

## THE BEACON

### **South Central Synod of Wisconsin Annual Assembly**

Each year, the 140 congregations in our synod in south western Wisconsin gather for worship, business and education. This year the assembly will be May 5 and 6 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Those who attend the assembly include synod staff, all rostered leaders in congregations and voting members from each of the individual congregations. Your voting members from Lakeview this year are Verallyn Cline and Tom Benson. There are two significant highlights of the assembly this year. Bishop Felipe Lozada-Montanez, who is the bishop of the Caribbean Synod of the ELCA and from Dorado Puerto Rico will speak. He will be able to provide updated information on Hurricane Maria recovery and on how the church is working on the islands of the Caribbean. The second important piece of business will be the election of a new bishop for our synod. Bishop Mary Froiland will depart in June. A bishop's term is six years. The election of the next bishop is of interest to you, the people of Lakeview, as it is during this term that Pastor Dean will retire and this congregation will need to work closely with the bishop's office as you seek a new pastoral leader. We will look forward to hearing from Verallyn and Tom once the assembly is over. And thank you to Verallyn and Tom for your willingness to serve Lakeview in this capacity.

### **Pentecost! And Special Meeting**

We will celebrate the third great festival of the church on Sunday, May 20 at the 9:00 am worship service. Wear your RED to reflect that we are on fire with the spirit. The service that morning will include special music from the Sunday school and choir. We will recognize our education staff and give thanks for their gifts. We will celebrate the call of the church to be an organized community of the faithful and to share the good news of the gospel through our words and actions in the world. At 10:00 am the council has called a special meeting of the congregation to be held in the sanctuary. This meeting is to provide a quarterly financial update to you, the members of this place called Lakeview. This is the only piece of business at this meeting and the council hopes that all voting members can be present. This is also the final day for education hour until the fall. Summer worship schedule remains the same, Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 9:00 am.

## **Book Discussion**

Lakeview's book discussion group will be meeting on Monday, May 7 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Room to discuss "Old World Murder" by Kathleen Ernst. This book is part of the Chloe Ellefson murder mystery series which takes place at Old World Wisconsin. Anyone is welcome to attend. "Tribe" by Sebastian Junger will be discussed on Monday, June 4.

## **Food Pantry Collection**

Our monthly food pantry collection for the Lakeview Food Pantry will be on May 12/13. You are encouraged to bring toilet paper! Large quantities are welcome. Please, like usual, we can only accept donations of new toilet paper—do not bring slightly used or previously owned!!!! Toilet paper will make the food pantry volunteers smile.

## **Monthly Senior Lunch and Euchre Tournament**

Sometimes you don't know what Pastor Dean will be cooking for senior lunch day. But you always know it will be intriguing. Like the German meal last month of sauerkraut, sausage and pork, sweet and sour German green beans, buttered spätzle, himmel footer for dessert and the centerpiece of the meal---cow heart. On May 14 the menu is set. There will be Mexican enchiladas (pork, beef and bean), many traditional toppings, red rice, beverages and dessert. Sign up now to attend the meal and then indicate if you will be playing in the euchre tournament. You don't have to play cards to enjoy the meal and the fellowship. It's just a great time to enjoy fellowship with other folks

from Lakeview and the Northside. You do not need to bring anything for this meal other than offer a few dollars to cover the cost of the food and beverages. If you haven't come in the past, try it out. We do not designate who is a "senior."

**The church office will be closed all day on Monday, May 28, as it is Memorial Day. There will be NO food pantry that evening.**

## **Isaiah Bible Study**

The Wednesday noon Isaiah Bible study will continue through May 30. All are welcome to bring a Bible and join this study in the Fellowship Room. The group will take a hiatus during June, July and August but return in September. Pastor Dean will lead the study and together with the group, we will decide if we want to continue with Isaiah in the fall or move to a new topic.

## **High School Senior Recognition**

We will recognize our graduating high school seniors on Sunday, June 3 at 9:00 am. There will be a reception in their honor immediately after the service. Everyone is invited to join the celebration and support our youth.

## **Important Youth/Parent Meeting**

On Sunday, June 3 we will recognize the youth going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston during the worship service. Then, we will hold a very important meeting with these youth and parents after worship. There will be forms to sign. Youth should bring their insurance cards to this meeting and information about health care and doctors. Copies will need to be made. Make plans to be in attendance.

## BOOK CLUB

THE LAKEVIEW BOOK CLUB GETS TOGETHER EVERY FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:30PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM FOR DISCUSSION. ANYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

- MAY 7 – “OLD WORLD MURDER” BY KATHLEEN ERNST  
JUN 4 – “TRIBE” BY SEBASTIAN JUNGER  
JUL 2 – “WOLF HOLLOW” BY LAUREN WOLK

### A WORD FROM PASTOR DEAN

Dear Friends,

Have you read the short book of First John---not the Gospel of John, but the letter found later in the New Testament? It's a book that gives us rich images of who God is and what we might be as God's faithful people. The word "love" is used frequently in this short book. God is defined as love. According to the author of First John, love is an action. God showed love in the creation. God showed love by creating all genders in the image of God and made us equal and responsible for the care of the earth. God showed ultimate love in the work of the Christ who laid down his life for us. Love was visible in what Jesus did on the cross and in the grave and in the resurrection. For Jesus, love was indeed an action. Jesus lived his life by showing love to those of his world who were hurt and struggling, those we might call downtrodden and outcast. He visited leper colonies, healed blind people, fed thousands, raised folks from their death, uplifted children and widows and spent every day with a variety of sinners, even some ridiculed by society. Jesus spoke in synagogues and ate meals with religious leaders like the Pharisees. Jesus gave us an example of God's love through the life he lived right through his resurrection.

In the third chapter of First John we are called, as followers of Jesus and recipients of God's gracious love, to imitate Jesus. We are called to love one another through our actions. In verse 17 the question is asked, ***"How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?"*** Yikes! We have access to many of the world's goods. We have resources that some people in the world could never imagine having. The author of First John asks us how we consider it to be a reflection of love when we don't share our resources with those who have needs. If love is an action, as exemplified by Jesus, than how does hoarding resources reflect that we are followers of Christ and recipients of God's love?

In the church, we are called to take on acts of love, charity and kindness---locally, throughout our country and in the world. We rarely do enough but we give it our best shot. At Lakeview we just celebrated a long tradition of housing homeless families. We just raised nearly \$2000 for an 18-year-old high school student who wants to go to college but has run into many obstacles because he has lived in this country for 17 years but is undocumented. In April we dragged in 320 cans of soup for the pantry and I'm sure we will bring in piles of toilet paper in May.

But reflecting God's love through our actions is also part of our secular world. It is reflected in how we spend our time, where we volunteer, where we donate money, how we vote, how we prioritize our possessions, how we respond to social issues and to people who are not like us. Sharing love through actions is a 24-hour per day job. It never sleeps. There is always an opportunity. I invite you read First John. I invite you to consider how you and I live. I invite you to worship and give thanks often for the love that God has given to you. ***"And this is God's commandment, that we should believe in the name of Jesus Christ and love one another."***

Peace, Pastor DEAN

**Inside:  
Pentecost!  
Synod Assembly**

[www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org](http://www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org)

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Lynn Najem, Organist/Choir Director; Gary Cragin, Custodian

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30

**Service Schedule:**

5:00pm Saturday

9:00am Sunday

NEWSLETTER OF:  
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A WARM AND CARING COMMUNITY SINCE 1856.