



JUNE 2024  
NEWSLETTER OF  
LAKELAND LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

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June 2024 Message for Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders

Dear Beloved of God –

*May grace and peace be yours in abundance (1 Peter 1:2a).*

In preparation for my Ordination as Bishop on January 26, 2013, my spouse, Cathy, and I commissioned for the worship a poem to be read during the service.

The author, Deacon Dr. Faith Nostbakken, considered the texts for the worship, the hymns selected for congregational song and ensemble singing, as well as a handful of images, metaphors and pastoral themes which are deeply meaningful to me.

Mike Lee, a wonderful artist, prepared the poem in calligraphy and it hangs next to my desk at the synod office, beautifully framed by another artist, Colleen McGinnis.

I have returned to this poem again and again as I have served as synod bishop. Read these words when the days were long and challenging. Read these words when hope was bright and vision clear.

Read these words through tears and silent prayers. Read these words as I have wondered about this call...to me.

And now, as I have discerned that it is time for me to conclude this ministry...not retire...and enter a new season and a new call, I have read the poem again and again, praying for that person, the bishop-elect, who is called to follow and to remind us "of the wondrous ache and splendor of love."

### **Ordination**

Nobody asks for drowning, certainly not the infant  
gently tilted head towards the font,  
arms and legs splayed suddenly with fear,  
maybe a whimper or a shrill cry  
as the robed one sifts through the sparkling water  
and touches the tiny brow, barely downy with hair,  
the rhythm of "The Father. . . and of the Son . . . and of the Holy Spirit"  
incanted before a finely woven linen cloth dabs away the drops.  
Everyone so easily forgets that dying can begin like this,  
the cross fingered again on the forehead at the dawn of each new day.  
Nobody asks to have her feet washed either,  
not on Maundy Thursday even, unless her shoes  
are polished, her stockings free of runs and easily removed,  
her toenails trimmed and filed that very morning.  
Maybe then she offers but can't quite face the eyes  
of the one who silently lifts her foot from the basin,  
wraps it awkwardly in a freshly laundered towel,  
drying the creases between each toe.  
Most would rather forget how almost embarrassing it is  
to be served this way by a neighbor or a friend  
much less the One incarnated in this sacred, tender act.

Nobody asks to be called into paradox either  
when the people proclaim, "You lead!"  
and in the same voice add, "You serve!"  
our meanings translated into as many tongues  
as join in song and blessing on this day.  
Wash my feet, but don't embarrass me.  
Splash my head with the font's damp cross  
but don't let me stay in the drowning.  
As you shepherd, walk beside us;  
notice how cracked our feet really are,  
how chapped our hands,  
and whenever we meet eye-to-eye,  
(especially try to meet us there)  
call us brother, sister, as we are yours,  
and remind us, so we don't forget,  
of the wondrous ache and splendor

of love made whole first by being broken,  
made new first by dying,  
made perfect by the One whose body  
here and now we are,  
heads, hands, feet, eyes, tongues and all.

*The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).*

In Christ Jesus –  
Shalom,  
+ Larry

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## Worship Service Lessons for June

Sunday June 2 – Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Psalm 81:1-10; 2 Corinthians 4:5-12; Mark 2:23-3:6

Sunday June 9 – Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

Sunday June 16 – Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

Sunday June 23 – Job 38:1-11; Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

Sunday June 30 – Lamentations 3:22-33; Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

## JUNE WORSHIP INFORMATION



June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10am Service of the Word, led by Cheryl Benoit

June 9<sup>th</sup> – 10am Service of the Word, led by

June 16<sup>th</sup> – 10am Service of the Word, led by Anne Tucker

June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 10am Service of the Word, led by

June 30<sup>th</sup> – 10am Service of the Word, led by

The prayer families for June are: [Le](#); [Lohmaier/Peeler & MacLeod](#)

## Church Safety

Now that we are finally back in our building there are a few safety instructions we all need to follow when leaving the church. If you are the last person to leave the building, please do the following:

- **Check all blinds are lowered so that rooms are not visible from the outside.**
- **Make sure all internal/external doors are closed.**
- **Set the alarm using your code.**
- **Lock the external door on leaving.**

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy in the office and she will be happy to run you through any of these procedures.

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## Information from our Witness & Outreach Committee

Our June focus is a coffee and tea drive for the Cold Lake Food Bank. These products are not provided to the clients on a regular basis, so we feel it would be great to provide these to the clients as a special gesture for the month of June!

Things needed are coffee (regular and instant), tea (regular and herbal), hot chocolate, coffee mate, coffee filters, canned milk, and sugar.  
There will be a tub to put them in beginning on Sunday, June 2, 2024.

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## CHECK OUT THE JUNE CALENDAR FOR ALL ACTIVITIES

Are we missing anything from our newsletter? Is there something you wish to have in our newsletter on an ongoing basis?

Please make sure that any inclusions for the Summer Newsletter reach the church office by June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Members and Friends

We are refreshing our List of Volunteers for church and user functions in our facility.

Events like weddings and celebration of life/ funerals, and any use of the facility may require helpers to make an event happen. You might be asked to help set up the Sanctuary or fellowship hall for an event, supervise the use of the kitchen, or simply open and close the facility. We hope for 6 or 8 volunteers. Please contact Facility Coordinator Bill C if you are able to help. Thank you for sharing your time.



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## BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

Keith Scheidt  
Dan Walchuk  
Shirley Kirstien

Bonita Porter  
Roman Affolter

Barb Singleton  
Anastasia Radke



## ANNIVERSARIES IN JUNE



Lisa and Gord Wickstrand



Thank you to everyone who came to the church to help with our Annual Spring Clean.