

# The Messenger

## Underwood Lutheran Church

May, 2018

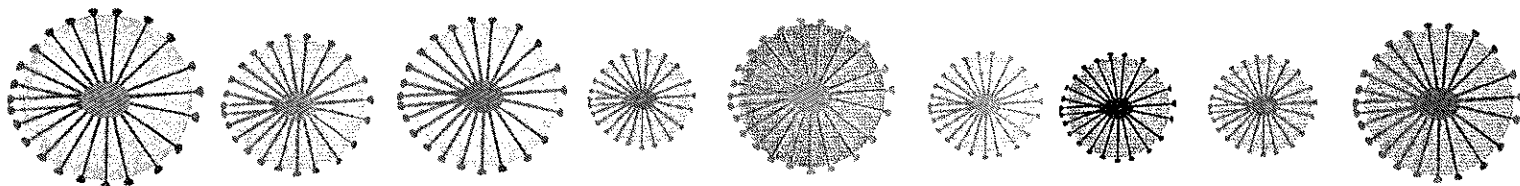
Pastor Scott Dalen

Underwood Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 9 – 10 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ave.  
Underwood, IA 51576

Congregational President – Jessica Hultquist – 402-651-4034  
Editor, Secretary – Tonya Mayer – 566-9823  
Church Phone # - 566-2257

e-mail address: [underwoodlutheran@q.com](mailto:underwoodlutheran@q.com)

SUNDY SCHOOL-CONFIRMATION-ADULT BIBLE STUDY @ 9:00 AM  
WORSHIP SERVICE @10:15 AM



- High School will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> will be the final week of Sunday School. Worship remains at 10:15am through May 20<sup>th</sup>. Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup>, which is Memorial Weekend, will be the first week on the summer schedule. Worship will begin at 9:30am through Labor Day weekend (September 2<sup>nd</sup>).
  - The Wednesday Evening Study will be switching our focus to look at the Book of Revelation. This study will begin on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Conversation begins at 6:00pm and all are welcome to participate.
  - Pastor Scott will be making a presentation based on his recent trip to the Holy Land during the Education time on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>. If there is sufficient interest and/or Pastor Scott needs more time, he will present again on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> at the same time.
  - The annual celebration of Baccalaureate for our graduating seniors will be held at the Underwood High School on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Senior Recognition will be held during worship on Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>. This will feature both a blessing for our graduating seniors and the annual presentation of scholarships.
  - Pastor Scott will be on vacation May 21<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Jon Benson from St John's in Council Bluffs will be on call in his absence.
  - We are online. Visit our webpage at <http://www.underwoodlutheran.org/> Find information on current ministry opportunities and worship times.
- Look for us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/UnderwoodLutheranChurch> Be sure to "Like" the page for updates about what's happening at ULC.
- Pastor Scott's weekly sermons are available on his blog at <http://thecollarandorangehat.wordpress.com/>  
Pastor Scott posts his sermons in both text and audio format each week. Look for his posts to be highlighted on Facebook as well as the church website.
- Pastor Scott also posts a weekly gospel discussion video, called Sermon Braindump at <http://www.youtube.com/user/sanchodaleone>



Recently I was sitting at my dining room table on a quiet morning, and I noticed a tapping sound continually coming from the basement. I wasn't quite sure what to make of it, and so I ventured downstairs to investigate. I followed the source of the tapping to discover a robin outside of a basement window, continually knocking into the glass, and the force of its beak hitting the glass was causing the sound that I had heard in the first place.

I can't be sure, but I think the robin was up to 1 of 2 things. It could have been trying to catch a bug or spider inside the window. The other, more likely option, was that it was a male and was attacking its own reflection in the glass, defending its spring-time territory. Either way, it was utterly futile. It wasn't going to get through the glass to catch breakfast, and it wasn't going to defeat its own reflection. Regardless of the amount of effort, it just wasn't getting anywhere.

Now thinking along these lines makes me think of our very common human tendency to battle the image we see in the mirror, metaphorically speaking of course. That robin's own worst enemy was himself. Sometimes, often I think, we're in the same boat. I've often thought that of the 10 Commandments, #1 seems to be the most pertinent. You shall have no other gods before me. And yet, how often does our desire for control cause us to put ourselves in God's place...a place where we have no business being.

As I write this article, we are smack dab between 2 Gospel lessons that feature "I am" statements. We heard "I am the good shepherd" which, by the time you read this, will have been followed up by "I am the vine." As I mentioned in the first sermon, Jesus uses "I am" 7 different times in John's gospel. 7 different examples of the man Jesus claiming the identity of the one who led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt.

What I love about John's gospel, is that it also gives us an example of the opposite side of this coin. Early on, John the Baptist is asked if he is the long awaited Messiah. His response takes this familiar statement and turns it slightly on its ear. "Are you the messiah?" "I am...not." John knows who he is, but he also knows who he isn't.

It is my hope, as we continue to ponder this year on the question "Who are we" as a congregation that we would remember in the end we are not the ones in charge. There is a certain freedom that comes with releasing ourselves from the futile effort of controlling that which we cannot. Scripture continues to remind us that the action of God in the world is just that...God's action, not ours. May we be content to follow the voice of the one who says I am the Good Shepherd.

In Christ,

Pastor Scott

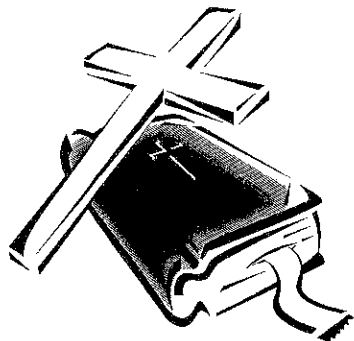
## Message from Seminarian

### Marietta Nelson-Bittle

Dear People of Underwood Lutheran Church, I wanted to write and thank you so very, very much for your financial support of my seminary education. I am thankful, grateful, heartened and encouraged by your willingness to help me through this time of education and growth.

As I believe Pastor Scott has shared, I will be leaving my current ministry position at Southwest Iowa Ministries and beginning a new position as director of small group ministry at Silverdale Lutheran Church near Seattle, WA. This was a difficult decision for me, as I have thoroughly enjoyed and been enriched by my time in southwest Iowa. As I told my congregations, this job at this particular church is probably the ONLY thing that could take me away from here. I have a long history with Silverdale Lutheran, dating back to 1995 when I became a Lutheran. The people and pastors of Silverdale Lutheran took a young Navy wife under their wings and cared for her and her family for many years, each time we moved to and away from this part of the country. To be able to give back to this church by working in its ministry program is special to me.

Again, I so appreciate your willingness to continue to support me, and a big high-five to your awesome Pastor Scott, who is and will continue to be such an excellent example of a pastor for me and also a great mentor. He is truly one of a kind and I will miss being able to hang with him in person. I hope to be in worship with you sometime this summer before I depart for the Pacific Northwest. See you in church!



We are teaming up with Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps for Day Camp this summer! At Day Camp, kids will encounter a week packed with Christ-centered activities, games, arts and crafts, songs, skits, and Bible-based lessons.

A team of Christ-centered, trained, and energetic staff from Ingham

Okoboji will be leading the week's activities. The theme is

**SEEK FIRST.** The week theme verse is Matthew 6:33.

It's going to be a fantastic week as we learn how we can Seek God, Us, Others, and ultimately Seek First.

Day Camp runs Monday-Thursday. Day Camp participants

get to bring their own sack meal every day, however, a snack and beverage will be provided.

The week concludes with a Thursday Day Camp Celebration where Day Campers show all they've experienced as we celebrate Christ! We hope you join us for Day Camp! Register today!

**Dates and Destination:** July 9-12

**Time/Age requirement:**

\*9:00am-2:00pm

(Completed Kindergarten-5th Grade-bring sack lunch)

\*9:00am-11:30am (Completed Preschool)

**Cost Per Ticket (Child):**

\$10 before June 23rd

\$15 after June 23rd

\*Scholarships Available

**Registration/Health Forms:** Available in the Narthex or on our website: [www.underwoodlutheran.org](http://www.underwoodlutheran.org)

**Send completed registration forms with payment to:**

Beth Torneten, PO 115, Underwood, IA 51576. or place in appropriate tray in Narthex.

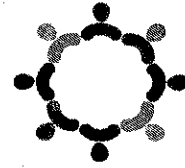
Call Beth @: 402-639-2510, if questions.





Thanks to those who greeted in the month of April.

Brandy May and Joellen Darrington  
Arlon and Carol Bertelsen  
James and Marlene Merdinger



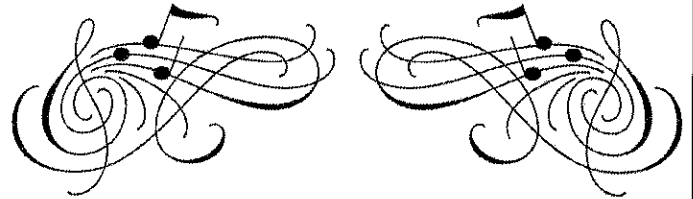
## WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Telescope Circle will meet May 10th at 1:30 pm with Darlene Shelton as Hostess.

Martha Circle will meet on May 11th at 2:00 pm with Marlene Merdinger as your hostess.

## Council Meeting

The council meeting will be May 9th at 7:00 pm.



## Special Music

Choraleers

## Offerings....

*"Our gifts to God"*

	Offerings	Attendance
March 25	\$ 1917.00	135
Apr. 01(7:30)	\$ 769.00	74
Apr. 01(10:15)	\$ 2331.65	162
Apr. 08	\$ 1863.00	101
Apr. 15	\$ 2169.00	95
Apr.22	\$ 1813.00	104

## Wanted:

One amazing human being

Strong in heart, generous in spirit.

Love kids? Think their faith is important? So do we. Underwood Lutheran is seeking an individual to work part-time in coordinating aspects of Sunday School, Jr High, and Vacation Bible School. You can find a full job-description on our website: [underwoodlutheran.org](http://underwoodlutheran.org)

# Underwood Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

## March 14, 2018

**Members present:** Jessica Hultquist, Michael Johnson, Bob Pingel, Erik Pedersen, Lynn Leaders, Rhonda Johnson, Roger Hemmingsen, Carol Yeaton, and Bill Shelton.

**Others Present:** Linda Merdinger

**Absent:** Pastor Scott Dalen, Jeff Poggensee

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by council president, Jessica Hultquist.

**Financial Reports:** Linda Merdinger presented the financial reports. Moved by Jessica Hultquist and seconded by Bill Shelton to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Discussion about future investment options by bringing in a two financial advisors' opinions to the Endowment Committee.

### **Secretary's Report:**

Moved to amend a previously adopted motion by Michael Johnson and seconded by Rhonda Johnson to read that the farm payment be rolled into two 90 day CDs.

Moved by Bill Shelton and seconded by Lynn Leaders to approve the amended 2/7/18 council meeting minutes. Motion carried.

### **Pastor's Report:**

Facility Issues:

- Motion by Rhonda Johnson and seconded by Lynn Leaders to approve basement rental to Promise Partners March 18, 3-6 PM.
- Water faucet left on in downstairs bathroom possibly from March 7<sup>th</sup> Lent service to Friday morning.
- Moisture seepage in parsonage basement, Northeast corner
  - Occurred during rapid melting following snowstorm last week of February
  - Moisture running off roof behind bushes ran back against the foundation and seeped in -Carpet in that corner was wet, I pulled it back to allow it to dry
  - Jeremy Hultquist believes that new gutters in the spring should avoid future problems

Parish Education Matters

- New Member Class, Wednesday April 25th
- New Members Accepted May 6th (tentative date)

Calendar Matters

- Maundy Thursday March 29th
- Sunday School Ends May 6th
- High School Baccalaureate May 6th (I am tentatively slated to help)
- Senior Recognition Sunday May 20th in Worship
- Shifting to Summer Sunday Schedule May 27th (through September 2nd)

Congregational Life

- Potential Outdoor Worship Service (Life Committee)
- Bible Camp Scholarships
  - Previous amount \$200 for Bible Camp, \$50 for recharges (established April 2016)
  - Estimated 3-4 students expressing interest

Pastoral Acts

- Regular Visitation Schedule

- 240 Communed (2 Weeks and Ash Wednesday via green slips)
- Ash Wed 63 of 83
- Feb 18th 88 of 112
- Mar 4th 89 of 115
- Ongoing Pre-Marital Prep with couple (Wedding in June)

Discussion occurred whether or not to allow a 6<sup>th</sup> grader to enter into confirmation classes early.

**Committee Reports:**

Property

- Water leaking in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classroom. Please leave door open.
- More broken pews will be repaired.
- Look at plan for power vent in roof.

Education

Last day of Sunday school will be May 6. Kids will sing and they will have plaques.

Life

Easter lilies are being ordered through Sherbondy's

Operations

None

**Old Business:**

Materials have been ordered and awaiting delivery for roof replacement.

**New Business:**

Motion by Bob Pingel and seconded by Erik Peterson to approve basement rental to Rhonda Johnson on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Plan discussion around leave time classification with Pastor at next meeting.

The next council meeting will be held April 11, 2018.

Moved by Bob Pingel and seconded by Carol Yeaton to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Johnson

Underwood Lutheran Church Council Secretary



**MAY 2018**

**OMAHA/POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY GIVES MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>**- Omaha Gives! is a 24-hour online giving event in May to celebrate nonprofits, including **BETHANY**. This year's giving day will take place on **Wednesday, May 23, 2018**. The goal is to inspire the community to come together for 24-hours to raise as much as possible to support the work of public 501(c)(3) nonprofits in the metro area. The minimum donation is \$10 and there is no maximum. Prizes and challenge funds are available through the Omaha Community Foundation, the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation (PCCF) and the Iowa West Foundation to increase charitable donations to make each dollar go further. Last year, over \$7.8 million was raised for local nonprofits, including Bethany Lutheran Home and Bethany Heights.

All donations for this event will be processed through [www.omahagives.org](http://www.omahagives.org) website. Click on the donate tab at the top and look for Pottawattamie County. You will be directed to a page with the organizations participating. Scroll down and click on the Bethany box. You will be directed from there how to make your gift. You can make your gift early, but specify you want it to draft on May 23<sup>rd</sup> to be eligible for generating additional challenge funds or you can wait and make your gift on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Carlon at 712-329-5451. Thank you for your support.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CELEBRATE CB PARADE, MAY 19TH**- Each year Bethany participates in the Celebrate CB Parade. It is an opportunity for residents and tenants to see the parade in person as well as participate. We are asking for volunteers to help pass out candy and carry the Bethany banner. The parade is May 19th and will begin at 10:30. We are located along the parade route so you are able to both watch and volunteer. If you have any questions, please contact Kaily Stanley at 712-328-9500, ext. 230.

**AUXILIARY ICE CREAM SOCIAL COMING SOON**- It will soon be time for the annual Bethany Auxiliary Ice Cream Social. Mark your calendar for **Sunday, June 3rd from 2-4 p.m.** at Bethany Lutheran Home, 7 Elliott Street. A large variety of pies and cake as well as ice cream will be available. Free will offering. Come enjoy great food, fellowship and support the Bethany Auxiliary. We look forward to seeing you there.

**SUMMER TEEN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**-- Bethany Lutheran Home and Bethany Heights are looking for some great volunteers between the ages of 14-18 to be a part of our Summer Teen Volunteer program. Teen Volunteers interact with residents and tenants, participate in activities and outings (ex. Zoo, Museums, Music in the Park, fishing at Lake Manawa, etc.) and assist where needed. If you are looking for an opportunity for a rewarding experience and willing to commit 2-4 hours per week, ***please contact Kaily Stanley at 712-328-9500, ext. 230*** to sign up. **Teen Volunteer orientation** will be held on **Monday June 11<sup>h</sup> at 2:00 p.m.** in the Green Garden Lounge at Bethany Lutheran Home. Hope you join us this summer!!

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT BETHANY**- Bethany currently has several positions available. For more information, please visit [www.Indeed.com](http://www.Indeed.com), [www.CareerLink.com](http://www.CareerLink.com), Iowa Workforce Development or contact our HR Director Debbie Butcher at 712-328-9500.

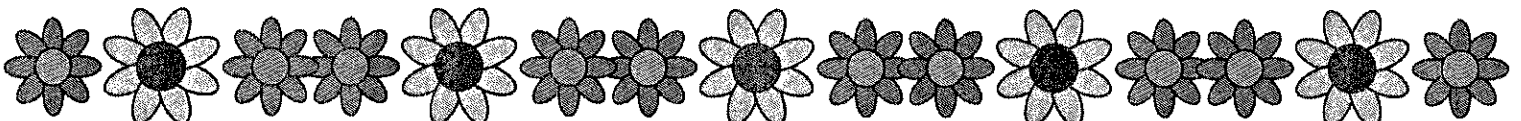
**AUXILIARY MEETING AND BAKE SALE UPDATE**- The Auxiliary would like to thank you for your support of the annual bake sale. We were blessed with a large variety of goodies and many customers to enjoy them. Thank you for your continued support of the Auxiliary and their projects.

# Worship Participants for May, 2018

If you are unable to participate as scheduled, please call the office-566-2257

ORGANISTS	May 06	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	May 13	Nancy Dose	
	May 20	Judy Pingel	COMMUNION
	May 27	Nancy Dose	
ACOLYTES	May 06	Sydney Leaders	COMMUNION
	May 13	Jadynn McDonald	
	May 20	Quentin Wollan	COMMUNION
	May 27	Hannah Wulff	
LECTORS	May 06	Weta Butterfield	COMMUNION
	May 13	Nancy Dose	
	May 20	Nancy Geise	COMMUNION
	May 27	Beth Torneten	
USHERS	May 06	Phil Feller and Jay Ackland	COMMUNION
	May 13	J.W. and Joyce Tiarks	
	May 20	Bob Pingel and Arlon Bertelsen	COMMUNION
	May 27	Bob Dose and Phil Feller	
GREETERS	May 06	Laura and Paige Tennigkeit	COMMUNION
	May 13	Kathy Darrington and Analise Letner	
	May 20		COMMUNION
	May 27	Aaron and Katie Pattee, Ali & Aiden	
SPECIAL MUSIC	May 06	Sunday School Children & Choraleers	COMMUNION
	May 13		
	May 20		COMMUNION
	May 27		

ALTAR GUILD: Christine Privia and Laura Tennigkeit  
CARRYING ELEMENTS: Phil and Sandy Feller  
DEACON: Jeff Poggensee





May 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		5/1	2 6:00 PM Adult Study 7:00 PM High School Group	3	4	5 Basement reserved/ Bridal Shower
6 9:00 AM Sunday School/Adult Forum/Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship Service/Holy Communion	7	8	9 6:00 PM Adult Study	10 11:00 AM Telescope Circle	11 2:00 PM Martha Circle	12
13 10:15 AM Worship Service	14	15	16 6:00 PM Adult Study 7:00 PM High School Group	17	18	19
20 10:15 AM Worship Service/Holy Communion	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:30 AM Worship Service	28	29	30 6:00 PM Adult Study	31		

"THE MESSENGER"  
UNDERWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
P.O. BOX 9  
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