



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

Fristad Lutheran Church | [www.fristad.org](http://www.fristad.org) | [fristad@lakeland.ws](mailto:fristad@lakeland.ws) | 715.646.2357  
501 State Road 35 | PO Box 217 | Centuria, Wisconsin 54824

# The Messenger

JUNE 2019

## Message from Pastor Valerie

### THE GOD of "NEW THINGS"

In this Sunday's texts, we have the picture of the new heaven and the new earth at the end of earth's history, and God says, "Behold, I make all things new."

This is the same God who keeps doing "new things" throughout the history that we see in the Bible. Creation was a "new thing". Human beings that were to be God's companions, sons and daughters, was a "new thing". And when those humans sinned, and the world became corrupted beyond repair, God arranged another "new thing"- we don't know exactly what it was - that brought cataclysm to earth in a great flood, that changed our atmosphere and our climate, and gave us a fresh start. Out of all the nations/peoples that developed, God did another "new thing" when he chose one man, Abram, and his wife Sarai, to create a people for himself. God brought them through phases of growth and development in time, saving them through miraculous events out of slavery in Egypt, and bringing them into the land that God intended for them to have, right at the center of the continents of the Old World. From there, they were to shine the light of the knowledge of God and God's way out to all the world. But sadly, they failed to be faithful, and eventually, God had to take them into exile to reform and make them newly God's own people again.

At that time God said, "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert..." He speaks (in Isa. 43 and following) of a new Exodus, a rescue to bring them out of exile and back to their land to continue with God's purposes. "I will pour out my Spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring..." And a little further on, "O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me. I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like a mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you." Then he speaks of an amazing new happening. God will use a Gentile king to fulfil his plans for Israel, as God "says of Cyrus (a Persian/Iranian emperor) 'He is my shepherd and he shall fulfil all my purpose; saying of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built', and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'" God says he will go before Cyrus to level mountains, break down bronze doors, and bring forth things that are hidden in the darkness, working through him so that the world will know that Israel's God is the one true God, like no other, who can even bend the will of kings to fulfil God's plans. Yes, God has plans and purposes, and God is forever working in history, bringing forth



what needs to be done to fulfil those plans.

In the last few weeks, we have reflected on texts from John and Acts that have spoken of the "new things" that God did in Jesus and the early Church era: resurrection was a great surprise! Then came the new experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit, the tongues of fire, and the gift of tongues. Definitely "new things!" Later, they were amazed and confounded when God made it clear that these gifts from heaven were not only for the Jews, but for all people! And so they got to work taking the Good News of this salvation to all peoples, like us!

God keeps doing new things! And right now we are standing on tip-toes as we wait to see just what God is going to do with us to create a "new thing" for us here at Fristad and with our neighbors. God has plans and purposes, and will do "new things" to get us there, so let's be ready to follow into the blessings the God has already prepared for us. LEAD ON, LORD! Amen.



### **SERVICE PROJECT — BABY CARE KITS**

**Bring any of the following items:**

- **Two lightweight cotton t-shirts**
- **Two long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)**
- **Two receiving blankets, medium weight cotton, or flannel, or crocheted or knitted**
- **One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood or include a baby cap**
- **Two pairs of socks**
- **One hand towel, dark color recommended**
- **Two bath size bars (4 to 5 oz) gentle soap, in original wrapping**
- **Two diaper pins or large safety pins**

**(We will provide diapers for the Baby Care Kits.)**

**Gently used, clean items may be substituted for new ones. Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.**

**Bring what items you wish and we will combine our contributions.**

## **Women of ELCA**

### **RUMMAGE SALE**

Our annual Rummage Sale in May was completed with results of \$1,777.55. Thanks for your donations and good help in leadership, clerking, and displaying the items. Women of Fristad have recommended that 10% of the intake be given to non-profit organizations, foreign and domestic: 5% to the feeding stations for children in Malawi and 5% to help pay back to Fristad's Scholarship Fund treasury from a loan several years ago. The council approved this recommendation.

Our Bake Sale yielded \$193 on Thursday. Thanks for those goodies and buyers.

### **RED CROSS BLOOD BANK**

The Red Cross Blood Bank moved in for its blood collection on May 8 and there was work again of restoring arrangements of tables and chairs. Our Social Hall looks good again. Thanks to Evelyn Bystrom for

providing the evening meal for the Red Cross staff. *Thanks Evelyn for another fabulous meal for a good cause.*

### **JUNE BIBLE STUDY**

We meet for Bible Study on **Wednesday, June 12, 1:30pm**. Our lesson begins on page 22 in the *Gather* magazine. Evelyn will provide refreshments.

### **QUILTING**

We meet be quilting on **Wednesday, June 19, 9am to 3pm**. Bring a sack lunch and also a friend who can help us complete tying "a bunch" of 90% completed quilts. We need workers to keep up with our continuing donations of fabrics.

### **SOAP COLLECTION**

Collection of bars of soap (bath-sized—4 to 5 oz, in its original wrapping) to go to Lutheran World Relief. You may make a cash donation. Indicate it is for soap in the memo line.

## **Let's Go Visit—Sunday, June 9**

On Pentecost Sunday, June 9, we will be having "joint worship" with our neighbors. But it will mean going and visiting them at their places of worship. It is likely, if our churches come together, that our main worship will be at the Fristad site each Sunday. That means that our brothers and sisters will be giving up something that is precious to them in order for us to become a new congregation of God's people. So it's not a bad thing for us to take the step of visiting them in their worship now, to learn and understand what they are coming from, and what they might miss as they leave their past behind.

North Valley is celebrating their 140th anniversary on that day, so it will be a wonderful way to celebrate with them. Worship will be at 9:30am followed by a meal.

Worship at Milltown is at 10:30, with coffee fellowship at 9:30, as well as "Faith5" exercises that children do in lieu of Sunday School at 9:50. Some of the adults are also involved in that, while others are at coffee. There will also be a baptism in the service that day.

Both churches are welcoming your visit. Offerings marked in Fristad envelopes will be forwarded to us, or you can simply plan to give to Fristad another Sunday.

## Your Service is Our Ministry

### June 2

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

### June 9—Visiting Sunday

9:30am Worship at North Valley  
10:30am Worship at Milltown Lutheran

### 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 10:00am followed by potluck meal

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

### July 7

Assisting Minister ..... Lonnie Ellefson  
Lector .....Brenda Lehmann  
Ushers . Dennis Meinke & Kathy Vitalis

### July 14 - Memory Days Weekend

Assisting Minister ..... Brent Bublitz  
Lector ..... Melinda Sorensen  
Ushers ..... Fran McLeod  
.....Deverah Koshatka

### July 21

Assisting Minister ..... Tom Rivers  
Lector ..... Kathryn Rivers  
Ushers .....Kathie Wilson  
..... Wayne Hancock

### July 28

Assisting Minister ..... Lonnie Ellefson  
Lector ..... Judi Jepsen  
Ushers .....Jim & Melinda Sorensen

### Altar Guild

June: Judi Jepsen  
July: Bev Edgell

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

Centuria Memory Days  
July 11-14

## 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 ..... 612-743-3542  
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

## Birthdays


3 Raelin Sorensen  
6 Jim Milligan  
7 David Schultz Jr.

9 Evelyn Bystrom  
17 Skip Oothoudt  
18 Sue Duerkop  
Colton Sorensen  
22 Marcia Frokjer  
23 Steve Edgell  
25 Brionna Roettger  
27 Alan Bystrom  
29 Dennis Meinke  
Jim Sorensen



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# June 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																										
<div> <div>July 2019</div> <table> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr> <td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr> <td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr> <td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31									1 8:30am Walking Group meets at North Valley 10-Noon Long Lake Assoc. Mtg. at Fristad 2pm Tom Hinck Funeral
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2 Food Shelf Sunday 8am Choir Rehearsal 9am Worship with Choir singing followed by fellowship	3	4* *Pastor Valerie on vacation June 4-11	5* 8:30am Walking at North Valley 7pm CPR Mtg. at North Valley	6*	7*	8* 8:30am Walking at North Valley																																										
9* <b>VISITING SUNDAY</b> No Worship at Fristad, take time to visit a neighboring church: 9:30am Worship at North Valley followed by a meal celebrating their 140th 10:30am Worship at Milltown Lutheran	10*	11*	12 8:30am Walking at North Valley 1:30pm Women's Bible Study at Fristad	13 Conference Pastors Meeting 9am-4:30pm Unity Band Lessons at Fristad	14	15 8:30am Walking at North Valley																																										
16 <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> Food Shelf Sunday 9am Worship followed by fellowship <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	17	18	19 8:30am Walking at North Valley 9am-3pm Quilting with sack lunch 7pm Bible Study at Milltown 7pm CPR Mtg. at Milltown	20 9am-4:30pm Unity Band Lessons at Fristad	21 3-5pm Farmers Market at Fristad	22 8:30am Walking at North Valley 8-10:30am Pancake Breakfast at Bering Park for Milltown Fishermen's Party hosted by Milltown Lutheran																																										
23 9am Worship followed by fellowship <b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>	24	25	26 8:30am Walking at North Valley	27 9am-4:30pm Unity Band Lessons at Fristad	28 3-5pm Farmers Market at Fristad	29 8:30am Walking at North Valley																																										
30 Choir Rehearsal <b>10AM JOINT WORSHIP AT FRISTAD WITH CHOIR SINGING FOLLOWED BY CPR PRESENTATION &amp; POTLUCK</b>	1	2	3 8:30am Walking at North Valley	4 	5 3-5pm Farmers Market at Fristad	6 8:30am Walking at North Valley																																										

## Meeting Highlights for April and May

by Pastor Valerie

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM COUNCIL MEETING April 28

Minutes approved. Treasurer had good news – all bills paid.

Council decided to send \$150 for the synod assembly offering. GOD BLESS MALAWI PARTNERS!

Pastor is relieved to have the busy Lent season finished, along with extra meetings for CPR.

Pastor raised the **possibility of having joint worship with MT and NV on Pentecost, June 9**, as in our process we are encouraged to do more together. She will be on vacation that week, but Maggie and Angie could lead a service as they might in the future. Pastor Arndt was scheduled to come, but could perhaps fill the need at Frederic that weekend, if we can arrange something joint. Pastor agreed to talk to Maggie and Angie about that Sunday and see what might work. LOOK FOR **“LET’S GO VISIT” INFO**.

**Property issues:** Gary reported that it was recommended that we have a foam extinguisher for the kitchen. Don has 2 bids coming for the driveway sealcoating need. Sign-up sheet will get going for the lawn-mowing need. As the parsonage will be vacated by the end of May, Brent Priebe volunteered to act as liaison with Raus, and Jim Sorensen will be back-up. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO LOOK AFTER VARIOUS PROPERTY NEEDS!

Twyla reported that for becoming a SAM (Synod-Authorized Minister for a particular site), Greg Kaufmann indicated that she should participate in the **Lay School 2-year program**, plus

the extra bit that is added each month for SAM’s-in-training. This is a program that we should encourage other lay people to take part in, too, to develop more lay people for leadership. ARE YOU CALLED TO STUDY AND GET EQUIPPED FOR DOING SOME MINISTRY? Lay School meets one Friday evening-Saturday day per month, during the school year. See nswi.org website.

Pastor would like to purchase a couple communion sets for visitation, as we need to get some **lay people involved in bringing communion** regularly to our shut-ins. WE NEED LAY VISITORS!

Pastor asked about **the sound system**, the current buzz in it, and the future need for new mics on a new frequency. She will call Audio Architects for advice/service as needed. THINGS ARE CHANGING WITH RADIO/WIRELESS FREQUENCIES – UPDATE IS COMING!

**Next meeting** was set for May 19.

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, MAY 5

For our devotions, we practiced a **“Dwelling in the Word” exercise**, as we have been doing in our team meetings for our process using the Gospel for the Day, John 21, in which Jesus appears to the disciples in Galilee, where they have “gone fishing”, as they used to do. It’s like a renewal of their call to become “fishers of people”, and Jesus asks Peter to “tend and feed” his “sheep and lambs”. WE ARE CALLED TO FISH, AND TO TEND AND FEED!

Minutes were accepted. Treasurer was not available to bring a report, but Shirley shared from our council meeting that all bills were up to date. THANKS FOR YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING!

Pastor Valerie indicated that **the new Financial Committee had met** to do the work needed for the CPR Taskforce financial considerations. Further meetings might wait, depending on what is decided about congregations coming together, and what that will mean for our own systems.

Since there was no other business, we used the time to **hear reports from all the CPR taskforce sub-committees and dream teams** about what was being discussed. There was also time for Q & A. We heard about constitutions being similar, but by-laws fairly different. We heard about each congregation’s situation financially, and what it might look like if we come together – good! There are also questions of our Foundation and North Valley’s Benevolence Association to be handled. We heard that North Valley people want to continue to use their building, and that Milltown people have had to face the reality that their building will not serve them in the future. That becomes a liability issue in our considerations. LET US PRAY FOR GOD’S SOLUTION FOR THAT BUILDING! We heard about various scenarios that could develop – most likely is a consolidation of all three congregations into one new one with two sites; or a joining of 2 with the third as a separate congregation in a two-point parish. An important question was about worship. Although the worship team has only been “dreaming” and not deciding, it seems likely that main worship would be at

*(Continued on page 7)*



## CPR Taskforce Update May 18, 2019

This is an update on what our teams have been up to. The **taskforce** has met several times and have meetings set through June. The **Dream Teams** are meeting and will continue to meet to work together and have their recommendations to the CPR Taskforce by June 19. We have met with **Pastor Erin our Synod Mission Development Liaison** and she provided us an outline which is included here.

### CPR TEAM SCHEDULE

**Subject to change. This schedule is just meant to help with any confusion or uneasiness during this process. Each process is different and we will adjust as Needed!**

### DREAMING UNTIL END OF JUNE

During the Dream Team process, the Dream Teams and the CPR Taskforce are meant to be Dreaming (or brainstorming) of **what ministry could look like and what ministry is possible** if the three congregations consolidate. This is not a time to come up with any concrete plans or worry too much about the nuts and bolts. Groups do not have to come up with a plan. They must come up with many **ideas** of what kind of ministry could happen if we did ministry together. What can we accomplish together? What could ministry look like?

**The Dream Teams and CPR Teams are gathering and doing work to answer the questions:**

1. What is God calling our ministry to look like in the future?
2. What possibilities or dreams do we have for what our shared ministry could look like?
3. What needs are there in the community that we could respond to with shared ministry?
4. Would our ministry be stronger together than apart?
5. Would we recommend that the

three congregations continue to make a plan to consolidate into one new congregation?

During this time you will also **be mindful of the grief, loss and pain that this process causes**. We are hopeful that if God is calling us into consolidation there will be **great joy and great gains**. But we know that in the midst of this process all three congregations are considering giving up things that they care about very much. Please be mindful of the following:

1. We are all not in the same place dealing with the loss, grief and pain. Some of us are in the midst of dealing with these things and others have worked through these emotions already. Let us try not to judge each other and be empathetic and caring.
2. We are ALL giving up something that matters greatly.
3. How can you lessen another congregation's grief?
4. How can we strive to be flexible and adaptive and open to compromise?
5. What is the purpose? To serve Jesus Christ is the best way going forward... this may mean we have to give something up for the sake of the ministry. Be realistic and honor the past, while acknowledging what we need going forward.

### REPORTING ON JUNE 30 – 10AM JOINT WORSHIP, PRESENTATION, & POTLUCK AT FRISTAD

The Dream Teams and the CPR Taskforce each make a **3-5 minute presentation**, based on the questions they have been working on.

### VOTE IN EARLY JULY

**The three congregation councils/or congregations must each have a separate vote**, based on the work of the CPR Taskforce and the Dream Teams to authorize their congregation

to continue to plan for and explore consolidation.

### PLANNING FOR MINISTRY

**Congregations that vote to continue on will begin to make concrete plans** for what a new congregation will look like. This work will be carried out and led by the CPR Taskforce with help and assistance from the congregational councils. The Taskforce will take the time needed to be prepared. Tasks will include:

1. Writing a constitution (The Synod will assist with this.) Constitution covers membership, council/governance/financial practices.
2. Coming up with a name and a mission statement (A synod staff person will lead your congregations through a workshop during which you will come up with a name and a mission statement. Anyone who is a member of any of the congregations can come and help.)
3. Working to dissolve and resolve any foundations, endowments and associations that may be part of your existing congregations. (We have a Synod Lawyer who will help with this process.)
4. Coming up with concrete plans using the dream team's work. You will also have a synod staff person who can help negotiate these issues:
  - a. Staffing
  - b. Service times
  - c. Building usages
  - d. Programming for all areas of ministry.
5. Plans for presentation and voting (The Synod will help you plan and provide an election team that is not related to any of the churches)
6. Plans for transition if the vote goes through.
7. Worshiping together and sharing ministry as the exploration continues.

(Continued on page 7)

## CPR Taskforce Update May 18, 2019

(Continued from page 6)

### VOTE AND TRANSITION

1. When the CPR Taskforce and Council are done working on the plans for a new ministry, **the three church councils will vote to present the plan to their congregations.**
2. Congregations will be presented the new ministry plan and be given two weeks to review, pray and reflect.
3. **On the same day, at the same time, three simultaneous votes will take place to form the new ministry.** Election officials will count ballots and communicate with each other. If the vote goes through in all three places, each congregation will then vote to dissolve their own congregation.
4. **The transition plan will take effect after this.**
  - a. May include a celebration and good

bye to each individual congregation.  
b. May include a celebration for the formation of the new congregation.

**Please remember the 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 to 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 taking about God and that is always a good thing.

This is an exciting time, change can be hard but also good. Please let God guide you in these conversations. Please contact us if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

God Bless You All

David Beaulieu  
CPR Taskforce Coordinator

## Meeting Highlights for April and May

(Continued from page 5)

the Fristad site, though there may be specialized worship at NV – a week-night or Sat evening, or a more contemporary youth service, or such. The Fristad building is large enough for the numbers we are talking about, and is all accessible, which is very important. We expect that there will be a new name, to help us all move from what has been, into a “new thing.” Pastor Angie would receive a new call from the new congregation, and Pastor Maggie expects to retire next February. Pastor Valerie expects to resign/retire when new plans are activated. With an easing of finances, other staff such as parish nurse or youth worker could be added. CPR members are grateful that the synod

is willing to provide people to help us with constitutions, with financial accounts, with pastoral call, with transfer of assets, etc – all the legal and financial matters involved. WE ARE NOT ALONE! We have also benefitted from what Spirit Lutheran learned as they went through such a process of two large congregations becoming one new congregation. GOD IS WITH US! MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE BEEN SERVING ON THE CPR TASK FORCE AND THE DREAM TEAMS!!!

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM COUNCIL MEETING, May 19**

Besides updates on many items from April, the council decided to plan for a new shed for housing our

lawnmower and snowblower which have been at the parsonage site. The need for work at the base of the bell tower was noted. Enquiries will be made.

We realized our council/committee list needed to be updated, the audit committee particularly. Shirley will call the 2018 audit members and ask them to serve this year.

Council accepted WELCA recommendation that Rummage sale funds go 5% to Malawi feeding stations, 5% to our Scholarship Fund loan, and 90% to general fund.

NEXT MEETING SET FOR June 23.

## Fristad Lutheran Church

501 State Road 35  
PO Box 217  
Centuria, Wisconsin 54824-0217  
715-646-2357  
fristad@lakeland.ws



«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 JUNE

**Sun, June 9** “Let’s Go Visit” Sunday

**No Worship at Fristad**

**9:30am** Worship at North Valley followed by meal in celebration of their 140th Anniversary

**10:30am** Worship at Milltown Lutheran

**Wed, June 12** **1:30pm** Women’s Bible Study at Fristad

**Wed, June 19** **9am-3pm** Quilting

**Sun, June 30** **10am** Joint Worship at Fristad with North Valley & Milltown followed by CPR Presentation & Potluck  
Noisy Offering will be collected for Lutheran Disaster Response: US Tornadoes

### Scholarship Applications

Money endowed by John Larson and Kathy Glunz is available for post-secondary scholarships.

Applications are available in the church office or online at [www.fristad.org](http://www.fristad.org).

Applications must be returned to Fristad by July 15.

Past recipients are eligible to apply again if they are still attending school.