



**2015**

**DEACON = MIKE Koenig**  
**ALTAR GUILD = JENNIFER MUNDT**

**5<sup>TH</sup> - 9:00 AM      WORSHIP – Brett Willey**

**12<sup>TH</sup> - 9:00 AM      WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**  
**2:00 PM      WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**  
**AT GOOD SAMARITAN**

**19<sup>TH</sup> - 9:00 AM      WORSHIP**

**26<sup>TH</sup> - 9:00 AM      WORSHIP - Confirmation Class**  
**POTLUCK BRUNCH WITH DONATIONS**  
**TO GO TO NATHAN WICKS FOR**  
**SEMINARY STUDIES.**

Thank you to Deb Hageman for renovating the children's activity bags for the Church. The children and adults greatly appreciate the update.

Thank you to Wayne & Betty Timmerman for donating the flowers for the pots outside the Church.

FYI – There is no longer a separate Altar Guild Fund. Any money submitted for the Altar Guild will go into the Memorial fund.

August 9<sup>th</sup> Pastor Al and Kathy will be celebrating the 35th anniversary of their ordination. There will be a special service in honor of this occasion. Church services will be held at 9:00 AM at the Blumhagen barn at the Dennis & Donna Blumhagen farm. Potluck will follow. The Church will provide meat, baked beans, drinks and table service. The youth group has offered to supply games for everyone. There will be a representative from the Synod on hand as well as friends and family of the Wicks. If able, please bring extra food and additional seating for these honored guests.

**When Pastor Wicks is away from Zion Lutheran and Castalia.**

Part of Pastor Wicks' ½ time call to Zion is to be away from Zion 12-15 Sundays through the year. For example, this summer Pastor Wicks will be away 3 Sundays in June and July. When Pastor Wicks is out of town, Pastoral emergencies and needs will be addressed in the following way.

Pastoral Emergencies or if a member dies:

Call Mike and Laurie Tallman - cell phone (641-330-8160) or Council President Brett Willey - Home phone (563-567-8324) or cell phone (563-419-5987). They will arrange visits as well as help make arrangements for funerals in case of a death of a member. They will contact Pastor Wicks to inform him of what is going on.

Letter of Thanks to Zion Lutheran in Castalia, IA –

I apologize for not being able to be here for the potluck. I had a sendoff at Good Shepherd in Decorah as we prepare to head to Wartburg Seminary in a few weeks. I am deeply grateful for the support of this congregation for myself and family as we start this next chapter in our lives. We have truly enjoyed getting to know this thriving congregation, and we look forward to continuing that relationship as we come back for visits or even to fill in for “the old man” sometimes. We will be here for my parents' ordination anniversary celebration on August 9<sup>th</sup> and also I will do the supply preaching on August 30<sup>th</sup> and be here for the brunch held after the service then. Thank you! God Be With You,

Nathan Wicks

## Freedom!

July fourth and the celebrations remembering our country's independence from England will soon be taking center stage. It is a day to celebrate the Freedom we have as citizens living under the Government of the United States of America.

My birthday happens to be July 4. It was also the date John Adams, the second President of the United States died and Thomas Jefferson, the third President died. I was thinking about Adams and Jefferson recently and the bold task in which they participated in a revolution and the formation of a Democratic Republic.

The difficult process went far beyond simply declaring our freedom from England. In fact the safest bet was that the early American republic would dissolve into a cluster of state or regional sovereignties, expiring, like all the republics before it, well short of the Promised Land.

Something more than simply declaring freedom in 1776 was needed. The key to the republic's ongoing freedom then was not the declaration of Independence in 1776 but the Constitutional convention in 1787. The convention created a consolidated federal government with powers sufficient to coerce obedience to national laws - in effect, to discipline a truly continental union- while remaining true to the republican principles of freedom and independence declared in 1776. Thus our survival as a republic has endured because we became a nation of laws not simply a group of states or individuals with the freedom to do what we pleased. Without a central government of laws, revolutionary freedom would have disappeared a few years after 1776.

This dynamic reminded me of Luther's famous definition of Christian freedom in his treatise *The Freedom of a Christian*.

“A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.”

“A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.”

The paradox of subject to none and subject to all drives us to the community gathered around Word and Sacrament where we listen to and receive from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who as Trinity, alone loves and serves the whole world through us in perfect freedom.

To exercise our freedom as Christians does not mean that we can do anything we please. It does mean that we pay attention to how we listen and respond to God, which is where we find our true freedom.

Pastor Wicks

RAGBRAI July 19-25 for TEAM BUFFALO ELCA

Pastor Wicks will, for the 10th year, be the captain of TEAM Buffalo ELCA. The Team consisting of ELCA pastors and families- Pastor Kathy drives the van- will make the trek from Sioux City to Davenport from July 19-25. We wear jerseys with Martin Luther on the sleeve, Team Buffalo ELCA on the front- our first year we were sponsored by the Buffalo Alice bar in Sioux City- and the words “breaking wind since 1517” on our backs. On the ride hundreds of people ask us about our jerseys giving us the opportunity to tell them about Luther's advice concerning how to get rid of the devil! Luther's advice was to break wind or whatever the German equivalent is to relieving the gas from one's body. Bike riders know about breaking the wind with bicycles but few know that they are also participating in the ELCA's witness on getting rid of the devil!

### A message from your Council President

I hope your summer is going well and not too fast. As I am writing this I am preparing for an Amtrak trip to the Northeast to attend my nephew's wedding in Vermont. July is approaching fast and there is a lot going on. I will be doing the July 5<sup>th</sup> service and helping Jeff Krambeer, a good friend of mine with the July 19<sup>th</sup> service. Pastor will be doing the second week and the confirmation kids will take care of the 26<sup>th</sup>. We are planning to celebrate Pastor Al and Pastor Kathryn's 35<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary August 9<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Joelle Colville-Hanson will be here to present a certificate from the Synod. She has offered to preach that day. We will invite some special friends for that day also. More will follow as preparations are made for a great celebration.