

TO BRING GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE TO EACH OTHER  
AND TO THE WORLD

**Lebanon  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church**

*A Congregation of the North/West Lower  
Michigan Synod,  
Craig Satterlee, Bishop  
Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop*

**1101 S. Mears Avenue  
Whitehall, MI 49461  
(231) 893-5745**

**Rev. Douglas M. Ogden**

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
8:00 am & 10:15 am- Communion  
9:00am - Adult Forum

**Office Hours**  
9:00 am—1:00 pm M-F (Margaret)  
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm W, Th (Sue)

**Newsletter Editor &  
Bulletin Announcements**  
Margaret Everling

**Church Council**

Doug Aardema	Terry Beekman
Curt Crouch	Virginia DeMumbrum
Sheila Fretty	Frank Hollister
Scott Keller	Allan Hinks
Sandy Robbins	Al Wheeler

**“We are baptized members of God’s  
Church, forgiven and set free by grace  
through faith.**

**[www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com](http://www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com)**

**Facebook: Lebanon Lutheran Church  
(ELCA)  
Instagram—Twitter : #llesignsofgrace**

# THE LIGHT



May 2017

## Pastor's Notes

June 4 & 6, 2017 Lebanon celebrates its 145th anniversary. We have a special worship being planned for Sunday, June 4; the steak grill, Tuesday, June 6, and Professor Kurt Hendel of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Chicago (LSTC) here Sunday, June 25 at 3 pm. A sesqui-centennial event at St. James Lutheran will be June 25 that evening.

Not only is 2017 the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, with Dr. Martin Luther's '95 Theses October 31, 1517, June 25 is the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession in 1530. This profession of faith unites all Lutherans in a common expression, centering on the assurance that we are righteous in God's eyes because God is gracious, something we would not experience except that we step out in faith in Christ alone.

After Pastor Megan Crouch spoke here following her time in Tanzania, we elected to raise enough money to supply a pair of oxen and a plow to Tanzania through the ELCA Good Gifts - - \$1,000. In two weeks we raised \$1,500! We plan to present the check to Megan if she can be here in June. So....

- June 4 - Worship
- June 6 - Steak Dinner
- June 25 - Dr. Kurt Hendel @ 3pm.

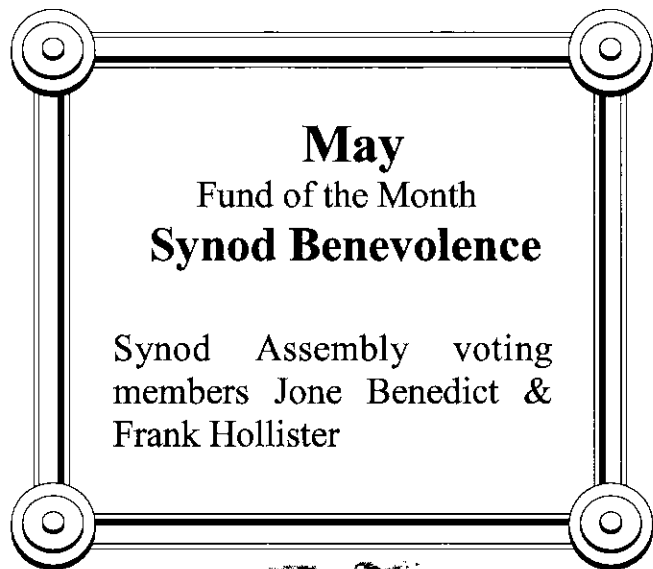
As people of the resurrection we are firm in our faith in God, in eternal life." If we live we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord, so whether we lived or whether we die, we are the Lord's."

And we are charged with doing God's will on earth as it already is in heaven.

People of the resurrection are people of Hope, in Sweden, in America, in Tanzania, and in Slovakia.

We welcome our 20th student this June.

Pastor Ogden



**Websites of Interest**

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

[www.mittensynod.org](http://www.mittensynod.org)

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

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

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

[www.hopescarves.org](http://www.hopescarves.org)

We recommend "Religion and Ethics Newsweekly" has ended.

Current and back episodes can also be seen on-line at [wgvu.org/television](http://wgvu.org/television)

**SCOUT SCHEDULE 2017**

**WEBELOS II - 1st and 3rd Monday - 7 pm**

**WOLVES - 1st and 3rd Tuesday - 6:30 pm**

**TROOP 1048 MEETS WEEKLY AT 5 pm**

Pack Meetings held the last Monday of each month

Venture Crew meets 3rd Sunday at 3:30pm

Boy Scout Committee meets 3rd Sunday at 4:30pm

Cub Scout Committee meets 2nd Monday at 7:30pm.

# Prayer Concerns

It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another. We add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality. This month in your prayers, please remember:



Prayers for those who are homebound: Our Minister

**Ken & Mary Bernhardt**, at home.  
**Marcia Eyler**, at home ( of St. Alban Episcopal)  
**Bob and Vera Green**, Green Acres Assisted Living, Mt. Pleasant  
**Lois Hildebrandt**, at Bush Creek (Marlene Holmstrom)  
**Nancy Peterson**, at Heartland  
**Velma Roesler**, at White Lake Assisted Living Center  
**Gini Kaines**, (Michele Wheeler's mother), at Heartland, (Donna Stacy)  
**Ruth Nurmi**, at home  
**Bernie Weidner**, at Sanctuary of the Oaks.  
**Mike Szczerbinski**, with health concerns at home

Special Prayer Concerns:

**Theresa Eastman**, (Diane Eastman's sister-in-law), benign brain tumor.  
**Liz Hildenstein**, (Barb Aardema's relative), starting treatment for uterine cancer.  
**Juanita Holmblade**, recuperating from an auto accident 3/1.  
**Philip Holmblade**, (Brian Holmblade's brother), with health concerns.  
**Sharon Honoré**, with health concerns  
**Lauren Kerkstra**, (Darrel and Jeanette Otto's granddaughter), recovering slowly, able to walk and take commands. Remains non-verbal  
**Jim Kienke**, aggressive cancer. (Rick Hughes' brother-in-law)  
**Lara MacGregor**, with health concerns.  
**Leah**, 42, (daughter-in-law of Barb Aardema's classmate) advanced colon cancer.  
**Lorraine** (Rick Hughs' mother). Who had a stroke in Florida & is in Heartland.  
**Rana Majeed**, in Iraq  
**Pete & Jennie Palmer**, with health concerns.  
**Hazel Palmer**, with health concerns.  
**Tim Schrand**, (Virginia DeMumbrum's brother), battling a very aggressive cancer.

Our hearts grieve for **Jeanne Berry and Melissa (Berry) Fillmore**, on the recent death of their husband and father, **Chris Berry** whose funeral was held on Thursday, April 13.

We pray for **Rana Majeed in Iraq**, her newborn **Kareema** with relatives in Cleveland, at the death of **Amer Alsaji, Professor at MCC**, who recently died of cancer.



# Worship Notes

**Sunday, May 7 - Easter 4**

Musician: Liturgy Instruments Group

**Readings**

**Color: White**

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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**Sunday, May 14 - Easter 5**

Musician: Monica Odgen

**Readings**

**Color: White**

Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

**Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen .**



**Sunday, May 21 - Easter 6**

Musician: Ardy Bulthouse

**Readings**

**Color: White**

Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

**Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

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**Sunday, May 28 - Easter 7**

Musician: Monica Ogden

**Readings**

**Color: White**

Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

**Prayer of the Day**

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascending to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



May



5/1 Darrel Otto	5/18 Renae Silk
5/2 Eric Nelson	5/20 Dan Girvan
5/2 Betty Hall	5/21 Mitchell Clark
5/3 Monica Ogden	5/21 Minnie Estlund
5/4 Jeremy Bernhardt	5/21 Juanita Holmblade
5/6 Ann Bloom	5/22 Phyllis Monte
5/6 Lauren Nelson	5/25 Thomas Hildebrandt
5/7 Vera Green	5/25 Charles Windbacher
5/7 Arin (Snell) Bowen	5/28 Stephanie Emms
5/8 David Gelvin	5/28 Elaine Liska
5/9 Kathleen Wiethoff	5/30 Art Plewka
5/10 Lauralee Kesteloot	5/31 Elaine Stevens
5/10 Katie Shalifoe	
5/12 Mary Wendell	
5/13 Tricia Lamiman	
5/14 Don Nelson	
5/16 Megan Ahrenholz	
5/16 Andrew Hildebrandt	
5/16 Barb Smith	
5/17 Eric Nessa	

## Baptism Anniversaries



5/1 Melissa Berry Fillmore	5/9 Bob Palmer	5/19 Jim King
5/1 Elaine Skinner	5/9 Stephanie Parker	5/20 Velma Roesler
5/2 Allie Ogden	5/11 Todd Lamiman	5/21 Emma McLane
5/4 Wendy Shalifoe	5/12 Jay Otto	5/22 Nancy Dahl
5/6 Ray Lathrop	5/12 Louanne Paquette	5/22 Vera Green
5/6 Sarah( Lathrop) Hosta	5/13 Brad Carlson	5/23 Don Erwin
5/6 Bernice Schuitema	5/14 Jeannette Otto	5/24 Tonya Lauterberg
5/7 Zoe Courneya	5/15 Matthew Parker	5/29 Lisa Clark
5/7 Krysten Hosticka	5/15 Matthew Parman	5/30 Dean Roesler
	5/16 Donna Knoth	5/31 Shawn Erwin
	5/19 Dakota King	5/31 Taylor Hughes

Celebrate your baptism anniversary with a candle a meal or this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism in to Christ.”



5/6/78 John & Becky Wahr

5/30/87

Scott & Katherine Keller

# News & Notes



**39th White Lake Area Arts & Crafts Festival.**  
**June 17** - 10 am to 5pm and **June 18** from 11  
am to 4 pm at Goodrich Park, Whitehall,  
Michigan 49461.

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**Arconic Food Truck** May 18, 4:00 pm.  
South Parking Lot.

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**Synod Assembly** will take place on May 21-  
23. Pastor Ogden, Jone Benedict and Frank  
Hollister are attending for Lebanon.

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The Church office will be  
closed on Monday, May  
29th in observance of Me-  
morial Day.

*We remember all those who laid down their  
lives for their country.*



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

**MAY 14, 2017**



Now is the time to make sure the church office has your updated information. Please let Margaret or Sue know of any changes to your address, phone number, or email address. In order to keep you informed, we need to have your correct information on file. Thank You!



2017 **LUTHERANS**  
**ALWAYS**  
**REFORMING**  
A DAY OF SOCIAL CHANGE CONVERSATION



**SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017**  
**UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1020 South Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI

**REGISTER NOW: [MITTENSYNOD.ORG](http://MITTENSYNOD.ORG)**

### SCHEDULE

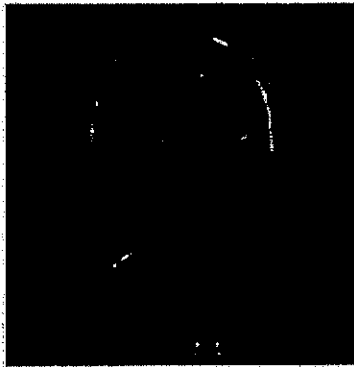
- 9:00 Registration & Coffee
- 9:30 Welcome & Opening Prayer
- 10:00 Keynote Speaker
- 11:15 Workshops
- 12:00 Lunch (Provided)
- 1:00 Workshops
- 2:00 Workshops
- 3:00 Closing Worship

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Craig L. Nesson is Academic Dean and Professor of Contextual Theology at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. He holds degrees from Michigan State University, Wartburg Theological Seminary, and the University of Munich. Dr. Nesson has authored multiple books, including *Shalom Church: The Body of Christ as Ministering Community*.

FREEWILL OFFERING. BOX LUNCH PROVIDED. CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED.

Sponsored by the Synod Publically Engaged Church Committee



**North/  
West Lower  
Michigan Synod**

**2900 N. Waverly Rd.  
Lansing, MI 48906**

**517-321-5066**

**In this Issue**

Bishop's Letter

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Upcoming Events

Congregations in  
Transition

**Holy Saturday**

There is something eerie about our newsletter arriving in your inbox on Holy Saturday (April 15). Holy Saturday, as opposed to the Easter Vigil, is a time of waiting between Jesus' death on the cross and his glorious resurrection. Like Scripture's teaching on death itself, the readings appointed for this day provide different, even conflicting, perspectives on what happened to Jesus during the time that he lay bound by death in the tomb. With so much of what is happening in the world—hate crimes, chemical warfare, and another school shooting—so far removed from sunrise and lilies and, "Christ is risen indeed," perhaps we would do well to take some time this Holy Saturday and intentionally reflect on Christ lying dead in the tomb.

On Holy Saturday, we can almost hear Jesus say, "God has made me sit in darkness like the dead of long ago. God has walled me about so that I cannot escape" (Lamentations 3:6-7). Yet, this is surprising since the speaker in Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24 offers a first-person description of his own horrendous suffering and a litany of God's deliberate destructive actions, specifically against this man himself. The speaker's suffering is intimate, personal, and anguished. If we imagine the speaker to be Jesus, the good news is that Jesus knows what it is to be so isolated, abandoned, and encircled so that there is no way out except by being set free. Even more, the speaker knows what it is to suffer at the hands of a God who lashes out, besieges with bitterness, isolates and imprisons, and refuses to hear prayer. Words that we heard on Palm Sunday resound: "And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli,

Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'" (Matthew 27:46). This is a God that too many too often encounter and experience. Imprisoned by death in the tomb, the speaker nonetheless dares to hope in this God, expecting this God to save him. This Jesus, who knows personal affliction and experiences God as his enemy, hopes in God's promise, which is sometimes all that we have.

Almost as an answer to Job's question and ours—"If mortals die, will they live again?" (14:14)—First Peter 4:1-8 proclaims the good news that not even the dead are beyond salvation in Jesus Christ. Paraphrasing John's Gospel, the dead are among those Jesus draws to himself when he is lifted up from the earth on the cross. According to First Peter, the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, "so that... they might live in the Spirit as God does" (4:6). While scholars may debate what First Peter really means by "the dead," the good news on Holy Saturday is the hope that, in Christ, those who have died will receive new life through the gospel. The gospel is Christ's suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension as the motivation for the lives of faithful Christians. As is true for the rest of Holy Week, the emphasis here is on "since ... Christ suffered in the flesh" (v. 1), rather than "arm yourselves ... to live" (vv. 1-2). More than suffering physically, Christ suffered in the world dominated by human desire, to triumph over human desire, live by the will of God, and battle against the forces of human desire. "The end of all things is near" (v. 7), for the dead as well as the living.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

The gospel reading appointed for this day— either Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42—narrate Jesus' burial by Joseph of Arimathea. The Matthean account was read on Passion Sunday and the Johannine account on Good Friday. On those days, Jesus' burial is rightly overshadowed by the Crucifixion. Or, with hints of Jesus' resurrection included in both accounts, Jesus' burial might be reduced to a necessary stop on the journey from cross to empty tomb. Holy Saturday invites the Church to consider the significance of Jesus' burial.

Joseph of Arimathea makes an important declaration by requesting Jesus' body from Pilate, preparing it for burial, and laying it in a new tomb. Jesus had just been condemned and executed as an enemy of both God and the Empire. Joseph's gesture might be interpreted as both blasphemy and treason. Joseph buries Jesus honorably, lavishly, royally. In Matthew's account, a "rich" disciple wraps Jesus in a "clean" linen cloth and lays it "in his own new tomb" that is sealed with a "large" stone. In John's account, Jesus is buried as a king. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus anoint Jesus' body with a very large amount of myrrh and aloes, wrap it in linen cloths, and place Jesus in a new tomb. The manner in which Jesus is buried points beyond shame and humiliation to Jesus' glorification and victory on the cross.

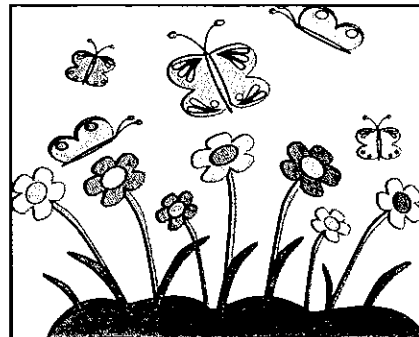
Now, perhaps we are a bit more prepared to keep the Great Vigil and to celebrate the resurrection dawn.

For the gifted and dedicated saints who serve the North West Lower Michigan Synod, happy Easter!

The Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop



**Thank you to everyone who participated in our Spring grounds clean-up, spruce up! We appreciate your help in keeping Lebanon looking so great! Thank you to all who raked & planted on Sunday, April 23rd. We got all the leaves to the curb ahead of the City's pick-up date, and all the Easter flowers planted.**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

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*Celebrating 500 Years • 1517-2017*

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Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sisters and brothers,

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation is not only a time for reflection on the rich history of this church, but also a chance to look forward to what lies ahead for all of us. It's an exciting time to be Lutheran as we come together with the Roman Catholic Church on the foundation of our common heritage.

Rick Steves' *Luther and the Reformation* is a wonderful resource for all of us—pastors and lay people alike—to better understand our Lutheran roots and help us in our continued journey of understanding the gospel. I invite you to share this video with your congregation and use the discussion questions on [elca.org/ricksteves](http://elca.org/ricksteves) to help guide a conversation in your community.

In God's peace,

*Elizabeth A. Eaton*

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00 pm

8765 West Higgins Road • Chicago, Illinois 60631-4101  
773-380-2700 or 800-638-3522 • [ELCA.org](http://ELCA.org) • [LivingLutheran.com](http://LivingLutheran.com)



*Mgr. Jarmila Zajčková  
 Ján Balčo*

APRÍL		2017	
		1	2
3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30

*S radosťou Vám oznamujeme,  
 že vstúpime do manželstva  
 dňa 29.4.2017 o 15.00 hod.  
 v evanjelickom a.v.  
 chráme Božom v Dobrej Nive*

*Melčice - Lusková 74*

*Mlynská 33, Dobrá Niva*

*2008 Slovak Student Jarmila Zajčková will be married on  
 April 29, 2017*

*2015 Slovak Student Emíl Hankovský will be married on  
 August 12, 2017*

*Congratulations to them both!*





## Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 South Mears Avenue  
Whitehall, MI 49461

Living in God's Amazing Grace

*The Light* is published monthly by Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. Submissions are accepted through the 15th of each month. Submissions **MUST** include your name and a way to contact you in case of questions.

2 ways to submit your information:

- yellow folder in Margaret's office  
(better)
- [office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com)  
(best)



**The church office will be closed on Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day.**

