



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

650 240th St. North Liberty, IA 52317

Vol. 15, No. 6

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JOIN US FOR “SONGS, STORIES, AND S’MORES!”

CAMPFIRE WORSHIP DEBUTS ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH



Whether you missed the chance to gather on Sunday or not, we invite you to our new monthly mid-week summer worship opportunity – around the campfire starting at 7:00 p.m.!

Each month this summer will feature an opportunity to share fellowship, songs, stories, and s’mores on the 2nd Wednesday. We’ve got quite a few chairs already, but if you’d like to bring your own, please do so! More importantly, these services are a chance for you to bring YOUR gifts to share with the community – so we welcome storytellers, song leaders, un-plugged instrumentalists*, and everything in between! We’ll provide the firewood, the s’mores, and whatever else is needed, but we’d love to see you there! Join us on the 14th for a fitting kickoff to a fresh summertime tradition!

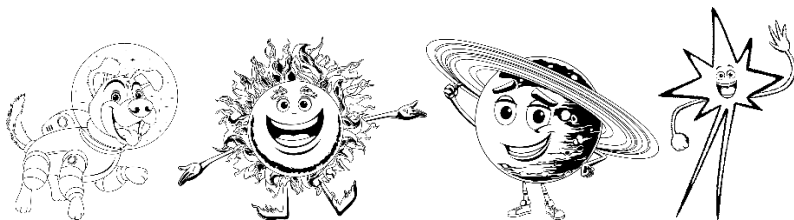
(*let us know you are coming and we’ll have additional music for you to join in on as you are able!)



Join us at **Vacation Bible School** for an out of this world adventure, learning to shine Jesus' light! Come experience God's love through music, games, crafts, and snacks. This is for ages 3 through entering 4th grade. Cost for Vacation Bible School only is \$25. Entering 1st grade and older can stay for the afternoon **Day camp**. Cost for Vacation Bible School and Day Camp is \$85.

If you are entering 5th grade through adults, you can attend and help Vacation Bible School for free. In the afternoon, the youth participate in leadership training and are broken out for different experiences based on ages (elementary {introduction to leadership}, junior high and confirmation {practicing leadership}, and high school {servant leadership}).

[Sign up for all these](#) in one place. Report problems with signing up to the church office (office@holyltrinitynl.org)



HOLY TRINITY WELCOMES BISHOP AMY CURRENT ON JUNE 18TH



We are delighted to welcome Bishop Amy Current to our worship this month. While Bishop Current has been here for other events, this will be her first opportunity to be among us on a Sunday morning. A native of North Dakota, she has served our synod as bishop since her election in 2020. She is a graduate of Concordia College and Wartburg Theological Seminary.

Prior to her role as bishop, Current served as vice president for admissions and student services at Wartburg Seminary. She served in various leadership roles there, including director for financial aid and stewardship formation, director for public communications, and interim director of the Center for Youth Ministries. Amy was honored to serve as pastor of Maple Sheyenne Lutheran in Harwood, N.D., as pastor of Golden Ridge Lutheran in Fargo, and Congregational Lutheran United Church, Gardner, N.D.

Bishop Current serves on the boards of Grand View University, Lutheran Services in Iowa, Wartburg College, and Unity Point Health - Des Moines.

Bishop Current is married to the Reverend Dr. Samuel Giere, professor of biblical interpretation at Wartburg. They have two children, Isaac and Shonagh Current Giere. The family resides in Mt. Vernon with their two miniature Australian shepherds, Archie and Otis.

Bishop Current enjoys reading novels, kayaking, snowshoeing, walking, sharing meals, lingering in conversation, watching tv and exploring through travel. Bishop Current will be riding Ragbrai this summer – pledging to cover at least 50 miles a day, and highlighting ELCA Hunger ministries along the way. Let's welcome her warmly as she brings us the Word on Father's Day!

WELCOME, ALEXIS!



As of May 28, you may notice a new face behind the piano for the summer! Paul Casiano, our usual collaborative accompanist, is visiting family in the Philippines for the first time in four years. For the summer we are blessed to be able to welcome his close friend, Alexis Pal, to cover the bases! Alexis has already had opportunity to help lead music as part of our cantor team, but we are delighted to welcome her excellent keyboard skills as well! If you haven't yet met her, please

thank Alexis for her serving among us!

MANY, MANY THANKS!

- ... to **Glenda Sivers** for organizing our rich, recent Adult Forum series on Prayer!
- ... to **Imam Taha Tawil** for his gracious presence and offering an Islamic perspective on prayer.
- ... to the **Reverend Mary Kay Kusner** for her presence among us offering a perspective on Catholic prayer.
- ... to **Rabbi Esther Hugenholtz** for her presence among us and the perspective on Jewish prayer.
- ... to **all of the helping hands** who pitched in together on our "Spring Clean-up Day!"
- ... to **Stu Berns** for his recent work on upgrading our camera platform.
- ... to the **Visioning Council** for its leadership of worship on May 28th in Pastor Tim's absence.

ADDITIONAL FELLOWSHIP HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED FOR SUNDAYS THIS SUMMER!

Hmmm.... Our regularly posted clipboards and Sign-up Genius e-mails are staying remarkably quiet as of late – especially when it comes to Sunday



fellowship. For those of you who regard coffee in near-sacramental terms, this is a minor crisis! Seriously, though, summer is a great season to enjoy some additional time to visit with faces familiar or otherwise after worship. The patio provides us with a great space to do so!

Take a look at your calendar and see if you can't help us out on Sunday or two over the next couple of months. It doesn't have to be anything fancy, unique, or pricey – just something to sip and munch on while we visit! (In fact, if you'd



simply like to set up our pre-existing “trail mix bar,” we probably already have just about everything you'd need! And there will be frozen treats for the young at heart!) Then visit the clipboard or [Sign-up Genius](#) and let's see if together we can't raise our hospitality bar this summer!

THANK YOU, BUNCO NIGHT!

As part of their meeting in May, Bunco collected \$50 to help the North Liberty Community Pantry's ministry and mission into the community. Their example serves as a reminder to us that many in our community are in need from time to time of assistance. Please consider gifts or product donations to the Pantry. The shopping cart in our foyer reminds us of Christ's command to help our neighbors.



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

As the school year draws to a close, we congratulate our young people who have completed the high school portion of their lives. As they move into more education and the ‘real’ world, we wish them well and hope to see them often as their schedules allow. Join us June 14th as we honor the graduates at the Campfire service.

Emma Avgenackis

Boden Bisgard will be attending Boise State to pursue Environmental Sciences.

Ethan Dueker

Ryan Humphrey will be marching his way through Iowa State University’s College of Engineering.

Payton Johnston will attend Iowa State University to study Business Statistics.

Anna Mattson

Braden O’Connor will be attending the University of Iowa pursuing Business Finance or Religious Studies with an eye toward attending seminary.

Dani Petersen will be attending Iowa Central Community College for Fire Science and EMT. She received a scholarship for women’s soccer!

Jackson Schloss will be marching his way through the University of Iowa’s College of Engineering!

Abby Stapleton will be attending Iowa State University for English Secondary Education.

PRAYER PAGE UPDATE

- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**, and for a swift and just conclusion to the conflict there.
- Pray for the thousands of **refugees who recently arrived in Chad** after fleeing the violence in nearby Sudan.
- Pray for **Bishop Amy Current** who will be our guest preacher on June 18th.
- Pray for **John Riehl**, who recently returned to work after multiple organ transplants
- Pray for **Lois Ludvigson**, grieving the loss of her brother, **Dale Burginger**, last month.
- Pray for **Kathy Stickney**, mourning the loss of her brother, **Ken Melhus**, last month.
- Pray for **Traci Neff and her family** as they mourn the recent death of her brother, **Bret Levesque**.
- Pray for **Gary Wermuth**, Pastor Tim's uncle, who recently entered hospice care after suffering a stroke and for Gary's wife, **Cheryl Wermuth**, recovering from recent back surgery.
- Pray for **Sue Zubrod**, mother of Lisa Stille, who is recovering from recent neurosurgery.
- Pray for **Mike Norris**, friend of Steve and Cindy Roland, being treated for pancreatic cancer; and for **Nate Gage**, their friend who recently started chemotherapy.
- Pray for **Emy Charlebois**, sister of Clay Peterson, living with a recent recurrence of metastatic breast cancer.
- Pray for **Dorothy Weedman**, at Windmill Manor in Coralville.
- Pray for **Harold Meyer** (husband of Twilla Meyer), at Crestview in West Branch.
- Pray for support and care for **transgender people** amidst ongoing legislative actions.
- Pray for **Ryan and Alicia Brown**, who recently welcomed a new daughter, Maggie; for **Tyler and Kristin Probasco** and all who are expecting or longing to be parents; and for **Dan and Kate Hellem**, who are new grandparents!
- Pray for **Alexis Pal**, serving as both our collaborative accompanist and as one of our cantors this summer!

IT'S GROWING SEASON ONCE AGAIN!

Our summer sermon series is intended as a great reminder of how God's persistence in the life of the church is truly a treasure! Coming lessons include accounts of how the fertility of God's word produces fruit like rain promotes crop growth and of how even when weeds are planted within us, we are to shine like the sun, because God is still the gardener! We'll hear parables about how glorious results come from the smallest of seeds, from just a little yeast, or as a treasure hidden in a field. Let's together recall how God still often works through seemingly insignificant means, and discover what treasures might remain hidden within our community that may spark our imagination to see the kingdom of heaven right in front of us! Join us starting June 4 for a summer of new insight!



DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... Parents have been buying properties as lucrative investments for their children, using the rental income to build up wealth for children to pay for college or a first home. In most states, a minor can own or co-own a house, though they can't do anything with it until they turn 18. One investor considered buying a condo in his newborn infant's name "and renting it out with the idea that by the time he grows up it'll be owned free

and clear.” A Wyoming parent wrote on a forum dedicated to the FIRE movement (Financial Independence, Retire Early) that he was considering buying a property for each of his toddlers and renting them as Airbnbs. Tenants’ rental payments are to a trust fund, and if there’s a dispute, a court-appointed adult will argue on behalf of the child (*New York, March 24*)

... In hospice patients, dreams and visions of deceased loved ones have been found to be predictive of imminent death. Close to 90 percent of patients report having at least one dream or vision that could be classified as an end-of-life experience. When asked to rate the degree of realism of such dreams, most rate them ten out of ten—the highest degree of realism. The visions occur during periods of both sleep and wakefulness and are easily distinguished from hallucination or delirium. Upon entering hospice care, patients reported dreams about living friends and relatives; as they approached death, the dreams were mostly filled with deceased family and friends. Dreams involving deceased family members provided the most comfort to the dying and helped the bereaved to accept the death and loss of a loved one (*Commonweal, April 14*).

... In Cuba, Santería—a fusion of African religions and Catholicism—was one of the few religious practices to endure decades of prohibitions and stigma by the communist government; it continues to grow in popularity. Anthropologist Katrin Hansing attributes the practice’s survival to its decentralization. Where Catholicism, dependent on churches and clergy, withered under state sanctions, Santería, which could be practiced secretly in the home, thrived. The Cuban government has now accepted it, but officially authorized ceremonies remain practically deserted—Cubans continue to prefer to worship and make their offerings to orishas, deities often attached to Catholic saints, in private settings (*RNS, April 10*)

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Address Service Requested