



the word

June 2017 | Monthly News from Crown of Life Church

Mark Your Calendar

6/6

VBS Helpers Meeting

6/13 – 6/15

VBS

Tuesday & Wednesday 9 am – 3 pm

Thursday 9 am – 1 pm

6/18

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

**INSTALLATION
PASTOR BURGESS**

Service - 4:00 pm

reception meal following service

6/25

ANNUAL PICNIC

St. Croix Lutheran

Worship 10:00 am

Food and Fun 11:15 am

– NOTE –

NO SERVICES AT COL 6/25

Graduate, let Psalm 86 Guide Your Future

BY PASTOR MARK KOM

King David was not graduating from any educational institution, but he was a man who was seriously, aggressively and intensely contemplating his future in Psalm 86. His mindset, it turns out, was much like our graduates at COL this year. (Not surprisingly, it's also the same way that the rest of us think about our future – no matter when we graduated)

David wanted things from God. There are about seven petitions, or requests, that David makes right from the start in the Psalm. You could summarize all of them the way our 8th graders would summarize all their requests of God for their future: "God, help me! I need your help for my future! I don't want to lose my faith. I want joy in my life. I don't want to falter and fail. I want Your protection. I need you. Please help me."

That's how the Psalm begins. Do you know what happens in the verses that follow? David basically thanks God for fulfilling His promises and helping him out as if his career had already happened. He's already celebrating the successful conclusion to everything he had asked for! And that's where a graduate's ears perk up and they think, "well...if our request of God is about the same, let me in on the secret so that I can have a guarantee for my life, too. I want to celebrate like he did." David "spills the beans" right in the middle of the psalm: *teach me your way, Oh LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.* It was the bridge that linked what David so desperately wanted for his future with its guaranteed fulfillment.

David knew that the future of a child of God depended on just two things. The first? Staying in school – every day, 365 days a year. Of course, it wasn't

continued

High School Graduates



Nicholas Duane Burkhart
St. Croix Lutheran graduate and will attend Nicolet Technical College, Rhinelander, WI Criminal Justice Program



Peter Chan
St. Croix Lutheran graduate and will attend Martin Luther College studying Secondary Education.



Grant Johnson
Woodbury High School graduate and will attend Iowa State University studying Engineering.



Wyatt Koker
St. Croix Lutheran graduate and will attend Inver Hills in the fall.



Zach Mielke
St. Croix Lutheran graduate and will attend the University of Minnesota in the fall.



Minh Tuan Nguyen (Ronny)
St. Croix Lutheran graduate and will attend University of Manitoba, Canada in the fall.



Rachel Elizabeth Stokke
St. Croix Lutheran graduate Class of 2017 Salutatorian. Will attend University of WI Madison.



Austin Thul
East Ridge High School graduate and will attend the University of Kansas studying Aerospace Engineering.



Alexis VandenBosch
St. Croix Lutheran graduate and will attend Inver Hills in the fall.

College Graduates



Kyle Boyer
Minnesota State University - Mankato graduate with Cum Laude honors in Computer Information Technology. Has accepted a job offer in IT for United Health Group (Optum).



Dominick Olson
Martin Luther College graduate continuing pastoral training at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

just any school. You had to stay in God's school. David said, *Teach me your way, O Lord*. He also said, *I will walk in your truth*. When Scripture uses that phrase, "to walk in," it means more than just a passing thing. If I said that I walked in the mud, it means more than just that I got a little dirt on the bottom of my shoe. If we say that someone walks in their pride, it means more than just a little pride, right? To walk in God's truth means to be completely into it, to have it wholly influence our conversation and how we act each day.

The other thing David needed...was heart surgery. He wrote, *give me an undivided heart that I may fear your name*. As David thought about his future he knew that it would have a disastrous ending unless there was some serious work done on his heart of faith. He knew what he wanted. He wanted to always fear God's name. That meant that he wanted to always love what God loves and to always hate what God hates. And a divided heart would mess all that up and jeopardize his faith.

Graduates, a divided heart in regard to your faith is a very dangerous thing. I have no doubt that you will always find it easy to say, "I love Jesus Christ, my Savior. I love Him more than anything. I will always do what he wants me to do because I love Him most of all." But then the Devil will come by with an array of alternate choices of things to love. Suddenly, without even knowing it, you find that you also love other things, too. You will find it easy to love your friends more than Jesus and what He says. You will find it easy to love making money and having money

in your pocket more than you love the worship of your Lord. You will find it easy to love yourself with "me time" more than you love the Lord and giving Him your service time. Make no mistake – a divided heart can make you so very successful in this life, but a complete failure on Judgment Day because you ended up breaking that very first commandment of loving someone or something else more than your Lord.

That's why David wanted God to fix his heart. And so do we. We want to put God first in our life with our one whole heart. So how do you do it? What sews up that tear and makes us whole again? It's only through the power of God's Word that Jesus takes us through that delicate surgery, strengthening us by His love and forgiveness, assuring us that he loves us, forgives us, stands by us every day of our life, and reminds us again and again that He is our God who will not only make our heart whole again through His forgiving love, but he will guard our hearts so that they will not be distracted by the fears of danger or even by the abundance of blessings. God will protect us to the end.

Remember what we prayed along with David as we considered our future? "God help me. Be with me. Give me joy in my life. Help me with my life as I go forward from here." Guess what? It's time to celebrate as if it's already happened! Remember what God will do for you. Stay in the school of His Word and He will teach you His way of truth. And watch Him work on your heart so that you will always stay focused on Him. As that happens your life will be a success. Guaranteed!

MOVIE REVIEW

"The Case for Christ"

RELIGIOUS | ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Imagine having your daughter in the car and having a car accident. The artery in your daughter's arm was severed. A lady driving by, who happened to be a nurse, assisted her and probably saved her life. Was this coincidence or an act of God?

The Strobels were a young, happy, loving family with a daughter. After an almost tragic incident, Leslie Strobel was compelled to join a church and be a follower of Christ. Many heated arguments ensued between them, Lee chiding her for turning to Christ.

Lee Strobel, a legal editor, journalist and self-proclaimed atheist, spent over two years cross-examining a dozen experts, specialists in old manuscripts, and biblical studies. He was trying to find loopholes in the story of Christ. He didn't find any. In the end, the evidence he faced led him to become a Christian. Based on the novel, *The Case for Christ*, gives you reassurance that Christ is real. He has risen indeed!



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Giving Proportionately

God directs us to give in proportion to our blessings. *"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum in keeping with his income..."* (1 Corinthians 16:2). Through faith, we willingly surrender our proportionate gifts from our income to the Lord. In both the Old and New Testaments, the standard proportion of a person's income to give was the tithe or ten percent. By grace, Scripture gives us examples of believers who even gave beyond the tithe. Zacchaeus gave 50 percent (Luke 19:1-10) and the poor widow 100 percent (Luke 21:1-4). The Macedonians, who were poor and distressed, gave sacrificially beyond their ability to give. After they gave themselves to the Lord, they gave their resources joyfully and freely to help the poor (2 Corinthians 8:1-5).

Whether God gives us little or much, we are to give from the blessings that God provides. Our blessings come from the Lord, so His gifts to us will determine what we have available to give. If, in God's sovereignty, He chooses to give us little, we will be able to give only a little. However, if He gives us much, we have the responsibility to give much. *"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked"* (Luke 12:48). When we faithfully give in proportion to the blessings that we receive, a gift of \$1,000 from \$10,000 of income is just as God-pleasing to God as a \$10,000 gift from \$100,000 of income.

The proportion that we give is determined more by our faith than our financial condition. As our faith grows, we are empowered to increase the proportion that we give. *"For Christ's love compels us"* (2 Corinthians 5:14) to give generously. Through faith, we grow in our giving to the Lord through our churches. Rather than giving our leftovers, our giving becomes a priority. The two or three percent that we gave in past years is no longer satisfactory because we know that God deserves our first and best. As we grow in our proportionate giving, we see God's grace at work in us as He gives us even more to give (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Source: 12 Months of Congregational Stewardship (vol. 1) by Ronald J. Chewning, Stewardship Advisors



Track

COL Team (28 kids) combined with the St. Croix Middle School this year for a total of 6 track meets (big change from 1 meet the previous years). Athletes did very well, taking 2nd place at the final meet at St. Croix Lutheran.

Field Day



Thank you to ALL our teachers, fa

5th Grade Ends with a Blast

The rockets were launched as the fifth graders finished their school year with the annual pop-bottle rocket launch. From high flying rockets to parachute landings, launch day was a great success! Along with all the things that happen during the last month of school, the fifth grade class also took many exiting field trips to compliment their MN History studies. Visiting 12 locations in 3 days can be busy, but the students wouldn't have had it any other way. Locations included Mill City Museum, Foshay Tower, Ramsey and Sibley House, Fort Snelling, the Capitol, James J. Hill House, the Wabasha Street Caves, and many other sites. The whole school year was filled with great memories and exciting classes. Now it's on to 6th grade!



Farewell Mr. Herbison

Thank you for 12 years
of service to Crown of Life!

Grandparents Day



families and students for a wonderful school year. Have a great summer!

Visiting Shepherds – Do You Know Yours?

Are you still aware of our Visiting Shepherd program? Just for review, here is a brief recap of what it is and what a Visiting Shepherd does:

- The program is a way to make a larger congregation like ours more personal and “smaller” by connecting people to encourage each other in faith and life
- There are teams of Visiting Shepherds who are assigned groups of families within the congregation to periodically keep in contact with them and encourage them

- Visiting Shepherds will also make an effort to make sure the families in their group are aware of upcoming events, programs and activities

Has your Visiting Shepherd contacted you yet? We are always looking for more Visiting Shepherds to help everyone stay connected here at Crown of Life. If you are interested in being a Visiting Shepherd or would like more information about the program, please contact Pastor Kom. May God continue to bless us as we help each other along the way to heaven!

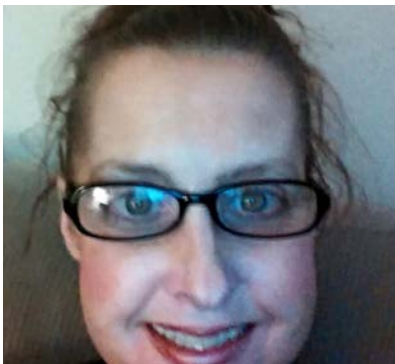
REPORTS

TREASURER Fiscal Year 7/16 - 6/17

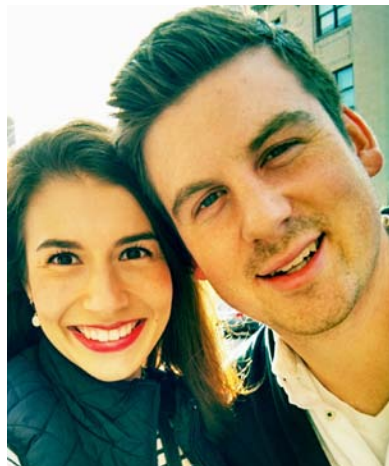
April ended the fiscal year to date (FYTD) with \$1,754,119 in total income with expected budget income to be \$1,821,086 which was \$66,966 below budget. Envelope Offerings are -\$80,275 less than budgeted. Expenses (FYTD) were \$1,792,470 which gave us a FYTD of a negative -\$38,351. All bills are paid to date. We paid back \$20,000 this month and owe \$10,000 to our special funds account. Special Funds Account available balance is \$79,000. Clear the Path matching funds which we budgeted for is \$14695 above budget income. Total Clear the Path contributions as of 3-31-2017 totaled \$1,02,3,071 which were paid directly to reduce our loan balance down to \$353,297.

BAPTISM – Ryker Michael Loomis son of Dan and Alyse Loomis on May 14 with Pastor Kom.

Welcome New Members!



Susan Bejblik – I am from White Bear Lake and grew up in Eagan, now live in South St Paul and work for The Sportsmans Guide in South St Paul. I've been married to John Michael Bejblik for 8 years this July 11th.



Eric and Amanda Dreyer – We are recent Eagan transplants originally from Madison, WI. (UW-Madison alumni and avid Badger/Packer fans). Eric is an associate financial advisor and Amanda is a paralegal. We enjoy traveling, trying new restaurants, and exploring the abundant parks in the area.



Heidi Voigt – I'm a recent graduate of UW Madison in Industrial Engineering and now work in Logistics for Andersen Doors and Windows. I'm a true Wisconsin girl who loves her Badgers and Packers.

*New members not pictured:
Corey Bejblik*

Senior Luncheon

In May, Crown of Life hosted a free tea luncheon for seniors in our community. They were treated to a presentation on the history of tea and a demonstration on

flower arranging. Special thanks to Barb Berthiaume for sharing her teacups and for organizing this event.



JUNE CALENDAR

Thursday, June 1
2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service

Saturday, June 3
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, June 4
8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP

Monday, June 5
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, June 6
6:30 pm VBS helpers meeting
7:00 pm Evangelism
Technology Team

Wednesday, June 7
6:30 pm Bible Class EGN
8:00 pm Praise Band Reh

Thursday, June 8
2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
7:00 pm Elders-EGN

Saturday, June 10
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, June 11
Praise Service
8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP

Monday, June 12
6:30 pm Worship WSP
7:30 pm Worship Committee

Tuesday, June 13
9:00 am VBS
6:30 pm Education
Properties
Handbell rehearsal
7:15 pm Stewardship

Wednesday, June 14
9:00 am VBS
6:30 pm Bible Class EGN

Thursday, June 15
9:00 am VBS
2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Pioneers (boy) Leaders
Meeting
7:00 pm Riverview Cemetery

Saturday, June 17
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, June 18
Father's Day
8:00 am Worship WSP
9:00 am Worship EGN
9:15 am Education Hour-WSP
10:15 am Education Hour-EGN
10:30 am Worship WSP
4:00 pm Installation-Pastor Burgess

Monday, June 19
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, June 20
7:00 pm Council-EGN

Wednesday, June 21
6:30 pm Bible Class EGN

Thursday, June 22
2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service

Saturday, June 24
5:00 pm Worship EGN

Sunday, June 25
Annual Picnic - at St. Croix Lutheran
8:00 am NO - Worship WSP
9:00 am NO - Worship EGN
10:00 am Worship-St. Croix Lutheran
Chapel
10:30 am NO - Worship WSP

Monday, June 26
2:30 pm Lilydale Sr. Living Service
6:30 pm Worship WSP

Tuesday, June 27
7:00 pm Youth & Adult Education

Wednesday, June 28
6:30 pm Bible Class EGN

Thursday, June 29
2:30 pm Southview Sr. Living Service

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Pete Chan
6/1 Alyssa Johnson
6/1 Jordan Nied
6/1 June Portz
6/2 Raymond Buchholz
6/2 Alec Cline
6/2 Brandon Dennis
6/2 Nickolas Footh
6/2 Estella Lorenz
6/3 Garrett Kapanke
6/3 Stephanie Schindeldecker
6/4 Lois Bush
6/4 Adam Hippe
6/4 Stacy Holmes
6/4 Irma Krech
6/4 Ivy Pottorff
6/5 Nathan Monson
6/5 Kendra Solseth Williams
6/6 Doug Gaedtke
6/6 Rachael Rowe
6/6 Marlene Schindeldecker

6/7 Nancy Goette
6/7 Nathan Haehnel
6/7 Joshua Leach
6/7 Nancy Monson
6/7 Charles Schultz
6/7 Rebecca Shaw
6/7 Jalen Solseth
6/8 Andy Aumann
6/9 Thomas Hansen
6/9 Daniel Pietsch
6/9 Florence Polzin
6/9 Kate Wahl
6/9 Christine Wolfrath
6/10 Nadia Garcia
6/10 Fred Owens
6/10 Jackie Stokke
6/11 Rick Frederick
6/11 Eric Gydesen
6/12 Lucas Gaedtke
6/12 Kelsey Kowitz
6/13 Katie Aumann

6/13 David Schindeldecker
6/13 Graydon Smith
6/14 Zak Coates
6/14 James Fox
6/14 Jean L. Olson
6/15 Owen Kelm
6/15 Lori Little
6/16 Rick Berthiaume
6/16 Katelyn Bolte
6/16 Ronald J. Lemmer
6/16 Clinton Swartz
6/17 Richard Constable
6/17 Thomas Werz
6/18 Julio Cenicerros
6/18 Yvonne Schumacher
6/18 Andrea Tabor
6/18 Shelley Unruh
6/19 Andrew Hippe
6/19 Harriet Mulinix
6/19 Abigail Spott
6/20 Jonah Dennis

6/20 Nevaeh Yzaguirre
6/21 Florence Espy
6/21 Ruth Petermann
6/21 Jenna Wakefield
6/23 Ruth Gerke
6/23 Nehemiah Hammick
6/23 Zachary Mielke
6/23 Emily Schaller
6/23 Adam Waldhauser
6/24 Jacob Chan
6/24 Mai-Anh Kapanke
6/24 Sarah Spott
6/24 Callie Tuhy
6/25 Alfred Gerke
6/25 Kelly Jean Olson
6/27 Tammy Sheldon
6/27 Adam Steber
6/27 Leslee Yoder
6/30 Kathleen McCall



TRASH FREE ZONE

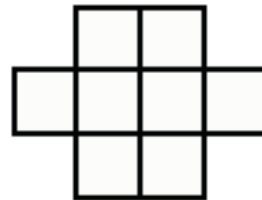
Thanks to all who helped clean up Eagan with the Adopt-A-Highway efforts this Spring!

JUST FOR FUN

BRAIN TEASERS

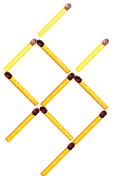
- 1 What can travel around the world while staying in a corner?
- 2 What has a head and a tail, but no body?
- 3 Paul's height is six feet, he's an assistant at a butcher's shop, and wears size 9 shoes. What does he weigh?

- 4 Write the numbers from 1 to 8 into the squares, so that the squares with consecutive numbers do not touch (neither edges nor corners).



ANSWERS TO MAY PUZZLES
WORD SCRAMBLE: GENESIS, MATTHEW, EXODUS, LEVITICUS, DANIEL, MALACHI, TITUS, JEREMIAH, GALATIANS, ZEPHANIAH, EPHESIANS, ROMANS, RUTH, OBADIAH, ISAIAH, PHILEMON

MATCHSTICK PUZZLE
Move just 3 matches so that the fish swims the other direction.



RESTAURANT REVIEW

New Bohemia

CASUAL SPORTS BAR | ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I have very little knowledge about the land of Bohemia. I do, however, know that New Bohemia is worth visiting. With appetizers ranging from pretzels the size of a small child to delicious cheese curds, that's only the start to a delightfully full-bellied evening. Their main courses center around bratwursts. The brats vary from traditional to outright exotic including Louisiana Alligator Bayou and Rattlesnake Rabbit Jalapeno. Besides having great food and many beer options, they also have many deals and fun events like trivia Tuesday and Thursday in the new Downtown St. Paul location. I am guessing Old Bohemia was ok, but New Bohemia is a Midwesterners dream restaurant.



CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

West St. Paul Campus – 115 Crusader Ave W, West St. Paul MN 55118

Eagan Campus – 4150 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan MN 55122