St. John's Messenger

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







From the Pastor's Study

Dear Friends,

Again yesterday, I had the joy of hearing from someone in our community who is not a member of St. John's that they worship with us on Youtube. I thank God that we are able to serve our Lord and the ministry of His Word in this way. As with most things in this fallen world, there is a downside. While our service to the ministry of the Word has grown tremendously during the COVID period, our service to the sacra-

mental ministry of the Lord's Church has suffered. For a whole host of reasons, many of our members who previously received the Lord's Body and Blood for the forgiveness of their sins weekly in the Divine Service have received it only sporadically or not at all during the COVID crisis.

If you are unable to receive the Lord's Supper with us in the Divine Service, I ask you to reach out to Berta so that she can place a time on my calendar for you to come to the church to receive these precious gifts that God delights in giving you through His Son. (officestjohnsbeloit@gmail.com)

While it is true that the reception of the Lord's Supper is not necessary for salvation, it is also true that the reception of the Lord's Supper is one of the means through which God maintains saving faith in Christ among the baptized. Please reflect with me on Luther's explanation of the Lord's Supper in the *Small Catechism*.

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write:Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

(continued on page 2)

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

http://catechism.cph.org/en/sacrament-of-the-altar.html

What seemed like a short interruption of normal daily life has morphed into some kind of a "new normal." While many adjustments to our daily routines are simply practical, Christians cannot allow absenting themselves from the Lord's Supper to become a part of their new normal. If you are not currently receiving the Lord's Supper regularly, please email Berta at officestjohnsbeloit@gmail.com or call her M-W-F mornings between 9 am and 1 pm at (608) 362-8595, and she will place a time on my calendar for you to receive the Lord's Supper. Available appointments begin on October 14. If you need to receive the Sacrament sooner, please call me at 608-713-2050 and I will make it happen. I am very careful to follow all safety precautions in both the preparation and distribution of the Sacrament. The Scriptures teach us that God creates and maintains saving faith in Christ Jesus through His Word, Holy Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. These gifts given for the sake of Christ Jesus are for you!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor



Time Off for Good Behavior

Pastor Roser is out of quarantine. He has resumed office hours, visits, and other in-person care, and will be leading Worship this coming Sunday, October 4th. If you are healthy, and are comfortable with attending, please mask up and come to the 9:00 am Worship service.

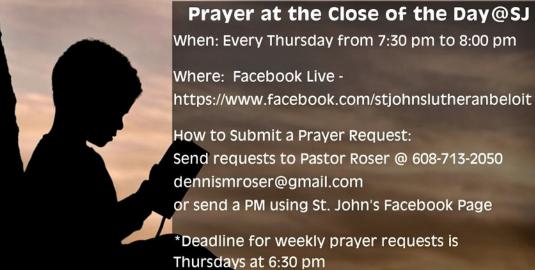
Pastor Roser will be taking off from Monday, October 5 through Friday, October 9. If you require pastoral assistance during that time, Pastor Dan Eddy (Messiah Lutheran) will be happy to assist. (314-775-7371.)

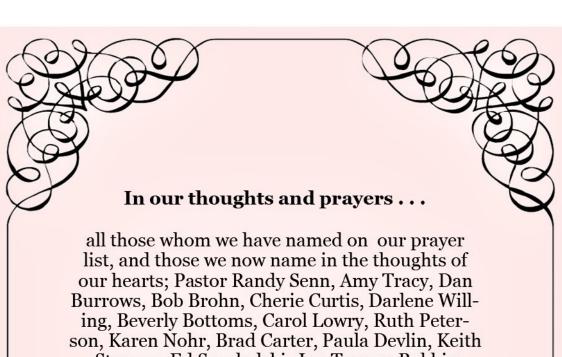
Pastor Roser will be back Saturday, October 10.

Bible Clips for Kids, Reading the Bible, and the Thursday Prayer at the End of the Day will all resume the following week.



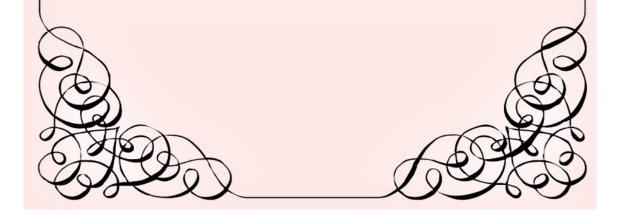
The weekly Worship bulletins are available for you on our website on the Digital Church page on our website.





ing, Beverly Bottoms, Carol Lowry, Ruth Peterson, Karen Nohr, Brad Carter, Paula Devlin, Keith Stowers, Ed Spychalski, Jon Turner, Bobbie Reynolds, Mike Papini, Tom Wulf, Doris Rindfleisch, Carl Colby, Joaquin, Sandy Smith, Marcie Moore, Laura Jo Pearson, Cayden Krueger, Janice Hemerley, Lauren Mae, and all of our members who are homebound, those who serve in the military (particularly Pastor Keith GeRue, Kyle Summers and Logan Davies), emergency

services, and all who work for the common good.



Our Homebound Members

Beverly Bingham, Rock Bay Harbor Apts.

Beverly Bottoms, Home

Dan Burrows, Skaalen Nursing & Rehab, Stoughton

Carol Gusk, Home

Donna Hall, Willowick, Clinton

Janice Hemerley, Autumn Lake, Beloit

John Kannengeiser, Home

Shirley Mathewson, Beloit Sr. Living

Vallie Nolta, Fair Oaks Rehab. & Health Care

Katherine Petitt, Green Knolls at Beloit

Ione Reetz, Home

Christine Ruckert, Autumn Lake, Beloit

Ed Spychalski, Home

Elinor Swain, Alden Meadow Park

Mildred Wedel, Home

"And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up." (James 5:15 ESV)

Women's Guild News Respectfully submitted by Betty Pearson



In the Word

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time (1Peter 5:6)

Of the Word

We all experience days, even weeks, when everything in life seems to be going our way. But then suddenly, altogether unexpectedly, everything shifts into reverse. One day the sun is shining brightly; the next day all is dark and overcast. One week we are actively carrying out our responsibilities; the next week we are lying helpless in a hospital bed.

God is Lord. He rules His creation and His children with a mighty hand. When we pray to our god in our time of need, we may do so with confidence, knowing that the God who sent His Son to die for us certainly will also...lift (us) up in (His) time.

It has been said there are two ways to open a flower bud. You can force the petals apart and, in doing so, destroy the flower; or you can leave it alone until slowly but surely, God unfolds it. God's ways are not our ways. Nor is His time our time. But our comfort lies in the fact that His tie is based on the true wisdom and knowledge of a God who not only knows us but loves us.

Walking with my Lord

Help me, O Lord, to patiently bear all things and trust that Your timing is always best. For Jesus' sake and in His name I pray. Amen.

(Mustard Seed: Loving in Faith. Author: Rev. Darold Reiner. www.lwml.org)

Notice: The Sewing Guild is in need of used sheets of any size to use for quilt making. Also needed are small baby

October Birthdays

- 3 Ron Kassal
- 5 Michael Larson
- 7 Taytum Drager
- 8 Mahlon Hemerley
 - Richard Rindfleisch
- 11 Bill Bartz
- 12 Kelly Vander Kooi

Nancy Nohr

Natalie Burns

13 David Wildauer

- 16 Aubree Mears
- 17 Eric Huth

Linda Gage

30 Thomas Gage



Wedding Anniversaries



- 15 Paul and Pat Weber
- 20 Robert and Sarah Hoenig
- 27 Ron and Lori Kassal

The Office Phone

We've had some challenges with finding a way to keep the church office phone attended in a manner that best serves the needs of the congregation. Maintaining a line for voice mail with our current service was cost prohibitive, and varying combinations of phones and answering machines proved futile, as something in building's lines blocks those systems. (Believe us...we've tried everything.)

To best serve you, we have chosen when the office is "unmanned" to forward calls directly either to Pastor Roser's or Berta's cell. If you need to talk to Berta, she is <u>usually</u> in the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week from 9:00 am (give or take) until at least 1:00 pm (often later.) Her schedule is sometimes a little fluid, but those are the planned office hours. If she doesn't pick up right away, try again in a few minutes, or if it is something which needs immediate attention, you may contact her at (314)-775-7372.



Disaster Relief Trips — Hurricane Sally



The South Wisconsin District's office of Mission & Mercy will be sending teams of volunteers to Pensacola, Florida in response to Hurricane Sally.

October 3-11, 2020 October 17-25, 2020

October 31 — November 8, 2020

Prayers and monetary gifts are needed to support the recovery efforts in Florida and Louisiana. One hundred percent of gifts received will be used to assist the region and our mercy and disaster response / recovery efforts. Donations can be made through the link below (select "Mission & Mercy" as the Fund and "Disaster Relief/Mercy Care" as the Sub Fund), or by mailing a check made payable to:

South Wisconsin District c/o Disaster Relief 8100 West Capitol Drive Milwaukee, WI 53222

For more information on how you can assist with this effort, please go to swd.lcms.org/disaster-relief-trips-hurricane-sally/



Who Wants to Win a Culver's Gift Card?

We have a number of avenues to keep you apprised of the opportunities and events here at St. John's: The monthly Messenger, the weekly Communicator, the Facebook page, the Web page, the Sunday Bulletin, and (first and foremost) the Worship service. Many times we will repeat the information in more than one of the venues in an effort to make sure the information is

reaching everyone. But how can we tell if the announcements we're providing are getting through and being remembered?

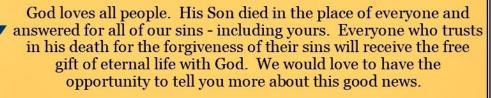
How about by playing a little game each month!

The last weekend of the month, watch for a list of four questions whose answers can be found in the one or more of the Messenger, Communicator, Sunday Bulletin, Facebook page, Web page, or during the Worship Service during that month. Submit the answers either in writing or by email to the church's Administrative Assistant by noon the following Friday, and a winner will be drawn from the entries with the correct answers. The winner gets a gift card for some delicious Culver's food!

See the August 28, 2020 Communicator for the current quiz. Get your answers in by noon on September 11, 2020 to be in the drawing for the Culver's Card!

We gather for worship every Sunday morning at 9 am and 11:00 am, whether in-person or on-line, 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.



Where everyone is invited, and Jesus is Lord!

Stay Connected!



Did you know if you miss a regular Sunday Worship Service, you can watch it in its entirety on YouTube!

Just use this link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCw9-9SrlBpZwdB2bPj-7Stg



If you would like see links to Pastor Roser's blog, uplifting posts, occasional humorous posts, and reminders of upcoming events, check out the St. John's Facebook page.

The posts are public, so you don't even have to be a Facebook member to see what's happening. The links are also available on our website.

Staff and Contact Information

Rev. Dennis Roser, Pastor

dennismroser@gmail.com cell: (608) 713-2050

Mrs. Berta Eddy, Administrative Assistant

officestjohnsbeloit@gmail.com

www.stjohnsbeloit.com

www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheranbeloit/ www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheranschoolbeloit

www.youtube.com/channel/UCw9-9SrlBpZwdB2bPj-7Stg



