Volume 4, Issue 2

A Publication of Stromsburg Covenant Church, Stromsburg, NE

February 2022

Thoughts from Pastor Craig

I was perusing through an old academic scrapbook and came upon my church's newsletter the year I was confirmed. Along with the confirmation picture was the Pastor's Reflections on the left side of the front page. My pastor was the Rev. Evan Goranson Sr. Here's what he wrote:

"It was the end of the day at Disneyland (in California). What a day for the family it had been! We all had one ticket left for a ride to take together. We wanted it 'tame.' We decided on the Alice in Wonderland ride, but we had forgotten the story. First, Alice falls down the rabbit hole. In our Alice in Wonderland ride, we began to tumble in the darkness, the whole family in a scary experience together.

In the darkness of our tumble, I felt the hand first of one, then of another member of my family reach out and clutch my arm, my shoulder.

A father in the family is to be a source of strength and security. We should be there to be the 'home base a family member can reach out and touch when life begins to tumble, or the way is dark. I read of a small boy whose mother asked to put the empty milk bottles out on the porch. (editor's note, newsletter article was written in 1978 and milk was delivered in bottles a decade earlier) That way, they would be ready for the milkman when he made his delivery in the morning. The boy took the

bottles, opened the door, and looked out into the pitch darkness. Turning back, he said, "It's too dark to go out without a father."

Our God has promised to be 'our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble,' stated Psalm 46:1. No one wants to endure the darkness of life alone. Earthly fathers and mothers provide security for their families. God is a shelter for us all."

My home church pastor died this month 16 years ago. He was my first spiritual father and whenever I give the benediction at church, I think of him and usually use the same words to "bless you and keep you" before you leave our sanctuary. I think the story of his parenthood memory was a good analogy of how he served as a minister too; when things seemed hectic and out of control at church, he was a source of calm and a voice of reason for 22 years.

But he would've never lifted himself up as a calmer and more steady and dependable influence than God. And if there's a legacy I'd hope to carry on as a pastor from one of his confirmation classes, it would be that I'd always put God's presence as the place to go rather than mine. There may have been an egotistical bone in Evan Goranson's body, but I never found it. May it someday be so in me.

IN CHRIST, Pastor Craig

Strengthen Faith, Cultivate Community, Care for Neighbors



February Dates to Remember



Wednesday, February 2, 2022—Kingdom Kids starts again at Salem Lutheran Church. 5:30—6:30 pm Wednesday nights. Pre-K—6th Graders welcome.

Sunday, February 6, 2022—Worship with Communion at 10:30 am

Sunday, February 13, 2022—Super Bowl Party at the Pinleys'

5:00 pm—Invite a friend! Bring a drink or snack to share

Monday, February 14, 2022







Thursday, February 17, 2022—Rescue Mission Meal at 5:30 pm

Saturday, February 19, 2022—Sweetheart Banquet

Sunday, February 20, 2022—Lead Team Meeting—6:00 pm





Saturday, February 26, 2022—Elevate Youth Group Ice Skating at Mahoney Park 1:00—6:00 pm. For 7th—12th grades. Cost is \$5 to skate. (Meet at church at 1:00 pm)





Brian Hier	Feb 3
Benj Cooper	Feb 4
Zach Bowerman	Feb 9
James Hennessy	Feb 13
Mark Hanson	Feb 17
Amy Bowerman	Feb 22



Dale & Julie Hennessy	Feb 3
John & Amy Bowerman	Feb 10
Dan & Lorrain Nielsen	Feb 14
Dennis & Connie Nuttelman	Feb 15
Doug & Linda Johnson	Feb 18
Marv & Mary Wadell	Feb 28

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Financial Update:

2021 Budget Summary (1/1/21 through 12/31/21)

Needed Income: \$ 143,978.00 Actual Income: \$ 147,619.80 Difference: \$ 3,641.80

Budgeted Exp: \$ 143,978.00 Actual Exp: \$ 140,161.36 Under Budget: \$ 3,816.64 ONLINE GIVING: To make a one-time or scheduled reoccurring gift to our church, please visit:

www.stromsburgcov.org and click on ONLINE GIVING.





Ministry Team Leaders:

Lead Team:

Dennis Nuttelman 402-366-9803

Worship Ministry Team:

Neeli Noyd 402-363-3082

402-764-0345

Fellowship & Hospitality: Pat Everingham

Christian Formation:

Judy Hanson 402-764-6681

Outreach:

Julia Schram—402-710-9561 Shayla Hier—402-764-0261

Properties:

Kent Erickson 402-765-6721

Prayer Concerns? Please contact Connie Nuttelman to have a request go out on the prayer chain or to be included in the bulletin. Connie's number is 402-366-9045 or you can send an email to prayerchain@stromsburgeov.org.



Ministry Partners:

Sunday, Feb 6, 2022

Greeters: Ken & Pat Everingham Fellowship: Pat Everingham Scripture: Eleanor Greenwall

Pianist/Worship Leader: Ryan Cooper Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dennis

Nuttelman, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Ellie Pinley, Jodi Johnson

Sunday, Feb 13, 2022

Greeters: Bob & Cindy Orsborn Fellowship: The Hier Family Scripture: Jeannie Ahlquist Pianist: Sue Rosenbaum

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley

Audio/Visual: Sara Noble

Thursday, Feb 17, 2022

Rescue Mission Meal: Pat Everingham

Sunday, Feb 20, 2022

Greeters: Kent & Cheryl Erickson

Fellowship: TBD Scripture: Bob Orsborn

Pianist/Worship Leader: Ryan Cooper

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne

Nielsen, Neeli Noyd

Audio/Visual: Ellie Pinley, Jodi Johnson

Sunday, Feb 27, 2022

Greeters: Bob & Eleanor Greenwall

Fellowship: TBD

Scripture: Mary Wadell Pianist: Sue Rosenbaum

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Sara Noble

Audio/Visual: TBD



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sundays: 8:30 Worship Team 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship		I	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	S
9		&	6	10	II	12
13 SPER BOWL PRESENTED STORY DINIEYS'	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 5:30 Rescue Ministerin Mission to the Meal Homeless	18 200	19 Sweetheart Dinner
20 6:00 pm Lead Team Meeting	21 PRESIDENTS PRESIDENTS	22	23	24	25	26 1-6 pm Rodh Ice (Rating Party
27	28		Wednesdays: 9:00 Moms in Prayer 5:30 Kingdom Kids KINGDOM			