

# October 2020

Elder: Josh Breugem

Altar Guild: Lynn Eilts, Audree Olson

Stewardship: Scott Jungers



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3  6:00 pm Worship*
4 9:15 am SS & Bible Class 10:30 Worship* Usher Team: Bill Buryanek Acolyte: Jessen, Karlee Camera: Blake VB A/V: Mandie Allen Acc: Peggy Christensen	5  ———Pastor Lowe @ Fall	6  Pastor's Conference———	7  5:45 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Bible Study	8	9	10  6:00 pm Worship
11 <b>LWML Sunday/ Rev Flo</b> 9:15 am SS & Bible Class 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Potluck meal Usher Team: Dave Aldrich Acolyte: Tessa, Makiya Camera: Derek Allen A/V: Dan Tentinger Acc: Peggy Christensen	12	13	14  5:45 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Bible Study	15	16	17  6:00 pm Worship*
18 9:15 am SS & Bible Class 10:30 am Worship* 11:30 am Church Council mtg Usher Team: Denny Peters Acolyte: Justin & RJ Camera: Dakota Allen A/V: Derek Allen Acc: Sharon Wakeman	19  7:00 pm LWML	20	21  5:45 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Bible Study	22	23	24  6:00 pm Worship
25 <b>Reformation Sunday</b> 9:15 am SS & Bible Class 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Voters Mtg Usher Team: J Breugem Acolyte: Tristen, Ani Camera: Derek Allen A/V: Tom Murren Acc: Tracy DeBruin	26	27	28  5:45 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Bible Study	29	30	31  No Saturday worship srvc Wedding Wakeman/ Bultman

# Steward Builders

A newsletter to help you grow as a steward.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.

## God Expects Fruit

In John 15, Jesus tells us that He is the true Vine, and we are the branches attached to the Vine. When we abide in Jesus, we will bear fruit (good works). Only in Jesus is our fruitfulness true service to God. The importance of bearing fruit is the essence of the first few verses in chapter 15. God is glorified when we *"bear much fruit and so prove to be [His] disciples"* (verse 8).



This expectation of bearing fruit is also stated elsewhere in Scripture. The Apostle Paul wrote, *"Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to Him Who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God"* (Romans 7:4). With Christ living within us, we are devoted to serving God. In his letter to the church in Corinth, Paul exhorts the Corinthians to bear fruit:

*"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work"* (2 Corinthians 9:8). With new lives in Christ, we are encouraged to bear fruit: *"... Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God"* (Colossians 1:10).

In his letter to Titus, Paul again tells us how the grace of God is at work in our lives so we can bear fruit: *"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works"* (Titus 2:11-14). God's grace enables us to renounce sin and empowers us to pursue lives that bear fruit.

We have no excuse for not bearing fruit. All we need is supplied by God. God gives us His gift of faith by which He empowers and equips us to do good works in His name.

## Following Jesus' Example

When we have done some yard work, many of us may have used a tree pruner. A tree pruner is used to reach up into a tree to lop off unwanted branches. A tree pruner is kind of like an arm

## Coming this month at Trinity:

### MissionFest!

Pastor Paul Flo from Siouxland Hispanic Missionary will be here October 11 to present in Bible Class/Sunday School his work in the Siouxland area. Pastor Flo will preach for the 10:30 service. The congregation is invited to join Pastor Flo for a potluck meal following the service. Bring whatever.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League, or LWML, is mission focused. We will also be celebrating LWML Sunday on Oct. 11.

### ReformationFest!

October 25 we will observe the 503rd anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Dennis Avery, from Spirit Lake, formerly of Hawarden, will be here to play for the special festival service. Pastor hopes to feature other events in the future to demonstrate the capabilities of our new organ!

### Hymn of the Month

"Lord Jesus Christ with Us Abide" LSB 585. This is a hymn written by Philip Melancthon, Luther's right-hand man, and author of the Augsburg Confession- the primary confession of the Lutheran Church. It is a prayer to remain faithful to God's Word in troubling times. The tune may have been written by Luther himself.

### Youth Group

Corn Maze! On October 18<sup>th</sup> we will meet at church at 1:30 pm to carpool to the corn maze in Harrisburg. Please bring money for snacks.

## **"This Is the Life" and "Main Street Living"**

View the programs on the Main Street Living website: [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) or KCAU.

October 4, 2020 "The Missing Ingredient" – Bob and his fiancée Lynn are planning their wedding when she overhears her parents planning to separate after the wedding. *Main Street Living*: Rev. Robert Schilling from Pender, NE

October 11, 2020

This Is the Life – "The Visitation" – Pastor Andrew Burdick is having problems keeping his congregation together. Bishop Smith visits him to identify some troubling leadership spots and to renew faith in his ability to get things done. *Main Street Living*: Rev. Randy Cormeny of Battle Creek, IA

October 18, 2020

This Is the Life – "Happiness is Dirty Hands" – School teacher Kent lives and teaches High School in a troubled metro area. The decision for him and his wife to live in a poverty area is troubling their marriage. *Main Street Living*: Rev. Robert Mayes of Beemer, NE

October 25, 2020

This Is the Life – "Destination Unknown" – Paul Werner is a nuclear scientist. He plans to reject American values and defect to the Soviet Union. *Main Street Living*: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler of Lutheran Hour Ministries



### **Cancer Benefit for Jon Johnson**

**Saturday, October 24, 2020**

**At the Community Center**

**Doors open at 3:00pm**

**Central Catering meal from 5:00-7:00pm**

**Minimum \$10 meal charge**

**Delivery and carry-out available**

**Bake Sale (contact Sherri Kaskie 551-2398)**

**Silent Auction and Raffles (contact Karen Longhorn 551-2018)**

**For questions contact Karen Longhorn or**

**Missy Eilts at the Willow Tree 551-3998**



extension because it is much more convenient than getting on a ladder which may or may not reach the branch you are aiming at.



In a way, that tree pruner is a picture of what serving is like. Just as it reaches beyond your own arm's length, so do your arms and hands reach out to help others as an extension of Christ's love. Jesus walked this earth for approximately thirty years, and, during that time, His hands were always busy touching, healing, lifting, and comforting. With His ascension into Heaven, that job has been left to us.

Each of us can look around and see people who we can touch, lift up, or comfort. There are many people who would benefit from our service. What about the shy person at your place of work? Could you encourage him or her? What about the elderly person across the street who wants to share stories of his youth? Could you be a patient listener? What about people in your extended family? Maybe they would appreciate a little time with you!

Jesus was never too rushed to stop and talk to someone in need. Although He had much to accomplish, He never raced from one task to another. Jesus always spoke to people in love,

carrying out the reason for His coming into this world: "...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). God, Who gives us all we need to do whatever He asks us to do, will give you the opportunity and ability to serve others.

### **Following God's Financial Counsel**

We make financial decisions daily. We decide whether to spend our money, give it, lend it, save it, or invest it, and we need to be diligent in the handling of our money. God expects us to be wise in the management of the money that He entrusts to us (Matthew 25:14-30). Because money is part of life, it's important to come to know what our Lord teaches us about it in His Word. While money itself is neutral, we can make it either a positive or negative part of our lives. When God has first place in our lives rather than our love for money, a big obstacle to an intimate relationship with Christ is eliminated.

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the ark?" "No" replied Johnny. "How could he with just two worms?"

### **Having the Right Focus**

A theme the Apostle Paul returns to often throughout his letters in the New Testament is that of putting off the Old Adam and putting on the New Self. Get rid of those things that are a hindrance to your life in Christ. "*Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. And be thankful*" (Colossians 3:2, 15). Focusing on temporal problems, we tend to get bogged down. Setting our minds on things above, however, we cannot but be thankful for all God is and all He has done and continues to do for us in Christ.

**Blessings on your Stewardship Journey!**

## Benefit Rummage Sale for Vander Feens

Redeemer Lutheran in Sioux City is hosting a rummage sale to help defray medical costs for Chase and Kylie Vander Feen's new baby girl, Banks. Early medical tests showed that Banks had Spina Bifida (a birth defect in which a developing baby's spinal cord fails to develop properly). Mom Kylie traveled to a specialist in Minneapolis, and a successful intrauterine surgery was performed on the baby when she weighed just 1 lb. 8 oz. Since birth, Banks has been at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis.



The rummage sale will be held in the gym at Redeemer on Fri. Oct. 16 from 8 am –6pm and Sat. Oct. 17 from 8 am –1pm. Free-will offering will be taken for each item. If you would like to donate, items can be dropped off at Redeemer in Sioux City.



## Following God Where He Leads

In the book of Exodus, we read about the people of Israel who had been slaves in Egypt for 430 years. God chose Moses to lead them out of slavery. Before the people entered the promised land, Moses died. Moses had ordained Joshua as the next leader of the Israelites. Joshua had seen up close what the challenges were before him. How eager he was for his new job we don't know, but we do know that God continued to encourage him. Over and over in the book of Joshua, God says, *"Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous"* (Joshua 1:6, 9).

Perhaps God is leading you into some new challenges. Perhaps you are sensing His nudge and are trying to ignore it, because it's something you really don't want to do or don't feel adequate to do. Maybe God is talking to you about being more open about your faith to your friends. Maybe He's asking you to lead a Bible study for your peers. Maybe He's asking you to serve on a certain committee at church. Maybe He's asking you to witness to a co-worker. Maybe He's calling you to prepare for fulltime Christian service as a career.

These things can be a little scary. Remember Moses' reaction when God spoke to him from the burning bush? God's plan for him wasn't exactly what Moses had in mind for his life. Just as God did not call Moses or Joshua or any of His servants without equipping them for the task ahead, neither will He leave you on your own. He has already given you the gifts necessary to do whatever He wants you to do, and He will make a path for you to follow.

## Be an Encourager

Do you have a nickname? Some people have nicknames that are derived from their full names. Some have gotten nicknames because of a physical feature (which can be very hurtful) or something they have accomplished (like "Wrong Way Marshall" who ran the wrong way to score a touchdown for the opposing team!).

*"Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement)..."* (Acts 4:36) was a man with a nickname anyone would be proud to have. His nickname is widely known; not too many even realize his real name was Joseph. How did this steward of God earn this nickname?

The first time the Bible mentions Barnabas is in the passage above where we read that he *"sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet."* Wow! Wouldn't that provide encouragement? Knowing that someone believed in your work so much that he would give the entire proceeds from his property to support your work would surely inspire you to work even harder.

In Acts 13:2 we read, *"The Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for Me [the Holy Spirit] Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'"* Here Barnabas is partnered with Saul, who later takes the name Paul. Whose name is more recognizable? In verse 42 of the same chapter, we find the names reversed: *"As Paul and Barnabas..."* What has happened is that God has chosen to make Paul the leader on their missionary trips and to delegate Barnabas as his companion, his fellow-worker. Did Barnabas quit when he no longer had top billing? No way! He continued laboring beside Paul as they ministered to the early Church.

He did have a disagreement with Paul, though, that arose from his desire to encourage and his choice not to give up on people. The problem was this: Another disciple, a young man named, *"John, also called Mark"* had traveled with them but, at one point, had *"deserted them in Pamphylia"* (Acts 15:37-38). Paul refused to take Mark, so Barnabas parted company with Paul and took Mark himself to do the Lord's work. Barnabas was willing to give someone a second chance. Don't you think Mark was encouraged?

We're all in need of encouragement, and we are all equipped to give encouragement. It's easier to complain and find fault, but, even with the most disagreeable person, we can find something to commend. Make it your goal to find someone each day to encourage.

## From Pastor's Desk....

In October we remember the Lutheran Reformation. When the friar Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses (points of teaching to debate) on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, he ignited a global movement that forever changed the Church. We in the Missouri Synod often think the Reformation was merely a German thing, but, even in Luther's day, the Reformation message of Salvation in Jesus Christ alone by faith alone spread rapidly across Europe. Czechs or Bohemians, as they were called then, were some of the first to embrace the Lutheran faith, but soon Swiss and Austrians joined. A student named Agricola, studying with Luther at Wittenberg, brought the Reformation to Finland. Before long, the kings of Sweden and Denmark (who also ruled Norway and Iceland) converted their nations to Lutheranism. The Swedish King Gustavus Adolphus saved Lutheranism after Luther's death from the Holy Roman Emperor. Lutherans were found in England, albeit rather unwelcome because of Henry VIII (He got into it with Luther over his desire to divorce Catherine). Little did Henry know his line would die out and in less than 200 years they'd be asking the Lutherans of Hanover to be their kings and queens. (All the kings named George were Lutherans first.) Lutherans would spread the Gospel beyond Europe to India, China, Africa, and North American. There were Lutherans in America in the 1600s!

Why the history lesson? The Reformation teaching of faith alone by grace alone in Christ alone, was ignited by Luther was spread by countless Christians. Along with word of mouth, the gift of technology (printing press and now other technology) giving access to God's Word, perhaps billions of people have heard and believed in Jesus Christ. None of this is about Luther. The Gospel is always and only about Jesus Christ. God's Word and Spirit create and sustain faith when and where He pleases, so that you and I are hearing and believing in Jesus Christ today in 21<sup>st</sup> century America. This is incredible! A true miracle!

Today, the Reformation continues as many hear and believe the Gospel by the grace of God. What does this mean for the Church? The Church is the Lord's Church. The message, His message! As God used Luther to rediscover the Gospel, he is using us in our day to live as lights to the world. Wherever you are, and whatever you are doing- moms or dads, children, friends, at your work, at school and ball games, you are living witnesses to what Jesus does for us all. Never underestimate what the Lord does through His people doing ordinary things. The Reformation teaching still continues across the globe. How about that!

## October Birthdays

- 1 Bruce Bultman
- 3 Todd Van Wyhe
- 6 Tessa Graves, Merry Landenberger
- 8 Vale McVay
- 9 Bode Phillips
- 10 Isaac Topete
- 11 Brett Anderson
- 12 Don Dimmick
- 13 Teresa Sperle
- 14 William Justin Phillips, Tatum Utesch
- 15 Brian Engleman, Jaden Jacobs, Amanda Van Bochove, Sharon Wakeman
- 18 Jacob Vanderham, Dave Zierke
- 19 Tara Harry, Brayton Kruid
- 20 Shirley Cain, Dustin Huls, Diane Smith, Ada Waterman
- 21 Heather Schurman, Ericka Weinmann
- 22 Mikah McVay, Harmony Wills
- 23 Taylor Pies
- 24 Trinity Stevens
- 25 Reed Anderson
- 26 Mark Marienau
- 30 Bonnie Miller, Destiny Von Bochove
- 31 Debra Bultman, Emmalee Van Wyhe



## October Anniversaries

- |    |                               |          |
|----|-------------------------------|----------|
| 3  | John and Pam Van Ballegooyen  | 40 years |
| 5  | William and Kimberly Phillips | 7 years  |
| 8  | Cody and Adrianna Star        | 4 years  |
| 20 | Curt and Lycia Anderson       | 41 years |
| 24 | Brice and Amanda Buryanek     | 5 years  |
| 29 | Dan and Peggy Christensen     | 49 years |



**Read the Bible in one year by reading the following passages this month....**

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Jonah 2:2-9        | Jeremiah 32-34   |
| 2. Psalm 114          | Jeremiah 35-37   |
| 3. Psalm 115          | Jeremiah 38-40   |
| 4. Psalm 116          | Jeremiah 41-43   |
| 5. Psalm 117          | Jeremiah 44-47   |
| 6. Psalm 118          | Jeremiah 48-50   |
| 7. Psalm 119:1-8      | Jeremiah 51-52   |
| 8. Psalm 119:9-16     | Lamentations 1-2 |
| 9. Psalm 119:17-24    | Lamentations 3-5 |
| 10. Psalm 119:25-32   | Ezekiel 1-3      |
| 11. Psalm 119:33-40   | Ezekiel 4-6      |
| 12. Psalm 119:41-48   | Ezekiel 7-9      |
| 13. Psalm 119:49-56   | Ezekiel 10-12    |
| 14. Psalm 119: 57-64  | Ezekiel 13-15    |
| 15. Psalm 119:65-72   | Ezekiel 16-18    |
| 16. Psalm 119:73-80   | Ezekiel 19-21    |
| 17. Psalm 119:81-88   | Ezekiel 22-24    |
| 18. Psalm 119:89-96   | Ezekiel 25-27    |
| 19. Psalm 119:97-104  | Ezekiel 28-30    |
| 20. Psalm 119:105-112 | Ezekiel 31-33    |
| 21. Psalm 119:113-120 | Ezekiel 34-36    |
| 22. Psalm 119:121-128 | Ezekiel 37-39    |
| 23. Psalm 119:129-136 | Ezekiel 40-42    |
| 24. Psalm 119:137-144 | Ezekiel 43-45    |
| 25. Psalm 119:145-152 | Ezekiel 46-48    |
| 26. Psalm 119:153-160 | Daniel 1-3       |
| 27. Psalm 119:161-168 | Daniel 4-6       |
| 28. Psalm 119:169-176 | Daniel 7-9       |
| 29. Psalm 120         | Daniel 10-12     |
| 30. Psalm 121         | Hosea 1-4        |
| 31. Jonah 2:2-9       | Hosea 5-7        |



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