

Applying Bible Principles:

God uses money or the lack of it to confirm His direction for our lives. When God burdens our hearts concerning a specific action, and we confirm His leading by His Word, we can obey Him, being confident He will provide what is needed, even when circumstances appear contrary.

This is nowhere truer than in the area of giving. Frequently, people will realize that God is wanting them to give to Him, but they somehow cannot bring themselves to do so. After all, they reason, they just do not have any available funds to give to the Lord or His ministries, including their local church.

According to First Corinthians 14:33, God is not a God of disorder. He desires things to be done decently and in an orderly fashion. He will not burden our hearts to give if there is no possible way for us to obey His leading. Too often, though, God's money has been left at the department store or some other place. It was in our possession all along, readily available to be used in response to His leading, but our own sense of selfish ambition caused it to be used in a way other than what He intended.

When God burdens our hearts to give, and we confirm His direction based upon His Word, we can obey and trust Him to provide, even if we don't understand exactly how He will do so.

Solomon put it this way: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

By the way, is God leading you to give to His work at Leganger Lutheran Church today? Have you confirmed His leading by His Word? Are you uncertain as to the source of the funds? Great — that's exactly the situation where God can show Himself strong in your life and confirm His direction as you step out in faith and obey Him.

Katie's Korner:

Ruth: As a 28X great grandmother to Jesus you would think Ruth would be adorned in gold and fine jewelry. Instead, she was a foreign woman with little say against tradition. And still, she exuded loyalty not just to God as her God but to her mother-in-law and then to her future husband. Though we do not have red letter text, we see God at work in this woman and the way that her story interacts with the future of the whole world.

Ruth 1:16-18: 16 But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. 17 Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." 18 When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

Ruth is almost like a pestilent fly as this book starts out. She and Naomi have lost all the security they have ever known - husbands, children, and they face a famine too. It is with these losses that they go to return to Naomi's home in Bethlehem. As they go, Naomi realizes that she has nothing more to offer her daughters-in-law and bids them to return to their father's homes. One daughter-in-law goes as she is told but Ruth stays with Naomi. These verses above are her words to her mother-in-law after she is asked to leave her be.

At times nothing can seem to be right in our worlds. Everything that can go wrong, does and we are left with very little. For Naomi, she was left widowed and without her boys. For Ruth, she was left with no husband and no child born of their marriage. There are widows and widowers here at Leganger. There are parents who have lost children. There are homes that are not secure. There are finances and food that are unstable. Broken relationships, broken hearts.

This example of determination from Ruth is not something all of us can exude, especially when we face situations like this. On the other hand, God is one to hold such determination as Ruth does here. For you, God will be just as determined. He will go where you go and stay where you stay. He will call others to be his people alongside you. God will be with you when you die, having died for you already, so that not even death can separate you from him.

A prayer: Father, thank you for your steadfast determination to be in my life. Encourage me with your daily presence. Amen.

Dates to Remember:

- Next Community Men's Fellowship Group, April 6th at 9:00am. Coffee and food items to be provided.
 - Thrivent members, you have until March 31st to direct your Choice Dollars to Leganger. Thank you to the members that have directed funds to Leganger!
 - Lenten services will be at **7:00pm**. Lenten services will be led by Erika Lehman 3/13 and Pastor Katie 3/20. All of these worships are at Leganger.
 - Meals will be provided before Lenten worships starting at **6:00pm**. The Lenten meal schedule: 3/13 – Men; 3/20 – Youth.
 - 3/24 - Palm Sunday, Lenten Fair during Sunday School, Children will sing during church service.
 - 3/28 - Maundy Thursday Service will be at 7:00pm. (Students receive first communion.)
 - 3/29 - Good Friday will be at 8:30pm.
 - 3/31 - Easter Morning Worship will be at 7:30 am. Breakfast to follow. No Sunday School.
- 4/2-4 Spring Theological in Brookings – Pastor will NOT have office hours Tuesday – Thursday.
- 4/10 – Council Meeting
 - 4th Sunday (April 28th) - Sunday School will sing and youth will be providing doughnuts during coffee fellowship.



Caring and Sharing

*Reminder weekly cleaning, serving coffee fellowship and ushering.

March 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.

April Caring and Sharing Group 2: *Meg Thomas chair.* Meg Thomas, Dennis and Diane Stroschein, Jesse and Emily King, Kevin and Karie Molengraaf, Al and Jane Moore, Jill Moore, Helen Budahl, Dale and Beth Overby, Alex Watt, Amanda and Derek VerHelst, Royce and Kim Harringa, Al and Gay Evenson, Seth and Cassandra Evenson, Chad and Heidi Grimlie, Greg and Sherry Lunden, Kari Quail, Jon and Jodi Ekern, Rick and Darlis Nase, John Roelofsen.

February Treasurer Report

Income was \$8,215.94; expenses were \$9,222.06. We ended the month with a deficit of -\$1,006.12

HyVee receipts to date \$60,585.13. Thanks to everyone for saving their receipts.

In God's Love,
Anita Knutson
Treasurer

Reminder:

The church office is in need of your contact information
Please email info to leganger@itctel.com

Deacons Report:

As we journey through the sacred season of Lent, it is an opportune time for reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent calls us to pause, to look inward, and to deepen our connection with God and one another.

1 Peter 5:6-7 “**6** Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. **7** Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

We continue to support pastor as needed. Please feel free to reach out for anything.

Tracy, Carie, and Johnny

Ladies of Leganger Notes

The Leganger Women met March 6, 2024, for Bible Study-regular meeting. The study was a shared event. The secretary and treasurer reports were read and approved. A donation from the Meyer family was acknowledged. We will no longer be ordering greeting cards to sell.

The Medary Conference Spring Gathering will be April 6th in Flandreau and the South Dakota Synod Gathering will be in Mitchell July 19th and 20th.

Sharon made a motion and seconded by JoAnn to donate \$300 for one cleaning of the church, all in favor. There was discussion on the serving responsibilities as well as supporting World Hunger. Melody is making a monetary donation to be used for the May Basket project.

Thanks to Jesse and Emily King for working with the youth to serve the Lenten suppers. The quilters are continuing with their mission. The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer and table grace. Carie was the hostess. The next meeting will be April 3rd with Ruth as the hostess.

Ruth Lenning, Secretary

Council Notes:

The Leganger Lutheran Church Council met Wednesday March 6, 2024. Members present: Pastor Katie, Seth, Jesse, Dennis, Troy, Johnny, Tracy, Carie, Todd, Jamie (via telephone) and Gay (interim secretary).

Johnny led devotions.

Gay read the minutes from the prior meeting. No additions or corrections.

Treasurer's Report: - No report due to Anita's absence. Todd reported a donation was received for the use of the kitchen.

Deacons Report: Deacons continue to support Pastor.

Pastor Report: Pastor gave a thorough report of her February activities and approaching months' activities. Pastor is organizing acolyte training (and first communion class) for 5th graders along with scheduling acolytes in grades 5 – 12. Planning is underway for a variety of enjoyable summer connection events. The Church website has been updated. Past newsletters are now accessible on the site.

Trustees Report. The north door was inspected and a quote will be available soon. Money has been set aside for this expense. Maintenance work was performed on the organ. An invoice has not been received yet.

Board Of Ed: Jamie reported that Middle School age students will be combined with the upper grades through the balance of SS year. Children did a wonderful job last Sunday singing at the Estelline nursing home. Check Leganger's Facebook page for a picture. Students' current group activity - Resurrection Eggs. Eggs are filled with symbols of the Resurrection Story.

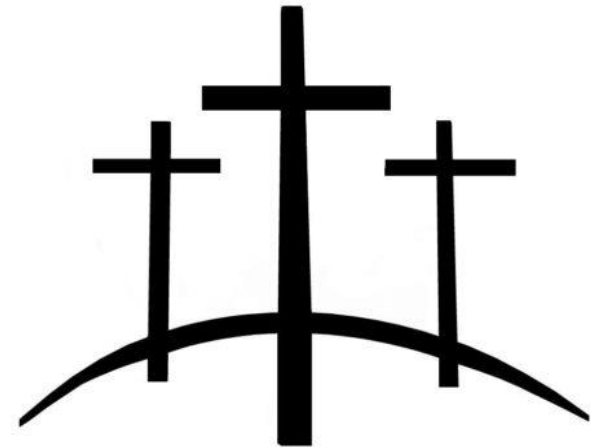
Old Business: Todd agreed to be a member of the Secretary Hiring Committee. Committee has reviewed job description duties and an application was developed.

Council Notes continued:

New Business: The large metal desk in the Secretary's office was declared as *surplus*. It will be removed and given away to anyone interested in taking it. Thank you to Gay for filling in as interim secretary. Todd mentioned that Toronto Days will have community worship as usual. Leganger will participate in the service.

Next meeting April 10th. Boards 8:00 pm, Council 8:30 pm. Jesse made a motion to adjourn; Johnny seconded. All stood and prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Gay Evenson



More thoughts to share...

On page thirty in the book, *The Lives We Actually Have*, is a poem titled: “for when you’re running on fumes”. One of the paragraphs says the following:

“Responsibilities and duties and errands
are wearing me down.
There is not enough time or energy
or finances or imagination.”

Don’t we all feel that sometimes? This book, by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie, is filled with “100 Blessings For Imperfect Days.” And ooooo don’t we need that sometimes. Don’t we need the reminder that in God there is also rest too? A rest given to such a degree that the limits of our time, energy, finances, and imagination has no actual effect on said rest!

Matthew 11:28 - “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

In this busy run through Lent and up to Easter, we hope that God will help us. This time becomes weary, when it should be filled with joy. This time becomes burdened when it should help us to feel weightless.

But in this busy time, if we keep our focus on Jesus, we will find rest. For that is what this Lenten journey is all about. That is what our Easter celebration is meant for.

Rest in Jesus this season. Hear the good news that Jesus was sent by God to conquer your sins and death and to give you hope filled, joyous, weightless life!

Pastor Katie

*Wishing
you
a blessed
and
holy
Easter!*

2024

CALENDAR YEAR

MARCH

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
25	26	27	28 Lent 6:00pm meal 7:00 Worship	29	01	02 Community Men's Fellowship Group 9:00am
03 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30am	04	05	06 Women's Circle 2:00pm Lent 6:00 meal 7:00 Worship Council Meeting after	07	08	09
10 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30am	11	12 Medary Conference Meeting 9:30 - 12:30 Clear Lake, SD	13 Lent 6:00pm meal 7:00 Worship	14	15	16
17 Sunday School 9:30 Worship 10:30M	18	19	20 First Communion Class 4:00pm Lent 6:00 meal 7:00 Worship	21	22	23
24 Lenten Fair during Sunday School 9:30 Palm Sunday Worship 10:30am with Kid's Singing	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00pm (with students receiving First Communion)	29 Good Friday Worship 8:00	30
31 Easter Morning Worship 7:30am Breakfast following, no Sunday School	01	02	03	04	05	06 Community Men's Fellowship Group 9:00am