

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28)

When I was growing up, I had this conviction that everything has to be equal. Unfortunately, it was my personal understanding of equality. If I did end up with an advantage in a situation, I didn't complain. But if the situation did go against me and I felt cheated, boy did I throw a fit. You could ask my parents about the fit I threw during a family ballgame at the Johnson home place. I had a solid hit, and was going to reach first base easily, until my mother took first base away and I got tagged out. It became the 'cry behind the tree' incident. Forty years later my family can still recall the event.

Recently my son, Joseph wrote a paper for one of his Waldorf classes entitled, "No Equality of Outcome". It was in response to a question one of his history professors proposed, "Can a government be established to ensure an outcome of equality for its citizens?" What an enormous question. The Declaration of Independence for the United States addresses equality in 1776, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Are we created equal? Do we all begin with the same capacity for knowledge, physical abilities, and longevity? If I do the right stuff, can I be as smart as Albert Einstein, or physically gifted in basketball as Lebron James or live until 102 like Cyndi's dear Nana? Probably not, for my genetics have different limits than Einstein, James or dear Nana.

Joseph shared a great example how a government's attempt at creating equality can be counterproductive. He pointed out that Affirmative Action can be destructive when the academic standard for admission is based on your heritage over your academic abilities. If your GPA is 3.5 with a MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) score of 30, based on your heritage, here is the percentage of chances to get in medical school. If your African, 91%. Hispanic, 79.9%. Caucasian, 55.6%. And finally, if your Asian, a 50% chance. This creates an academic mismatch. A student's academic credentials will automatically put them at the bottom of their class. Which can lead to them picking an easier field or all together dropping out. (<https://www.heritage.org/courts/commentary/how-affirmative-action-colleges-hurts-minority-students>).

The parable of Talents in Matthew 25 begins with an owner sharing his property with his servants. *To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to their ability* (Mt 25:15). Each according to their ability. This is an important emphasis. We are created differently and have different abilities. Our equality comes from how we invest in the gifts we have. In the parable of Talents, the ones who doubled their gifts were given the same level of praise. The one who hid their gift was rejected.

I believe we all have the same capacity for love because the same Holy Spirit of God dwells in each of us. It is in this equality of love we can share in the same outcome of eternal life.

In Christ's eternal loving embrace,

Pastor Shannon



Pastor: Shannon Bauer
BlessedToServe@yahoo.com
Office 507-263-2926
Cell 507-298-7719

Office Hours by appointment - please call
or email Pastor Shannon

Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Music: Prudy Busch
<http://www.wangenprairie.org>

COUNCIL MINUTES, March 13, 2022:

Lori opened with prayer.

Secretary and Treasurers reports were presented and approved.

Old Business:

- Pastor did not get over to the Kenyon Senior Living as of this time.
- Pastor will get to power washing Church when weather warms. Pastor did remove frayed rope from the bell, will replace soon.
- Cyndi did contact the LCMC on setting up a retirement account for the Pastor, they have started the paperwork.
- The trustees will need to check the back door for repair, Joyce said Roger looked at it last fall and thought it to be okay.

New Business:

- A congregational meeting will be posted at Church for May 1st for the purpose of deciding on an amount to contribute to Pastor Shannon's retirement account with the LCMC.
- A discussion was held on a couple of possible constitution changes for our faith statement, and the definition of our membership. The Deacons will take a look at this and would like input from any of our members. Please contact Deacons if interested in these topics. If they determine changes are needed we will post a congregational meeting for this at a later date.
- Pastor has asked for prayers for Gol Lutheran Church, they have reached out to him for advice on the differences of the ELCA and the LCMC.
- Carol has had our furnace fixed.
- Lori will address concerns about the restroom.
- Pastor has asked if we would consider looking into the possibility of installing an Elevator at Church. He will contact someone at Stordahl Lutheran to see how they addressed it and whom they used.
- Pastor asked for help from the council with the Good Friday service, he assigned roles.

Meeting closed with the Lords Prayer.

Shirley



April Missions:

Lutheran Braille Evangelism Association: \$1081.30

Samaritan's Purse: \$1181.30 (Extra due to designated contribution)

Helping Hands = No contributions this month



May Mission: Sharing and Caring Hands is a compassionate response to the needs of the poor. We are set up to be a safety-net organization to help with whatever needs are not being met. This includes but is not limited to providing meals, clothing, showers, shelter, transportation help, rent deposits, rent help, medical assistance, dental care, furniture, school expenses, and other miscellaneous needs. Sharing and Caring Hands provides these with dignity, while affirming God's love for all his people regardless of their circumstances. We reaffirm the self-worth of each individual and want to assist in that person reaching his or her greatest potential.

<https://sharingandcaringhands.org>



Second May Mission: Red Wing Area Homeless Shelter Committee: In 2012 a group of local citizens formed the Red Wing Area Homeless Shelter Committee to address the needs of homeless individuals and families in our area. All committee members are unpaid volunteers, and all money raised goes directly to help the homeless. We pay to house the homeless through a long-term arrangement with a local motel. Shelter is provided year-round to single persons and families for single or multiple night stays. For more info see letter in this newsletter.

Red Wing Area Homeless Shelter Committee

In 2012 a group of local citizens formed the Red Wing Area Homeless Shelter Committee to address the needs of homeless individuals and families in our area. Our committee has carried out this mission by raising money from multiple sources and using it to pay for temporary shelter. All committee members are unpaid volunteers, and all money raised goes directly to help the homeless. We pay to house the homeless through a long-term arrangement with a local motel. Shelter is provided year-round to single persons and families for single or multiple night stays.

During the calendar year 2021 we provided short term emergency shelter for 79 persons- 18 children and 61 adults for a total of 419 hotel stay nights. Ideally emergency stays are very short term, and the people affected are able to transition to suitable longer terms arrangements in housing and other aspects of their lives. We work actively with other organizations toward these ends.

We have worked in collaboration with the HOPE Coalition, Connecting Connections, Youth Outreach, Salvation Army, Southeast Housing and Redevelopment Authority, the Red Wing Police Department, the City of Red Wing, and area churches. The HOPE Coalition's housing advocate is a committee member.

This year our committee has become a 501 (c) (3) corporation. We believe this will allow us to be more efficient in helping homeless people as it will allow large donors such as corporations and foundations to take tax deductions for contributions. Potential contributors such as religious organizations are not bound by that IRS rule.

There are many ways you can help. Churches can provide donations from their regular budgets or host a Shelter Sunday and collect a free will offering.

It is important to include the word "homeless" in the memo line of a check sent to HOPE Coalition. This will get you to our account. Perhaps the most important thing any of us can do it to become active advocates for and with the homeless.

On behalf of the homeless, we thank you for the support you have given. You really do make what we do possible. You are welcome to keep up with us on Facebook.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact committee chairperson Jerry O'Rourke at 651-388-3348.

Gerald O'Rourke, Committee Chairperson

4207 Hickory Street

Red Wing ,MN 55066

More detailed information about the second May mission

March 5, 2022

Dear Cannon Valley Church:

Once again we will observe the National Day of Prayer in our community and we are inviting all church congregations to participate. This event is not sponsored by any individual church, but by representatives of our congregations in Cannon Falls and the surrounding area. Will you please include the following announcement in your church newsletter and bulletins? If you have any questions, please feel free to email me @ jdlevin4@gmail.com, or call me @ 263-3223 or Eileen Quam @ 263-2078.

Thank you,

Debbie Levin

On behalf of the Cannon Valley National Day of Prayer Committee



Exalt the Lord who has established us
Colossians 2:6-7 (Nasb)

Please mark your calendars for this community prayer event!

What: 23rd Annual Prayer for the Cannon Valley in observance of the National Day of Prayer

When: Thursday Evening, May 5, 2022
6:30 pm

Where: St. Ansgars Lutheran Church Sanctuary

Who: All are welcome to join us in prayer for our nation and our community!

Light refreshments will follow the service

THANK
YOU!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Annette Roth <aroth@cesmn.org>

Date: Thu, Apr 7, 2022 at 3:56 PM

Subject: Thank you to the Wangen Prairie Lutheran Church congregation for their support of CES
To: bauergutters@gmail.com <bauergutters@gmail.com>

Pastor Shannon,

It was so nice to be able to talk to you. Please share with the congregation how much the support will mean to the neighbors we serve. We have seen a 24% increase in the use of our food shelf. The rise in costs are affecting families and seniors and often they have to make tough choices on how to make their finances stretch.

In 2021 we provided 126,588 neighbors of CES with food and hope. Due to our location we are serving people who often have no personal means of transportation so they ride the bus or are served by our Home Delivery. The support from the congregation will help to continue to serve those who come hungry but leave hopeful.

The link to our recent newsletter:

<https://2n2g92ytuo52y1d83tpo4y-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CES-Nwsltr-Spring22.pdf>

Blessings,
Annette Roth

Community Emergency Service, Inc.
1900 11th Ave. S. | Minneapolis, MN 55404
www.cesmn.org



Weekly Verse to Ponder



May 1-7: *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.* 2 Corinthians 5:17

May 8-14: *Come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.* Matthew 11:28-30

May 15-21: *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.* Jeremiah 29:11

May 22-28: *I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.* Philippians 4:13

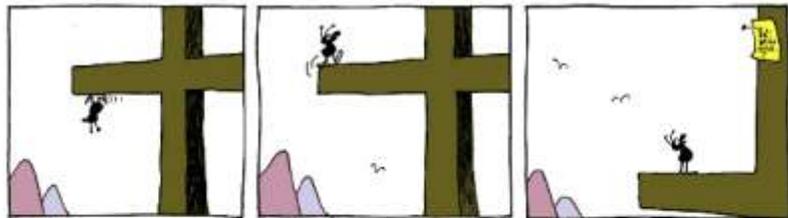
May 29-June 4: *I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.* Galatians 2:20

Please email Sarah at dandsbanner@gmail.com, call 507-789-4611 during the day, or call 913-685-3031 (cell phone) to leave a message if you want anything included in bulletin or newsletter. Bulletin deadline is Thursday evening, newsletter is the 25th of the month.

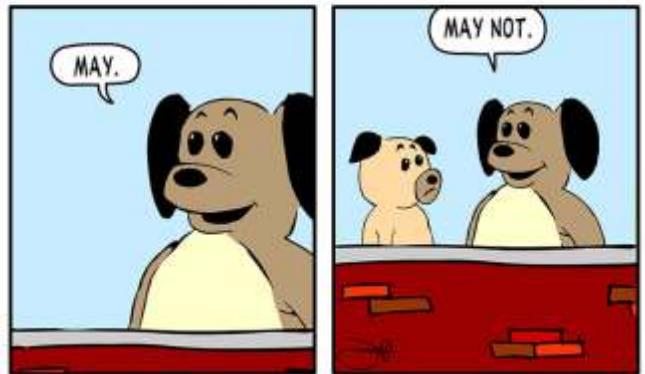


DID YOU KNOW PONTIUS PILATE WROTE "JESUS...THE KING OF THE JEWS" ON THE CROSS AT CALVARY, AND THE PRIESTS GOT REALLY MAD?

SO WHAT DID HE DO?



PRAYER PUPS BY JEFFREY SMITH



IN THE FOURTEENTH CHAPTER OF LUKE, BEGINNING WITH THE TENTH VERSE, WE READ, "WHEN YOU ARE INVITED, GO AND SIT IN THE LOWEST PLACE SO THAT WHEN YOUR HOST COMES HE MAY SAY TO YOU, 'FRIEND, GO UP HIGHER!'"

"EVERY ONE WHO EXALTS HIMSELF WILL BE HUMBLED, AND HE WHO HUMBLES HIMSELF WILL BE EXALTED."



MOTHERS OF THE BIBLE CROSSWORD

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EVE

JOCHEBED

ELIZABETH

SARAH

PHARAOHS DAUGHTER

REBEKAH

NAOMI

MARY

RACHEL

HANNAH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>First Day of Asian Pacific 9am - Worship/Communion</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>9am - Quilting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Cinco de Mayo 9:30am - Bible Study</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Mother's Day 9am - Service of the Word 10:15am - Council Meeting</p> 	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am - Quilting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Arneigh and Barb Berg 9am - Worship/Communion</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Shirley Kobryn Birthday</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9am - Quilting</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9am - Service of the Word Pastor Shannon gone</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Joseph Bauer Birthday</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9am - Quilting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Cyndi Bauer Birthday Joyce Sheets Birthday</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30am - Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day</p> 	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Dan and Sarah Jystad anniv 9am - Quilting</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>