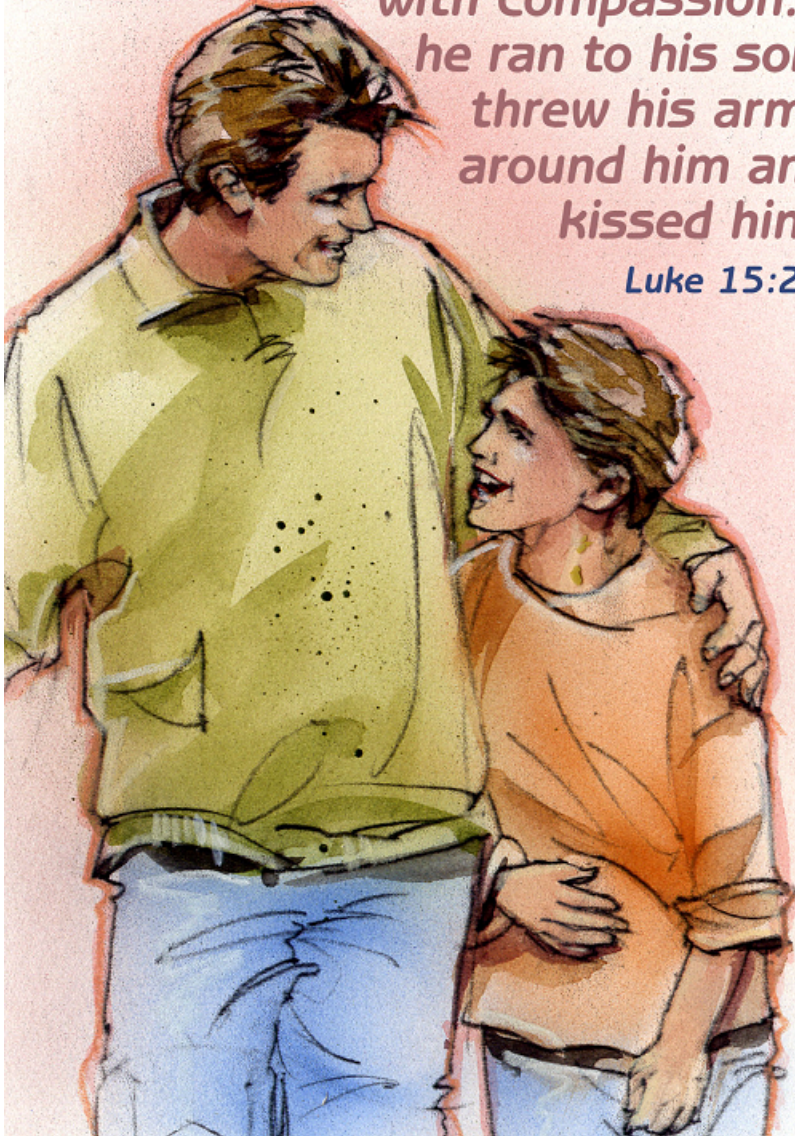


*His father saw him and was filled  
with compassion...  
he ran to his son,  
threw his arms  
around him and  
kissed him.*

*Luke 15:20*



Messiah Lutheran Church  
1101 Neosho, Emporia, Kansas 66801  
620-342-8181  
Pastor Norbert Tegtmeier  
Pastor Eddie Hosch  
Elaine Whiteneck, DCE

I sat down to write June's newsletter with an entirely different plan in mind. I had intended to focus on the joy of summer and relaxation and taking time for God in our busy lives. That was my intention and then Wednesday, May 15th happened and my whole direction changed. It was that day the news spread that a young man in 7th grade at Emporia Middle School had passed away in a car accident, that broke my heart. It was that day as countless memories of pain and loss from my own past came flooding back like a roaring river, that I cried. It was that day as I sat with my heartbroken 13-year-old daughter while she cried and shared stories about her friend, and I couldn't fix it. It was on that day while I stood with members of our community at 12th Avenue Baptist at a Candlelight Vigil for the Garate family that I could see the pain and the anguish in so many faces. More than that I could see the confusion and the loss. I could even see the inevitable question that was sure to come up if it hadn't already. Why?

The question of "why?" isn't a new one. It was asked in the Old Testament by Job and the writers of the psalms. It has been asked throughout the centuries as we have seen wars and other atrocities happen. It's possible you've never asked why our world is infected with pain and suffering, but my guess is you will when they strike you or a loved one. And Jesus said they are coming. Jesus was honest about the inevitability of suffering. In John 16:33 he said, "You will have suffering in this world." He didn't say you might-he said it is going to happen.

But why? If you ask me, "Why did God allow this life to be taken at such a young age?" the only answer that I can honestly give consists of three words: "I don't know."

I don't have God's mind and I don't share His perspective. In

1 Corinthians 13:12 Paul writes, "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known."

Someday we'll see clearly and we will understand, but for now things are dim. We can't understand everything from our perspective. And frankly, the people in our community who are suffering from this tragedy don't need (or want) a big theological treatise right now. Any response like that is going to seem trivial and completely inadequate. What they desperately need now is the very real and comforting presence of Jesus Christ in their lives.

Earlier in this article I quoted part of what Jesus said in John 16:33. Now let me give you the entire verse: "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

It was through that cross that Jesus conquered the world for us. Suffering is a personal problem; it demands a personal response. And God isn't some distant, detached, and disinterested God; he entered into our world and personally experienced our pain. Jesus is there in the lowest places of our lives (Joshua 1:9, Isaiah 41:10, Deuteronomy 31:6, Zephaniah 3:17, Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:5, Romans 8:38-39).

God does so much more than sympathize with us in our troubles. After all, any close friend can do that. Any close friend can sit beside us and comfort us and empathize with us. No, Jesus is much closer than your closest friend. If you've put your trust in him, then he is in you. And, therefore, your sufferings are his sufferings; your sorrow is his sorrow.

So when tragedy strikes, as it will; when suffering comes, as it will; when you're wrestling with pain, as you will—Jesus Christ is with you and in his loving arms you will find: peace to deal with the present, courage to deal with your future, and the promise of eternal life in heaven.

Pray for the Garate family, the teachers, staff and students at Emporia Middle School and everyone who has been touched by this tragedy.  
Pastor Eddie

## Next Bike Ride

Next bike ride will be June 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be going to Alta Vista to The Barnyard. Kick stands up 10:30 a.m. from the church parking lot. Cars as always welcome.



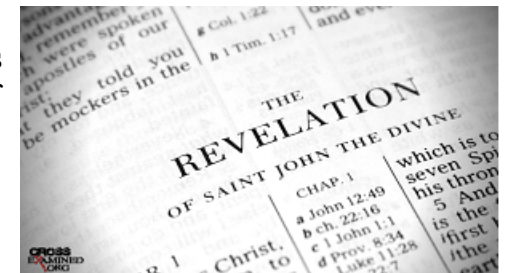
**DON'T TAKE A  
VACATION  
FROM CHURCH**

## DON'T FORGET!!!

Now, although God wants us to be refreshed both physically and spiritually, He does call us to gather in worship Sunday after Sunday so that He can refresh our souls. As you take your vacations, don't take a vacation from joining with brothers and sisters in Christ for worship. We still offer our Saturday night worship at 6 p.m. as well as our two Sunday worship times at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. each week. Sometimes people have a tendency to take the summer off from worship. My encouragement to you is to be in worship, whether it is at your home church, Messiah, or whether it is at a church that you visit while on vacation or traveling to your child's favorite sporting event. Don't forget! God calls us to worship, even during the summer months!!!

## Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study Beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Dragons, lampstands, creatures with animal heads, the mark of the beast. The Book of Revelation is one of the most interesting and confusing books of the entire Bible. Join us this summer (and possibly longer) beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup> during our Sunday Education Hour in the fellowship hall.



**Congratulations to our  
2019-20 Scholarship Recipients**

Sandy Schleicher Memorial Scholarship  
Lisa Pearson Memorial Scholarship  
Verna K. Pohl Memorial Scholarship  
Con & Ester Moeller Memorial Scholarship  
**Brayden Rethman**

Ferd & Peg Blanken Memorial Scholarship  
Carolyn, Wayne & Alvina Boles Memorial Scholarship  
**Ashley Storrer**

Warren Hinrichs Memorial Scholarship  
Susie Wiebner & Earl Springhorn Memorial Scholarship  
James V. Karolik Memorial Scholarship  
**Jenna Duncan**

Vera Vogts Memorial Scholarship  
Phil & Sylvia Flott Memorial Scholarship  
**Blair Meyer**

John Lantow Memorial Scholarship  
Trent & Tracy Bowden/Elsie,  
Dema & Melvin Schmidt Memorial Scholarship  
**Riley Botkin**

Alvin Miller Memorial Scholarship  
Greg Longbine Memorial Scholarship  
Joe Trear/Glen & Rose Matson Memorial Scholarship  
**Sara Mitchell**

We will recognize the scholarship recipients on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>  
and Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> during the worship services.

*The congregation is invited to celebrate the  
50th Wedding Anniversary  
of  
David and Ann Boles  
on Saturday afternoon June 29<sup>th</sup>  
from 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
in Messiah Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall*

*Your presence is the best gift you could give us*

**VRS Helmers Adventure**



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**June 9 - 13 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Donations!**

If you would like to help, check the donation board in the  
Fellowship Hall.



**Roses to:**

- ✿ Roses to all the families past and present that have and continue to contribute to the Memorial Scholarships.
- ✿ Roses to our High School Graduates: Kaden O'Mara, Trevin Ginter, Ty Swisher, Abbie Schroeder, Riley Botkin, Taylor Thomas, Jacob Lewis, Brayden Rethman, Emily Cyphers, Karly McDougald
- ✿ Roses to our College/University Graduates: Cayla Carter, Janelle Moran, Jennifer Wells, Daphne Evans, Katie Hatesohl, Addie Lackey, Katlynn Decker (4/29)
- ✿ Roses to our Confirmation Class of 2019: Brayden Bowen, Allie Carnell, Reece Hines, Elizabeth Hunter, Aiden Oller, Adriana Perez, Jenna Smith, and Caide Timmons
- ✿ Roses to those who mow our lawn.
- ✿ Roses to those who serve during our worship times.
- ✿ Roses to Sandy Schroeder who scrubbed the Fellowship Hall kitchen this past month.
- ✿ Roses to Abby Johnson for volunteering to help Elaine with some summer projects.
- ✿
- ✿



Save the Date!

You are invited to  
**Pastor Norbert Tegtmeier's  
Retirement Celebration**

on Sunday, August 25, 2019

at 10:30 AM

at Messiah Lutheran Church

1101 Neosho Street, Emporia, KS



**Lunch and Celebration**

will follow after worship to celebrate 40 years of service

by Pastor Tegtmeier and Renae

31 years at Messiah Lutheran Church Emporia, Kansas

9 years at St. John Lutheran Church, Monticello, Iowa

RSVP by August 10 to 620-342-8181

## Pastor & Renae Memory Book

We would like to make a Book of Memories to give to Pastor and Renae at their retirement celebration in August. We would like to invite everyone to share a memory, write a message, write a favorite story, share a picture, etc. that they would like to have included in the book. We have a scanner in the office if you would like Denise to scan your photo and you can keep the original. Please have your memory into the church office no later than Monday, July 15th.

## Love Offering

The Board of Elders is collecting a love offering to present to Pastor Tegtmeier and Renae on August 25th during the celebration. We would welcome contributions to this offering as a token of appreciation for their 31 years of loving service and friendship to our congregation and community. Contributions can be made at the church office, in the envelope included in the church newsletter or you may put a check, made out to Messiah, in the offering designated "Love Offering". Please have this gift to the church office by August 10.

## RSVP by August 10

Messiah is looking forward to hosting this celebration for members, family and friends. To help us plan food and refreshments please RSVP to the church office at 620-342-8181 or email Denise @ [deniseh@messiahlutheran.org](mailto:deniseh@messiahlutheran.org) with your name and the number from your family who plan to attend.

## Member News

The following members have been in the hospital sometime during the month. Please keep them in your prayers for continued healing and comfort: Tom Menke, Ethan Frisby

If we left off your name, please let us know. Remember to call the Church Office if you are planning to go into the hospital. Let your family know that they need to call us. The hospital will no longer notify Pastor when you enter.

Remember our service men and women in your prayers: Terry Rhoads, Josh Lawson, Justin Johnson, Dillion Grother, Aaron Cuadra, Andrew Reynolds, Jordan Reynolds, Darren Schroeder, John Ritchie, Christy Bryant, Michael Hammon, Seth Davis, Aubrey Blankenship

## Attendance & Offerings

Date	Attendance	Offering
May 4/5	255	\$10,057.75
May 11/12	286	\$7,294.45
May 18/19	267	\$5,931.00
May 25-26	242	\$5,395.24

Weekly Budget Needs: \$10,043.27



## Prayer Calendar

For each day of the month, the name of a Messiah Family is listed for you to pray for. We ask that you keep the prayer calendar in a place where you will see it each day and then include that family in your daily prayers. Pray that God will watch over them, grant them good health, and keep them strong in the faith. We hope that our prayers will strengthen and bind us together as a family of God.

### June 2019

1. Joshua Miller
2. Pam Miller
3. Richard & Colleen Miller
4. Sharon Miller
5. Tim & Angie Miller
6. Tom Miller
7. Sara Mitchell
8. Lee Mize
9. Amie Mize & Conner
10. Patrick & Janelle Moran, Peyton & Willa
11. Daren Morey, Jacob & Hannah
12. Seth Morey
13. Donald Morfitt
14. Linda Morgan
15. Michael & Aimee Morris, Dagan & Hayden
16. Victoria Moyer
17. Monte Myers
18. Brandon & Amanda Neff, Natalie & Annette
19. Randall & Marcy Neff, Riley & Mariell
20. Amanda Nichols, Cierra & Caydrick
21. Gene & Carolyn Nomura, Brian, Steven & Kristin
22. Jamie Nurnberg, Avery, Chance & Ketcham
23. Patti Nurnberg
24. Scott & Kenda O'Mara, Drew & Kaden
25. Spencer & Michelle Olson, Kyndyl & Kiptyn
26. Louis Onek
27. Patrick Onek
28. Stacey Onek
29. Brady & Kim Parks, Jessica, Hank & Lily
30. Kirsten Patton, Grace, Novalee & Preslee

## Lutheran Hour Program Guide

Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on 96.1 FM at 10:00 a.m. and also on WIBW - 580 AM at 7:30 a.m. Messiah Lutheran's radio program is on 96.1 FM following the "Lutheran Hour" at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday morning.

### June 2 - "Advocate"

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

The followers of Jesus do not wander through the wasteland of this world alone. We have a Guide! (John 14-15-21)

### June 9 - "My Spirit Makes My People"

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

God sends His Spirit upon both the selfish and group-ish to make His people. (Ezequiel 37:1-14)

### June 16 - "Getting to Know Jesus"

**Guest Speaker: Pastor Paul Schult**

There's a big difference between knowing about someone and really knowing them. Pastor Paul Schult introduces us to a different way of getting to know Jesus. (Philippians 3:8)

### June 23 - "What Does God Love, and Hate?"

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

God's Values - 10 Commandments (Exodus 20:5-6)

### June 30 - "Who Is the God of Israel?"

**Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

God's identity - Creed (John 14:7)

<b>JUNE 2019</b>	
<b>June 1 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m.</b> .....	Elder: Acolyte:
<b>June 2 - Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. ....	Elder: Joe Hadicke Acolyte: Clara Heitman & Nolan Heitman Greeters: Derrick, Sheila & Jenna Duncan Ushers: Dustin Lantow & Robert Spain 11:00 a.m. .... Elder: Acolyte: Addi Hinrichs & Lily Parks
<b>June 8 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m.</b> .....	Elder: Acolyte:
<b>June 9 - Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. ....	Elder: Joe Hadicke Acolyte: Lacy Rust Greeters: Ron & LaDonna Meldrum Ushers: Dustin Lantow & Robert Spain 11:00 a.m. .... Elder: Acolyte: Nathan Hansen & Kyla Herfkens
<b>June 15 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m.</b> .....	Elder: Acolyte:
<b>June 16 - Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. ....	Elder: Joe Hadicke Acolyte: Patrick Neifeldt Greeters: Ron & LaDonna Meldrum Ushers: Dustin Lantow & Robert Spain 11:00 a.m. .... Elder: Acolyte: Lexi Hosch & Riley Neff
<b>June 22 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m.</b> .....	Elder: Acolyte:

<b>June 23 - Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. ....	Elder: Joe Hadicke Acolyte: Ava Karcher Greeters: Derrick, Sheila & Jenna Duncan Ushers: Dustin Lantow & Robert Spain 11:00 a.m. .... Elder: Acolyte: Lilly Parks & Brian Schumann
<b>June 29 - Saturday, 6:00 p.m.</b> .....	Elder: Acolyte:
<b>June 30 - Sunday</b> 8:30 a.m. ....	Elder: Joe Hadicke Acolyte: Ryan Osage Greeters: Derrick, Sheila & Jenna Duncan Ushers: Dustin Lantow & Robert Spain 11:00 a.m. .... Elder: Acolyte: Kane Crisp & Bethany Disney



