



Happy Easter!

Covenant

It is still Easter, after all. The Easter Season runs for seven weeks, until Pentecost. The term usually used is “a week of Sundays”. The reason for this is that the book of Acts says that Jesus remained with the disciples for forty days, until the Ascension, and promised the coming of the Holy Spirit soon afterward. That happened 50 days after the resurrection, and so we have 49 days of Easter – 7 weeks.

In that time in the church, we read the stories of people who've had their lives changed by the resurrected Jesus. The first lesson comes from Acts, and the Gospels carry the stories of “doubting” Thomas, the Road to Emmaus, and Jesus on the seashore. We are lead to focus on how our lives might be changed in meeting a resurrected Jesus, by sharing the stories of those who already did.

Easter is not the longest of the seasons of the church year, but it spends the time it has focused on a specific purpose. I hope you will find meaning in this Easter season.

Pastor Joshua

**COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
March 10, 2016**

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

Devotions:

Devotions were led by Jim Lockwood.

Roll Call:

Pastor Joshua, Jim Lockwood, Beth Morris, Shelley Sterling, Terry Lubeck, Reno Taylor, Jennifer Bruns, Marge Scholten, Sarah Jesse, Joel McKee, Rick Robbins, Jameson Brown,

Absent: Nancy Lubeck, Woody Shore, CA Thomas, and Lloyd Koerwitz

Additions to Agenda: Under Old Business – Columbarium, Rick's mission project and the grieving class. New Business – Relay for Life.

Thrift Store: Things are going well for both stores. Marge is checking into windows for both places.

	Receipts	Assistance	Ending Ck Bal	Ending Sav Bal
Thrift Store	\$7,382.09	\$320.80	\$4,024.96	\$2,695.55
Grandma's Attic	\$1,098.80	NA	\$6,949.17	NA

Correspondence: Amazon Smile Foundation, Kathy Kavale sent a thank you for supporting her son. The letter is posted on the bulletin board.

Reports:

Secretary: There were corrections to the minutes. Grievance should be replaced with grieving in two place of the minutes. Also Reno would like Rich to be added for the help of being an elder this past year. Jennifer moved to accept the amended minutes, Rick 2nd , motion carried.

Financial Secretary: Terry moved to accept the report, Reno 2nd it, motion carried.

Treasurer: Reno moved, Joel 2nd the motion to accept the report, motion carried.

President: Jim welcomed Jameson to the council as the youth rep.

Elders: Everything is going well and getting ready for Easter.

Trustees: Terry reported the men's bathroom is fixed.

Pastor: Written report is available on the bulletin board. Pastor Joshua wanted to mention that Confirmation will be May 15th. Those being confirmed are Sam Jesse, Gage Brown, and Cam Hanks.

Committee Reports:

Education: July 17th-22nd is VBS. Other churches participating are All Saint's Episcopal, United Methodist, United Church of Christ, and St. Patrick's.

Youth: Jim stated to Jameson what his role as being on the council might consist of and would like feedback from a younger one's perspective.

Stewardship: Rick asked who is on the committee. They are one's who are the head of the shepherding groups.

Worship: Plans have been made for Holy Week and Easter.

Women of ELCA: Nothing to report.

Hospitality: Plans are in the works for confirmation and graduation.

Men of Covenant: There was a good attendance. Plans for Easter breakfast. Shrove Tuesday had a good attendance and lots of compliments. Was nice to see how many stayed to visit. The donations were great as well.

Outreach: Still making CDs and Stu is now on the committee.

Altar Guild: All is good and staying busy.

Landscape: No report. Clean up will be coming up.

Old Business: The columbarium committee will present a proposal to the town Feb. 14th. A grieving class is still in the works.

New Business: Shelley's family is forming a team for Relay for Life. This year it is being held at the high school track. They are looking for team members. If anyone is interested in participating or contributing please contact her.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: April 14th

Devotions for next Meeting: Joel McKee

Respectfully Submitted,
Shelley Sterling



5 th	Nancy Schumann
6 th	Pastor Joshua
8 th	Gail Mattern
13 th	Jennifer Bruns
16 th	Austin Wright
18 th	Liz Bachmeier
21 st	Janae Mattern
22 nd	Rena Kittelson
24 th	William Jesse Courtland Seim

MISSION STATEMENT

We covenant ourselves to gather around Word and Sacrament for mutual support and strength in Christ, that by God's grace we:
Proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom
Nurture the community through Christian Education
Provide settings for Christian fellowship, and
Equip the membership to be Christ's servant people within God's world.

Loaded Baked Potato Soup Shared by Melissa Anderson

1 bag frozen cubed hashbrowns
½ cup chopped onion
1 ham steak chopped into small pieces
32 oz. Chicken broth
2 cups heavy cream

Place the potatoes, onion, and ham steak in a freezer bag and freeze until ready to use. When ready, thaw slightly and place in crockpot and add chicken broth and cream. Cook on low 6-8 hours.

Top bowls with cheese, bacon, green onion, chives, etc –whatever you'd like!

****Red Taylor is looking for someone who would be interested in assisting him with the sound system and would be able to run the system on days when he cannot be here. If you are interested in learning about the sound system please speak to Red or Pastor Joshua.**

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Office Hours:

Pastor Bruns—Mon - Thurs.: 9 am - 12 pm
Office: M - F: 9 am - 12: pm
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am Sunday
Sunday School: 9:50 am Sunday
Adult Bible Study: 4:00 pm Thursday
Adult Book Study: 10:30 am Sunday

Lasagna Soup

Shared by Shari Brown

Yield: 8 servings

For the soup:

- 2 tsp. Olive oil
- 1-1/2 lbs. Italian sausage
- 3 cups chopped onions
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tsp. Dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp. Crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 T. tomato paste
- 1 – 28 oz. Can fire roasted diced tomatoes
- 2 bay leaves
- 6 cups chicken stock
- 8 oz. Mafalda or fusilli pasta
- 1/2 cup finely chopped fresh basil leaves
- Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste



For the cheesy yum:

- 8 oz. Ricotta
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 tsp. Salt
- Pinch of freshly ground pepper

Additional cheesy yum:

- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

Directions:

Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add sausage, breaking up into bite sized pieces, and brown for about 5 minutes. Add onions and cook until softened, about 6 minutes. Add garlic, oregano, and red pepper flakes. Cook for 1 minute. Add tomato paste and stir well to incorporate. Cook for 3 to 4 minutes, or until the tomato paste turns a rusty brown color.

Add diced tomatoes, bay leaves, and chicken stock. Stir to combine. Bring to a boil and then reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes. Add uncooked pasta and cook until al dente. Do not over cook or let soup simmer for a long period of time at this point, as the pasta will get mushy and absorb all the soup broth. You may even want to consider cooking the noodles separately, and then adding some to individual bowls before ladling the soup over them. This would be an especially smart move if you are anticipating any leftovers. Right before serving, stir in the basil and season to taste with salt and freshly ground black pepper.

While the pasta is cooking, prepare the cheesy yum. In a small bowl, combine the ricotta, Parmesan, salt, and pepper.

To serve, place a dollop of the cheesy yum in each soup bowl, sprinkle some of the mozzarella on top and ladle the hot soup over the cheese.

	ELDER		ASSISTANT		GREETERS
4-3	Reno Taylor	4-3	Woody Shore	4-3	Nancy Lubeck
4-10	Joel McKee	4-10	Reno Taylor	4-10	Terry & Cheryl Meier
4-17	Jennifer Bruns	4-17	Joel McKee	4-17	Beth Morris
4-24	Woody Shore	4-24	Jennifer Bruns	4-24	Dave & Lisa Young
	ACOLYTE		READER		USHERS
4-3	Sam Jesse	4-3	Nancy Lubeck	4-3	Jim Prince & Stu Hammersmark
4-10	Mekayla Garcia	4-10	Jim Lockwood	4-10	Dave Miller & Terry Meier
4-17	Raegan Ehde	4-17	Reed Elmquist	4-17	Jim Prince & Stu Hammersmark
4-24	Peter Jesse	4-24	Beth Morris	4-24	Melissa Garcia
	MUSICIAN		ALTAR CARE		VISITATION
4-3	Gwen Seidel	4-3	Hollee Bosch	4-3	Rick Robbins
4-10	Mary Seim	4-10	Judy Windmeier	4-10	Nadine Morris
4-17	Lisa Young	4-17	Gail Thompson	4-17	Lloyd Koerwitz
4-24	TBA	4-24	Rena Kittelson	4-24	Stu Hammersmark
	FELLOWSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL		
4-3	Melissa Garcia	4-3	Group #1: Dawn McKee and Sam Jesse Group #2: Sarah Jesse		
4-10	Liz Bitterman	4-10	Group #1: Beth Morris Group #2: Melissa Garcia		
4-17	Cheryl Meier	4-17	Inter-generational Sunday School		
4-24	Lisa Young	4-24	Group #1: Carolyn Walters Group #2: Thad and Tifanie Ehde		

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 MEN'S BREAKFAST AT TASTY TREATS 7:30 AM
3	4 CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM	5 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	6	7 NO BIBLE STUDY TODAY	8	9
10 SUNDAY SCHOOL TAIZE 7:00 PM	11 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	12 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	13	14 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL 7:00 PM	15	18
17 INTER- GENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TAIZE 7:00 PM	18 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	19 DIAPER DAY 9:00 AM WELCA BIRTHDAY LUNCH 11:30 AM PRAISE BAND 5:30 PM WORSHIP COMMITTEE 6:30 PM	20	21 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	22	23
24 SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSING HOME SERVICE 2:00 PM TAIZE 7:00 PM	25 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	26 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	27	28 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	29	30