Stromsburg Cov News

Evangelical Covenant Church of Stromsburg, NE June 2020 Volume 2, Issue 6

A Word From the Pastor

When I was a kid, there was a television show that starred Peter Graves. It was called "Mission Impossible" and at the beginning of each episode there'd be this recording that would tell the main character, "Your mission, if you choose to accept it...," and then at the end of the message, the recording would self-destruct, followed by exciting spy music.

For Madelynn Hennessy, Korah Hier and Lorelei Schram, your mission, which you accepted, was to complete a two-year confirmation journey that began with one pastor (Heidi Wiebe) and ended with Pastor Craig this past school year. You have done what I asked and we'll get to celebrate the finish of that journey on Sunday, June 14th, at our 10:30 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary. We'll also remember our high school graduates with church connections following church that morning. Jacob Nielsen and Austyn Ostrom from Cross County High and Zane Bowerman of York High recently celebrated graduations on May 16th and 17th respectively.

To be honest, I wasn't sure WHEN this Confirmation Sunday would occur, because until early May we weren't allowed to meet inside the church for worship. So from mid-March until a few weeks ago, we pieced together our final lessons, discussing King Saul, King David, and creating a Psalm for the Coronavirus, among other things, while social distancing in our fellowship hall on Wednesday afternoons.

In the meantime, we did live stream worship services with six in the sanctuary (mostly) with a worship team in front for praise songs and my preaching most Sundays (Dennis Nuttelman on April 26th) for the folks at home. Amazingly, we had a few hundred 'hits' most weeks, so we knew people were worshiping from home. And as we have begun doing 'normal' worship services with people in the pews, we plan to upgrade our technology to continue the live stream videos. Our leadership team voted (on May 17th) to pursue this possibility and we've had people come and give feedback on best solutions for doing so.

As I close off our month-long sermon series on the Holy Spirit, the Pentecost story from Acts 2 is the finale and I'm wondering if perhaps a pseudo-recorded message like that of Mission Impossible will be coming to us soon: "your mission, should you choose to accept it, will be to go in such-and-such direction and minister in Christ's name with the Spirit's power and a united front..." or something like that.

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UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS

June 7

Psalm 8

June 14

Numbers 13:17-20;

26-33;14:1

June 21

Matthew 10:24-39

June 28

Genesis 22:1-14





While we wait for that message, I'm choosing to use lectionary texts to preach for the month, other than Confirmation Sunday. So, if you like to read ahead for that week's sermon text, here's what's coming:

 \Rightarrow June 7 Psalm 8

⇒ **June 14** Numbers 13:17-20; 26-33 and 14:1 (Confirmation Sunday)

⇒ **June 21** Matthew 10:24-39 (Father's Day)

⇒ **June 28** Genesis 22:1-14

In July, we'll likely continue with lectionary texts and continue that trend into August as well. We'll discuss a fall sermon series with our leadership team in the coming weeks. It could be a gospel, it might be a letter to a church, or an Old Testament book like Genesis, Exodus or Judges. I'll spare you the lists of laws for now; seems like the COVID 19 instructions have been more than enough for the bulk of us this spring.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Craig

Thanks For the Help!

On May 20th, we were blessed to have a number of people from our congregation doing clean-up around the church and parsonage. Thanks to properties committee chair Kent Erickson for organizing and to him and Sue Rosenbaum, Johanna Nielsen, John Sundberg, Marv Waddell, Dennis Nuttelman, and Mark Hanson for the help in cleaning gutters, clearing leaves and branches, and other landscaping duties that afternoon. Earlier this month, Ellie Pinley helped me with cleaning up the yard at the Lovgren residence and Marv moved excess leaves and branches once we were finished. And on May 21st, Linda Johnson and Judy Hanson brought food to Living Water Rescue Mission as part of our monthly service to that entity. Thanks for your service, all of you.





Condolences

We pray God's blessing on the Hanson family on the passing of Sue on May 6th. A graveside service was held on May 9th. Please keep Sue's husband Herb in prayer and the extended families of four children (Scott, Amy, Tami and Jill) in the coming days and weeks.

CHURCH FAMILY

Birthdays:

Jim Younglund

Isaac Novd

June 2 Gracelyn Everingham Daphne Mentink June 5 Linda Johnson June 7 Jena Mentink June 9 Jeannie Ahlquist June 10 **Bob Greenwall** June 15 Delores Nielsen June 16 Cindi Perdue June 23



June 23 Jay & Vicki Platt June 1 June 25 Phil & Linda Pelc June 9 June 28 Ken & Pat Everingham June 24

JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER:



Sunday, June 14, 2020: Confirmation and Graduation Sunday!

Join us for worship at 10:30 am, followed by a reception celebrating our confirmands and graduating seniors.

Confirmands: Korah Hier, Lorelei

Schram, and Madelynn Hennessy

Graduates: Austyn Ostrom, Jacob Nielsen, and

Zane Bowerman





Thursday, June 18, 2020: Rescue Mission Meal

Sunday, June 21—Father's Day!



Friday—Saturday, June 26-27, 2020—Rummage Sale! Mission Trip Fundraiser! If you'd like to help with the rummage sale please let Pastors Craig or Mary know.





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@stromsburgcov.org.



JUNE MINISTRY PARTNERS

Sunday, June 7

Greeters: Kent & Cheryl Erickson

Coffee Time: TBD Scripture: Bob Orsborn

Worship Team: Sue Rosenbaum, Craig

& Mary Pinley, Dennis & Connie

Nuttelman

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, Kohen

Hier

Sunday, June 14

Greeters: Gaylen & Jeannie Ahlquist

Coffee Time: TBD

Scripture: Jeannie Ahlquist

Worship Team: Sue Rosenbaum, Craig

& Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, James

Hennessy

Thursday, June 18—Rescue Mission Meal

Sunday, June 21—Father's Day

Greeters: Bob & Cindy Orsborn

Coffee Time: TBD Scripture: Mary Wadell

Worship Team: Sue Rosenbaum, Craig

& Mary Pinley

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy; Kohen

Hier

Sunday, June 28

Greeters: Dale & Julie Hennessy

Coffee Time: TBD

Scripture: Dianne Nielsen

Worship Team: Sue Rosenbaum, Craig

& Mary Pinley, Neeli Noyd

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy; James

Hennessy

NEWS FROM THE PEWS:





Mission Trip Rummage Sale Fundraiser: It

Rummage Sale looks like the mission trip will be postponed until next summer due to COVID 19. However, the mission team will begin raising funds for Louisville—NEXT summer. One of the ways is with a rummage sale here at the church on June 26-27, 2020. You can begin bringing in your unwanted items now if you'd like to donate them to the sale. We are collecting them in the southeast corner room (labeled 1-3 grade) of the church. If you need help in bringing your items in please contact Pastors Craig or Mary.

Covenant Cedars Update:

All summer camps have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. At this time the women's retreat is still scheduled for October 2-3, 2020 and a men's retreat is being considered for the weekend of October 23-25, 2020. Please be praying for Covenant Cedars as they are facing staff changes and possible financial challenges. More information can be found on their website at www.cedars.org.

VBS: If we are going to do VBS it will probably be July 27-31. Registration forms are up on the website. Since we were unable to have the Sunrise Service this year, which is when we take an offering along with the Methodist and Lutheran churches to offset costs of our joint VBS, we are asking for people to consider donating toward VBS. If you would like to do this just put VBS in the memo line of your check to the church, or if you'd like to contribute online you can do so at www.stromsburgcov.org. Click on "Online Giving" and you can specify that you'd like your donation to go toward VBS.





FINANCIAL UPDATE:

2020 Budget **Summary**

(1/1/2020 through 4/30/2020)

Needed Income: \$42,923.33 **Actual Income:** \$28,006.50 Difference: (\$14,916.83)

Budgeted Exp: \$42,923.33 Actual Exp: \$36,243.99 Difference: (\$6,679.34)

ONLINE GIVING: To make a one time or scheduled reoccurring gift to our church, please visit:

www.stromsburgcov.org and click on ONLINE GIVING.

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Worship Team: Sue Rosenbaum 402-560-6759

Fellowship & Hospitality: Pat Everingham 402-764-0345

Christian Formation:

Judy Hanson 402-764-6681

Outreach:

Dave Schram 402-710-8858 Shayla Hier

Properties: Kent Erickson 402-765-6721



