



February 2019

OUR MISSION:

To grow a loving community of active followers of Jesus,
equipped to take his love and message to the world.

Dear Church Family,

The month of February is upon us and with it this strange holiday we call Valentine's Day! I hope you will take this opportunity to show love to special people around you, but I hope this occasion will also cause you to think deeper about the holiday and what love really is.

St. Valentine was a physician and priest of the church in Rome during the third century, a time of sporadic but severe persecution of Christians. Because he was known for acts of mercy and for sending kind notes of encouragement to those who were struggling, his name has become associated with authentic love.

So, on this day when we send cards, candy, and flowers as expressions of our love, let us remember the greatest love story in the history of human existence. It is a story beautifully summarized in John 3:16-18, perhaps one of the best known passages of the New Testament. The passage says: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."

Whether inscribed on a license plate, a bracelet, or on a multi-colored sign held up at a professional football game, John 3:16 spells out the wonder of God's grace and love.

Happy Valentine's Day! Celebrate God's authentic, extravagant love for us, my dear friends.

Mark

SUNDAY SERVANTS

Worship: Doyle, Doug G, Tammy
Deacons: Brian, Keith, Brad, Jeff

February 3:

Coffee: Tracy & Brad Riensche
Nursery: Courtney D. & Tammy G.
Power Point: Hunter DeBoer
Sound Tech: Mike Brown
Church Lock-Up: Brian Auman

February 10:

Coffee: Diane & Bill Wieskamp
Nursery: Tysha & Sierra Bryant
Power Point: Heather Riensche
Sound Tech: Brad Riensche
Church Lock-Up: Brad Riensche

February 17:

Coffee: Brenda & Dan Rice
Nursery: Tracy & Heather Riensche
Power Point: Tammy Goering
Sound Tech: Randy Sieck
Church Lock-Up: Chad Bryant

February 24:

Coffee: Ilene & Marvin Docter
Nursery: Leah B. & Lexi O.
Power Point: Maddie Starr
Sound Tech: Keith TenHulzen
Church Lock-Up: Keith TenHulzen

If you are unable to be here on the date shown, please trade with someone and let Beth know to update the bulletin.

Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School at Camp Solaris!

We are so excited to announce that we are once again partnering with Camp Solaris for our Summer Vacation Bible School activities!

Kids ALWAYS have a blast at Camp Solaris as they get the opportunity to run and play in God's great outdoors, and learn more about their relationship with Jesus Christ!

July 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Camp will run 9am-4pm, and kids will bring their own lunch. We will again offer before care (starting at 7:30am) and after care (until 6:00pm) for families who need, for a small cost.

More details will be coming soon as we plan for this fun event in July.

Registration forms are coming soon, and please contact Brenda Carlow if you are available to volunteer. 402-440-4617, bcarlow@lps.org. Mark your calendars.

Great Commission Team Updates February 2019

The Great Commission Team met on January 6th and discussed budget support funding for the upcoming year. The team determined that we would continue with the RCA single share support of Mark and Deb Wilson in Cambodia and that the same amount from 2018 would be given to Campus Life. Other needs such as White Earth and our mission contact in India would be reviewed as more plans are known. Further requests would be considered as received. A decision on a request by Diane Mulder for a February music mission trip in Germany will be made by the team via e-mail by January 16th.

Diane shared that while it has been discussed that we might send a mission project group to Nicaragua this year since there are already some good existing contacts there, with the current political climate, more research and communication needs to be done before making any sort of commitment.

The last two months of 2018 proceeds from Scrip Cards will go to the Lincoln Crisis Pregnancy Center. Proceeds from January and February of 2019 will go to the Juvenile Justice Ministry.

Ann Weber reported that \$1,530.75 was raised for the Century Challenge in December 2018 with a grand total of give amounting to \$22,401.00.

Pastor Mark will be sharing information about Words Of Hope in January, Diane will give a report about her trip to Germany in March or possibly late February and the Petersen's may talk about our mission in India in the next few weeks.

Consistory Notes – January 14th, 2019

Our Work Together

1. Mark Starr led devotions from 'John 13th Leaders that Lead. Recognizing Jesus followers, Jesus gave a new command of Loving One Another to his Disciples. As Jesus has loved us, we are to love others. By this people will know that they are his Disciples. You will notice what Jesus doesn't say, he doesn't say we will recognize his followers by how much money they have, how big of home they have, you will know his followers by the love they show one another. We then watched a video clip from the Global Leadership Summit by Craig Groeschell. Craig talked about becoming leaders that people enjoy following and working with. People feel respected when you value them. Leaders need to show that you care and respect them. Key phrases to "remember 1) "I Noticed" and 2) "You Matter"

Pastor Mark opened in prayer.

2. Members shared our mission statement, ***'To grow a loving community of active followers of Jesus, equipped to take his love and message to the world'***.
3. Financial Report: Jeff Gottwald shared the year end 2018 treasurer's report. **MSC** to approve 2018 year-end financial balances. December 2018 Ending Balances: **General Fund** \$29,173.58 **Centennial Challenge** \$20,781.75 **Building Fund** \$21,132.91 **Memorial Fund** \$13,902.08 **Branson Fund** \$3,858.56 **Rocky Mountain High** \$2,428.11 **Script Fund** -\$423.12
4. Alex Olson requested that the consistory review an email outlining the proposed acoustical panels. The request represented a Good, Better, and Best proposal outlining the cost associated and the number of panels required at each level. Price as follows, Good--30 panels at \$325.77/panel, Better—55 panels @ \$307.29/panel, Best—75 panels @ \$308.57/panel. **MSC** to approve the purchase of "Better" 55 panels.
5. Another request was in regards to a more defined usage fee for the gym. A few sports teams have already been using and others have requested. In order to provide a more uniform policy, it was mentioned instead of guidelines, should the policy be more defined? This was deferred to the Deacons.
6. Brad Reinsche discussed the future sound and video system for the gym. Instead of a fixed video system, we could possibly purchase a portable system. Original Budget was \$43K; Proposed change would decrease to \$25K. **MSC** to approve the revised video and sound system with an approximate cost of \$25,000.
7. The consistory reviewed materials on becoming a host site for the 2019 Global Leadership Summit on August 8th and 9th, 2019. **MSC** to approve LLRC to host the 2019 Global Leadership Conference.
8. **Consistory representative reports**
Congregational Care – Cary Prange and Rod TeKolste,
Hospitality/Outreach – Doyle Petersen Glen Gana (Glen)
 - January 21st Hired Hand Auction and Chili cookoff.**Building/Grounds** – Brian Auman and Doug Goering
Worship – Brad Riensche and Keith TenHulzen
Discipleship/Education – Chad Bryant and Rick DeBoer
Great Commission Team – Jeff Gottwald and Tammy Goering
 - **Dianne Mulder** will be heading to Germany in February. The team will be supporting her on this trip.
 - As part of continued outreach, we will once again be supporting **Deb and Mark Wilson** and their mission work in Cambodia.**Youth** – Ian Opfer
 - a. The new mentoring class started on January 14th, currently there are 6 individuals.
 - b. The **Todd Becker** Foundation event will be held on Wednesday January 15th. Please continue to pray for this outreach for the Norris community. No Fire as they are encouraged to attend.
9. **Building Committee** – Doug Goering
 - a. Topics were discussed earlier in the meeting.
10. It was MSC to approve the minutes of the December meeting of consistory.
11. **Reviewed loan approvals signatories, MSC to Approve Jeff Gottwald and Kendall Weber as designated signees for the \$200,000 loan.**
12. **Calendar of Events**

January 14th Mentoring Class (Ian)

January 15th Prayer Gathering

January 16th Todd Becker Foundation Event at Norris

February 3rd Branson fellowship time after church

February 5th Prayer Gathering

February 10th Afterglow

Consistory Notes – January 14th, 2019 – Continued

January 21st NO SCHOOL—Norris
January 21st Chili Cook Off/Hired Hand Auction
January 22nd Prayer Gathering
January 27th 4th Sunday event (Fire) at Ian's House
January 28th "IF" Meeting –Ilene Docter
January 29th Prayer Gathering

February 11th Consistory Meeting
February 12th Prayer Gathering
February 13th Mary & Martha
February 14th Valentine's Day
February 18th No SCHOOL—Norris
February 19thPrayer Gathering
February 18th "IF" Meeting Ilene Docter
February 22nd Carnival
February 26th Prayer Gathering

- It was **MSC** to approve the January/February calendar of events.

13. Future Directions for Church Safety – Chad gave an update on a program called Sheepdog. This is a program that focuses on church safety. The church has purchased this material and will look at presenting this to the community at a date yet to be determined.

14. **New Business**

- a. Brad Reinsche provided an update on the church history book. Currently 55 people have expressed an interest in purchasing these.

15. It was MSC to adjourn and the consistory closed in prayer.

Elder Notes

- Pastor Mark has received a Baptism request from the Jon and Jen Critser. MSC to approve the request for the Baptism of Kyle.
- Communion will be served on February 10th.
- The constitutional question was asked.
- The elders reviewed the spiritual needs of the congregation.
- The elders closed their meeting in prayer.

Deacons Notes

1. **Payment options for anniversary books.**

- Request by Tracy Riensche to approve a payment plan for anniversary books. Proposal for the church to make a lump sum payment for printing costs, to be reimbursed by orders from the congregation. Tracy will collect cash or checks upon delivery of books and deliver to Kendall until deliveries are complete. Tracy can contact Ian or Beth to find a church credit card to bill for printing costs. **MSC to approve the proposed payment plan.**

2. **Line of credit at Hickman True Value**

- Request by Luke Sieck to open a line of credit for Building and Grounds to purchase small repair items to avoid trips to Lincoln. Proposal to approve the request, up to \$100 credit limit. Purchases must follow up with a purchase request form. Signers on the account will be Luke Sieck and a building and grounds deacon (currently Brian). **MSC to approved the proposed line of credit at the Hickman True value for Luke.**

3. **Video and sound payments for Family Life center, already affirmed by full consistory.**

- Discussed what the full consistory had approved, Proposal to approve purchases for these items against the second building loan, as outlined in the budget plan.

4. **Discussed arranging for replacing wall in North wing, rooms 15 and 16.**

- Request by Alex Olsen/Randy Sieck to approve the wall reconstruction project. Proposal to initiate a plan to replace the wall between rooms 15 and 16. Will need to purchase some material and schedule work time to reassemble. Alex and Randy will coordinate with Building and grounds deacon to acquire materials and figure out a work plan. **MSC to reinstall the wall between rooms 15 and 16**

5. **Gym fees allocation**

- Request by Alex Olsen to consider a change in fee structure for sports groups. Proposal to adjust fee structure for sports groups to \$2 per child per session. Will write up a new fee structure and present at the next meeting.

6. **North hall carpeting**

- Request by Brad Riensche to consider carpeting in North hallway. Proposal to replace tile in North hall with carpet squares, if the finishing budget for the Family Life center stays below target of \$177k. This was tabled until February meeting.

All the words listed are in the puzzle – left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and circle it. After you have found all the words, the leftover letters will form the **mystery answer!**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | L | B | M | U | H | T | I | A | F | E | C | A | R | G |
| S | L | E | G | N | A | M | E | H | E | A | V | E | N | R |
| A | E | Y | O | J | N | E | C | C | H | E | R | I | S | H |
| I | S | P | A | T | I | E | N | C | E | F | R | L | M | G |
| N | I | A | G | E | M | K | A | N | I | E | H | U | A | U |
| T | S | S | O | M | A | N | D | C | F | L | C | F | R | A |
| S | T | T | S | P | L | E | I | F | H | L | L | P | R | L |
| U | E | O | P | E | S | S | U | U | Y | O | O | L | I | P |
| S | R | R | E | R | N | S | G | P | S | W | T | E | A | I |
| E | E | I | L | A | G | D | P | D | B | S | H | H | G | H |
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| D | O | O | F | E | L | B | I | B | R | O | T | H | E | R |

Loving

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Angels | Animals |
| Babies | Bible |
| Brother | Caring |
| Cherish | Clothes |
| Each other | Enjoy |
| Faith | Fellowship |
| Food | Friends |
| Gentle | Give |
| God | Good |
| Gospel | Grace |
| Guidance | Happy |
| Heart | Heaven |
| Helpful | Hug |
| Humble | Jesus |
| Kindness | Laugh |
| Longsuffering | Marriage |
| Meekness | One another |
| Pastor | Patience |
| Saints | Sister |
| Stories | Temperance |
| Tender | Worship |

From christianbiblereference.org

God's Kids Club!!

We are enjoying the new Family Life Center. It is great to have a place to allow the youth to be active and use up some of their energy. We are asking that kids play in the Family Life Center, as we do not want kids running in the halls or going in and out, for fear of fingers being smashed in doors and so forth. We now have ten hula hoops and jump ropes. An assortment of balls for young kids and a plastic bowling set for the little ones to use.

During the supper hour on Wednesday evenings, from 5:30-6:25, the NORTH side is for 3rd grade and older. The SOUTH side is for Preschool through 2nd grade. We will blow a whistle at 6:25, which is their signal to stop, put away equipment and head to their GKC classroom. We have shared safety rules with all age groups and they will be posted on the doors or inside the facility to help keep everyone safe.

We would appreciate extra adults to help supervise during the supper hour! It's service-project time. Several classes are making projects for Lakeview Care Center residents. We will also be making cards to include in the sack lunches we are packing for the City Mission.

We ask for your continued prayers, as we seek to share and teach the youth of our church and community. God has blessed us and we hope to be a blessing to others through our service projects this month!

Consistory Notes – January 14th, 2019 – Continued

7. Family Life Center acceptable use

- Proposal: All inflatable and/or hollow plastic balls are allowed. No solid core hard balls, for example softballs, baseballs, baseball/softball bats, golf balls, No pets. MSC to approve the acceptable use policy.

8. East and West entrance doors

- Proposal to replace East and West entry doors with crash style doors, to enhance safety and convenience. Cost is approximately \$3500 per door. Will consider if finishing budget for Family Life Center stays below \$177k. Tabled until February meeting.
- Motion to adjourn by Jeff, second by Brad. MSC.

The deacons closed their meeting in prayer.

Important Dates for Summer Youth Trips

Our 4JC and Fire students have the opportunity to attend two different and exciting trips this summer! Below is information about each trip as well as fundraising opportunities coming up.

White Earth Mission Trip: Saturday, June 8th - Saturday, June 15th. This trip is really for everyone, freshman year and older (Adults included)! Applications are available on the Missions Table in the fellowship hall or can be requested through email at ian@livinglifereformed.org. Cost for this trip is \$700, but there are several fundraising opportunities that will allow you to raise close to \$500 towards the expenses of this trip! Applications and the \$100 deposit are due on February 13th.

Power Connection (PC): Friday, July 26th - Sunday, July 28th. This youth conference, held at Bethel University in Minneapolis, MN, is for 4JC students (6th-8th grade)! Cost for this trip is \$250 with fundraising opportunities available! Register online at synodyouth.org by February 14th.

If you have a desire to participate in one of these trips this summer, but may not be able to afford it, please talk with Ian, our youth pastor! We want you to go on these trips, and will do everything we can to make that happen! We also have scholarships available for those who communicate a need. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Ian at [402.770.1775](tel:402.770.1775) or email at ian@livinglifereformed.org.

Valentine's Fun at Camp Solaris

How about fun for the kids
on **Friday, February 15!!**

Camp Solaris is sponsoring a
Valentine's Day event
from 3:30-9:00pm for 4-
year-olds thru 6th graders.

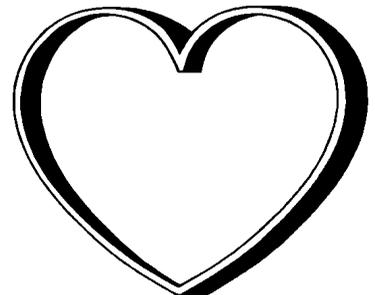
Where: Lincoln Berean
Church

An evening meal is
provided!

Cost is \$15 per child if you
register on or before Feb. 5
\$20 per child, after Feb. 6

Register at:
CampSunshineMemories.org
or call 402-423-8746.

Pre-registration IS required.



Birthdays

- 1 Brian Walvoord
Bill Wieskamp
- 2 Lauren Dunn
Brynn Hobelman
- 3 Kari Gottwald
- 4 Hudson Walvoord
Dennis Ebbers
- 7 Kathy Hobelman
- 9 Rod TeKolste
- 10 Vergene Vandergriend
- 12 Danae DeBoer
Jon Critser
Mark TenHulzen
- 13 Iyleigh Boden
- 15 Ethan Sieck
- 20 Matt Roby
- 22 Brynlee Cramer
- 23 Kendall Weber
- 24 Steve Anthony
Lillie Cihal



Anniversaries

- 20 Breck & Courtney Doeschot (3)
- 28 Dave & Gloria Rice (54)

Fellowship Dinner Menus

- February 6: Breakfast casseroles, pancakes, french toast, applesauce
- February 13: Pork loin, cheesy mashed potatoes, green beans, salad rolls, dessert
- February 20: Pizza, garlic rolls, salad, dessert
- February 27: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, corn, salad, rolls, dessert

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – February

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Mondays | 6:00pm | Mentoring Class |
| Tuesdays | 1:00 pm | Women’s Bible Study |
| | 6:30pm | Prayer Gathering |
| Wednesdays | 5:30pm | Fellowship Meal |
| | 6:15pm | 4JC’s |
| | 6:30pm | GKC, Women’s Bible Study |
| | 7:45pm | The Fire |
| Fridays | 6:00am | Men’s Group @ Homestead |
| Sundays | 10:15am | Sunday School/Life Group |
| <hr/> | | |
| Sunday, Feb 10 | 7:00pm | Afterglow Bible Study |
| Monday, Feb 11 | 7:00pm | Consistory Meeting |
| Wednesday, Feb 13 | 1:30pm | Mary & Martha Circle |
| Thursday, Feb 14 | | Valentine’s Day |
| Sunday, Feb. 17 | 7:00pm | Great Commission Meeting |
| Monday, Feb 18 | | NO SCHOOL NORRIS |
| | 1:00pm | “IF” Meeting |
| Friday, Feb 22 | 6:00pm | Carnival |
| Sunday, Feb 24 | 5:30pm | Fire 4 th Sunday event |

Mary & Martha

**Wednesday,
Feb. 13, 1:30pm**

Lesson: Marian Mulder
Lunch: Sandra
Wedding

Activity Cancellations

If Norris Public Schools are closed or dismiss early due to poor weather, all church events will be canceled that evening. We will try to notify families by email. If you are unsure of the status of any church event, please call the church office (402-791-5800).

Living Life Reformed Church
603 Russell, Box 295
Firth, NE 68358



Wednesday Night

5:30-6:30pm:

Fellowship Meal

6:15-7:30pm:

4JC's (Middle School)

6:30-7:45pm:

God's Kids Club (3yo-5th Grade)

7:45-9:00pm:

The Fire (High School)

Sunday Morning

8:30-9:00am:

Family Brunch

8:30-8:45am:

Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00-10:00am:

Worship Service

10:00-10:15am:

Fellowship & Coffee Time

10:15-11:00am:

Sunday School for 3yrs through High School, and Adults, Life Group will meet.

To Contact Us:

Church Office Hours:

9:00am-12:00pm

Mark Starr: 320-262-9952

mark@livinglifereformed.org

Ian Opfer: 402-770-1775

ian@livinglifereformed.org

Carnival at LLRC February 22, 2019



It's that time of year again...Time for Fun! Bring you whole family and all your friends to the 4th Annual Carnival at Living Life Reformed Church on Friday, February 22nd, 6-8:30 p.m. There is fun for everyone: carnival games with prizes, Bingo for the adults and older kids, and supper at our concession stand. Proceeds from the evening help fund the White Earth Indian Reservation Mission Trip in June.

Phone: 402-791-5800 ● **Email:** church@livinglifereformed.org

Website: livinglifereformed.org ● **Facebook:** facebook.com/ReformedChurchofFirth