



Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church

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June 2018 Newsletter

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Members and Friends of Ascension,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior! For some reason it seems that we jumped right from winter into summer. Four of the past eight days were in the 90's and the other four were in the 80's. I guess we skipped the spring season this year. We could use a little rain. The usual April showers that bring May flowers didn't really materialize this year.

As most of you know, I broke my ankle on Saturday evening, May 12. I can't really explain it. All I know is that on Sunday morning when they x-rayed the ankle, they said it was fractured and I would need surgery. They put a splint on which included some plaster casting. Surgery was on Wednesday, May 23rd. After a metal plate, a few screws and a cable were installed, they put on another splint which also seems to have some plaster casting. It weighs a ton (actually probably about 10 pounds). My next appointment with the orthopedic surgeon is Friday, June 8th. If everything is healing well, they'll put on some kid of boot (still no weight bearing on the ankle). The boot would allow me to take it off to take a shower. Recovery time is said to

be six weeks after the surgery (July 4th). Crutches don't work well, but I do have a knee scooter. I'm hoping to heal fast, but they say you heal slower as you get older. We'll see.

The city of Moorhead has been wanting to build an underpass at the intersection of Main Ave (old 52) and 20-21st street for some time now. Originally it was going to cost a little over \$20 million. Now that is up to \$66 million. With all the funding that is in place, the city is still short about \$6 million. They do have a funding solution to make up the difference. It is called "special assessments". They are going to take a portion of the city and assess each property a special assessment tax to be paid over the next 20 years to make up the funding shortfall.

The current zone boundaries for this special assessment tax are: 12th Avenue S to 8th Avenue N, and from the Red River on the west to 28th Street on the east. For us, 28th Street is the drainage ditch on the west side of our property. At the recent Moorhead city council meeting, it was suggested that the boundaries be expanded to include more of the city in the special assessment zone. Right now, Ascension is outside the special

assessment zone. If the boundary were to move even one inch to the east, we would be in it.

Personally, I've never been in favor of the underpass. I think the money could be spent in better ways for Moorhead. That is my opinion. I also think that the difficulties that not having the underpass could be addressed in other ways. I think technology could help us better station our emergency responders and route our responders in the best possible way. Again, that's me.

What does it mean if the boundary is expanded to include Ascension in the special assessment zone? It could mean up to \$5,000 per year for the next 20 years. Even if they don't expand the boundaries but merely shift the boundaries, we could be included. Let's hope and pray this doesn't happen. Whatever happens, some people will think it is not fair. I'd like to see Moorhead find a different funding mechanism. Whether we actually get an underpass or not remains to be seen. We will want to keep an eye on things as they develop!

In Christ's service,
Pastor Lloyd Schlomer



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DAKOTA/MONTANA DISTRICT CONVENTION

Our Dakota/Montana District Convention will be held **June 12-14** at Great Plains Lutheran High School in Watertown, SD.

District Convention will include the election of district officers and reports from various district boards and committees.

There will be additional reports from other synod committees, schools subsidiaries, and affiliates. Many of these reports may be found in the 2018 RTTD (Report to the Twelve Districts).

There will also be time for theological papers and presentations. The theme for this year's district conventions is: Our Great Heritage.

SPRING WORK DAY & LAWN MOWING

Thanks to everyone who helped out on our spring work day, May 20. I'm sorry as I was no help. A lot of things were accomplished on work day and I thank all of you for that.

There are probably a few things on the list that did not get done. If you check the list on the bulletin board and have the time to do any of those things, please do them at your leisure.

Since we are blessed to have 4.09 acres we also have the task of mowing most of those acres. Early in the summer that means getting the lawn mowed once a week. If it stays dry, it might not be so often later in the summer.

There is a sign-up sheet at church if you can help. Don't be afraid to be the second person to sign up in a given week. Sometimes it helps if more than one person is signed up.



The **Spring 2018 LWMS Rally** was held at **Christ in Baxter, MN** on **April 28th**. The presentation was '**Trekking forward in Cameroon**'.

It was a special privilege to have a World Missionary's wife Karen Kroll speak at the rally.

Karen Kroll and her husband Dan currently serve in the country of Cameroon on the continent of Africa. She spoke about how trekking or walking long distances is a big part of life for those that live in Cameroon. There are currently 7 pastors and 33 churches. Witch craft and false gods run rampant in the country.

- Pray for peace; pray for national pastor's safety and faithfulness; pray for our students desire to serve God in humility; pray for longevity and safety for their family; pray for growth of the Lutheran Church of Cameroon.



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<https://www.facebook.com/AscensionMoorhead>

A BIG THANK YOU

As most of you know, Trisha and Sergio Dominguez, along with Isabella and Olivia, are moving to Michigan. As some of you may not know, Trisha has been putting together and running our monthly newsletter, including the monthly calendar. We just send her stuff, like my "From the Pastor's Desk" article, the calendar, and whatever other items get into the newsletter. She puts everything together in Microsoft Publisher and then runs them off for us at whatever time of day or night she finds time.

Sometimes we take things for granted.

The newsletter does not put itself together. Yet, there it is on the last Sunday or first Sunday of the month. I just want Trisha to know how much I have appreciated her taking care of the newsletter and doing such an excellent job. We will miss you for a lot of other reasons, but for me, this one might be the most. Thank you Trisha! And Lord's blessings on your new home in Michigan! Pastor Schlomer

Starting July, Ascension will need a monthly volunteer to help with the newsletter. If this sounds like something you are interested in, please speak to Pastor.