



# Blessings and Musings

## The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

### MAY, 2019

**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  
Becca Key  
Kathie Loser  
Eddie Slaven  
Dick 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:**

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The Zarse Family

**From the Pastor:**

I found myself singing an old Cole Porter tune last week as I was repairing the fence around my property. It goes like this: "Oh give me land under starry skies above. Don't fence me in." It was kind of ironic, because that is exactly what I was trying to do, namely, fence the cows in that will soon be in my pasture. We had some tremendous winds this spring and there was more damage to the fence than in any year that I can remember. Trees had fallen directly on the fence in 4 different spots and it certainly would not have discouraged cows from going over to the neighbors the way it was. After much chainsawing and repairing the fence looks like it should scare them enough to stay home.

My observation is that people don't seem to like fences any more than cows do. We seem to have been pushing the boundaries in life ever since the first humans pushed too far in the Garden of Eden. We like the notion of having complete freedom to do whatever we want and resist the necessity of appropriate boundaries in life. However, without these boundaries in our lives we not only do not feel secure, but can really get into a lot of trouble.

Children especially need to know what the boundaries are in order to feel secure. They will push to see how far they can go before anybody cares enough to stop them if they don't know what those limits are. A couple months ago when I was in Minnesota my brother and sister and I had occasion to reminisce about this very subject. We recalled how our father in particular was very adept at giving us nice, clear, loving boundaries so that we could feel secure. We also were made aware that there would be consequences if we chose not to stay inbounds.

For example, Dad told us that supper was at 6:00 and that we were expected to be there on time. If we didn't want to do that, that was our decision, but the consequences would be that we would not eat and then we would be grounded for 2 weeks. He concluded by saying, "If you find something that is worth that consequence, just go ahead!"

Another example is when I got my first B.B. gun at age 7. Dad took me out shooting with it and taught me gun safety and told me to always look beyond where I was shooting to see if anything else was in

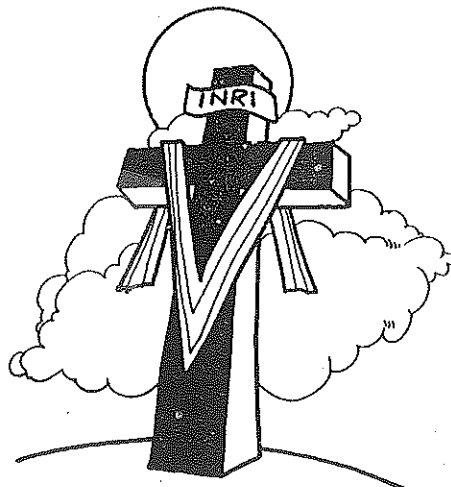
the path of the B.B. He concluded by saying that if he found any B.B. holes in any windows on the farm, the B.B. gun would be gone for 3 months and if it happened again, it would be gone forever. There was not one part of me that thought that he would not follow through with

this dire consequence of confiscating the gun, because he always did what he said he was going to do. He said what he meant and he meant what he said, but he always did it in a very calm, loving way.

My brother told a good story about setting boundaries for their daughter when she was a teenager. She was at that age when rebellion hits and parents are seen as being in the "too-stupid-to-live" category. She started to blow up over little things and then go slam the door to her room so that it shook the house. My brother chose a consequence for the young drama queen that fit the crime rather nicely, I thought. He simply took the door of her room off the hinges and stashed the door out in the garage. She was appalled that she had no privacy in her room, but my brother told her that when he thought she knew how to treat a door he would put it back on and it was quite a while before she had a door again. She got the message.

The same kind of thing happened in the Old Testament between the Lord and his special people, Israel. The children of Israel didn't like being fenced in either and repeatedly chased after other pagan gods and neglected the disadvantaged in their midst. The consequence was that the Lord allowed them to be run over by one of the current world powers and sometimes they taken away into captivity until they came to their senses and repented, pledging to stay inside the boundaries. They weren't very good at this, however, and received unnecessary pain.

Boundaries are usually good for us and keep us from going places that will do us harm. They also do give us a sense of security. So, maybe I'll have to alter that old Cole Porter song and instead sing, "Lord, fence me in - I need it".

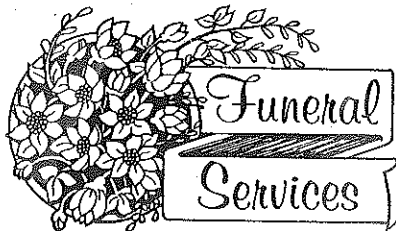


Flowers



### DAISIES IN A VASE

The youth will again be selling daisies in a vase for Mother's Day. The price this year will be \$6.00.



### DEATHS

**VERA MERCER**

**DIED: APRIL 10, 2019**

**BURIED: APRIL 15, 2019**

**MARJORY RAY**

**DIED: APRIL 10, 2019**

**BURIED: APRIL 13, 2019**

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### We need the church

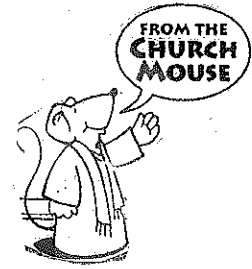
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I've never understood those who say they don't need the church. Mine is a profound need to worship and to live in solidarity with the community of the faithful.

Of course, I can pray for myself and make decisions by myself, but it has to be in the context of the covenant that you and I have with God.

To love mercy in the midst of the unmerciful, to do justice in the jaws of injustice, to be humbly aware of God's grace takes constant communion with God and the community.

—Ann Weems  
"Family Faith Stories"



We five little Lutheran Church mice were talking about dogs the other day.

Isn't it wonderful how many different animals God created? We all agreed that God **did not** create any dumb animals. Some might be smarter than others but, they aren't dumb.

Take for instance, Penny the Lutheran Dog. She is very loyal and she lets a person know there is a dog, cat, squirrel, or a human person around. She guards the house and her territory. She is a lot of company and she knows when you are sad, sick, or hurting in some way. She tries to comfort you and make you better. If you are a true animal lover you take care of God's animals and you are kind to them. We mice think that the people who treat any animal mean, will have a lot to answer to God about. Why would people mistreat His creations? God gave them to us to love. Dogs can love us no matter how much they are mistreated. Remember they have feelings too and are more loyal and forgiving than our friends and relatives. They forgive us. Now if you have an animal why not spoil them today?

**SQUEEKY,  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MOUSE**



**DONORS**

A large thank you to everyone who donated Easter flowers to make the church smell so good and look so beautiful. **THANK YOU!**

- MM Toby Gilman
- MM Richard Howard
- MM George Bennett
- MM Jack Stevens
- MM Dan Barnett
- MM Chris Haynes
- MM Randy Loser
- MM Dick Zarse
- MM David Shears
- MM Bill Feldheiser
- MM Steve Holcomb
- Lucy Hidalgo
- Amy McNally
- Bob Fletcher
- June Zirkle
- Connie Knigga
- Donna Key
- Marilyn Pierce



**THANK YOU**

We would like to thank Andrea Barnett for all the nice things that she does for the Sunday School. She

has a great set up on Easter mornings for the children. She organizes the Easter egg hunt for the children and has gifts for each child and activities for them to do. Thank you Andrea for all your work and interest in the children.



**ANNOUNCING...**

**MEETING**

There will be a **Congregational Meeting** on **MAY 19, 2019** to elect the new officers and deacons for the next year.

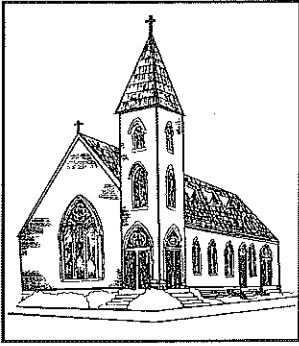
Those to be elected will be the following:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Deacon of Worship
- Deacon of Stewardship
- Deacon of Social Ministries
- Deacon of Evangelism



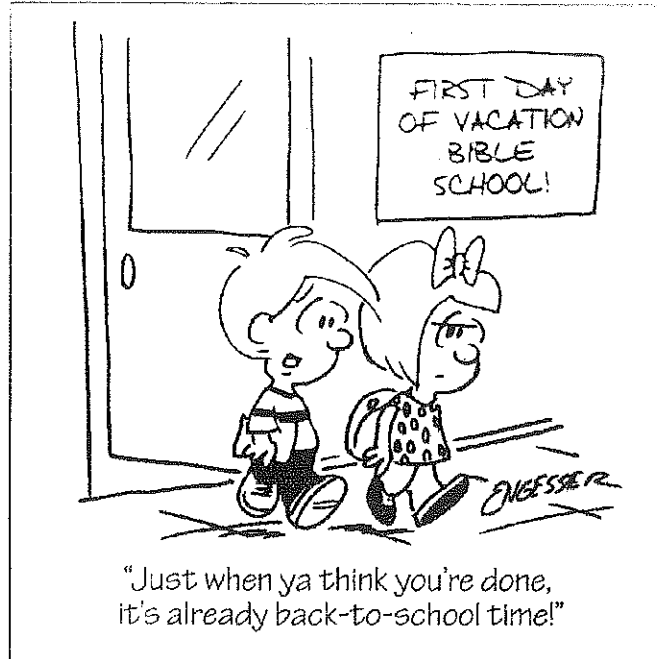
# MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	2 9:00am Office	3 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	4
5 9:30am S.S./ B.C. 10:30am Worship	6 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry 4:00pm Wearhouse	7 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	8 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	9 9:00am Office	10 9:00am Office 9:30 am Pantry	11
12 9:30 S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	13 9am Office 9:30am Pantry 4:00pm Wearhouse	14 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	15 9:00am Office 9:30a	16 9:00am Office	17 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	18
19 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	20 9 am Office 9:30am Pantry 11:30 B.C. 4:00pm Wearhouse	21 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	22 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	23 9:00am Office	24 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	25
26 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship	27 <b>CLOSED</b> <b>Office,</b> <b>Pantry, and</b> <b>Wearhouse</b>	28 9:00am Wearhouse 1:00pm Office	29 9:00 am Office 9:30am Pantry	30 9:00am Office	31 9:00am Office 9:30am Pantry	



**Lutheran Church  
of Our Blessed Savior**  
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PO Box 206  
Alexandria, IN 46001

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



## May Participants



### ORGANIST

5 Marilyn Pierce  
12 Marilyn Pierce  
19 Marilyn Pierce  
26 Marilyn Pierce

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

5 Emily Closser  
12 Dick Zarse  
19 Mike Thompson  
26 Andrea Barnett

### GREETERS

5  
12  
19  
26

### COUNTERS

Becky Howard/Connie Knigga  
Emily Closser/Debbie Rissman  
Linda Howerton/Susie Remington  
June Zirkle/Marilyn Pierce

### LECTORS

Donna Key  
Shon Littlefield  
Tina Gilman  
Dr. Herb Berner

### SOUND EQUIPMENT

David Shears

### ALTAR GUILD

Becky Howard  
Sharon Thompson

### DEACONS

June Zirkle  
George Bennett  
Donna Key  
Becky Howard