

Called by Christ to Serve

*St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & Lighthouse Preschool
Aberdeen, SD*

August 2022

A People Set Apart

Ephesians 4:23-24

²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Holiness is something we often do not hear much about. It is a term that is not used outside the church often and we only hear it a few times within the church itself. We hear it when describing God and we sing it in the divine service during the *Sanctus*. However, outside of these few times we rarely hear the word "holy".

Nevertheless, that does not mean that we do not see the word holy appear all over the Bible. It is, of course, used to describe God in his glory and simply just who he is. We see it when describing the holy of holies in the temple where only the high priest was allowed to go once a year and where God promised to be. We see it when God called Israel to be his "holy nation" and we see it now here in Paul's letter to the Ephesians that we are clothed in "the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness". So, it appears all over the Bible in the New and Old Testaments alike when describing God, Israel, the temple, and so much more.

This then begs the question, what is holiness? Holiness simply means "to be set apart". To be set apart for a special purpose or simply to be different. Thus, when describing God as "holy" it is a reminder that he is completely different from us. He is set apart from us because he is God and the Creator, and we are mere creatures. Not only that but he is without sin, and we are sinful people. So, when it is used to describe the holy of holies it is a reminder that that place is a place set apart from all the other places set apart and thus, a special place indeed that should be revered and respected.

However, the most important aspect of holiness for us today is that of God choosing Israel to be holy nation. A nation set apart from everyone else. For that is what we are called to be as well. To be a people set apart because we are clothed in God's holiness and thus, we are called to be a people set apart from the world. To be holy and blameless, just like our God, and to be different from the world. It should be no surprise then, when we are seen as strangers or as outsiders within our world or even within our own communities. For we are called to be holy, to be set apart from the rest of the world. That of course does not mean we flee this world. No, our God has put here for a reason, but it simply means we should not be surprised when we are seen as outsiders or as strangers within our ever-changing world.

But take comfort! For our God does not dump us here and says, "Good luck!" and leave it at that. No, instead he continues to take care of us. He continues to shower us with blessings upon blessings. He does so by giving us a church to worship, the forgiveness of sins through the Lord's Supper, confession and absolution, and by doing so much more. Christ even reminds us that our citizenship is not here on earth but in heaven. For we are called to be a nation set apart and are clothed in our God's righteousness and holiness. So, Christians rejoice and be glad for our God has chosen us before the foundations of the world all because of his love for us and has clothed us in him! What a blessing that is as we walk this life in his righteousness and holiness, Amen.

In Christ,

Pastor Smith

Five Loaves Supper



August 3rd at 5:15 pm. Menu: Pulled pork sandwiches and coleslaw. You may bring a salad or a dessert.

Prayer Service



A Prayer Service is scheduled for Sunday, August 14th at 12:30pm. Prayers will be offered for teachers and students.



Lighthouse Preschool

Lighthouse Preschool is accepting registrations for the 2022-2023 school year. Forms are available at the church office.

Up Coming Events:

Confirmation Parent/Student Meeting: August 31th at 6:30 pm

Confirmation Begins: September 7th at 6:30 pm

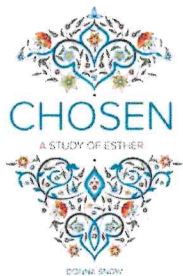
Sunday School Begins: September 11th at 9:30 am

Women's Bible Study Begins: September 14th

Quilting: September 8th @ 9am

LWML Meeting: September 8th at 11:30 am.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study—5:15 pm— "*Chosen*"



Women's Bible Study will resume on September 14, 2022. This Bible study will read and discuss the book "*Chosen*" by Donna Snow. The Book of Esther is one of the most fascinating books of the Bible because of all its words, God's name never appears. That doesn't mean God is absent. Rather, that God is ever present, weaving His plan through every part of Esther's narrative. Set at a lavish feast in the Persian Empire, and following a beauty contest, you can see how God uses Esther to save an entire nation from annihilation. This study provides clear biblical direction on how we also are chosen, equipped, and given God's perfect counsel from Scripture.

All women are invited to participate in this Bible Study.



The Devoted Devotional Life

August 12-13, 2022

Our Savior's Lutheran Church—Aberdeen, SD

About this topic:

There are 168 hours in a week. Even if we are faithful, we are probably only spending 2 hours a week in worship and Bible study. What about the other 166? We sleep some but that is still a lot of time. How should we, as redeemed, baptized children of God spend our time? How should we react to what we see and experience in this time that we live in? We will explore these and a few more things when we explore "The Devoted, Devotional Life."

What is a Higher Things Retreat?

Picture the sanctuary filled with teenagers, eager for the organ to begin the opening lines of the liturgy or their favorite hymns, listening intently as they learn how their Lutheran faith applies to their lives and relationships, and laughing as they horse around playing games and getting to know other youth from the area. This Retreat will give youth and adults a glimpse of what happens at a Higher Things youth conference and what a typical conference day looks like!

\$40 Register Today!

www.higherthings.org

AUGUST USHERS:

EARLY:

Head Usher
Paul Swanston

LATE:

Jason Oberfoell, Head Usher

Check It Out!

The LCMS Youth Gathering was incredible. We were able to be a witness to the people of Houston, grow in our faith, and worship the one, true God. Thank you to all who made it possible for these kids to have this life changing experience. Praise be to God!



Events and Information

- Higher Things Retreat from August 12-13 at Our Savior Lutheran Church
 - Registration is due on Sunday, August 7
- Youth Group is on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month from 5-7 PM
 - We have been using pop songs to learn about the cardinal and theological virtues in our series titled "Facing the Music."
- Screwtape Letters Bible Study begins on Wednesday, August 3rd at 7 PM

Lighthouse Preschool News

Teaching God's children about their Creator, Savior, and Friend while preparing them for a lifetime of wonder, learning, and service.

August 2022

Getting Ready!

At the preschool, we are getting ready for the coming year. We have spent the summer preparing and transitioning the preschool to a purely Junior Kindergarten program. Many parents have reached out to us asking us to expand our program as we have had a waiting list for this age group in the past. We ask for your prayers as we complete this transition over the next year. Please also pray for the incoming students and staff as we embark on this new adventure together!

As we look toward the next year, there are several ways you can help us!

-Please consider your comfort and availability in filling the need of a van driver or aide. We are still looking to fill a driving position from 3:15-4:15 and a van aide from 11:00-12:00.

-Consider subbing in the case a staff member must be absent. Let Cindy or Jenelle know if we can add you to our list!

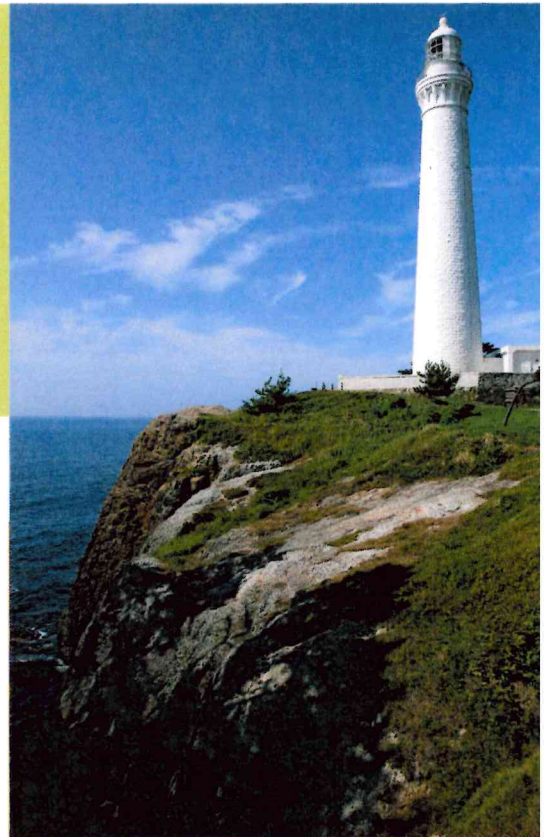
-Begin saving receipts from Ken's and Kessler's. We receive 1 or 2% back from every purchase!

-Consider donating snack items to the preschool. (Please make sure they are not expired already.)

-Purchase gift cards from grocery stores in town which we can use for snacks and gifts for students.

-Please consider donating to our Tuition fund. We have had several families request more assistance than usual due to unforeseen family emergencies and we would love to be able to help them send their child to preschool!

-Pray for our students and parents that their hearts may be accepting to the working of the Lord in their lives, as He deems appropriate in His divine will.



Upcoming Dates:

**August 11 6:30pm
Orientation Night**

**August 25th
First Day of School**

**September 5th- No
School/Labor Day**





Lighthouse Preschool Supply List

You are invited to help supply the preschool with the following items that we will use throughout the year.

plastic spoons	dishwasher soap	baby wipes
hand soap	dry erase markers	napkins
kleenex	white cardstock	computer paper
skinny and fat markers	plain small paper plates	quart sized Ziplocs
white coffee filters	kitchen garbage bags	paper towels



Preschool Schedule:

August 2, 2022 — Open house - 4:00-7:00 pm

August 11, 2022 — Preschool orientation @ 6:30 pm

August 25, 2022 — Preschool begins



The Lighthouse Preschool is hiring a bus driver—hours: 3:15-4:15pm M,T,TH,F.

Also needed a bus aide—11-12:00pm M,T,TH,F.

Call the church office for details.

Preschool Snack Drive:

Help us feed our preschoolers healthy snacks!

Suggested snack ideas:

Vanilla wafers	Saltine Crackers
Oyster crackers	Veggie Straws/Chips
Popcorn	Mini Rice Cakes
Gold fish crackers	Cheese It crackers
Applesauce	Pudding cups
Graham crackers	Canned fruit
Cereal	Granola bars
Pretzels	Ritz crackers
Raisins	Dried cranberries

Drop items into the designated box or church office.

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)
& Lighthouse Preschool

Rev. Samuel Bobby (605) 415-5578
 Rev. Jacob Smith (586) 556-6077



Every Sunday:

Divine Service @ 8am
 Bible Study @ 9:30 am
 Sunday School @ 9:30 am
 Divine Service @ 10:45 am

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	6:15 Worship Service 7pm Elder Meeting	2 4:00-7:00 pm Preschool Open House 7pm Church Council meeting	3 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10am Bible Study 5:15 Five Loaves Supper 7pm Adult Bible Study	4	5	6
7 Coin Banks	8 6:15 Worship Service	9	10 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10am Bible Study 7pm Adult Bible Study	11 6:30 pm Preschool Orientation	12 Higher Things @ Our Savior	13 Higher Things @ Our Savior
14 12:30pm Prayer Service 5-7pm Youth Group	15 6:15 Worship Service	16	17 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am Bible Study 7pm Adult Bible Study	18 7:00pm Rural Gospel Initiative Mtg.	19	20
21	22 6:15 Worship Service	23	24 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am Bible Study 7pm Adult Bible Study	25 Preschool Begins	26	27
28 Dan Wold Foundation Walk 5-7pm Youth Group Food Cart	29 6:15 Worship Service	30	31 6:00 am Men's Bible St 10 am Bible Study 6:30pm Parents/ Student Confirm. Mtg. 7pm Adult Bible Study			