



The

Sanctuary

You are God's Temple

...God's Spirit Lives in You. 1 Cor. 3:15

BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH + 1205 NORTH LINCOLN AVE. + O'FALLON, IL 62269 + 618-632-0126 + WWW.MYBSLC.ORG

Upcoming Events May 2021

Sun. May 2, 9, 16, 23

Worship 930
Adult Bible Study
Via Zoom

Mon. May 3

Elders Mtg 7
Support Group 7

Tues. May 4

Quilting 10-?

Wed. May 5, 12, 19, 26

Ladies Bible Study 10 am

Mon. May 10, 17, 24, 31

Support Group 7

Tues. May 18

Christian Ed 7 pm

Sat. May 22

Prayer Vigil

6 am—6 pm

Tues. May 25

Evangelism 7 pm

Sun. May 30

Worship 930

No Adult Bible Study

Mon May 31

Memorial Day

Office Closed



Vacation Bible School 2021

July 26, 28 & 30



Prayer Vigil

Saturday, May 22

6 am—6 pm

Watch for more information
and sign up sheets!

For more info contact
Brian Lloyd



**Memorial
★ Day ★**





OUR Senior Pastor

I love “permanent press” clothes. That means to me: “you never have to iron.” I take that literally. If it says “permanent press”... I don’t iron it. But the truth is permanent press does not mean what it says. I even looked it up in Webster’s Dictionary. It says, “a process in which a fabric is treated with a chemical and heat to make it less likely to wrinkle.” In other words, it’s not permanent. Permanent means “lasting or intending to last indefinitely without change.” So why don’t they call them “Less Likely to Wrinkle” clothes instead of Permanent Press clothes?

Wouldn’t it be great if you could get a “permanent” at the hair dresser and never have to come back to get it redone? But it’s not really a “permanent.” It might last a couple of weeks or even a month, but not permanently.

Little children get so excited when they lose their “baby teeth” and the “permanent teeth” come in behind. But many people will have their wisdom teeth taken out when they are in their teens. And when we get older it seems our permanent teeth are anything but permanent.

Because we live in a world where everything that looks permanent evaporates, I believe the Gospel of Jesus sometimes loses its potency and power in our thinking because we are conditioned to think that everything presented to us as permanent is in reality, temporary. If our experience tells us that nothing is permanent, it can make us doubt and question the realities presented to us in the Scriptures.

Thank God for Peter, a disciple of Jesus, who tells us God is to be praised because: “In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade-- kept in heaven for you...” (1 Peter 1:3b-4). This should give us pause. Peter was a fisherman, a down to earth individual, who called it as he saw it. He witnessed not just the death of Jesus but His resurrection as well. He had certainly experienced the perspective we all see that everything in this world perishes. But that all changed with Jesus! This realist knew once and for all that God’s promise of an eternal kingdom for us was the new reality! Now we can too!

With God as our starting point, and not just our experience, everything changes.

So what if the resurrection of Jesus Christ, is the reality? What if Jesus Christ is forever seated at the right hand of God. And what if in his mercy He has given us something beyond our imagination and experience, an eternal and permanent inheritance, life free from the effects of decay?

That’s the power of Easter!

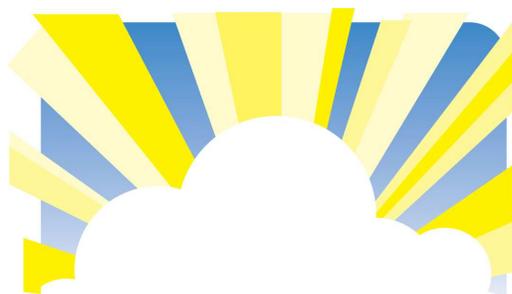
Jesus said, “For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day”

John 6:40

What shall we do with this information? Paul says, “So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal” 2 Corinthians 4:18.

Secondly, let’s proclaim His incredible mercy and love, and share the promise of permanence of His eternal kingdom!

Living in Easter all Year ‘Round,
Pastor Vern



He has given us ... an **inheritance** that can never **perish, spoil, or fade** — kept in heaven ...

1 PETER 1:3-4, NIV



Chairman Chat

With the rain and spring weather we had at the end of the March and beginning of April, the flowers and trees started blooming and were looking nice. Then, WHAM, we were hit with one cold snap and some snow. I wonder what some of them look like now, if they did not get covered and protected. Oh well, that is the weather in the Midwest, and we should be used to it by now.

The 2021 Spring Voter's meeting was held on Sunday, April 25th via Zoom, which worked very well. We had 30+ members in attendance. During the meeting, the church's finances were

presented, Council elections were held, plus the 2021 church goals were discussed. Don't fret if you missed the meeting, you can get the church finances presentation sent to you by contacting Treasurers Kirk and Janet Satrom. They will be happy to send it to you. The church goals will also be sent out to everyone within the next week. If you have any questions concerning the finances and/or goals, please contact Kirk and Janet Satrom, your Elder or myself. The church needs every church member to stand behind each goal and help us reach them.

We also held the elections for the 2021 Council Officers and Elders as well as 2020 Council Officers and Elders (even though the Council approved the 2020 election of the Council Officers and Elders during the May 2020 Council Meeting). I wanted to bring them in front of the membership for their approval. The motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved for the following people:

2020

- Chairman: Curtis Kuppler
- Treasurer: Kirk and Janet Satrom
- Elders: Gus Williams, John Lundebly, and Ed Brandmeyer

These people were elected to another 2 year term and will be up for re-election in 2022.

2021

- Vice Chairman: Dave Ziegler
- Secretary: Cheryl Krantz
- Elders: Brian Lloyd, R.J. Kinsella, and Dave Reynolds

These people were elected to another 2 year term and will be up for re-election in 2023.

The Strategic Committee met with Pastor Vern one evening to discuss their recommendations. Receiving the Pastor's approval, Terry Colvin and the Strategic Committee will then present the recommendations to the Church Council during the May Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 11th. All recommendations, ideas, and goals will be finalized and presented to the church membership during a special Voter's Meeting. Watch for the announcement of this special meeting. If necessary, the recommendations will be integrated into the church goals.

THANKS to all the BSLC members for their patience and continued support of the church during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Pastors and church council have tried their best to keep things going throughout this time. Streaming the worship services gives you the opportunity to be part of the church service from your home. Remember if you want to have communion at home as well, please contact Pastor Vern. You can stop by and pick up the communion kits or someone will drop them off at your residence. Continue checking the BSLC website (www.mybslc.org) and Facebook page for church events.

If you have any questions/concerns about the church, please contact your Elder, Vice-Chairman Dave Zeigler or myself. Do NOT bring these questions/concerns to the Pastors or Nancy, unless they are around the worship services or staff duties.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on Sundays and at other church events once ALL the pandemic restrictions have been lifted.

Please enjoy Mother's Day, the end of the school year, school graduations, and the start of summer!!

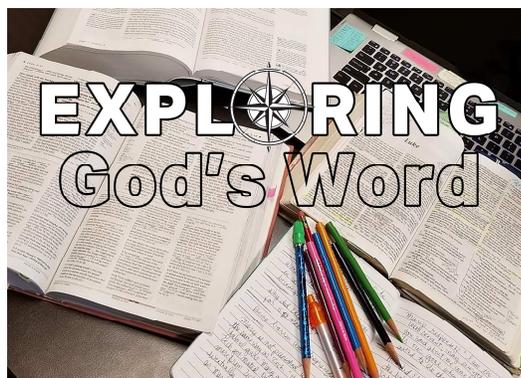
In God's Name,
Curtis Kuppler, BSLC
Congregational Chair-
man





Inspiring Revelations

We take much of what we have for granted. I think back to before this pandemic, and going to the grocery store with my wife was the norm. Now, I go by myself, mask on, trying not to get into contact with other customers, faces covered by masks, not being able to see smiles or laughter. We take much of what we have for granted. Movie theaters are a thing of the past, and even going out to dinner for me is an exercise in patience and stress, as we worry about bringing disease home to family and friends. We take much of



what we had for granted.

This comes to no surprise to many people, but in such times as this I often turn to Scripture, but in the case of this past year and a half I find myself looking more at the end of the Bible. Turning to a man who wrote letters to many churches, who had much taken away from him, and his old life ripped away. That man was John the Apostle. John found himself exiled to an island called Patmos, because, allegedly, he couldn't be killed by poison and was too beloved to be killed outright. So instead, exile, isolation, and distance will be his killer. John was beloved by the Church. An Apostle of Christ, one of the inner circle of the Lord, who wrote letters to churches encouraging them to remain in the love of Christ, and to show that love to each other and those who are in the midst of turmoil and hardship. It was John who wished for reconciliation and love to rule the church, and now he is isolated from that church. Alone on an island, his only duty in the world seemingly to die.

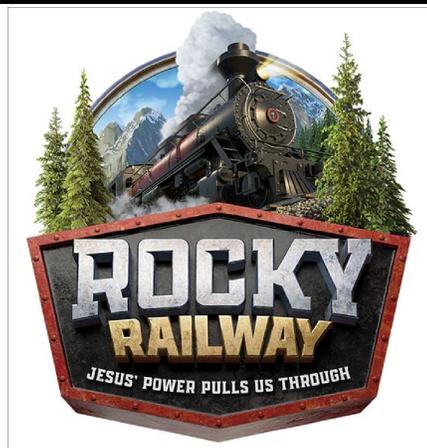
It was on this island, amidst his isolation, that he received a vision. A vision from God Almighty, which was filled to the brim with images, prophecy, proclamations, and, above all else, hope. He wrote all of this down in a letter to 7 churches in Asia Minor, and above all else was the feeling of hope and being together as one body in Christ made explicitly clear. The book of Revelation itself is a book all about the hope of Christ, and the end to our time of suffering here on earth looking toward his glorious return. "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye shall see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen." (Rev. 1:6-7) John calls us to attention to the coming Christ, who brings healing and triumph in His wings.



But this is a book of harsh realities, strange visions, and puzzling prophecies. How are we to view this book? Are we

to take everything literally, or contextualize it to our modern day? Are we to ignore most of it thinking it is the ravings of a man desperately trying to write down all he is seeing, or are we to take everything at face value, even the things that make us uncomfortable. Join me this month and throughout the summer as we take a look at the entire book of Revelation and see how God indeed brings an end to our isolation through the messages of this important ending to the Scriptures.

Pastor Matthew



Vacation Bible School is ON for 2021!

Of course VBS will be different this year but still involves a lot of fun, fellowship and God-filled messages.

Save the evenings of **July 26, 28 and 30.**

We need participants to attend and volunteers to make it a great event!

More details and a registration/volunteer link will be available soon.



Join the Lutheran World Relief QUILTERS on **Tuesdays, June 1, July 6, and August 3** from 10:00 - ? to tie quilts. (We don't actually quilt by hand. Instead we secure the layers by hand tying them.) Bring your lunch and join us for a time of good ole fellowship. Stay the entire time or as long as your schedule permits. Hope to see you there! Mark your calendar for the 1st Tuesday of each month. If you have any fabric pieces, thin blankets, curtains, drapes, sheets, etc you no longer need, the quilters would love to recycle them into quilts.

VBS Director Needed!

In order to have Vacation Bible School we need a Director. This position coordinates and supports the various committee chairs who directly oversee specific areas like food, decorations, games, and lessons.



Who's Going to the Youth Gathering?

We will be having an informational meeting for youth and their parents on Sunday, August 22nd. Please mark your calendars and keep posted to church pages for more information! Questions? Contact

Wendi Gorney at thegorney5@yahoo.com



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "Blessed Savior Lutheran Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.

How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Blessed Savior Lutheran Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app



Stewardship

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry



St. Paul teaches us: “Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches” (Gal. 6:6). And again, he says: “Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1

Cor. 9:13–14). In other words, ministers of the Gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them.

And this is how the church lives even now. It is standard practice. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not just *that* we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: “In the same way ...”

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We’re to support the Gospel ministry “in the same way.” But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always” (Deut. 14:22–23). The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested.

Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry “in the same way?” If it does, ask yourself: Is the church’s job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites’ job in the Old Testament? Back then, there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham. In Matthew 28, Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations, and there are churches and ministries all around the world! How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God’s revelation, the fullness of His salvation, and the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. For we have received Christ, God’s own Son, in the flesh, who took upon himself our sins and in exchange gave us his righteousness. The Father claimed us as his own in Holy Baptism. He gathers us together in the place where his name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of His Son – our Lord Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way – and in response to His fatherly divine goodness and mercy – we gladly give to those who proclaim to us “the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.” For once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed (1 Peter 2:9–10).

But You Are

a Chosen People,

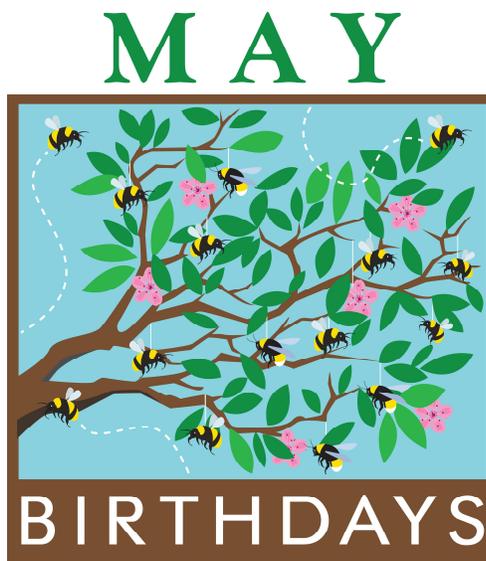
a Royal Priesthood,

a Holy Nation.

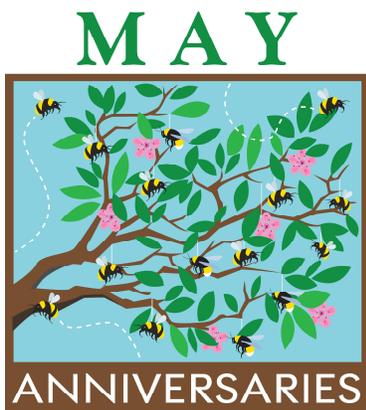
1 Peter 2:9



- 1 -Chris Michael, Rev. Perry Schefelker
- 1—Autumn Kesting
- 2—Oliver Sanchez
- 3—Kris McManus
- 4 – Kyle Kesting
- 6—Cheryl Sell
- 7 – Payton Johnson, Oscar Garcia
- 8 – Ben Lesire, Stephanie Yep (Mabry)
Gloria Alvarado
- 11 – Mary Stake, Haydin Williams
- 14 – Kim Williams
- 17 – Steve Foster
- 20 – Donna Jackson, Tate Husemann,
Angela Dalton, Ava & Cohen Morton
- 22 – Greg Conrad
- 25 – Noah Geis
- 26 – Gary Williams, Travis Lintvedt
- 27 – Jon Williams
- 29 – Darla Kesting, Andrew Brandmeyer,
- 29 – Dave Reynolds, Sr.
- 30 – Mary Geis
- 31—Charlie Morton



We are sorry if your birthday or anniversary has been overlooked. Please call the church office, 632-0126 or email Nancy at nancy@mybslc.org so we may add your name to our list. Thanks for your help.



- 10 – Chris & Sandie Rust
- 11– Kyle & Virginia Kesting
- 15 – Roger & Phyllis Miesner
- 22 – Don & Laura Drouin
- 24—Jason & Carie Boulanger
- 26—Greg & Ginger Kieffer
- 29—Dave & Loriann Reynolds

Congrats to our Graduates

Miranda Brockmeyer is graduating Magna Cum Laude from Belleville East on May 15. She plans to study engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, MO.

Kristen Lintvedt graduated from Indiana Wesleyan with a degree in Theater Arts on Friday, April 30th.

Sam Williams will be graduating from Concordia University Wisconsin on May 8th, with a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science.





MOTHER

M is for the MEMORIES that will never go away.

O is for how OFTEN you've gently led the way.

T is for the TRUST that I'll never stray

H is for the HOPE you give to make it through the today.

E is for how you EMBRACE me and make things seem okay.

R is for your READINESS to love me come what may.

As we pause today to give tribute

On this special Mother's Day,

Let's count our many blessings

Our Mother has brought our way.

Peggy West



A Mother's Day Hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God "mothers" each new child into
This world day after day.

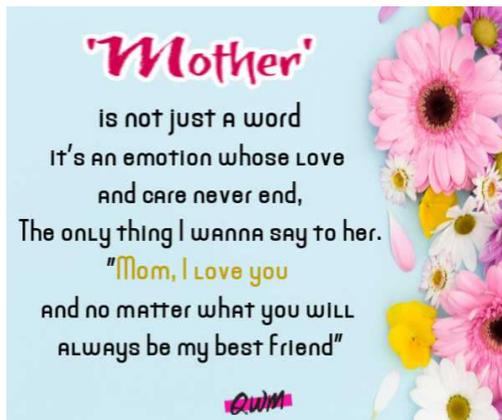
God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God's Comfort, Grace and Love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who "mothers" us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.



The Joys of Motherhood

- A hug for no reason.
 - Belly laughs.
 - The light-bulb moment when your child understands something you've been trying to teach them.
 - Smiles and giggles.
 - Mud pies.
 - Arms raised in the air after a big accomplishment.
 - Hearing Scripture and prayer from your child's lips.
 - Quiet moments on the couch.
 - Reading aloud together.
 - A family meal filled with conversation and laughter.
 - Watching your child be kind to another.
 - Recognizing a moment you'd like to freeze in time.
 - A child's look of surprise and joy.
 - A quiet conversation that heals a wounded heart.
 - The words "I love you" — and a sticky kiss.



THE BIRTH OF MOTHER'S DAY



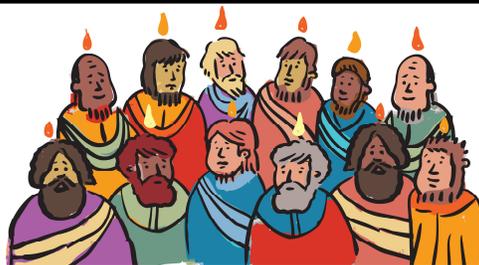
 Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948) loved her mother dearly. It was Miss Jarvis who first suggested a national day to honor all mothers. At a memorial service for her mother on May 10, 1908, Anna gave a carnation, her mother's favorite flower, to each person in attendance. Within a few years, the idea to honor mothers gained popularity, and Mother's Day was soon observed annually in many large cities of the United States.

On May 9, 1914, by an act of congress, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day. He established the day as a time for "public expression

of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country." By then, it had become customary to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living. The custom continues to this day.

A SHARED EXPERIENCE

What comes to mind when you hear the word *Pentecost*? Many people think of a mighty wind, tongues of fire and multiple languages. But Acts 2 begins with another detail that's just as key: Jesus' disciples "were all together in one place." Because they were together physically and spiritually, the early believers didn't miss the life-changing, world-changing birth of the Church.



The pandemic, while changing our definition of gathering, also highlighted our need for interaction. If Jesus' first followers hadn't been assembled on Pentecost, they would've missed the outpouring of God's power and the indescribable joy God had for them. Think about what believers today might miss if we neglect to worship with other friends of Christ. Who would want to miss God's blessings, promises and joy?

Loving an EGR

During a conversation over coffee, a friend mentioned an "EGR." I had to interrupt and ask for a definition: Extra Grace Required — in other words, people who can seem tough to love. Often, they're the most in *need* of love because they're hurting. Perhaps Jesus was referring to EGRs when he said, "If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much" (Matthew 5:46, NLT).

Truly loving others — even EGRs — might not be as tough as we think. Simple gestures such as smiling, truly listening, sending a note or extending an invitation go a long way toward expressing care and softening hearts.

At times, we all require extra grace. Thankfully, God has an unlimited amount to extend *to* us and then *through* us. Out of joy, we can find ways — even simple ones — to share God's grace and love with people who need it.—

Worth Celebrating

While going through the so-called "daily grind," it's fun to anticipate special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries and holiday meals — especially when other people cook and clean up! Although *every* day is full of countless reasons to rejoice, we may not always feel like celebrating. Life's concerns pile high, distracting us from gratitude, joy and intentional acknowledgment of our blessings.

When you need a reason to smile and celebrate, head to www.NationalDayCalendar.com. Almost every food item and hobby now has its own day, and you'll even find gems such as National Be Late for Something Day (September 5, if you want to plan ahead!).

These fun "occasions" can help you embrace small joys and may even inspire you to celebrate them with family or friends. As you do, consider what it is about today and each gift from God that makes this day special.





Church Council Minutes – April 13, 2021

Those present: Cheryl Krantz, Pastor Vern, Curtis Kuppler, Ginger Kieffer, Dave Ziegler, Wendi Gorney, Dale Schutte, Janet Satrom, and Pastor Matt.

Pastor Vern led the devotion followed by prayer.

Pastor Vern Report: Lenten services were held; Paul Kjosa has been diagnosed with COVID.

Pastor Matt Report: Pastor Matt thanked all for their work on the Lenten services. The Easter egg hunt was held and enjoyed by all. Pastor Matt met with Paul Kjosa.

Vice Chairman: Dave Ziegler no report.

Treasurer's Report: Janet Satrom reported that there is \$21,000.00 in the checking account.

Elders: Brian Lloyd: Prayer Vigil is scheduled for May 22nd. Brian is also working on a study about being an elder. All elders up for reelection will be running again.

Christian Ed: Lyndsey Sherman: Will try to do VBS. One senior is graduating the week of June 14th.

Evangelism: Pastor Vern We have begun search for a chairman of the Evangelism Committee.

Fellowship: No report.

Properties: Todd Gorney: We will be changing the mulch to rock. Will last longer and look nicer.

Youth: Approximately \$800.00 was made on the Butter Braids fund raiser. Different ways of handling fundraisers was discussed.

New Business: The semi-annual Voter's meeting will be on Sunday, April 25th. A sample ballot will be handed out before the meeting.

There being no further business, Wendi Gorney moved to adjourn the meeting. Ginger Kieffer seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Krantz
Recording Secretary



A Week of Tributes to Mom

To celebrate the special woman in your life, use a quote a day the week before Mother’s Day, or honor her with tributes the whole week after. Write one of these (or one of your own) on a card, make a message into a placemat, tape one to the bathroom mirror — get creative! Every day of the week is a good day to celebrate her love and show her yours.

“There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one.” —Jill Churchill

“The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children.” —Elaine Heffner

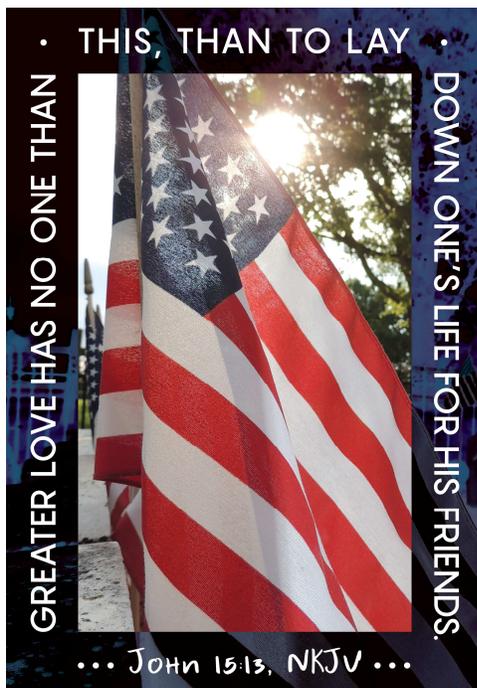
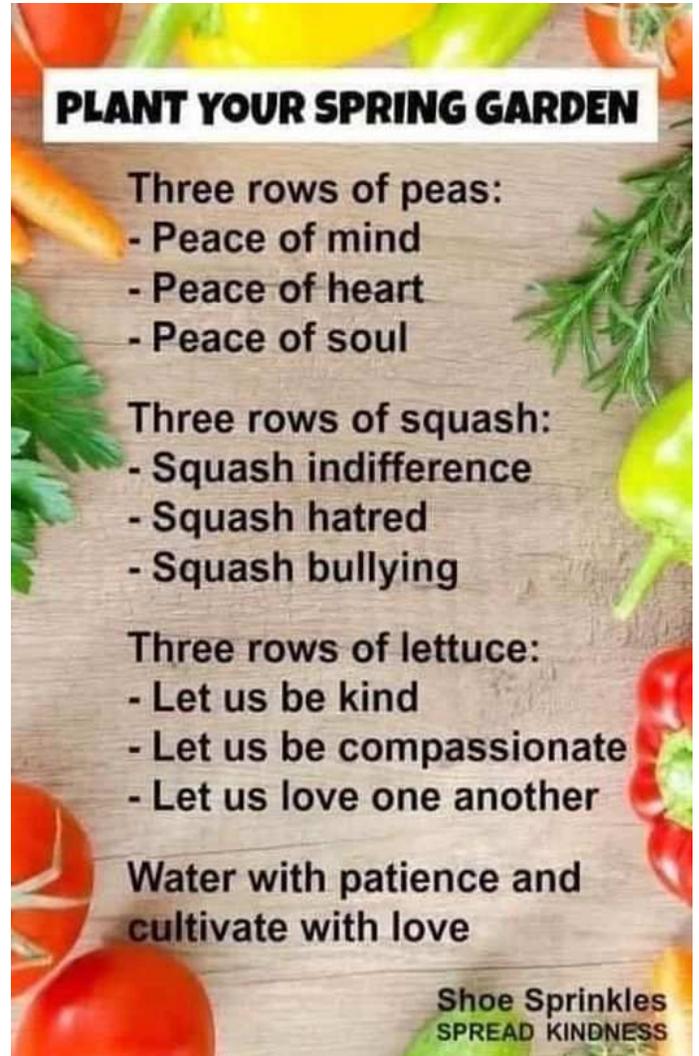
“An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest.” — Spanish proverb

“When your mother asks, ‘Do you want a piece of advice?’ it’s a mere formality. It doesn’t matter if you answer yes or no. You’re going to get it anyway.” —Erma Bombeck

Everyone Can Serve

Look for opportunities to serve; don’t wait to be asked! Remember: You can serve without being a part of an “official” ministry. We all can:

- extend the word of welcome, whether or not we are official greeters;
- be listening, caring friends, whether or not we are official lay counselors;
- be ready to give reason for the hope that is in us, whether or not we are on the evangelism team;
- be enthusiastic participants and ready to give a



Memorial Day

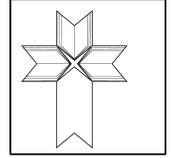
Is it enough to think today
Of all our brave, then put away
The thought until a year has sped?
Is this full honor for our dead?

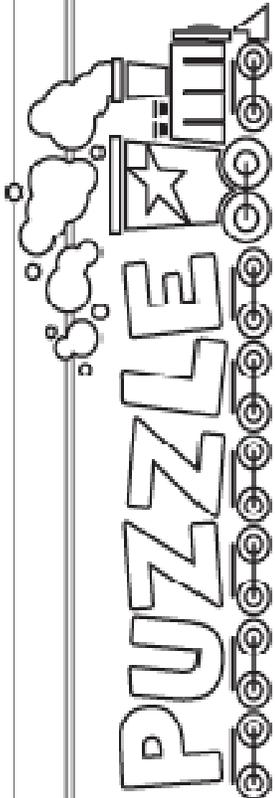
Is it enough to sing a song
And deck a grave; and all year long
Forget the brave who died that we
Might keep our great land proud and free?

Full service needs a greater toll,
That we who live give heart and soul
To keep the land they died to save,
And be ourselves, in turn, the brave!
—Annette Wynne



The Sanctuary
 Blessed Savior Lutheran Church
 1205 North Lincoln Ave.
 O'Fallon, IL 62269





PUZZLE

A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

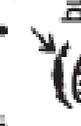
Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in  _____

"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
 ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answer: power