

St John Lutheran Church

April 2018 Newsletter

A word from Pastor Jean...

“For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.”

~1 Corinthians 1:18, 25, NRSV

This year Easter and April Fools occur on the same day. Just for the record, the last time there was a confluence of these dates—1945—the Detroit Tigers won the World Series. No joke, just sayin’!

So, since Easter and April Fools collide on April 1st this year, I got to thinking about the foolishness of God and the foolishness of human beings, which, of course, took me to 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (I invite you to read these eight verses for yourself).

God’s plan for the salvation of humankind seemed foolish to the Jews and Greeks of Jesus’ day. In these eight verses, Paul uses the word “foolish” and “foolishness” five times. It is the way he uses it that catches our attention. Paul uses the Greek word “moria” in these verses, from which we derive the English word “moron.” In other words, it appeared utterly ridiculous to the Jews and Greeks that God would appear to be weak and would actually die as part of His salvation plan for the world.

And yet, the Gospel is radical...radically brilliant. According to verse 18, the message of the cross is *“the power of God”* to those who are being saved. What men call foolishness, God ordains as the instrument of salvation. What men mock, God raises up as the only means of salvation. How do we obtain God’s salvation? Verse 24 says it plainly: *“But to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”*

We can neither create nor save ourselves. And yet, *“This ‘foolish’ plan of God is far wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God’s weakness is far stronger than the greatest of human strength”* (v. 25, New Living Translation).

God has no other plan of salvation—and he doesn’t need one. There is no “Plan B” for those who don’t want to be saved by the cross of Christ. If people will not have Jesus, then they won’t have salvation either.

What does all this mean for us? First, we must continue to preach the cross of Christ boldly because it's the "Good News" the world needs to hear. Second, we should not be surprised that as we preach Christ, the world rejects us and our message. Third, we should reject any attempts to water down the gospel or to shy away from the message of the cross. Christianity is not reasonable (in the way the world counts reasonableness) and should not be made to sound reasonable. It is revolutionary and radical and that's why the world rejects it. It stands apart from all that the world has to offer.

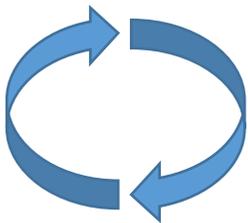
In this life there are many roads a person may travel, but only one that leads to heaven. The road to heaven starts at the cross where Jesus died for you. The people of the world consider the cross foolishness. They're right. It is the "foolishness of God" that destroys the wisdom of the world. So on April 1, 2018...on the third day, God conquered the power of sin and death by rising to live and reign forever.

And on the third day, God says "April Fools!"

Blessings,

Pastor Jean

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Mutual Ministry Team

Next Meeting – April 10, 2018

5:00 p.m. at Lake City United Methodist Church

On Sunday, April 8th, there will be a discussion and vote regarding the Mutual Ministry Covenant relationship between St. John Lutheran and Lake City United Methodist Churches. Please remember that this relationship is between the two congregations and is not dependent on the pastor serving these two congregations.

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COMBINED WORSHIP – April 29th

St. John Lutheran Church at 10:00 a.m.



Jerry Bernard, NW Administrative Director of Crossroads Farm, a cooperative rural youth ministry will be our featured speaker

Come and learn about this exciting new opportunity for 6th -12th grade youth of our congregations and the Lake City community! Check out their website:

www.crossroadsfarm.org

Annual Bicycle Rodeo



SATURDAY, June 9, 2018

Lake City United Methodist Church

301 E. John St. (in the Parking Lot)

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.



For the past six years, Lake City United Methodist Church has sponsored and hosted a Bicycle Rodeo for the children of Missaukee County/Lake City. The purpose of this event is to teach bicycle safety to the children of our community. Every child who participates receives a free bicycle helmet, a goody bag, free hot dog lunch, an opportunity to climb on a fire truck and in an ambulance, visit with a Sheriff's deputy, and much more. Each participating child's name is entered into a drawing and we give away two brand new bicycles from McLain's Cycle in Cadillac. This year, we are inviting the folks of St. John Lutheran Church to be a part of this important ministry with the families of our community. So please consider helping—it's a fun and exciting day!



6th Annual Bike Rodeo
Saturday, June 9th
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hey, young people, invite your friends to come to church with you that day so they can hear about this, too!

Church Council Minutes

March 21, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm with pray by Pastor Jean.

Present: Jerry Greenlee, Jack Graham, Jim Bartholomew, Marcia Martinez, Brenda Pylkas, Pastor Jean and Laura Bradley. Doug Gensler was excused. Visitors were Charlotte Greenlee and Dan Martinez.

Minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and approved by Jack Graham & Jim Bartholomew.

Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved by Jim Bartholomew and Jack Graham. Brenda will give us a spread sheet for the year's total in April to show our financial balance. Charlotte asked if the gifts for Jesus was still ongoing and it is. Bishop Satterlee asked about our Benevolence giving. Benevolence giving tabled until April for financial statements.

Business: 1. Footprints renewal discussed. Renewal tabled until May until we get final snow removal and Consumers Energy totals.

2. Constitution needed errors in spelling and minor changes made. It has been fixed and resent.

3. Annual meeting will be the end of June.

4. Asking Judy Wade to fill in for music.

Property: Men's toilet has been repaired. Vacuum cleaners are being checked out. Shingles on roof will be fixed when it warms up.

Other Business: Pastor's report: Pastor has been asked to go to Chryslus Retreat and Dave Sprang will pastor for her. Kris Ann Timm will pastor while she goes to Annual Conference in June. Jim Bartholomew will pastor April 8th while Pastor enjoys her grandchildren.

Events: Benefit for the Hooker Family is March 24th.

Easter Breakfast is April 1st.

Combined Service is April 29th.

Next meeting: April 18, 2018

Closed with Oprayer at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Laura Bradley.

April

2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>8:15 Easter Breakfast</p> <p>9:30 Worship & Communion</p>	2	3	4	<p>5 No Bible Study</p>	<p>6 H.B. Hannah Allen</p>	7
<p>8 9:30 Worship of the Word & Sunday School</p> <p>H.B. Evelyn Hill</p>	9	<p>10 H.B. Jack Graham</p> <p>H.B. Tammy Atkins</p>	<p>11 H.B. Kyler Root</p>	<p>12 10:00 Bible Study</p>	13	<p>14 H.B. Dave Pylkas</p>
<p>15 9:30 Worship & Communion Sunday School H.A. Ron & Evelyn Hill</p> <p>H.B. Hunter Atkins</p>	<p>16 H.A. Dick & Cindy Bombard H.A. Lou & Mary Manganello H.B. Tyler Atkins</p>	<p>17 H.B. Alex Leatrea</p>	<p>18 H. B. Kurt McGiness</p>	<p>19 10:00 Bible Study</p> <p>H.B. Chip Atkins</p>	<p>20 H.B. Tyler McGiness</p>	<p>21 H.B. Jim Booms</p>
<p>22 9:30 Worship of the Word & Sunday School</p>	23	24	<p>25 H.B. Don Hower</p> <p>H.B. Jordan Hamel</p>	<p>26 10:00 Bible Study</p>	27	28
<p>29 9:30 Worship of the Word & Sunday School</p>	30	1	2	3	4	5