



New Era Lutheran Church

February 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

January, February, March 2018

Sunday, February 4, 2018

Mark 1: 29-39

[Jesus] came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. (vs 31)

I'm always attracted to the healing stories of Jesus, and at the same time I'm a bit skeptical. I mean, really – who can just take someone who is sick by the hand and make her all better?

Jesus was invited into this house, a place he had never been, and was shown to a woman who had such a high fever that she could die. I can imagine much more than Jesus simply slipping his hand in hers and making her fever break. What about some cold water on a cloth placed on her forehead? What about comforting words to calm her in the midst of her delirium? And yet there is something in Jesus' presence and care that restored the woman to health.

Whatever happened, we know that the fever broke. And when it did, the woman had one response to serve Jesus and the disciples. Jesus' presence and care led to restoration, which led to service.

What do we do when we experience Jesus' presence and care? Do we hold it all in for ourselves, or do we take it as an opportunity to share and to serve?

Lord, you are constantly making me whole. Help me to respond by caring for and serving others. Amen.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; Isaiah 40:21-31; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

~ Written by Pat Siegler, Madison, Wisconsin. Pat is the pastor of Zion Faith Community and the author of A Year of Gritty Faith, a self-published book of devotions..

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

Upcoming Events

Coupon Group

Coupon group will meet on Wednesday, February 7, at 5:00 pm at church to go to the Corner Grill, Blue Grass.

Charity Sewing

Charity sewing day is Tuesday, February 13, 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 NOT meet in February.

Sweetheart Italian Dinner Sunday, February 18 at 12 noon Fellowship Hall

Menu: Lasagna, salad, bread, dessert, beverage
\$20 per couple or \$10 a single
Tickets must be purchased in advance
All proceeds will go to **Relay for Life**
For more information, contact Carolyn Cole

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

5 Eric Lichtenwald
14 Aaron Turner
21 Emogene Sorgenfrey
Grant Leacox
Sue Kirk
22 Heidi Bendt
Gloria Batteau

Anniversaries

10 Kris & Robert Gladwell
17 Eric & Teresa Holliday
29 Janice & Rod Levsen

Church Council Minutes

January 16, 2018

All present except Matt Kurz. Devotions led by Shirley Petersen. Lynn Bendt will give devotions at the next meeting.

Minutes were read and approved. Treasurer's report read and filed.

Committee Reports:

Care and Concern: Visited with Betty Sauer.

Property Report: A drone was flown up to look at condition of steeple and all looked good.

Threshold at back door was fixed. Gym vents were closed after removal of large bird nest. Heater in gym was fixed. Thanks to everyone who helped with these repairs.

Education: Sunday school is back in session. Large adult class is well attended

Worship and Music: Choir singing on Feb.11. Ash Wednesday is Feb 14. Will check with Mary and Pastor about schedule for Lenten services.

Stewardship-Outreach and Fellowship: Will have Sweetheart Dinner on Feb. 18, 2018, at noon right after church. Cost will be \$20 a couple and \$10 for a single. Proceeds go to Relay for Life. Flyers are printed and available at church or contact Carolyn Cole.

March 24, 2018, a shower will be held for Rachel, the future bride of Aaron Turner. More information is to come on this event.

Received transfers for Dennis Wieh and Deanna Timm. Transfers were approved by council.

Discussion was held again on the position of administrative assistant. Should have all duties in by March. Will look at temp services to help fill position.

Discussion also was held on a new directory for congregation. Will put something out in near future for people to put updated information on.

Motion to adjourn. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is March 13, 2018, at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Bendt Secretary, 2018



A Lesson Learned (Excerpt from The Lutheran Message)

By Chris Ahlemann, Des Moines, Iowa

My mom was a creative person, always making something with her hands. She especially enjoyed crocheting doilies. Some were simple, only the size of a coaster. Others were larger, more ornate.

I remember an incident one year when I was a teenager. Mom wasn't well that winter and had to stay indoors a lot. But, she valued the ladies in her church circle, so for Christmas, she made each of them a small white doily with red edging.

She made others, too. Whenever one of the women had some kind of special happening, Mom would set to work on a splendid new creation.

It was during this time that one of the women began to gossip about Mom. Now, gossiping was not new for this lady. In fact, she could have been called Mrs. Gossip, but I didn't remember her ever being so malicious toward my mom before.

"You ought to start talking about her," I said one day when Mom and I were cleaning up the kitchen together. "See how she likes it."

"Oh, no," Mom replies. "The Bible tells us not to repay evil for evil, but to be careful to do what is right. I will just keep on living the way I always have." (Romans 12:17)

It was in early spring that Mrs. Gossip had to have some major surgery. Lots of people prayed for her, and she came through fine. I remember the first Sunday she came back to worship. After nearly everyone else had left, Mom went over to her with a large gift box.

"I'm sorry I couldn't get to see you when you were in the hospital. But, I wanted you to know we missed you and are glad to have you back. Here's a doily I've made."

"But I already have one that you gave at Christmas," Mrs. Gossip said. "Oh, that." Mom waved her hand. "I gave all the ladies those. This is special for you because you have been through so much."

Mrs. Gossip sat down then and opened the box. A gasp of wonder escaped her as she viewed the creation inside – there inside, was a doily at least a foot across! Around this whiteness was a wide edging of spring green leaves. Nestled inside each leaf pattern were two-inch pansies, crocheted in bright colors of yellow, lavender, purple, and gold.

"I hope you like it." Mom suddenly seemed shy.

Mrs. Gossip looked at Mom. From where I stood a few feet away, I could see that she was certain that Mom knew she had been spreading tales about her.

"It's beautiful. Thank you." Mrs. Gossip hurriedly closed the box, gathered up her things and went out. But, not before I saw a lone tear sliding down her cheek.

Well, it's been over half a century since that day. Yet, every time I think of what it means to pay back good for evil, I remember the lesson my mom taught me – a lesson about her and Mrs. Gossip and a gorgeous handmade doily.

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

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

Date	Reader	Flowers	Ushers	Altar Guild	Communion Assistant	Treats
February 4	Dianna Burger		Paul & Ann Mayes	Ann Mayes	Eric & Lynne Leacox	Lynn Bendt Ann Mayes
February 11	Lynne Leacox	Janet Kindler Becki Petersen				
February 18	Eric Leacox	Nancy Henke Viola Levetzow				
February 25	Dianna Burger	Shirley Petersen Peggy Miller				