



PASTOR'S CORNER

2019 Easter Message

May I have your attention please!

MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION for an important announcement!

MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION FOR AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT, NOW, PLEASE!!!!

What do we have to do to get the world's attention? We've got good news, great news, the best news, but we can't seem to get the attention of those who need to hear it the most.

For a few years in my former parish I sent out postcards and Facebook posts hoping to catch the attention of those who weren't members of my church and invite them to EASTER WORSHIP.

I used cute designs from OUTREACH.COM. My favorite was a photo of a fuzzy blue stuffed toy bunny with the caption: Is the true meaning of Easter a little fuzzy? On the other side of the card was an invitation to worship at Trinity, the church I served. This year they have a photo of an adorable baby wearing floppy fuzzy bunny ears and the caption reads: Have you heard the real story of Easter? They also have a post card with the photo of a green field filled with colorful Easter eggs ready for the Easter Egg hunt. The caption reads: Hunting for more this EASTER? These clever cutesy cards are designed to get the attention of the world and invite non-members to come to their worship services. It is not a terrible idea to send a postcard in the mail or post on social media inviting people to visit your church, but is it working? Does sending a card capture the world's attention?

What does it take to get the attention of the world? What does it take to get the attention of the family that lives in the yellow house across the street from your

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PARISH LEADERS

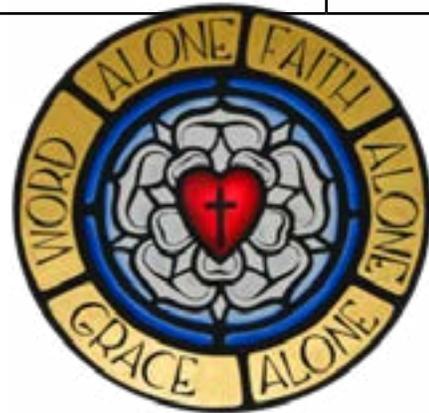
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FAITH AND CARE GROUP

May

Pat & Nancy Brenholt	Shirley & Terry Brust	Ed & Joyce Emerson	Bruce Johnson
Karin Johnson	Vickie Johnson	Bill Lindahl	Willy & Kathy Loberg
Amber Asper	Sam & Jacob McKinven	Carol Medchill	Jennifer Mishler
Loren & Beulah Nelson	Robert & Wendy Peterson	Ron True	Barb & Bob Wilson
Kellie & Jim Wilson	Jesse & Brittany Wilson		

church building?

Some seems to be so distracted, busy, engaged in daily living, or just getting by. Others seem anesthetized by mind numbing virtual reality activities on their computer, phone or TV screens. A few find time to worship at the gym, yoga class, running, or biking. Sometimes I just want to yell, HEY! LISTEN UP, I've got good news. But I know they won't be able to hear me over the din of daily life.

So what do we do? We know that guilting, shaming, and judging doesn't work. Should we just...Give up. Shut up. Close up? Nope. I'm too much of an optimist for that. I think there is one thing we as a church can do that might get the world's attention. We can sneak up and love them up.

I don't mean sneak up like stalking, that's illegal. What I mean is act like you love your neighbor in little ways so that eventually without you really knowing it, you DO love your neighbor and you can be in a relationship in such a way that you can invite them to know and love Jesus, the real Jesus, the Jesus of Easter.

Maybe the first step is caring enough about the folks that don't know the story about Jesus life death and resurrection to send them a silly post card. Maybe a baby step is caring enough about the children who won't hear the Easter story in Sunday school and inviting them to come to your church for an Easter egg hunt and before it begins tell them about Jesus in some simple way. *Continued on page 4*

**CUSHING COMMUNITY
CALENDAR
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
150 YEARS**

We are putting together a calendar for the year 2020. We are asking the congregation to submit photos showing First Lutheran Church or Cushing events for the past 150 years.

Looking for 150 year old photos, newer photos, any photos in between.

Sunday School, Cushing School, Cushing Fun Days, Bazaars, Christmas programs, Baseball Teams, Soap Box Derby, 4-H, etc.

We will need to know names of who the people are in the photo, date? We will copy the photo and then get it back to you. Please put them in the Secretary's Office, Liz's tray, on the table by the copier.

May Scripture

<i>May Scripture</i>			
May 5	Acts 10:1-17, 34-48	Carol Medchill	Emily Crossfield
May 12	Acts 13:1-3, 14:8-18	Emily Crossfield	Karen Johnson
May 19	Romans 1:1-17	Jacob McKinven	Merry Yates
May 26	Romans 5:1-11	Justin Swanson	Claudia Balcom

Deuteronomy 11:18-21 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

18 You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. 19 Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. 20 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

Maybe you could care enough to get to know the name of the church neighbor in the yellow house and who knows where it will go from there. Care enough to get to know your neighbor, the Muslim family from Somalia that lives next to the grocery store. Care enough to get to know your immigrant neighbor, the Latino family that lives across the street from the school.

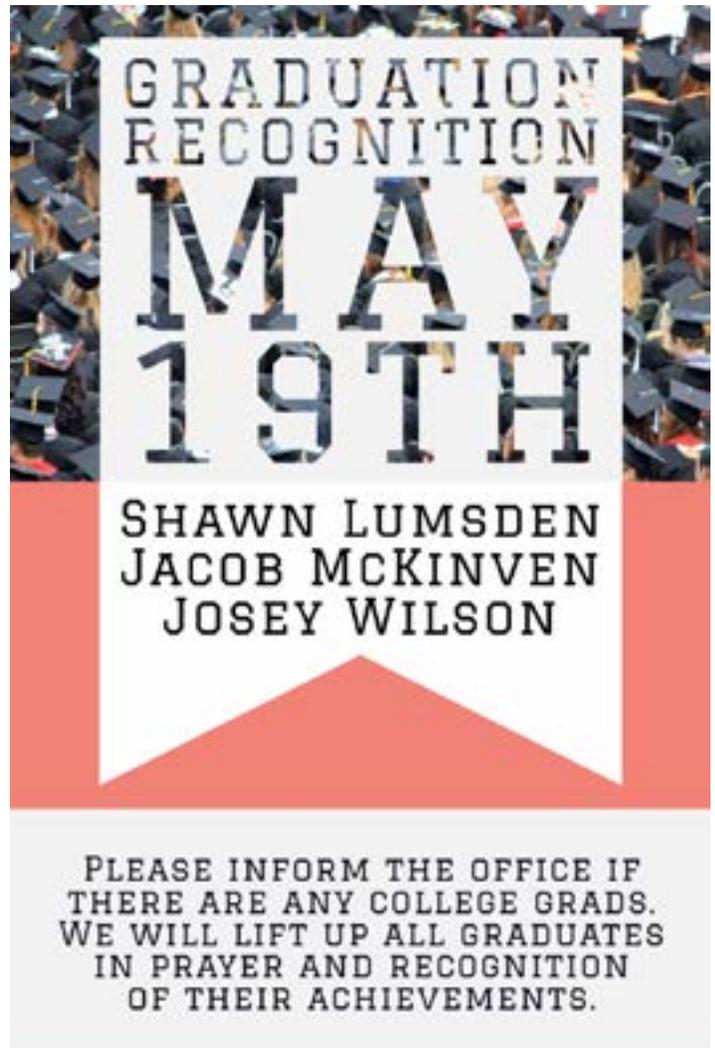
Maybe the only way to get someone's attention is to love them. That's how God got my attention.

God sneaks up on us, loves unconditionally, loves the world so much that he gave his only Son, and on the third day he rose from the dead, so that we might have life. That's the real meaning of Easter. That's the good news the world is dying to hear. They just don't know it yet. Maybe YOU can love someone enough to tell them about it.

It's Easter. Let's go love-in Jesus' name,
Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

Living our Faith

Our Vision is that; "All people are Fed, Clothed, and Cared for in Christ's Love."



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(See Genesis 6-8)

07-02-2010

TWO ANTS? YOU HAVE ONLY TWO ANTS?!? MY WIFE AND I EAT LIKE 100,000 PER DAY EACH!



First Circle Meetings

May 15
Circle @ 6:30pm
Carol Medchill, Hostess

May 1st
Special Meeting &
Speaker

Laketown Workers

Cleaning - Jill
Newsletter - Joyce S.

May 15
7-9pm Quilting Fellowship
May - Spring not-a-
rummage sale

Thank you

Thank you to volunteers for you time, donors for you
generosity and all who come to support VBS and
Sunday School.

Your donations have covered the expense of VBS

Please have your recipe submissions
in by May 15th.

Baked Potato Supper and Special Guest Speaker

Wednesday, May 1st

6:30 Meal; 7:15 Speaker

Cecelia Jayme
Director of Clinical Services
Hazelden Betty Ford
Foundation

She will speaking about the
current opioid crisis effecting
our country and community

Thanks, Praise and Prayers

As God's beloved children, let us pray that the light of Christ shine on the nations, the church and all those in need.

Sharon Doolittle, LaVonne Lumsden, Loren & Beulah Nelson, Yvonne Snyder and others we name before God today.

Sometimes in our busy lives we forget to stop, reflect upon our blessings, and take the time share our compassion and empathy with others. Since there has been very little room in the past few bulletins to pray for family and friends who need our immediate attention, let's do it now

There are a number of ways to add someone to the prayer list. Call the church office and leave a message; make a note of it on Sunday morning with your name and name of person and give it to Pastor Marilyn or put it in the offering plate. We will keep the person on the prayer list for 6 weeks. If you would like the person to continue on the prayer list, just let us know and they will be added/kept on the list for another 6 weeks. There is no limit to the number of times a person can be put on the prayer list. Thank you for your help and for lifting one another up in prayer.

Please Note!

Please remember to have family notify the church office if you are in the hospital. The privacy data laws do not allow the hospital to notify the church of your admittance.

First Lutheran's 150th Anniversary

In preparation for the 150th Anniversary in 2020 the Committee is requesting the following.

Anniversary theme ideas • Money donations for Anniversary activities • Updated names and addresses for celebration invitations • Pictures of the past from both the Church and Community.

DO GOD'S JUSTICE



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month we will have two (2) banners; the Easter Season banner "God's Promise of Hope" through June 9th the Day of Pentecost and the banner "Do God's Justice".

May is Law or Justice Month and with the banner "Do God's Justice" that we are called to ensure that all whether rich or poor, adult or child receives just treatment according to the law. God calls us to this cause in

Isaiah 1:16-17;

16 "Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, 17learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow."

"God's Promise of Hope" we continue this banner because as children of "Hope" we are called to "Do God's Justice".

The following verses are just some of the Hope and Justice verses,

Psalm 71:5 NRSV

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

Psalm 89:13-14 NRSV

13 You have a mighty arm; strong is your hand, high your right hand. 14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

Romans 1:17 NRSV

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."

Hebrews 10:38-11:1 NRSV

38 but my righteous one will live by faith. My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back." 39 But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved.

The Meaning of Faith

11 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

On May 30th, we remember the Ascension of our Lord when he gave the disciples and then us the Great Commission as recorded in Acts 1:4-9 to tell everyone of God's Great Love for Them and to wait in Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Spirit (the Day of Pentecost) to help with the Great Commission. That Commission

is to "Do God's Justice" and to share "God's Promise of Hope" in the Risen Christ.

4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'*

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?'

7 He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.'

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' 9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. (NRSV)

We are still in the White-Easter Season until June 9th the day of Pentecost. The color for the Day of Pentecost is red for the fire of the Holy Spirit and for the brave Christian who gave their lives because of their faith.

Together we share "God's Promise of Hope" and "Do God's Justice" in the name of Christ,
Steve Jensen



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Ministry Messenger

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Laketown Lutheran Church

We seek to know and love God, share His love and word, strengthen our faith through the Holy Spirit, and as servants of Christ serve those in need.



First Lutheran Church

As part of God's family we seek to grow in our faith, provide spiritual education to our congregation, and reach out to others.

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