

ENLIGHTENER

Vol. 29 Issue 4

April 2024

Free Salvation

Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

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Care of Creation — Stewardship of Creation

Pastor Matt Wurm

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." -- Genesis 1:28

April 22 is *Earth Day*. It began in 1970 through the efforts of Gaylord Nelson, a governor and state senator of Wisconsin. Inspired by the protests of the 1960s, Nelson's brainchild of *Earth Day* began as a "national teach-in on the environment" and was held on April 22 to maximize the number of students that could be reached on university campuses. From his efforts, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was formed. Though in America, we don't have rivers like the Cuyahoga River starting on fire because of pollution and our air quality has improved in large cities, world-wide carbon dioxide amounts have increased. Scientists link this increase directly to human population and pollution impact, thus the emphasis on everyone reducing their "carbon footprint."

I'm no scientist, but like a scientist we all can make observations about the world around us and from them choose how to act. As Christians, our observations and choices are to be informed by the Holy Scriptures. From the creation account, we hear God saying to our first parents, "*Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.*"

Earth is well-populated, maybe the highest population humanity has ever enjoyed. However, now low birth rates pose a great threat to our western way of life. We are experiencing just the beginning of that challenge with labor shortages in many sectors of employment. A life of ease likely won't be as common as it once was.

God says, "*subdue it [the earth], and have dominion*". In other words, He says, "Steward all this creation that I have just given to you." A steward cares for

and manages the things entrusted to him or her. A steward is called to do so faithfully, not carelessly with little regard to the responsibility.

You and I can't save the world in either material or spiritual matters, but we can and should have an impact. First and foremost, we steward the faith which is spiritual. We care for and maintain the faith we have received by receiving more of God's gifts to us in the Word and Sacrament. We attend services and are strengthened by His Word and Holy Supper. We study His word at home with our families and in group studies out in the world. We steward the faith as we speak of and share His gifts, His love, His forgiveness, and His Son's sacrifice for us with others His Spirit has joined us in conversation.

Along with stewarding the gift of faith we steward the gifts of creation given us. We are called to maintain well our bodies, our homes, and possessions. Where God has given some greater responsibility over material things (farms, businesses, workers, etc.), He has commanded to rule over and control them in good order for the good of all creation. This is a tall order but a fulfilling calling when we realize that faithful stewardship of creation pleases our God and Creator. He smiles upon us as we hear in the Benediction.

We dare not carelessly misuse His gift of faith granted to us by wasting our lives in faithless living. Likewise, we dare not carelessly misuse all the other gifts of creation granted us. Someday all of what we have in material possessions will be gone and only the faith given us will remain. May we all hear on that day, "*Well done, good and faithful servant. ... Enter into the joy of your master.*" (Mt. 25:21)



Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

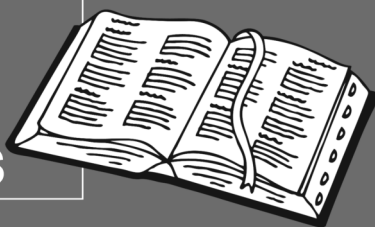
Your neighbor’s possessions are his: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY CHANGES



Starting in April, Men’s Morning Joe will meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at 9:00am. And Men’s Morning Bible Study will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30.



Lunch & Learn Weekly Bible Study

Lunch and Learn Bible study continues every Wednesday from 12:00-12:45pm in the upstairs fellowship hall. Lunch is available starting around 11:45am.

In April, Pastor Bauer will lead the study and teach on repentance.

In May, Pastor Wurm will lead the study and teach on Seminec.

Lunch hosts are also needed if you are interested/able to prepare a lunch for about 20-25 people.

Funding is available. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex or is also available on our website.

Bring a friend or coworker and join us!



Vacation Bible School will be held June 10-13 from 8:30-11:30am! More details to come.

A Funeral Planning Workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 24th at 12:00pm (during the Lunch and Learn Bible Study). The pastors will offer guidance on how to thoughtfully plan a funeral. As we celebrate the empty tomb of our Lord in the season of Easter it is good to prepare in joyful expectation of the day when our Lord calls us to His side. Let us not go too soon but let us be prepared for that hour.



Birthdays, Baptisms & Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| 1 | Matt Teal ~ baptism
Darci Fink ~ baptism
Doug Stewart ~ baptism
Teresa Dawkins ~ baptism | 13 | McLane Mertz
Brian Kuechenmeister ~ baptism
Michael Kuechenmeister III ~ baptism |
| 2 | Louise Hoefert
Jason Nixon
Brighton Baker
Isaac Wurm ~ baptism
Jonah Bauer ~ baptism
Connie Engwicht ~ baptism | 14 | Dor Smidt ~ baptism
Brent Larson ~ baptism |
| 3 | Nicholas Wittmeier
Russ Mileham
Obed Charway
Dianne Weinkauf ~ baptism
John & Kitty Sherlock ~ 53 years | 15 | Colleen Moe |
| 4 | Chris Jensen
Peyton Bierman
Chris Jensen ~ baptism | 16 | Connor May ~ baptism
Ryan Albrecht ~ baptism |
| 5 | Scott Pederson
Matt Siekmann
Mark Wedeking ~ baptism
Jackie Kleinemas ~ baptism | 17 | Alice Gehrke
Scott Gehring ~ baptism |
| 6 | Charlotte Kuechenmeister
Makayla Teal ~ baptism
Cindy Buchholtz ~ baptism | 18 | McKenzie Engwicht
Glenn Keimig
Jacob Farstad |
| 7 | Jon Harrison | 19 | Griffin Lease
Jeremy Bierman
Doug Kapfenstein
Clarice Wiese ~ baptism |
| 8 | Weston Eichler
Tyler Krump ~ baptism
Lucille Woodford ~ baptism | 20 | Jack Bierman ~ baptism |
| 9 | Bryan Hall
Tyler Nagel
Oliver Olson
Kitty Sherlock
Landry Melius ~ baptism | 21 | Vickie DeVries
Alice Gehrke ~ baptism
Otto Haselhorst ~ baptism
Casey Stegeman ~ baptism
Emmett Morehouse ~ baptism |
| 10 | Tammy Friedrich
Bob Noldan ~ baptism
Jaclyn Doop ~ baptism
Nathan Lease ~ baptism | 22 | Alexis Hieb
Bikiltu Jobir ~ baptism |
| 11 | Dawson Berg
Taylor Fenner ~ baptism
Oliver Schaefer ~ baptism
Michael & Connie Engwicht ~ 32 years | 23 | Jacob Teal |
| 12 | Mike Berg ~ baptism
Brighton Baker ~ baptism
Jim & Diane Kriese ~ 38 years | 24 | Glenda Pederson
Steve Timmerman
Raenette Bollinger ~ baptism |
| | | 25 | Sommer Larson
Amelia Koenig ~ baptism |
| | | 26 | Deb Hafey
Galen Streich
Chuck Friedrich
Pamela Baker ~ baptism
Hannah Hmerl ~ baptism
Gene & Jacqueline Stegeman ~ 10 years |
| | | 27 | Austin Hall
Michael Engwicht |
| | | 28 | Carson Eichler ~ baptism |
| | | 29 | Nick Chappell |

SERVANT SCHEDULE

<u>April 7</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Acolyte:	Noah Lease	Aren Keimig
Elder:	Bob Milbrandt	Bob Milbrandt
Chanter:	Amy Lease	Andrew Fink
Greeter(s):	Adrian & Jessie	Dale & Dianne Weinkauff
Organist:	Joel Brejda	
<u>April 14</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Acolyte:	Ava Gatzke	Alexis Hieb
Elder:	Steve Timmerman	Steve Timmerman
Chanter:	Carrie Steinlicht	Donna Peterson
Greeter(s):	Ron & Jayne Raabe	Ron & Mary Moe
Organist:	Melanie Timmerman	
<u>April 21</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Acolyte:	Kaden Mertz	Griffin Streich
Elder:	Nate Moe	Nate Moe
Chanter:	Jeff Davis	Galen Streich
Greeter(s):	May Family	Howell Family
Organist:	Joel Brejda	
<u>April 28</u>	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
Acolyte:	Amanuel Gemechis	Avery Melius
Elder:	Eli Kosse	Eli Kosse
Chanter:	Kevin Kuebler	Carl Steinlicht
Greeter(s):	Mike & Laurie Wallen	Alvin & Sue Mielke
Organist:	Melanie Timmerman	

USHERS

8:00
 McLane Mertz
 Keegan Mertz
 Gene Stegeman


10:30
 Mike Peterson
 Marv Bahr



Donna Bahr	ULC, 405 1st Ave, #308, Brookings	
Darlene Carpenter	The Neighborhoods, 2421 Yorkshire Dr. Ash #6, Brookings	
Nadine Jones	104 4th St. #203, Brookings	605-692-4326
Tyler Krump	1710 Baylor Street, Vermillion, SD 57069	605-658-0400
Floyd & Alyce Melrose	The Neighborhoods, 2421 Yorkshire Dr. Pine #11, Brookings	605-692-5755
Fred Rittershaus	The Neighborhoods, 2421 Yorkshire Dr. Ash #12, Brookings	
Chris Wellnitz	701 1st Ave. NE #104, Watertown, SD 57201	605-886-6449

**Mount
Calvary
Lutheran
Church**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<u>1</u> 	<u>2</u> 7:00pm Elders' Meeting	<u>3</u> See "Wednesday Activities" No Handbell Choir Rehearsal No Book Study 11:00am LSF Housing Committee	<u>4</u> 9:00am Morning Joe Bible Study 1:30pm LWML 	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u> See "Divine Service" & "Education Hour" 8:00pm LSF Bible Study	<u>8</u> 6:30pm STIL	<u>9</u> Circuit Winkel at Mount Olive in Watertown — Pastors Out of the Office 6:45pm Boards' Meetings 8:00pm Council Meeting	<u>10</u> See "Wednesday Activities" Last Day of Confirmation for 5th—7th Grade	<u>11</u> 6:30am Men's Morning Bible Study 1:30pm Afternoon Bible Study	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
Jessie Out of the Office						
<u>14</u> See "Divine Service" & "Education Hour" 8:00pm LSF Bible Study	<u>15</u> 7:00pm Men's Club	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> See "Wednesday Activities" 2:45pm 8th grade only Questioning Review	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> 5:30pm LSF Family Friday at Pastor Bauer's House	<u>20</u>
Pastor Wurm in St. Louis						
<u>21</u> See "Divine Service" & "Education Hour" 8:00pm LSF Bible Study	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> See "Wednesday Activities" 2:45pm 8th grade only Questioning Review 7:00pm Confirmand Public Questioning	<u>25</u> 9:01am Brain Food Assembly 1:30pm Afternoon Bible Study	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u> See "Divine Service" & "Education Hour" SS Activity Day Confirmation Sunday 11:45am Congre- gational Potluck 12:45pm Quarterly Voters' Meeting 8:00pm LSF Study Break at Pastor Bauers' House	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>1</u>	Altar Guild Andrea Mileham (605-651-3229), Dana Way, Susan Meyer, Laurie Wallen, Melody Hall		
Spring Pastors' Conference in Chamberlain, SD — Pastors Out of the Office						

DIVINE SERVICE

8:00am & 10:30am
 each Sunday morning
 8:00am YouTube Live

**SUNDAY
EDUCATION HOUR**

9:20am
 Adult Bible Class &
 Sunday School
[LSF/Young Adult Meal](#)
 Every Sunday at 11:45am

DAILY DEVOTIONS

8:15am
 Monday — Thursday
 YouTube Live

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

9:30am
 Devotions at
 The Neighborhoods (NBV)
 12:00-12:45pm
 Lunch and Learn
 2:45-4:00pm
 5th - 8th Grade Confirmation
 4:00-5:00pm
 Youth Hour
 6:00pm
 Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 7:00pm
 Book Study

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
 8:15am-12pm & 1-3:30pm
 Friday 8:30-11:30am

PASTOR WURM'S

OFFICE HOURS
 Monday - Thursday
 8:00am-noon

PASTOR BAUER'S

OFFICE HOURS
 Monday - Wednesday
 7:45am-12:00pm
 Thursdays 7:45-9:30am