

MAY
2019

Inside this Issue

- 1 Pastor's Article
Pg. 1-2
- 2 Youth Ministries
Pg. 3
- 3 Children's Corner
Pg. 4
- 4 Church Happenings
Pg. 5
- 5 Community Happenings
Pg. 6
- 6 Prayer Calendar
Pg. 7
- 7 Event Calendar
Pg. 8

Evangelical Covenant Church
208 Main St, N
New London, MN 56273



320-354-2446
www.nlcovchurch.org

NL COVENANT

Vision from the Rearview Mirror

Today's article is the first of what will be a regular around here for the next half a year or so. Our *Vitality Team* is in search of our 'sweet spot' of vision for our church. The team is working on many fronts for our *VIM*. You might remember from the *Veritas Workshop* in January *VIM* stands for Vision, Intention & Means. Another way of saying it is *VIM* answers the question, 'What is God's assignment for us now?' Well our history is part of the puzzle we as a *Vitality Team* are working on. So as a task force of four (Dan Johnson, Saralyn Olson, Marilyn Lungstrom and myself) we are searching far, wide and deep for stories of our church's past which can help inform our *VIM*. We're looking for both things we must hang on to moving forward and things maybe we'd be best to let go of.

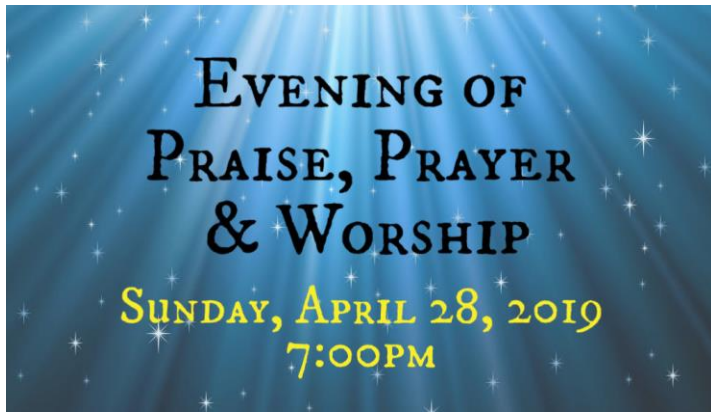
Soo... from time to time you might hear from us. Maybe in the bulletin or our newsletter. Or in the *Vitality Team* update that I hope you are reading! Maybe during ministry moments in worship or by way of a sermon illustration. We will simply call them '*Vision from the Rearview Mirror*.'

Our founding fathers, as pioneers to this area, prior to 1890 first met in homes for prayer and sharing testimonies of new life in Christ. They had a burden for their neighbors and for their own families and children. Seven charter members (Charter members B. Bredberg, Olof Nelson, Swan J. Anderson, S.E. Magnuson, John E.F. Erickson, John Bredberg, & E.A. Olander) were present at our inaugural meeting on Feb. 5, 1891. At that 1st meeting was where our church was formed as the *Swedish Mission Church of New London*. An actual copy of that original meeting, which is of course is in Swedish, is recorded in our 125th Anniversary book. Kandiyohi County record a later meeting on July 10, 1991 with the record of sacrificial giving of five founding families which offered just over 40% of the \$500 needed to build our first building at 21 Ash St NL address. That 38' x 24' x 12' structure was actually built by John E.F. Erickson (Great Grandfather of current attendee Wayne Knudsen) who sacrificially gave his gifts as carpenter but also served as our congregation's 1st Chairman and soon after our 1st Sunday School Superintendent. A fun fact was that soon after in 1893, the Norwegian Free Lutherans were given permission to use our building one Sunday a month at alternate times for their worship.

Vision from the Rearview Mirror: Our roots started in prayer with a burden for neighbors, children and youth was present from our humble beginning. Present then was sacrificial giving and a 'whatever it takes' type of attitude. Let us share the same spirit!

Speaking of prayer, we have '*An Evening of Praise, Prayer and Worship*' this Sunday night, April 28th at 7:00PM.

(continued on back)



A big part of the Vitality Team task is establishing pervasive prayer in our process. What does ‘pervasive’ mean? "It is to spread throughout and into every part of." So as the body of Christ we are to spread prayer through every nook and cranny of not only this Vitality Pathway or journey that we are undertaking but also thorough every part, every person, every ministry endeavor of the ECC of NL. The purpose of Sunday night’s prayer event is to bathe the process in prayer, but it is also to communicate with God through the power and promptings of the Holy Spirit as to

determining His plan and purposes for this body. Again, what is God’s assignment for us now for those He calls us to reach?! See you Sunday at 7pm!!

In His Grip,
Pastor Kevin

YOUTH MINISTRY @ NLECC

WELCOME 6TH GRADERS

On Wednesday night, May 15th, our 6th grade students are invited to join the youth group for a taste of what next year will look like for them as part of the junior high youth group!

All 6th graders are welcome to join us at 6pm that night in the youth room for some great relational time and growing closer to Christ through fun, worship, and learning.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

As the school year is drawing to a close our mission trip to the Blackfeet Nation in Western Montana is getting closer too! Our youth are blessed to be part of a congregation that's so supportive of not only our education and strengthening of student faith in our community, but its willingness to support us financially to travel and serve others and share the gospel with the "least of these".

As the fruits of our fundraising efforts are coming into focus, it's encouraging to see that we've raised nearly all of the costs required for our trip! Thank you for coming out and supporting our youth and for your faithful support through prayer and encouragement. It's a blessing that youth is made a priority in our church. **Thank you, thank you, and thank you!**

IT'S DOCK TIME!

The sun is out, the temperatures are up, and it's time to get those docks in the water! Why go through the hassle and strain of putting it in yourself? Our youth group has strong, young backs and would be happy to do all the heavy lifting for you.

Putting docks in has become a staple in our fundraising cycle and this is a great way to get students out in the fresh air doing some good old-fashioned manual labor.

If you'd like help putting in a dock, please talk to either Robert Nelson (320-220-1625) or Matt Christiansen (507-227-0854).

MAY CALENDAR

Wed 1st	Senior Night @ Youth Group
Fri 3rd	Confirmation Banquet
Sun 5th	Confirmation Sunday
Wed 8th	Photo Scavenger Hunt Night
Sat 11th	Movie Night: "Wonder"
Wed 15th	6th Grade Welcome Night
Sat 18th	Community Clean Up Day
Sun 19th	Senior Recognition Sunday
Wed 22nd	Girls/Guys Night Out
Wed 29th	Baccalaureate

Check back for a summer calendar of events!

May Kids Corner

Mother/ Daughter Brunch

Saturday, May 11th
at 9:30am



Mother/Daughter “Spring Brunch”

Saturday, May 11th 9:30-11:00am at NL Covenant Church. This special “Spring Brunch” event is for **mothers, grandmothers and daughters of all ages**. We will have a special morning brunch and beverages, along with a short program with activities and a word of encouragement. The **cost is \$5** and you will need to reserve tickets for this event. Call the church office (354-2446) to reserve

them or pick them up. **The deadline to reserve tickets is Sunday, May 5th. Questions? Contact Paula**



Guys Night Out

Ages K-6th Grade
\$5/person
(includes pop/pizza)
RSVP by May 8th

“Guys Night Out” – Bowling and Pizza Event

Wed., May 15th, 6-7:30pm at Alley on Ash—New London Bowling
Cost is \$5 per person/ticket, which includes pizza/pop.

For **boys ages preschool-6th grade AND their dads, grandfathers, mentors, or adult leaders** to bowl together with other guys (young and old) with pizza and pop served too! You will need to reserve/buy tickets for this event. Call the

church office (354-2446) to reserve them and/or pick them up. **The deadline to reserve tickets is Wednesday, May 8th. Contact Paula @ 354-2446 with questions.**



AWANA Year End Nights

The last AWANA club meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1st. This will be a great night to bring friends that you may want to invite to VBS. We will be spending part of the night doing an art project for VBS, playing a VBS game and introducing you to the VBS theme and songs!

May 8th is the very special year end Celebration and Award Night. All clubbers and their families are invited to be a part of this evening. Special recognition will be given to clubbers for the great year we have had. Following the program, there will be an ice cream sundae bar served in the fellowship hall! You won't want to miss this night!



Feast & Family, Sunday May 19th

We invite families with kids at home (ages 0-high school) to come join us for lunch! We'll plan the meal, prepare and serve the food and do the dishes. You just need to bring your family and enjoy the food and fellowship around the table, following the morning worship service on Sunday, May 19th. There is a small cost of \$1 per child and \$2 for adults.



VBS Alert!! June 3-7 (ages 4yrs - completed 6th grade)

The Incredible Race...*One Family. One Race. One Savior.*

A race. But not just any race. A race filled with fun clues to find. A race loaded with interesting challenges to attempt. A race around the world that's a global scavenger hunt like you've never seen! At the same time, it's about another race. A race that began at the Garden of Eden and continues until this day. A race made up of all people from all time. What race? **The human race!** As we move from continent to continent in The Incredible Race, we'll make stops at various times

before, at, and after the largely important Tower of Babel incident and see how it matters greatly today! We will discover our need to yield our lives to Christ as He reaches out with His love!

VBS will take place June 3-7, with supper starting at 5:30 and VBS from 6 to 8:30pm.

Church Happenings ...

Adult Sunday School Class Offerings:

For Adults of any age: Steve Willey, guest teacher, is teaching our spring quarter Sunday School Class on the topic of “Having Good Conversations”. In the movie “The Last Samurai” the hero’s captor/enemy loved a “good conversation”! As they talked they became friends and eventually comrades in arms! Jesus had “good conversations” with those outside the kingdom who would become followers. He was proficient at “sowing”. Let’s explore how he did that.

Mission Links (Quilting Group)

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 10:00am

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 9:00am

Tuesdays Table at ECC

6 pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month

For Younger Adults: Topics covered include marriage, parenting, managing finances and others relevant to this season of life. All young adults/couples are welcome. The class will meet from 9am-10:15am and will include light breakfast items. The class will primarily be facilitated by Mitch and Sara Barber, but will include other speakers and panel discussions. We hope to see you there!

Council Meeting: The next council meeting will be held on Thursday, May 9th at 8:00pm.



Faith Works is partnering with Communities in Action for a Community Cleanup on **Saturday, May 18!** If you would like to join community members clean up the streets, neighborhoods, and parks of New London, meet at Holm Park at 10:00AM. Return to the park at noon to share a free meal featuring wood-fired pizza! All supplies will be provided. Children of all ages accompanied by an adult are welcome to participate! For more information on this event, contact Adam or Amy Gronli.

And...Save the Date! The annual “Smokin' for the Link Ribfest” is on June 9th. Be on the lookout for information on how you can support The Link by helping at or attending the event.

Deep Cleaning of Kitchen/Pantry Needed

If you have not already done so, please make sure that your ministry helps to deep clean the kitchen and pantry including prep, storage and serving area. The refrigerators are a top priority. Please do not leave open food packages and remove old items including the pantry area. Thanks! ~ Women’s Ministries



You're invited to join us!!

We welcome you to be a part of something new and exciting for the women of our church family! Modeled after the Biblical principles put forth in Titus 2:3-5 and Hebrews 10:24-25, women will nurture, care for and bless each other through partnerships, sharing life experience and Godly wisdom, meeting together in small groups of 3 to encourage one another toward love and good deeds. **We prayerfully anticipate that you will develop relationships that will foster: Friendship, Encouragement, Spiritual Conversations, Shared prayer times and requests and Accountability.**

Each small group of 3 will be encouraged to find frequent/common means of communications, regular connections (lunch/coffee/prayer time/activity) and be a continual source of encouragement, care and prayer for T2P group members. **Sign up on-line on the church website or find a paper registration form at the information desk (and box for completed forms).** Contact any of the other steering team members: Paula Holmen, Kathy Graham, Sherry Olson, Judy Kulset or Pam Haverly if you have any questions.

Community News & Events ...



The Link
LINKING PEOPLE : BUILDING COMMUNITY

Minnesota Food Share Success

As a Minnesota Food Share March Campaign participant, The Link is asked to report totals received during the campaign period. Reporting the pounds and dollars donated is used in determining the match The Link Food Pantry receives from MN Food Share.

The support The Link Food Pantry received from the community, churches and service organizations during the campaign was phenomenal! The food items donated totaled 1,725 pounds and the dollars received were over \$15,000.00! Although the pounds were less than last year, the amount of money surpassed last year's total! This will make a greater impact because every dollar donated increases to \$10 worth of food by purchasing through Second Harvest.

Save the Date! Rib Fest, Sunday, June 9th 1 pm to 5 pm.



“Rib Fest” Pies & Brownies Needed:

This year we are looking for volunteers to make homemade pies and brownies for Rib Fest. In the past we have only accepted and served pie. This year due to the increase in families with young children attending the event, a kid-friendly dessert would make for a better option. If you would like to help The Link out by baking either a pie (or 10!) or pan of brownies, please contact Chasity or Shawna at 320-354-5555.

Please keep an eye out for ticket info and posters about some of the new activities coming to Rib Fest this year!

Tuesday's Table:

May 7th – Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church

May 14th – Evangelical Covenant Church

May 21st – Faith Lutheran Church

May 28th – Peace Lutheran Church

Monthly Giving Opportunities:

The Link is now offering monthly giving as a convenient option for our donors. You can set it up online giving through The Link's website at www.youarethelink.org or directly through your bank. Please contact Rhonda at 320-354-LINK or email her director@youarethelink.org for more information.

Chasity Ommodt, 320.354.5555, outreach@youarethelink.org



MAY PRAYER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Andrew & Rachel Everson & family	2 Fred & Debbie Everson	3 Andrew & Stephanie Finsaas & family	4 Jerry & Cindy Finsaas
5 Gwen Fredeen	6 Waldo & Marlys Goodsen	7 Kale & Anna Graham & family	8 Les & Kathy Graham	9 Sam & Nancy Greene	10 Adam & Amy Gronli	11 Kevin & Beth Gronli
12 Don & Shirley Gunderson	13 Ronald & Donna Hacker	14 Travis & Ashley Hanson & family	15 Caleb & Jessica Hatfield & family	16 Delroy & Shirley Haverly	17 Jonathan & Karlee Haverly & family	18 Troy & Pam Haverly
19 Ken & Lynnae Hess	20 Buddy & Erika Hixon & family	21 Chris & Nikki Hofstad & family	22 Janice Hofstad	23 Willard & Louise Hofstad	24 John & Paula Holmen & family	25 Dorothy Horn
26 Len & Alice Jane Isdahl	27 Maria Jeseritz & family	28 Daniel & Cheryl Johnson	29 Donavon & Marilyn Johnson	30 Mark & Dawn Johnson	31 Sue Kemp	



May



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30am – Men’s Fellowship Breakfast 9:30-11:30am – Women’s Bible Study 5:30pm – Supper 5:30-7:30pm – Jr & Sr High Youth Group: Senior Night 6:00-7:30pm – Awana, Last regular Club Mtg	2	3	4 9am – Playground/ Fence Assembly 10am – Baby Shower for Karlee Haverly 5pm Confirmation Rehearsal & Banquet
5 Confirmation Sunday 9:00am – Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am – Worship	6 6:30-8:30pm – Women’s Bible Study @ JoAnn Nelson’s Home	7 10:00am – Mission Links 6:00pm – Tuesday’s Table @ Our Lady of the Lakes	8 9:30-11:30am – Women’s Bible Study 5:30pm – Supper 6:00-7:30pm – Awana Awards Night 6:00-8:30pm – Jr & Sr High Youth Group: Photo Scavenger Hunt Night	9 8:00pm – Council Meeting	10	11 9:30am Mother/Daughter Brunch 7pm – Youth Movie Night: “Wonder”
12 MOTHER’S DAY 9:00am – Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am – Worship	13 6:30-8:30pm – Women’s Bible Study @ JoAnn Nelson’s Home	14 9:00am – MOPS 6:00pm – Tuesday’s Table @ ECC	15 6:30am – Men’s Fellowship Breakfast 9:30-11:30am – Women’s Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm – Guys Night Out, Bowling/ Pizza Event 6:00-8:30pm – Jr & Sr High Youth Group: 6 th Grade Welcome Night	16	17	18 10am – Community Clean Up Day
19 Teacher, Volunteer & Senior Appreciation Sunday 9:00am – Sunday School (all ages) 10:30am – Worship 11:45am – Feast & Family	20 6:30-8:30pm – Women’s Bible Study @ JoAnn Nelson’s Home	21 10:00am – Mission Links 6:00pm – Tuesday’s Table @ Faith Lutheran	22 9:30-11:30am – Women’s Bible Study 6:00-8:30pm – Jr & Sr High Youth Group: Girls/Guys Night Out	23	24	25
26 SUMMER WORSHIP TIME BEGINS 9:30am – Worship	27 OFFICE CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY	28 6:00pm – Tuesday’s Table @ Peace Lutheran	29 7pm NL-S Baccalaureate	30	31	