

Leganger Lutheran Church
PO BOX 337
Toronto, SD 57268



Outgoing Addressee

Applying Bible Principles:

“. . . ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you” (Luke 11:9).

God has a wonderful “system” by which we as His children are to get our needs met. It’s a very simple “system,” but somehow, we fail to utilize it as we should. Here’s the plan: God says we are to ask Him. Is that simple or what? We are to call unto Him, to cry out our needs before Him, to bring our petitions before His throne. But somehow, we must think His plan is too complex, for with most of us, asking God is the last thing we do when we have needs.

Oh, we’ll tell our friends. We’ll discuss our needs with any and all who have the patience and courtesy to listen. We’ll frequently complain about our problems, even to the extent of sometimes holding God responsible for His seeming failure to provide for us. But ask God? Usually, we’ll do that only as a last resort.

The result is a sad state of affairs among Christians. “You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures” (James 4:2-3). So, our needs go unmet because either we do not ask or we ask with wrong motives.

J. Irvin Overholtzer was a pastor who was greatly used by God as the founder of Child Evangelism Fellowship. His philosophy of providing for the financial needs of this world-wide organization was this: “Ask God . . . and tell His people.” Yes, we need to share our needs with others. We ought to make others aware of opportunities for them to get involved in being used of God to meet those needs. But the *first* step in the entire process is this: “Ask God.”

And when we do, we can claim His promise stated so clearly in Jeremiah 33:3 — “Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.”

Katie's Korner:

Romans 5:3-5 And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us., NRSV

Romans 14:8-9 If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living., NIV

During worship on April 21, I shared my testimony. If you hadn't been in worship that day, I shared the exciting news that Joel and I are expecting. I felt though, that I could not share this news without also sharing the hardships that Joel and I faced in the years leading up to this time. You see, Joel and I have lost three children through miscarriage.

The exact reasons of a miscarriage, are never really known. When we had our first miscarriage in June 2022, the doctor said "This happens, we encourage you to try again." Knowing the promise of our marriage - that God joins two together to become one and bear fruit - we did try again. That same year, in October, we miscarried our second child. Doctors again said "Try again. We can't send you forward for further testing until you have a third miscarriage. Miscarriages happen, it could be your next pregnancy is completely fine."

It was at this point, that our suffering began to lead to dark and difficult days. Joel and I decided to wait a little while before trying for our next child. When we did conceive again, we lost our third child in March 2023. The referral to a reproductive specialist was finally given.

My ministry here at Leganger was deeply impacted throughout this time. Though, I never publicly named the hardships of miscarriage or losing a child, I still spoke about it to you. I have named hardships, trials, and dark days in my sermons. I have prayed over the health questions that are faced in life – mostly for those of you who have

Katie's Korner continued:

shared private prayer requests. But whether in a sermon or in prayer, I named the experiences I have faced too without really naming them.

God's light reaches into our darkness – our suffering – our hardships – all things that we endure in this world, and brings promise. That is why I hope today. I hope for life in Christ. And I know that in death or in life, Christ has given life to the child I now carry and to the three Joel and I have lost.

Know that the same is true for you in your darkness too. God's promise of life is yours today as you live and breathe, and on the day you die. Peace be with you in the shadows of your darkness.

A prayer: Father God, I trust in your promise of life and thank you for giving me the will to hope in it. Amen.

Ladies of Leganger Notes

Leganger Women met for Bible Study/regular meeting on May 1, 2024. Lori and Meg shared information for the Bible Study portion of the meeting. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Meg reported that 57 quilts were brought to Church on the Street in Sioux Falls and another 60 will be transported in the near future. Thirty May baskets were packed and delivered by Leganger members.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and table grace. Meg was the hostess. The next meeting will be June 5th for Bible Study with Betty as hostess.

Ruth Lenning, Secretary

Dates to Remember:

- 5/5-7 - First Call Retreat in Pierre (no Pastor office hours May 7th)
- 5/8 - Final confirmation class.
- 5/12 - Confirmation. Students and families are providing a meal in the social hall after the service. Everyone is invited to attend!
- 5/12 – Worship at ENCC (Leganger students invited to come sing.)
- 5/20-24 – Pastor on vacation. Will work offsite.
- 5/21 – Deubrook American Red Cross Blood Drive, White, Noon-6:00pm, School Cafeteria.
- 6/1 - Community Men’s Fellowship Group, at 9:00am. Coffee and food items are provided.
- 6/5 - Church Women 2:00pm.
- 6/5 – Council Meeting; Boards 8:00pm, Council 8:30pm.
- 6/7 - Deadline to register for Day Camp June 17-20. Scholarships are available. Please contact Pastor Katie.
- 6/10-16 – Pastor on Vacation. Substitute pulpit supply.



Caring and Sharing

*Reminder weekly cleaning, serving coffee fellowship and ushering.

May Caring and Sharing Group 3: *Ruth Lenning and Holly Lunden chairs* Harlan and Ruth Lenning, Troy and Betsy Lenning, Warren and Holly Lunden, Haley Lunden, Hannah Lunden, Josh and Jackee Lunden, Jordan and Kelsey Monnier, Christopher and Nicole Monnier, Riley Monnier, Todd Hanna, Linda Grimlie, Kelli Franken, Kristen and Jeremy Hunter, Betty Steinmetz, Anita and Steve Knutson, Ross Quail, Jaimee and Erick Froiland, Johnny Roelofsen, Carly Bergstadt, Jenna and Kevin Petersen, Janell Milton.

June Caring and Sharing Group 1: *Lori Jorenby chair* Lori Jorenby, Mark Jorenby, Karen Jorenby, Gary and Tracy Bandemer, Mason and Ryleigh Bandemer, Daniel and Gayla McKibben, Scot Rymerson, Nick and Laura Kuntz, Carie Knutson, JoAnn Horner, Barb Mohror, Arlene Bird, Jim and Lynn Slaney, Tony Knutson, Logan and Haley Jurrens, Kelly and Katie Sieve, Cory and Heather Quail, Lonni Potts, Tammy Morris, Stacy Collins.

ATTENTION PARENTS!

DAY CAMP

Students grade 1st – 6th

June 17-20, 2024; 9:00am – 3:00pm

Blom Prairie Church

\$25/per camper/ Max \$45/Family

Register by June 7th. Forms available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Questions? Call Carie at 605 690-7943

Scholarships are available – contact Pastor Katie

Deacons' Report

With joyful hearts, we are excited for Pastor Katie and Joel and pray for a safe and healthy pregnancy. We will continue to support Pastor as best we can.

As we enter the planting season, let us reflect on the beautiful metaphor of sowing seeds and tending to our spiritual growth.

Just as a farmer carefully selects the finest seeds and prepares the soil for planting, so too must we choose to sow seeds of faith, hope, and love in our lives. We must cultivate the fertile soil of our hearts through prayer, meditation, and reflection, creating a nurturing environment for these seeds to take root and grow.

In the midst of planting, there is an element of trust and patience. We trust that the seeds we sow will eventually bear fruit, but we must also patiently wait for the process of growth to unfold. Similarly, in our spiritual journey, we must trust in the divine plan for our lives and have patience as we wait for God's timing.

Just as a farmer diligently tends to their crops, watering them, removing weeds, and protecting them from harm, so too must we tend to our spiritual growth with care and diligence. We must nourish our faith through regular spiritual practices, surround ourselves with positive influences, and guard against anything that might hinder our growth.

As we labor in the fields during this planting season, let us also take time to cultivate the gardens of our souls. Let us sow seeds of kindness, compassion, and forgiveness, knowing that in due time, we will reap a harvest of blessings beyond measure.

May this planting season be a time of renewal and growth, both in our gardens and in our spirits. May we plant our seeds of faith with joy and anticipation, trusting in the promise of a bountiful harvest to come.

Please feel free to reach out to any of us.

Tracy, Johnny & Carie

Council Notes:

The Leganger Lutheran Church Council met Wednesday May 1, 2024. Members present: Pastor Katie, Seth, Anita, Todd, Dennis, Troy, Josh, Carie, Johnny, Jaimee and Gay (interim secretary). Johnny led devotions. Gay read the minutes from the prior meeting. Carie made the motion to approve, Anita seconded.

Treasurer's Report: The bank sent notice that the Choir Fund savings account has been inactive for two years. The account will be reactivated. Music personnel will be contacted to determine if they have any needs that the funds could be used for. The month of April ended in the black \$247.76.

Deacons Report: Planning is underway for Pastor's maternity leave absence.

Pastor Report: Pastor gave a thorough report of her April and May activities. She summarized current progress on her Clergy Coaching training and Suicide Prevention Skills training. She will be on vacation May 20-24, but will still continue to perform necessary church duties working offsite. Todd will be unable to attend Synod Assembly May 31-June 1st in Sioux Falls. Seeking another person to attend in his place. Let Pastor know if you'd like to attend.

Trustees Report. The north door has been ordered. Thank you to Chad for picking up sticks and clean up in the church lots.

Board Of Education: Teachers held a successful wrap-up meeting with ideas shared for the next SS year. Vacation Bible School planning is in progress.

Old Business: None

New Business: Meg is currently opening and closing church doors every day. Thank you, Meg. A Cemetery clean-up day will not be necessary as Greg and Sherry Lunden have taken care of this. Thank you to them for completing this task.

Next meeting June 5th. Boards 8:00 pm, Council 8:30 pm.

Dennis made a motion to adjourn; Josh seconded. All stood and prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Gay Evenson

April Treasurer's Report

Income was \$11,449.19; monthly expenses were \$11,111.71. A transfer of \$89.72 from the Sunday School Offering was made to the Sunday School Offering Mission Fund. We received a total of \$2768.50 for the Lenten Season. Lenten and Advent offering is used to meet our budgeted Mission line items. Items paid with the Advent offering are as follows:

- Church on the Street - \$100.00
- Listen, God is Calling - \$150.00
- Missionary Sponsorship - \$1,500.00
- St. Dymas - \$200.00
- World Hunger - \$400.00
- Lutheran Outdoors - \$250.00

The month ended with a surplus of \$247.76. Thanks to everyone for their generous giving.

Online giving is ramping up. We are showing an increase in the giving support through this new opportunity. Thanks to all who are utilizing this new opportunity.

Propane Account balance to date is \$1830.54. Anyone wishing to designate funds for the coming purchase of propane can note that on your giving envelope. Anyone that is using the Online Giving Tool, who wish to designate funds to the Propane Account, please contact Anita with the amount once you have given using the tool.

In God's Love,
Anita Knutson, Treasurer

Reminder:

Does your contact information need to be updated?
Please email information to leganger@itctel.com

Who Is Your Generosity Hero?

he·ro/'hirō,'hērō/ *noun*

- 1) A person admired for achievements and noble qualities
- 2) One who shows great courage.

As you think about the people who have inspired you in your life journey, who stands out as your **generosity hero**? Who have you known to consistently step in the gap and meet the needs of others, often in quiet and unexpected ways, but sometimes as a challenge for others to join the effort to make a difference? Who best demonstrates an understanding of their role as the temporary caretaker of resources provided by God? Is there someone whose courageous spirit of giving has surprised and inspired you?

Share these questions over dinner or coffee. Consider taking a few minutes to write a note of thanks to your hero. Think about how you might become someone else's **generosity hero**. The world could use a few more today.

Kathy McHenry
Executive Director and Generosity Coach
Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD
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2024

CALENDAR YEAR

MAY

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Pastor's Schedule and Church Events

Office hours vary, but Pastor Katie will try to be in her office from 9-4 Tuesday and Thursday, Wednesday from 10-7. Any variance is due to visitation, errands, text studies, and meetings. She is available on Friday's now too, but will be working from home.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 01 Women's Circle 2:00 Confirmation 6:00 Council Meeting 8:00 boards, 8:30 Council | 02 Pastor in Training Suicide Prevention and Clergy Coaching (On Thursdays through 23rd) | 03 | 04 Community Men's Fellowship Group 9:00am |
| 05 Worship 10:30 5th-7th Pastor at First Call Retreat | 06 5th-7th Pastor at First Call Retreat | 07 5th-7th Pastor at First Call Retreat | 08 Final Confirmation Class 6:00 | 09 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Worship 10:30 Confirmation Sunday | 13 | 14 Medary Conference Meeting 9:30 - 12:30 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Worship 10:30 Deubrook Graduation | 20 20th - 24th Pastor working offsite / on Vacation | 21 20th - 24th Pastor working offsite / on Vacation | 22 20th - 24th Pastor working offsite / on Vacation | 23 20th - 24th Pastor working offsite / on Vacation | 24 20th - 24th Pastor working offsite / on Vacation | 25 |
| 26 Worship 10:30 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Hendricks Nursing Home Worship 2:00 pm | 31 | 01 |
| 02 Worship 10:30 | 03 | 04 | 05 Women's Circle 2:00 Council Meeting 8:00 boards, 8:30 Council | 06 | 07 | 08 Community Men's Fellowship Group 9:00am |