

St. John's Messenger

Our Monthly Newsletter



St. John's Lutheran Church of Beloit is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Sharing the good news of forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Sept 2016



From the Pastor's Study

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Dear Friends,

On Sunday, August 28, during worship we will be inviting all of our children and young people to come forward to God's Holy Altar in order to receive a blessing, as they prepare to begin another year of school. Part of our work in nurturing our children's faith development is to invite them to receive the gifts that God delights in giving them through the Church's ministry. While God will certainly be present for these young people through His Holy Spirit – apart from our prayers and blessing – this special blessing offered at the altar shows the presence of the gifts of God to them in a very personal way. As we prepare for this very important annual observance in the life of our congregation, I invite you to be in prayer for our young people – and for all students who will again enter our nation's schools. It is also an important time to pray for teachers, administrators, and all support staff. Redeemed by Jesus' blood, and freed from our sins, we are free to be concerned for others and to carry before our loving Father the needs of the world. Please take time this Sunday – and each Sunday - to tell our students individually that you will be praying for them. You may be surprised by how important your support is to them.

Beginning on Sunday, September 11, we will be offering Sunday School for all ages again! The adult Bible Class will be held in the nave, the grades 9-12 class will be held in one of the upstairs classrooms of the school, the grades 6-8 class will meet in the Conference Room, grades first through fifth and their parents/guardians will meet in the Fellowship Hall, and the preschool/kindergarten class with parents/guardians will meet in the nursery. Some families may have children in both the preschool and elementary school classes and so we will be assisting parents/guardians in dividing their time between the two classrooms if they wish. All students preschool through adult will be studying the same Bible lesson in age-appropriate ways. This means that everyone studies the same passage each week. Additionally, each week—with the exception of important church festivals (All Saints', Christmas, Easter, etc.) - I will be preaching on the passage that we will be studying in Sunday School. In the Fall, we will explore Old Testament lessons and in the Winter/Spring we will be studying New Testament lessons. I am convinced that simplicity, focus, and reinforcement are needed if we are to effectively teach the Christian faith in today's world. Everyone should know what we are studying and our learning needs to be reinforced in a variety of ways. Please pray for us as we plan and promote our Sun-

day school program.

I am delighted to report that Bill Cunningham, our Director of Music, and I will be starting a Young Peoples' Choir this Fall. It will be for members and their friends - ages 7-14. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays, beginning October 5, from 6:00 to 6:45 pm. The choir will offer an anthem during worship on one Sunday per month. I will offer a short devotion at the beginning of each rehearsal and then assist Bill. Participants will receive basic music instruction, learn how to read music, and have the opportunity to present music for friends and family. The students will begin with Thanksgiving and Christmas selections and then learn other seasonal music throughout the school year. We are both very excited about working with our young people here at St. John's. For more information, please speak with either Bill or me. One does not need to be a member of St. John's in order to participate, and so please invite your friends to attend!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor

Birthdays

- 9-3 Ivan Drake
- 9-4 Bill Pearson
- 9-7 Mary Giannone
Wally Prins
- 9-10 Jerrilyn Larson
- 9-13 Debra Peterson
Jacob Mears
Levi Bartz
- 9-14 Kim Wolter
- 9-15 Judy Niedermeier
- 9-19 Roseann Hemerley
- 9-23 Ethan Burns
Ione Reetz
Paul Klingemeyer
- 9-25 Hannah Curtis
- 9-26 Marilyn Straw

Anniversaries

- 9-7 Jack & Kathy Fielder
- 9-15 Bill & Tami Bartz



Treasurer's Report

July 2016 Expenses

Church Mutual	1,298.66	Advanced Disposal	132.00
Father & Son Cleaning	772.50	TDS	88.69
Beloit Utilities	107.96	Alliant Energy	778.31
Charter	38.99	Great Amer Financial	266.09
SWD of the Lutheran Church	790.00	Concordia Publishing	305.51
Emmanuel Florist	25.50	Together in Mission	750.00
Hands of Faith	500.00	Fellowship	24.90

Women's Guild News



Faithful to the End

The world is watching with excitement the 2016 Olympic Games. In the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico, John Stephen Ahkwari of Tanzania was excited. He was about to run the marathon with runners from around the world. The starter's pistol fired and the race began. A little over 2 hours later, the first runner crossed the finish line. Other runners finished the race shortly afterwards, but John was not among them. Over an hour after the winner had crossed the finish line, with only a few spectators remaining in the stands, John Stephen Ahkwari finally entered the stadium. At the 19 km point of the 42 km race, he had been bumped by another runner and had fallen hard on the pavement - badly wounding his knee and dislocating his knee and shoulder. Bandaged and bloody, John finally crossed the finish line. Bud Greenspan, the renowned sports reporter, asked John why he didn't just quit. He answered, "My country did not send me 5000 miles to Mexico City to start the race. They sent me 5000 miles to finish the race." John Stephen Ahkwari did not receive a prize or a medal, but he did endure. He didn't just start the race, he finished it. God did not call us just to start the Christian race; he called us to finish it!

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Tim 4:7)

"But this one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14)

David Langerfeld *The Daily Encourager*

http://go.netatlantic.com/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=thedailyencourager

Women's Guild/LWML NOTICE

Ladies of St. John's, we are asking for your help. In less than 2 years our Women's Guild has lost five members to death - Lucy Dreher, Iva Austin, Margarete Voigt, Ann Walter and Dolores Wittnebel. Additionally, Joyce Drost has moved out of the area. We are looking for new members.

We are not just a social group even though we do enjoy our coffee and desserts after our business meeting! We are a service group, belonging to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of the LCMS, who do meaningful ministry. With our dues and the monies we earn through various fundraising events such as Scoopie Nights at Culvers, pancake breakfasts at Applebee's, and the EXPO we host in the fall, we are able to support needed projects at St. John's (most recently the window restoration), local mercy ministries, and national projects through LWML. Funeral luncheons are another service that we provide. Our Women's Guild meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm, from September through June. Our meetings begin with a devotion followed by a short business meeting. Fellowship follows with beverages and dessert. Ladies, we invite you to attend a meeting to see if you would like to join us. You will see a lot of people that you already know.

Looking ahead, we have a Fall Rally coming up on October 19 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Delavan. Let's all try to make a good showing from St. John's by attending this special event.



Men's Ministry of St. John's

From the Lutheran Hour Ministries "Man Stuff" blog . . .

Checking Our Presets

I was thinking about all the tiffs between people that, seemingly, have no end. Sometimes even finding the origin of the dispute is an exercise in futility. What happens at the human micro-level, of course, plays out between groups of people and extends even to the hostilities shared between nations. It reminds me of a bit of dialogue fashioned a while back by that American master, Samuel Langhorne Clemens, aka Mark Twain. In it he relays a bit of homespun conversation between Huck Finn and Buck Grangerford in his timeless classic, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The gist of it is Huck trying to ascertain how the long-running blood feud between the Grangerfords and the Sheperdsons all started -- and why it keeps going.

Huck begins the conversation: "Did you want to kill him, Buck?" "Well, I bet I did." "What did he do to you?" "Him? He never done nothing to me." "Well, then, what did you want to kill him for?"

"Why, nothing -- only it's on account of the feud." "What's a feud?" "Why, where was you raised? Don't you know what a feud is?" "Never heard of it before -- tell me about it." "Well," says Buck, "a feud is this way: A man has a quarrel with another man, and kills him; then that other man's brother kills him; then the other brothers, on both sides, goes for one another; then the cousins chip in -- and by and by everybody's killed off, and there ain't no more feud. But it's kind of slow, and takes a long time." "Has this one been going on long, Buck?" "Well, I should reckon! It started thirty year ago, or som'ers along there. There was trouble 'bout something, and then a lawsuit to settle it; and the suit went agin one of the men, and so he up and shot the man that won the suit -- which he would naturally do, of course. Anybody would." "What was the trouble about, Buck? -- land?" "I reckon maybe -- I don't know." "Well, who done the shooting? Was it a Grangerford or a Shepherdson?" "Laws, how do I know? It was so long ago."

"Don't anybody know?" "Oh, yes, pa knows, I reckon, and some of the other old people; but they don't know now what the row was about in the first place." Hmmm.

While our mental defaults might not be as entrenched -- or trigger-happy -- as that of Buck Grangerford, it's still easy to go through life with a preset frame of mind. As you consider your own positions on various issues, is there anything you can say you inherited from your forebears -- good or bad?

<http://mnmanstuff.blogspot.com/2016/08/checking-our-presets.html>



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August 10, 2016

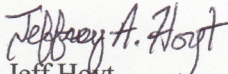
St. John's Lutheran Church
1000 Bluff St.
Beloit, WI 53511

To all at St. John's Lutheran;

Hands of Faith would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$500.00 (check dated 8/8/16). Hands of Faith is a 501 c(3) organization--no goods or services were exchanged for this donation.

Hands of Faith is humbled by this generous donation and thanks you for your kindness and consideration. Your contribution to our agency allows us to continue to provide services to homeless families in and around Beloit. Hands of Faith serves homeless families in conjunction with local Houses of Worship and their respective volunteers. For years our mission benefited greatly from St. Johns' inclusion in our rotation of host sites. While we certainly miss your hospitality in that regard we continue to be blessed by your enduring concern for who we are and whom we serve. We are truly fortunate to call all of you Friend and have you in our corner. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,


Jeff Hoyt
Executive Director
Hands of Faith, Inc.

P.S. We are grateful to all who made this donation possible; continued success! JH

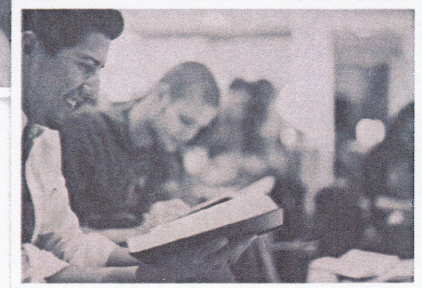
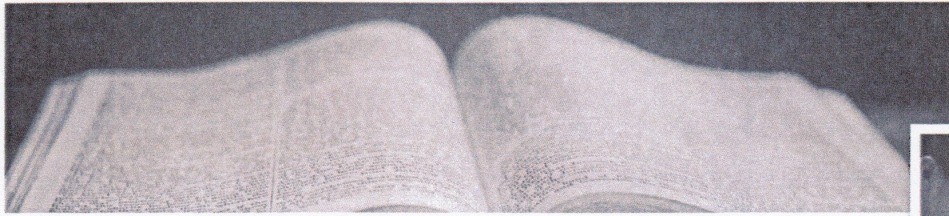


An affiliate of the
Family Promise network

www.handsofffaith.net



Hope, Support and
Humanity



Join us for this outreach training workshop from **MISSION U**, a program of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Become equipped through this one-day event to fulfill your mission with boldness to the diverse mission field around you.

Course: MU-202/301 – “Equipping to Share: A Culture of Outreach

Location: Christ Ev. Lutheran Church, Clinton, Wisconsin

Date: Saturday, September 10, 2016

Time: 9:00 A.M TO 2:00 P.M LIGHT LUNCH SERVED

Contact: Rev. Gary Schockman at christluth308@aol.com or at 608-774-8463

Registration Form:

Print Name(s): _____

Number attending: _____ Number of children for daycare: _____ Ages: _____

More information can be found at
LHM.ORG/MISSIONU



**Remember
Our Homebound Members**

Eleanor Backhaus, Home

Ivan Drake, Home

Peter Fast, Pioneer Court

Donna Hall, Rock Bay Harbor Apts.

Joanne Hildebrandt, Riverside Terrace

John Marquardt, Rock Bay Harbor Apts.

Joyce Nelson, Willowick Assisted Living

Ione Reetz, Home

Christine Ruckert, Premier Skilled Nursing

Marcella Savage, Home

Russell Ultsch, Home

Kay Wells, Cedar Crest Apartments

Dan Burrows, Alden Meadow Park

Connie Fast, Home

June Feldon, Home

Marie Hefty, Premier Skilled Nursing

Lois MacGowan, Premier Skilled Nursing

Ray Mathewson, Home

Nadine Polzin, Home

Josephine Rhode, Alden Meadow Park

Anna Rumery, Pioneer Court

Marilyn Treder, Rock Bay Harbor Apts.

Audrey Weiss, Riverside Terrace



The Family and Friends of Deloris Garber, Cayden Krueger, Nicole Cox, Joyce Monroe, Darlene Willing, Tom Drost, John Matthews, Russell Ultsch, Mildred Wedel, Marlene Nolta, Helena Haug, James Swain, Nadine Polzin, Janice Hemerley, Joanie Genz, Charlotte Ross, Brianna, Kateri Bartz, Cory Bartz, Roy Jacob, Hope, Terry Scribner, Marilyn Straw, and all of our members who are homebound. Additionally, please pray for the protection of all of those who serve in the military

September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1 PM LWML Board Meeting	2 8:00 AM TOPS	3
4 9AM Worship 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9 8:00 AM TOPS	10
11 9AM Worship 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study	12	13 6PM Board of Trustees	14 9AM Sewing 7PM Board of Membership & Evangelism	15	16 8:00 AM TOPS	17
18 9AM Worship 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study	19 9:00 AM Fellowship Comm. Meeting 10 AM Finance Board Meeting	20 9:30AM Women's Bible Study 5 PM Personnel Planning Comm Meeting	21	22	23 8:00 AM TOPS	24
25 9AM Worship 10:15 Fellowship 10:45 Bible Study	26	27 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6PM Parish Council Meeting	28 9AM Sewing	29	30 8:00 AM TOPS	



**We gather for worship every Sunday morning at 9 am,
and everyone is welcome!**

You have a savior who is Christ the Lord, and we invite you to join us in receiving the gifts which God delights in giving you through His Son.

God loves all people. His Son died in the place of everyone and answered for all of our sins - including yours. Everyone who trusts in his death for the forgiveness of their sins will receive the free gift of eternal life with God. We would love to have the opportunity to tell you more about this good news.

Where everyone is invited and Jesus is Lord!

Contact Us

If you would like to learn more about our congregation, please email our pastor:
dennisroser@gmail.com

Our address:

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Beloit, WI 53511-5167
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Visit us on the web:

www.stjohnsbeloit.com

Facebook:

<http://tinyurl.com/z7xexdy>



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