

Vernes Lutheran Church News

May 2020

If you have any news or information to add, please e-mail me at rfinseth@hotmail.com or call my cell 218-368-6374, you can also text my cell phone. Kathy Finseth

All Church activities cancelled until June 1st

All church events are cancelled until June 1st, unless we are still in a stay at home order. When we resume, plans will be made to set up dates for missed events. Especially for the 4 confirmation students. Please stay healthy and ready to gather together again!! Cannot wait to see you all again!

Ladies Aid: Postponed until further notice.

Sunday School: Postponed until further notice.

Confirmation: The new date for confirmation will be announced as soon as we can return to church.

Directory: Postponed until further notice.

Movie day: Postponed until further notice.

Healing prayers: Pastor Jill will be having healing prayers the second Sunday of the month during communion. If you would like to have her pray for you or a loved one just motion to her. She will also have special prayers for anyone that would like prayer, in the pastor's room after services.

Fellowship/Coffee: There are a lot of Sundays to fill for serving after services. It makes coffee hour so much easier if there are people signed up. It doesn't have to be fancy or a lot. Thanks to all of you!!

May Janitors: Keith Sistad, Mike Sundrud, John Peterson

Pastor Jill: Phone Number: 218-556-2757, you can call or text. Email address: jilltorgerson@gmail.com

Feel free to contact Jill with any concerns, prayer requests or simply getting to know her. You can also contact me (Kathy) and I will gladly pass the message on to her.

This year has been one like none other. At Vernes Lutheran Church, we are committed to our congregation and our community which sometimes means making the tough decisions. The church council met via conference call and have discussed the effects of the Corona Virus and the guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC is advising against gatherings above 5-7 people until this crisis has passed. We have witnessed for the first time in history the statewide closing of restaurants, bars and numerous other types of businesses. Across the nation, Colleges, Universities and K-12 schools have been closed. Vernes Lutheran Church will be moving forward into uncharted territory as we follow the CDC guidelines. **We will not have Worship Services, Sunday School, Confirmation Classes or any other church activities at our facility until further notice.**

Looking forward, we will be sending out Electronic Bulletins (to be opened by text—using your cell phone). We hope to have this available by March 29 if all goes well with the development. We will inform all members and friends of Vernes on how to access the Electronic Bulletin. For those who do not have texting capabilities—Kathy Finseth will send the bulletin by postal mail.

During this time, it can be a strain on households, but please continue your giving as you are able. For now, send your offerings to Raymond Sundrud, Treasurer at: 35563 300th Street SE, Fosston, MN 56542. In addition, we are currently checking into being able to give via electronics. More to follow on this. Remember, even though church has been postponed for a while, our expenses continue to come in.

Yours in Christ,

Vernes Lutheran Church

Jill Torgerson, Pastor
Sidney Finseth, President
Raymond Sundrud, Treasurer

Church Mice

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May 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Janitors: Keith Sistad Mike Sundrud John Peterson					1	2
					Ray Sundrud	Clark Bergeson
3 Please use the Vernes Website for the service of the week. www.verneslutheran.org	4	5	6	7 9:00 Prayer Time at Vernes National Prayer Day	8	9
			Janelle Finseth	Tyler Thompson	David Senn	
10 Please use the Vernes Website for the service of the week. www.verneslutheran.org Mother's Day	11	12	13	14 9:00 Prayer Time at Vernes	15	16
	Keisha Sollie			Ruby Sistad		Jon Lecy
17 Please use the Vernes Website for the service of the week. www.verneslutheran.org	18	19	20	21 9:00 Prayer Time at Vernes	22	23
	Skip Bergeson	Courtney Lecy Josh Finseth				
24 Please use the Vernes Website for the service of the week. www.verneslutheran.org	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28 9:00 Prayer Time at Vernes	29	30
	Rick Bergeson Chris Thompson	Jerry Torgerson				
31 Please use the Vernes Website for the service of the week. www.verneslutheran.org						

PASTOR'S PATHWAYS FOR MAY--WHAT IS THE KINGDOM?

The kingdom of God is referenced often in the gospels and other places in the New Testament. The kingdom of God is synonymous with the [kingdom of heaven](#).

Broadly speaking, the kingdom of God is the rule of an eternal, sovereign God over all the universe. Several passages of Scripture show that God is the undeniable Monarch of all creation: “The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all” ([Psalm 103:19](#)). And, as King Nebuchadnezzar declared, “His kingdom is an eternal kingdom” ([Daniel 4:3](#)). Every authority that exists has been established by God ([Romans 13:1](#)). So, in one sense, the kingdom of God incorporates everything that is.

More narrowly, the kingdom of God is a spiritual rule over the hearts and lives of those who willingly submit to God’s authority. Those who defy God’s authority and refuse to submit to Him are not part of the kingdom of God; in contrast, those who acknowledge the lordship of Christ and gladly surrender to God’s rule in their hearts are part of the kingdom of God. **In this sense, the kingdom of God is spiritual—Jesus said His kingdom was not of this world ([John 18:36](#)), and He preached that repentance is necessary to be a part of the kingdom of God ([Matthew 4:17](#)).** That the kingdom of God can be equated with the sphere of salvation is evident in [John 3:5-7](#), where **Jesus says the kingdom of God must be entered into by being born again.**

There is another sense in which the kingdom of God is used in Scripture: the literal rule of Christ on the earth during the [millennium](#). Daniel said that “the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed” ([Daniel 2:44](#); cf. [7:13-14](#)), and many of the other prophets predicted the same thing (e.g., [Obadiah 1:21](#); [Habakkuk 2:14](#); [Micah 4:2](#); [Zechariah 14:9](#)). Some theologians refer to the future, open manifestation of the kingdom of God as the “kingdom of glory” and the present, hidden manifestation of the kingdom of God as the “kingdom of grace.” But both manifestations are connected; Christ has set up His spiritual reign in the church on earth, and He will one day set up His physical reign in Jerusalem.

The kingdom of God has several aspects. The Lord is the Sovereign of the universe, and so in that sense His kingdom is universal ([1 Timothy 6:15](#)). At the same time, the kingdom of God involves repentance and the new birth, as God rules in the hearts of His children in this world in preparation for the next. The work begun on earth will find its consummation in heaven (see [Philippians 1:6](#)).
SELAH



Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Remember to check out the new website and Facebook page!

PRAYER TIME AT VERNES — Most Thursdays, 9a.m.???????????????

Call or text if you plan on participating
e-mail ralys@gvtel.com; Cell 218.791.7520

Prayer Schedule:

May 7	David Thompson-Hailee	Scot & Jodi Thompson
May 14	Tyler Thompson	Ben & Kristi Tofstad-Ben, Brooke
May 21	Julia Urdahl	Irene Wishard
May 28	Richard & Linda Bergeson-Skyler	Skip & Angel Bergeson-Guy, Bronco, Clark, Summer

Pray for:

- Those on May prayer schedule
- Healing for Vernes members and friends
- Sunday school/ leaders and teachers/ church council. Pastor Jill.
- Global neighbors as we have become closer thru this pandemic
- President Trump and other leaders in our land and around the world
- Military: Austin, Briana, Dusty, Zachary, Dawn, Katy
- Praises to God for His presence - Who He is. Let us adore Him.
- Pray, knowing that God has heard you. Wait and listen for His answer, with patience.

**Faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen. Hebrews 11:1**

I went for a long walk on Sunday, absorbing the sunshine and with the “hopes” of Spring appearing everywhere. The rhubarb is up, birds chirping and singing, the grass getting greener by the day, promises of Spring Blooms in the sprouts that are appearing, the lake ice melting. It is so good to see nature events that does not seem to be affected by Corvid19. Hope is what God gives us, regardless of what is happening around us. Look within and know that He is present in your life.

Thank you, Jesus. Be near us, Lord. Come, Holy Spirit.

Simple prayers that you can use throughout the day. Simple, but focus is on God. He will love them.

Prayer by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Prayer is a person's strength
To pray is to draw breath from God.
To pray means to confide in God.
Prayer is the heart of Christian life.

New Ways to Keep our Church Family in touch!

Hey gang! - **Vernes is digital!** Sometimes it takes a global pandemic to push us into the modern age! To stay in touch with our church family, we've created the following new tools for you while we're all staying safe at home:

1. **Website:** <https://www.verneslutheran.org/> - This is our new website! Check it out when you can. You'll find current information there, we'll keep this very current, especially through this 'stay at home' time. Right now, we have a pdf version of our March 29 **worship service**, as well as a couple **activities for kids**, an electronic form for **prayer requests**, and instructions to subscribe to our digital bulletin. We'll be adding **photos**-both new and old, as well as **videos** to this space (i.e. our Vernes Church Fire Anniversary video) for you to look at. We hope you enjoy them.
2. **Facebook page:** https://www.facebook.com/Vernes-Lutheran-LCMC-102017338124228/?modal=admin_todo_tour Can you believe it? Vernes has a Facebook page. Crazy, right? We know many of you are Facebookers, so please find us on Facebook and **LIKE OUR PAGE!** (note- there's a link to the Facebook page at the bottom of the website landing page). We would love to see your comments and any photos you'd like to share.
3. **Digital worship bulletin** – Each week, we'll send a mobile version of the weekly worship service bulletin directly to your smartphone. You'll get Jill's weekly message, scripture readings for the week, music selections, etc. in a fun new format that's convenient for smartphone users. Watch for fun photos of familiar faces and places added in for extra interest. But wait! You'll need to subscribe from your phone to receive the bulletin. Subscribe now – Just send a text message to this number: **41411** In the message field, type the following code: **bltn temp2515** You'll get a confirmation text so you know your text was received, and you'll start getting the weekly bulletin.
4. **Words for the Warrior** – Jill has been providing daily messages of inspiration via text. If you have not been getting these, let us know and you'll get added to the send list! If you do not have an email or able to receive text messages, Kathy is willing to mail them to you. You will get a week at a time by mail.

It's a very challenging time in our community and in the world right now. On a bright note, many free and reduced cost tools are out there right now – it's a great opportunity for us to try things that can help us stay connected. **We continue to explore these things** and make them better and more convenient for you. We're always **interested in your feedback** to help improve! Please be sure to let us know, make sure Kathy Finseth has your email address and your cell phone number.

Contact us to let us know how we can help. Kathy Finseth (218-368-6374), Pastor Jill (218-556-2757), Diane Sundrud (218-280-8169). Remember to **submit prayer requests** from the website or directly to Lynn Sundrud (218-791-7520).

Stay safe and Healthy!
We need each other!

The Kings from First and Second Kings

Here's a challenging Bible Word Search puzzle! We've used the names of the kings who ruled Judah and Israel in the books of I Kings and II Kings. Correction...One of these names actually belonged to a Queen. Do you know which one it is?



(Note: There were two kings each named Jeroboam and Ahaziah, but we've used these names just once.)

REHOBOAM
ABIJAM
ASA
JEHOSHAPHAT
JEHORAM
AHAZIAH
ATHALIAH
JOASH
AMAZIAH

UZZIAH
JOTHAM
AHAZ
HEZEKIAH
MANASSEH
AMON
JOSIAH
JEHOAHAZ
JEHOIAKIM
JEHOIACHIN

ZEDEKIAH
JEROBOAM
NADAB
BAASHA
ELAH
ZIMRI
OMRI
AHAB
JEHORAM
JEHU

JEHOAHAZ
JEHOASH
ZECHARIAH
SHALLUM
MENAHEM
PEKAHIAH
PEKAH
HOSHEA



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May Birthdays



May 1 – Ray Sundrud
May 2 – Clark Bergeson
May 6 – Janelle Finseth
May 7 – Tyler Thompson
May 8 – David Senn
May 11 – Keisha Sollie
May 14 – Ruby Sistad

May 16 – Jon Lecy
May 18 – Skip Bergeson
May 19 – Courtney Lecy
– Josh Finseth
May 25 – Rick Bergeson
– Chris Thompson
May 25 – Jerry Torgerson

If am forgetting anyone on the birthday list, please let me know!!



Kathy's Suggestion for the rest of the month...

When you have a few extra minutes, take just a few, and call or send a text message to someone from our church family, just to let them know you are thinking of them. It can be anyone ... the pastor, a council member, youth, if that is not comfortable for you, send a thinking of you card in the mail. It is amazing what a few words can make to any one of us.

Let us try to be aware of each other, as we are going through this strange pandemic.

If you need addresses, let me know I can sure help you out.

Kathy @ 1-218-368-6374



Vernes Lutheran Church
29961 320th Ave SE
Trail, MN 56684

