

NAZ NEWS

NAZARETH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 7, 2024

WORSHIP WITH NAZ

SUNDAYS

CFU Channels 18 & 95.5 | 8:30 am
In-Person Worship at Nazareth | 9 & 10:45 am

WEDNESDAYS

CFU Channels 18 & 95.5
4:30 pm Wednesday

ONLINE OPTIONS

Recordings of sermons available on
[Vimeo.com/mynazareth](https://vimeo.com/mynazareth)
Livestreams Broadcast on our website
www.naz.org/onlinechurch



POW (Parents on Wednesdays) and New Aldaya Bingo

Mama Bear Apologetics

Calling all Mama Bears! Join Nazareth's newest study group this summer study as they read and explore *"Mama Bear Apologetics"* by Hillary Morgan Ferrer. Mama Bear Apologetics is the book you've been looking for. The mom-to-mom guide will equip you to teach your kids how to form their own biblical beliefs about what is true and what is false. Through transparent life stories and clear, practical applications, Mama Bear Apologetics offers you tools to train yourself so you can turn around and train your kids. Join Mama Bears and raise your voice to protect your kids, by teaching them how to think through and address the issues head-on, yet with gentleness and respect.

Nazareth's group will meet Thursday mornings 9:30 - 10:45 am, beginning June 6th, at Gateway Park under the large pavilion. Childcare is available, if needed. Please register online at naz.org/nextsteps. And feel free to email Meg Husted at meg.husted@naz.org for more info. We are excited for this group to kick off, make sure to register if you're interested!

Lutheran World Relief Spring In-Gathering

All are welcome to attend the 2024 Lutheran World Relief Spring In-Gathering, Saturday, April 13th from 8:30 - 11:00 am. This year the in-gathering will be at Zion Lutheran Church-Jubilee (12007 Jubilee Road) in LaPorte City, where Nazareth will join 50-70 other congregations. Each congregation is contributing their kits and quilts donations to be shipped out to St. Paul, MN or Baltimore, MD. From there they are loaded in shipping containers and sent overseas to people in need. Nazareth's Kits and Quilts ministry have been dedicated to putting together their donations. Come be involved and celebrate God's good work being done in our community, Saturday, April 13th. Zion Lutheran Church-Jubilee is a rural church located off I-380 (Gilbertville exit). Go east to Jubilee Road and turn right (south).

CONNECT WITH NAZARETH

 7401 University Ave.

 319-266-7589

 info@naz.org

 www.naz.org

 MyNazareth

 [mynazchurch](https://www.instagram.com/mynazchurch)



**SERMON | Inspired By the Love and Power
of the Resurrection**

TEACHER | Pastor Tim Boettger

TEXT | Romans 5:1-5 & John 16:7-15

Synopsis

When people don't realize all they have in Christ they live beneath their privilege as sons and daughters of the most High God! When we gain more and more understanding of all that God has done for us in Christ, and learn how to have more access to it all in our lives, it can make all the difference. When Paul writes in Romans 5:5 that "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us," he is not making a small statement that should be quickly overlooked.

Digest The Word

Read the scripture passages from the Service and reflect on the sermon and on these questions to help you live out God's Word in your everyday life.

- *How did the sermon challenge/encourage you?*
- *Does this passage teach you about who God is?*
- *What are the personal implications for you?*
- *What does this mean for the Church as a whole?*

READ, RUMINATE, AND REMEMBER

Romans 5:3-4

We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

Paul says that we should rejoice not only in the glory of God but also in our sufferings. The message is not to rejoice because we are suffering, but rather we rejoice in the midst of suffering. Suffering does not produce our rejoicing; rather, it cannot squash it. How are you rejoicing in the midst of your suffering?

SERVICE PROGRAM

9:00 Service

Call to Worship
Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds | red 367
Confession and Forgiveness
Announcements
Prayers of the Church
Lesson: Romans 5:1-5
Children's Sermon
Go, My Children, With My Blessing
Gospel: John 16:7-15
Sermon
Offering
Holy Spirit
Lord's Prayer
Communion
I Know That My Redeemer Lives | red 619
Thine Is the Glory | red 376
Jesus, Remember Me | red 616

10:45 am Service

Jesus, Messiah
Glory to God Forever
Welcome and Announcements
Prayers of the Church
Offering
Way Maker
Lesson: Romans 5:1-5
Children's Sermon
Gospel: John 16:7-15
Sermon
Confession and Forgiveness
Communion
Holy Spirit

Flowers

The Altar Flowers are In memory of Sue Lyons.
Dedicate flowers via jordan.keating-venghaus@naz.org.

NAZ CHAT

Naz's Prayer Chain is an excellent resource for our congregation, to connect and support each other as a community. We encourage members to share their prayers and requests with the prayer chain through Jordan, Naz's Admin. Assistant, by email at jordan.keating-venghaus@naz.org. Our prayer chain is a safe place, but feel free to request to be left anonymous. If no prayer requests are received for a week, a general prayer or scripture will be sent out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued...*

Soap Sunday Donations

Nazareth's Kits & Quilts team is asking the congregation to help us provide bars of soap for our Baby Care Kits and Personal Care Kits. For the Baby Care Kits, we need 3-4 oz bars of Ivory soap, and for the Personal Care Kits we can use any bath soap such as Dial, Coast, Palmolive, etc. All bars must be in their original wrappers. Please do not donate small or hotel-sized bars. Soap will be collected on Sunday, April 21st. Tubs will be provided behind the Welcome Desk in Fellowship Hall, or you can drop them off at the Receptionist's Desk throughout the week during office hours. Thank you for your gift.

Preschool Wrap-Around Program

Blessed Beginnings is excited to announce their Public Preschool Wrap Around Program. This program offers before and after school care Monday - Friday for children enrolled in: Aldrich, Southdale, or Orchard Hill Elementary.

If you are interested in enrolling in the program, our wait-list form can be found online at naz.org/blessed-beginnings. The link is at the bottom of the web page. Separate forms must be completed for each child you wish to enroll. Please understand that completing the form does not guarantee a spot in our program, but allows us to keep your contact information as we track you on the waitlist. Email phil.plourde@naz.org with any questions.

EPIC Scholarships Available

If you or a family member are attending college next year, you might qualify for Nazareth's EPIC Scholarship. Education Partners in Covenant (EPIC) is a partnership between Nazareth Lutheran Church and any participating ELCA College in Iowa - including Wartburg, Luther, and Grand View. Students attending one of these colleges will receive a minimum of \$100 award per school year from Nazareth. Matching funds may be available from participating colleges. To access and complete the application, visit our website naz.org and click on Scholarships at the bottom of the home page underneath "Quick Links." The deadline to apply for 24/25 school year is April 30th. We look forward to receiving your application.

April Donation Requests

Nazareth is accepting donations of Spaghetti Noodles and Spaghetti Sauce for the food pantry. Naz is contributing to Love Inc's Monthly donations campaign, asking for Household Essentials. Essentials include paper towels, toilet paper, and garbage bags. You can drop off donations at the Welcome Desk on Sundays, or at the Receptionist's desk during the week. Thank you for your generosity.

Deadline For HyVee Receipts

The deadline for HyVee Receipts Collection for Highland School is Sunday, April 21, 2024. Please remember that the stores participating are only in Cedar Falls, Waterloo, and Waverly. Please do not staple, clip or roll the receipts together. Thank you for your amazing support.



GOOD NEWS UPDATE

FROM WORLD MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Please keep Andy and Amy Schmidt and their kids in your prayers as they serve the Lord in Panama.

- Praises and thanks for the success of the sewing casita that is now earning income for some of the locals; pray that this ministry continues to grow and to grow the love of Christ in the village. Prayers that Amy will get some new ideas for the sewing casita.
- Prayers that the evil spirits will be swept out of the village and that the pain and possession will remind them to look only to God. As our friend Simon said, "The enemy is working hard against the Ngäbe people. But God is working harder." Prayers that Jesus be known and praised among the Ngabe people.
- Prayers for continued health and strength for Andy as he is giving all he has in his work installing solar systems, digging wells, planting trees, building a permanent house for the Schmidts. Give him strength to share The Word and the love of Jesus as often as possible.
- Prayers as school begins, that the financial burden on the Ngabe people make them stronger rather than weaker. Remind us all to look to Him in our struggles and not to be quick to blame.

MONTHLY CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

March 24th, 2024 Update

The Church Council met on Tuesday, March 19th for its regularly scheduled March meeting. We spent much of our time working on two important areas within our church. The first relates to our upcoming vote on Wednesday, April 17th. Like Samantha, Meg, and Randy, who have been featured in our video updates thus far, we know that many of you are anxious to join the Church Council and pastoral staff in voting YES to disaffiliate with the ELCA and YES to affiliate with the NALC. Our newly appointed communications team has been hard at work, with the Council's support, to keep all members informed about the many important details regarding this vote. By now, you should have received a packet in the mail, and if you have any questions regarding its contents, please feel free to find a Council member between Sunday morning services outside of the Larsen Chapel.

The other important area that the Council has been working on is the Blessed Beginnings ministry here at Nazareth. At our most recent meeting, we received an update from John Lehman, financial advisor to the Blessed Beginnings Committee. The Council is continuing to walk closely with Blessed Beginnings and help them with the challenges they are experiencing. We ask for your continued prayers.

Just a reminder that we have another new member class coming up on April 4th. We are very encouraged and excited by the fact that we've had over 25 new members join Nazareth in the past several months. We look forward to seeing the ministry of Nazareth continue to flourish in the months ahead.

Upcoming Congregational Meeting For The Affiliation Vote

The Church Council is hosting a congregational meeting on April 17th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center. Check-in will open at 5:45 p.m. During this meeting, Nazareth members will have the opportunity to vote on Nazareth's affiliation. The Church Council, with full support from the pastoral staff, has recommended to the congregation that you vote YES to disaffiliate with the ELCA, and also vote YES to affiliate with the NALC. The ELCA constitution states that in order to be an eligible voter, you must be a current member of Nazareth, you must have attended communion at Nazareth at least once during 2023 or 2024, and you must have given a gift of record of at least \$1 to Nazareth during 2023 or 2024. In order to disaffiliate from the ELCA the vote must be passed by 66.7% on April 17th.

