The Ministry Continues,
Just Not in the Same Ways

Task Force Church Council at its May 12 Zoom meeting authorized a task force to determine when and how is the safest way to return to using the LCOOR church building. Task force is made up of 3 Council members, 2 medical people and pastors. They will recommend when we can begin using the building for worship, weddings, funerals and various groups.

Until then, here is the worship ministry.

Holy Communion Procedures During this Pandemic
You may commune at home, with your own bread and wine/juice elements, using the words of institution and prayers on the church website or in this newsletter.

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, worship at the lake and in the parking lot, when you arrive, a masked and gloved volunteer will hand your family a plastic bag with Communion wafers. You will keep these elements until the time in worship, when the pastor does the Communion prayers and words of institution.

Three worship options for the summer.
9 am at Memorial Park on Lake Kampeska
10:00 am on KXLG radio
10:30 am church Parking Lot

Lake Service Begins Memorial Day Weekend, 9:00 AM at Memorial Park on Lake Kampeska.
Because of COVID-19 it will look different:
• In the event or rain: The county says we CANNOT use the picnic shelter until further notice. With rain, we will need to cancel the service. Please worship at 10:30 in the parking lot or 10 AM KXLG radio.
• Families must be physically distanced, minimum of 6 feet apart, otherwise County may shut us down.
• There will be no coffee, Communion lines or offering among the people.

Parking Lot Service The 10:30 AM town worship service will be in the south parking lot. Ushers will greet you and safely hand you Communion wafers on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Tune your FM radio to 88.7, and you will hear the worship “live”!

Radio worship will continue to be Sundays, 10 AM on KXLG radio.
LIVING IN THE UNKNOWN

“I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face troubles. But take courage; I have conquered the world.” (John 18:33)

-Jesus-

We have always lived in the unknown – these days of Coronavirus have merely amplified this reality and brought the uncertainties of life into living color.

There are many frustrating and fearful things regarding this pandemic time. Fearful is that the scientific and medical world tell us who are most at risk of catching COVID-19, but occasionally they are wrong, and young healthy people are severely impacted as well. Fearful is the negative impact this is having on the mental health of all of us. Especially fearful is the risk for abuse that sky-rockets for children and people who were already in abusive relationships.

Frustrating is that “experts” can make no guarantees and often conflict with one another. Frustrating is the conflict between economic well-being and physical/emotional/spiritual well-being. Frustrating is the rapid changes that catch all of us, with people we trust saying one thing one day and something different the next. There is no clear path to the healthy ending of this pandemic – how or when. If there is a “light at the end of the tunnel” it keeps moving.

I pray for your peace – not free from troubles – but in the midst of the storm, trusting God is in charge, God will prevail, no matter what God’s Son still shines in our days.

Considerations for Being Safe in Public Gatherings

- We are doing all these precautions (No public worship, physical distancing, masks and gloves, etc.) to protect people, not out of fear, but out of love and concern.

- Some vulnerable people will come to a public worship, even if their health is compromised. We encourage people with “underlying health conditions” to stay home.

- The science and medical world tell us that what we do in worship (being in close proximity and singing) are particularly “risky behaviors” with this COVID-19 virus.

- Your pastors: one is 60+ years old and one has had 2 major surgeries in the past 1 ½ years.

- Volunteers are what make our ministries fly. Many of our volunteers are of an age or health condition where we do not wish to put them at risk.

May God’s peace continue to be with you!

Pastor Kent
"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." – Isaiah 40:31

Has anyone else noticed that life has been a bit of a challenge lately? Many of us are missing our family members. We are missing our friends. We are missing the chance to worship together face-to-face. Instead of simply growing weary, however, we are creatively focusing on other ways to stay connected.

We are embracing new technology (can you say, Zoom?) while also purchasing more postage stamps than ever before. We have renewed our relationships with our phones. While we typically have used the telephone to set up appointments to see people, the phone has now become a lifeline used to actually talk to each other.

“Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.” – Galatians 6:9-10

I continue to be encouraged by the many ways people are supporting each other in this time of crisis. Some have put their artistic talents to work to raise others’ spirits. Some have sewn and shared face masks. Others faithfully bake cookies, build sandwiches and pack bags for the Watertown Sandwich Ministry.

Some families from our congregation have baked and delivered treats (and chatted from a safe distance) while other families have dropped off May baskets (and scampered away as tradition dictates!) Easter visitors braved winter conditions to bring greetings safely from garages and front sidewalks of homes.

Our faithful phone tree callers continue to reach out to members on a regular basis. Caring casseroles from our freezer are available and being delivered. Prayer shawls are being created and distributed – both in times of concern and celebration!

“I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” – Psalm 34:1

Looking for a treat to share? There’s nothing sweeter than this Rhubarb Jam recipe by Darla Adolphson.

**Rhubarb Jam**

7 c. cut up rhubarb  
2 sm. pkgs mixed fruit gelatin  
1 (21-oz) can blueberry pie mix

4 c. sugar

Place rhubarb, sugar and pie mix in 4-quart pan. Cook slowly on low-medium burner. Stir often. When rhubarb is mushy, remove from heat and add gelatin. Stir well. Put in jars or plastic containers and refrigerate. Can also be kept in freezer.
Embracing different one day at a time!

As most of you probably know...This summer will look a little different! This seems to be the common phrase over the last 3 months...”Things are going to look a little different.” I find myself saying that and thinking that on a regular basis. Since mid-March all of our youth programs have looked a little different. Instead of meeting together at church or in a coffee shop we are gathering through zoom meetings, texting and sending out multitudes of emails. Some of our ministry programs have not taken place at all. Don’t get me wrong, I don’t mind different. I would consider myself to be “slightly” different!! Changing things up and doing things a little differently is a good idea. It keeps things fresh and exciting. With that said, I am ready for a little normal! The problem is, I am not sure what normal is looking like these days.

Speaking of different...We will not have our HS Mission Trip this July. My youth director friend, Paul from Minnesota, and I are saddened by this decision, but know that it is in the best interest of all involved in the trip. All of the youth who have paid their deposit will get a full refund. I will mail checks out this month. My goal for the summer is to get together in small groups as much as possible. This will take place in the way of sitting around the fire pit at the church and getting together for some parking lot gatherings. Being outside and with proper social distancing, this will allow us to come together for fellowship and see each other in person.

As we navigate our way through the summer months, my hope is that our fall programs will start at the regular times. This is my hope for school, sports and other fall activities. This is my hope but I am also prepared for things to look a little “different” in the fall. Whatever happens, we will continue to support one another through our youth ministry programs as we navigate our way through these interesting times!

Blessings,
Philip Lickei – Youth Director

- Thank You to everyone that has helped with our weekly Bible Stories, and thank you to those that have been watching the Bible Stories.

- I will be looking for teachers/music leaders for the fall Church School year, if you would like to help in any way please contact christy@lcoorwatertown.org

- Not knowing what the summer will bring, we will not be having Day Camp.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I can’t wait for us to be able to gather again!

Take Care and God Bless
Christy Crook — Christian Education Director
## Financial News

### April 2020 Financial Report

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**Mobile**

Text to Give 605-250-6765

**Online**

https://lcoorwatertown.org

Click on the Resources tab

Click the link on step 1 for Online Giving

**Mail**

LCOOR
2001 2nd St. NW
Watertown, SD 57201

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**Thank you for your continued ministry support.**

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**$55.00 Memorials & Special Gifts given in May**

**Prayer Shawls**

given in memory of Stan Peterson by Al & Pam Raeder and Lonnie & Judy Greenfield

**Care Fund**

Given in memory of Stan Peterson by Dennis & Bonnie Weippert
Worship at Memorial Park and the LCOOR Church Parking Lot

It’s that time of year again...time to worship on the shores of Lake Kampska at Memorial Park. As the wind rustles through the trees, things will look a little differently as we social distance families from each other in this beautiful worship setting God has provided. **Lake worship** begins on Memorial Weekend, May 24th and continues at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday until Labor Day Weekend, September 6th.

There are other options to worship as well:
- Drive-in Parking Lot Worship is available each week at the church at 10:30 a.m. Tune to 88.7 FM when you arrive at the church parking lot.
- Broadcast worship on KXLG 99.1 FM, will continue to be available.

There are few changes as we navigate this Covid-19 situation:
- Families will be allowed to sit together at the lake, but you are asked to distance at least six feet from your nearest neighbor.
- There will be no bulletins distributed. A bulletin will be available online at [www.lcoorwatertown.org](http://www.lcoorwatertown.org), if you wish to follow along.
- Since we are social distancing, there will be no coffee time. If you’d like to sip coffee during worship, please bring your own from home.
- There will be a receptacle for offering near where the coffee table would normally be located. Please drop your offering off as you arrive at or leave worship.

Volunteers are still needed at the lake and at Parking Lot Worship at the church:
- Ushers are needed to assist families stay socially distanced at the Lake.
- Parking lot ushers are needed to help park cars at the church parking lot and to collect the offering as worshippers leave from worship (using long-handled fishing nets).
- Two people at the Lake and in town are needed the first and third Sundays of each month to distribute baggies containing communion wafers as people arrive at worship (socially distanced as much as possible, of course.) Wine and grape juice will not be used at this time for communion to help keep everyone safe.

For more information on this ever-changing situation, please visit the church website and follow us on Facebook. The pastors and Robbyn are always available to answer your questions as best they can as we navigate these uncharted waters.
Thank you students and parents for a great year!! It’s not the way we wanted to end this year but at least we got six and a half GREAT months together. We know it was the right decision for everyone but our heart breaks every time we think about the fact that we didn’t have the chance to say good-bye.

To our Pre-K Class of 2020:
Thank you students for always doing your best! We are so proud of all of you!!
Thank you for always bringing a smile to our faces and love to our hearts.
We miss all of you so much!!

We want to thank you parents for letting us be a part of your child’s life and trusting us with their learning and education. They mean the world to us and we will miss them dearly. The classroom is so quiet; we have missed the laughter, noise, and of course all of the hugs. We will cherish all of the memories and the friendships we made this year!

God Bless!! Miss Nikki and Miss Wendy
Worship Opportunities

Sundays

9:00am Memorial Park on Lake Kampeska
10:00am Broadcast on KXLG 99.1FM
10:30am Drive-in Parking Lot Worship

LCOOR Fishing League

Fish and fellowship are themes that repeat over and over again throughout the Bible. Since 2007 Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer has hosted a Fishing League throughout the summer months. We still hope that we might come together with reel and bait in hand. The timing of the Fishing League may be shortened and begun later than in years past, but we’re still holding out hope.

Keep your eye on the LCOOR website and Facebook page for League information as it becomes available. We still hope to make some memories and tell a few fish stories on the water this summer!

Deadline for the July 2020 issue:

Staff

Pastors
Kent Stillson (Senior Pastor)
Dan Ofstehage (Associate Pastor)
Sam Hatlestad—Retired

Welcoming & Caring Ministries
Twila Schmitt

Worship & Music Coordinator
Robbyn Givens

Youth Director
Philip Lickei

Education Director
Christy Crook

Preschool Teacher/Director
Nikki Landmark

Preschool Teacher Aide
Wendy Kruger

Business Manager
Donna Hamre

Administrative Secretary
Jodi Spilde

Custodian
Adam Lauseng

Janitorial
Marilyn Byer

2020 Church Council

President
Justin Ruesch
Vice President
Mark Reishus
Secretary
Amber Dahl
Treasurer
Todd Nichols
Tammy Davis
Dale Even
Jennifer Harms
Rachel Hauck
Pam Luckhurst
Scott Munger

Prayer Chain
- Mary Jo Manzey 882-3339
- Marilyn Chapman 886-4858
- Email: twila@lcoorwatertown.org

Phone (605)886-2696
Website
https://lcoorwatertown.org

facebook.com/lcoor

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtzxL8Ta1YQPVb7MBwwjv_Q