



The Dual-Parish Review

Message from Pastor

It's hard to believe that today is the first day of Fall as I sit here writing today. The weather has remained pretty warm throughout the month of September, and suddenly the high temperatures aren't climbing beyond the fifties. In a matter of just a couple of weeks, the colors will begin to change on the trees, and in just a couple of months those leaves will be gone as winter begins. The seasons will continue to change as they have done since God began it all back in the Book of Genesis, and the world will be made new once again in the inevitable Spring.

The world today is often obsessed with newness. People are constantly looking for the next big and new thing; whether that be a technical gadget, a newer vehicle, new clothes, or a new trend. As I write this, the news was just reporting about a new and dangerous trend on Social Media that people have been getting sick from, people cooking chicken in the cold medicine, Nyquil. It's safe to say that all new things are not good!

Of course, at the same time what is new for me isn't necessarily new for you. This year will be filled with new experiences for me and my family here at St. John and Bethlehem that will be regular traditions for all of you. It will be exciting and interesting for us to learn about these things even as it remains "old hat" for everyone else.

Something that is new can cause a person to react in any number of different ways from excitement to anxiousness to outright fear. In spite of our modern obsession with newness, most people often prefer things to remain the same. It can be frustrating and confusing!

But with all of the different perspectives we can have on newness – and I can certainly go on a lot longer about those differences – God's Word has its own unique perspective on the topic. Throughout the Old Testament prophetic writings, God regularly promises the coming of new things, and He has and will deliver on those promises beyond what we can begin to imagine.

He delivered on His promise of something new when He sent His Son into this world. He did it in a new and unique way – born of a virgin. He sent Him to deliver a message that was new for people of all ages and nations – that God loved and wanted all people to be saved. He sent Him to make a New Covenant – bought and sealed by His Son's bloody death on the cross.

But God's new things will not end there. There is more newness to come. He has promised to make all things new when Jesus returns. A new heaven and a new earth made perfect once again! But we don't have to wait for that Last Day for His new blessings to come because His mercies are new for us every morning, and He daily works through those blessings to make you a new creation in Christ, Jesus (II Cor. 5:17). Amen.

Until next month...Pr. M.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

233500 County Rd. E

Milan, Wisconsin 54411

Sunday Worship at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

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.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours: M, W, T, F:

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.Stjbeth.org

St. John Church Council

9/13/2022

The meeting was called to order by Doug Brown and opened with prayer by Pastor Mathey. Attending were Doug Brown, Cathy and Steve Schneider, Jeff Werner, and Nancy Witucki.

Minutes were accepted, seconded, and passed from the last meeting.

Pastors Report – Thank you for the welcome and support. Working on getting Confirmation and Shut-In visits started. Adult Bible study begins October 2nd at both churches after services. LWML Sunday is October 9 and after church that day there will be a LLL potluck and hymn sing.

Elders Report – Pastor would like to go to a workshop in October in Stevens Point.

Outreach – Blood Drives are scheduled for October and December. Services continue to be recorded and made available on the website. The sign project is moving forward.

Board of Education – Sunday School begins 9/18/2022

Treasurer's Report was reviewed. All bills are covered at this time. The Dual Parish Budget Committee meets on 9/19/2022.

Financial Committee – Things are going well. Beginning to look for counters for next year.

Trustee Report – The sacristy is coming together. Parsonage windows are being repaired. Lawn mowing is progressing.

Cemetery is quite wet. No tombstones can be repaired at this time.

All reports were accepted and approved.

Old Business

- Pastor received his computer

- Harvest Supper discussion with Nancy Witucki

 - Volunteer lists made

 - Thursday will be pie baking day at church

 - Need more help:

 - Apple pie makers

 - Workers to float and help wherever needed

 - Food assemblers for delivery drivers

 - Drying and putting away dishes

 - Putting food away after supper

 - Items needed:

 - Need banana boxes and large paper bags

 - Pam cooking spray

 - Beefy onion soup mix

 - Monetary donations to offset the cost of purchased food

New Business

- Discussed upcoming meetings

 - Dual Parish Budget Committee – 9/19/22

 - Nominating Committee

 - Joint Council – 10/13/22 – 7:00 St. John

 - Joint Voters – 10/16/22 – 7:00 Bethlehem

 - Voters – 10/23/22 – After church

Suggestion made to have a new Photo Directory made as it has been 7 years.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes submitted by Cathy Schneider



Rinehart, Jayden 10/01
Cook, Randy 10/02
Freimund, Dee 10/08
Thomas, Tripp 10/11
Strack, Evan 10/12
Denzine, Delbert 10/17
Kunze, Tyler 10/18
VanLuven, Ray 10/20
Viegut, Adam 10/20
Gumz, Bruce 10/21
Schreiber, Brett 10/23
Cornelius, Gloria 10/26
Kosik, Megan 10/26
Molthen, Clarence 10/30

Scherr, Doris 10/03
Pehlke, Christian 10/05
Brown, Janice 10/09
Schulz, Jonathan 10/12
Rathsack, Joanne 10/17
Hartwig, Matt 10/20
Hartwig, Annabelle 10/25
Wenzel, Loren 10/25
Koerner, Jill 10/28
Rodman, Cody 10/29
Rodman, Wade 10/29
Koepke, Neal 10/30
Strack, Tara 10/31



Verlyn & Judith Wittlinger 10/02
Del & Michelle Schwarting 10/05
Thomas & Louise Geisking 10/06
Shane & Patricia Hammel 10/17
Bruce & Brenda Weiler 10/18
Russ & Sheri Bunkelman 10/20
Bruce & Geanna Denzine 10/29
Scott Deana Parker 10/31

David & Katie Telschow 10/21
Michael & Lisa Thompson 10/25



Sunday Morning Bible Study after services
Bethlehem at 9:15am
St. John at 11:45am

St. John Harvest October 1, 2022

4:30pm - 6:30pm

ALL orders PICKUP or DELIVERY

We will be taking orders starting

Thursday, September 29 12:30pm

to 4:30pm

Orders MUST be in by Friday,

September 30, 2022, by 4:30pm

FREE Delivery Service is available in

Edgar, Athens, & Stratford

Call the church office M, Tu, W, or F

between 1pm and 4pm

orders must be in by 4pm Friday, October 1

715-352-2888



Christ Lutheran - Abbotsford is having a Spaghetti Supper Sunday, Oct. 25, 4:30 -6:30 sponsoring Haiti Mission Projects. Tina Lam-pi is going with a team to build beds and desks for an orphanage. Adults are \$8 and children 12 and under are \$4. Under age 2 are free.

Save the Dates St. John Blood Drives
Friday, October 21, 2022 9am to Noon
And November 28 9am to Noon.

Blood Pressure Clinic at Bethlehem om the first Sunday of every month starting on October 2nd. After Church services.

Bethlehem is asking every family to donate either 4 dozen cookies or other bake goods, or make crafts to sell at the Live Nativity/ Soup Dinner on December 1oth.

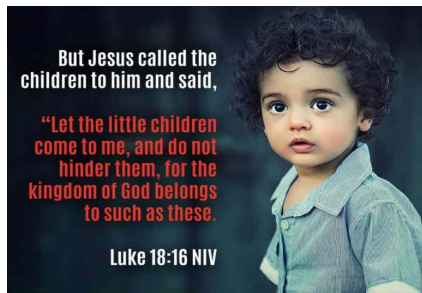
Help Wanted : Live Nativity/Soup Dinner : There are sign up sheets to volunteer to help with the Soup dinner and or the Live nativity. Please sign up to help during the week or on that weekend. It takes many hands to prepare the soup, set up, and run this event.

Bethlehem Sunday School: There were be no Sunday school on October 30 so the kids can enjoy the breakfast following church service with their family.

Cody Clauson Trio. Dinner, Concert \$42.50
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sunday Nov. 6th
@12:30pm. Enjoy a concert, & catered meal
at the Merrill enrichment Center.
303 N Sales St. Merrill, Wi.
Tickets: 715-297-4237

Heidi Apartments has a 1 bedroom and 2
bedroom apartments available immediately.
If Interested call Carol at 715-352-2174

Why is Sunday School so important ?



Sunday School Matters –

Jesus Loves Kids

Just look up some [Bible verses about children](#). You'll quickly see that scripture leaves no doubt that children matter to God.

Luke 18:16

But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

Jesus speaking in [Luke 18:16 NIV](#)

Mark 9:37

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

Jesus speaking [Mark 9:37 NIV](#)

Luke 18:17

Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Parents Need Spiritual Backup – Sunday

School Can Make a Difference

It supports godly parenting. The church was never meant to be the exclusive [faith](#) teacher of children. Instead, God's plan was for the two institutions (church and family) to form a partnership

1. **It helps nudge some parents into more faithful attendance.** Usually, parents become more involved in the church when their kids be-

come more involved in the children's ministry.
2. **It brings unchurched families in contact with the Gospel.** In our culture, reaching children is one of the most effective ways to make contact with unchurched families.

Every Soul Matters to Jesus – *Even if*

Your Sunday School Class is Small

If we look at the example of Christ (which as Christians of course we must do), it is pretty obvious that individual lives matter. Jesus did reach out to the masses and preach strong widely heard messages. But a huge part of His ministry also involved personal relationships. Jesus valued His friendships, evidenced clearly by interactions with His disciples. He also exerted influence on people by simple conversations and time spent.

We see Him with Nicodemus, Zacchaeus, and the Samaritan woman at the well...not to mention the countless individuals healed and blessed by His hands. Jesus ate with tax collectors and scoffed at Pharisees. He answered questions and demonstrated true care and devotion to life. This is the way to win souls. It is not through tracts or amphitheater sermons, but relationships. We are promised that our efforts and interactions will not be wasted, no matter how large or small our audience...

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." -Matthew 18:19-20





Cindy Zirbel Wrucke serves the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the Czech Republic. As a missionary to the Czech Republic, she works closely with the Lutheran Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic (ECAVvČR).

She develops and implements communication strategies to support the evangelism and outreach efforts of this church body. She presents timely information about the ECAVvČR and the LCMS mission work being done in the Czech Republic through print, video, web and social media. Cindy also teaches English in non-traditional settings and leads Bible studies for unchurched and new members.

Cindy's home congregation is Peace Lutheran Church, located in Beaver Dam, Wis. She received a bachelor's degree in journalism from Marquette University, Milwaukee, and a master's degree in communication from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In her free time, Cindy enjoys knitting, hiking, cooking and traveling.

Cindy has video production experience at NBC affiliates in Milwaukee and Dallas, as well as American Airlines corporate headquarters in Dallas-Fort Worth. She served as editor for Thrivent's magazine Correspondent before owning her own marketing communication firm. Cindy also worked as a financial advisor and was a limited partner with Edward Jones. She most recently owned an organic farm and ran a local business in the Horicon, Wis., community.

Cindy's Birthday - October 18. Cindy's Home District - South Wisconsin

Prayers:

Pray for Cindy as she serves in the Czech Republic. Ask God to help her increase fluency in the Czech language. Pray that God strengthens her to boldly share the Gospel through effective communication. Let us give thanks to God that Cindy is serving His children in this part of the world.

Giving by Check: You can also make a donation towards Cindy's ministry by check.

Mail your check, made payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and designated with her last name, to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

(Or call **888-930-4438** to speak with someone.)

This month we remember the critical need for more missionaries willing to serve:

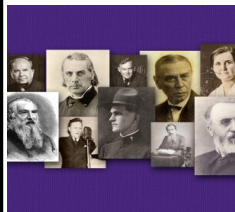
He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Luke 10:2

-Cindy Zirbel Wrucke

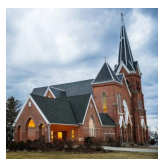
Resources for celebrating 175 years of the LCMS

Only Jesus: No Other Name



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) believes, teaches and confesses faith in Jesus Christ as taught in the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions. For 175 years, the Holy Spirit has kept us in the one true faith and still continues to gather sinners into the Holy Christian Church by grace through faith — all on account of Christ. As we give thanks for our Synod's founding on April 26, 1847, we rejoice in the 175th-anniversary theme, "Only Jesus: No Other Name," based on Acts 4:12. Until Jesus comes, the LCMS will continue to trust in, teach and preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Spotlight on Founding Churches



Look for photos and stories throughout the year about the founding congregations of the Synod.

A Reading List of LCMS History



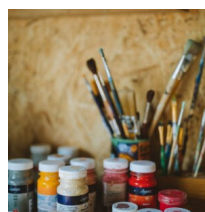
Learn about the Synod's history, from the very early years when immigrants came to Missouri through more recent events of the 20th century.

Sketches of Faith and Life

Learn more about some of the people who made a significant impact on the LCMS throughout its history.

LCEF Art Contest for Students

Students are invited to submit an art piece that shows what "Only Jesus: No Other Name" means to them.



Synod 175th Student Art Contest

Create an art piece that shows what "Only Jesus: No Other Name" means to you.

Who is eligible?

Any student may participate who attends an LCMS school, university or congregation.

Types of entries

2-Dimensional: drawing (any medium), painting, collage, graphic design, poster, banners, etc.

3-Dimensional: poster, pottery, leather, metal, beads, basketry, craft, etc.

Submission Levels

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

6th – 12th Grade

College

Awards

Winning entries will receive the following awards:

Kindergarten – 5th grade: \$50 LCEF gift card

6th – 12th grade: \$100 LCEF gift card

College: \$200 LCEF gift card

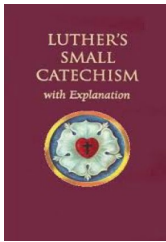
All submissions must be postmarked by December 1. Entrants must mail their artwork to:

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Attn: Artwork 175

10733 Sunset Office Dr. Suite 300

St. Louis, MO 63127



The Lords Prayer

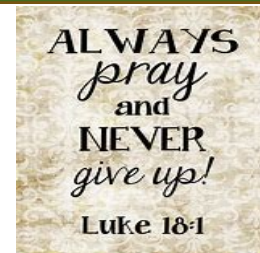
The Lord's Prayer: The Conclusion

For thine is the _____ and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean?

This means that I should be certain that these petitions are _____ to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and had promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

Agnus Day by James Wetzstein



Folks complain because they pray and God seems to be harder of hearing than the judge in Jesus' story. But then it's always possible that we're the ones not listening.



BIBLE PASSAGE — Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"



Lutheran Hour Sermon Schedule

October 9

"Thankfulness, eh"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Cody Cooper

It's only right to be thankful for what we have and what we are. But to whom are we thankful?

(Luke 17:11-19)

October 16

"Look at Me"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God hears our cry for justice, not as an indifferent judge, but as our merciful heavenly Father.

October 23

"He Gets Me"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It might sound strange to regard God as a friend, and the more fear, awe, and respect you have for God, the stranger it gets.

(Luke 18:9-14)

October 30

"Give Your Brother a Call"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God cares that we relate to Him with childlike faith and relate to others with Christlike love.

(Luke 19:1-10)

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!

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.

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



Issues, Etc. is a ten-hour weekly syndicated radio talk show and podcast.

The program features expert guests, expansive topics, while extolling Christ.

The program is hosted by Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod **Pastor Todd Wilken** and produced by **Jeff Schwarz**.

SHARE THE GIFT

Be

OF LIFE.

A



Hero

Love, give, live.

**St. John "High Steeple"
119415 Huckleberry Road, Edgar**

**Is sponsoring
a blood drive on**

**Friday, OCTOBER 21 2022
9:00am to 1pm**

To donate blood, you must:

Be in good health

Weigh at least 110 lbs.

Have a photo ID
with your birth date.

Be at least 17 years old
(16 years old with parental con-
sent),
no upper age limit.

**Snacks & Refreshments
provided**

Walk-ins are welcome.

Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches
119415 Huckleberry Road
Edgar, Wisconsin 54426
715-352-2888



*Where
the
Light
of
Jesus
Christ
Always
Shines*