



Bethlehem Star

May 2017

THE SEVEN FAITH PRACTICES
The E.L.C.A. Call to Discipleship

P R A Y . . . Pray Frequently

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1Thessalonians 5:16-18).

S T U D Y . . . Christian Education. . . Study Scripture Diligently

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105).

W O R S H I P . . . Worship Regularly

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together (Psalm 34:1-3).

I N V I T E . . . Evangelism. . . Invite Others Often

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Rm. 10:14-15).

E N C O U R A G E . . . Teaching/Mentoring. . . Pass on the Faith

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action (1 John 3:18).

S E R V E . . . Social and Justice Ministry. . . Serve for the Sake of Others

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).

G I V E . . . Stewardship. . . Give Freely

...give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back (Luke 6:38).

FAITH PRACTICES AS 'MARKS OF THE CHURCH'

How do you find God in your world? For you, where is the "body of Christ? "How have the practices of your faith been a gift to you? Lutherans have tended to shy away from teachings about spiritual practice or discipline. Anything done in a disciplined or regular manner smacks of works-righteousness! Yet again and again, Martin Luther exhorted his parishioners to practice the faith. What he identified as the "marks of the church" were nothing less than **God-shaped and God-shaping activities** given to Christians for their lives in the world. For Luther, these faith practices revolved around the preaching and hearing of the Word like planets whirling around the sun: baptizing and making new Christians; sharing the Lord's Supper; forgiving and asking for forgiveness; ordaining and commissioning leaders; praying, praising, teaching people the faith; helping people be disciples or following in the way of the Cross. These "marks of the church" signaled where the church could be found in the world; they told "what, who, and where" the church is. (*excerpt from ELCA resources*)

Blessings to you as you encourage one another to greater faithfulness,

Pastor Mark

It's time for a Spring Sing! Singing for Joy Church Choir Festival in May

Sunday, May 7 at 4:00 p.m. all of the congregations in Cook County will be invited to share the joy of singing praise to the Lord! These song festivals are a testimony of unity in faith, hope, and love in God. Join us for great music with all your friends, and a great time of sweet fellowship!



Reformation Documentary Movie Night

Tuesday, May 9th at 7:00 p.m. Rick Steves hosts this hour long presentation on Martin Luther and the Reformation. This documentary is a gift from the E.L.C.A. and Rick Steves in celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Intriguing and informative, Rick Steves guides us through the tumultuous age of change. **Discussion guide accompanies the film.** We will have desserts and sharing time.

Commenting on the documentary Rick Steves says: "As a tour guide and teacher, I've honed the art of seeing an historic event not only from my own 21st-century perspective, but also by imagining myself in the context of where and when the event took place.

From our modern point of view, a monk translating the Bible into German may seem like no big deal.

But to imagine it from the perspective of Jan Hus—the Czech reformer who tried to accomplish some of what Luther did a century earlier, but failed and was burned at the stake—that's our challenge. To explain the courage (and public relations brilliance) of Luther, 500 years ago, standing up to power—a simple monk defying the emperor and the pope—gives the story extra punch. Wrapping up the documentary—and bringing it all the way to the 500th anniversary year of 2017—was a challenge. Wrapping up the documentary—and bringing it all the way to the 500th anniversary year of 2017—was a challenge. For a dramatic finale, I imagined Pope Francis and the Presiding Bishop of the Lutheran Church (Elizabeth Eaton) doing a happy theological high five...but that wasn't to be.

Even so, Catholics and Lutherans alike can look back over five centuries and be thankful for the bold work Luther and the great reformers did to help modernize the medieval Church. In fact, that's exactly what Pope Francis and Bishop Eaton recently did together in Sweden. In our age, Lutherans, Catholics, and everyone else can come together to celebrate the tolerance and mutual respect the various Christian denominations now share.

With this documentary, I'm honored and thankful to make a small contribution to the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Thanks for your interest in this fascinating and important chapter in both the history of the Christian Church and the story of our Western Civilization. I hope you enjoy the show." – Rick Steves

Augsburg College Choir coming! Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00p.m.

We will have a choir ensemble of 50 college students along with an orchestra of 30 more, faculty piano soloist, Jill Dawe, and director of Mark Sedio, well known composer. For their stay, they also hope that some homes will be able to provide accommodations for

two or more of their students. Contact Laura in the office if you are able to host some students. 387-2227 Already more than 8 member homes are hosting students.

Overnight lodging needed for Augsburg Students Wed. May 3. Call Laura in the office if you can host students.



Mission of the Month Syrian Refugee Relief

Please use the envelopes in the pews or send your gift in to the office. Our Bishop writes, "In situations of civil war, questions arise "about what, if anything, the international community can and should do in the face of internal conflicts." In deciding about wars, "we face conflicting moral claims and agonizing dilemmas" about the ways to help and protect the

neighbor in the face of injustice and aggression. While the path to peace remains unclear, our commitment to it should not waiver. We have been and will continue to assist Syrians in need through the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch in Syria, through the Lutheran World Federation assisting refugees in Jordan and through our Global Mission partners in Europe.

Let us continue to pray, assist those in need, offer refuge to those fleeing violence, and encourage all efforts toward peace for all of the children of God created in God's image. We continue to place our hope in the Lord our God, the Prince of Peace.

In Christ, The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

Habitat for Humanity Project in Superior WI June 8-10

Gregory Hanson of Thrivent Financial has invited us to participate in a Thrivent Builds Habitat project. Save the dates June 8-10. This will be a short commitment project. More information will be

in the office as we get closer to the project dates.



The WolfGang returns in Concert

Saturday, May 27th, 7:30 – Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Grand Marais, MN

Sunday, May 28th, 3:00 – Trinity Lutheran Church, Holland, MN

Program –

Grand Opera and Grand Partita – Mozart – Overtures to The Magic Flute and Don Giovanni in transcriptions by Paul Jacobson

Mozart – Grand Partita for Oboe, Strings, and Keyboard

The WolfGang performs instrumental chamber music from the time of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, playing on musical instruments of the type that were used during Mozart's life. The fortepiano is a replica of a Stein fortepiano. The violin, viola and cello are either from the 18th century or are

carefully modeled after 18th century instruments. The flute and oboe are modern replicas of instruments made by some of the great woodwind makers of the late 18th century. A Twin-Cities based ensemble, The WolfGang has been performing, recording, and touring for over 16 years in a style that "fits" the Mozart era.

Bible Quilters get new Sewing Machines

The Bethlehem quilters meet year round on Thursdays at 9:00AM. They hand make quilts that they mostly donate to various charities. They do sell quilts and also create special

Quilts for each of our graduating seniors. They recently were able to purchase a new sewing machine and had two machines repaired. The Bethlehem Lutheran Endowment committee gifted them with one

Thousand dollars. The quilters are always looking for volunteers to join them or create quilt tops in your own home.



The Search for a Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator has begun

Job descriptions are available in the office.

The youth and family ministry coordinator will coordinate faith formation for children, youth, and families to live a life centered in Christ. These ministries will include planning activities that integrate faith and life, deepen Biblical understanding, and respond to

the spiritual and social needs of youth, children, and families. This person will work with other staff to coordinate, retain, and work with church volunteers so as to provide a comprehensive ministry for all members of the church.

**Cinco De Mayo Fiesta
Friday May 5, 2017
6-8PM**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Taco Bar, Dessert, Iced-Tea,
Fiesta Punch
Piñata Craft Table
\$8.00 Adults
\$5 Kids 5-10
\$2 Under 5**

Good Shepherd Sunday - May 7th

During our worship service on the Fourth Sunday of Easter we will again honor all the “shepherds” in our community. What we mean are those who often put themselves at risk in their work and volunteering to protect and serve. This list includes all our law enforcement personnel in all branches (Sheriff, Border Patrol, Customs, Fire Departments, Search and Rescue, Ambulance, etc.) This year we are in particular mindful of the stress all our “shepherds” experience as they serve. God grant them strength and peace.

Do you ever see people and wonder what their names are? Have you ever heard an announcement regarding a member and wished you could put a face with a name? Are you a new member and wish you had something to help you put names with faces? Help is on the way! We are producing a new pictorial directory!

There is no cost to our church, and each participating family will receive a **complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory** and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family & friends. We look forward to seeing you! **Recruiting Volunteers** are needed to help make our new directory a success! Laura is coordinating volunteers for our new directory. If you are interested in helping during our photography sign-ups, telephoning our members, or serving as a host during the photography sessions, contact Laura in the office at 387-2227. Sign up dates are Thursday May 17-Saturday May 20.

To sign up online click on the site below. If you have problems, call Laura in the office and she can help you. Member Site: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/9qsnc23c/>

Senior Quilt Sunday, May 21st

The Bethlehem Quilters have prepared the beautiful blessing quilts for the 2017 graduating seniors from our congregation again. The Seniors had a special May 4th luncheon with the quilters, they came and picked out their quilts from a beautiful sea of color and

fabric as the fellowship hall was completely draped in quilts. And now on Sunday May 21st during the worship service they will be wrapped in in the quilts and the prayers and blessings of parents and congregation. Congratulations and blessings to Tarin, Hannah, Sarah, Noah, Bayley, Logan,

Faith Practices will be highlighted in bulletins this Easter Season.





Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming

events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter



Caption describing picture or graphic.

to a Web publication. So, when you’re finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is grow-

ing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or



Caption describing picture or graphic.

enhances the message you’re trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are

also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

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*Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on
the North Shore and beyond.*

