



Birthdays

Makaela Kiesow	11/8
Laura Goetzka	11/9
Rita Selin	11/15
Wyatt Folgers	11/15
Jack Bue	11/22
Nicole Schwarzenberger	11/24
Scott Templeton	11/28
Mark Hanson	11/30

Anniversaries

Brad + Annette Markhardt	11/16
Jerry + Nancy Kirchman	11/26
Les + Wendy Mlsna	11/28

Property Committee

- Derausseau Heating and Cooling has completed all the work on the air conditioning and furnace problems that were occurring in BRF. At this time the Property Committee has decided to not fix the A/C on the north side of the building

Jesus Cares

- The 1st Jesus Cares Worship at the Cross will be held on January 29th at 1pm, Lisa Treptow is taking the lead on this
- Council approved guest preacher Joel Gaertner, head of the Jesus Cares Ministry, to preach at both locations January 9th.

OLD BUSINESS

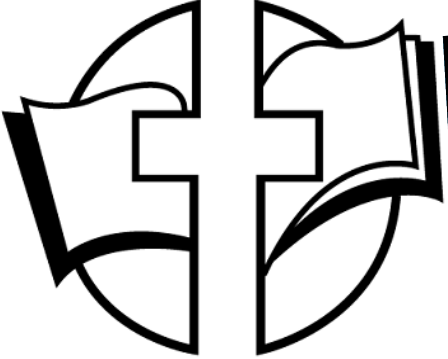
- Council discussed the purchasing of new hymnals. No consensus or decision has been made. The council is waiting for feedback from organists and a few more of the resources to be delivered to church. There will be more discussion on this in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

- Council approved a \$500 gift as a District Mission Offering that will be sent to support the new school that has been established at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Richland Center, WI.
- The congregation will be invited to join the church council to review the Vision Timeline before the council meeting December 20th in BRF at 6pm

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord’s Prayer

Recorded by Garrett Jessie



The Messenger

The Messenger November 2021

DRESS YOURSELF WITH...PATIENCE

It was 21 degrees below zero the February morning Jerome’s son decided to enter this world. Jerome held his son and lovingly hugged his mother. Then he left so his wife could get some much-needed rest. On his way out the door he promised he would bring her some of her favorite chocolate when he returned.

When Jerome headed back to the hospital, however, he forgot about the chocolate.

As soon as he entered the room and saw the disappointed look on his wife’s face, he realized his mistake. He apologized profusely and his wife forgave him. Her God-given

patience allowed her to overlook his offense.

That’s what Solomon had in mind when he wrote: “A man’s wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense” (Proverbs 19:11).

It is the human, sinful thing to store up offenses in feelings of resentment. It is the godly, glorious thing to forgive them.

God is hurt deeply every time we offend him by ignoring one of his commandments. He has the right to condemn us for our many offenses. Instead, God loves us and sent his Son, Jesus to be our Savior.

Knowing how God has for-



given us for our many offenses makes us willing to forgive those who offend us. The more we learn about God’s love and forgiveness, the more we can grow in our wisdom and patience.

The Messenger is published monthly for the congregation and friends of Faith Ev. Lutheran Church. Its purpose is to provide information regarding all areas of congregational news and to offer enlightening articles.

Anyone wishing to contribute articles, contact—in person or by email—or Laura Mueller: mueller-laura@hotmail.com or Pastor Neumann: pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com

Newsletter deadline: The submission deadline is the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month.

HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Play Cornhole with FiSH!

The FiSH group (Faith's Social Harbor) invites adults to "throw some bags" on Saturday, November 13. We'll play the fun lawn game of cornhole from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the comfort of our fellowship hall in BRF. Feel free to bring a snack to share if you would like to. Experience is NEVER required with any of our activities – come, learn, and have fun! This is a great opportunity for you to invite a friend, relative, or coworker. It would also be a great opportunity for a "date night." FiSH is our social group geared toward recreational activities for adults,



Faith Outreach Meeting

This is an open meeting – anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Agenda items include the community concert music selection. Our meeting will take place Sunday, November 14, at 12:30 p.m. in the BRF church building.



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

We will gather for a service of Thanksgiving on Thanksgiving Eve, November 24. The service will be held at our Cataract campus. The service will be at 6:30 pm.

A pie and ice cream social will follow the service.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FOR KIDS

Your children are invited to join us for our annual Christmas Crafts for Kids event. This will take place on Saturday, November 13. They will enjoy Christmas cookies, a Christmas devotion, Christmas music, and several fun Christmas craft stations.

A few notes to consider:

- * For ages 4-13
- * From 9-11 a.m.
- * Registration forms can be found online or on the table in the gathering area
- * Postcards are available at church for you to take and distribute

CARE PACKAGES

We will be collecting items for our college/military/away from home members once again this November. You can see who they are below. Each of our locations will have a box for the items we need for the boxes this year. A list of what is needed will be in the gathering area. What a wonderful opportunity for us to encourage one another and live a life of love!

Aspen Bue
Channing Manske
Chase Manske
Isabel Neumann
Malachi Neumann
Noah Neumann
Chase Severson



CENTRAL AFRICA MEDICAL MISSION

October 2021



This month, our letter will highlight a visit by Dr. Abigail Polzin, an Emergency Medicine Physician in Sioux Falls, SD. She is a great-niece of Edie (Schneider) Hintz, one of the first nurses at our Medical Mission in Zambia. She has always wanted to use her skills in underserved areas of the world and was able to do this in 2018 through a volunteer Kingdom Workers trip to Indonesia. She came to Malawi this September and was able to experience the medical work of the Lutheran Mobile Clinic. She then visited Zambia to see the mission of Mwembhezhi Lutheran Rural Health Center. Here are some of her impressions:

"My first Lutheran Mobile Clinic site visit was to Msambo. The loading of the MANY supplies is not an easy task but does go smoothly after many runs. The clinic packs each morning for medications, supplies, pill bottles, infant formula, vaccines, and all the equipment they might need. Loading up the ambulance is a truly impressive sight! My Chichewa is a bit rudimentary, but the driver and staff who accompanied me made me feel right at home. I learned about some of the unique features of this village (not too remote) as well as the wonderful relationship the clinic has with the Lutheran church at Msambo. I was able to arrive in time for devotion, led by Pastor Kalima. Everyone was invited to hear God's Word while clinic was being prepared. Even the women filling buckets with water at the borehole were listening to the Gospel message. It's hard not to draw Biblical comparisons to the Living Water! I watched families come together- many for well checks, vaccinations and female appointments. Once all of the patients were seen and medications dispensed, we repeated the loading process and returned to the home base in Lilongwe. I was able to hand deliver a suitcase of baby hats, pill bottles, and some requested medications to be used at clinic.

Next, I traveled to Zambia and was able to visit the Mwembhezhi clinic near Lusaka, Zambia. This site has a lot of meaning to me as my family had previously visited this exact spot. As opposed to the Malawi clinic sites, this clinic can keep medications and equipment on site so the patients come to them. Many of the workers live on site or nearby. The Clinic Administrator, Alisad Banda, was an excellent guide for me and has obviously worked hard with the dedicated clinic staff. A building project was recently completed, renovating the lab, pharmacy, offices and patient care areas. The water storage tank was elevated to provide improved water pressure and flow. The staff is so happy with the improvements and are eager to provide even better medical care to the patients who come from miles around. A special thanks to all who contributed to the funding of this clinic renovation project. Your generosity was well-received and appreciated! A quilt made by my Aunt Judy with some fabric brought back from Zambia in the 1970's was given as a special donation and will be hanging in the entryway of the clinic to welcome patients and staff."

Thanks to Dr. Polzin for sharing her insights and experience with us! I'm including some photos she took while there. Gary and I are looking forward to the CAMM 60th year anniversary celebration in Milwaukee on October 9th.

Beth Evans, Nurse in Charge

Faith Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes Summary

October 18, 2021

The meeting opened at 6 pm with Council watching a “God’s People Gather” roundtable discussion.

ATTENDANCE

- Pastor Neumann, Brad Markhardt, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Dave Spaude, Kirk Geotzka, Tyler Jessie Rick Treptow (via Zoom)

ELDER’S REPORT

- Dave reviewed preparation and planning steps for our “God’s People Gather” Sunday that will be held on December 5th. There will be flyers, newsletter articles, mailings, emails, and calls to contact all members of the congregation to encourage 100% attendance that Sunday.
- Wyatt Geisler and Bryce Geisler were baptized privately October 9th

PASTOR’S REPORT

- Council discussed bringing back the common cup during communion. Council felt it was not yet time to resume using it.
- Pastor James Korthals will be leading a 6 week bible study starting at the beginning of March. He will be reimbursed per the synod guidelines.
- Council approved the Sunday after Christmas to be a pulpit exchange as we have done in years past.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Tyler presented a financial report showing a net gain of \$3568.43 through the end of September. MSC to accept financial report for September, 2021
- \$46,182 has been given towards the Jubilee Debt Reduction through October 10th
- Council will make the recommendation to the congregation at the next Congregational Meeting to add \$50,000 from the church’s savings account (\$204,138.55 current balance) to add to the Jubilee Debt Reduction total. Council feels that this amount will allow the congregation to sustain all current forms of ministry as well to ensure that the ministry of the church will be able to proliferate into the future. Moved, Seconded and Confirmed

SPECIAL REPORTS

Outreach Committee

- Brad reviewed the Outreach Committees research into establishing an Early Childhood Education center at the church. Their recommendation is to not pursue this avenue further at this time due to monetary and staffing issues realized by some of our sister congregations. The Outreach committee does see great opportunity in ministering to children and leading fathers and husbands to encourage their families. The church council supported the recommendation of the Outreach Committee.

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DOOR OFFERING

When the disciples asked Jesus about signs that would accompany his coming again, do you remember what Jesus said? He said, *“There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains”* (Matthew 24:7,8). To that we could add fires and floods and hurricanes and tsunamis. Jesus also mentioned wars.

Every year we seem to see more and more of these things. It shouldn’t surprise us. At the same time, these natural disasters and hardships caused by war also give believers a wonderful opportunity to build bridges with others that then opens the door to share God’s Word with them. That is the whole idea behind our WELS Christian Aid and Relief. This WELS ministry provides humanitarian support to congregations and areas affected by natural disasters and other catastrophic financial events. In doing so, doors are opened to sharing Jesus. The WELS Christian Aid and Relief is also working with the United States to help Afghan refugees in our country.

In a desire to support this ministry and to support this work in places we might not be able to go, we will have a door offering to support WELS Christian Aid and Relief on Sunday, November 28. May God lead us to examine the blessings he has given us to see how we might use our blessings to be a blessing to other.

HAPPENING THIS MONTH



SPARTA FOOD PANTRY

We will once again be collecting food for the Sparta Food Pantry this year. During the month of November you can donate non-perishables to help those in need in the Sparta area. There will be a box for this at both worship locations.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE



Starting Sunday, November 28 and going through Sunday, December 19, the children in Black River Falls will be practicing for the Christmas Eve service during the regular Sunday School/Bible Class hour. There will be no Bible Study during this time.

DEER HUNTER WORSHIP SERVICE

As Christians, we want to put God first. That is our desire in all areas of life. At the same time, there are many things in life that the Lord has enabled us to do that are not contrary to his Word. One of those is enjoying the hunting season. However, when hunting takes first place over God’s Word, there is a problem.

But thanks be to God! Because of the Christian freedom we have, you have opportunity to enjoy the hunting season while still putting God first. That is the purpose of a special worship service on Thursday, November 18, at 6:30 p.m. at our Black River Falls campus. This service allows us to gather around Word and Sacrament on Thursday, and if we so desire, go out hunting on Sunday morning. Yes, we want God to be first in our lives. May we make use of this opportunity to do just that.



An Advent with the Angels



An Advent Social at Faith Lutheran Church December 5, 2021 2:00 p.m.

Advent Social is an opportunity for women of all ages to set aside the hustle and bustle of holiday preparation and focus their minds and hearts on the birth of Christ. It is a beautiful time filled with Scripture readings, narration, prayer, songs of praise and Christian fellowship.

Advent is a time for us to prepare our hearts for Jesus' coming. We want our focus to be on Jesus throughout this season, but all too often it gets caught up with the preparations in our homes, churches or communities.

This is our 9th year of Advent Social at Faith Lutheran Church. You are invited! Feel free to invite a friend or relative, acquaintance or neighbor. Set aside the date and time, Sunday, December 5, 2:00 p.m. at our Black River Falls location.

The angels were sent by God to speak the good news of a tiny baby – born to do what none of us could – pay for all the sins of all people. Jesus is our Christ, our Emmanuel, our Prince of Peace, our GOOD NEWS in the flesh, and the fulfillment of all promises in Scripture. Let us always thank God that the angels were sent to announce the Savior's coming. Always thank him for sending his one and only Son to be our Savior. Always be thankful that Jesus was willing to take on human flesh and be our substitute! Now we wait. We wait for the return of the angels that will signal judgment day, the beginning of our life in eternal peace, joy and happiness! That is also GOOD NEWS!

After the devotion, those interested may participate in a homemade cookie / candy etc. exchange. If you choose to participate in the exchange please bring 5 dozen homemade treats to share, the recipe, and a container to take your treats home in! We will make copies of all the recipes at church. Please note that if you do not wish to be part of the treat exchange, you are still welcome to come and enjoy the devotion, fellowship and cookie samples!



CELEBRATION SUNDAY! HAVE YOU HEARD?

Last month you heard the exciting news about a special Sunday that we will be having in December. After everything with COVID-19, we are so excited to be able to gather together again as a church family, and we want to celebrate that. The pandemic made us realize how God blesses us when we gather, and how much we miss it when we can't.

On Sunday, December 5, we are going to celebrate as a church family and praise God in a very special way as we gather together on what we are calling "God's People Gather" Sunday.

What can you do?

- ⇒ Pray for God to bless our gathering on this Sunday.
- ⇒ Personally invite others to this celebration Sunday. It could be fellow members that you miss worshipping and serving with. It could also be relatives, friends, neighbors, and co-workers - anyone who would benefit from hearing the gospel message.
- ⇒ Plan your schedule to make sure that you are able to be there.
- ⇒ Praise God for leading us through the pandemic and allowing us to gather again.

Look for even more information coming your way throughout this month. We look forward to seeing you there!

FROM THE LIBRARY



In the "difficult issues" section of our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at our BRF location, you will find the book, *I'm a Christian Even at Work* by Jerry L. Poppe. The first part of the book gives a view of basic economic principles in light of God's Word. The second part of the book applies economics and God's Word ethical problems facing businesses today.

To checkout, write the date, your name, and the name of the book/DVD/CD in the notebook on the shelf. To return, put the book/DVD/CD into the basket on the shelf and cross out your entry in the notebook.