

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk...

O God, Our Help

What will the New Year bring? As people consider the future some are filled with worry and fear. Perhaps the economic uncertainties or the potential of failing health bring anxiety. Others are filled with joyful hope and expectation. A college graduate looks forward to starting a new career; expectant parents count down the weeks and days until the due date of their child.

Every New Year is filled with uncertainties which may cause feelings of concern for some or joyful anticipation for others. Thankfully, as children of God, we know that the Lord is with us as we walk into an unknown future. Regardless of how the day-to-day events affect us or our family, our loving Father is always there to be our Rock of security and comfort.

A beloved Christian hymn by Isaac Watts expresses well the comfort we have in the Lord, especially as we begin a New Year:

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.*

*Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.*

Looking back at the past year we rejoice to see how the Lord has brought us to the beginning of this New Year. Yes, there have been times of sorrow and pain. But the Lord has been our Shepherd to guide us through these valleys. There have also been many times of rejoicing, especially in the good gifts

from our Lord. For the one and certain constant in all things is the merciful presence of the Lord among His people. We are comforted with His promise to be with us always.

Let us walk each day of the New Year in the grace of God and the peace He gives us in Christ being content with our earthly life and all that happens here. As St. Paul writes in Philippians: *For I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.* (4:11-13)

As you begin this New Year take time to thank God for His past help blessings and the future blessings to come. God has given us life and salvation in His Son, nothing can take away that great gift of God: ... *neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 8:38-39)

*Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the opening day.*

*O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!*

Have a blessed New Year!

Pastor Knuth

Select Mission for January:

Pregnancy Resource Center of Dodge County

AROUND PELLA

“2019 STATISTICS”

BAPTISMS

Name	Birthdate	Baptism
Blakely Ann Mitchell	12-5-18	6-23-19
Veda Evelyn Pulda	5-28-19	8-4-19
Avery Raine VandeSlunt	4-22-19	8-11-19

MARRIAGES

Elizabeth Liana Knuth & Aaron John Weiglein 5-4-19

MARRIED

50 YEARS OR LONGER



	<u>Wedding Date</u>	<u>Years married</u>
Wallace and Shirley Peters	Sept. 2, 1944	75 years
Harvey and Carol Schmitz	April 7, 1956	63 years
Edwin and Kathleen Swan	June 9, 1956	63 years
Kenneth and Ruth Pluim	Aug. 25, 1956	63 years
Gerald and Alice Rahn	June 8, 1958	61 years
Ronald and Judith Homan	June 21, 1958	61 years
David and Phyllis Williams	July 26, 1958	61 years
Cleburn and Donna Talley	Nov. 1, 1958	61 years
Thomas and Gloria Bella	Nov. 22, 1958	61 years
Donald and Beverly Schultz	April 18, 1959	60 years
Leroy and Janet VandeSlunt	Aug. 28, 1959	60 years
Eugene and Elaine Wook	Oct. 10, 1959	60 years
Terry and Marnie Zamzow	Aug. 11, 1962	57 years
Merlin and Sandy Bowe	Sept. 28, 1963	56 years
Daryle and Nancy Buss	Feb. 13, 1964	55 years
Fred and Sandra McIver	May 1, 1965	54 years
Lyle and Jayne Hull	June 26, 1965	54 years
John and Marilyn Meyer	June 26, 1965	54 years
Dennis and Bernice Schultz	Oct. 2, 1965	54 years
George and Rosemary Baumann	June 25, 1966	53 years
Thomas and Bonnie Streblov	Nov. 18, 1967	52 years
Albert and Kathleen Preston	July 27, 1968	51 years
Kenneth and Sharon Long	Feb. 22, 1969	50 years
Larry and Charmaine Holz	June 7, 1969	50 years
Kenneth and Valerie Loehrke	Aug. 2, 1969	50 years

Golden Anniversaries in 2020:

Kenneth and Monica Baumhardt	Aug. 22, 1970	49 years
Terry and Shirley Canniff	Nov. 28, 1970	49 years
John and Sharon Stephens	June 13, 1970	49 years

FUNERALS

Name	Date of Death	Date of Funeral
Marvin Groth	12-30-18	1-5-19
Otto Zills	2-10-19	2-14-19
Jennie Ludwig	3-13-19	4-4-19
Edward Bernthal	4-4-19	4-9-19
Helen Krueger	5-18-19	5-22-19
Fred Zurbuchen	7-5-19	7-10-19
Sandra Panzer	11-23-19	11-26-19
Wayne Zuhlke	11-29-19	12-3-19
Lucille Ninneman	12-2-19	12-9-19
Marvin Kaul	12-13-19	12-17-19
Carol Oppermann	12-18-19	12-23-19

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH— MISSOURI SYNOD STATISTICS

Total Congregations	5,991
Baptized Members	1,911,187
Confirmed Members	1,503,351
Active, Ordained Workers	6,077
Active, Comissioned Workers	5,524
Career Missionaries	102



Information taken from November issue of
The Lutheran Witness.

AROUND PELLA

"FOUR SCORE CLUB"

Edna Beske	Sept. 22, 1920	99	David Williams	Nov. 4, 1932	87	Cleburn Talley	Mar. 17, 1937	82
Evelyn Walsh	June 12, 1922	97	Thomas Bella	Dec. 9, 1932	87	Beverly Schultz	Apr. 30, 1937	82
Edna Heilmeyer	June 28, 1922	97	Franklin Christian	Jan. 28, 1933	86	Donna Talley	July 19, 1937	82
Mildred Bleich	Nov. 6, 1922	97	Carol Edmunds	April 26, 1933	86	Carol Roska	Nov. 10, 1937	82
Irma Voeltner	Nov. 16, 1923	96	Phyllis VanHierden	July 19, 1933	86	Janet VandeSlunt	Feb. 11, 1938	81
Wallace Peters	Mar. 11, 1924	95	Ronald Homan	Aug. 29, 1933	86	Gerald Gnatkowski	Feb. 24, 1938	81
Betty Zurbuchen	Mar. 29, 1924	95	Edwin Swan	Sept. 12, 1933	86	Marjorie Peachey	April 17, 1938	81
Shirley Peters	Dec. 24, 1925	94	Charlotte Hagen	Sept. 21, 1933	86	Loretta Gedamke	May 25, 1938	81
Alice Rahn	Dec. 31, 1925	94	Joyce Cerjance	Oct. 8, 1933	86	Kenneth Pluim	May 31, 1938	81
Lathorial Wedman	July 17, 1926	93	Gloria Bella	Jan. 31, 1934	85	Judith Homan	July 18, 1938	81
Phyllis Beske	Aug. 10, 1926	93	Donna Mertz	Mar. 31, 1934	85	Merlin Bowe	July 31, 1938	81
Marjorie Bentley	Sept. 12, 1926	93	Carolyn Kaul	Aug. 20, 1934	85	Fred Mclver	Oct. 21, 1938	81
Gerald Rahn	May 15, 1930	89	Kathleen Swan	Aug. 29, 1934	85	Dorothy Dykstra	Nov. 17, 1938	81
Kenneth Gedamke	Nov. 12, 1930	89	Harvey Schmitz	Nov. 4, 1934	85	Sharon Anderson	Nov. 28, 1938	81
Marilyn Raddatz	Jan. 21, 1931	88	Grace Hermann	Nov. 20, 1934	85	Gladys Witkowski	Feb. 27, 1939	80
Barbara Hellman	April 1, 1931	88	Donald Schultz	Aug. 25, 1935	84	Eugene Woock	May 28, 1939	80
Marion Birkholz	Aug. 1, 1931	88	Leroy VandeSlunt	Oct. 24, 1935	84	Florence Hanna	Sept. 16, 1939	80
Albert Zabel	Aug. 30, 1931	88	Amber Zills	Nov. 14, 1935	84	Eileen Westhuis	Oct. 7, 1939	80
Roger Randrup	Sept. 9, 1931	88	Don Cerjance	April 9, 1936	83			
June Hammann	June 1, 1932	87	Edwin Wiese	Aug. 25, 1936	83			
Robert Benson	July 3, 1932	87	James Braatz	Oct. 22, 1936	83			
Phyllis Williams	Aug. 18, 1932	87	Carol Schmitz	Jan. 31, 1937	82			
Lois Groth	Aug. 24, 1932	87	Ruth Pluim	Mar. 5, 1937	82			

Joining during 2020 will be:

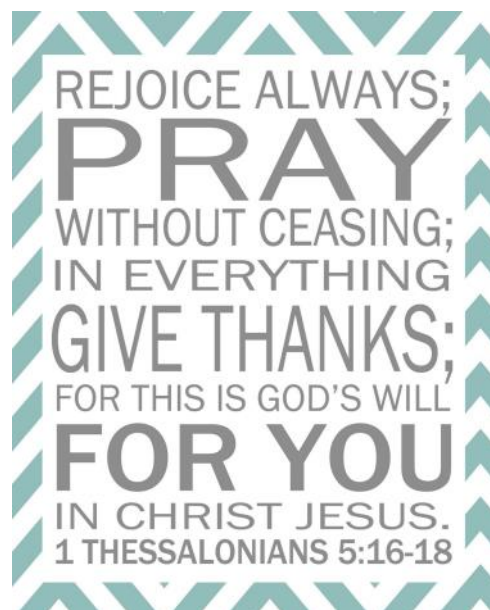
Gary Luchini	July 6, 1940	79
Sandy Mclver	July 2, 1940	79

January Birthdays

3 Carston Ordonez	20 John Meyer	28 Michael Nolan
4 Braelyn Bruesch	20 Jacob Trauernicht	29 Roger Reifsnider
6 Sandra Bowe	21 Marilyn Raddatz	29 Mark Schmidt
7 Eisleigh Madigan	22 Jeffrey Derksen	29 Elaine Woock
8 David Henning	23 Katherine Lang	30 Steve Fischer
8 Carrie Ordonez	24 Kenneth Long	30 Ben Kuenzi
10 Claire Vanderbush	24 Susan VandeSlunt	30 Danielle Rasmussen
13 Sarah Aellig	25 Jan Quade	30 Presley Shadley
13 Barbara Henning	25 Michael Vanderbush	31 Gloria Bella
14 Kay Pearson	26 Chad Harmsen	31 Laurel Donovan
15 Michael VandeSlunt	26 Marion Landaal	31 Diane Fischer
15 Mary Wetzel	27 Teresa Schmidt	31 Carol Schmitz
16 Lisa Hahn	27 Rebecca Vanderbush	
19 Jacob Yunto	28 Franklin Christian	

January Anniversaries

9 Georg and Darlene Fuhrer	21
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PELLA

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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