



# New Era Lutheran Church

May 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](mailto:neweraofhope@gmail.com)

**Building Rental – Gloria Batteau**

Church, Fellowship Hall, Gym

Home: 563-263-2969

Email: [gfbatteau@gmail.com](mailto:gfbatteau@gmail.com)

**Bulletin – Carolyn Cole**

Home: 563-260-4626

Email: [c2nb2cole@hotmail.com](mailto:c2nb2cole@hotmail.com)

Items due by Wednesday night

**Newsletter – Becki Petersen**

Mobile: 563-299-1664

Email: [beckip54@gmail.com](mailto:beckip54@gmail.com)

Items due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

**Check us out at**

[www.neweralutheran.com](http://www.neweralutheran.com)

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

## An Excerpt from the Word in Season

April, May, June 2018

Thursday, May 15, 2018

Psalm 115

**Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory. (v. 1)**

Midway through the concert, the headline singer paused and introduced the band. But the singer didn't stop there. The sound and light crew were also introduced, then stage hands and backstage helpers. Each person ran across the stage to wild applause.

Not everyone enjoys being the literal spotlight, but everyone enjoys some form of recognition. When our moment comes, it's important that we also pause to recognize that our accomplishments are only possible because God has enabled us. Like the famous singer supported by an extensive behind-the-scenes crew, our God supports us. God is our security guard, our publicist, and our stage crew. Even more than that, our God is a living savior who walks beside us through every moment of our days.

Today's psalm reminds us that God is not like mere idols made by humans. We should not be tempted to trust in human-made things or even in our own abilities. Instead, our trust should be focused on God. God is alive. And God is our help and our shield. We may get our moment in the spotlight, but the true glory belongs to God.

**Help me to glorify you, O God, with my words and actions. Amen.**

*Numbers 8:5-22; Titus 1:1-9*

*~ Written by Janet Beagle is a writer and speaker; she serves as Director of Graduate Programs for Purdue University's College of Engineering.*

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



### RAGBRAI Plans

RAGBRAI will be passing right by New Era on Saturday, July 28, as they complete their journey to Davenport. Plans are being made to accommodate the riders as they pass by. We will also be working with Shepherd of the Cross. Make plans to volunteer to help that day. It will be fun as you meet people from across the USA and other countries.

## Upcoming Events

### Bridal Shower for Becka Gladwell

Renee Johnson and Rachele Harris will be hosting a wedding shower for Becka Gladwell on Saturday, May 19, at 10 am at Elly's in Muscatine. Becka is registered at Target and Blain's Farm and Fleet. All women are invited to attend. Kindly RSVP by May 14 to Renee at 563-299-7703 or [reneej@machlink.com](mailto:reneej@machlink.com).

### 2018 Church Play

The play for 2018 will be "The 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Coupon Group

The coupon group went to Mo Brady's on May 2.

### Bible Study on Summer Break

Monday evening Bible study will be taking a break for the summer and will resume in the fall.

### Charity Sewing

Charity sewing is Tues., May 8, beginning at 9 am. **Everyone is welcome!** No sewing experience necessary. Bring a sack lunch.

### Care and Concern

Care & Concern will meet at McDonalds on Wednesday, May 15, at 9:00 am. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

### 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.

### Last Day of Sunday School – May 13

The last day of Sunday School will be May 13.

## May Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

13	Neil Wulf	12	Nikki & Matt Kurz
	Janice Levsen	24	Luke & Cassidy Probasco
	Emery Anderson	30	Eric & Lynne Leacox
16	Catherine Alexander		
19	Cassidy Probasco		
22	Lydia Anderson		
23	Chuck Harland		
26	Betty Sauer		
27	Renee Johnson		
	William Anderson		
28	Rob Gladwell		
	Teresa Holliday		
31	Darrian Plowman		

### Anniversaries

## Church Council Minutes

No meeting this month.



### Jesus Above All

(Excerpt from *The Lutheran Message*)

**The LORD had done great things for us, and we are filled with joy (Psalm 126:2).**

I was a teacher in the United States and had the desire to do mission work during the summer break, when I was not teaching, so I planned my first trip.

I was very excited to see another country and to find out what it was really like to be a missionary. The trip was a week long – we flew into Guatemala and then traveled around the country to see the good work done by the Wycliffe Bible Translators. For more than seventy years, Wycliffe has helped people around the world translate the Bible into their own language, and assist with language development, literacy, and other spiritual and physical needs.

While in Guatemala, I felt God impress upon my heart the importance of teachers for missionary kids (MK). Some missionary families who lived in remote areas of Guatemala found it difficult to educate their children: finding no teachers, some families would return to the United States so their children could get an education. These families, who had sacrificed so much to go into the mission field, would then give up their dream and return to the United States, a place they no longer called home. I didn't want this to happen.

But, I knew I could do something to help the MK's long-term, but was reluctant to leave my home in the United States. During my few remaining days in Guatemala, I prayed for God to guide me. If He really wanted me to return, He would give me the desire.

I was in crisis, selfishly wanting my own way. I needed His help to let go of what I wanted and to make room for the blessings God wanted to give me. "For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ" (2 Corinthians 1:5). By the power of the Holy Spirit, I put my faith in Christ above all else.

By the time my plane landed in the United States, I wanted to go back! So, I began researching mission opportunities and raising financial support to become a missionary. I also sold my belongings so that I was prepared to move to another country. It took two years to make all of the preparations.

Two years after my first trip to Guatemala, I arrived back in Guatemala to teach at a school for missionary kids. I could see that God had prepared a path and a home for me in this foreign land. There were many details I felt that He took care of before I had even thought of coming back to Guatemala. I discovered that, two years before I arrived, others in Guatemala had been praying for someone to come. I saw the blessings God endowed on me. "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy"(Psalm 126:3).

So the months passed, if I had a concern or worry that

arose, I thought, "Hasn't God already met so many of my needs? Won't he take care of this need as well?" When I remembered the great things He did for me in the past, it was easier to trust Him for the present and the future.

I stayed and taught at the Christian Academy of Guatemala for five years. "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope" (Acts 2:25-26).

Is God nudging you to do something that takes you out of

your comfort zone? Recall times in your past when He has taken care of you as you stepped out in faith to do something in His name. God promises, "No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Joshua 1:5).

~ Jill Kohlert writes from Ashton, Illinois

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

## Our Sympathy

We would like to extend our sympathy to the families of Pat Keller and Jolene Springman on their recent passing. Pat and Jolene were both valued members of New Era and will be greatly missed.

May 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Sunday School - 9:30 am Worship - 10:30 am	7	8 9 am - 2 pm, Charity Sewing, Fellowship Hall	9	10	11	12
13 Sunday School - 9:30 am LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL Worship - 10:30 am .	14	15 Care and Concern, 9 am, McDonald's	16	17	18	19 Bridal Shower for Becka Gladwell, 10 am, Elly's Tea, Muscatine
20 Worship - 10:30 am <b>Chicago Folk Service</b>	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Worship - 10:30 am	28	29	30	31		

Date	Reader	Flowers	Ushers	Altar Guild	Communion Assistant	Treats
May 6			Jim & Lynn Bendt	Emogene Sorgenfrey	Shirley McDaniel	Janet Kindler Shirley McDaniel
May 13	Janet Kindler					Chris Wulf Janice Lichtenwald
May 20	Janet Kindler					Shirley Petersen Taylor Paetz
May 27						Becki Petersen Ann Mayes