

MAY

2018

# Friends in Christ News

Friends in Christ Lutheran Church – 1338 Clay Street – Morris IL 60450

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## Come Worship with us!

Saturday Evenings ...	5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mornings ...	8:15 a.m.
...	10:45 a.m.
Sunday School (for Adults and Kids) ...	9:30 a.m.
(Tuesday Bible Study ...	9:00 a.m.)

## The End of Easter

So we are coming to the end of the Easter season. Pentecost is May 20. We have sung about and we have greeted each other with "Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed." But now Easter season is ending.

### *Is it time to move on?*

There are things to do, places to go, people to meet. In our lives there are all the things that keep us busy. In Church life there is work to do. It was nice to stop and linger and remember why we are Christians, and think about the difference it makes to have someone actually conquer death. But now it's time to get back to work? *Or is it???*

### *What is Easter?*

Is it a nice stop on the road of our yearly cycle? Is it a time to pause and speak some wise sounding but not clearly defined words, "Well, you know, there is more to life than the daily stuff"? Is it all about what some are saying Christmas is all about – "It's all about family," a meal together, Easter eggs, chocolate bunnies and peeps? For that matter, what is Easter Season? Easter is about

*Continued on page 2...*



*But thanks be to God Who gives  
us the victory through our Lord  
Jesus Christ!*

-1 Corinthians 15:57

## Save the Date!

MAY 2:	LWML Meeting	10:00 a.m.
MAY 3:	St. Vincent's Table	4:00 p.m. (Set up)
MAY 6:	Voter's Assembly	9:00 a.m.
MAY 8:	Friendly Seniors	11:30 a.m.
MAY 13:	Mothers' Day	---
MAY 14:	Senior Service	1:00 p.m.
MAY 20:	Youth Night	5:00 p.m.

*The End of Easter ... (con't)*

what God has done to change the course of history, to interrupt the pattern of being born and dying, and to do that by stepping right into the middle of it all, saying, "Come follow Me" and then breaking the tomb.

*Christ is Still Risen! He is Still Risen Indeed!  
Alleluia! And Alleluia Again!*

What this means is:

1. We are still in the first Easter Season. It started a long time ago and is not finished because Jesus is not finished being risen.
2. Easter Season began on that Sunday morning. It began with one (1) person rising from the dead. It keeps on going as long as that same person is doing Easter Season and raising the dead. ("Christ the first fruits, then at His coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father ..."  
1 Corinthians 15:23-24)
3. In fact, believers in Jesus who have left this life are already sharing in the resurrection. Revelation 20:4-5 talks about the souls of those who died for the testimony about Jesus and the word of God coming to life, being with Jesus, and says, "This is the first resurrection." Each of us can think about and remember someone who now has a part in this. My father, grandfather and grandmother are there. Your loved ones who held to the message of hope in Jesus are there.
4. We will meet again. Because Easter Season keeps on going until Jesus has gathered all who believe in Him to share in His Easter.
5. In fact, Jesus tells us that we already have Eternal Life. "Whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life." (Past tense even!)(John 5:24) It's the "Forever Easter Season" right now for us!
6. All the things we are supposed to get about doing are connected to Easter Season. Jesus invites us to "come, follow Me."

7. To live our lives in Easter, knowing the Resurrection has started and is keeping on going; and we are a part of it. Our families and friendships within the believing-in-Jesus people (sometimes called "The Church") are relationships that are forever. There will be some changes when Judgment Day comes, but they are forever.

8. Our life as Christians in the world and as the Church in the world is simply this: "Spread Easter Everywhere!" Because Easter Season is open to all – to everyone who believes in Jesus and calls on His name. Invite others to "Come, follow" Jesus. Join us in following Jesus and seeing our tombs broken, our graves open, and celebrating the complete Easter Season together with Jesus. And ...

9. As the last things and last days happen, it will all simply be "Becoming More and More Easter!"

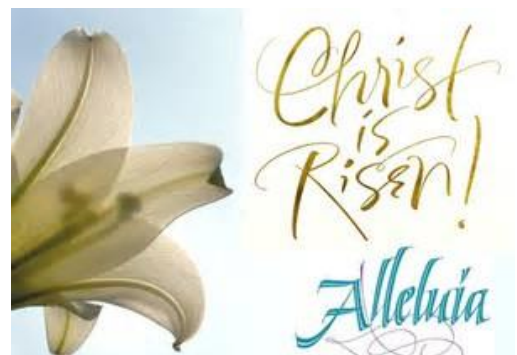
*Move on from Easter?? Scoff!! Hardly!!*

I think I'll stay in Easter Season. I enjoy being stuck here. Times and seasons change – but they do not change this one truth. *Christ is Risen!*

Instead, this one truth changes all times and seasons. *He is Risen Indeed!*

Jesus said, "Because I live, you also will live."  
(John 14:19) *ALLELUIA!*

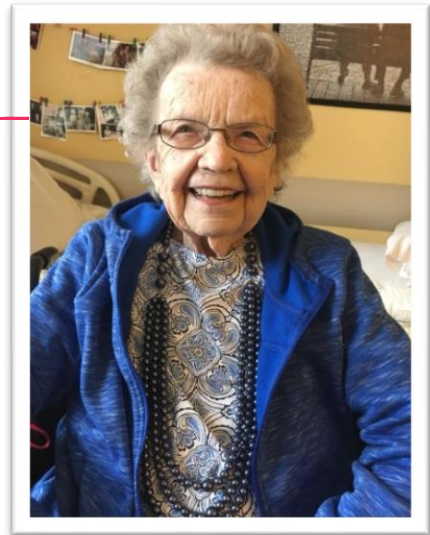
Pastor Mark (1 Corinthians 2:2)



May

## BIRTHDAYS

1 <sup>st</sup>	Dan Ryan Heidi Rudy	17 <sup>th</sup>	Jody Cupp
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gary Gamauf Wade Tondini	19 <sup>th</sup>	Blake Breyman Jeannine Halkyard
4 <sup>th</sup>	Eileen Tondini	20 <sup>th</sup>	Colbie Foehringer
14 <sup>th</sup>	Ruth Johnson Ken Wiegand	29 <sup>th</sup>	Lily Thompson
		30 <sup>th</sup>	Stephen Wills



*Happy Birthday blessings to Marge Anderson who celebrated her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 19<sup>th</sup>!*



May

## ANNIVERSARIES

12 <sup>th</sup>	Stephen & Cynthia Jelm Adolf & Sharon Wendling	34 years 56 years
14 <sup>th</sup>	Byron & Lynn Thorson	41 years

May

## FRIENDLY SENIORS



We invite you to join us at:

**LA MEX RESTAURANT** (*Morris*)

**TUESDAY, MAY 8 at 11:30 a.m.**

*(Please sign up on the provided sheet on the bulletin table.)*

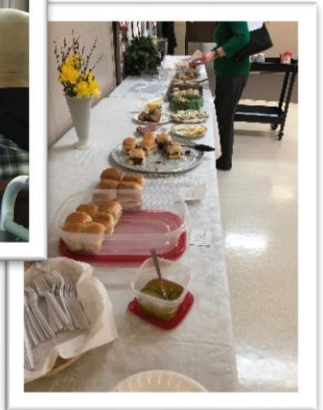


## SENIOR SERVICE

*Come Worship with us!*

**MONDAY, MAY 14 at 1:00 p.m.**

...and then join us for food and friendship afterwards!



Last month, we shared in celebrating Dick & Earlene Enervold's 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (left) and Duane and Mary Heren's 63<sup>rd</sup>! (below)



## STUDYING GOD'S WORD

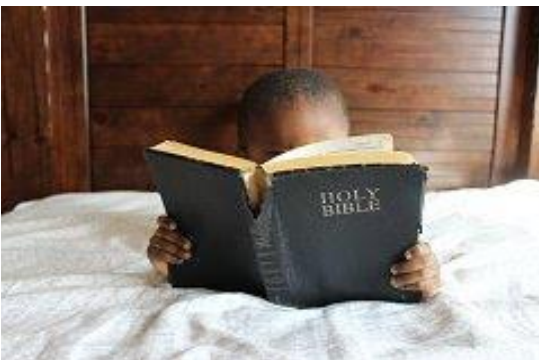
*To all perfection I see a limit; but Your commands are boundless. – Psalms 119:96*

Tim Hetzner, President of Lutheran Church Charities, writes:

*"... [Have you] ever noticed that you can read a verse in the Bible several times, and discover something different each time? It's like shining light on a diamond. Each time you turn it slightly, you suddenly see another facet of its beauty."*

Join us as we regularly find treasures in God's Word! Led by Pastor Willig, we are discovering something new each time we get together and dive in to the richness of the Bible.

Best of all, these are FREE classes – no reservation required to join the adventure!



### FICLC ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Mornings ... 9:30 a.m. (between services)

Tuesday Mornings ... 9:00 a.m.

Our next LWML meeting:

WEDNESDAY MAY 2

10:00 a.m.



Join us on May 2nd at 10:00 am. Our program this month will be a presentation on the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa by Pastor Willig. He has some pictures, videos and interesting stories to share. He may even be willing to share his African after-dinner mints with you!



(Above) Pictures from the annual NID LWML Spring Rally held at Cross Lutheran on April 14<sup>th</sup>.



## Financial Report

Friends in Church Lutheran Church 2018

General Fund	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 10,379.10	\$ 10,790.85	\$ 12,839.81	\$ 34,009.76	\$ 40,965.00
Expenses	\$ 13,753.71	\$ 12,177.49	\$ 12,767.57	\$ 38,698.77	\$ 40,965.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (3,374.61)	\$ (1,386.64)	\$ 72.24	\$ (4,689.01)	\$ -



# YOUTH NEWS!



## YOUTH NIGHT:

Our next hang-out date is

**MAY 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

Stay tuned for details  
in the bulletin insert



## VBS

**June 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>  
9 - 11:30 a.m.**

It's that time of year again and we are gearing up for another fun week of fun friendship and, most importantly, spending time in God's Word! This year we'll ride the rapids – exploring Bible stories related to salvation and water.

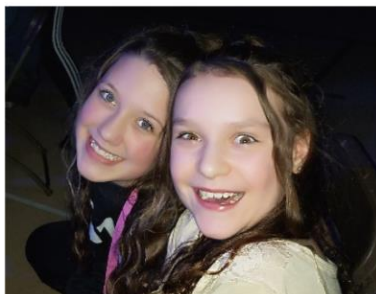
## SUNDAY SCHOOL:

*(Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.)*

The younger grades continue with their study about the early church while the high school class is deep into the study "How Long, O Lord", about the effects traumatic events have (military or otherwise) on the human spirit.

**The last day for Sunday School will be on Sunday May 20th**

*Below: Pictures from our totally awesome outing to see the Skit Guys Comedy Night at Trinity Lutheran in Roselle, IL. We had so much fun!*



*(Clockwise, starting from upper left): Tisha Barnes and friend, (Carmelita) & Cathy Thompson; Dinner at Chipotle Restaurant; Gustavo & Amber; Shaye & Terry Carter; Tisha was chosen from the audience to do a little improvisation on stage; Signey & friend, (Avrie).*

# Prayer Calendar

# MAY 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>1</p> <p>Please pray daily for Pastor Willig, Deb Carter, Kris Farber and their families. Missionaries everywhere, Iglesia San Pablo Church, Deaf Ministry, People of the Book Outreach, Salam Christian Fellowship and Christians being persecuted.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Lord, heal our broken relationships and repair our broken hearts. Psalm 147:1-3</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Lord, help us as a congregation to serve You with a willing heart, a joyful spirit and continued faithfulness. Genesis 12:2</p>	<p>4</p> <p>God, fill us with all joy and peace in believing so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Rom. 15:13</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Lord, use our gifts to help change peoples lives in our community and beyond. Matt. 28:19</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Lord, help me to overcome doubts and accept that I can rely on Your grace. 2 Corinthians 12:9</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Lord, open my eyes to opportunities for renewal and restoration. 2 Cor. 5:17</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Lord, please be with the missionaries that are in North Korea. Help them to be bold in their bringing people to Christ. Open hearts, minds, and ears to hear Your Word and help those who hear to believe in You.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Lord, create in our families a longing to follow Jesus and to faithfully serve in our church and community. Mark 8:34-38</p>	<p>10</p> <p>God, give our families boldness in standing for Jesus Christ. Remove anything that would hinder us from being powerful witnesses. Matt 10:27</p>	<p>11</p> <p>God, may we learn through example that Christ did not come to be served, but to serve. Matt.20:28</p>	<p>12</p> <p>God, as we confess and repent of our sins. Help us to follow in Jesus footsteps. Acts 8:22</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Lord, help me to accept help when I need it. Psalm 22:11</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Lord, calm my mind and stop my worries and help me find peace despite uncertainty. Col. 3:15</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Lord, grant safe travel to missionaries, aid organizations, and health care providers around the world. Psalm 91:9-10</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Lord bless the farmers as they plant crops for harvest. Bless the crops with a good growing season.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Lord, release a spirit of prayer in our families. May we rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in everything. 1 Thes. 5:16-18</p>	<p>18</p> <p>God, be merciful to those who suffer in body or in mind, are in danger or distress and who have suffered loss. Isa. 49:13</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Lord, give me that strength to make difficult decisions and the wisdom to make good decisions. Psalm 32:8-9</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Lord, may we as family and friends seek to encourage one another and act in ways that help those around us know the true meaning of love. 1 Thess. 5:11</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Lord, help me to always have a spirit of appreciation and thanksgiving. Psalm 16:11</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Lord, thank You for blessing us with the spiritual gift of generosity. Rom. 12:6-8</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Lord, help us to be still and listen with open hearts for your call to serve others. 1 Sam. 3:8</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Lord, we thank You for the children in our congregation. Bless them and bring them closer to You.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lord, enable us to wisely manage our finances and to lead frugal lifestyles. Matt. 25:14-30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Lord, may those with the gift of teaching help people learn, retain and apply knowledge of You in their lives. Deut. 32:1-4</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Lord, thank You for the joy that comes from discovering Jesus, the kingdom of God and a new way of life. Matt. 13:44</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Lord, thank You for our congregation. Help us to love one another and be there in time of need for each other.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Lord, teach us to worship You in spirit and in truth. John 4:24</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Lord, we pray for those who have lost loved ones. Please help them to come to You when they are hurting and give them a special comfort that only You can give.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Lord, I give thanks for Your greatness, Your goodness and Your love; please help me to draw closer to You. John 20:28</p>		

# May 2018 – Friends in Christ Lutheran Church

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 9:00 AM – Bible Study 10:30 AM – Vacation Bible School Planning 1:00 PM – Euchre Club 7:00 PM – Elders	2 10:00 AM – Lutheran Women's Missionary League	3 4:00 PM – St. Vincent's Table @ First Presbyterian	4	5 <b>COMMUNION</b> 5:30 PM – Worship
6 <b>COMMUNION</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter 8:15 AM – Worship 9:00 AM – Voters' Assembly 9:30 AM – Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	7	8 9:00 AM – Bible Study 11:30 AM – Friendly Seniors @ La Mex	9	10 Ascension Day	11	12 5:30 PM -- Worship
13 <b>Mothers' Day</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study & Sunday School 10:45 AM – Worship	14 1:00 PM – Senior Service	15 NID District Pastors' Conference @ St. John, Wheaton – Tues. 8:00 AM – Wed. 11:00 AM	16	17	18	19 <b>COMMUNION</b> 5:30 PM – Worship
20 <b>COMMUNION</b> Pentecost Sunday 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study & Sunday School 10:45 AM – Worship 5:00 PM – Youth Night	21	22 9:00 AM – Bible Study	23	24	25	26 5:30 PM – Worship
27 △ Trinity Sunday 8:15 AM – Worship 9:30 AM – Bible Study 10:45 AM – Worship	28	29 9:00 AM – Bible Study	30	31	Dates in June: Mon. – Fri, June 18-22; 9-11:30 AM – Vacation Bible School	