

ASLC NEWS

United in Christ. Welcoming All.

Confirmation Class Begins

Pastor Dave wrote a new curriculum for this year's Confirmation program. It's a whole year on various aspects of the life of Jesus and will include lots of art along the way for the congregation to enjoy. The first class is Sun, Sept 8th, 12:15pm.

Treasurer's Report

	July 2019
Income	\$7,789.32
Expenses	-10,528.63
Net Income	-\$2,739.31

YTD 2019 Net Income = +
\$4,354.26

Sincerely, Bob Lierman

Note: Giving was way down in July and expenses were high. The main reason for the latter is that we had to refinance our mortgage with First Bank which included the appraisal, interest payment and other fees totaling \$2052.04. This has to be done every five years since it's a business loan.



Pastor Dave's Column

During the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the delegates voted to designate the ELCA a "sanctuary church." Following this decision, some of the press inaccurately reported what this means and said some things that simply aren't true. Here are a few of the main "talking points" regarding this decision that came directly from the ELCA. I hope it helps to clarify the issue for you. If you still have questions, please give me a call:

"In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the highest legislative authority of the ELCA, declared that when we preach on Sunday that Jesus told us to welcome, we will use our hands and voices on Monday to make sure it happens."

Being a sanctuary denomination does not call for any person, congregation or synod to engage in any illegal actions." [con't. p.2]

[from p. 1] "We have a broken system regarding immigration, refugees and asylum seekers. To declare ourselves a sanctuary church body is to say that we seek to provide concrete resources to assist the most vulnerable who are feeling the sharp edges of this broken system."

"Being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors. While we may have different ideas about how to fix this broken system and may have different ways of loving our neighbors, our call to love our neighbor is central to our faith."

"Being a sanctuary denomination will look different in different contexts. We cannot mandate or direct our congregations and ministries to respond in specific ways. Each must work out what this means for them in their context."

"Being a sanctuary denominations means that we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work. At the same time, we will have conversations about what sanctuary means with many of our members and discern future action and direction. Welcoming people is not a political issue for us, it is a matter of faith."

Blessings, Pastor Dave

P.S. I'm sure there is a lot more to come from the national church office regarding this issue. In the meantime, we will continue to embody our Mission and Welcome Statements which are the basis for all ministry decisions in our congregation. They have served us well in discerning the ministries we support in the community and the activities we are involved in as a community of faith.

"I was a stranger (Gk. foreigner, alien, immigrant), and you welcomed me."—Mt 25:35

"You shall also love the stranger (Heb. foreigner, sojourner), for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."—Deut 10:19

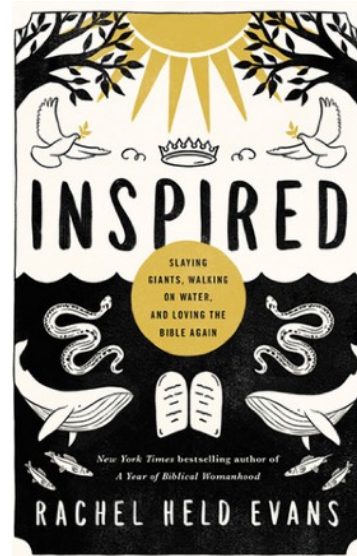
Season of Creation

Our celebration of the Season of Creation begins Sun, Sept 8th, along with adult Sunday school at 9:45am. This year's theme is Wisdom in Creation and we'll have a number of texts from the book of Job that describe Wisdom as being present before the world was created. We'll also talk about how Wisdom shows up in other places in the Bible as well as in our lives.

Inspired: Book Study

Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again

Join Pastor Dave for an unforgettable discussion of Rachel Held Evan's remarkable book: **Inspired** on Sunday's at 9:45am. All study guides will be posted online if you aren't able to make the class. Hope you will join us! Here is a list of topics: Oct 6—Origin Stories, Oct 13—Deliverance Stories, Oct 20—War Stories, Oct 27—Wisdom Stories, Nov 3—Resistance Stories, Nov 10—Gospel Stories, Nov 17—Fish Stories, and Nov 24—Church Stories.



Birthdays

Samuel Bolick	1
Edna Campos	2
Colin Cunningham	30

Anniversaries

Tom & Pam Radle	9/12/1970
Mark & Susan Bolick	9/23/1984

If you'd like your birthday or anniversary to be published, please give these dates to Pastor Dave. Thank you!

Pastor Dave on Vacation

Pastor Dave will be on vacation through Sept 6th. Any pastoral emergencies during this time should be directed to Grace Lutheran Church in Hendersonville, 828-693-4890. if no one answers, press 1 on the menu and it will get you in touch with the pastor.

Fall Schedule

We resume our regular schedule on Sun, Sept 8th with Adult Sunday School at 9:45am and Worship at 11:00am. We will be studying the readings from worship during the month of September.

Anniversary Potluck Lunch

Sun, Sept 29, we'll celebrate our church's anniversary in worship, followed by a potluck lunch. Please bring a dish to share. Drinks will be provided. There is a sing up sheet in the gathering place so we know approximately how many people are coming.

Greeter	Sue Hebb	1		8		15		22	Sue Hebb	29
Reader	Kay Doverspike		Brian Propst		Jen Ownbey		John Corkran		Lawson Hebb	
Worship Asst	Kay Doverspike		Brian Propst		Jen Ownbey		John Corkran		Lawson Hebb	
Usher										
Usher										
Tabulate	Sue		Corkrans		Butera/Wright		Radles		Sue Hebb	
Altar Care	Sue Hebb		Linda Butera		Toni Corkran					
Coffee Host										
Nursery			Kay Doverspike							