

The Dual-Parish Review



Message from Pastor

As we enter into the final two months of 2022, we once again approach the so-called “holiday season,” and as much as the retailers and entertainers want to fast-forward to “Christmastime” and everything that goes with it we all know that the holiday of Thanksgiving will be here before November is over. For many people Thanksgiving is nothing more than a good excuse to have a big meal of special food that they normally wouldn’t prepare the rest of the year. Other people will be out in the woods hoping for one or more deer to cross their path.

Here in the Christian Church there will be those of us doing the same things, but with the exception that many of us will add to it a special time of worshipping our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As Christians we are called to give thanks to God in all circumstances, and we have heard the encouragement to “count your blessings.” But have you ever stopped to really do that? Have you ever considered everything that you have been blessed with by God?

The list is long and extensive. Just consider what is included in the First Article Meaning of the Apostles’ Creed from the Small Catechism, “...He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness, and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me...”

Martin Luther provides this list for us as a basic explanation of what God has given to us, and how He has continued to care for us and for His entire Creation. He finally sums his list up by acknowledging that God has given me “...all I have.” This is a basic principle of our lives as Christians, everything that we have from our possessions to our body to our very existence we owe to God. Ultimately, it all belongs to Him.

With this in mind, the words of the great Lenten hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” come to mind, “What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest Friend...?” In other words, how can I ever say thanks to God for all that He has done for me? There is simply no way to thank Him enough for all that He has given to us. It’s impossible, even if we did remember to always give thanks in every circumstance and for every blessing. But that doesn’t stop us from trying as we give God thanks not just once a year on Thanksgiving but every week we come together to worship. But we Christians also know that even once a week isn’t enough thanks to offer up to our loving and merciful Lord. In fact, if we were to truly thank God for every blessing that He provides, there wouldn’t be room in our lives for much of anything else.

Thankfully, God doesn’t require us to specifically list every single blessing that we receive in order to give thanks for it any more than He requires us to confess every specific sin that we ever commit. Instead, He calls us to be exactly what He first created us to be, faithful stewards of everything that He has given to us as we serve Him and serve our neighbors. As the stewards or managers of His Creation, God asks us to care for it in the best ways that we know how, and that includes caring for one another using the blessings that we enjoy. We thank God with our words, and we thank Him with our actions and offerings also.

This is a good time of year to be reminded to consider everything that you have been given by God. Then to consider how you have served Him and your neighbor with those same gifts. With all that He has given and provided to you is there room to improve the way that you show your thankfulness to Him? As we benefit from God’s abundant blessings, it’s a question that we should be asking ourselves regularly. In the words of St. Paul from II Corinthians 9:7, “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” *Until next month – Pr. M.*

November 2022



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

233500 County Road E
Milan, Wisconsin 54411

**Sunday Worship at 8:00
a.m.**

**Sunday Bible Study at 9:15
a.m.**

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours @ BETH.

Tues. 9am-5pm

Pastors Number:

715-330-5599

Pastors Email:

lcmsrevmike@gmail.com

Office Secretary Email:

secretary@stjbeth.org

St. John “High Steeple” Lutheran Church

119415 Huckleberry Road
Edgar, Wisconsin 54426

Sun. Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Sun. Bible Study at 11:45am

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours: M, W, T, F:
9am to 5pm

Pastors Number:

715-352-2888

Or 715-330-5599

Pastors Email:

lcmsrevmike@gmail.com

Sec. Office Hours: M, T, W, F:

1pm to 4pm

Dual Parish Office:

715-352-2888

Office Secretary Email:

secretary@stjbeth.org

Dual Parish Website:

www.Stjbethorg

November
Happy
birthday

News & Announcements

Becker, Jane	11/05
Thielman, Ashley	11/07
Hammel, Isaac	11/09
Schreiber, Marlene	11/11
Schmitt, Lori	11/12
Fehrenbach Hannah	11/16
Broeske, Cory	11/26
Martha Rodman	11/02
Savannah Koepke	11/03
Lloyd Schultz	11/03
Nancy Witucki	11/03
Lucas Koepke	11/05
Ronda Durkee	11/09
Amber Kroening	11/09
Stacy VanHoy	11/09
Meaghan Telschow	11/10
Peter Kroening	11/17
John Schafer	11/20
Amy Clark	11/21
Aaron Niemann	11/21
James Clark	11/23
Lindsey Ellis	11/23
Suzanne Gehrke	11/23
Rodney Held	11/23
Myszka, Izabella	11/23
Anna Koepke	11/24
Judy Ulrick	11/25
Larry Noller	11/27
Ron Hahn	11/28
Brad Wendtland	11/29

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

Alan & Lori Schmidt	11/06
Lloyd & Mary Schultz	11/14
Stan Sharon Szymanski	11/14
John & Kelly Yessa	11/15
Jonathan & Kay Schulz	11/16
Mel & Sharon Niemann	11/28

The Lutheran Layman's League of Circuit/Zone 10 has placed its fully stocked Project Connect Rack in the Narthex, it will be moved to the lower entrance in a few weeks. Check out the helpful brochures for yourself or to give away. Children's booklets are also available.

Edgar American Legion has good used medical equipment that can be loaned out. If you are in need, call Sylvia Fergot at 715-352-2221.

Thanksgiving food baskets: Need knows no season. If you, or someone you know, may benefit from a Thanksgiving food basket put together by the Stratford Food Pantry please notify Barb at 715-687-4346 or Lenny at 715-687-4346 by November 3.

Lutheran School Tuition Assistance: Do you have one or more kids attending a Lutheran School? If so, you can request financial assistance to help with tuition. If you'd like more information and a form to apply, please contact the church office.

BETH & STJ Basic LERT Training Event (Lutheran early Response Team) at Wisconsin Valley Lutheran HS, on Saturday, November 12th 9am to 1pm

St. John Harvest Dinner : I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help and made donations to the Harvest Beef Meal this year. We successfully served 441 meals. Our donations totaled \$4699.00. After using a \$250 Thrivent card our expenses totaled \$1682.30 with a balance of \$2766.70 which will be donated to Orphan Grain Train.

Florida Hurricane Relief: If you are interested in donating to the Florida Hurricane Relief Fund go to lcms.org/give/hurricane for more information.

Sunday School News: St. John Sunday School students have sent \$150.00 to help the people from Hurricane Ian.

There are copies of the 95 Theses available for anyone who would like one. We printed them for our Sunday School Students to take home.



**Soup Supper
Craft & Bake Sale -
Saturday, December 10 2022
4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

All Homemade

To order pick up call Dorean @715-680-0078

MENU:

Chicken Dumpling,
Chili, and Cheesy
Broccoli
Sauerkraut Chili
With Cheese,
Crackers, Rye Bread,

**Crafts, Quilts,
Christmas Ornaments
Baked Goods, Cookies,
Pies, Candy**



Live Nativity

In praise to God for the
grace He has shown us,
there will be no charge
for the meal.
Free-Will Offerings
will be accepted.

**Bethlehem Acolyte and Greeter Schedule
for November**

Month/Date	Acolyte	Greeter
Nov. 6 th	Braxton Kilty	Virgil, Bridgette Underwood
Nov. 13 th	Caelynn Cook	Joanne Luther
Nov. 20 th	Calleigh Cook	Dennis Venzke & Kurt Denzine
Nov. 27 th	Braxton Kilty	Thomas & Delores Venzke

If you are unable to do your duty for the week you are scheduled, please find an alternate to fill in for you or switch dates with someone.



**St. John at 1:30pm
Bethlehem at 7:00pm**
Wk. 1 Nov. 30th
Wk. 2 Dec. 7th
Wk. 3 Dec. 14th
Wk. 4 Dec. 21

News & Announcements

Bethlehem: Blood Pressure Check after Church Service.

Bethlehem is planning the Live Nativity and Soup Supper on December 10th. They are asking each family to bring 4 dozen cookies, or baked goods, or handmade crafts.

A sign up sheets for all jobs is posted on the bulletin board, please sign up to help during the week and or on the weekend.

Mark Your Calendars:



Bethlehem Sunday School Children's Christmas Service, entitled

"To Us A Child Is Born", will be held **Sunday, December 18th, immediately following the 8am Service.**

After the children's service, a breakfast will be served. Everyone is invited to attend.

Season of giving

DONATE BLOOD TODAY!

**Wednesday
December**

**St. John Lutheran Church
119415 Huckleberry Road, Edgar**

LOCATION
Parish Hall

28

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED
https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/255946

MORE INFORMATION
715-687-3227
cathy_schneider2@yahoo.com

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.



Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT)

Offering Hope and Healing after Natural Disasters



The Missouri District has many resources available to help in time of disaster throughout the state. No one starts their week expecting to find their home destroyed and possessions scattered. Though the event strikes fast, it can derail lives (and livelihoods) for months or even years. That's why Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) trained volunteers step in.

LERT volunteers span the state, ready to step in and begin the hard work of disaster response. LERT trailers follow the wake of tornados and flooding. Our District Disaster Response Committee coordinates efforts of congregations and volunteers statewide. Missouri disaster response volunteers have also served on location across the country.

Unfortunately, we know there will always be need for LERT teams.

Our goal is a strong team of volunteers ready to step into the aftermath of tornadoes and other devastating events. Our goal is to offer wisdom, hope and relief in possibly the worst moments of someone's life. Keep scrolling to learn ways that you can volunteer with a LERT team or if you are in need of assistance after a disaster, find contact information below.

**Basic LERT Training Event
(Lutheran early Response Team)
Wisconsin Valley Lutheran HS,
Happens on 11/12/2022 9am to 1pm
1 John 4:19 We Love Because He First Loved Us.**

Join us for a District Wide Basic LERT training event on Saturday, November 12th starting at 9am at Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School, 601 Maple Ridge Road, Mosinee, WI 54455

Together we will address the nature of disasters and explore what our response would be to a disaster as members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The goal is to prepare congregations and individual members to be better prepared when a disaster strikes and to help them know how to respond within their families, congregations, and in Word and deed within the greater communities.

A late lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the event

The class fee is \$35 per person. Your LERT Trainer will distribute all materials during and after the class.

Please feel free to call or email Pastor Andy Weden at Peace Lutheran Campus Center with any questions or concerns- phone: 715-345-6510 email: aweden@uwsp.edu



St. John Church Council

Oct. 11, 2022

Attending were Pastor Mathey, Cathy Schneider, Stephan Schneider, Jeff Werner, Doug Brown, Anna Koepke, Kay Christiansen, Sharon, Niemann and Mel Niemann. Meeting was called to order by Doug and Pastor opened with a prayer.

Pastor reported that adult Bible study has begun. Confirmation will begin with a parent's meeting in the near future. The November Pastor's winkle meets here on Nov. 1'st. Pastor is a Life Coordinator for the district and has a meeting in St Louis Nov. 8 – 12.

Motion was made and seconded to move the council meeting to Nov. 15'th to allow Pastor Mathey to attend both the St Louis event and our meeting. Motion passed.

Elder's report was given that all shut ins were visited. Thanksgiving services will be discussed at the dual parish meeting.

Outreach reported the coming up blood drives October 21 and December 28.

Treasurer's report was reviewed. All bills are current. The 2023 heating contract is in at \$1.89. Harvest dinner results will be reported at the quarterly meeting.

Trustees reported that the sacristy is finished. Coming up projects will be the steeple leaks, power washing the house and garage. For 2023, we may want to consider more insulation for the house.

Reports were approved.

Old business included review of the 2022 budget and revising to meet the needs we see coming in 2023.

New business was the need of a good power surge protector for the organ. More information is needed.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sharon Niemann

St John Voter's Meeting

Oct. 23, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Steve Schneider. Minutes from the last meeting were accepted.

Pastor's report was given. Adult Bible class is under way. He attended the District Pastor's conference in Wausau this fall. Thanksgiving services will be held at Bethlehem on Wed. at 7 pm the 23rd of Nov. and at 9 am the 24th of Nov. Nov. 8-12, Pastor will be in St Louis attending the Life Issues Conference as our district Pro Life Representative. Synod will be picking up his expenses on this conference. The shut ins are up to date in their visitations.

Elders had nothing new to report.

Outreach reported that a successful blood drive was held on Friday. We will look at caroling this year after the holidays.

Board of Education report was made by Tracy who gave a review of Sunday School curriculum. Plans will be made for the Christmas children's service as soon as Pastor can meet with the committee.

Treasurers report was given. All bills are paid and we need to look at the new budget to see where the current giving levels will meet the regular expenses and upcoming repairs.

Trustees reported that the drywall in the northwest entrance way under the steeple is bubbling up. This indicates moisture. Dean flew a drone over the sealant on the roof line and it shows cracking and failure up there. A quote for washing the parsonage and garage was gotten; but repairs of the siding and more insulation took over the conversation. Money for major repairs of the parsonage will need to be added to the budget for next year.

A motion was made to buy a surge protector for the organ. This is to be done by our organist as she can match the brand and what is needed. The congregation will reimburse her for the protector. Seconded and passed.

Cemetery will be cleaned off shortly and as of Nov. 1st all decorations should be removed.

Finance Committee reports that they will need 2 new counters for next year.

All reports were approved as given.

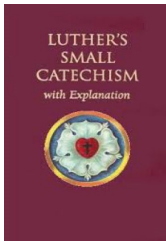
Old business: Harvest dinner served 441 meals. 54 workers were on hand. After expenses, \$2766 went to Orphan Grain Train.

The budget for 2023 was reviewed. \$20,000 was added for parsonage repairs. This is for siding and insulation. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the budget as amended.

New Business: Election of Officers took place. Elder: Peter VanDerLeest, Dean Pehlke, Treasurer: Kay Christiansen, Reporting Secretary: Sharon Niemann, Trustee: Ryan VanDerLeest, Mike Thompson Board of Education: Tracy Pehlke, and Outreach: Stacey Van Hoy.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sharon Niemann Recording Secretary



The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: The First Part

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's _____ and combined with God's word.

Which is that word of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Go therefore and make disciples of _____, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 18:19*

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: The Second Part

What benefits does Baptism give?

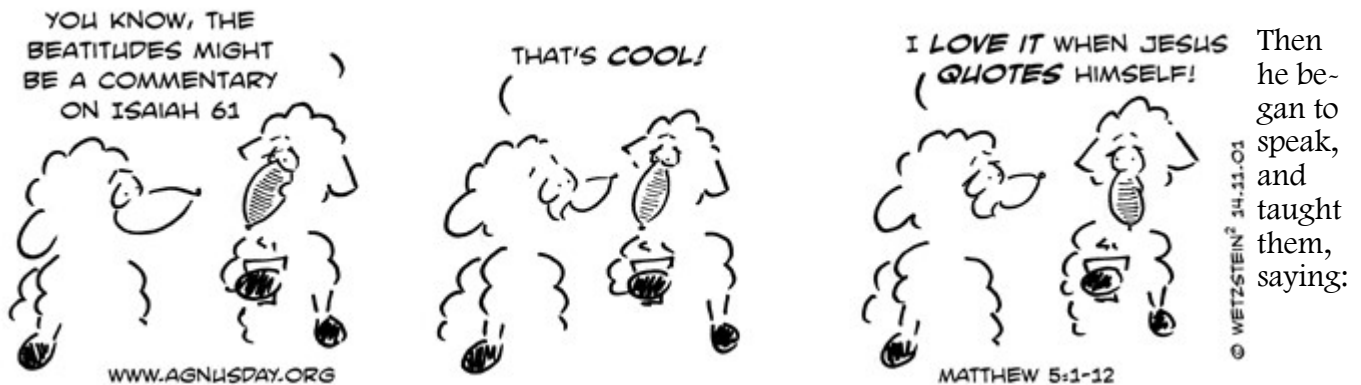
It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the _____, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and _____ of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be _____, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." *Mark 16:16*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Agnus Day by James Wetzstein



"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



Lutheran Hour Sermon Schedule

November 6

"Barefoot Saints"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy
Moses heard God speak to him from a burning bush. Where do we hear Him? (Exodus 3:1-6 (7-15))

November 13

"Still Holding On"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Luke 21:28)

November 20

"Where It All Comes Together"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes
(Colossians 1:19-20)

November 27

"Freshly Fallen Snow"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Isaiah 2:1-5)

Lutheran Hour Radio Broadcasts

Lutheran Hour Ministries - God has called all laypeople to be powerful witnesses for Christ to their families and communities. At LHM, we strive to create convenient ways for you to connect with Jesus and share your faith with others. Our products are free, easy, and digital so that you can use them in your home, on-the-go, or wherever you may be.

In this time of uncertainty, don't find yourself feeling isolated. HE is always with you! Discover FREE resources for your entire household and continue enriching your faith even when we can't gather together. Visit lhm.org/covid-19 and explore all of the ways you can hear God's Word, equip yourself in outreach, and provide Gospel-centered activities for the kids!

Station City, State Freq. Day Time

WDLB	Marshfield, WI	1450 AM	Sun	8:00am
WRVM	Marshfield, WI	91.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Medford, WI	98.7 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Wausau, WI	101.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	550 AM	Sun	8:30am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	99.9 FM	Sun	8:30am
WAXX	Altoona, WI	104.5 FM	Sun	6:30am

You can also go on line at www...lhm.org or download the free App @ LHM.ORG/APPS

Internet Resources:

Worship Anew is an online ministry put out by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne available to view on the Internet. The current week's program can be found on their homepage at Worshipanew.org/program.

Moments of Comfort is an online video ministry of Worship Anew which speaks to the sufferings we face in this life with the comforting message of God's Word.

They have a list of archived programs listed on the site.



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Bethlehem at 7:00pm

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