

# Blessings and Musings

## The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

### JUNE, 2018

**Pastor:**  
Kal Rissman  
765-754-7381

**Church Council  
President:**  
Tina Gilman

**Vice President:**  
Dr. Herb Berner

**Secretary:**  
Louisa Hamilton

**Treasurer:**  
Nancy Sowers

**Other Members:**  
Dondra Bennett  
Bill Feldheiser  
Kathie Loser  
Eddie Slaven  
Dick Zarse  
Kim Zarse

**Organist:**  
Marilyn Pierce

**Church Secretary:**  
Marilyn Pierce  
765-215-6088  
9 AM - Noon  
Mon. Wed. Thurs.  
and Fri.  
Tues. 1:00 pm

**Office Phone:**  
765-724-3671

**Email Address:**  
www.pastorkal  
2015@gmail.com

**Sunday School:**  
9:30 A.M.

**Worship:**  
10:30 A.M.

**Printing:**  
Compliments of  
Broadway Press  
The Zarse Family

#### From the Pastor:

I recently ran into a man that I had worked with in drug/alcohol treatment many years ago. He said that he didn't really like me very much when he was in treatment 24 years ago, but said that he was grateful to me now, because what I had told him was the truth and he needed truth to get over his denial and delusions.

I told him that he looked good and I was always glad to see some people that had profited from treatment and were still doing well. He replied that I looked good too, except my hair was a different color now. I told him that it was now platinum blonde (he mistakenly thought it was gray). He asked how old I was and I told him. Then he said that he had a couple birthdays coming up very soon. He said his "belly-button birthday" was in a week and his "sobriety birthday" was in 3 weeks.

For those not familiar with these terms, they are expressions often used by recovering folks to talk about two important days: the day they were born and the day they got sober and stayed sober. The interesting thing is that the "belly-button birthday" seems far less important than the "sobriety birthday" as time goes on.

The "sobriety birthday" marks the day that an addicted person started a new life free from their addictive agent. It celebrates the day when that person stopped being their own god and surrendered to a Higher Power than themselves. This Higher Power is what enables them to do every day what they cannot do by their own efforts. It is the beginning of an ongoing relationship with that Higher Power, which the more religious of the group would call "God".

One week after my encounter with this recovering man I ran into another former patient who had relapsed and said that he was going to go to an A.A. meeting and take a "beginners token" that night and start over with a new sobriety birthday. "Well", I reminded him, "it is just a one day program. The good news is that you only have to do it for one day. The bad news is that it only lasts for one day"!

The experiences of these two men remind me of the daily struggles that we all have as Christians. All of us have two birthdays as well. Most Lutherans can't remember either one of these days, because we were too young, but they are still just as important. Some people remember very clearly when they were born in Christ for their second birthday, however. St. Paul said that "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation". Jesus told the Jewish religious leader Nicodemus that he

had to be born a second time and Nicodemus took Him quite literally, when Jesus meant spiritually.

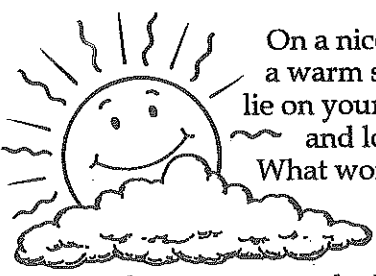
Lutherans teach that this second birthday has to do with maintaining an ongoing relationship with the Lord. We teach that faith is not just something you possess in case you ever need it, which sounds more like a box of crackers in your cupboard than it does a relationship. Faith is a relationship and like all relationships it ebbs and flows, sometimes feeling closer and sometimes feeling further away.

In some ways we too have a one day program. Any day we want we can pray for God's Spirit to come to us and give us strength to do what we can't do on our own. Any day we choose, we can surrender ourselves to God and let Him use us as He wills. Any day at all, we can begin doing those things that make us close to God.

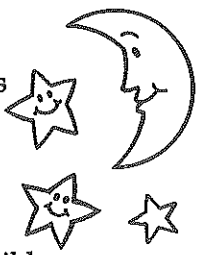
Across: 1. clouds; 6. darkness; 8. moon; 9. night; 10. Orion  
 Down: 2. lightning; 3. stars; 4. skies; 5. heavens; 7. sun  
 Who created all these things? GOD

Answers:

### Just for Kids



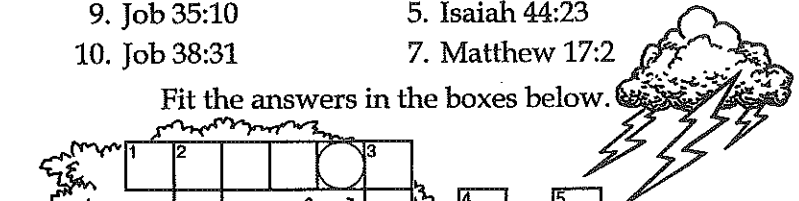
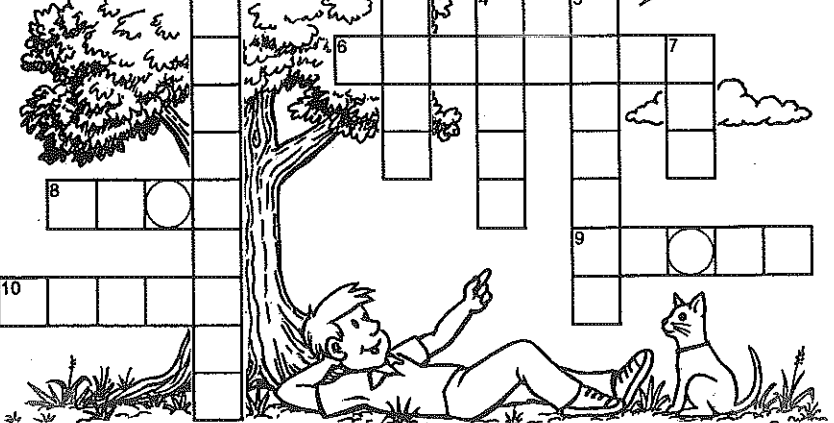
On a nice summer day or a warm summer evening, lie on your back out-of-doors and look at the sky. What wonders do you see?



Find some answers by looking up these Bible verses.

Across	Down
1. Psalm 97:2	2. Job 38:35
6. Isaiah 45:7	3. Genesis 15:5
8. Jeremiah 31: 35	4. Deuteronomy 33:26
9. Job 35:10	5. Isaiah 44:23
10. Job 38:31	7. Matthew 17:2

Fit the answers in the boxes below.

Unscramble the letters in the circles to find who created these things. \_\_\_\_\_



## SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

The Adult Bible Class needs your help creating positive messages for young people at Wernle children's Home. There are supplies in narthex for you to write a message, a scripture, an encouraging word that the staff can share with a child on a special day or on a rough day. Please put them in the heart box. We will give them to Pastor Nunn when he visits here in June.



## DEATH

### BETTY MARTIN

Died: April 23, 2018

Buried: April 24, 2018

---

---

## You are unique

---

---

Consider the miracle of your own life. No one who has ever lived has had a face, or a voice, quite like yours. The very imprint of your thumb is a mark of your individuality and complexity.

You are like a rare and precious gem that cannot be matched. Once again the psalmist is intuitively catching the awesomeness of the gift of his own creation when he cries out, "I thank you, God, that I am wonderful!" (see Psalm 8:5).

The simple truth is that God created you because he wanted you exactly as you were made, to have a relationship with you.

—Delia Smith



We five little Lutheran Church Mice are so happy! The sun is out and it is warm outdoors finally! We love Summer time, it is a time to hear the birds sing, have picnics, play outdoors, take hikes, have bon fires, cook on the grill, go boating, catch fresh fish to eat, and also a time to enjoy God's wonderful earth.

We mice like to do all the things mentioned above and we also like to sit out at night and hear the frogs croak and the crickets do their chirping. These are all sounds of Summer time. Beware of bees that sting, getting too much sun and ending up with a nice sun burn.

Thank God for all the beauty and warmth of Summer time.

## SQUEEKY,

### THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MOUSE

---

---

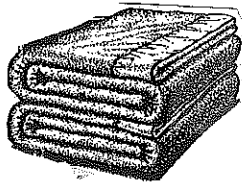
## "Dampening" the Spirit

---

---

Pastor George Ross tells about the time he was called upon to speak at the Sunday School chapel service because the person in charge had the flu.

"The topic that morning was the Holy Ghost. I tried to explain to the boys and girls that the Holy Ghost is God inside us. I told one little boy, by the name of David, to put his hand inside his shirt, which he obediently did. Reminding him that God was inside, I asked: 'Now, David, what does God feel like?' He furrowed his forehead in thought and then answered soberly, 'Damp. It feels damp.'"



## EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEW HAVEN, INDIANA

They have a group at this church who make beautiful quilts. We have an article that was in their bulletin on Mother's Day, May 13, 2018. Every Mother's Day they dedicate all the quilts that they make before taking them to the places where they will go. Heaven's Wearhouse will receive 30 quilts this year. Here is the article:

### THE VOICE OF A QUILT

I, along with 126 other QUILTS that you see here today, want to express our thankfulness to the LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF QUILTERS for the many hours they have spent in putting us together. Look around and see the many beautiful materials donated by Emanuel's members and friends.

Donations of new yardage materials and extra fabrics were blended together to make my quilt top. A large piece of polyester or other fabrics, about sixty inches wide, was put on my other side. Next, I needed a liner of light weight materials, so an old sheet was used between these two layers. Devoted QUILTERS then took time to knot me together with colorful yarn and hemmed my edges. The end result is a beautiful LWR QUILT of many colors.

These QUILTS were put together with much love, and, through Lutheran World Relief, they will help the needy in many countries to keep warm, serve as

room dividers or as ground covers for resting. They might also be used to carry belongings and cover their children while they sleep. We also want to share these quilts with Pastor Meeker's mission at Point of Grace Academy located in Kenya. Some will go to Heaven's Wearhouse, a clothing and household bank in Alexandria, IN, which, in turn, supplies us with a great deal of material for our quilts. I am thankful for all the faithful members who are knotting QUILTS so that this project will continue.

God's richest blessings to each of you as I close with Luke 6:38, "Give to others, and God will give to you. Indeed, you will receive a full measure, a generous helping, poured into your hands--all that you can hold. The measure you use for others is the one that God will use for you."

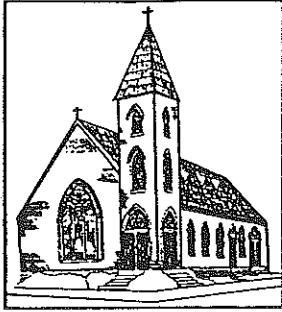
---

### ALEXANDRIA MEMBERS

We at Heaven's Wearhouse appreciate all the quilts that the LWR Quilters give to the Wearhouse. They are given out to needy people needing blankets. You should see the peoples faces when we give them a beautiful new quilt. All cotton materials, yarn and thread can be given to Marilyn and she will see that the ladies of New Haven have them to make their quilts. We are planning in the Fall to go to New Haven and help them knot the quilts. We had a lot of fun when we went there before. They have a great group making quilts. If you would like to go please let Marilyn know so she can put your name on the list.

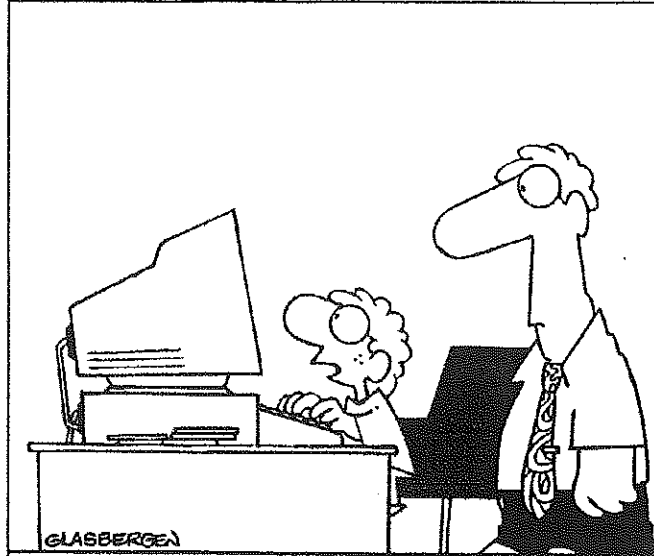
# JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 9:00 am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:30 am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>4</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>5</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>6</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>7</b> 9:00am Office	<b>8</b> 9:00am Office 9:30 am Pantry	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>11</b> 9am Office 9:30am Pantry 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>12</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>13</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>14</b> 9:00am Office	<b>15</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>18</b> 9 am Office 9:30am Pantry 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>19</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>20</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 6:00 pm Church Coun.	<b>21</b> 9:00am Office	<b>22</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	<b>25</b> 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 4:00pm Wearhouse	<b>26</b> 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	<b>27</b> 9:00 am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>28</b> 9:00am Office	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Office 9:30am Pantry	<b>30</b>



Lutheran Church  
of Our Blessed Savior  
309 West Washington  
PO Box 206  
Alexandria IN 46001

Church Office  
765-724-3671  
Pastor Kal Rissman  
Home: 765-754-7381  
Work: 765-747-3508



"What program does God use to  
upload the sun every morning?"

## JUNE PARTICIPANTS



### ORGANIST

3 Marilyn Pierce  
10 Marilyn Pierce  
17 Marilyn Pierce  
24 Marilyn Pierce

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

3 Andrea Barnett  
10 Emily Closser  
17 Dick Zarse  
24 Peggy Cox

### GREETERS

3  
10 Becky Howard  
17  
24

### COUNTERS

Linda Howerton  
June Zirkle/Marilyn Pierce  
David Shears/Carol Shears  
Becky Howard/Connie Knigga

### LECTORS

Paulette Haynes  
Becca Key  
Linda Howerton  
Shon Littlefield

### SOUND EQUIPMENT

David Shears

### ALTAR GUILD

Bob Stevens  
Judy Stevens

### DEACON

George Bennett  
Steve Holcomb  
June Zirkle  
Donna Key