



March 2019

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Pastor Christopher Hawkins

How Does One Live Their Baptism?

Martin Luther taught we are to daily renew our baptism. We rise and say, "I am baptized in Christ." It's as simple as that!

Whether we are young or old, this daily renewal of baptism leads to a practicing of faith and deepening of discipleship. We do not have to discern how to follow Christ alone or without assistance. Instead God sends the Holy Spirit to call, gather, and sustain us in God's grace, connecting us to brothers and sisters in Christ who also are living out their baptism.

"Baptism inaugurates a life of discipleship in the death and resurrection of Christ. Baptism conforms us to the death and resurrection of Christ precisely so that we repent and receive forgiveness, love our neighbors, suffer for the sake of the Gospel, and witness to Christ." (*The Use of the Means of Grace: A Statement on the Practice of Word and Sacrament*," principle 14, page 20)

How Can We Renew Our Baptism Each Day?

We can renew our baptism in a variety of ways. Here are a few possibilities:

- Each morning, rise and say Martin Luther's words, "I am baptized into Christ."
- Each day, pray for the Holy Spirit to be your guide and keep you near Jesus Christ.
- Each night, place water on your forehead, make the sign of the Cross, remember you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the Cross of Christ forever.
- Combine all of the above.

How Do We Renew our Baptism at Church?

Here is the question asked by the presiding minister during the Affirmation of Baptism.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

- ...to live among God's faithful people,
- ...to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- ...to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- ...to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
- ...to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

RESPONSE: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

This five-fold question then becomes a five-fold guide for living your baptism as a disciple of Christ and become gifts to discover as you walk in the newness of life in Christ.

What Are the Five Gifts of Discipleship?

At the Affirmation of Baptism, we are asked to continue in the covenant God made with us in Holy Baptism. This

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Office@MorningStarOmaha.org www.MorningStarOmaha.org



Worship Times

Saturday Service 5:30 PM
Sunday Services 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Coffee Fellowship served between services.

process of continuing in the covenant of baptism includes five parts-not requirements, but rather gifts from God to help shape our new life in Christ.

Inner Gifts:

LIVE among God's faithful people **HEAR** the word of God and **SHARE** in the Lord's Supper

Outer Gifts:

PROCLAIM the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed **SERVE** all people, following the example of Jesus **STRIVE** for justice and peace in all the earth

How Are These Gifts to be Used?

Each of the five gifts of discipleship has the potential to deepen our understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. The Holy Spirit provides these gifts of discipleship with each of the five gifts flowing and overlapping with the others.

On a daily basis, we are invited to live, hear, share, proclaim, serve, and strive-in the name of Christ. God guides and shapes us in the living of our baptism in the newness of life in Christ as we practice our faith each day.

These five gifts help us to practice our faith and serve as a reminder of who has claimed us in Baptism. If we do not practice faith, it is easy to get confused, complacent, chase other dreams, lose focus, and wander away from God's calling-not reflecting our new life in Christ and the love of God. It is God's work, but our hands as we are sent out into the world to be a visible witness to the love of Christ.

This Lent, I invite us to think more deeply about our baptism. This will include worship, faith formation, and fellowship, all of which will be centered around each of the five gifts of discipleship. My hope is that we can journey together in strengthening our relationship with each other and with the one who claims us unconditionally in Water and Word!

Adapted from...Living our Baptism: Bible Studies: Five Gifts of Discipleship, written by Robin McCullough-Bade. Copyright 2017 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.





Volunteers are needed to provide meals during our Lenten suppers. Sign up to bring a main dish, salad, dessert or set up or clean up on Wednesdays, March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 & 10. See the sign up sheet in the Welcome Center or call the Church Office for more information.

Your partner in ministry,

Pastor Chris





For the month of March, the OWLs speaker will be Sidney Gnann with the Joslyn Castle. The Joslyn Castle serves as a physical reminder of the immense philanthropic legacies of its original residents, George and Sarah Joslyn, who believed that, "the possession of great wealth is a great trust and obligation." The Joslyn Castle provides opportunities for our community to connect through historical, educational, and cultural programming for the community.



Table Grace Café is catering with delicious Chicken & Dumplings, Steamed Vegetables, Rolls & Butter and No-Bake Cookies. RSVP to the Church Office by March 8.



Morning Star has several opportunities to grow deeper in your faith journey. There are independent Bible study books in the Welcome Center, our website has links for the lectionary series or you can join us at one of our weekly classes:

- Wednesdays, Lectionary Study at 9 AM (Lg Conf Rm)
- Thursdays, Joint Ministry Study at 1 PM (Table Grace)
- Thursdays, Lay-Led Study at 7 PM (Chapel)



The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides hand-crafted blankets to give to those that need comfort. Prayers for peace and healing are prayed over each one as they are made. The shawls are available in the Welcome Center. Feel free to take one. Sunday mornings you can find a small group crocheting and knitting over coffee and doughnuts. Feel free to join!





If you are hospitalized or need pastoral care, please contact the Church Office to notify our pastoral staff.



Hey High School and College graduates, we would love to have your graduation info and a picture of you to display here at Morning Star! Drop it off at the Church Office or email the info to Office@MorningStarOmaha.org.
Don't forget to include where you are attending/graduating from and what your plans are for the future!



Contact the Church Office if you would you like to receive weekly email updates on events at Morning Star!





All ladies are invited to join either the Lydia Circle which meets Tuesday, March 26 at 4:00 ^{PM} in the Library or the Sarah Circle which meets Thursday, March 28 at 12:30 ^{PM} in the Welcome Center.



DBSA meets at 7 PM
Thursdays in the
Large Conference
Room.
DBSA



Alcoholics
Anonymous
meets at 5:30 PM
Tuesdays.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Morning Star...a light in the heart of Omaha & Beyond

Green Envelope

Morning Star Lutheran Church is part of a 15-church coalition working together to build a home with Habitat for Humanity. Our Green Envelope offering for March goes to purchase the materials needed to make the home ownership dream a reality for a family in 2019.

Nearly three-fourths of Omaha families earning less than \$35k a year are paying more than they can afford for housing, not leaving enough for other necessities like good nutrition, health care, transportation, savings or education. Habitat Omaha works with families to help them acquire the access, skills and financial tools necessary for them to be successful homeowners.

The Faith Build start date is tentatively set for July 27th with the new house going in at 3019 Pratt St. We will have opportunities to offer hands-on help throughout the summer as well as at our God's Work, Our Hands Sunday in September. More info to come!



Service Project

Our March Service Project carries over from last month and focuses on one of our Strategic Mission goals: *Mission to Our Community...support our excellent preschool and early educational child care program.* Morning Star's Preschool is the first in Nebraska to earn a **FIVE STAR** rating with the Nebraska Department of Education's Step Up to Quality. We have such an excellent facility staffed with amazing people and there are things we can do to support this outreach! Little things make a big difference like...

- Pray for the staff, students and parents
- Adopt-a-classroom
- Read to preschool students
- Rock infants
- Crocheting washcloths
- Help on special events & holiday parties

Contact the Preschool office to find out how you can help at Preschool@MorningStarOmaha.org or 402-393-8215.





Our music staff selects music that is meaningful for each week's worship service, reverential or inspiring, interesting to sing or play, and the appropriate level for the choir of the week.

Adult Choir

If you can carry a tune and know a little bit about reading music, the choir wants you! Choir practices are held Sundays at 8:00 AM to run through the anthem and again at 9:30 AM for future services. Once a month there is an evening rehearsal

(usually the first Thursday at 7:30 PM) to get an introduction to the upcoming anthems. CDs are provided to practice with at home. It is helpful if you can commit to two Sundays per month. Email reminders about rehearsals are sent out. The adult choir sings almost every week at the 8:30 PM worship service.

Handbell Choir

The handbell choir requires a month long commitment as they play just once a month, usually the last Sunday at the 8:30 AM worship service. If you can count and swing a bell, we would love for you to join us! You do NOT need to know how to read music. We teach as we go. Bell choir rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM and we will send out email reminders.

Worship Team & Special Music

Singers for the 10:30 AM worship service are also needed. Come rehearse with us on Wednesdays at 4:30 PM. We always welcome special singers and instrumentalists at all services. Please contact Bev McCollum, Susan Beeghly or the Church Office for more information. Thank you and looking forward to seeing you!





Hey kids ages 4-18! Don't forget we have a Sunday School class for **YOU** every Sunday at 9:30 AM. The high school students meet in the Youth Room in the basement. You should check this room out...it's pretty awesome!



Morning Star Preschool & Child Care Center

402-393-8215 • Preschool@MorningStarOmaha.org

The Omaha Children's
Museum will be kicking off
March at the preschool with a
presentation of
Source-Sational Sciencel Dr

Seuss-sational Science! Dr. Seuss' classics are brought to life with experiments and silliness inspired by the

legendary books. We will then be expanding our learning with two weeks of dinosaur theme, which is a children's favorite.

Other highlights of the month include a bagpiper to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and then our annual Spring Performance by our talented (and incredibly adorable) Green, Purple and Red Stars. The children will also be creating a mural where they can vote for their favorite March Madness Mascot.

As always, you are invited to come join us for any of these fun events!



Camp Carol Joy Holling Upcoming Events

"Taking the Mask Off" Middle School Lock-In (6^{th} - 8^{th} graders) is March 1 & 2, 8^{PM} - 8^{AM} in the Western Town. The cost of the retreat is \$25 per camper including meals.

Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries "Let Go and Let God!" Spring Explore Retreat for 1st- 6th grade students is March 30, 8:45 AM - 3:30 PM. Cost is \$10 per camper and includes meals.

Camp Preview for Families is April 27th. Cost is \$15/3 family members and \$5 for each additional member which includes meals.

Save the dates for our fall retreats:

- * Elementary Retreat, September 7
- ★ Middle School Retreat, October 18-20
- * High School Retreat, January 17-18, 2020

Go to www.CarolJoyHolling.org for the 2019 Camp Schedule. For more information regarding these retreats, email CSeitzinger@NLOM.org or call 402-944-2544.

CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP CHAIN Register now for camp. First time campers

Register now for camp. First time campers get *HALF OFF*. Camp Scholarships are available! See Pastor Chris for details. Register online at CarolJoyHolling.org then fill out the voucher.

Mia	tor
YOUTH SK	RETREAT
	eat March 14-17

Winter Park, Colorado
Cost \$395 per youth. All youth 7-12 grade are eligible!

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Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

Please return to Registrar by email at Registrar@NLOM.org or by mail at 27416 Ranch Road, Ashland, NE 68003. City: ______
Congregation: _____

Total amount of the camp fee to be paid by the congregation: \$

Camper name:

Session number: Session dates:

Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries 27416 Ranch Road Ashland, NE 68003-3518 402-944-2544

NLOM.org

Signature of Pastor/Authorized Representative

Date

March Ministry Partners

March 3

Acolytes 8:30 Sophie & Molly Wolfe

10:30 Ella Post & Riley Hawkins

Communion 8:30 Rod Anderson, Arielle Wolfe & JoAnn Wollenburg

10:30 Bob & Stacie Neussendorfer

Greeters 8:30 Neil & Cindy Lindquist

PowerPoint 10:30 Bill Ervin Readers 8:30 Rod Anderson

10:30 Bill Ervin

Ushers 8:30 Don Daubman, Dan Hartman, Bob Sweetwood &

Kyle Wolfe

10:30 Washburn Family

March 6 ~ Ash Wednesday

Acolytes 6:30 Campbell & Barrett Mooney Communion 6:30 Donna J. Walter, Ric & Pam Miller

Greeters 6:30 Dennis & Kim Moy Reader 6:30 Donna J. Walter Ushers 6:30 Neil & Cindy Lindquist

March 10

Acolytes 8:30 Sam Lieske & Zach Tonniges

10:30 Luke Beck & Jack Neussendorfer

Communion 8:30 Diane Konvalina, Don Lieberknecht & Jan Zarestky

10:30 Laura Ervin & Sabrina Beck

Greeters 8:30 Daryl & JoAnn Wollenburg

PowerPoint 10:30 Pam Miller Readers 8:30 Lynn Hedell 10:30 Jon Beck

Ushers 8:30 Don Daubman, Dan Hartman, Bob Sweetwood &

Kyle Wolfe

10:30 Washburn Family

Coffee Hosts Lynn & Royann Hedell

March 13 ~ Lent Week 1

Acolytes 6:30 Sam Lieske Reader 6:30 Janice Hass

Ushers 6:30 Neil & Cindy Lindquist

March 17

Acolytes 8:30 Owen Moeller & Bei Warner

10:30 Jake & Claire Bonnett

Communion 8:30 Virgene Kobold, Virgil Johnson & Francy Van Meter

10:30 Andy & Teggy Maxwell

Greeters 8:30 Kyle & Arielle Wolfe
PowerPoint 10:30 Paul Worcester
Readers 8:30 Gloria Miller

10:30 Campbell Mooney

Ushers 8:30 Don Daubman, Dan Hartman, Bob Sweetwood &

Kyle Wolfe

10:30 Washburn Family

Coffee Hosts Sarah Circle

March 20 ~ Lent Week 2

Acolytes 6:30 Owen Moeller Reader 6:30 Lynn Hedell

Ushers 6:30 Neil & Cindy Lindquist

March 24

Acolytes 8:30 Campbell & Barrett Mooney

10:30 Hope Ervin & Jack Neussendorfer

Communion 8:30 Lauren Anderson, Sandy Byers & Rich Fiddelke

10:30 Bill & Diane Ervin

Greeters 8:30 Michelle Miller
PowerPoint 10:30 Pam Miller
Readers 8:30 Chris Hedican
10:30 Ric Miller

Ushers 8:30 Don Daubman, Dan Hartman, Bob Sweetwood &

Kyle Wolfe

10:30 Washburn Family

Coffee Hosts Lydia Circle

March 27 ~ Lent Week 3

Acolytes 6:30 Bei Warner Reader 6:30 David Blagg

Ushers 6:30 Neil & Cindy Lindquist

March 31

Acolytes 8:30 Sophie & Molly Wolfe

10:30 Ella Post & Riley Hawkins

Communion 8:30 Cindy Lindquist, Gloria Miller & Michelle Miller

10:30 Cvnthia Ferris & Susie Bonnett

Greeters 8:30 Colleen Estee PowerPoint 10:30 Bill Ervin

Readers 8:30 Don Lieberknecht

10:30 Cynthia Ferris

Ushers 8:30 Don Daubman, Dan Hartman, Bob Sweetwood &

Kyle Wolfe

10:30 Washburn Family

Coffee Hosts Kyle & Arielle Wolfe

-flowers & bulletins-

Thanks for your generosity with the altar flowers and bulletins. If you would like to sponsor them, see the calendar in the Welcome Center or call the Church Office. Thanks **Great Harvest Bread Company** for providing communion bread *free* each week and thanks **Piccolo Florists** for providing our Altar Flowers at a discount.

	Flower Spons	ors	Bulletin Sponsors
March 3	Jan Dahlk	Jan Dahlk	Jan Dahlk
March 10	No Flowers—Lent	No Flowers—Lent	Jon & Sabrina Beck
March 17	No Flowers—Lent	No Flowers—Lent	Available
March 24	No Flowers—Lent	No Flowers—Lent	Available
March 31	No Flowers—Lent	No Flowers—Lent	Fred & Jeanne Zabel

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School	4 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 6 PM Worship & Music Com 6 PM Table Grace Rehearsal	5 (Chapel) 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11.45 AM Preschool Chapel	6 Wednesday 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9-m Bible Study	7 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal Choir Room) 7 PM DBSA (Chap. Le Conf. Lib)	1 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	2 9 Am Church Reserved (Lg Conf Rm - Quilters) 5:30 PM Saturday Worship
9:30 Citori Renealsar 9:30 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Worship		7 PM DBSA Glass (Lg Conf Rm)	12 PM Ash Wednesday Service 4:30 PM Exec Com (1g conf Rm) 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service	7:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	8 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	9 8 AM Men's Breakfast (FH) 5:30 PM Saturday Worship
10 8 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Worship	11:30 AM OWLS (Chape) 11:30 AM OWLS (Welcome Ctr) 5:30 PM MIF Committee (Library) 5:30 PM Preschool Advisory (Lg Conf Rm) (Lg Conf Rm)	12 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 11.45 AM Preschool Chapel 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel) 7 PM DBSA Class (Lg Conf Rm)	13 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9 AM Bible Study 5 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Lenten Service	14 9-4 Preschool Class (Chape) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf. Lib) 7 PM Lay-led Bible Study 7:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	15 9-4 Preschool Class <i>(Chapel)</i> 9:45 ^{AM} Preschool Bagpipe Concert <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	16 5:30 PM Saturday Worship
17 St. PATRICK'S DAY 8 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Worship	9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 M Staff Meeting 11:45 M Preschool Chapel 5:30 PM Personnel Comm (Library) 5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel) 7 PM DBSA Class (Lg Conf Rm)	20 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9 AM Bible Study 5 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Lenten Service	21 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf, Lib) 7 PM Lay-led Bible Study 7:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	23 5:30 PM Saturday Worship
8 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Worship	9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	26 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 9:30 ^{AM} Staff Meeting 11:45 ^{AM} Preschool Chapel 4 ^{PM} Lydia Circle (Library) 5:30 ^{PM} AA Meeting (Chapel) 7 ^{PM} DBSA Class (Lg Conf Rm)	27 9-4 Preschool Class (chapel) 9 AM Bible Study 5 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Lenten Service	28 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel) 12:30 PM Sarah Circle (Welcome Center) 7 PM DBSA (Chap, Lg Conf. Lib) 7 PM Lay-led Bible Study 7:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	29 9-4 Preschool Class (Chapel)	30 5:30 PM Saturday Worship
31 8.30 Worship 9:30 Worship 9:30 First Communion Class 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Fellowship Coffee 10:30 Worship						



Omaha, NE 68114

Address Correction Requested







<u>Prayers</u>
Carol Bowley & Family
Deb Hysack
Marilyn Jarrard

Kent Morse Jan Morse Bill Winstrom

Friends & Loved Ones of Morning Star

- -Cindy C. (friend of Cynthia Ferris)
- -Donald, Gene, Uneva & Curtiss (relatives of Rich Fiddelke)
- -Joan (friend of the Mueller's)
- -Josie, Cindy & Emma (granddaughter & nieces of Hedells)
- -Julie & Leland (sister-in-law & friend of the Hollander's)
- -Marie Z. & Tiffy J. (grandma & sister of Chris Hedican)
- -Ray & Linda (brother-in-law & friend of the Moy's)
- -Sharla & Dedra (friends of the Washburns)
- -Shelley & Steve Anderson (Carol Anderson's children)
- -Whitney, Steven & Michael (Michelle Miller's children & friend)

Sympathies

-Betty Williams & Family