

News of Peace



Peace Lutheran Church, Camdenton, MO

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October 2021

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How Did We Get Here? Part 2

As we continue the series on how we got to where we (as U.S. citizens) are politically the next two items that have had a major effect on our thinking are postmodernism and confirmation bias (from Cognitive Dissonance Theory). You may be somewhat familiar with these to “forces” in our culture or completely unaware. No matter. I will do my best to explain the aspects of each that I am claiming are a part of the problems we now face in our country, with a little help from the internet.

First, postmodernism. Wikipedia does a fairly good job of describing postmodernism when it says, “Postmodernism is a broad movement that developed in the mid-to-late 20th century across philosophy, the arts, architecture, and criticism, marking a departure from modernism. The term has been more generally applied to describe a historical era said to follow after modernity and the tendencies of this era.” Said more crassly, postmodernism moves away from the notion of there being facts and into the realm of ‘feelings.’

With the postmodern era, then, came the notion that “My truth is just as valid as yours. Don’t try to push your truth on me.” I was initially a fan of Stephen Colbert when, in one of his first few episodes, he used the term “truthiness.” First heard on The Colbert Report . . . truthiness refers to the quality of preferring concepts or facts one wishes or believes to be true, rather than concepts or facts known to be true.

In the realm of religion postmodern thinking can be seen in a sentence such as, “We’re all heading up the same mountain. We just have different ways of getting there.” Or, as alluded to above, “Your truth works for you, and mine works for me.” Therefore, in postmodern thinking no one religion or religious writing can be considered factual, since, after all, they were all written by men who interjected their own truth into the text. Christians (such as those in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod) who believe that the Bible is completely true are the walking and talking versions of dinosaurs to postmodern eyes.

The mirror image of dinosaurs (such as you and I) in the realm of politics are those who strive to interpret the constitution literally instead of as a “living document.” A living document changes when the “truths” of our culture change. However, it should be noted that those who believe in a living document would be highly unlikely to use the term truths at all.

I’ve already run out of space and have said next to nothing about bias confirmation. First, however, one must understand postmodernism to see where bias



Happening This Month

Oct. 1	Game Night	6 p.m.
Oct. 2	LWML Fall Rally	10 a.m.
Oct. 3	Worship	9 a.m.
	Bible Class	10:30 a.m.
Oct. 4	Elders Mtg.	9:30 a.m.
Oct. 10	Worship	9 a.m.
	Bible Class	10:30 a.m.
Oct. 11	LWML Mtg.	9:30 a.m.
	Columbus Day	
Oct. 12	Council Mtg.	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 17	Worship	9 a.m.
	Bible Class	10:30 a.m.
Oct. 18	Newsletter Deadline	9 a.m.
Oct. 19	Potluck	5:30 p.m.
	Voters Mtg.	6:30 p.m.
Oct. 30	Trunk or Treat	3 - 5:30 p.m.
Oct. 31	Reformation Sunday	9 a.m.
	Bible Class	10:30 a.m.
	Halloween	

ever, it should be noted that those who believe in a living document would be highly unlikely to use the term truths at all.

I've already run out of space and have said next to nothing about bias confirmation. First, however, one must understand postmodernism to see where bias confirmation fits in. So it's my hope that the brief discussion above has laid a foundation for this next idea. Trust me, much more could be said. Dr. Gene Edward Veith has written a book on the topic entitled *Postmodern Times: A Christian Guide to Contemporary Thought and Culture*. Let's briefly move on to look at confirmation bias then.

Confirmation Bias is a concept grounded in the study of cognitive dissonance. It is outlined in a book that has highly influenced my way of thinking entitled *Mistakes Were Made (but Not by Me)*, which deals with cognitive dissonance theory, confirmation bias and other cognitive biases, using these psychological theories to illustrate how the perpetrators (and victims) of hurtful acts justify and rationalize their behavior. It describes a "positive feedback loop of action and self-deception by which slight differences between people's attitudes become polarized."

The simplest way of saying that confirmation bias is in play is that it causes us to look for what we consider facts and/or truths that confirm that the way we view things is *the correct way*. This explains how it's possible that a politician can actually "believe" that the manner in which the U.S. evacuated Afghanistan was the only way it could be done. S/he may firmly believe this to be true, even though those of a different political persuasion might think he is simply and only lying.

Looking for scraps of truth in the junk heap of such an event a person may consider all manner of "facts" to validate what they already believe to be true. The book, *Mistakes Were Made (but Not by Me)* is both sobering and humorous. If you choose to read (or listen) to it be prepared to have some of your ways of thinking challenged but to also come to a better understanding of others that may even help you share Christ with them. After all, it is no mere confirmation bias to believe, teach, and confess that Jesus (the) Christ suffered and died for the salvation of all who would/will believe.

As always, please feel free to comment or discuss some aspects of what I've written as time permits.

Rev. Rick Anderegg



Comments from Our President

Autumn is upon us and there are many reasons to love this season. The lower temperatures and the colorful foliage make this time period at the lake one of the most enjoyable and the most scenic of the year. Our church transforms itself into one of the most beautiful places at the lake to worship and to be thankful of the blessings that the Lord thy God has provided to us on earth.

The changing of the seasons also provides us a message that change is inevitable and that life is all about moving on and letting things go. God's garden sends us many messages like these that gives us insight and inspiration. This is a great time to sit down, relax and reflect about our spiritual relationship with God and our individual thoughts of improving ourselves, improving our church and improving our community.

I am very thankful to be the President of Peace Lutheran Church and I look forward to working with everyone to build our church and to spread the word of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jeff Emery

OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Oct. 8 Ryan & Melissa Talbot
- Oct. 10 Tom Croft
- Oct. 10 Ken & Linda Schaumbug
- Oct. 12 Don & Harriet Cress
- Oct. 13 Kore Gale
- Oct. 15 Hannah Carlson
- Oct. 15 Susan Kral
- Oct. 17 Peggy Callahan

Thank you for your continued support of the Pocket Change for Mites. We collected \$38.47 for Sept. Our next Mites collection will be Sun., Oct. 3. You can bring your pocket change anytime during the month. The box is located in the back of the church.

LWML members

Connect with us:



News of Peace is a monthly newsletter of Peace Lutheran Church, 9307 North State Highway 5, Camdenton, MO 65020; Rev. Richard Anderegg: 573-528-4597, Rev. Gary Brandt: 580-481-8108; Church Phone: 573-836-3959; Office Hours: M, T, W, 8 am to 12 pm; Church email: plccamdenton@gmail.com; Website: www.plccamdenton.org

Our Mission: "We the members of Peace Lutheran Church gather and grow together as God's children and rejoice in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, proclaim His word, and reach out with his love to: each other, our community, and the world."



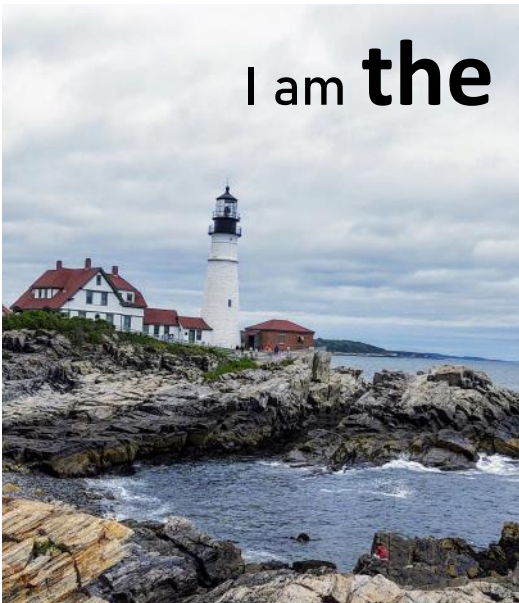
EVANGELISM

Every One His Witness Your Part is to Bring the Message of Justification

When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12.

Over the years my travels have taken me to many Old-World churches and cathedrals. Sometimes these places were well-maintained; other times the walls and ceilings reflected the darkening of soot from centuries of burning candles. The interiors of those buildings may need a cleaning, but the candles lit by the faithful are a beautiful reminder of prayers sent by believing souls -- prayers which are heard by a loving Lord. Sadly, there are times when people would like to light a candle but they are unable to do so because they can't make it to their favorite church. Maybe they are too sick;

maybe the weather is too bad; maybe they live too far away. It is a sadness for these souls. Responding to the candle-lighting need, David Dona and Marcos Rodriguez have come up with an invention. They have set up computer screens in various churches, and these computer screens are connected to the Internet. If you want to light a candle, go online, pick your church, pay your money (about \$2), and a video "candle" is lit in the church of your choice. That's one way to bring light to the world. Sadly, it is temporary and it is pretend. When the Heavenly Father promised to send His Son into this sinful world, He committed Himself to giving us the real light -- the

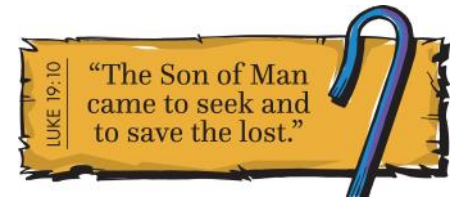


I am the

light of salvation which would be everlasting and real. Understand this light could not be generated by giving the computer your credit card, or by making a withdrawal on PayPal. The light of Jesus came into a world that didn't want Him. It's a world which preferred the darkness -- a world which would hate and kill Him. Even so, Jesus gave Himself completely and fully to the task of saving us. Now, because of His work, His sacrifice, His carrying of our sins, and His victory over sin, death, and the devil, all who believe are saved. We are saved and our lives are lived walking in the light given by the sacrificial Savior. Now, by the Holy Spirit's power and influence we are given grace to reflect that light into the darkness which still envelops so many who are lost.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, the world has all kinds of lights. There are solar lights, electric lights, and lights powered by battery. Still nothing can compare with the light of Jesus, the Savior. He is the light whose brilliance can touch the darkest of hearts and bring forgiveness to the blackest of souls. May I do all I can to share this living light with others. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

2010 devotion from Lutheran Hour Speaker, Ken Klaus



God has a mission. He established His mission before the creation of the world. His mission was "to seek and save the lost" -- even before there were lost people! The story of Jesus is an astonishing love story in which God creates all people to be the object of his love and then demonstrates the full extent of His love by giving Himself up for us. By dying on the cross, Jesus did everything necessary for lost people to be saved. The sins of every person who now lives, has ever lived, and who will one day live were paid in full with His precious blood. But the cross wasn't the conclusion of God's mission. He is still seeking and saving the lost. God's amazing mission of love continues through His witnesses. He has included us in His mission to bring the good news of the forgiveness of sins to those who are perishing so that they will have what Jesus has won for them.

Russell Schulz, Evangelism Chair



**Reformation Sunday
October 31**

The Every One His Witness Program

Have you ever tried start a conversation about Jesus but found it difficult or uncomfortable to say the right words? **The Every One His Witness** program is designed to help. It shows how to relate to people, how to go about beginning a conversation about Jesus, how to be actively involved in what others have to say and how they say it.

Designed by LCMS Pr. Mark Wood at www.eohw.org, this instructive and inspiring program gives pointers, insights, and guidelines on how to tell others of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Using LASSIE (listen-ask-see-share-invite-encourage) you will learn three kinds of people that you may encounter - head people, heart people, hands people - and how to interact with them. Whether it's a friend, fellow worker, people of other faiths or no faith at all, even family members, this program is helpful in bringing others to faith in Christ Jesus. The newsletter evangelism columns beginning with the Feb 2019 newsletter provides the essentials of the course giving the tools that will help in witnessing for Jesus. The newsletters are posted on the church website at www.plccamdenton.org. (And while you're there please visit the Facebook page.) And remember that all of us are on the evangelism committee.
Russell Schulz, Evangelism Chair



1st Article Apologetics

The Anthropic Principle and New Life Forms

We know how problematic it is for life to have originated by natural means. Darwinists believe that life arose from a one celled organism sometime in the distant past and evolved to more complicated life forms that we see today. This is called macroevolution (from the goo to you via the zoo). They cite the fact that some bacteria resist antibiotics survive and thrive, which, they say, proves their belief in evolution. The problem is that those bacteria are still bacteria. They do not become a different organism. They merely exhibit the God given ability to adapt to new environments and conditions or microevolution. Darwinists make a point of defining evolution broadly to apply evidence in one situation to another. Berkley law professor Philip Johnson has exposed this trick in his book Darwin On Trial. He asserts that none of the 'proofs' for natural selection can create a new species, new organs, or lasting small changes. Other scientists agree that biochemical mutations cannot produce the changes needed to create new life forms. There are several reasons why it can't:

- 1 **There are genetic limits** – a dog is always a dog no matter the breeding and so it is with all other species. A terrier and a Great Dane are both dogs. There can be a microevolution among like species but not a macroevolution to a different species.
- 2 **Changes within types are often cyclical** - Such as the finch's varying beak sizes that Darwin observed which correlated to the weather. The dryer the weather the larger the beak size, enabling the bird to find food in harsh circumstances; the wetter producing smaller beak sizes.
- 3 **Organisms exhibit a system of irreducible complexity** - that is, they are made of parts that if taken away, the organism could not function. In other words, all the parts must be completely formed with their own specifications to perform the function for which they are designed. An analogy often cited is that of a mousetrap. If you take away any part of a mousetrap, it will be incapable of catching mice.
- 4 **Transitional organisms between old and new life forms could not survive.** The example most cited is the evolution from reptiles to birds and transitioning from scales to feathers. Feathers are irreducibly complex. A creature that is beginning to form feathers would not be able to fly away from predators on land or water and would not be able to survive.
- 5 **Evolutionists point to the fact that all life contains DNA genetic code and therefore, a common ancestor.** But that does not take into account that the letters of the code (A, T, C, G,) are placed in specific orders in each life form in a variety of ways. For example, from our alphabet, the letters in GOD and DOG are the same but the way they are placed in order makes all the difference in the world. As pointed out in a previous column, a common genetic code is good evidence of a creator who designed all life to live in the specific biosphere we have on Earth. Finally, there is no evidence in the fossil record of transitional forms of life. The only conclusion is that creation, not macroevolution, is true.

September 13 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Sheryl Bald. We continued our Bible study on the Book of Ruth.

Roll call was answered by seven members reading a Bible verse using the word children. Our guest was LWML President Karen Blickenstaff from Christ the King.

Karen Blickenstaff would like to work on projects together and meet as a group. Their group holds a candy and cookie sale in December (which will be held on the 10) as well as a rummage sale in August of each year. They also help various organizations in the area. We thank Karen for coming and providing us with great information.

The president distributed the minutes from the August meeting. Minutes were approved as printed.

Susan Kral distributed the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit.

President's Report: Reminded the members of the fall rally and of the time change. The **love offering** will go to Lutheran Hospital in Antsirabe Madagascar. **General offering** will be given to seminary Pastor's kids so they can attend the youth convention. The spring rally will be held at Trinity, Cole Camp. **Future rallies:** Leticia wants a count of each society "active" members so she can determine how to place the churches for hosting rallies. She does not want to over burden the societies when it comes to hosting. She will let the society know when they will host the next rally.

- The June 2022 Missouri District Convention will be held at Sheraton Westport Chalet in St. Louis
- Our Mites sent to Sedalia Zone totaled \$265.42
- Our monthly Pocket Change for Mites collected so far this year totals \$246.90

A couple members received a letter from Afghans for Angels. The president sent an email to find out if they take flannel blankets.

Correspondence: We received two requests for monetary support from St Paul Lutheran High School, Concordia and KNGN Radio Station in McCook, NE.

Cathie Mueller gave the mites reading titled "Eye Opener."

Envelopes were passed around for rally, mites and general fund.

Committees:

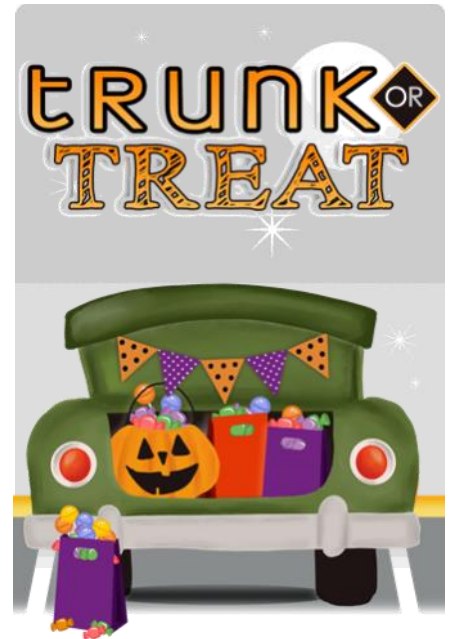
- Pop tabs - We are not receiving many.
- Best Choice labels - no report
- Kitchen is in good shape.
- Human care: no report

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: President reported we need to elect a president and a secretary. Elections are held in October. Members may want to think about what projects they wanted to do for next year.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sheryl Bald, secretary pro tem



Sat., Oct. 30 3 to 5:30 PM

We would love everyone, who physically can, to decorate their trunk and bring their treats to the church that day. We will park around the blocked off circle like three years ago. There will be a sign up sheet on the cadenza. Please consider joining us. We are having it on Saturday due to the fact that Sunday is Reformation. Daylight Saving Time does not happen until Nov. 7 this year so it should stay light the whole time of our Trunk or Treat. Hope to see you all there, for the kids.



Stewardship

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the Word and instruction of God in the Bible says we should give, and this is sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:7; Gal. 6:6).

But there's more to it than just obligation. We're not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we're not just doing what our Father said, we're also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up, they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents. But there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, and how they do and say most everything. Then children try to copy it.

This can be quite humorous when caught in the act. They do this even when parents don't want them to. Everyone has been in the uncomfortable – and embarrassing situation – where a child does or says something one of their parents have done or said that is less than polite. Sitcoms thrive on these. It only works because of the truth that children emulate their parents, and they do it because they want to be like them.

We are the children of God – by grace through faith. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, “You are my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins. In exchange, He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit – by which we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

We are born again – born from above, born of water and the Spirit – to a new life in Christ as His children. We are sons of God in Christ through Baptism. Since we are sons, we are heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace, mercy, and generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

This is why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. It is because we have received our Father's gifts that we desire to give ourselves. His gifts are not just spiritual. They are temporal and earthly as well. As *Luther's Small Catechism* teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread.

What does this mean? God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is meant by daily bread? Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both

husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, He gives us everything that we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds.

Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week and set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the church. This is not done because He has commanded us so to do but rather because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And children want to be like their parents.

Reprinted from lcms.org/stewardshipministryresources

1 Corinthians 16:2



Thrivent Election

The Thrivent Board of Directors election is just around the corner. If you have chosen to do this electronically you will be send (via email) the direct link to the election details and your personal ballot. In early October you will be send an email with instructions for accessing the online voting. The election opens Oct. 6 and runs through Nov. 20, 2021.

Reminder

We continue to collect pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. They accept tabs from any aluminum can, not just soda cans. Bring the tabs to the church and place them in the box inside the entryway of the narthex. We take the cans as well. The bags of cans can be placed next to the shed by the church. If you have any questions contact Dawn Hedberg. Thank you!



Servants of God

Elder: Jeff Hedberg

Altar Guild: Sheryl Bald

October 3, 2021

Organist: Diana Schwab

Ushers: Bob & Penny Hansen, Paul Bartels

Greeters/Coffee: Paula Emery and Shelia Hartenstein

Counters: Joe & Vicki Stauch

Flowers: Bob & Penny Hansen in celebration of Darlene Jost's birthday

October 10, 2021

Organist: Diana Schwab

Ushers: Earl & Shelia Hartenstein, Jeff & Paula Emery

Counters: Bob & Diane Borgmann

October 17, 2021

Organist: Diana Schwab

Ushers: Bob & Diane Borgmann, Sheryl Bald, Mic Carlson, Rodney Schulz

Counters: Mic Carlson

October 24, 2021

Organist: Pastor Gary Brandt

Ushers: Jeff & Dawn Hedberg, Russell Schulz

Counters: Ed & Jaccy Heinlein

October 31, 2021

Organist: Diana Schwab

Ushers: Mic Carlson, Bob Hansen, Earl Hartenstein

Counters: Joe & Vicki Stauch

Worship Schedule

October 3—Ninettenth Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Gary Brandt

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service I, Nicene Creed

Hymns: 725, 862, 611, 740

October 10—Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Richard Anderegg

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service I, Apostles' Creed

Hymns: 686, 687, 643, 537

October 17—Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Gary Brandt

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service I, Nicene Creed

Hymns: 689, 525, 658, 761

October 24—Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Richard Anderegg

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service I, Apostles' Creed

Hymns: 644 (1-2), 398, 618, 644 (3-4)

October 31—Reformation Sunday

Presiding Pastor: Pastor Gary Brandt

Liturgy and Creed: Divine Service I, Nicene Creed

Hymns: 656, 566, 617, 660



If you or a loved one is hospitalized, have experienced a death in the family, are home bound, or scheduled to go to the hospital, please call Pastor Brandt (580-421-8108). Please keep in mind that privacy laws also limit the information hospitals can share with us. Both Pastor Anderegg (573-528-4597) and Pastor Brandt are available for any emergency, or any issue you and your loved ones might be having. Remember, our two pastors are here to serve you.

Our Elders: Charlie Gifford (816-565-1636),
Jeff Hedberg (573-819-4446),
Joe Stauch (573-410-5902)

will also assist in getting one of the pastors to follow up on any issue, not just hospitalization for you, a loved one or a death in the family. To find out which Elder you are assigned to, please see the bulletin board in the Narthex.

How a Small, Country Congregation Became a Megachurch Overnight

This tiny rural church would bulge at the seams with worshipers from realms seen and unseen, all mixed together in the adoration of the Lamb. This is the story of how a small, country church astounded the experts on church growth by becoming a megachurch overnight. Without even trying.

The gravel parking lot around St. John's began to fill early that morning. The shadow from the steeple cast the image of a cross on the western side of the church. Families from miles around climbed out of Fords and Chevrolets to make their way into the sanctuary.

The pastor stood by the front door to greet folks. He asked about Aunt Susan's broken hip, the Reynold's new horse, and how the football game turned out in Sunray the other night.



The man of God who shepherded this flock wasn't much to look at. He had a bit of a gut. And he laughed too loud, especially at his corny jokes. But they loved the man. He had baptized their children, buried their grandparents, and even preached a decent sermon on occasion.

By the time worship was ready to begin, it still hadn't happened—that shocking influx of worshipers I spoke of. In fact, things looked as ordinary as ordinary could be.

The Kirkpatricks, with their five children, squeezed into the next-to-last pew. The spinster organist, Ms. Schultz, played softly and hit, well, almost every note. Hymnals were opened to the page where the service would soon begin.

At 10:30 sharp, Pastor Baker walked up front and spoke the same words he did at the start of every Sunday service, "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." And the congregation responded with a hearty, "Amen!"

Then, without any warning, it happened.

The floodgates opened. Worshipers streamed in. Before the congregation had finished saying, "Amen," this rural Texas minichurch was transformed into the mega of megachurches.

Here's how it all went down.

Through the stained glass windows and the steeply pitched roof, seraphim swooped down from heavenly perches. Each sported six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And around the sanctuary they chanted one to another, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" The foundations of St. John's quaked at the sound of their voices. The whole church swam with the smoke of incense.

But that was only the beginning.

Cherubim winged their way down from the heavenly city. Not the cute, chubby Precious Moments' angels, but manly warriors who stationed themselves like sentinels around the sanctuary. They belted out the words to the hymns, added their Amens to the divine words read and preached that day.

But the angels were not alone. With them came saints innumerable. Men and women who had fought the good fight, finished the race, and gone on to glory. But here they were, back at St. John's on this Lord's day. They added their voices to the earthly choir of farmers and ranchers and coaches and teachers who still trod the pathway toward the heavenly Jerusalem.

The pews were packed. Standing room only in the aisles. Some perched on the rafters and peered down with serene gazes upon the altar. There, wonder of wonders, was a throne. And on that throne stood a Lamb, slain yet alive, sacrificed

The pews were packed. Standing room only in the aisles. Some perched on the rafters and peered down with serene gazes upon the altar. There, wonder of wonders, was a throne. And on that throne stood a Lamb, slain yet alive, sacrificed but resurrected. Every face of every worshiper, angelic and human, earthly and heavenly, was fixated upon his face.

There they looked upon the countenance of the merciful Almighty.

With angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, the people of St. John's lauded and glorified the name of that Lamb, their Lord Jesus, that day.

Sacred songs shook the building as the choirs wed their voices. The Lord's Supper was a reunion meal. The folks on earth and the saints in heaven dined on the feast of feasts and the drink that slakes the deepest thirst.

It was a day to remember. A day to repeat.

The following Sunday it would happen again. And then again. This tiny rural church would bulge at the seams with worshipers from realms seen and unseen, all mixed together in the adoration of the Lamb whose kingdom is without end.

That's how a small, country congregation became a megachurch overnight. Without even trying. They gathered around the word of Jesus, ate his meal, sang his songs.

And Jesus showed up, every Sunday, with all of heaven along for the ride.

Chad Bird is a Scholar in Residence at 1517. He has served as a pastor, professor, and guest lecturer in Old Testament and Hebrew. He holds master's degrees from Concordia Theological Seminary and Hebrew Union College. Chad and his wife Stacy have four children and three grandchildren. They enjoy life together in the Texas Hill Country.

Council Meeting September 14, 2021

Vice President Bob Hansen called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Pastor Anderegg opened with prayer. The following board members were present: **Pastors:** Pastor Anderegg and Pastor Brandt, **Pres.** Jeff Emery, **Vice Pres.** Bob Hansen, **Sec.** Susan Kral, **Evangelism** Russell Schulz, **Education** Sara Anderegg, **Cemetery** Diane Borgmann, **Stewardship** Dawn Hedberg, and **Ushers** Mic Carlson **Absent:** **Board of Elders** Jeff Hedberg, **Board of Trustees** Chuck Kral, **Treas.** Rita Riemann, **Financial Sec.** Vicki Stauch, and **Member at large** Peg Callahan. The minutes from the August 10, 2021 meeting were approved as printed.

Financial Secretary: Mic presented the report. The report was approved and accepted.

Treasurer: Mic Carlson presented Rita's report. He noted that we received \$177.13 from Amazon Smile. There will be \$20,000 transferred into a C.D. from the operating account. The report was accepted and approved.

Elders: No report.

Ushers: No report

Member at Large: No report

Trustees: Susan presented Chuck's report.

- Pat Callahan mowed the front and back grounds on Aug. 11, Aug. 23, and Sept. 11. On Sept. 13 Pat cut limbs from trees. He and Chuck hauled brush away.
- Chuck repaired a soaker hose in the cemetery. On August 16 and Sept. 13, he mowed the back half of the cemetery and purchased fuel.
- It was decided that no action will be taken regarding furnace replacement until a furnace malfunctions.

The report was accepted and approved.

Education: Sara reported the following:

- She and Dawn are prepared to provide Sunday School lessons for visiting children.
- There were nine participants in the September game night.
- She is considering different strategies for the 2022 Vacation Bible School.

Her report was accepted and approved.

Evangelism: Russell reported the following:

- The August cost of mailing postcards to "new move ins" to this area was \$283.91. Our contract with that company has ended. The council voted to extend the contract through this year.
- Life Line Screening will be held at Peace Lutheran on Dec. 4.
- He submitted a September newsletter article and put information on Facebook.
- The church account with the Camdenton Chamber of Commerce has been paid for one year.
- There is no cost for our listing in the Lake Leader. A larger sized notice is available for \$14.00 per week with a commitment of one year.

Russell's report was approved and accepted.

Stewardship: Dawn had no report.

Russell's report was approved and accepted.

Stewardship: Dawn had no report.

Cemetery: Diane reported the following:

- Chuck repaired one of the new soaker hoses.
- Rodney has sprayed plants for insects and has been spraying grass around cemetery plots. Thrivent funds are being used to pay for the chemicals he uses.
- There is a leak in the faucet in a flower bed. Jeff Emery offered to deal with it.

The report was approved and accepted.

Pastor's Reports:

Pastor Brandt reported the following:

- He attended the Pastor's Conference in Appleton City. He was asked to play the organ and give the Bible study.
- He will preach on September 19.
- He will be travelling after September 19.

Pastor Anderegg reported the following:

- Things are going well.
- He will be gone from Sept. 21-23 to attend his sister's wedding.

Their reports were approved and accepted.

President's Reports: Jeff Emery reported the following:
Continuing Business:

- State documents for the approval of the perpetual cemetery have been reviewed and approval was granted to go forward with completion of the application with the State of Missouri for proper registration.
- Jeff has maintained contact with Mainstreet Asphalt Maintenance.
- The grand piano was removed on September 11, 2021. Thank you to the Krauses for helping to arrange for that.

New Business:

- Donald Springer has requested an application for membership.
- The October Voters Meeting will be held on Oct. 19. A potluck dinner will begin at 5:30 P.M. The business meeting will start at 6:30. Several issues will be presented. Please attend.
- Susan Kral requested pastoral guidance regarding the formation of a Lake Area LWML Area Zone. The Pastors suggested that the LWML Zone President be contacted.
- Mic passed out copies of the recommended figures for the 2022 budget. The council agreed with his recommendations with the exception that the amount for office support be increased by \$200.00 per month.

Jeff's reports were approved and accepted.

The meeting was adjourned. Board members closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Kral, secretary



OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Fellowship and Game Night 6 p.m.	2 LWML Fall Rally St. John's, Cole Camp Mission Festival Trinity, Jeff City 9 to 2
3 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Pocket Change for Mites collection	4 Elders Meeting 9:30 am	5	6	7	8 Ryan & Melissa Talbot	9
10 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Ken & Linda Schaumburg Tom Croft	11 LWML Mtg. 9:30 a.m.	12 Council Mtg. 6:30 pm Don & Harriet Cress	13 Kore Gale	14	15 Hannah Carlson Susan Kral	16
17 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Pastors' Conference Peggy Callahan	18 Newsletter Dead-line 9 am Margaritaville Lake Resort →	19 Potluck 5:30 Voters Mtg. 6:30	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 9 am Bible Study 10:30 am	25	26 Norman Hunter	27	28	29	30 Bob Borgmann
31 Halloween Reformation Sunday 9 am Bible Study 10:30 am						

