

the sower

... i will not fail you or forsake you ...



I was listening to one of "those" radio stations, the other day. The kind I, usually, ignore, hoping it'll go away? Well, apparently, that doesn't work! Anyway, it's fundraising time – still – and the slogan is ... "The gospel will go only as far as the dollar will take it!" (How's that for stewardship!)

A day or two later, a friend sent me a pastoral letter on the subject written by a leader in another denomination. Fourteen pages! Six thousand words! And the word 'grace' was used only once. The title 'Christ' only three times. 'Cross' never. We try so hard to be church. And we never focus on the things that really, truly make us god's people! Things like grace and Christ and cross!

Now, we've been given something most congregations never receive ... a second shot! Not that we did anything wrong, the first time around. It's just that the way we used to do it isn't working, anymore. So, we sold the building. And we're starting all over. And the first step is remembering what it is that makes us us! What it is that makes church church!

Well, the designTeam's taken a first step and has decided, first and foremost, if we're about nothing else, as the church, as god's very own, we're about grace. We're about charity! We're about love! Free, unearned, never-ending! Without exception, apology, excuse! And without it, no matter where we go isn't worth the energy! Without it, no matter what we try just isn't worth the effort!

i Crossing over ... TOGETHER !

Bob

oh, and by the way ...
the gospel goes only as far as god takes it!





O GOD, YOU HAVE CALLED YOUR SERVANTS
TO VENTURES OF WHICH WE CANNOT SEE THE ENDING,
BY PATHS AS YET UNTRIDDEN,
THROUGH PERILS UNKNOWN.
GIVE US FAITH TO GO OUT WITH GOOD COURAGE,
NOT KNOWING WHERE WE GO,
BUT ONLY THAT YOUR HAND IS LEADING US
AND YOUR LOVE SUPPORTING US;
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.
AMEN! AMEN! THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE!



FAREWELL & GODSPEED! Holy Trinity/Father's Day, June 16th, was Deidre Barnes' and Shirley White's last "official" Sunday with us! Deidre – and her wife Marion – are off to greener pastures! She received her Master of Arts in Special Education and will begin work on a doctorate of education at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque! Shirley White's moved to FortWorth to be closer to family in Weatherford! Her new address is 6301 Overton Ridge Blvd, apt 338 + Fort Worth, TX 76132 + phone: 817.298-3898. After a half century with us, I'm sure she'd love hearing from you! Cards or calls!

"Eternal God, we thank you for them both and for our life together in this congregation and community. As they have been a blessing to us, so now send them forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord." This is most certainly true!

+ + +

AND FROM ONE OF OUR GRADUATES ...

Thank you Midland
Lutheran Church for all
the opportunities you
have shared with me.
I will forever cherish the
memories I have shared
with you all.
God Bless
Love, Kenzie
♡

Makenzie Howell, Pueblo, CO
Doug's daughter, Jay's niece,
& Wanda's granddaughter





THE designTEAM has met a couple times, already! They're working, at the moment, on identifying our coreValues! Those things that inspire us! That motivate us! That make us who and what we are! Roughly, the list is ...

- 1) GRACE
- 2) GOSPEL
- 3) SERVICE

Of course, the team will be doing a little more sanding and polishing! But the next step is to describe exactly what those three tenets mean in our life as **MLC2.0**! Normally, the designTeam meets on the first and third Thursday evenings of each month. However, this month, because of IndependenceDay festivities, the meeting for the 04th is canceled. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 18th! Place: TBA! Members of this congregation serving on the team are: Sherice Barndt, Fred Behnken, Bob Boomer, Gretchen Shults, Ken Spencer, & Jonathan Yee. Members of Christ's/Odessa are: Mark & Ramona Russell and Bob & Delores Schuler. Father Rick Lopez, rector at Iglesia Episcopal San Miguel Arcangel in Odessa is, also, lending a hand when he's able! Pastor Bob's the facilitator. Any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please talk with him ... (office) **432.694-1373** + (cell) **432.349-7407** + (home) **432.689-9274** + (email)

bbarndt@juno.com

Oh! And if you'd like to attend a meeting or two, to see what's going on, feel free!

+++

THIS MONTH'S 3rd SUNDAY SERMON ... we'll focus on the second coreValue identified by the design Team ... **GOSPEL!**



+++

THE SUNDAY amCLASS for adults meets all summer long! 9:15-10:15, every Sunday morning! The topic is "reworking Worship" At the moment, we're trying to figure out just whom we're inviting to worship ... and, even more importantly, **WHY?** Any questions, talk with pastorBob - office - **432.694-1373** + cell - **432.349-7407** + home - **432.689-9274** + or email - bbarndt@juno.com!



+++

THE NEXT MEETING of the women of the church is Wednesday morning July 10th! From 9:30-11:00 (+/-)! In the "patioRoom" off the north hallway! No reservations required! Just come on down and sit right down! Any questions, talk with Gretchen Shults, the study leader @ **432.413-4354**



THE WEDNESDAY pmSTUDY is on



sabbatical for the summer! Lord willin' and the creek don't rise, we should reconvene,

Wednesday, September 11th! Hope you're summer's going well

+++

THE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP meets in the

lobby of the church, the second Thursday afternoon of each month (July 11th), from 2-3:30

(+/-)! Susan Frederickson, Caregiver Program Specialist for the Area Agency on Aging for the Permian Basin, facilitates the discussion. No need to call ahead to save a place. Just come on down! But if you'd like to talk with Susan ahead of time, her number at the agency is 432.563-1061!



+++

BE SURE YOU'RE HERE ... Sunday, July 14th! For the birth – or rather, rebirth – of Alexander Thomas! Son of Jessica & John! "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them!" Better yet, let Jesus come to the little children! And don't stop him!

+++

THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL

meets right after worship, the 3rd Sunday of each month! This month, that's the 21st!



Everyone's welcome to sit in and see what's happening! Questions? Member or not, call 432.694-1373, call or text 432.349-7407, or drop a line to bbarndt@juno.com! Council members ... if you can't make it, please do the same!

+++

HOLDEN IN THE PARK ... Ever wonder what Holden Evening Prayer would be like outside? At sunset? Well, we're gonna find out! Looks like Thursday evening, July 25th! Sunset's at 8:50! So, we'll begin at 8:00! This time, we'll be at Cowden Park, 1100 Ward Street! That's four-or-so blocks north of Long John Silver's on Andrew's Hwy! Erika Weber will accompany on the flute. We'll try to get a picnic table in one of the corners of the park. But, just in case, bring along a lawn chair or blanket. If things go well, this may develop into a monthly "thing!" Again, any questions, talk with the pastor! (office) 432.694-1373 + (cell) 432.349-7407 + (home) 432.689-9274 + (email) bbarndt@juno.com

+++

!!! HELP WANTED !!!

The congregation Council's looking for someone to help make sure things are spic-n-span in our small part of the "kingdom," for Sunday mornings! Fellowship hall! Patio room! Restrooms! Five hours a week! Fifteen dollars an hour! If you – or someone you know – would like more

information, talk with pastor Bob –
(office) 432.694-1373 + (cell)
432.349-7407 + (home) 432.689-
9274 + (email) bbarndt@juno.com

+ + +

For day-to-day, week-to-week details,
be sure to keep an eye on social
ministry. . .

www.MidlandLutheranChurch.org

- our webpage -

& our Facebook pages

[@GospelCrossWords](https://www.facebook.com/GospelCrossWords)

- devotion posts -

[@MidlandLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/MidlandLutheranChurch)

- us & our ministry -

+ + +

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE in your
thoughts, words, & DEEDS. . .

Kaylee Academia; Adrian; Susan &
Lee Anderson; Aunt Betty; Mike
Bovington; Corbin; Heather Dellinger;
Donovan; Marilyn Douglas; Shirley
Dye; Emily; Forest; Jay Howell;
Wanda Howell; Anneliese Hyde; Linda
Jamison; Wayne Johnson; Marti
Jones; Karen; Diane Keys; Kim &
Sunny; Kirstie; Kristi & new daughter;
Kurt; Toni Jean Lanier; Leanne; Lisa;
Liz, Kurt, & Brian; Louie; Cassie
Martin; Ruth Mendenhall; Doris
Muehlbrad; Cindy Nelson; Shirley
Nelson; Jennifer & Kyle Norman;
Penny; Lael & Larry Pitts; Ray;

Reagan; Geneva Russell; Ruth; Dean
Saenger; Paul & Angelina Sicilly; Jody
Smith; Johnnie Snider; Doug Speer;
Luther Steele; Judy Swenson; Teresa;
Tim; Tricia; Betty Tuminaro

For telephone prayer chain requests – or
if you'd like to be a link on the chain –
please call Barbara Porsch –

683-4474 * bporsch@sbcglobal.net

or Ginny Behnken –

262-3374 *

fred_behnken@suddenlink.net

+ + +

the BIRTHDAYS

allen keys	07/01	garrett nelson	07/13
mckensie keys	07/04	makensie wills	07/13
alan sewell	07/05	mary douglas	07/18
brandon hodges	07/07	heather stroud	07/21
blake keys	07/11	luke spencer	07/30

+ + +

the ANNIVERSARIES

tom & liz daneker 07/07

+ + +

if we've – unintentionally – omitted a
birthday or anniversary, please let us know
we'll be sure
to get you NEXT YEAR



the LEADERSHIP of the CONGREGATION

president	-----	vice president
secretary	debbie wise (661.378-3481) fred behnken (432.262-3374)	treasurer

council representatives

noma saenger (432.599-5979)
 b.j. shraeder (724.584-3633)
 ken spencer (432.853-6683)
 janice taylor (432.661-5920)
 todd wise (661.333-3725)
 jonathan yee (432.352-9387)

nominating team	sherice barndt	delegate(s)
organist	chad hauris bob barndt	pastor

the WORSHIP MINISTERS

	reader	assisting minister	tellers
jul 07 th	fred behnken	erika weber	del bowie & lonnie yee
jul 14 th	sherice barndt	fred behnken	lonnie yee &
jul 21 st	gretchen shults	marylin boomer	alan sewell &
jul 28 th	marylin boomer	bob boomer	fred behnken &
altar guild		bob boomer	cantor

“To be your presence
is our mission here ...”

delores dufner, OSB, b. 1939, elw # 546





the PROPERs for July

the FOURTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, July 07

the PRAYER of the DAY: O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

the READINGS: Isaiah 66:10-14 + Psalm 66:1-9 + Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16
+ Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

the FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, July 14

the PRAYER of the DAY: O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

the READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:9-14 + Psalm 25:1-10 + Colossians 1:1-14 + Luke 10:25-37

the SIXTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, July 21

the PRAYER of the DAY: Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.








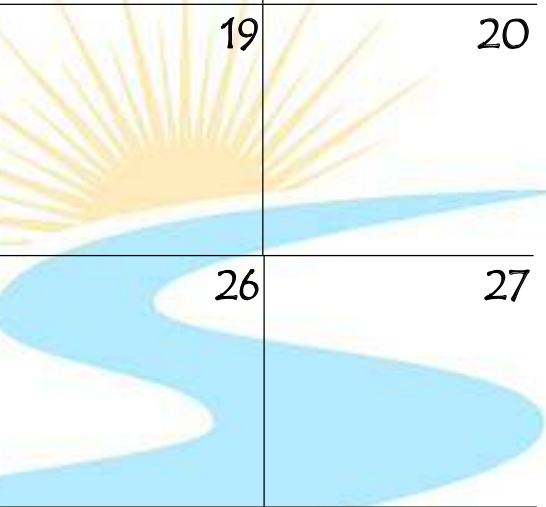


the READINGS: Genesis 18:1-10a + Psalm 15 + Colossians 1:15-28 + Luke 10:38-42

the SEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, July 28

the PRAYER of the DAY: Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

the READINGS: Genesis 18:20-32 + Psalm 138 + Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19] + Luke 11:1-13

julio 2019

domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado		
	1	2	3	 independenceDay	5	6		
 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270	8	9	 9:30am – women of the elca	 2:00pm – supportGroup 7:00pm – clusterConfab	12	13		
 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270	15	16	17	 7:00pm – design team				
 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 12:00pm - council 4:00pm - bsa 270	22	23	24	25			26	27
 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship 4:00pm - bsa 270	29	30	31	<i>Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum</i> the Word of the Lord Endures Forever				



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

+++++

midland lutheran church

2705 west michigan avenue * midland, texas 79701-5840
bob barndt, pastor

office: 432.694-1373 * home: 432.689-9274 * cell: 432.349-7407

webpage: www.MidlandLutheranChurch.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/GospelCrossWords/

www.facebook.com/MidlandLutheranChurch/

email: bbarndt@juno.com

sunday morning schedule: **learning hour @ 9:15 * worship @ 10:30**

office hours: monday-thursday, 9am-noon & by appointment

+++++

midland lutheran church

2705 w michigan av + midland, tx 79701-5840



july 2019