



New Era Lutheran Church

April 2018



New Era Lutheran Church
3455 New Era Road
Muscatine, IA 52761

Services:

10:30 am

Sunday School:

September -May ~ 9:30 am

Contacts:

Office: 563-263-5356

Pastor Nate: 563-320-3995

Email: neweraofhope@gmail.com

Building Rental – Gloria Batteau

Church, Fellowship Hall, Gym

Home: 563-263-2969

Email: gfbatteau@gmail.com

Bulletin – Carolyn Cole

Home: 563-260-4626

Email: c2nb2cole@hotmail.com

Items due by Wednesday night

Newsletter – Becki Petersen

Mobile: 563-299-1664

Email: beckip54@gmail.com

Items due by the 20th of the month

Check us out at

www.neweralutheran.com

<https://www.facebook.com/NewEraLutheran>

An Excerpt from the Word in Season

April, May, June 2018

Sunday, April 8, 2018

John 20:19-31

[Thomas said,] “Unless I see . . .and put my finger in the mark of the nails . . .I will not believe.” (v. 25)

There was a place on the nature trail at camp where a wooden boardwalk went over a bog covered by two-foot thick, dense green moss. The moss grossed out all of the teenage campers. But, eventually, each group’s bravest kid would silently roll up a sleeve and crouch down, reaching a trembling arm into the moss. The other kids would fall silent. Inch by inch the brave one’s arm would disappear into the mushy moss, and when it could reach no farther, he or she would let out a tremendous laugh of relief and triumph. Immediately, all other bare arms in the group would plunge deep into the moss.

As offensive as Thomas’s request may have been, Jesus showed up and offered his entire self to Thomas. The Bible does not say that Thomas reached his arm deep into Jesus’ side, like my campers reached into moss, but I like to think that he did. And maybe, upon discovering that he was indeed looking at and touching the Lord, maybe then he let out a tremendous laugh of relief and triumph.

Why are we scared to plunge our arms deep into God? No matter your questions or doubts, Jesus shows up and offers his entire self to you.

Faithful God, give me courage to believe you. Amen.

Psalm 133; Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 1:1-2:2

~ Written by Sarah Clark, Saint Paul, Minnesota, is a Lutheran pastor on leave from call and member of ST. Anthony Park Lutheran Church..

*Pick up your copy of The Word in Season on the small table in the hallway next to the pastor’s office.



It’s a Bridal Shower!

Come join us as we shower Lindsay Leacox with good wishes as she marries Joe Squires.

Sunday, April 22, 12:30 pm (after treats)

New Era Fellowship Hall

A light lunch will be served.

Lindsay is registered at Kohls and Amazon.

Upcoming Events

Play Meeting

A play planning meeting will be held during fellowship time after church on Sunday, April 8, in the Fellowship Hall.

2018 Church Play

The play for 2018 will be "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" and will be held on June 1, 2, 8, and 9. These are Friday and Saturday nights (no Sunday performances). Save these dates and plan to help with this major fundraiser.

Church Yard Clean Up – Sat., April 28

Believe it or not, spring is on its way and we need to spruce up our church yard. A yard cleanup day will be held on Saturday, April 28, beginning at 9:00 am. Come and stay as long as you can. Bring a sack lunch if you plan to stay past lunch. Bring your own rakes, wheel barrow, trimmers, weeding equipment, etc. This is a large task and many hands make light work. If you cannot come that day, pick a day that works for you.

Coupon Group

The coupon group went to Players Buffet at Jumers on April 4.

Charity Sewing

Charity sewing is Tues., April 10, beginning at 9 am. **Everyone is welcome!** No sewing experience necessary. Bring a sack lunch. If you know of a need for a lap robe, see Lynn Bendt.

Care and Concern

Care & Concern will meet at McDonalds on Wednesday, April 11, at 9:00 am.

Serving at Loaves and Fishes

New Era will be serving the Loaves and Fishes meal site at MCSA on July 14, and November 3. Save those dates on your calendar and get ready to volunteer to help serve. To volunteer, contact Joan Dietrich at 563-299-4710.

Loaves and Fishes Fundraiser

A fundraiser for Muscatine Loaves and Fishes meal site will be held on Monday, May 7, from 5:00-9:00 pm at Boonies, 214 Iowa Avenue, Muscatine. Come buy a meal and Boonie's will generously donate to Loaves & Fishes.

Last Day of Sunday School – May 13

The last day of Sunday School will be May 13.

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Linda Schneider
3 Jerry Lichtenwald
4 Bev Hull
8 Lynn Bendt
11 Sarah Batteau
19 Eric Leacox
23 Dan Petersen
30 Mike Hermann

Anniversaries

20 Chuck & Candace Harland



Church Council Minutes

Attendance: All members present

Devotions: Lynn Bendt. Next meeting: Eric Leacox

Minutes from last meeting read and approved with one spelling correction.

Treasurer's report: reviewed and filed.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Care and Concern: Did not meet in Feb., but will meet on March 14, 2018.

Property: Came up with cleaning day for spring, it will be Saturday April 28, at 9:00 am with a backup date of May 5, 2018. Please mark your calendars. Many hands make light work. There are a lot of things to clean up after winter.

Worship and Music: Mary is getting someone to come and tune the pianos in the near future. It was decided to try some flameless candles, they should be here in a week.

Stewardship/Fellowship/Outreach: Play is the first two weekends of June. It will be performed four nights - a Friday and Saturday both weeks. The play will be "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee". This will also be New Era's 25th year of doing the dinner theater. Shirley P. was also asked by Wilton Methodist Church if we would donate two tickets to the dinner theater for a raffle with the proceeds to go to mission work. We will have an Easter Breakfast at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We received a thank you letter from Amber (the young lady that rents the parsonage) thanking us for letting her live there.

Next meeting is May 15, 2018, at 6:00 pm

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Bendt Secretary, 2018



2.4 Hours

(Excerpt from *The Lutheran Message*)

My husband and I are sticklers about tithing a tenth of our income. There are times when we give over and above our tithe. But tithing includes more than just our money. When it came to our time, we weren't so generous to the Lord.

A tenth of our day is just under two and a half hours. When we think of all the things we already cram into our day it may seem impossible to give that much time to God. The good news is that 2.4 hours doesn't have to be spent all at once and we can make up the balance on weekends when we have more time.

Here are some things you can do to fill two and a half hours work of time for the Lord.

- ♥ Study the Bible.
- ♥ Pray for everyone you can think of.
- ♥ Call someone who needs to hear from you.

- ♥ Send an email to let someone know you're thinking of them.
- ♥ Send a card of love or encouragement.
- ♥ Fix a meal for a busy parent.
- ♥ Visit the bedridden.
- ♥ Take cookies to a new neighbor.
- ♥ Bring groceries to a needy family.
- ♥ Take someone out for coffee.
- ♥ Listen to someone's problems and give godly advice.
- ♥ Be a mentor.
- ♥ Have a friend over for a special lunch.

Once you make some of these things a habit, you will be surprised to find that 2.4 hours just isn't enough time to serve God each day.

~ Ruth O'Neil writes from Lynchburg, Virginia

(For more good stories, *The Lutheran Message* can be picked up on the table in the hall outside the pastor's office).

April 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 HAPPY EASTER	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Sunday School - 9:30 am Worship - 10:30 am	9 6:30 pm - Bible Study at Gloria Dei	10 9 am - 2 pm, Charity Sewing, Fellowship Hall	11	12	13	14
15 Sunday School - 9:30 am Worship - 10:30 am	16 6:30 pm - Bible Study at Gloria Dei	17	18	19	20	21
22 Sunday School - 9:30 am Worship - 10:30 am Chicago Folk Service	23 6:30 pm - Bible Study at Gloria Dei	24	25	26	27	28
29 Sunday School - 9:30 am Worship - 10:30 am	30 6:30 pm - Bible Study at Gloria Dei	31				

Date	Reader	Flowers	Ushers	Altar Guild	Communion Assistant	Treats
April 1	Becki Petersen	Easter lilies	Dick & Carolyn Leach	Bev Hull	Paul & Ann Mayes	Easter Breakfast
April 8	Paul Mayes	Easter lilies				Lynn Bendt Carolyn cole
April 15	Paul Mayes					Viola Levetzow Nancy Henke
April 22	Dan Petersen					Deanna Timm Em Sorgenfrey
April 29	Ann Mayes					Carolyn Leach Shirley Allchin