spiritual life happens when we study Scripture, spend time in prayer, and in time of service to others. We as human beings yearn for structure and guidance. Our Father has given those to us, through Jesus Christ, as written in our Bible. All we have to do is read. The Holy Spirit calls us to be in her presence. With Christ's words in our hearts, the Spirit will move and guide us. The Vision Board desires members of English to grow in their spiritual life and if we ask it of our people, it needs to start with the leaders. The Vision Board has committed to spend more time studying the scripture individually and as a community. We invite you to join us. John 6:63 states: "The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing." The words I have spoken to you- they are full of the Spirit and life. The Bible is more than a suggestion it is LIFE!

Deb Bemis  
President



## LIVING



YES can be a wonderful word. As a child visiting my grandma, I asked, "May I have another cookie?" "YES was always a good word. As a young adult forming a new relationship, I waited to hear, "YES, I care about you." At times when I am weighed down by troubles, my eyes sometimes ask, "Will you help?" When help comes, it's a wonderful YES!

There is a time when God speaks that wonderful word YES. God speaks YES to all those deep questions in our very human living:

- Is there a God?
- Does this God care for ordinary people?
- Does this God care for me?
- Does this God love me still when I fail, when I hurt another, when I disappoint all that I know to be right and holy?

God answers each question with a firm and loving YES! In Holy Baptism, God says YES--

- YES I am the one who made everything there is or will be.
- YES I am the one who became one with you in midst of suffering.
- YES I am the one who loves you dearly and forgives you freely.

AMAZING, that YES. And God says it over and over—not just on the day of our baptism, but each time we remember our baptisms—and even when we don't!

Yet, as amazing as God's YES is, there is something even more amazing ... something which we don't often consider to be amazing or even particularly noteworthy ... something God has been working to hear since the beginning--since Abraham stepped out in faith to leave his home to go to a land God would show him—ever since before Isaiah had a vision that a child would be born, a son given, who would set everything to rights for all the earth's families.

What is it that matters so much to God? What is it that God wants to know from each of us? Just this. Here it is: God is listening for the divine and holy YES to be echoed in our own hearts and on our own lips: "YES, it is wonderful to be your child. YES, Lord, I love you."

*continued on page 7*



There is something else, too. God's YES is more than just a spoken word. God not only says YES. God DOES YES. The YES God declares in drops of water at Baptism is no easy word. God's YES is backed up by deeds only God can do:

- the costly and painful sacrifice of God's only son;
- the full entry into human evil and pain and suffering;
- the full experience of human life--and death, even death on a cross;

God's enacted YES is full proof that God really means it when God says YES to you and to me and to all who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

In the same way, God listens and waits and works for our response. God listens for our words, "Yes, dear Lord, I love you." And God also waits and works for evidence that we aren't just saying an empty word, an empty "yes".

This is another way God's own love, God's own life, enters our lives. It's a way in which our generous God gives us the light of God's own life and love. As our faith and trust in God become active in love, we live our YES to God.

We pray, forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. We live our YES to our prayer as we go through the soul-searching and often painful process of forgiving those who have hurt us the most.

We say YES in faith that Jesus Christ died and rose to rescue you and me and all people from death. We live our YES as we comfort folks who mourn and respond to those who need help.

We say YES in faith that everything belongs to God the Creator of the universe. We live our YES as we share more generously of time and energy and money to make God's love and life real in a hurting world. And as we live our YES, we discover we are living in the heart of God.

by Denny Hallemeier  
for ELC Stewardship Committee

## Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Thank you for the financial support you give for the ministries we do together as English Lutheran Church. Your generosity is a sign of God's generosity in providing us what we need to live:

- land on which to grow food and in which to enjoy nature's diversity,
- air to breathe and enjoy exercise and sport,
- water to drink and enjoy swimming and sailing and fishing and refreshment,
- the universe of planets and stars to spark wonder and exploration, and
- our bodies in which we learn to communicate and live in community.

Even this short list reveals that God has also given us responsibilities as created beings to care for all of God's generous gifts. This is the larger scope of stewardship, of which your generous gifts to Christ and his Church are signs.

Thank you for your generosity to English Lutheran and for your stewardship of all God gifts.

Blessings in your faith and life,  
Your Stewardship Committee

## Musical by Gary and Christine Walth

We are blessed with some very talented people in our Senior Choir. Gary Walth, who retired from the UWL a year ago is still going strong with using his musical talents. In collaboration with his daughter Christine, he has written a musical called *Locker Room Talk* which will be premiered at the Minnesota Fringe Festival in the University of Minnesota's Rarig Arena.

**Performance dates are August 2, 4, 6, 9, & 11.**

The choir is working on organizing a group to go see Gary's musical. If interested, contact [nancy@englishlutheran.org](mailto:nancy@englishlutheran.org).

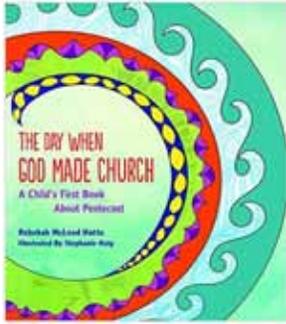
Congratulations, Gary! We are so glad that you are a member of our choir!

# BOOK REVIEW

***The Day When God Made Church***  
by Rebekah McLeod Hutto

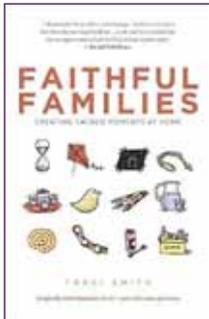
“Happy Birthday to You!”

The birth of the church is celebrated in this book for children about the story of Pentecost and how the Holy Spirit shapes who we are as God’s Church.



***Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home*** by Traci Smith

How many times have you said or heard someone say, “Hurry up! You need to get to bed!” said to children? This book provides family faith moments you can add to your daily routine with little or no prep to share meaningful spiritual experiences with your children!



## GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

### Communion Fund

- In memory of Ida Coplien by family and friends

### Library Fund

- In memory of Ida Coplien by Candice Brieske

### Music Fund

- In memory of Joanne Tomalka by Jon and Kathy Hageseth, Kent and Mary Sween, and Nancy Matchett
- In memory of Shirley Christensen by Nancy Matchett and Sharon Lemke

### Quilters Fund

- In memory of Ida Coplien by family and friends

### Wafer

- In memory of Ida Coplien by family and friends

### World Hunger

- In honor of Kathy Weeks by Mary Circle

### Undesignated

- In memory of Ida Coplien by Roger and Patricia Potts, Sharon Odahl, Don and Janet Melby, Ruth Olson, Kent and Mary Sween, Robert and Darlene Dayton, and family and friends
- In memory of Shirley Christensen by Bill and Karen Newburg, Karen Gup-till, Gary and Susan Link, and family and friends

- In memory of Phoebe Sorenson by Ruth Olson, Ruth Kuntz, Kent and Mary Sween, and family and friends
- In memory of Joanne Tomalka by Bill and Karen Newburg, Marie Tweed, Donna Schulz, and family and friends

### Baptisms

- 5/27 ..... Azile Louise Powell, daughter of Jimmy and Heidi Powell
- 6/03 ..... Neil Gerald Heinrich, son of Alice and Howard Heinrich
- 6/24 ..... Lenna Elise Duchrow, daughter of Dave and Kristen Duchrow
- 7/08 ..... Harper Kay Ledvina, daughter of Ryan and Taylor Ledvina
- 7/08 ..... Noah John Stiemke son of Colin Stiemke and Kristin Mull

### Marriages

- 6/23 ..... Wyatt Hrudka and Sarah Oxtan

### Deaths

We extend the sympathy of the Gospel to Shirley Ryan and family on the death of Shirley’s sister, Joanne Tomalka, who died on May 25.

We extend the sympathy of the Gospel to the family of Shirley Christensen who died on June 9.

We extend the sympathy of the Gospel Ann Weidner and family as they mourn the death of Ann’s grandmother, Emily Lawton who died on July 7.

<p><b>How does your portfolio measure up?</b></p>  <p>Thomas W Sahlstrom, AAMS® Financial Advisor 1052 Oak Forest Dr Suite 260 Owatonna, WI 54650 608-781-3716 www.edwardjones.com</p> <p><b>Edward Jones</b> MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING</p>	<p><b>TO PLACE YOUR AD</b></p> <p>contact Vicki Markussen 608.386.7883</p>	 <p><b>DICKINSON</b> Family Funeral Homes &amp; Crematory 608-784-0135   dickinsonfuneralhomes.com Our Family Serving Your Family for Over 60 Years</p>
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For Everyone & every Household

### A Blessing for Every Home

#### For Couples of All Ages

What would you give to know the best (highs) and the worst (lows) things in the life of your spouse each day and to be able to do something meaningful about it- like listening, sharing God's word and praying for each other? Would it be worth as little as five minutes?

#### For Parents

What would it be worth to you to have a child who won't go to sleep without talking to you about their day? What would happen to your family over time if you were able to keep this open, caring communication going every night? How might this type of five-minute conversation change your family if you were intentionally consistent about it? Would the benefits outweigh the hassle of trying to invest this time of care, listening, and prayer each night in your home?

#### For Single Adults

Imagine being so well connected that you can't wait to tell about your day to a trusted friend or family member—and can't wait to hear about their day too. Think of the gift you can give to a friend or family member as you share your highs and lows of the day and practice the Faith 5 in person or via the phone or internet. Wouldn't it be worth five minutes a day?

### What is the FAITH5

The FAITH 5 connects church to home, faith to life, and parents to kids in a powerful way. 5 steps to create a faith conversation and prayer in our homes!

#### The five steps of the FAITH5 are:



**Step One:** Share highs and lows. Name something good

and bad you experienced today. Can't think of a personal one? What brought you joy today, what was something that made you feel sad or hurt today?



**Step Two:** Read a verse/ story from your Bible. Any verse or bible story works! I have a few listed below for you to try!



**Step Three:** Talk about how the verse relates to highs and lows. Unpack the verse a bit. What does it mean in your own words? How might it relate to where you are today in your highs and lows? How might it relate you or your family?



**Step Four:** Pray for one another's highs and lows, for your family, and for the world. Simply talk to God, thank Jesus for the good, and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in specific problems. Encourage everyone to pray together.



**Step Five:** Bless one another. Trace the sign of the cross on one another's forehead or palm as a reminder that you belong to God and to one another. "Jesus loves you and so do!"

Ephesians 3:16-19

John 3:16

John 15:9-10

1 John 4:19

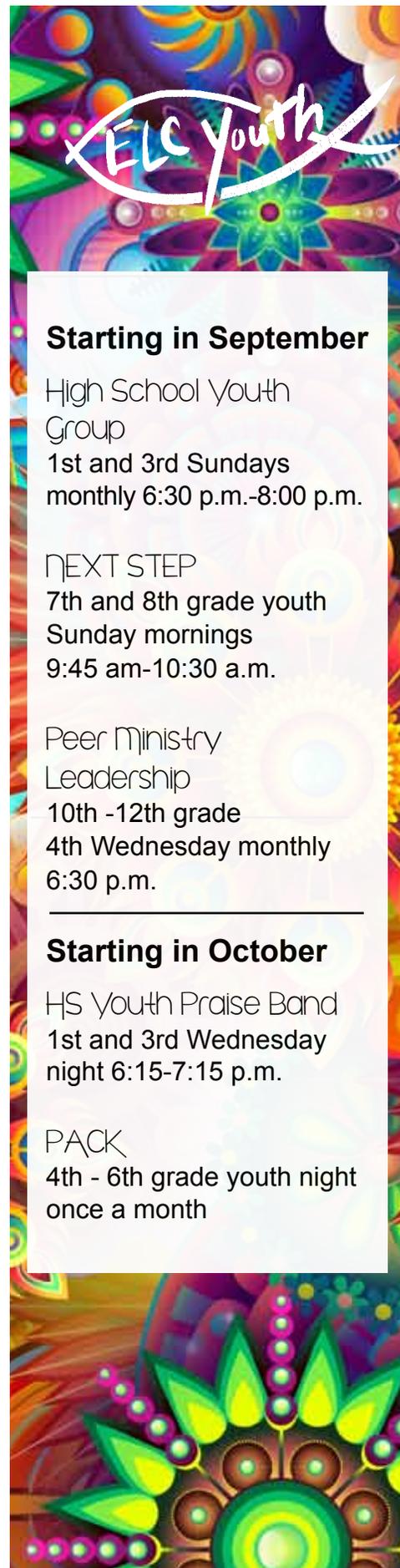
Ephesians 2:4-7

Ephesians 4:32

Romans 8:37-39

1 John 4:8-10

Questions? Contact Kerri Jahnke  
kerri@englishlutheran.org



### Starting in September

High School Youth Group

1st and 3rd Sundays  
monthly 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

### NEXT STEP

7th and 8th grade youth  
Sunday mornings  
9:45 am-10:30 a.m.

Peer Ministry Leadership

10th -12th grade  
4th Wednesday monthly  
6:30 p.m.

### Starting in October

HS Youth Praise Band  
1st and 3rd Wednesday  
night 6:15-7:15 p.m.

### PACK

4th - 6th grade youth night  
once a month

## THE SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY

**Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.,  
Room 106  
- will begin September 6**

We are excited to offer a 12 week study entitled "Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome and the Kingdom of God." Each session will begin with a 20 minute video on a location significant to the study of Paul. This will be followed by readings and discussion questions. There is no material to purchase.

Before we begin our Bible study we have devotions followed by requests for prayers. Although we are a lay-led group, we frequently invite guest speakers to share their expertise with us.

We hope you will join us in study and fellowship. Coffee (and occasionally treats) is always available.

## ELCA National Youth Gathering



**Small groups begin in October.**  
Session are in the fall, January  
and during Lent

Walking with God is a 40 day Journey of Authentic Faith Conversation. We will be exploring a new book which is still being decided. The small groups will be intentionally looking at scripture with a book as guide, intentionally praying together, and will form relationships through the six weeks of authentic faith conversations. People have been so blessed by this ministry they have shared their testimonies about walking with God from our fall group session.

### Testimonies

"As co-leaders of a Walking with God group we have felt our faith strengthen. Anytime you are reading and discussing scripture this is bound to happen.

Exploring the book *We Make the Road by Walking* is a challenge our group wants to continue. We encourage you to join or lead a small group in January. You will witness your faith strengthening as you enjoy the journey of Walking with God together. " Carol Taebel and John Monson

"Walking with God was a wonderful way to connect with members of the church that I don't normally have a deep connection with. It was great to have other people to share spiritual experiences with and realize that God is all around us!" ~ Anna Mueller

"I really enjoyed my experience during Walking with God. I loved not having to do any "homework" before our group gatherings. I could just show up and have amazing conversation with others. I truly enjoyed meeting members of and getting to know them on a deeper level." ~ Heather Young.

### What is Walking with God?

It's a commitment to practicing your

individual faith through reading, prayer, and small group fellowship. It's a commitment to supporting others in their faith through listening... a commitment to sharing your faith even though you don't have all the answers. This is a period of time to build relationships that will strengthen our congregation, reach out to others and find a deeper sense of belonging in this congregation.

### What is a small group meeting like?

Our conversation will be centered around faith, the texts, and the happenings of our lives. There will be time in intentional prayer, and groups will meet approximately 90 minutes each week.

We thank God for His many blessings of praying with one another, studying the Bible, and being in authentic relationships and conversation together!

If you are interested in joining a group PLEASE contact Kerri Jahnke (kerri@englishlutheran.org or 507-884-7972)

# Intern Update

Vicar Lucas Holsten will be ordained at English Lutheran Church on Saturday, August 25, at 1:00 p.m. Members of English Lutheran are encouraged to attend and support Vicar Lucas in this important transition in his life and career. Bishop Terry Brandt of the Eastern North Dakota Synod will preside at the ordination, Pastor Dan Poffenberger will preach and Pastor Mark Solyst will be the celebrant for the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

In February, Lucas was assigned to the Eastern North Dakota Synod of the ELCA. Earlier this summer, Lucas received a call to serve as associate pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Jamestown, North Dakota. Lucas and Rachel Holsten are in the process of moving to Jamestown and he will begin his ministry in August, even before he is ordained.

Pastor Daniel Hanson, nee Vicar Dan, continues to serve St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hampton, Iowa. After he arrived in Hampton, one of the rural churches thought he was a pretty good pastor and asked him if he would be willing to be their pastor too. After some negotiation with St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pastor Dan's call was expanded to include both congregations.

Pastor Dan took his youth group to the National Youth Gathering in Houston,

Texas and while there actually ran into Kerri Jahnke and the youth from English Lutheran Church. Running into each other in Houston was quite a coincidence since there were 30,000 youth at the Gathering.

Aimee Hanson works at La Luz Hispana in Hampton where she is able to use her Spanish Language skills and follow her passion of helping the poor, the stranger and the alien, those people the Bible calls us to serve. If you remember, Pastor Dan and Aimee were married at English Lutheran Church last September.



## APOSTLE PAUL CLASS CONTINUES

**Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.,  
Room 103  
- will begin September 6**

This class provides a comprehensive examination of Paul and his theology within a historical context, and includes geography, philosophy, and information from ancient sources as well as views held by many contemporary scholars to better understand who Paul was and what he taught and professed. This class began in January but if you were unable to attend and would like to join us in September, you can "catch up" on our Website <http://www.englishlutheran.org/Apostle-Paul-Class.html> and you can obtain the password from myself or from the office. I am eager to resume this study and I hope that you can be a part of this class.

Pastor Dennis  
Rev. Dennis Johnson, Ph.D.

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## Featured Faith Family

It's been said that family is God's masterpiece. *Featured Faith Family*, offers the opportunity to learn more about the members of our church family who are walking alongside us in our faith journey.

For me, family is important because of the reliability and vulnerability found within its members. This rings true at English Lutheran, which has been a part of me through a few seasons of life. As a young adult I became involved with leading youth activities. Dave and I explored small groups and enjoyed worship and fellowship hour as newlyweds. Now, in my early parenting years I am learning an additional lens through which to view my church family. The people I've met during my years at English are now the faces my children recognize and trust on Sunday mornings. You are the hands that pour and carry lemonade

or cookies. You are the inspiring words of wisdom and prayer helping our family practice faith and grace at home.

My hope for *Featured Faith Family* is to nurture a culture of sharing our faith passions so that we can all recognize and better appreciate the familiar faces of our church family and support one another to grow spiritually. Let's make our English Lutheran family an even more beautiful masterpiece!

Since I'll soon be seeking interviews and asking many of you faith questions, I figured it's only fair to share about my own family first: ***Kristen and Dave Duchrow***

### Tell us about your family?

Kristen and Dave live in Onalaska with their three children: Brooks (4), Trent (2), and Lenna (4 months). Kristen has held jobs in both journalism and marketing, most recently for La Crosse Regional Airport.



Since welcoming Lenna she stays home with the children. Dave is a firefighter with

*continued on page 4*

