

~~ OCTOBER 2022 ~~

The Messenger

***Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church***
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Paul Mueller, Pastor



Worship Services

Sunday: 10:00 am

Communion

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Bible Classes

Sunday: 9:00 am

Tuesday: 11:00 am, 7:00 pm

Wednesday: 1:30 pm

Thursday: 1:30 pm

Men's Bible Class

Second Saturday: 9:30 am

Sunday School

Sunday: 9:00 am

Message from Pastor

SWAPPING HEAVEN FOR SNAILS?

There's a legend that's been told over the years I'd like to share with you. It's about a beautiful swan that splashed down one day by the water. A crane was wading about seeking snails (escargot for you fancy types). For a few moments the crane viewed the swan in wonder and then inquired: "Where do you come from?"

"I come from heaven!" replied the proud swan.

"And what is heaven?" asked the crane.

"Heaven!" said the swan, "Heaven! Have you never heard of heaven?" And the beautiful bird went on to describe the grandeur of the Eternal Glory with God. She told of streets of gold, and the gates made of precious stones. She told of the river of life, pure as crystal, upon whose banks is the tree whose leaves shall be for the healing of the nations. In eloquent terms, the swan sought to describe the angels and the joy in the Lord Jesus Christ. But the crane had only the slightest – if any – interest in this ever so glorious residence.

Finally, the crane asked: "Are there any snails there?"

"Snails!" repeated the swan, "No! Of course, not. There are no escargot there."

"Then," said the crane, as it continued its search, "you can have your heaven. I just want snails!" (He could have at least asked for butter too.)

This fable has a deep truth underlying it, doesn't it? Let's ignore the swan's arrogance and pride for a minute (although that is a real temptation for believers).

Let's talk about how easy it is to seek only earthly needs and pleasures and forget that we are on earth less than a century? How many a young person to whom God has granted the advantages of a Christian upbringing, has turned his back upon that blessing and searched for the 'snails' of sex, drugs and rock & roll! How many men have sacrificed their family, for a big paycheck? Have they not

learned that 'he-who-dies-with-the-most-toys,-wins' is a complete deception? How many people haven't sought snails from 'one-armed bandits' and the like? How many people worry about having enough 'snails' and have lost their trust in the Lord?

People are still swapping heaven for snails. How about you? Have you? Are you? If you have, Jesus is ready to forgive you. If you are thinking about snails, Jesus reminded us of that danger in Matthew's Gospel when he said, "**What good is it if a man gains the whole world but forfeits his soul?**" Are there some changes that need to be made in your life? You don't need a swan to tell you that.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.....A Love of Money

A man by the name of Hansie Cronje [pronounced HAHN-see CROHN-yah] is not familiar to most of us. In South Africa, where the game of cricket is a dominant sport, Hansie Cronje is a household name. Imagine a person with the superstar talent of a Michael Jordan, the universal popularity of a Tom Hanks, and the integrity of an Abraham Lincoln all rolled into one. In the 1990s, when racial divisions were fierce, black and white citizens alike revered Hansie, a white man, for his sense of fairness and his strength of character. It was said he would have been elected President of the country unanimously if he had decided to run.

So, when a report with evidence appeared that Hansie was taking money for match-fixing, almost everyone dismissed the report as outrageous. His reputation for honesty was impeccable. How could anyone even suggest such a thing?

People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap . . . For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.

1 Timothy 6:9,10

A few days later, however, Hansie cracked. He confessed that the substance of the report was true. Later, in a legal hearing televised live to the nation, Hansie told what he had done. He also answered the question: "Why?" The reason he gave was simple. It was, he said, "an unfortunate love of money." Authorities later banned Hansie Cronje from cricket for the rest of his life. He died in a plane crash two years later.

Hansie was honest as to the trap into which he had fallen. God's Word, through the apostle Paul, is honest too. Across the centuries, Paul is looking us straight in the eye when he speaks to us. The love of money has always been a trap for our fallen, sinful natures. In our culture that is materialistic and money-centered, the trap is insidious. But such a trap cannot just ruin reputations and careers. Far more lethal, such a trap can pull the soul away from our Savior-God.

Are you in such a trap? Even now, Jesus reaches for you. He calls you to repentance. Be refreshed in his forgiveness purchased at Calvary's cross. Be empowered to replace your love of money with God's love for you in Christ.

Pastor Marty Baur

BIBLE CLASSES

Thursday afternoons (1:30) and Sunday mornings (9:00) we're studying a series titled "10 Lies People tell about God".

Join us on Tuesday mornings (11:00) for a look at 'The 10 Commandments' using Luther's Large Catechism.

Roadmaps to Reading the Bible, a class where we scan every book of the Bible to see its purpose, author, timeframe, and main parts, is on Tuesday evenings (7:00). Jump in any time.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH CLASS IS MORE THAN A BIBLE CLASS. IT'S A TIME OF SHARING, GROWTH, AND MOST OF ALL, DEVELOPMENT OF A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS. YOU ARE GUARANTEED TO LEARN A GREAT DEAL AND TO BECOME BIBLICALLY LITERATE. CLASSES ARE ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS AT 1: 30.



PEACH SPRINGS OUTING OCT 15

DIAMOND CREEK/COLORADO RIVER 4WD PICNIC

(Southern end of Peach Springs Canyon.)

Located off Route 66 in Peach Springs, Diamond Creek Road is an adventurous "road less traveled" to the Colorado River. We will drive down into the Grand Canyon to the Colorado River where Diamond Creek used to feed into the mighty Colorado. The canyon deepens gradually from an elevation of 4,950 ft to 1,550 at the river, ending at a beach. We'll meet at church and carpool to the canyon. Bring a picnic lunch and lawn chair.

4WD OUTING

NOV 5

Stay tuned – we're still deciding on a destination!



FAVORITE HYMN FESTIVAL

On Oct. 30th, we commemorate the Reformation Martin Luther began. Luther's desire was simply to reform the church by getting back to the Bible. When that failed, Luther was excommunicated and, by de facto, began the Lutheran Church. Luther loved hymns, so we vote for our favorites, Pastor gets some background info, and we sing our top 8.

AREA REFORMATION SERVICE

To remember the Reformation mentioned above, we've planned a unique worship service with the Lake Havasu and Fort Mohave churches. It happens on Oct. 30th at 4:00. The new Pastor in Lake Havasu, Tim Buelow, will give the sermon.

HUMOR

A pastor is walking down the street one day when he notices a very small boy trying to press a doorbell on a house across the street. However, the boy is very small and the doorbell is too high for him to reach.

After watching the boy's efforts for some time, the pastor moves closer to the boy's position. He steps smartly across the street, walks up behind the little fellow and, placing his hand kindly on the child's shoulder leans over and gives the doorbell a solid ring.

Crouching down to the child's level, the pastor smiles benevolently and asks, "And now what, my little man?" To which the boy replies, "Now we run!"

REVEREND FUN WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM

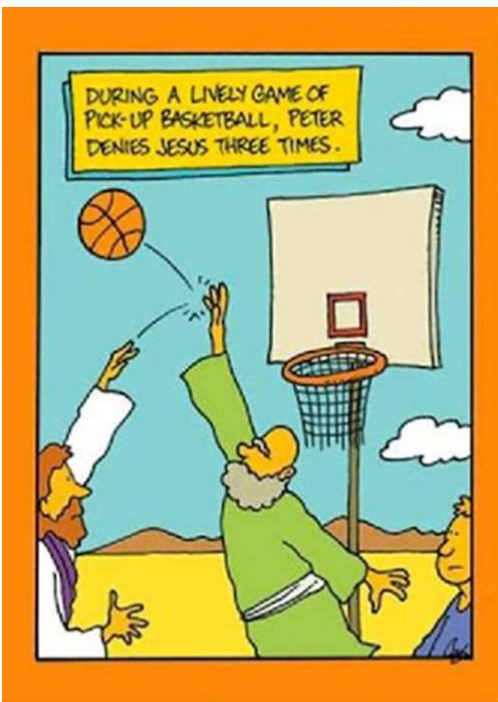


I WAS JUST MESSING WITH YOU ON THAT LAST ONE ...
CHOCOLATE AND PIZZA ARE STILL OK

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King Saul

King Saul, in fear of David's rise in power, decided to establish an elite, crack royal guard force. He knew that to build this force, he would have to recruit young men for training. So, the call went out for athletic and strong men between the ages of 13 and 19. The training of these teen-age men began and a crack force was built. They were known as the Saul Teen Crackers.



What did Jonah's family say when he told them about what happened before reaching Nineveh?
"Hmm, sounds fishy."

How are toddlers and those who attempted to build a tower to Heaven similar?
They all babble.

Why didn't anyone want to fight Goliath?
It seemed like a *giant* ordeal.

Why did Noah have to discipline the chickens on the Ark?



Because they kept using fowl language.

THE LADIES CIRCLE

OCTOBER NEWS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few sewers and crafters to help with costumes for the upcoming Christmas play. Contact Trish Olson or Bill Neal if you can help out.

KITCHEN

The Sunday fellowship menu schedule is available in the Fellowship Hall

-If you would like to be a Sunday meal host or help out in the kitchen (set-up or clean-up), contact Christine Hanson, Committee Chair or Trish Olson, Ladies Circle President.

-Cases of water are needed to replenish our inventory. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

MONTHLY LADIES CIRCLE MEETING

When: Saturday, October 8th

Time: 9:30 am

Place: Education Building

The Devotion series for this year is:

God is in the Laundry Room (8 sessions about seeking God)

(Monthly meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of each month from September thru May.

Committee call leaders will contact you prior to each monthly meeting).

All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend and join in the fellowship, devotion topics, planning future activities, and the WELS Missions we support as a Ladies Circle group. By getting involved your time, talent and treasures will help continue God's work.

Executive board: Trish Gename, President
Sasha Mangelsdorf, Secretary
Julie Mueller, Treasurer

OCT FELLOWSHIP MEAL SCHEDULE	
DAY	MAIN DISH
2 nd	Casserole
9 th	Breakfast
16 th	Pot Luck
23 rd	Sloppy Joes
30 th	Sandwiches



OCT BIRTHDAYS

- 7th Shelby Vincent
- 13th Elizabeth Stahulak
- 18th Ashley Kyzer
- 18th Carol Staley
- 21st Deborah Wieber
- 21st Gage Wolfe
- 22nd Paul Stahulak
- 24th Joshua Vincent
- 30th Marina McCoy



OCT ANNIVERSARIES

- 26th Mark & Marina McCoy
- 26th Jesse & Holly Mangelsdorf





OCT USHERS

- Bill Neal**
- Gage Wolfe**
- Luke Mangelsdorf**
- Jay Schmidt**

October 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Communion Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal		8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 4:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Bible Class	1:30 pm Bible Class	1:30 pm Bible Class		9:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast 9:30 am Ladies Circle Meeting 10:30 am Elders Meeting
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Congregation Meeting 12:00 pm Fellowship Meal	6:00 pm Council Mtg	8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 4:00 pm Chori 7:00 pm Bible Class	1:30 pm Bible Class	1:30 pm Bible Class		10:30 am Diamond Creek / Colorado River 4WD Picnic (Peach Springs) 
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Communion Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal		8:00 am Workday 11:00 am Bible Class 4:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Bible Class	1:30 pm Bible Class	1:30 pm Bible Class		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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30	31				 <p>OCT USHERS Bill Neal Gage Wolfe Luke Mangelsdorf Jay Schmidt</p>	
9:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:00 am Communion Worship Service 11:15 am Fellowship Meal 4:00 pm Area Reformation Service 5:00 pm Fellowship Meal		 <p>Favorite Hymn Festival October 30</p>				