

February Newsletter



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On Preaching Beyond the Church by Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

The Apostle Paul to the Corinthians: *"When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.*

³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.

⁴ My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God."

Let's think about shiny new toys for a moment. Is there something that you have either received or purchased that you just couldn't play with or use for fear that it would lose its "newness"? Perhaps you got yourself a new vehicle but refused to drive it unless it was 75 and sunny outside. Or you remember a toy from childhood that no one, not even you, could play with because then it wouldn't be "new" anymore. We get very possessive of our things. We want them to hold their value for as long as physically possible. We like to hold out for the "if we would ever get rid of it, we will get our money back" factor.

I'll cut to the chase: you have been given the gift of the forgiveness of all of your sins, everlasting life, and true freedom in Christ. Why is it that so often we feel the need to qualify ourselves to use that shiny gift. As if it is too nice, too expensive,

and we don't want to be responsible for damaging this gift. Why is it that we feel that in expressing or speaking about this gift of faith we might show signs of weakness and trembling?

Christ has not freed us so that we might store up this gift of faith, put it in a little box, and cherish it forever. Rather Christ has freed us so that we do not need to fear any trembling or weakness! Christ has freed us to live as His Father's creatures not worrying about whether we are good enough to be His servants and disciples. This is what Paul is saying in the beginning of chapter 2 of his first letter to the people of Corinth. You do not need big, theological words to proclaim Christ and him crucified. You do not need the wisdom of the world to know and deliver the love and

mercy of God. As Paul notes, the only thing you need is the Spirit and the power of God. And guess where that comes from? Not deep inside of you, but from God himself. So wherever or whenever you feel nervous about delivering some sort of Word, may you know that any Word of Truth, Grace, or Forgiveness comes to you and through you by the Holy Spirit. May that bring you peace!

This is most certainly true.
Pastor Max

"⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God."

1 Corinthians 2:5



VCIS: A Ministry of the larger Viborg Lutheran Church

Vocavit - Congregantur - Illustratus - Sanctificatus
Called - Gathered - Enlightened - Sanctified

Consisting of students in grades 7-12, the VCIS Youth meets every Wednesday (weather permitting) in the Parish Hall in Viborg. Each week, 13-15 kids show up! They cook together, play games together, and enjoy general fellowship with one another. In the past we have done a bible study that followed the movie Avatar, discussed favorite bible studies, and have shared life stories with one another. We have also had a couple lock-ins, played endless rounds of Around the World (a ping-pong variation), and have tried our hands at baking!

Last year, this group went on a mission trip to Alamosa, loved it, and now have been raising funds to go on a mission trip again to North Carolina in June! Last year, 14 students went as well as 4 adult leaders. This June we have 17 students going being led by 6 adult leaders! They could not be more excited.

However, this does bring with it a hefty task. Each student needs to raise about \$653 (between van rentals, Youth Works fees, and a per diem) in order to go on this trip. They have been doing an awesome job. Many activities do raise funds for the

trip, but they also have elements of service work and fun to them as well! Most recently, we had a caroling fundraiser where a person could send us to any given home and we would knock on their door with treats in our hands and songs in our hearts. As a service-type project, we have taken on the task of cleaning the bleachers after Viborg-Hurley basketball games. Not all projects are as fun or visible as caroling or creating a haunted house. But as I said, the kids have been doing an awesome job, but there is still more work to be done! If you would like to donate anything to help them reach their fundraising goals, checks can be made out to VCIS and sent to PO Box 98 Viborg, SD 57070. Soon enough we will have an online giving option for the group as well. Aside from monetary support, we greatly appreciate prayerful support too!

Thank you for your continued support! This group is very special to a lot of kids and their families, and we give thanks for the opportunity to grow together in Christ.



Caroling



Caroling



Haunted House



**Wednesday, Feb 1**

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS
7:00 PM Council Meeting

Sunday, Feb 5

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)

Wednesday, Feb 8

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS
7:00 PM Council Meeting

Sunday, Feb 12

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (traditional)

Wednesday, Feb 15

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Feb 19

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)

Tuesday, Feb 21

Newsletter Deadline

Ash Wednesday, Feb 22

7:30 AM Bible Study
NO Jr. VCIS, Confirmation or VCIS
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service (OSLC)

Sunday, Feb 26

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (contemporary)

February Committee of the Month

Each month's committee members are responsible for reading the Scriptures on Sundays. Confirmed youth of committee members are included in the month in which the parent serves. A full list of duties is on the bulletin board and in the committee of the month binder.

February

Shelley Wray
Matt & Sharon Wirth
Don & Linda Renken
James Christofferson
JoAnn Hansen

March

Derrick & Kayla Mehlhaf
Mike & Laura Stevens
Ellie Whitehead
Derek & Jena Hight
Josh & Kristie Huth

April

Mike & Lisa McIlvenna
Derrick & Kayla Mehlhaf
Neal & Jenny Hanson
Troy & Amy Lee
Les Sampson



February Scripture Readings

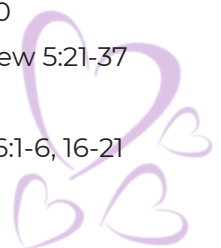
Feb 5 - Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12), Psalm 112:1-9 (10), 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16), Matthew 5:13-20

Feb 12 - Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

Feb 19 - Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2 or Psalm 99, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

Feb 22 - Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Feb 26 - Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11





Worship Helper Schedule

Sunday, Feb 5

Reader Cath Peterson
Acolyte/Communion Helper Piper
Live Stream Maxx
Organist/Pianist Melanie Parsons

Sunday, Feb 12

Reader Sharon Wirth
Acolyte Quinn
Live Stream Maxx
Organist/Pianist Melanie Parsons

Sunday, Feb 19

Reader Matt Wirth
Acolyte/Communion Helper Curtis
Live Stream Maxx
Organist/Pianist Melanie Parsons

Wednesday, Feb 22

Live Stream Maxx
Organist/Pianist Melanie Parsons

Sunday, Feb 26

Reader James Christofferson
Acolyte Olivia
Live Stream Maxx
Organist/Pianist Kayla Mehlhaf

Thank You Volunteers!!

ATTENTION!!
Committee of the
Month Leaders

Please submit your reader schedule
line-up to oslc.office@oslc.vib.org
before the 24th of the month so
we can get it into the
February 26th bulletin & the March
newsletter. Thanks!



Wednesday, Mar 1

7:30 AM Bible Study
NO Jr. VCIS, Confirmation or VCIS
7:00 PM Council Meeting
7:00 PM Worship @ Bethany Lutheran Church

Sunday, Mar 5

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)

Wednesday, Mar 8

7:30 AM Bible Study
NO Jr. VCIS, Confirmation or VCIS
7:00 PM Worship @ Church of the Nazarene

Sunday, Mar 12

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (traditional)

Parsonage Updates Needed

At the annual meeting (1/22/2023), issues concerning the parsonage were brought to the attention of the congregation. The council and property committee are currently working on solutions and options. When those options are discussed and laid out within the council and property committee, they will be brought to the congregation with a special meeting.

The Issues:

- ✂ Foundational cracks and dampness/mold in the basement
- ✂ Shingles and siding need to be repaired/replaced
- ✂ Electrical issues in the kitchen as well as other rooms
- ✂ Water leaking through the kitchen and bedroom windows



Lenten Worship Schedule

February 22.....	Ash Wednesday	
Time: 7:00PM	Preacher: Reverend Max	Location: Our Saviors Lutheran Church
March 1	“The Wound of Betrayal”	
Time: 7:00PM	Preacher: Reverend Daryl	Location: Bethany Lutheran Church
March 8.....	“The Wound of Apathy”	
Time: 7:00PM	Preacher: Reverend Kent	Location: Church of the Nazarene
March 15	“The Wound of Denial”	
Time: 7:00PM	Preacher: Reverend David	Location: First Baptist Church
March 22.....	“The Wound of Mockery”	
Time: 7:00PM	Preacher: Reverend Max	Location: United Methodist Church
March 29	“The Wound of Abandonment”	
Time: 7:00PM	Preacher: Reverend Ron	Location: Spring Valley Lutheran Church



OSLC 2023 LEADERSHIP

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President Joe Schafer, 2nd term, 2025
 Vice President Mike Stevens, 2nd term, 2024
 Secretary Kayla Mehlhaf, 2nd term, 2024
 Treasurer Loren Johnson, 2nd term, 2025
 Board Member Matt Wirth, 2nd term, 2026
 Board Member Matt Graves, 1st term, 2025
 Board Member Josh Huth, 1st term, 2026

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Melanie Parsons
 Sharon Wirth
 Matt Wirth
 Josh Huth

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Kayla Mehlhaf, 2025
 Sharon Wirth, 2025

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Belinda Holm
 Teddy Schafer
 Krista Schaeffer
 Michelle Johnson

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Matt Wirth
 Fred Holmberg
 Mike Stevens
 Chad Holm

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Kayla Mehlhaf
 Melanie Parsons
 Teddy Schafer
 Lisa McIlvenna

NAMES OF JESUS

Word Search Puzzle

U Q O K A I S N S M T K R P M
V L F Z J T Y O A E E O A O R
O M G Y V O N T N Z I C B X K
Y D N Y M O E N U V A N B O A
D L O V F H T C A S I R I X R
E R I G W A R S P D S H E W E
N T O G B M A L I D O V Z N D
F D J L H Q Y V K R T T R Z E
I G Q R R T A E G T H V E P E
P B Y I H D S E K E U C T X M
T S W K F T Y A J I O Q S L E
L I I O N A M F O N O S A H R
V N N Q Z Y K V A D E J M V R
G O J E S U S E M M A N U E L
S V B G G W T Z T P B Q J F E

Instructions:

Find and circle the words shown below in all capital letters. Words may be forward, backward, vertical, or diagonal within the puzzle.



Word Search Key

CHRIST

EMMANUEL

JESUS

KING OF THE JEWS

LAMB OF GOD

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

LORD

MASTER

NAZARENE

RABBI

REDEEMER

SAVIOR

SON OF DAVID

SON OF GOD

SON OF MAN

February Council Meeting
is Wednesday, February 1, 2023
at 7:00PM

thrivent

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Please direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to a 501(3)c charity of your choice before March 1, 2023 (Hopefully your church.) If you have any questions or need help please contact Janet Holmberg.