

VOLUME XXXVII No. 5

MESSENGER

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations 804 8th Avenue N.E. P.O. Box 682 Pipestone, MN 56164

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May 2020

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Pastor Tim Johnson

Associate Pastor Matthew Pillman

Intern Seth Moan

A Christian Response to Governmental Restriction

Without a doubt, COVID-19 has disrupted life all over the world and demands special attention and unusual response. Every facet of our way of life has had to adjust from the way we do business, buy supplies, worship, educate, recreate, etc. Someone has said that desperate situations call for desperate measures.

But how should a Christian respond when the government restricts churches from meeting publicly for worship? Do we ignore or rebel against such a restriction? Do we just accept it? Sometimes it gets complicated.

What does Scripture say? First off, Romans 13:1 says, "Let everyone submit to the governing authorities, since there is no authority except from God..." Clearly, we are to take what the government says seriously and submit to its laws. However, what if the government's laws contradict God's will? Peter and the Apostles were faced with this contradiction in chapter five of Acts. They responded, "We must obey God rather than man," (v. 29).

Secondly, we must not be a source of stumbling for those around us nor place an undue burden upon them (Romans 14:13). Romans 15:1 says, "Now we who are strong have an obligation to bear the weaknesses of those without strength, and not to please ourselves." A Christian is to look out for the best interest of those around him or her and to love his or her neighbors.

In response to the above Scripture and the desires of the government's shelter in place order, CTK has chosen to not publicly meet for worship. We have sought to obey our governing authorities and to take care of our neighbors by socially distancing ourselves. But wouldn't it be wonderful if we could honor government and our neighbors while safely meeting together in worship?

Many churches all over our country, including several in Minnesota, have been doing just that. They have had drive-in services where people park, stay in their cars, keep their windows rolled up and hear the service on their radios while watching the pastors and leaders from the safety of their own cars. This is a practice that is safer than any Governor's exceptions for sheltering in place. As long as the people don't physically come in contact with each other, they are safe. In fact,



they are much safer than going to the grocery store or liquor store or even the drive-throughs of banks, restaurants and pharmacies.

Continued on next page

Some governments have chosen to punish drive-in worship services. However, United States Attorney General Barr addressed this in regard to the state of Mississippi on April 14th.

Today, the Department filed a <u>Statement of Interest</u> in support of a church in Mississippi that allegedly sought to hold parking lot worship services, in which congregants listened to their pastor preach over their car radios, while sitting in their cars in the church parking lot with their windows rolled up. The City of Greenville fined congregants \$500 per person for attending these parking lot services – while permitting citizens to attend nearby drive-in restaurants, even with their windows open. The City appears to have thereby singled churches out as the only essential service (as designated by the state of Mississippi) that may not operate despite following all CDC and state recommendations regarding social distancing.

Attorney General Barr also stated,

But even in times of emergency, when reasonable and temporary restrictions are placed on rights, the First Amendment and federal statutory law prohibit discrimination against religious institutions and religious believers. Thus, government may not impose special restrictions on religious activity that do not also apply to similar nonreligious activity.

We have found a legitimately safe way to gather together in public worship. It is an opportunity to encourage one another with our presence and show the community that we are still present. We have the technology for this and the highest government in our country has now stated that it is our right. We are hoping to have a drive-in service on May 3rd at 10:30 AM where people stay in their vehicles with their windows up and listen on their radios. A parking arrangement for maximum sight will be organized. The service will be around 30 minutes long including some singing, prayer and a message.

We will continue to offer our worship service and Daily Bible Moments online. This will give those who choose to stay home or are viewing from a distance, an opportunity to still see the worship service. We are also launching an interactive Bible Study time using Zoom on Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM. More information on this opportunity can be found in the Messenger. We are continuing to offer our worship service on the local cable access channel on Thursdays at 11 AM, 3 PM and 8 PM as well as the message on KLOH radio on Sundays at 7:30 AM.

In closing, hang in there for the One who hung up there. We belong to the Lord God of all creation; the One loves us so much that He gave His only Son to deliver us from evil. Spring is here and summer is on its way. The SON is shining!

To Him Be the Glory! Pastor Tim

DRIVE-IN CHURCH Worship Guide

- Parking Lights On
 - "I am ready to worship."
- Headlights On
 - "I am singing along"
- Right Turn Signal
 - Raising one hand in worship
- Wipers On
 - Lifting both hands in worship
- Flash Brights
 - "Amen!"/ "Preach it"
- Left Turn Signal
 - "I want to turn from my sins."
- Hazard Lights
 - o "I am in need of prayer."
- Spray Washer Fluid
 - "I wanna be baptized!"









May SERMON SERIES

New Life

May 3 Fully Realized Revelation 21:1-7 Pastor Tim

New Series:

CHURCH

May 10	The Power	Acts 1:1-2:36	Pastor Matthew
May 17	The Beginning	Acts 2:37-37	Pastor Tim
May 24	The Message	Acts 3:1-26	Pastor Tim
May 31	The Boldness	Acts 4:1-31	Pastor Tim
June 7	The Fellowship	Acts 4:32-37	TBD
June 14	The Warning	Acts 5:1-11	TBD



Short Missions Trip to Trinity Free Lutheran Church

We are planning a short missions trip to help an AFLC church plant in San Antonio, TX. Below is some basic information. Contact Pastor Matthew for more details.

- **WHEN**: August 20-24 (NOTE: If there is enough interest, we would love to schedule another trip in January or February)
- WHO: All ages! We encourage families to go together.
- **WHAT**: This is an outreach focused trip to benefit the ministry in San Antonio. Our desire is to share information regarding Trinity Lutheran Church with the surrounding area though literature distribution.
- **COST**: \$500 per person (lower family rates are possible) Includes lodging, food, vehicle rentals, printing outreach materials, a sightseeing trip, and a gift to the church plant. Individuals will be responsible for their own travel to/from San Antonio.
- **COMMITMENT**: There is limited space on this trip so that we are not a burden to the small church plant. Please notify Pastor Matthew if you are interested in joining this trip. We are asking for your final word by May 31.

PLEASE NOTE: There is always an element of sacrifice involved in missions work. For some the greatest sacrifice will be time. We are fully aware the Pipestone Area Schools will have begun by the time of this trip. For some the sacrifice is financial. A trip of this nature is not cheap especially if you count any time taken off from work. For some the sacrifice will be comfort. Speaking with strangers about eternal matters is outside of our comfort zone. But remember this, our sacrifice is nothing more than to share with others about the One who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us on the cross. Sharing Jesus is costly, but it bears eternal rewards! (See Luke 9:57-62)

Balance Sheet

Christ the King Free Lutheran Church Financial Report As of March 31, 2020

Revenue / Expenditures

	Mar 31, 20	_	Mar 20
ASSETS		Revenue	
		Building and Grounds	170.00
Checking/Savings		General Revenue	16,289.93
Bank Total		Outreach Revenue	6,711.82
Building		Total Revenue	23,171.75
Altar Guild	324.67	Expenditures	
Building Fund Account	6,956.09	Building & Grounds	6,438.73
Total Building	7,280.76	Conferences/Meetings	315.00
General Total		Discipleship Expenditures	497.56
General	24,720.67	Family Support	10.12
Truth Help	308.09	Misc.	1,085.82
Total General Total	25,028.76	Office	407.14
Outreach		Outreach Disbursement	
20% Offering	4,041.20	20 %Outreach	3,286.07
Children's Mission Offering	332.54	PAS Wellness	100.00
Thrivent	1,402.00	Samaritan's Purse	450.29
Total Outreach	5,775.74	Total Outreach Disburseme	3,836.36
Share And Care	364.49	Payroll Expenditures	17,448.97
Special Accounts		Share And Care	216.18
Internship Fund	100.00	Youth	342.75
Local Outreach Ministry	1,811.00	Total Expenditures	30,598.63
Church Missions	1,493.74	Net Revenue (Deficit)	(7,426.88)
Marriage Ministry	307.98	_	
Scholarship	322.26		
Youth	10,325.19		
Total Special Accounts	14,360.17		
Total Bank Total	52,809.92		
Total Checking/Savings	52,809.92		

Christ The King Free Lutheran Church Trustee Meeting Minutes April 7, 2020 6 PM

Present: Dave Sutherland, Jim Otter, Brandie Hulstein, Laurie Bruns, Jim Gawerecki, Matthew Amdahl, Heather DeWilde, Morgan McNickle Absent: Bill VanderPlaats

Also Present: Mike Morgan, Collene Landgren, Pastor Tim, Pastor Matthew, Intern Seth Moan.

President Jim Gawerecki called the meeting to order. The meeting was held through text messages as the Stay at Home order issued by the governor of Minnesota prohibited groups of 10 or more meeting. The Trustees were emailed copies of the Treasurer's report and an agenda. Pastor Tim led in prayer. Matthew A. will lead devotions in May.

The Treasurer's report for March was presented. Laurie B. moved, to accept treasure's report. Seconded by Brandie H. Motion carried.

The Payment of bills, Laurie B. moved to approve the bills, seconded by Brandie H. Motion carried.

Outreach was discussed; Brandie H. moved to approve outreach and to keep the \$941.20 of undesignated money to carry over to May to be disbursed, if applicable, at the May meeting, seconded by Dave S. Motion carried.

Food Shelf \$ 100.00 Alpha Center \$ 300.00 CRU-Jeff \$ 500.00 CRU-Paul \$ 500.00 Brazil Student \$ 100.00 Atlas for Life \$ 200.00 Outreach Ministry \$ 300. Children's Life \$ 200.00

Kvale's(Wycliffe) \$ 500.00

Matthew & Ednay Abel \$ 100.00 (for 1 year; May)

CRU-Tim & Sheila Steele \$ 100.00 (1 yr 12/19)

Local Outreach Ministry \$ 300.00 San Antonio Church Plant \$ 100.00 PAS Wellness Room \$ 100.00

The secretary's report was not presented due to nature of the meeting.

Old Business:

Replace Door: The bottom sweep still needs to be

adjusted

Roof: Tabled Jim G. reported bids are being received by the Trustees.

New Business:

Coronavirus Impact: The Stay At Home order was extended to May 4. Worship services will continue to be live streamed though the month of April.

Offering Checks & Cash: Collene L. will record the offering and take the funds to the treasurer for deposit.

Easter drive-in service: Pastor Tim brought up the possibility of offering a drive-in type service for Easter Sunday worship. After discussion it was decided it may give the wrong impression the Stay at Home order was being relaxed. The MN Department of Health gave a verbal "No" to this activity and the Governor had not responded to our request about doing this activity. Given that we were unable to secure permission from the state and the weather report was predicting blowing snow and cold, it was decided not to continue plans for a drive-in service for Easter worship.

Cares Payroll Protection Plan Loan: This is a loan to help specifically with payroll. Amounts used for payroll and utilities will turn to a grant and not have to be paid back. Money in excess of the grant amount will have to be paid back within two years at a very low interest rate. The trustees agreed to apply for the loan. Mike Morgan will complete the application and submit to the First Bank and Trust.

Morgan M. moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dave S. Matt A. closed in prayer. Jim G. adjourned the meeting.

Collene Landgren, recording secretary {Draft subject to approval by the trustees}

Confirmation Babies 2020



Brynn Manzey Connor Holt Mason DeRuyter





Due to the uncertainty at this time

The confirmation service will be rescheduled to a date to be determined later.



Confirmands are:
Brynn Manzey
Connor Holt
Mason DeRuyter

AFLC Conference Information

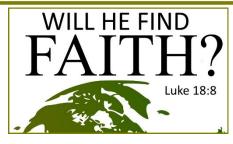
Host: ARC - Association Retreat Center, Osceola, WI

AUGUST 10- 12, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus epidemic, the AFLC Conference Committee, in consultation with this year's host, the Association Retreat Center, is announcing a change in dates. A shortened version of the Annual Conference will be held starting at 9 a.m. on Monday August 10th and will close with the business session on Wednesday August 12th at 5:30 p.m. We confess that we certainly see through a glass darkly right now, but believe the most helpful thing we can do for our future planning is to set these dates and trust that we will be able to move forward when the time arrives.

PLEASE PRAY for the AFLC Annual Conference

- *The AFLC would continue to uphold the inerrant Word of God and stand strong in the face of spiritual warfare.
- *Elections at the conference would be guided by the Holy Spirit.
- *Safety for those attending the conference.





#LoveTheBanquet

CTK will be Serving at the Banquet Wednesday, June 16

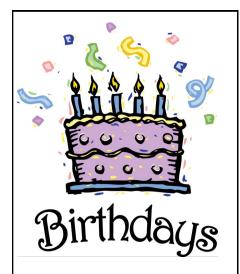
Join us in being the hands & feet of Jesus by serving at The Banquet on Wednesday, June 16. The Banquet provides meals for the needy in Sioux Falls on a daily basis. This is from The Banquet's webpage: The Banquet has taken the Covid 19 health alert very seriously and following CDC recommendations has changed how we serve our guests. We now serve meals at the door in to go containers and will do so until the pandemic warnings have been cleared. This requires fewer people to serve the meal; however, many groups have canceled so we are relying upon our Banquet Angels and other community members to prep and serve our 16 meals a week. Each meal requires 6 people to prepare the meal and 6-8 to serve. We have also taken steps to further clean and

sanitize our buildings and are diligent in wearing gloves and practicing social distancing. People who are experiencing symptoms or Covid-19 are asked not to volunteer at this time. If you would like to volunteer you may join our Banquet Angels by texting Angels to 605-413-1971 or call our office at 335-7066



The congregation is asked to cover the cost of the meal. If you would like to give to this service event please make the check out to CTK with "The Banquet" in the memo line. Whatever is not donated will be covered by the church.

For more information contact Laurie Bruns or Leasa Kulm.



- 1 Connor Zephier
- 3 Julia Pillman
- 4 Jennifer Swanson
- 4 Justin Hulstein
- 4 Ella Woitaszewski
- 6 Coltin Dupont
- 8 Carol Glidewell
- 11 Marina Wollman
- 12 Dennis DeClerk
- 15 Dorothy Wendt
- 15 Darron Westfield
- 16 Garrett Glidewell
- 19 Jerry Rood
- 19 Jennifer Stangeland
- 19 Christian Haag
- 20 Jim Gawerecki
- 23 Lyla Terry
- 27 Emerson Winter





Tentatively Scheduled National Day of

Prayer 7

Please join other Christians in

praying for our community & nation on Thursday, May 7, noon to 1 PM

Come & go as you are able.

North steps of the Pipestone Courthouse lawn.

This event is being sponsored by the local Ministerial. **All are welcome.**

Chatter-sewers (Quilting) will meet NOT In May







Messenger artícles are due May 24





Christ the King serves

May 21 2-5 PM

Christ the King is scheduled to serve at the Pipestone Food Shelf on May 21, at this time the Food Shelf is distributing food. They are requesting 2-4 people to help on the day before, Wednesday, May 20 to pack boxes of food and 2 to 4 people to help on May 21 to distribute the boxes.



Christ the King Lutheran Church
Thank you for your donation to

our food shelf. We appreciate it very much. It will help our local people who just need a little help.

We appreciate it very much,
Lake Benton Food Shelf

Dear Tim & Christ the King Free Lutheran Church

Each day when we walk in the doors of the Alpha Center, we are not alone. We work as a team, encouraging and supporting each other as we serve those who need us most. We are, in a strong sense, family. - praying with and for one another.

We fight a daily spiritual battle, and it is only by God's grace we succeed. Yet, this family is not just the staff. You are a part of this team, this family. Your support is not just counted in physical gifts, but in the simple fact that you are a vital part of the encouraging and supportive atmosphere that defines who we are at Alpha Center.

Thank you for playing an integral role in our work. Together, we reach those in need. And together, we are changing a culture. It is an honor to serve alongside you.

Sincerely, Alpha Center Staff

Thank you Friends at Christ the King,

I have so enjoyed the notes and letters from everyone, it has been wonderful being remembered by you.

As you know, being inside the care center and not having visitors is lonely for us. My daughter, Sharon has stopped by and talked thru the speaker inside the front entrance. That's a close as we can be to family or friends.

Please continue to remember me with letters, calls, and prayers as well as others that are in care facilities. The day I receive your letter and sometimes even a package with special treats makes me feel wonderful. Each day is a blessing. Hopefully, this will all pass soon and we can get back to a normal way of life.

I pray God's blessings to you all, my church family.

Malva DeVine

Dear Christ the King Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful Easter lilies, they brightened up our rooms. It was such a nice surprise to receive them for Easter.

Blessings, Malva DeVine, Irene Tirrel, Sharon Claussen



Dear Diana (Uilk) and Christ the King Quilters,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation of various sized quilts for families in need.

Thank you for thinking of us and trusting us to get these to people in need.

Sincerely,

Southwest Health and Human Services



CHRIST THE KING FREE LUTHERAN CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL Staff 2019-2020

4 yr-Pre K: Jason & Amy Steuck

Melissa Zephier Heidi Woelber

K & 1 Grade: Scott Thomson

Grade 2 & 3: Philip Berg

Grade 4: Dawn Sutherland

Collene Landgren

Grade 5 & 6: Dave Muller

Grade 7 & 8: Pat & Jodi Haag
Grade 9-12: Pastor Matthew

Intern Seth Moan

Pastor Tim

Adult Pastor Tim

Intern Seth Moan
Pastor Matthew

Superintendent: Janelle Brockberg

Cindy Johnson

Music: Julia Pillman

Hannah Minet

Thanks to each of you!

Online Interactive Bible Study Beginning this Sunday Evening April 26 @ 7:00 PM.



The format will include an introduction of the text, short random break-out groups of 4 (devices that are logged in) entertaining certain questions of the text and large group come-together-time. The texts will include segments from the end of Romans 12 through Romans 15 which deal with how Christians interact within their culture and community.

An email will be sent out with the link for any who want to participate. Zoom is a very simple format to use for the participants. You can access it on your computer or smart phone as well as simply call in for audio only. Below is the information that will be emailed.

How to join the video call (Zoom)

If you have not already done so, download the "Zoom client" for either your laptop or cell phone by following this link: https://zoom.us/download

Click this link to join our scheduled Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89499810014

How to join by telephone

- 1. Dial +1 312-626-6799
- 2. Enter this meeting ID as prompted: 894 9981 0014#
 You will be able to hear the study and talk during the small group time



Drive-in Worship Service May 3 @ 10:30 AM

Where? In the church parking lot (parking will be organized for optimal viewing)

How? Stay in your car with your window rolled up and tune your car radio to FM 107.3. Words for songs will be available on your phones or made available ahead of time so you can sing along if you choose.

What? Will include music, prayer and a message. Total service will be about a ½ hour.

Following the Drive-in Worship: We will be honoring our intern Seth and Cassie and baby Kate with a drive-by wave as people leave the church parking lot. We might even get wild and honk our horns. Seth and Cassie's last Sunday with us is May 3.



Upcoming Dates to remember:

May 24 PAS Graduation

June 16 Serve At the Banquet

June 21-26 Sr High Pickerel Lake Camp

June 26-31 Jr High Pickerel Lake Camp

July 19-23 Beyond FLY





Pickerel Lake Lutheran Bible Camp

is a summer camp for youth who have finished grades 5-12. It is a week to build your relationship with Christ, unite with friends from camp, and make new friends. Registration cost is only \$75 and Christ the King youth ministry can help defray this cost. Ask Pastor Matthew for more details.

- Senior High week (grades 8-12) is June 21-26 (register by June 1)
- Junior High week (grades 5-7) is July 26-31 (register by July 7)

FLY Beyond 2020 (July 19-23)

FLY Beyond is a biennial, national youth equipping conference put on by AFLC Youth Ministries. It is held at the Association Retreat Center in Osceola, WI. The theme



this year is Mysterious Hope. The first registration deadline has been extended to June 30 with a deposit of \$150. Remaining travel and registration costs will be covered by Christ the King youth ministry.

PLEASE NOTE: This is event is not for everyone! We highly recommend this event for students that are ready to grow deeper in their confidence as a spiritual leader. Students will be challenged and equipped by apologetics training and Biblical teaching.

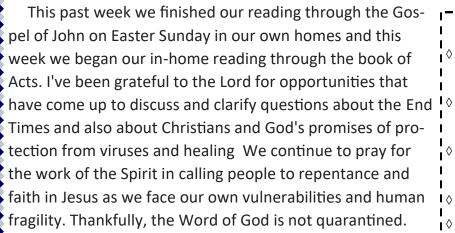


Todd & Barb Schierkolk Zacatecas, Mexico

Thanks so much for your note. Thanks for your prayers for us down here south of the border.

In our state of Zacatecas, churches have had to close since the last week or so of March. In our town of Jerez, 16 people currently are infected with COVID-19 and two people have

died. One young man who was confirmed in our church went in to be tested for the virus but it came back negative. We are grateful that no one in our little congregation has gotten sick so far.



Several sons and their wives have come to their mom's home to listen and participate in the readings and studies so we pray for the gracious effect of God's word on the hearts.



Prayer Concerns

- For safety and protection in these times of uncertainty with covid-19
- For people to turn to and know the Lord
- For the work of the Spirit in calling
 His people to repentance
- ♦ For good health & safe travels
- For Kirstie's wedding ceremony that was postponed, as they work on new plans.

Our daughter, Kirstie's, wedding ceremony in Illinois has been cancelled and they are working to come up with a new plan for how to get married in the middle of May. So, we would appreciate your prayers with us that our Father in heaven would help Kirstie and her fiancé to accomplish their wedding.

Pastor Todd and Barb Schierkolk began serving in Mexico in 1996. They have started exciting ministries with kids and families, finding that to be one of the most successful ways to reach people. Along-side their congregation, Todd and Barb minister in the community. They have a special heart for the youth and look to mentor and train them to become active members of the congregation. The Schierkolks are now empty-nesters as their daughters are now living in the U.S.





Baby Chicks

For impoverished families, a brood of chicks can become a daily reminder of God's faithfulness, as their eggs provide nutritious food as well as income. For \$14, we can supply a dozen chicks, help a family set up a coop, or offer basic veterinary care.



"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse."

- Romans 1:20

Acolytes

Altar Guild

Sue DeClerk

Family of the Week

May	3	Dean &	Leslie	Lueck:	Chase.	Tessa.	Trase

May 10 Bryan & Kennedy Manzey, Finnick

May 17 Julie Manzey; Brooke, Brynn

May 24 Lisa Masica

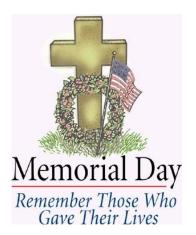
May 31 Nathan & Nancy McConnell; Trinity

Money Counters/ Trustees

Nursery

Kitchen Clean-up

Ushers



Hospitality Greeters

Worship Leaders









	Saturday	2
	Friday	1
	Thursday	
**************************************	Wednesday	
***	Tuesday	
	Monday	
	Sunday	

≈ ≀	6	16	Tentative Scheduled Gabe Schiebout Grad Reception	30 Stay Close Stay Close God This Summer
1	8	Pastor Tim @ Coordinating Committee @ AFLC	7 7	67
	7 Noon—1 PM National Day of Prayer @ Courthouse Lawn	I 4 7: PM Trustees	2.5 PM CTK @ Food Shelf 7:00 PM Elders Meet @ Church	87
	6	13	20 CTK help at Food Shelf	27
	19	71	61	97
	4	11	81	25 + MEMORIAL DAY
RENEW A STRADBAT SPRIT SPRIT WITHIN ME. PAUM STRID, MV	3 10:30 AM Drive-In Streaming Worship Service	10:30 AM Streaming Worship Service	17 10:30 AM Streaming Worship Service	 24 10:30 AM Streaming Worship Service Messenger Articles Due 31 Worship Service Worship Service Worship Service