

THE SERVANT

The monthly newsletter of Servants of Christ Lutheran Church, a congregation of The North American Lutheran Church serving the Cedar Rapids area

Meeting at Robins City Hall Community Room, 265 South Second St., Robins, Iowa 52328
Worship: 9:00 am; Fellowship & Coffee: 10:00;
Bible Class and Sunday School: 10:15
Ron Voss, Pastor

*****February 2019*****



Dear Servant of Christ,

In the January/February issue of *Connections* magazine, there is a devotion by David Nuottila, "No Other Gods." I found the following excerpts to be meaningful to me. Hopefully, they will be for you also.

"In a handbook on Luther's *Small Catechism*, Dr. James. A. Nestigen begins his commentary with this brief sentence: 'God has made a decision about you.' This brief remark sets the tone for a lifetime of worship and prayer, a lifetime of learning and a lifetime of faith. The decision God has made comes to us in the form of a commandment: 'I AM the Lord your God . . . You shall have no other gods before me.' (Exodus 20:2-3)"

"God delivered this commandment (along with nine others) to His people, the Israelites, on Mt. Sinai. He did this after He delivered them from over 400 years of slavery in Egypt. On that mountain, God announced that the Israelites were His cherished people, that He and He alone had delivered them from slavery, not all the gods of Egypt. Therefore, He and He alone was worthy of their worship."

(next page)



“In his *Large Catechism*,” Martin Luther teaches Christians what it means to have a god. To have a god means to having one from whom we may ‘expect all good and in which we are to take refuge in all distress.’ Luther correctly points out that ‘whatever you set your heart on and put your trust in is truly your god.’ Sadly, because of our sinful nature, we too often rely on our own ability to deliver ourselves from distress.”

“No thing, no idol, no object the consequence of our sin. Only the love of God in Christ the power to deliver sinners God’s Word is sure. ‘I AM have no other gods.’”



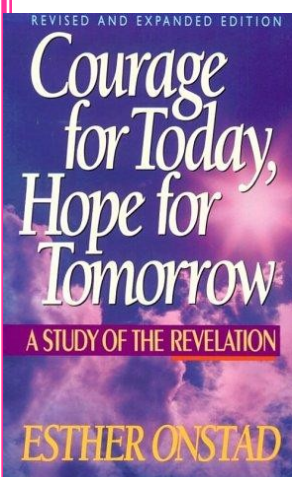
has the ability to save us from Only God’s grace is sufficient. Jesus is unwavering and has from death and the grave. the Lord your God. You shall

We live in the assurance of God’s decision. We fear and love God above all things. Only the God who created the heavens and earth is God. This is most certainly true.

In Christ’s love,
Ron



Is the *Book of the Revelation* a mystery to you? Have you wished you could understand it? Perhaps you have hesitated to delve into it because you could not grasp the meaning of its strange language and symbols. The Revelation to John, the last book in the Bible, abounds with symbols: trumpets, scrolls, beasts, wings, plagues, white robes, and crowns. Can this book really speak to US?



Esther Onstad’s book, “Courage for Today, Hope for Tomorrow,” is an excellent Bible study on the Revelation. The author explains the symbolism that depicts the conflict between God and Satan and the victory of God’s people. The focus of the Revelation is the **victorious Jesus Christ who vanquishes every enemy and who will bring a new heaven and a new earth.** Re-read that bold type again because that *IS* the bottom line for all believers.

We look at the world, we read the news, and shake our heads and become discouraged. So, what better way to begin a new year than with hope and courage . . . both of which are found only in a risen, ascended, victorious Savior.

We continue our study of this book through February.

Mission Outreach Gifts in February

**\$417 sent to The North American Lutheran Church General Fund
**\$1200 sent to support the work of Friends of Madagascar Mission



Your faithful and generous support make this outreach possible. Thank you!

Proclaiming the story of God's saving grace in our lives when we:

- ⇒ **Invite** others to the church where Christ is proclaimed
- ⇒ **Confess** our faith through song and word in worship
- ⇒ **Offer** encouragement to a friend and others who are ill or in need
- ⇒ **Show** Christ through our daily lives and work, which express thanks to God and care for the common good
- ⇒ **Talk** about our faith in our homes and with others
- ⇒ **Live** prepared to give a reason for the hope within us

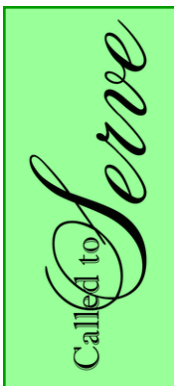


Saturday, February 16, 9:00 am

Outreach Visitation Day

On this Saturday we will gather at the City Hall for devotion and prayer, then go into the community to share the good news of Jesus Christ. We will invite people to come and worship at Servants of Christ if they do not have a church home.

February Servants



Greeter/Usher: Cliff Waugh
Communion Assistant: Dan Heckart
Snacks:
**February 3—Mary Collins
**February 10—Judy Wauch
**February 17—Lenore Heckart
**February 24—Bi-monthly brunch

This Little Light of Mine



I'm Gonna Let It Shine

Friends of Madagascar Mission

MISSION of FOMM - To assist the Christians and Churches in Madagascar to strengthen their ministry and mission in reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

PURPOSE of FOMM - To support Madagascar initiatives to strengthen and build up Christ's witness for their people and, in doing so, bring glory to Christ, the Lord of the Church.

GOVERNANCE of FOMM - This organization is a non-profit, incorporated organization with a board of directors. The Rev. David P. Lerseth of Gurnee, Illinois, is the present of the board.

PROJECTS of FOMM - Prison Ministry, Ejeda Hospital, Bible Schools/Evangelists



FRIENDS of
**MADAGASCAR
MISSION**

www.MadagascarMission.org

Praying For Missionaries



Lord of the harvest, protect the laborers You have sent into the harvest. Endow them with courage, that they may spread Your Word abroad as the sower sowed his seed on every kind of soil. Bless their efforts by the Holy Spirit, that faith might be born in the hearts of those to whom they witness, that unbelievers might come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

Don't forget . . . Bi-monthly brunch.
Sunday, February 24 . . . following
worship.

sunday
brunch