

PARISH PARCHMENT



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May 2016

Growing to and for Christ!

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Events

Stewardship

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

On May 15, we will celebrate the day of Pentecost, which is the day we remember Jesus sending the Holy Spirit into our world. On that day we will stand witness to two of our youth (Matthew & Jackson) confirming their faith. What a day it will be! While I'm so glad all of you will stand in support of these two incredible youth, I believe the day of Pentecost is a day for all of us to think about our faith and relationship with God.

Ask yourself, how often do you think about the importance of faith in your life? How often do you return to your baptismal promises? How often do you think about how you

are living out your faith in your life? The reality is, most of us struggle to find time and space for God in our busy lives full of schedules, demands and activities. I preach often on this phenomenon, but it's because I think it's a reality for many of us.

During Confirmation this year, one of the biggest focuses was on the students not being afraid to ask the big questions. Conrad and I stressed that doubt and questions are a part of faith. We taught that there is no wrong way to pray and that there is no cookie-cutter model to being a disciple of Christ. The truth is all of us are different and all of us are broken. But, I believe God loves that we are different. He created us to be diverse. God doesn't see us as broken; He sees us as beautiful. Each of us is beautiful and loved by God. Those are the promises that Jackson & Matthew will confirm on May 15. They are the same promises God made to you in your baptism.

"Jesus said, 'For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved me and believed I came from the Father. I came from the Father and I am going to the Father...The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to your home. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage for I have conquered the world!" –John 16: 27-33

God didn't call you to be me. He called you to be you. To be your authentic self. To have your life centered in Christ and live out the gifts, skills and talents God has blessed you with.

This month, I pray you wonder what God is up to in your life. I pray you question what God is up to in your church and in your community. I pray you become attentive to the TRUTH that Jesus is alive and active!

During worship this past month, we have been singing the contemporary song, "Because He Lives," by Matthew Maher. The lyrics speak perfectly to the truth of Easter that because Christ is alive, we are alive. This month, we will be singing a new song entitled, "If We are the Body," by Casting Crowns. My hope is the lyrics inspire all of us to wonder how we are being the Church in the world. Additionally, I pray it encourages us all to question how we are living out our faith as the Body of Christ in our community.

Thank you for all you do in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus!

All my love, Pat Fish

Outreach

ELCA God's Work - Our Hands

The Outreach has chosen the service day project for the ELCA God's Work - Our Hands. In honor and memory of 9/11 and all of our veterans, police and fire departments, we will be collecting items for the Veterans Hospital beginning in July.

A list of items will be posted in July and a box will be provided.

On September 11, we are asking everyone to wear their gold God's Work - Our Hands shirts.



Please bring baked goods for us to donate to the police department, fire stations and the sheriff's department to thank them for all that they have done in our community. We will deliver the food to the different places after Sunday School.

We will also write notes to our veterans, police, fire, and sheriff's departments for their service. If you have any blank note cards that can be used, please give them to any Outreach Member. Everyone in the congregation is encouraged to write a note of thanks.

Outreach Committee: Arlan and DeAnna Braun, Lee Eggers, Loretta Shannon, Tom Fruehling, Judy Toy, Jan Overland and Shari Singelstad.

May Fourth & Fifth Week Offerings

The Fourth Sunday Offering on May 22 will be collected for Relay for Life. The Relay for Life will be held on Friday, June 10, at Kingston Stadium beginning at 7:00 p.m. The walk will end at 1:00 a.m. on June 11.

Holy Redeemer has a team of walkers participating. If you would like more information, please contact Dave Anderson who is the team captain.

The Fifth Sunday Offering, on May 29, will be designated towards Food for the Poor.

A representative from Food for the Poor will be giving the sermon on Sunday, May 29. We look forward to hearing from them about how we can partner together in ministry.

Mission of Hope Meal

The next Mission of Hope meal will be served by the congregation on Thursday, May 19. Scalloped potatoes and ham will be the main entrée.

Please look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and indicate if you can help prepare food, transport food, donate food or serve if you are able.

If you have questions, please contact Shari Singelstad at 286-9358.

Habitat for Humanity Bus Trip

In April, I took a blitz bus trip tour with Habitat for Humanity. We looked at properties in which houses are going to be built on, went by existing homes, and did a follow up visit to a home that HRLC attended the dedication last December.

We also heard the story of Kim McClain on the bus and how it felt for her to own one of those homes.

I was also introduced on the bus as a representative of Holy Redeemer, and that HRLC donates a quilt to every dedication.

When I was getting off the bus, Kim stopped me and told me that she remembers Holy Redeemer being at her dedication. Kim said the quilt meant the world to her. She said of all of the gifts that she received at the dedication, the quilt is the most treasured.

She also asked me where our church was located as her family is looking for a church. Maybe we will be meeting Kim at church one day.

I thanked her for her kind words and I told her I would let our congregation know that our Outreach ministry is important in our congregation and community.

Story by Shari Singelstad

Adult News

WIGs (Book Discussion Group)

WIGs will meet on Thursday, May 12 at <u>9:30</u> a.m. at the church. Dianne Torrey is the hostess.

The book for the month is *Mercy Train* by Rae Meadows.

Come; join us, even if you haven't read the book!

Women's Bible Study

Bible Study will meet at the church on Thursday, May 5, 9:30 a.m.

The Bible Study is entitled *Mary and Elizabeth Sisters Across the Generations*. The theme verses can be found in Luke 1:26-56.

Copies are available in the WELCA notebook on the shelf under the women's bulletin board.

You are welcome to join us!!

Let's Do Lunch

The Fourth Thursday Out to Lunch Group will meet on Thursday, May 26, 11:30 a.m.

Emil's Hideaway

(222 Glenbrook Dr. S.E.)

(on First Ave. East across from Cedar Memorial)

Thanks for signing up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend.

(Questions, contact Le Smith, 364-2187)

DUO (Do Unto Others) Day

The sewing group will meet at the church on Tuesday, May 24, 9:30 – 1:30 at the church.

Thanks to all who help with this project. Come, join the women for sewing day – you can cut squares or tie or iron fabric if you don't wish to sew.

Craft Day

The ladies Craft Days in May are 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4 and Wednesday, May 18. All are welcome to join!

Trash & Treasure Sale

We are looking for leaders!! June 16 and June 17 have been set for our 2016 Trash & Treasure Sale.



Please note, the dates have been changed.

We need baked goods. We are also looking for donated items.

If you have things in your house that are collecting dust, and you are no longer using, consider donating them to the Trash & Treasures sale.

We need some "lead" volunteers to be in charge of:

- 1. Advertising
- 2. Cashiers & Baggers
- 3. Set up & pricing on M-T-W
- 4. Sales floor help and bakery help

To volunteer, or for more information, please call De Braun at 319-365-4197 or Marlyn Davidson at 319-396-5400.

55 or Better

Are you "55 or Better"?

If so, you are invited to a brunch, at the church, on Monday, May 23 at 9:30 a.m.



We would like to brainstorm ideas for those "55 or Better". Come, eat and bring ideas: speakers, luncheons, yoga, movies, and trips to the Herbert

Hoover Library or the Riverfront Museum in Dubuque, etc.

We also need a catchy name for the group. Sign-up sheets will be in the bulletin. Hope to see you there!

Adult Choir

Adult Choir sings the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. We practice the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays of each month from 10:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We would love to have individual solos or instrumentalists share their music with us in worship during the summer even though the whole choir will not sing on a regular schedule. We will not have practice during the summer months starting in June.

Prayer Tree

We are looking for people who do not have email but would like to be updated on prayer concerns.



We are going to organize a phone tree, which we will call HRLC Prayer Tree.

If you would like to be included on our Prayer Tree, please contact the church office.

General and Building Fund Income Statement

March 2016 Summary

	Mar. 2016	Year-to-Date	
	Mar. 2016	2016	2015
General Income	\$18,736	\$47,477	\$38,829
General Expenses	\$14,153	\$41,239	\$35,329
Building Income	\$3,534	\$10,782	\$12,101
Building Expenses	\$3,406	\$10,218	\$10,218
Income vs Expenses	\$4,711	\$6,802	\$5,383
Total Budget	\$17,855	\$53,565	\$54,175
Income vs. Budget	\$4,415	\$4,694	(\$3,245)

Offerings were \$4,000 over our goal of \$18,000! Easter was a big boost.

4th Sunday Offering for **Mission of Hope** was \$265.00.

Stephen Ministry

This year, the council has made it one of our 2016 goals to become a Stephen Ministry Site. Once we become a Stephen Ministry Site, we are hoping to find one or two individuals who would be interested in being trained leaders.



If you are interested in finding out more about Stephen Ministry and what benefits it will bring to our congregation, talk to Pastor Fish.

Synod Assembly

The Synod Assembly is Friday, May 6 – Saturday, May 7, in Coralville. Two representatives from the church will go with Pastor Fish.



Adult Forum

Our theme of Adult Forum is "Christian Denominations and Ecumenical Relationships." We will meet on May 1, May 8, and May 29.

On May 1, we will talk about the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.

On May 8, we will talk about the Methodist and United Church of Christ.

On May 29, we will hear more in depth about what Food for the Poor does.

Fellowship Meal

The Fellowship Committee will be providing a Fellowship Meal on Sunday, May 22. The meal will be pasta for all you pasta lovers!

We look forward to having food bring us together and thank the leadership of our Fellowship Committee.

Youth News

YoungLife

We continue to meet for YoungLife. YoungLife is a world-wide organization aimed at reaching young people whom we, as the Church, are missing. The purpose of YoungLife is



to bring adults together to be mentors to students in our community with the aim of meeting kids on their turf.

We are planning a Golf Outing & Banquet to happen in 2016. The goal is to raise funds and raise awareness of what YoungLife is all about.

If you would like to be a part of this, please contact the office.

High School Senior Recognition Day

Sunday, May 1, is High School Recognition Day. The seniors will be recognized during the Sunday service and a gift will be handed out to the applicants.

Our seniors this year are: Valarie Davidson, Nathan Prochnow, Hannah Van Buren, and A.J. Wickham.

Congratulations to our four seniors!

Confirmation

During our service on Sunday, May 15, we will have two of our youth confirmed. They are Matthew Hand and Jackson Sickelka.



Youth Activities Calendar

Parents, there is a youth activity calendar located on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Fill in the activities your child is involved in. The hope is to have members come out to support the GREAT things are youth are involved in.

Events

Save the Date

May 1: 9:00 a.m. Worship w/High School

Recognition Day

May 3: 6:30 p.m. Finance Meeting

May 4: 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Last day of

confirmation class

May 6-7: Synod Assembly

May 15: Worship with Confirmation Students

being confirmed

May 22: Fellowship meal during Coffee with

Council

May 23: 9:30 a.m. "55 or Better" Brunch

May 26: 11:30 a.m. Women's Let's Do Lunch

@ Emil's Hideaway

June 7: Election day at the church

June 10: Relay for Life @ Kingston Stadium

June 12: Ladies Tea

June 16: Mission of Hope Meal served by

Youth

Church Trash & Treasure Sale

June 17: Church Trash & Treasure Sale

June 22: Happy Birthday Pr. Fish

June 23: Women's Let's Do Lunch – Zio

Johno's West

July 23: Fuoto Garden Party

July 25-July 29: VBS @ St. Andrew

July 29: MN Youth Group staying @ church

overnight

July 30: MN Youth Group @ church in

morning

August 14: Outdoor Worship and potluck lunch @

Cherry Hill Park

August 20: Kernels Baseball Game

August 31: Acolyte Training

WinGS/Confirmation sign-up

September 11: ELCA Service Project

Stewardship News

Stewardship Committee Celebrates Worship and Music Committee

The Stewardship Committee is celebrating a specific ministry or committee each month in the newsletter.

The purpose is to show that your generous gifts allow us to achieve our mission of "growing to and for Christ." Your giving each week enables our committees, staff and pastor to participate in God's ministry.

Worship and Music

Connie Hansen, Chair



The Worship and Music Committee has enhanced the nave with seasonal decorations throughout the church year. We have ordered and arranged the Christmas poinsettias and Easter lily/tulip plants.

Kay Forest organizes volunteers to serve at worship

as lay readers, ushers, communion assistants and runners.

We offer support to Pastor with all special services. We helped with the planning and execution of the outdoor worship service on August 9, Blessing of the Animals service on October 4 and the Blue Christmas service on December 6.

We participated in the Stewardship Sunday event on November 15 with a display and treats highlighting this ministry. We supported Pastor in introducing the "Holden Evening prayer" as our new Lenten service liturgy.

The committee asked the congregation to supply us with lists of "favorite hymns" and used these throughout the summer and during hymn sing services.

We review hymn selections monthly and strive to incorporate well loved hymns that fit the theme of service for the congregation to enjoy.

We have recently offered support to Pastor and his wife, Kate, in their efforts to introduce one new contemporary hymn each month to our congregation.

We are also ensuring that our licensing rights reflect our legal abilities to use these new songs in our worship.

Vanco is Available

Vanco is a system that allows you to have your offerings transferred from your bank account to the church's account automatically.

If you would like to sign up for Vanco, the paper work is on the table in the narthex under the TV.

Give your completed paper work to a member of the stewardship committee or to Donna Madsen. They will see that you are signed up for this system. Thanks!

Stewardship Committee

Easter Service





Easter Breakfast Decorations



Hannah Van Buren

High School Graduate Gift Application Letters

Hannah Van Buren, Nathan Prochnow, A. J. Wickham and Valarie Davidson will be awarded a graduate gift from Holy Redeemer. The following are their letters of application:

I am currently a senior at Jefferson High School and I plan to attend Wartburg College next year with an undecided major.

HRLC has always been a very special place to me and I am thankful to call it home. HRLC has been a safe place for me, a place with people I can trust and count on when I am in need. I can always rely on the members of HRLC to help and support me in my academics and my activities.

I will be applying what I have learned at HRLC this summer as I will be a counselor at Camp EWALU. I will be able to teach the campers that come to EWALU everything that I have learned at HRLC and I will also be able to grow in my faith while at camp.

This coming fall at Wartburg, I plan to continue going to church and growing in my faith through my classes and the people that I meet. Next year, I will also continue to volunteer and serve others, an important value that I learned from HRLC.

I also hope to go on a mission trip while attending Wartburg so I help as many people as I am able to and help to change their lives.

I hope to help my friends and classmates grow in their faith and that they will help me to keep my faith strong. I have met some amazing people at HRLC and I have experienced some incredible things.

I would like to thank everyone at HRLC for supporting me and guiding me though my faith journey.

—Hannah

Nathan Prochnow

Hello, my name is Nathan Prochnow. I will be graduating from Jefferson High School on May 27, 2016.

My future plans after high school are to go to Kirkwood Community College for one year and continue my education at the Mercy/St. Luke's School of Radiology Technology. I plan to stay in Iowa after I finish my schooling.

Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church has been a big part of my life for the past 18+ years. WinGS, Sunday school and the music programs have helped shape me into the person I am today. I will apply all of the things I have learned at Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church by reserving judgment, treating others with respect and implementing the word of God and all of his lessons into my everyday life.

—Nathan

A. J. Wickham

My name is Andrew James Wickham (but everyone calls me AJ). I was born into the HLRC community in Cedar Rapids and had been an active youth member, until I moved to Calmar at the beginning of my high school career at Decorah High School.

When one door closes, another opens, and the outstanding number of choices and possibilities that are left to me to make is liberating, but nearly paralyzing. After I graduate from Decorah High School, I plan to take classes at Northern Iowa Community College in Calmar to get a STEM degree, to preferably become an Industrial Electrician, but I am choosing to follow my intuition, and am keeping my mind and options open.

The members Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church have been my family (and technically my godparents) ever since I was born. Apart from normal Sunday church service, I attended WinGS regularly and that became my favorite part of the week. During school in Cedar Rapids, I was mostly considered an introverted, quiet, and generally "meek" student. But when I started going to church on Wednesday, that completely changed for the better. After, I quickly made friends, I started to talk a lot more, and people laughed, and seemed to enjoy my jokes and facetious comments, I didn't really know I had a good sense of humor.

The church community became a welcome constant in my life, and the only time I ever went to church sad is when I finally had to move away. I felt loved, accepted, and free to be myself in God's sight. The love and assurance in myself that was given to me by my family at HLRC has been etched in my heart, and I hope that I can continue to pass the warmth I felt unto others.

—A. J.

Valarie Davidson

Hello! My name is Valarie and I will be graduating from Kennedy High School this May.

In the fall I will be attending Mount Mercy University and majoring in accounting. I chose Mount Mercy in part because they offered me a golf scholarship and also what they stand for. Mount Mercy is well known for giving back to the community and producing quality professionals.

Holy Redeemer has been there for me through every day of my life. When I have a golf meet, I can expect a handful of people walking up to me and saying they read my name in the paper. And when my parents got divorced, I knew I could lean on my church family for support.

When I think of Holy Redeemer, I think of a wonderful family and one I am proud to be a part of. Holy Redeemer has given me the foundation for being a helpful volunteer in my community and I plan to continue volunteering at Mount Mercy by planning and participating in different service projects. Thank you and I look forward to your continued support.

—Valarie

Congratulations Graduates!

May 8 Jon Singelstad May 15 Tom Fruehling May 22 Linda Singelstad May 29 Shari Singelstad Ushers: May 1 Gordy & Jean Stelling May 8 De & Arlan Braun May 15 Jim Veglahn & Jon Singelstad May 22 Mark & Marti Marz May 29 Tom Fruehling & Ron Hansen Com. Asst: May 1 Conrad V Z May 8 Greg Forest May 15 Shari Singelstad May 22 Connie Hansen May 29 Jeri Hansen Com. Run: May 1 Linda Singelstad May 8 Kay Forest		Ministry of the Month				
May 15 Tom Fruehling May 22 Linda Singelstad May 29 Shari Singelstad Ushers: May 1 Gordy & Jean Stelling May 8 De & Arlan Braun May 15 Jim Veglahn & Jon Singelstad May 22 Mark & Marti Marz May 29 Tom Fruehling & Ron Hansen Com. Asst: May 1 Conrad V Z May 8 Greg Forest May 15 Shari Singelstad May 22 Connie Hansen May 29 Jeri Hansen Com. Run: May 1 Linda Singelstad May 8 Kay Forest	Greeter:	May 1	Evelyn Neal			
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May 22 Connie Hansen May 29 Jeri Hansen Com. Run: May 1 Linda Singelstad May 8 Kay Forest		May 8	Greg Forest			
May 29 Jeri Hansen Com. Run: May 1 Linda Singelstad May 8 Kay Forest		May 15	Shari Singelstad			
Com. Run: May 1 Linda Singelstad May 8 Kay Forest		May 22	Connie Hansen			
May 8 Kay Forest		May 29	Jeri Hansen			
·	Com. Run:	May 1	Linda Singelstad			
May 15 Jean Stelling		May 8	Kay Forest			
May 13 Jean Stennig		May 15	Jean Stelling			
May 22 Judy Toy		May 22	Judy Toy			
May 29 Linda Singelstad		May 29	Linda Singelstad			
Lay Reader: May 1 Conrad V.Z.	Lay Reader:	May 1	Conrad V.Z.			
May 8 Loretta Shannon		May 8	Loretta Shannon			
May 15 Mike Kasper		May 15	Mike Kasper			
May 22 Marti Marz		May 22	Marti Marz			
May 29 Loretta Shannon		May 29	Loretta Shannon			
Acolyte: May 1 Sam Gilbert	Acolyte:	May 1	Sam Gilbert			
May 8 Keri Ketchum		May 8	Keri Ketchum			
May 15 TBA		May 15	TBA			
May 22 TBA		May 22	TBA			
May 29 TBA		May 29	TBA			
Counters: May 1 Jodi Dufoe & Rollin Harder	Counters:	May 1	Jodi Dufoe & Rollin Harder			
May 8 John Quandt & Rick Renner		May 8	John Quandt & Rick Renner			
May 15 Jim Veglahn & John Huntington		May 15	Jim Veglahn & John Huntington			
May 22 Jodi Dufoe & Sara Merkey		May 22	Jodi Dufoe & Sara Merkey			
May 29 Susan Hand & Judy Toy		May 29	Susan Hand & Judy Toy			
Com. Prep: May 1 Jean Stelling	Com. Prep:	May 1	Jean Stelling			
May 8 Laura Fowler		May 8	Laura Fowler			
May 15 Nicole Hubbell		May 15	Nicole Hubbell			
May 22 LaVonne Hunter		May 22	LaVonne Hunter			
May 29 Marti Marz		May 29	Marti Marz			
Altar Care: Jean Stelling						
Visitor Calling Schedule: Loretta Shannon						

May 1 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship w/High School	
May I (Bull)	Recognition	
	10:15 a.m. Adult Choir	
	10:30 a.m. Adult Forum	
	11:30 a.m. Ed & Youth Committee Meeting	
May 3 (Tues)	9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	
• , ,	12:30 p.m. Card Players	
	6:30 p.m. Finance Meeting	
May 4 (Wed)	12:30 p.m. Craft Day	
•	6:30 p.m7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class with	
	pizza party and mentors	
May 5 (Thur)	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	
	6:30 p.m. Executive Meeting	
	7:00 p.m. Committee Meetings	
May 6 (Fri)	Pr. @ Synod Assembly	
May 7 (Sat)	Pr. @ Synod Assembly	
May 8 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship	
	Food Bank Weekend	
	10:15 a.m. Adult Choir	
	10:30 a.m. Adult Forum	
May 12 (Thur)	9:30 a.m. WIG's	
1.145 12 (11141)	7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	
May 14 (Sat)	11:00 a.m2:00 p.m. Stewardship Retreat	
May 15 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship w/Confirmation	
May 13 (Sull)	10:15 a.m. Adult Choir	
	10:30 a.m. Adult Forum	
	10:30 a.m. Fellowship Committee Meeting	
May 17 (Tues)	12:30 p.m. Card Players	
	12:30 p.m. Craft Day	
May 18 (Wed)	• •	
May 19 (Thur)	Mission of Hope Meal served by	
	congregation 7:00 p.m. First Call Committee	
N	-	
May 20 (Fri)	Newsletter Deadline	
	Tables/chairs in shed reserved	
May 21 (Sat)	Tables/chairs in shed reserved	
May 22 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship w/Relay for Life	
	Temple Talk 4 th Weekend Offering to Relay for Life	
	10:30 a.m. Coffee w/Council w/Fellowship	
	Meal	
	Tables/chairs in shed reserved	
May 23 (Mon)	9:30 a.m. "55 or Better" Brunch @ church	
May 24 (Tues)	9:30 a.m1:30 p.m. DUO Day	
	11:30 a.m. Women's Let's Do Lunch at	
May 26 (Thur)	Emil's Hideaway	
May 28 (Sat)	9:00 a.m3:00 p.m. Kitchen/Fellowship	
- , ,	Hall reserved by Van Buren's	
May 29 (Sun)	9:00 a.m. Worship w/sermon by Food for	
•	the Poor	
	5 th Weekend Offering to Food for the Poor	
	10:30 a.m. Adult Forum	
	10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 12:00 p.m6:00 p.m. Kitchen/Fellowship Hall reserved by Prochnow's	



Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church

720 Edgewood Road NW Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

May 2016

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Church Staff

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Jon Singelstad

Custodian (319) 200-6841

> Church Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – Noon

Worship Services Sunday, 9:00 a.m.



If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Galatians 5:25 (NRSV)



Join us as we grow to and for Christ!!!