



P.C.A. Witness
(Preaching Christ Always)



2023 Camp Update

69 Campers left early Saturday morning from Lennox to make up the 160 campers from South Dakota, Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri, Idaho, Wyoming, and Pennsylvania, for the 2023 OPC-PCA Bible Camp. This year's theme for the Camp was the **Abundant Goodness of God**: helping Campers to see the goodness of God revealed in Creation and Redemption. Each day the campers attended classes, chapel, and campfire taught by the Pastors, and had plenty of time for games, hiking, crafts, and even a trip to Sheridan Lake. The Camp Board thanks all those who contributed through their gifts and prayers to help make camp possible this year.

Vacation Bible School

It's time again to join the Super Sleuths Angus McTavish and Professor Dabney Thornwell as we investigate a great mystery in God's Word:

The Case of the Puzzling Parables.

Each day, our super sleuths will explore the parables of Jesus, learning about the Kingdom of God and King Jesus! Our VBS Program at Lennox Ebenezer is Christ-Centered and Gospel-Driven, spending time hearing the stories of the Bible and committing God's Word to our hearts. Combined with games, music, crafts, and snacks; you won't want to miss one night of VBS at Ebenezer.

The program is for Pre-K (4 year-olds) through 5th Grade Students.

July 23-27, 2023

Family Dinner from 5:45-6:20

VBS from 6:30pm-8:30 pm.

Scan the QR Code to register now!

Volunteers may sign up on the information sheet in the Church Narthex, or by calling Margaret Aylward or Crystal Kezar..



Pastor Ethan

Ethan Saylor, Pastor ~ reveds@msn.com ~ 712-229-6842 Church phone: Ext 302
Brenda Sinning, Church Administrative Assistant - lepc@iw.net Church phone: Ext 301
Church Phone — 605-647-2659 Church Website — www.lennoxpca.org
If you are unable to attend the morning service, you may watch it on cable 19 or 98
or you may Livestream the service by going to the website and clicking the link.

July



Anniversaries

- 3 Gene & Billie Valentien
- 5 Ryan & Michelle Stregre
Corey & Amy
Lundquist
- 12 David & Denise
Hanisch
- 15 Russ & Stacey Nelson
- 20 Mark & Jessica Luvaas
- 23 Chris & Kim Hanssen
- 26 Sam & Crystal Kezar
- 28 John & Linda Pien &
Justin & Margaret
Alyward
- 29 Jeremy & Patti
Timmermans



Birthdays

- 1 Brenda Ratliff
- 2 Patti Timmermans
- 4 Irene Koerner
- 9 Charlene Haan
- 10 Bruce Olson
- 11 Lori Bunjer & Linda
Pien
- 12 Brenda Peterson
- 17 Hunter Sargent
- 20 Grace Alyward
- 21 Marie Klingbile
& Tasha Haan
- 22 Gary Buse
& Jackie Lounsbery
- 24 Joyce Olson
& Jon Sinning
- 25 Donna Dykstra
- 26 Kimberly Hanssen, Lily
Kezar & Nathan
Strasser
- 28 Don Finnell

Loved with an Incomparable Love

Gomer was... an irascible woman married to a remarkable Hosea. She had the fidelity code of a prairie jackrabbit, flirting and hopping from one lover to another. She ruined her life and shattered Hosea's heart. Destitute, she was placed for sale in a slave market. Guess who stepped forward to buy her? Hosea, who'd never removed his wedding band. The way he treated her, you would have thought she'd never loved another man. God uses this story, indeed orchestrated this drama, to illustrate his steadfast love for his fickle people...

His is agape love. Less an affection, more a decision; less a feeling, more an action.

Our finest love is a preschool watercolor to God's Rembrandt, a vacant-lot dandelion next to his garden rose. His love stands sequoia strong; our best attempts bend like weeping willows.

Compare our love with God's? Look at the round belly of the pregnant peasant girl in Bethlehem. God's in there; the same God who can balance the universe on the tip of his finger floats in Mary's womb. Why? Love.

Peek through the Nazareth workshop window. See the lanky lad sweeping the sawdust from the floor? He once blew stardust into the night sky. Why swap the heavens for a carpentry shop? One answer: love.

Love explains why he came. Love explains how he endured.

His hometown kicked him out. A so-called friend turned him in. Hucksters called God a hypocrite. Sinners called God guilty. Do termites mock an eagle, tapeworms decry the beauty of a swan? How did Jesus endure such derision? ... "Observe how Christ loved us... He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us." Ephesians 5:2 MSG

~3:16: *The Numbers of Hope* Max Lucado



Adult Sunday School Class #1 is studying the book of Revelation using the Sunday School Guide publication.

Adult Sunday School Class #2 is led by Alan Rops. They are revisiting the Ray Vander Laan video series, "*That the World May Know*," beginning with the first

Christian Education News

set of videos in the series. All are welcome to attend.

Children's Sunday School classes are taking a break for the summer months and will begin again on September 10.

Rise with the Guys and the Women's Bible Study Group will *not* be meeting in July.

The Rachel Bible Study will *not* be meeting again until September, when they will begin a new study.

The amount given for the Lennox Schools Backpack program is at \$136.

This is above our regular monthly support of Ishimwe, our Compassion Child. Also, our monthly support for Ishimwe will be increasing from \$38 to \$43, beginning on July 1.

The 3rd Quarter project will be the Operation Christmas Boxes. There will be more information about assembling a box on the Sunday School bulletin board, in the Christian Ed hallway, outside of the Library doorway.

MISSION NEWS



Pete & Esther Errington ~ Beyond ~ Plano, TX

Thank you for praying for our co-workers and those they are discipling from unreached people groups. Several of you commented how much you appreciated reading the testimony of Gia who is bringing the gospel to her own community. Thank you for praying for Exploratory Conference! It was a great week and we're excited to welcome a new member with skills and experience in helping movements of disciples grow. We're thankful for our co-workers who hosted the group in their home and volunteers who prepared meals. Thank you for faithfully lifting us and this ministry up before the Father. He hears and is working.

Two couples hope to depart by the end of the summer but still lack 20-30% in monthly partnerships. Please pray for God's abundant provision so they will be able to go. Please keep praying for Patrick and Kristen's visa situation. They are trying another option. Pray their kids will be granted visas. Meanwhile they are learning the language, making friends, and sharing Jesus.

Esther's dad has been in the hospital. He needs major surgery, but healing from current complications and his body to get stronger must happen first. We need wisdom for what our family's involvement in this challenging situation should be. It is hard to be far away when our loved ones are suffering. We are praying about if/when to make a trip up to see both sets of our parents in the NW.

Thanks for praying for Talea's summer job. She got a part-time internship at a children's theater. She and Shiloh drove up to Iowa the middle of June for Northwestern College's theater camp - Talea working and Shiloh participating. Early in June, Aidan moved into an apartment with his good friend Tim. We miss having him at home, but know this is an important step in adulting.

RUF of MN

As some of you know, Brandon is on a well-deserved sabbatical, so our SuCo recap is brought to you by me--Rae, the Administrative Assistant. We were so blessed to bring 11 students this year. Our students spent a lot of time learning about their faith and making memories together. Thank you so much for all of you who have donated to and prayed for our trip to SuCo! We could not have given this adventure to our students without you. One of our students nicely summed up why we love taking our students to this conference, "highly recommend a week on the beach learning about Jesus while being surrounded by your favorite people! So thankful for this experience as it truly changed me for the better."

I am currently on freshman outreach duty: messaging each in-coming student on Instagram to let them know about RUF and planning our events for Welcome Week. I would ask for your prayers that our freshman outreach efforts would be fruitful and that our events (no matter how well attended) would be glorifying to God.

Praises - a blessed and safe time at SuCo, - bringing Rae on Staff. Prayer Requests - That Outreach over the summer would be fruitful, - A restful sabbatical for Brandon, - Financial support and prayer partners for Rae.

Union Gospel Mission Lamplighters Auxiliary

Our June meeting was held at Chancellor Reformed Church. Thank you for the many donations which were greatly appreciated. July and August will be summer break for meeting. Although the Mission will continue to hand out bottled water and hygiene kits along with sharing the gospel to homeless on the streets, the Mission is also in need of gently used clothing and shoes for those in need. The Lion's Club is offering free eye screening at the Mission. The Gospel Mission put on a block party with several activities, plus feeding 500 people. A mission group of 32 individuals helped with the preparation. The Mission is also partnering with Feeding S.D. and handing out food boxes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They can use more volunteers to help fill the food boxes. The next meeting will be on September 15th at Grand Valley Lutheran Church, of Canton, at 2 pm. Please keep the Union Gospel Mission in your prayers.

Officer Meetings

The Deacons of Mercy & Finance and Building & Property will meet on **Tuesday, July 11**, at 7:00 pm.

The Session will be meeting on **Monday, July 17** at 7:00 pm.

Please note the change of date being one week later in the month, due to the July 4th holiday.



"Reaching Christ Always"

305 West 1st Avenue Box 632
Lennox, SD 57039

LENNOX
EBENEZER
PRESBYTERIAN

The stated meeting of the session of Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church was convened by Pastor Sayler on June 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the conference room. Bob Steadman opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

Those present were Pastor Sayler, Marlyn Bunger, Bob Steadman, Don Heeren, Gene Valentien, and Arlon Knock. A quorum was present. Also present was Deacon of Mercy and Finance Ken Shaffer.

MSA the minutes of the May 15, 2023 meeting.

Ken Shaffer reported on the balance of the General Fund. He also reported that the Scholarship funds were now in a CD.

The Deacons of Property are in the process of replacing both stools in west men's restroom.

Don Heeren prayed for the work of the Deacons.

Church statistics:

Communion was served to 67 people on May 28, 2023.

Funerals for Larry Bunjer on May 26, 2023 and for Ruth Poppens on June 6, 2023.

Old Business:

Formal approval of email decision on the Worship Committee's recommendation: In loving memory of Larry Bunjer and his many years of faithful service to the church as Organist and Musician, the Worship and Music committee asks the session to set aside a season of silence from the organ during the worship services at Lennox Ebenezer for five weeks, one week for each decade of Larry's service.

Membership responses were addressed.

MSA to erase Sharon Bunjer, Marlys Vanderwerf, and Eldonna Hanisch from the membership roll of Lennox Ebenezer Presbyterian Church (according to BCO 38-4).

Pastor Sayler and several elders met with Dale Reed after the worship service on June 4th concerning the position of Christian Ed director. Pastor Sayler asked the session their response to the meeting and it was favorable. We will seek to have a more formal interview with Dale.

New Business:

Bob Steadman will preach on June 25th, as Pastor Sayler will be at camp.

MSA to allow Pastor Sayler to take vacation time July 5th to the 12th. Dan Reed will preach July 9th.

Committee reports:

Church use: Living Hope Church in Tea, SD has asked if they could use our church for the funeral of Bill Jorgenson on Saturday, June 17th. Permission was given.

Christian Ed: Plans for VBS continue. Some new material is being considered for S.S. for the elementary students.

Worship and Music: Communion will be served on July 18th as Pastor Sayler will be at Camp on the 25th. MSA to move the worship time on July 2nd to 9:00 am.

Missions: We rejoice for the funds given for the Camp Fund.

Pastor Sayler reported that there are 161 campers for Bible camp. He asked for prayer for the PCA General Assembly which is convening this week and for the week of bible camp.

The next stated meeting will be on July 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Prayer concerns were shared.

Pastor Sayler closed the meeting in prayer at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlyn Bunger, clerk

The Deacons of Mercy & Finance and Building & Property met on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm, in the conference room at the church. Those present were: Dave Strasser, Jim Kickland, Mark Van Ruler, Richard Lounsbery, Jeff Haan, Ken Shaffer, Jeremy Timmermans, Casey Slack, Justin Alyward, Cliff Wulf, Bruce Olson, Ron Hanssen, Billy Welch and Pastor Ethan Saylor. Absent, but excused, were Adam Aesoph and Randy Dump.

The meeting was opened with scripture and prayer.

Discussion was held regarding establishing a scholarship in memory of Larry Bunjer that would be used to benefit someone from the church who would be interested in taking lessons to learn to play the organ.

A broken agraffe was replaced on the piano on May 25. The organ was also serviced on May 30 and found to be in good working order, except for the LED screen which is unreadable. The cost to replace it is estimated at \$400. MSA to replace the LED screen on the organ. These expenses will be paid out of the Music Ministries fund.

Pastor Saylor presented a proposal from a young Lennox area man working on his Eagle Scout project. He has asked for the Deacons approval to place a food box outside of the church building. Approval of the project was denied at this time.

The Deacons of Building & Property left the conference room to hold their own meeting at this time.

Pastor Saylor also reported that we are \$3,000 short of the money needed for the Camp Fund at this time.

Treasurer Brenda Sinning reported on and presented the May 2023 financial statements for the church.

The Deacons Fund has a balance of \$6,626.24.

Dave Strasser brought up the need to have two more signers for the Deacons Fund checking account. MSA that Justin Aylward and Ken Shaffer will be added to the signature card for that account.

Communion for June 25 will be prepared by Mark Van Ruler (juice) and Richard Lounsbery (bread).

Ken Shaffer closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Van Ruler, Secretary

The Deacons of Building & Property held a work night following the joint meeting with the Deacons of Mercy & Finance. The toilets in the Men's restroom by the church offices were removed, with one of the new toilets being set. The second toilet needed additional parts and was set a few days later that week.

A list of items to be accomplished includes new white boards in the classrooms in the Christian Ed wing, a kitchen cupboard drawer to be repaired in the main kitchen, light bulbs to be replaced in the office/fellowship hallway, put in a new light switch, dirt work to be done by the southwest MPR door, and replacing some of the chairs with armrests in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Billy Welch, Secretary



*Blessed is the nation
whose God is the LORD,
The people He has chosen
as His own inheritance.
Psalm 33:12 (New King James Version)*

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			The Exchange is open every Wednesday from 3:30 - 4:30 pm			1
2 9:00 am LEPC Worship Service 10:30 am Comm. Worship Service	3	4 Church Offices Closed for the 4th of July Holiday	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting	12	13 1:00 pm Women's Connection	14	15
16 Mission Offering Today	17 7:00 pm Session Meeting	18	19	20	21	22
23 VBS 5:30 pm Meal 6:30-8:30 pm VBS	24 VBS 5:30 pm Meal 6:30-8:30 pm VBS	25 VBS 5:30 pm Meal 6:30-8:30 pm VBS	26 VBS 5:30 pm Meal 6:30-8:30 pm VBS	27 VBS 5:30 pm Meal 6:30-8:30 pm VBS	28	29
30 Communion	31					The Exchange is open every Saturday from 9:00 -10:00 am.

Good News Crossword Puzzle



memory verse

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life. ~John 3:36

Dying and Rising Again (1 Corinthians 15:1-8; 1 Timothy 1:15)

Why did the Son of God become a human? Was it to teach us about God? Was it to heal the sick? He did those things and much more. But the real reason He came was to die. As a human, He could die for our sins. Because He is God, He rose again. He came to save sinners and take them to heaven one day, if they believe in Him.

What to Do

* Look up the verses below, find the missing word in each sentence, and print it in the puzzle. Then unscramble the circled letters to discover what the Good News of salvation is called.



Across

1. All have sinned and come short of the _____ of God. (Romans 3:23) KJV
3. We believe that Jesus died and _____ again. (1 Thessalonians 4:14) KJV
4. Whosoever believeth in him should not _____. (John 3:16) KJV
5. I give unto them _____ life. (John 10:28) KJV

Down

2. _____ died for our sins. (1 Corinthians 15:3) KJV
3. _____ and turn to God. (Acts 26:20)
6. I am come that they might have _____. (John 10:10) KJV

			2							
1	○									
			3		○	○				
				○						
4	○									
5										6
										○

What is the Good News of salvation called?

The _____

Taste and See That the Lord is Good

Homemade Strawberry Lemonade

Brenda Ratliff

1 c sugar

1 c water

2 c fresh strawberries, washed & stemmed

1 1/2 c lemon juice, about 6 lemons squeezed

6 c cold water

Lemons & strawberries for garnish

Gather all the ingredients and a medium-sized saucepan. Pour 1 c water, sugar and strawberries into the pan. Bring to a boil for about 5 minutes. Place the mixture into a blender. Blend on high until there are no strawberry pieces left. Strain to remove the seeds & pour the liquid into a large pitcher. Add lemon juice, 6 cups cold water and some ice. Garnish with thin slices of lemon and strawberries.

This recipe is from Pinterest and is the perfect drink for your July 4th gatherings on a hot day. Simple ingredients, simple to make, simply delicious! Enjoy!

Food for Thought

The sun blasts cancer-causing rays. Air vents blow lung-clotting molds. Potato chips have too many carbs. Vegetables, too many toxins. And do they have to call an airport a terminal?... Some of us have postgraduate degrees from the University of Anxiety. We go to sleep worried that we won't wake up; we wake up worried that we didn't sleep. We worry that someone will discover that lettuce was fattening all along. The mother of one teenager bemoaned, "My daughter doesn't tell me anything. I'm a nervous wreck." Another mother replied, "My daughter tells me everything. I'm a nervous wreck." Wouldn't you love to stop worrying? Could you use a strong shelter from life's harsh elements? God offers you just that. Not less worry, but no worry. -- Max Lucado,

"Do not worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need." Philipians 4:6