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Pastor Steve Nelson

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



May Newsletter Deadline: Friday, April 20, 2018

THE MESSENGER



April 1, 2018 Sunrise Service 7:30 AM Breakfast 8:30 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM



From the Interim Pastor, Steve Nelson

This time before Easter is very important. We hear bible stories about Jesus coming closer and closer to the cross and his death and just as he tries to prepare his own disciples for what will take place, he also prepares us as well. But why do we have to prepare for Easter? Can't we just receive the good news of his resurrection without focusing on his death on the cross? Maybe it's because his death and his resurrection are inseparable and we cannot have one without the other.

"Once there was a little boy who went to a small school in the Northwest. He was Native American and he really liked school and his teacher. Towards the end of the school year he wanted to express his thanks to his teacher for what he had learned. He thought long and hard about a proper gift and finally thought of something wonderful. When the weekend came he set off for the sea coast to find his gift. On Monday he brought his gift to school and handed it to his teacher. It was a beautiful conch shell. He held it out for her without saying a word. She knew this was meant as a gift and she took it in her hands and admired what he had brought to her. Then it occurred to her that he had to go to the coast to find this shell and his family was poor. She knew that for him to get there he would have to walk and so she asked him, "Did you walk to the coast to find this shell?" The little boy just beamed and proudly said, "The long walk is part of the gift."

In the same way there can be no empty tomb at Easter without Jesus' death on the cross. And to appreciate the good news of new life we need to also spend time with his sorrow and death because they both go together as one.

When we struggle with sorrow and death it seems like the end of the world. And it is true that life will not be the same for us after someone we love dies. At the same time we know that we do not live on this earth forever and that our lives do change as we get older. We don't have to like this but neither can we change it.

Easter gives us the message that no matter how difficult life becomes –

God always has one more surprise. Through Jesus's death on the cross comes the hope that neither sin, nor death, nor evil can ever have the last word for us again. The empty tomb shows us that God has snatched Jesus out of the hands of all that we fear and struggle with. And because of this we know that God will do this for us too.

We are meant to be Easter people and to go through this world with confidence and hope knowing that we belong to God and that nothing can separate us from God's love. This is where we get our courage and what gives us peace – even in the midst of death. Welcome to Easter.

General Announcements



Radio ministry was given to the glory of God in March by: The Himmeger Family in loving memory of Earl Himmeger Toddy Rozelle Diers in memory of Connie Fritz Harter Riepenhoff Leonard and Shirley Jarman Matt and Carrie Calvelage Family



The flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God in March by: Ed and Jacquie Fritz in thanksgiving for birthdays of Pastor Steve and Eric Fritz



Readers Needed for the first and second scripture lessons and the prayers during the worship service. Your readings can be emailed to you so you can look them over in advance. Please sign up in the red book at the back of church.



Quilting Day will be Wednesday, April 11th at 9:00AM.



2018 - 4th Annual Quarterless Auction

March 3, 2018 was a successful day at St. Peter Lutheran Church. Our annual Quarterless Auction brought in \$7,100.66 and this was deposited into the general fund. There are not enough words of thanks for everyone that helped in any way, be it: donating money towards auction items, buying

necessary items for the lunch, and working. The day of the event was a lot of hard work for all the volunteers, but it was also fun and created some lasting memories! Many hands working together created wonderful results! Thanks again and please mark down Saturday, March 2, 2019, for next year's Quaraterless Auction!



Married Couples The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend is April 227-29, 2018 Beachwood, Ohio. For more information or to register, contact Duffy & Nan

Guthrie, 440/599-9090 or www.GodLovesMarriage.org or nguthrie@suite224.net

Altar Guild

Altar Guild The scheduled meeting is for Tuesday, April 3rd at 6:00 PM.



Please pray for the following family and friends: Jim Schimmoeller, Jodi Siefker, Judy Pohlman, Melvin Kloeppel, Missy Katterheinrick, Corbin Kramer, Doug Butler, Vicki Kramer, Brent Wreede, Eric Ulm, Blake Wagoner, Rose Hager,

Kenny Siefker, Wade Wehri, Sharon Reel, Annette Brown and Norma Koenig.

Remember our Shut-ins

Vancrest Health Care 1425 E Fifth St. Delphos, OH 45833 Melvin Kloeppel Norma Koenig Carl Dienstberger E. Fourth St. Delphos OH 45833 Sharon Reel Vancrest of Van Wert 10357 Van Wert-Decatur Van Wert OH 45891





Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:

Mike Hershberger	Navy	LaMesa CA
Fred Hasting	Navy	Stateside
Dominic Munoz	Navy	Annapolis MD
Collin Swick	Navy	Gainesville FL

NEWS FOR WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Good Morning/Good Shepherd Bible Study -

Thursday, April 12 at 10:00 PM

The April lesson is Multiple meanings: Learning from other interpretations

Session four: The Prodigal Son

Theme Verse: Luke 15:11-20

WELCA The scheduled meeting is Monday, April 9th at 7:00 pm.

InReach/OutReach



Prayer Chain - If you would like your name added to the prayer chain (e-mail or phone) please contact Susan McGue at 419-234-6448. If you ever need a prayer chain started, please contact Susan or the church office. When requesting a prayer chain to be started, it would be best to call Susan at the above number (she doesn't

check her computer daily.) Susan is the primary start person and if she can't be reached by phone, then call the church office.



Donations are needed!! The adult & children Sunday school and confirmation classes' offerings are purchasing items from ELCA Good Gifts Catalog. We hope to purchase a Family Farm to help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty-- for good. A family farm cost is \$715 per farm, so we need your

help. If you would like to help our mission, please donate to our Good Gifts Fund. If you write a check, please make your check payable to InReach/OutReach with "Good Gifts" on the memo line. Any questions, please contact Donna Berger or Carrie Calvelage. Thank you.



A BIG thank you to Angie Miller and Susan McGue for the countless hours spent making the Quarterless Auction run smoothly. The prizes were awesome, the food was great and everyone had a good time. Also, thank you to all the behind the scenes helpers, especially Linda Gorman, Brenda Hoersten, Melissa Trentman, Sheri Swick and Randy Rinehart.



First Communion was celebrated on March 25th. Congratulations to Landon Calvelage for completing his First Communion faith milestone.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

APRIL

- 1) Cindy Weitzel
- 2) Lindzi Hoersten
- 2) Barbara Shafer
- 2) Dianna Allemeier
- 2) Vicki Kramer
- 3) Douglas Fitch
- 3) Robert Kloeppel
- 5) Larry Keipper
- 5) Vicki Rinehart
- 7) Lynn Koenig
- 11) Toni Wisher
- 14) Matthew Calvelage
- 15) Nicholas Fitch

- 15) Richard Wreede
- 17) Carol Metzger
- 18) Charlotte Koebel
- 22) Virginia Klenz
- 23) Evan Lieurance
- 26) Rodney Klenz
- 26) Brandi Taylor
- 28) Laura Peters
- 28) Jason Simon
- 29) Michael Schleeter





Join us on May 6th as four students complete their faith journey and have their Confirmation. Our Confirmation students are Jessie Calvelage, Troy Calvelage, Colin Koebel and Madeline Weitzel.



Graduates: If you have a college student that is graduating, please contact the office by May 1st. Celebrating the high school and college graduates will be May 13th. We have no way of knowing when a college student is graduating as various degrees have different time frames and requirements.



pVolunteer needs at Habitat ReStore in Lima There is a great need for additional volunteers at the Lima Area Habitat ReStore (550 W Elm St.). Because of recent cuts in various social programs, we have lost a fair number of people who worked at our ReStore. Jobs for volunteers include Customer

Service, Product preparation, Cashier, Donation pick-up, Maintenance, Cleaning and More. One-time volunteers are very welcome, but regular volunteers are especially needed-even if it is just for a couple of hours 1 or 2 days a week. Please visit the Habitat website to sign up at www.habitatlima.org/volunteer/ or call the Habitat office at 419-222-4937. Thank you for considering this generous donation of time.

Offering Recap for March 2018

Worship attendance for 02-25-2018	56
Worship attendance for 03-04-2018	53
Worship attendance for 03-11-2018	53
Worship attendance for 03-18-2018	44

Amount needed **each week** to meet approved budget for 2018 \$2,086.97

Total donations received for General Operating Fund:

02-25-2018	\$2,430.00 we exceeded our goal by	\$ 343.03
03-04-2018	\$1,930.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 156.97
03-11-2018	\$1,184.00 we missed our goal by	\$ 902.97
03-18-2018	\$ 943.50 we missed our goal by	\$1,143.47

Year-to-date 2018 -- \$ 21.49*

We love seeing you at our weekly service. If you aren't able to attend please remember that our bills continue to arrive in the mail and your generous donations are greatly appreciated weekly. Thank you!

COMMMUNITY

Delphos Rotary & Kiwanis Health Fair & Blood Clinic (Spring) Will be held Saturday, April 7, 2018 at Delphos Jefferson High School, 902 Wildcat Lane, Delphos, from 6:30am to 9:30am. Many blood tests are available including general health screening, diabetes screening, prostate cancer screening, Thyroid screening and vitamin D levels. For more information, call Lima Memorial Lab Services at 419-226-5069.

Delphos Public Library will host, Andy "Captain Blue" Niekamp on April 10 @ 6:30PM. He will present "Thru-Hiking the Buckeye Trail: Things That Will Change the Way You See Ohio." Program is free and open to the public.

Kiwanis Spring Chicken BBQ is Sunday, April 20th from 11am − 2pm. Tickets are \$8.50 and includes ½ chicken, baked potato, corn, dinner roll and cookie.

Hallelujah Saints Band presents Spring Concert on Friday April 27, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Elida High School Auditorium, 401 E North St Elida, OH. Concert begins at 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:30 pm. Guest band: Legacy of Grace. Love offering at the door. For information: 419-605-8617.

^{*}Includes Quarterless Auction fundraiser for the General Fund The Quarterless Auction this year generated \$7,100.66 for the General Fund!!

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
April 1 Easter Sunrise	7:30 AM	Troy Calvelage	Dan Kramer	Volunteers

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
April 1	10:00 AM	Noelle Prine	Ron Kloeppel	Larry Miller
Easter Worship		Matthew Weitzel	Dave Mayer	Aaron Kloeppel Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Larry Miller, Dan Staples ALTAR GUILD- Donna Berger, Susan McGue

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
April 8	10:00 AM	Maddie Weitzel		Ryan Trentman Rick Dienstberger Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Larry Miller, Dan Staples ALTAR GUILD- Donna Berger, Susan McGue

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
April 15	10:00 AM	Troy Calvelage	Yvonne Koenig	Eric Fritz
				Bob Wortman
				Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Larry Miller, Dan Staples ALTAR GUILD-Donna Berger, Susan McGue

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
April 22	10:00 AM	Matthew Weitzel	Lynn Koenig	Aaron Trentman Alan Trentman Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS- Larry Miller, Dan Staples ALTAR GUILD- Donna Berger, Susan McGue

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
April 29	10:00 AM	Noelle Prine	Larry Miller	Ken Kloeppel Bob Kloeppel Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS-Larry Miller, Dan Staples ALTAR GUILD- Donna Berger, Susan McGue

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
May 6	10:00 AM	Garrett Trentman	Aaron Trentman	Ron Kloeppel Dave Mayer Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS-Karen Hartman, Deb Trentman