



The Messenger

MAY 2019

Message from Pastor Valerie

"The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won...! Alleluia!
The pow'rs of death have done their worst;
Jesus their legions has dispersed.... Alleluia!
Christ closed the yawning gates of hell;
the bars from heav'n's high portals fell... Alleluia!"

This Easter hymn from Germany in the late 1600's is not one we sing often. But now after Easter, I find myself thinking about times of battle and times of peace. There is an ongoing war between heaven and hell over the eternal souls of all people. In his passion, and by the cross, Jesus dealt a crushing blow to his adversary, Satan. He won the crucial battle over sin and death for us; but that does not mean the war is over! This month we will once again honor our veterans on Memorial Day, and remember the wars in which they have fought. And in early June, we remember the offensive onslaught of D-Day on the northern shores of France, when Allied forces of freedom invaded the darkness of Nazi territory. It was a very costly battle in lives lost, but it was a turning point in the war against a very real evil. But the war was not over. It had to continue to be fought all the way to Berlin, where the Nazi command was destroyed. God has promised us that the spiritual battle will see the end of Satan's powers and work in the world, when he and his demons (fallen angels who followed him)

will be thrown into the fires of hell, which God made for that purpose. And we can then say, "Good riddance!"

After Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, the disciples had a time of peace and rest. They had been through trauma, and God gave them time to grieve. But before they finished grieving Jesus' death, they had to adjust their minds to the whole new reality that Jesus was alive again through resurrection! Death was not the same as before! God's power and light had invaded the realm of darkness and death, at great cost for Jesus, but now there was the possibility that death would not win. Indeed, it might eventually be completely done in! God gave them 7 weeks of meeting with Jesus, and hearing him explain from the Scriptures how this was all to work. They had time to think, pray, reflect, learn, talk, explore, dream, and get ready. Then God would pour out the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit, and they would be sent out to change the world, and gather multitudes of human souls to God, with this truth and power.



As we look around the world, we see battles going on for countries and cultures, and the Church struggling in various ways; the larger "war" is always going on. Yet there are places and times of relative peace and rest; spaces and opportunities for rebuilding, for strengthening, for getting ready for whatever will be the next challenge. We must realize that in those times, God does not want us to be sleeping! God wants us to be resting up to get strong, recuperating to resume life and action, learning in order to better serve, dreaming and visioning to prepare for a new season of work. I feel that we are in such a season now, in this time set apart to talk and pray with our friends at Milltown and North Valley about what we can be and do as Christ's Church together. We're listening to each other, and opening up new ways of thinking about "church", and God is getting us ready for a new season of life, work, and fruit. Join us in praying for it. THANK YOU!

Pastor Valerie



Register by May 1 for Summer Camp and take advantage of our Early Bird Discount! Luther Point offers camps for all people and ages. Visit our website lutherpoint.org to learn more and register.

We need your help on May 4 & 11 to get camp ready for our summer campers! We will be cleaning out camper cabins and getting the grounds ready! May 4: 9-noon
May 11: 9-2 (Lunch Served!)

May 11 from 9-2 we will be installing Luther Point Gardens. Constructing raised beds, filling with dirt and planting our first produce and flowers! We are still seeking donations to make this project the best it can be! We are still \$1,100 from our initial goal of \$2,500!

Break-in-the-Lake will be held during lunch on May 11! If you want to see the staff get wet or be one of the first people in Big Wood Lake in 2019 come and join us for this fun time!

Women of ELCA

RUMMAGE SALE

Our Annual Rummage Sale will be held May 2-3-4. A Bake Sale will be held Thursday morning. Help is needed all three days. We will begin working with sorting and setting up on April 26.

On Sunday, May 5, after coffee treats there will be a time for boxing sale items not sold. The Blood Bank is set for Wednesday, May 8, and the Social Hall must be cleared for that.

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, May 8, 1:30pm, we will have our Bible Study entitled "From Generation to Generation," page 24 of your *Gather* magazine. Lynne Schauls will provide refreshments following the study. The church kitchen will be in use, so treats will be enjoyed in the Library room, since the Blood Bank will be going on in the Social Hall.

QUILTING

We meet for quilting on Wednesday, May 15. we have several quilts to tie and we are anxious to complete them for shipping overseas.

We have received a tracking listing from Lutheran World Relief of the numbers of our quilts and kit donations years, January 2015 through April 2019:

- 54 Personal Care Kits
- 445 School Kits
- 219 Quilts
- 5 Baby Care Kits
- 1138 Soap

These donations have gone to 8 different countries around the world.

THANKS

A big thanks to those who brought soups for our Lenten soup and sandwich meals. They were all delicious and appreciated, as well as your help in the kitchen.

Just a couple notes...

- Please bring/mail in any world hunger offerings you set aside during Lent, as we would like to send in our total for the Synod Assembly offering, before our gathering on May 4.
- We will be recognizing our High School Graduates on Sunday, May 19.
- Pastor Valerie will be leading the service at Divine Rehab on Sunday, May 12 at 4pm (Mother's Day). It's nice when family members attend with them, so please come!
- We are happy to welcome Pauline Roseberry and her son Dennis Kramer to the fellowship of the saints at Fristad. Dennis is a recent resident of Centuria, and Pauline is now in home care at his home here.

Speaking of new members, if anyone is interested in becoming a member at Fristad, or being baptized, please contact the office or Pastor Valerie, and we'll make plans for that.

Your Service is Our Ministry

May 5

Assisting Minister Lonnie Ellefson
 Lector Elizabeth Ebensperger
 Ushers. Fran McLeod, Wayne Hancock

May 12

Assisting Minister Brent Bublitz
 Lector Judi Jepsen
 Ushers Erv & Jan Lehmann

May 19

Assisting Minister Tom Rivers
 Lector Al Arndt
 Ushers Don & Laurie Ellefson

May 26

Assisting Minister Lonnie Ellefson
 Lector Brenda Lehmann
 Ushers Deverah Koshatka
..... Shirley Johnson

Altar Guild

May: Gretchen Snyder, Shirley Johnson
 June: Judi Jepsen

June 2

Assisting Minister Brent Bublitz
 Lector Melinda Sorensen
 Ushers Jim & Melinda Sorensen

June 9

Assisting Minister Tom Rivers
 Lector Katheryn Rivers
 Ushers Dennis Meinke & Kathy Vitalis

June 16

Assisting Minister Lonnie Ellefson
 Lector Elizabeth Ebensperger
 Ushers Kathie Wilson
..... Wayne Hancock

June 23

Assisting Minister Brent Bublitz
 Lector Judi Jepsen
 Ushers Erv & Jan Lehmann

June 30—Joint Worship at Fristad

Assisting Minister Tom Rivers
 Lector Al Arndt
 Ushers Don & Laurie Ellefson

If you are unable
 to keep your
 scheduled date,
 please make
 arrangements for
 a replacement
 and then contact
 the church
 office.

Birthdays

3	Debra Gustafson	15	Natalie Priebe
6	Zakary Turner	16	Gavin Priebe
7	David Schultz Sr.	21	Ruth Yira
11	Bobbie Jo Benedict	22	Charlie Turner
12	Ardis Swenson	23	Joanne Nelson
13	Marcella Frokjer	24	Alix Priebe
14	Daniel Ebensperger	26	Christine Mathews
		28	Laura McCurdy
		30	Connie Krech



Fristad Lutheran Church

Contact Us

PO Box 217, Centuria WI 54824
 715-646-2357
 fristad@lakeland.ws

Visit Us

501 State Road 35, Centuria WI 54824
www.fristad.org

Congregation Leaders

Valerie Peterson, Pastor ... 715-640-2530
..... or text: 651-707-6501
 Shirley Johnson, Pres 715-755-3745
 Don Ellefson, V. Pres 715-485-3088
 Kathy Vitalis, Sec 715-557-0892
 Al Arndt, Treas 715-210-1355
 Twyla Bublitz 715-646-2815
 Gary Ebensperger 715-485-3541
 Brent Priebe 715-566-3012
 Jim Sorensen 715-554-3175

Secretary's Office Hours

Mary Pollock, Office Secretary
 Tuesday 8:30am-Noon
 Wednesday 8:30am-3:30pm
 Friday 8:30am-Noon

Fristad Lutheran Church
 501 State Road 35
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May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm Community Outreach Dream Team Meeting at Fristad	2 7am-5pm Rummage Sale and Bake Sale	3 8am-5pm Rummage Sale	4 8am-Noon Rummage Sale <i>8:30am Walking Group meets at North Valley</i> Church Yard Clean-up Bring your own tools Synod Assembly at Trinity Luth. Eau Claire 9am-noon Luther Point Bible Camp Work Day
5 Food Shelf Sunday 9am Worship followed by fellowship QUARTERLY MEETING	6	7	8 <i>8:30am Walking at North Valley</i> Bloodmobile at Fristad 1:30pm Women's Bible Study at Fristad 7pm CPR Team at Milltown	9 Conference Pastors Meeting	10	11 <i>8:30am Walking at North Valley</i> 9am-2pm Luther Point Bible Camp Work day (with lunch) Garden Installation and Break-in-the-Lake
12 MOTHER'S DAY 9am Worship followed by fellowship 4pm Pastor leading service at Divine Rehab	13	14	15 <i>8:30am Walking at North Valley</i> 9am-3pm Quilting with sack lunch	16 6-7pm St. Croix Valley Life-Long Singers Choir rehearsal at Fristad	17	18 <i>8:45am Walking Group at Suicide Awareness Walk in Balsam Lake</i>
19 Food Shelf Sunday 9am Worship with High School Graduate Recognition followed by fellowship NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 1pm CPR Team at Fristad	20	21	22 <i>8:30am Walking at North Valley</i>	23	24	25 <i>8:30am Walking at North Valley</i>
26 9am Worship followed by fellowship	27	28	29 <i>8:30am Walking at North Valley</i>	30	31	1

June 2019						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

COUNCIL and COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS for April 2019

By Pastor Valerie

COUNCIL meeting scheduled for April 7 was **postponed until April 28**, as we had just had two long meetings in March. Watch for notes in the next newsletter.

The Finance Committee met over soup supper on Wed, April 3, to get started on its work, as it is needed for giving input into the CPR Taskforce and the talks with Milltown and North Valley. Since we ran out of time before the Lenten service, the meeting was continued on Sunday, April 7. Pastor Valerie set before the committee **several tasks/goals:** **1)** to get clear in our minds an **overview of our financial situation here at Fristad**, so we can speak clearly about this as we talk with Milltown and North Valley; **2)** in doing this, to **get a clear picture of what we can contribute to a “new thing” that could come out of our discussions;** **3)** if we remain an independent congregation, to review our budget preparation process, and make recommendations; **4)** to review our current system of reporting, to see if we need/want to make any changes; **5)** to work through differing opinions/options about benevolences, how much of which funds is paid to whom, and especially what is the role of fundraisers in this; **6)** to review guidelines and priorities for how bills are paid when cash flow is tight.

On Sunday, Jeff Larson and Terrie Lunsman were able to join us, and we had **good and broad-ranging discussions about our overall situation, and how things might work if we combine with Milltown and/or North Valley, that included our Foundation, our scholarship fund, building fund, etc.** All of that put Brent

Bublitz in a good place as he prepared for a mid-week meeting with representatives on the CPR Task Force from NV and MT. **The remainder of our work will wait** a bit until AI has returned, and we get through some of the CPR Process to see where things are going, and how financial things will need to be worked on for the future.

The first meeting of the CPR Task Force, to organize itself, was March 31, at North Valley.

Each pastor introduced their members that were in attendance as representatives. They are:

North Valley – Pastor Maggie Isaacson, Pres. Joey Nelson, Don Prose, Al Metcalf, and Keith Simmerman; **Milltown** – Pastor Angie Kutney, Pres. Kim Grossmann, Bruce Christensen, Mike Carlson, and David Beaulieu; **Fristad** – Interim Pastor Valerie Peterson, Pres. Shirley Johnson, Brent and Twyla Bublitz, Don Ellefson, and Fran McLeod as guest.

After our time of reflection on Acts 16 (“dwelling in the Word”), Pastor Valerie presented a **suggested model for organizing the group’s work**, so that **all churches are represented in all areas**, and so that **communication is established well within the CPR and between the CPR and the members of the congregations**, especially the “dream teams” working on various areas of how church life and ministry could be shaped together. It seemed to make sense to all concerned, and so we chose **David Beaulieu of Milltown to be our coordinator**, to keep us all on timeline, on task, and in communication.

Within the CPR Task Force, we split up to work on our areas of discussion and dreaming:

Finance area – Michael Carlson, Brent Bublitz, Maggie Isaacson

Structure/Staffing – Don Prose, Bruce Christensen, Shirley Johnson

Facilities area – Al Metcalf, Michael Carlson, Don Ellefson

Vision for Ministry area – Joey Nelson, Kim Grossmann, Valerie Peterson

These sub-committees are meeting on their own to share their current situations, and then to begin discussions and explorations of combining resources and working together.

In addition to these internal committees, **some on the CPR Task Force will serve as liaison members of the dreams teams**, and help them get started on their work, and be able to report back to the CPR Task Force what is developing:

#1 – Children/youth/family ministry – Twyla Bublitz (then also represents Fristad)

#2 – Youth/confirmation – Keith Simmerman

#3 – Adult Ed/Groups – Joey Nelson

#4 – Social Justice, Community/Global Outreach – Kim Grossmann

#5 – Worship – Don Prose

Members of the churches should feel free to contact these leaders or anyone on the dream teams or CPR committees with any questions,

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COUNCIL and COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS for April 2019

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concerns, ideas, suggestions, hopes, dreams, fears, etc. We welcome your input into the overall discussion through these many members who are representing in these 9 different areas.

Pastor Valerie also suggested that pastors “float” to various committees/dream teams as their input/advice is desired, or as they have interest/concern. That has been happening some.

The CPR Task Force set 2 meetings a month through June, with a final date of **June 19 for assembling the results, and a SPECIAL EVENT on June 30 for sharing it with the congregations.**

So on June 30, we will have 10:00 JOINT WORSHIP at Fristad, followed by a presentation from the various teams, and a celebratory fellowship meal.

We ask your prayers for all the members of the teams and task force who are working on these areas and ideas, that God will guide us and shape what is good for God’s kingdom and work among us and through us! THANK YOU! And THANKS TO ALL WHO ARE SERVING!

CPR TASK FORCE Meeting April 17 at Fristad

After once again “dwelling in the Word” and asking God’s guidance, **we heard reports back** from all the various teams. Most reported first meetings of **sharing** the situations in

each church, and **then starting to talk about ideas** they wanted to explore, and people they might want to talk to and learn from who are doing things well in ministry, or who have been through processes like ours. It seems there is a lot of “talk” going on in many different circles, and it is **opening up new ideas and possibilities**, and breaking up assumptions about how things would be if we combined our churches in some way. There is a good spirit of hope and cooperation, and a joy in increasing work and fellowship together, whatever comes of the formal process. It makes one think of Ps 133: “Behold, how good and pleasant it is when family dwells in unity.” **Continue to pray for us and the process.** LORD, LEAD AND GUIDE FOR YOUR GLORY!

An Easter message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton



Getting a phone call in the middle of the night is never a good thing. I remember the second time my father had open-heart surgery. It was a long procedure and a difficult one, and after it was done the doctor called us to his office and said, “There’s been some bleeding. We’ll let you know, but you should go home now and rest.” And so going home that night, I listened for a phone call in the middle of the night and was awakened only to find out it was morning and it was birds singing, not the phone ringing. My father had made it through the night, and in fact he did recover from the surgery.

This is the joy we feel at Easter, but magnified. All of the hope that had been dashed on Good Friday, the terrible pressure of grief, the terrible pressure of knowing there was no future in the world, only on Sunday to be greeted not by the ringing of a telephone announcing death but the loud clear singing of alleluias. This is the joy we have, and it’s a promise so strong that even when we do die, even when we do confront death, we have the hope and the assurance of eternal life.

Easter makes it possible for us, even at the grave, to sing alleluia.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.
Happy Easter, dear church.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CPR Taskforce Update April 18, 2019

Hello as you may know there has been a Taskforce and Dream Teams formed to ask what do we see God doing and wanting us to do in our Congregations and what we can do as Congregations to work together. The three congregations are Fristad, Milltown and North Valley. As you know we have history together and have been working together on different Ministries.

This is an update on what our teams have been up to. The taskforce has met twice and have meetings set through June. The Dream Teams have all met and will continue to meet to work together. We have set up a Joint Worship Service and Potluck at Fristad for June 30 for the Taskforce and Dream Teams to give their recommendations to all of our Congregations. There will be a booklet put together for everyone to take home with them of the recommendations, also there will be booklets available at your congregations for those of you who may not be able to attend the June 30 Worship and Service. We know it is a busy time of year and you may not be able to attend but want you to be involved and informed. Your ideas and opinions are very important, valued and appreciated as to where you See God Leading us into the Future of all of our Congregations. Please Talk to your Fellow Congregation Members, Members from other Congregations, your Friends and Neighbors. We all want to make the best decisions for our Congregations and after all we are talking about God and that is always a good thing.

Included in this note is the names and which teams they are on please talk to them and give your ideas and input This is an exciting time, change can be hard but also good, Please Let God guide you in these conversations.

God Bless You All

David Beaulieu, CPR Taskforce Coordinator

CPR Taskforce Members

Kim Grossmann	Joey Nelson
Don Prose	Shirley Johnson
Twyla Bublitz	Keith Simmerman
Bent Bublitz	Michael Carlson
Bruce Christensen	Pastor Angie
David Beaulieu	Pastor Maggie
Don Ellefson	Pastor Valerie
Al Metcalf	

Children, Youth and Family

Twyla Bublitz	Jeremy Gingras
Keith Simmerman	Jill Gingras
	Lisa Hatten
	Sarah Campbell
	Dane Olson
	Tricia Olson
	Sarah Hill
	Jess Kruse
	Laurie Ellefson

Confirmation/Middle School/High School

Keith Simmerman
Kelly Nelson
Carly Nelson
Heidi Simmerman
Hunter Cox
Kristie Wagner
Kristie Kuenkel
Jim Sorensen
Melinda Sorensen

Adult Ed/ WELCA/

Men Group/ Bible Studies

Joey Nelson	Donna Berg
Carol Johnson	Kristie Kuenkel
Clayton Johnson	Tom Rivers
Mickey Muller	Fran McLeod
Rhonda Hansch	Al Arndt

Social Justice/Outreach/Community Events

Kim Grossmann	Suzanne Grill	Elizabeth Ebensperger
Jeanne Alling	Marilynn Nehring	Katheryn Rivers
Ben Wheeler	Bev Hopkins	Kimm Boehme
Lydia Pfeifer	Sephonia Cowans	

Worship Dream Team

Don Prose	Bob Appelholm
Wayne Deloach	Linda Appelholm
Mary Ellen Deloach	Kristie Kuenkel
Jeff Turner	Lonnie Ellefson
Sue Turner	Julie Riemer
Maddie Simmerman	Al Arndt

Get Walking with this 12-week plan

Are you looking to ease your way into exercising regularly? This 12-week walking schedule from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute provides a framework for gradually increasing your cardio time. If you've been sedentary for a long time or you have serious health issues, talk with your doctor before starting this walking plan.

A walking group will meet at North Valley Lutheran Church on Saturdays and Wednesdays at 8:30am, starting Saturday, May 4. We will include (optional) the Suicide Awareness Walk on Saturday, May 18, at Pine Park in Balsam Lake.

If you have questions, please contact the Suzanne Grill, North Valley Parish Nurse at 715-825-4100.

Fristad Lutheran Church

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«AddressBlock»

Worship with Holy Communion every Sunday at 9 am
Refreshments & Fellowship following the service

Remember to bring in non-perishable food items on the first & third Sundays of the month for the local food shelves.

HAPPENING IN MAY

Sat, May 4 Church Yard Clean-up

Sun, May 5 QUARTERLY MEETING

Wed, May 8 1:30pm Women's Bible Study at Fristad

Wed, May 15 9am-3pm Quilting

Sun, May 19 High School Graduate Recognition

