

MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS THIS MONTH

- Ladies Aid**  
Thursday—November 7 @ 12:30 p.m. in Cataract
- Ad Hoc Child Protection**  
Saturday—November 9 @ 9 a.m. in Black River Falls
- FiSH Game Night**  
Saturday—November 9 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Youth Group**  
Sunday—November 10 @ 2 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Ladies of Faith**  
Monday—November 11 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Vision Timeline Meeting**  
Tuesday—November 12 @ 6:30 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Christmas Crafts for Kids**  
Saturday – November 16 @ 9:00 a.m. in Black River Falls
- Church Council Meeting**  
Monday—November 18 @ 6:30 p.m. in Black River Falls
- Faith Teachers Meeting**  
Sunday—November 24 @ 6 p.m. in Black River Falls



N6598 County Highway A  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
(mailing address)

N6774 Acorn Ave.  
Sparta, WI 54656

Phone: 715-284-0772  
Pastor: Joel Neumann

We're on the Web!  
www.faithwels.com

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church** is a part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a church body with congregations in all fifty states and missionaries in 25 countries.

**We are a Christ Preaching Church!** We believe, teach and confess that Jesus is God's own Son, who came into the world to be the Savior of all people so that through his sufferings, death and resurrection, we might have forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

**We Are A Bible Teaching Church!** We believe and teach that the Bible is the true and divinely inspired Word of God, the sole authority for Christian faith and life.



*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, please contact Pastor Neumann either in person or at the following email address: [pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoelneumann@gmail.com). Newsletter deadline: The submission deadline is the next-to-the-last Sunday of each month.



NOVEMBER 2019

I Need More...MONEY

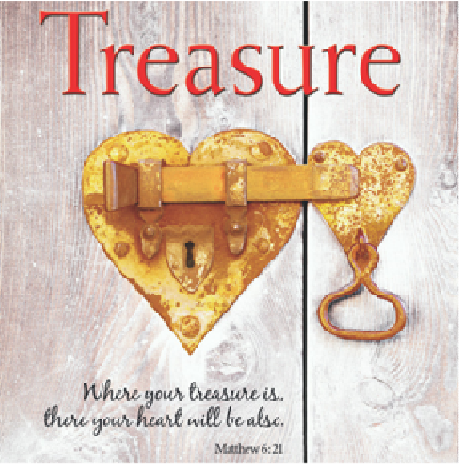
Someone once asked John D. Rockefeller, “How much money is enough?” “Just a little more,” he answered. At the time, he was one of the wealthiest men in the world.

Those who’ve heard that story and Rockefeller’s answer, usually divide into two groups: they either think of him as a greedy miser (“He has more money than he knows what to do with.”) or an honest pragmatist (“Hey, he’s just telling the truth—even if you’re rich, a little more is always nice.”). Don’t we all occasionally find ourselves thinking, “I need more money?”

There’s nothing wrong with financial security, but how much is enough? If you are pricing a vacation home in Florida and feel frustrated that you don’t have enough to buy a Ferrari too, that’s one thing. If you lost your job and can’t pay the bills, and it’s getting tough to put food on the table, that’s something else.

This is a complicated issue. It’s not easy to properly distinguish between real needs and selfish greed. Do you really need more money? Maybe.

Maybe not. When it comes to finances, the best advice comes from Jesus Christ. Our Savior said, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:19-21).



According to Jesus, a lot of folks expend an enormous amount of time and energy in pursuit of earthly treasure and financial security, but for what? In the end—if a bad economy, a poor decision, or unforeseen disaster doesn’t

claim it, time certainly will—you can’t take it with you.

That makes heaven the only worthwhile investment. And here’s the great news: Jesus lived, died, and rose again to provide all the heavenly treasure for you. Peace with God—now and forever—that’s what he freely gives.

Put your trust in Jesus. Find in him real treasure and eternal security. What more do you need? Besides, Christians know that the Lord will always provide. We’ve got his Word on that: “Do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:31-33).

Do you really need more money? You don’t need to answer that question. Put your trust in Christ—seek first his kingdom and his righteousness—and let him answer the question for you.

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

October 21, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

- ♦ The meeting opened at 6:00 pm with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion focusing on Engaging Members in Ministry.
- ♦ Attendance: Pastor Neumann, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Jerry Kirchman, Dave Spaude, Grady Severson, Brad Rahmlow, Brad Markardt

ELDER’S REPORT

- ♦ A motion was made to receive into membership by means of transfer Ron and Karen Baerbock. Moved, Secondded, Consensus (MSC). To be ratified at the next quarterly meeting.
- ♦ A motion was made to grant the peaceful transfer of Gordon Ritter to Bethany Lutheran Church in Kenosha Wisconsin. MSC. To be ratified at the next quarterly meeting.
- ♦ Council was informed that Corey Bue will be received into membership by means of confession of faith in November
- ♦ Pastor conducted a private baptism for Jemma Rain Hendrickson on Saturday, October 5.

PASTOR’S REPORT

- ♦ Pastor presented a statistical report for the month of September and a summary of upcoming worship, bible class opportunities, outreach prospects and contact that has been made with them, as well as the youth group’s planned events and service projects
- ♦ Council approved up to \$150 in covering the cost of a meal for a planned youth outing in December
- ♦ Pastor presented details about the WELS Lutheran Leadership Conference that will be held in Chicago in January. He encouraged the council to contemplate whether they saw value in members or pastor attending such a conference. He provided them with material to consider in making their decision.
- ♦ 10 subscriptions of Meditations for the amount of \$185 will be purchased to hand out to perspective new members MSC
- ♦ Pastor presented the statistical report that will be presented at the Voters’ meeting – drawing the council’s attention to the decrease in Bible Class attendance and asked if there was any discussion on that point

FINANCIAL REPORT

- ♦ Brad presented a financial report showing a net loss of only \$917.35 through the end of September. MSC to accept financial report for September, 2019
- ♦ There was an accounting error that occurred during the transition of treasurers. This error caused the pastor’s salary to be overpaid nearly \$4,500 over the synod guidelines this year. This error will be discussed at the quarterly voter’s meeting. The council has suggested that this sum should not be paid back to the church. MSC

SPECIAL REPORTS

- ♦ Council reviewed the Outreach Committee Report supplied by Brad Markhardt
- ♦ The vision timeline will be reviewed by the outreach committee and the church council on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in BRF. Everyone is to go through the survey sheet from the Ministry Conference before this meeting

NEW BUSINESS

- ♦ Pastor presented the church council with information concerning Martin Luther College’s 2-year campaign titled “Equipping Christian Witnesses.” He asked approval to show a couple videos and include inserts that would highlight this campaign, and suggested a door offering be taken to support this campaign. There will be a door offering in the future to support “Equipping Christian Witnesses”

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord’s Prayer.

The next Council Meeting will be held in BRF, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Recorded by Garrett Jessie

that this sum should not be paid back to the church. The members of the congregation also agreed this amount should not be paid back. MSC

New Business: After discussing Pastor’s health insurance, the motion was made that “the congregation will fund the WELS-VEBA plan 3 and will be responsible for the difference of the “individual Maximum out of Packet” and the “family maximum out of pocket” amounts of plan 2 to the “Individual Maximum out of pocket” and the “Family maximum out of pocket” amounts of plan 3, plus an additional 5% of plan 2’s “Maximum out of pocket”, both individual and family. This payment if needed, would be funded from the congregation’s WELS-CEF savings account. This will restrict the use of this account for this purpose only. There will be an additional amount set aside each year if the congregation does need to pay towards that maximum out of pocket. This amount will be decided while setting the budget at the next council meeting.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord’s Prayer

The next Quarterly Congregational Meeting will be held in BRF at 1 pm January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Recorded by Garrett Jessie

CARE PACKAGES



We will be collecting items for our college/military members from November 3<sup>rd</sup> to November 17<sup>th</sup>. Each church will have a box for the items and we’ll be filling six boxes. The boxes will be ready to be delivered by Thanksgiving. A list of what is needed is in the gathering area. What a wonderful opportunity for us to encourage one another and live a life of love!

November

Brad + Annette Markhardt 11/16

Jerry + Nancy Kirchman 11/26

Les + Wendy Mlsna 11/28

November

Leah Reetz 11/1

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

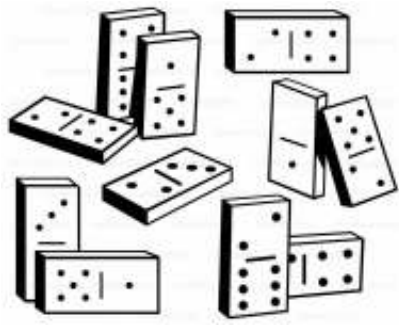
Beverly Zillmer 11/30

Mark Hanson 11/30



**All Aboard the Mexican Train with FiSH!**

The FiSH group (Faith’s Social Harbor) invites adults for a fun evening playing Mexican Train. This is a game played with dominos. We will be playing according to “Diener’s rules” this year. Experience is NEVER required with any of our activities – come, learn and have fun! We’ll meet Saturday, November 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the BRF building location. 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, single or married, younger or older.



**Faith Outreach Meeting**

This is an open meeting – anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Agenda items include ministry conference discussion and Christmas Crafts for Kids. Our meeting will take place Sunday, November 3, at 12:30 p.m. in the BRF church building.

**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY**

October 27th, 2019

Attendance: Pastor Neumann, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Jerry Kirchman, Dave Spaude, Grady Severson, Brad Rahmlow, Scott Templeton, Tyler Jessie, Gale Jessie, Joe Southwood, Ron Baerbock, Karen Baerbock, Mark Mueller

The meeting opened at 1:00 pm with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion. The overview of the agenda was accepted as presented. Motion. Seconded. Consensus. (MSC) Previous meeting minutes were read and accepted as presented. MSC

Elder’s report: The reception into membership of Ron and Karen Baerbock from Bethel in Galesville was ratified. MSC. Gordon Ritter was granted a peaceful transfer from our congregation to Bethany Lutheran in Kenosha. MSC Dave Spaude presented a statistical report for the third quarter of the year.

Special Reports: Attendees reviewed the Outreach Committee Report read by Pastor.

Property Committee: Scott T. is continuing to gather bids for seal coating the parking lots next summer. The crew removing the gas line in the rear of the BRF property has begun removing the gas line. Brotherhood Mutual came through with the same, if not better coverage at ¾ of the price. Our current church insurance (Church Mutual) Refunded the prorated annual insurance payment in the amount of \$3,628

Jesus Cares Ministry: There have been no Jesus cares services over the summer

Financial Report: Brad presented a financial report showing a net loss of \$642.35 through the end of the third quarter. MSC to accept financial report. Pastor’s salary was set at synod’s guidelines of \$52,580.27 per year, plus the housing allowance of \$934 per month. There was an accounting error that occurred during the transition of treasurers. This error caused the pastor’s salary to be overpaid nearly \$4,500 over the synod guidelines this year. The council has suggested



**SPARTA FOOD PANTRY**

Faith in Cataract will be putting out a box for the Sparta Food Pantry again this year. During the month of November you can donate non-perishables to help those in need in the Sparta area. The box will be located under the coat rack in the entry area.

**Sunday School Teachers**

The Faith teachers will meet Sunday, November 24, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the BRF church building.



**YOUTH GROUP SERVICE PROJECT**

On Sunday, November 10, the youth group will put their God-given gifts and abilities to use for others. On that day we will gather at church in Black River Falls and then go out and help members of the congregation with fall clean-up in their yards (weather permitting). We will meet at 2 pm, begin with devotion, and then head out to houses. If you have a rake, please bring one. Be sure to dress warm. We will plan to work until 4:30.



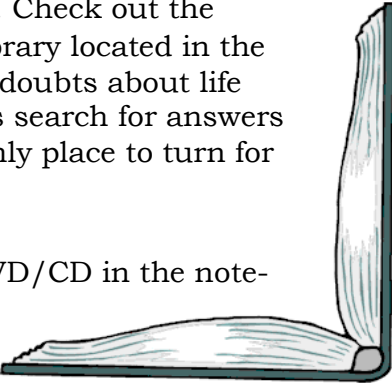
**CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE**

Starting Sunday, December 1 and going through Sunday, December 22, 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.

**Library Corner**

At this time of year, our thoughts turn to Luther and the Reformation. Check out the DVD, *A Return to Grace - Luther's Life and Legacy*, from our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at the BRF location. Luther had many questions and doubts about life and faith. Even though he never set out to change the world, Luther's search for answers led to the Reformation. This DVD will help you understand that the only place to turn for truth is the Bible.

To checkout, write the date, your name, and the name of the book/DVD/CD in the notebook on the shelf.



## MISSION FESTIVAL (SPECIAL SERVICE TIME)

We will be having a special mission festival preacher and Bible Class presenter on Sunday, November 17. Please NOTE the items below!

- This will be a joint service held at **Cataract**. Service will start at **9:30 a.m.** that morning.
- There will be a **Bible Class Presentation on Christian Life Resources at 10:45 a.m.** (Information on their mission, beginning and growth is found below)
- There will still be **Sunday School** that morning at **10:45 a.m.**
- A door offering will be collected to support Christian Life Resources after service that day.
- A potluck will be held after the Bible Class at 12 noon. Look for more information in the weeks to come about what to bring.



## CHRISTIAN LIFE RESOURCES

### OUR MISSION

*To use Life & Family Issues As Bridges To Convey The Love of God & To Share The Message Of Salvation Through Christ.*

*This organization educates people on what God's Word has to say about the value and sanctity of human life. The intent is to mobilize Christians to make God-pleasing decisions about life and family issues. We focus attention on many issues such as: abortion, infertility, birth control, post-abortion syndrome, assisted suicide, and euthanasia.*

### OUR BEGINNING

*When the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion nationally on January 22, 1973, members of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Libertyville, Illinois, saw the need to do something. Working with their pastor and with members from area Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) congregations, they opened the first WELS Lutherans for Life pregnancy counseling center. As time passed, more and more independent centers sprouted up around the country until 1983 when they united to form the national organization that existed as WELS Lutherans for Life. In 1999, the name was changed to Christian Life Resources, Incorporated.*

### OUR AFFILIATION WITH THE WELS

*Christian Life Resources subjects itself to the doctrine and practice of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, but it is not supervised or funded by the WELS budget or its administrators.*

### OUR GROWTH

*Today, our organization consists of pregnancy care centers across the United States. These centers are visited by approximately 11,000 clients each year. Our network of pregnancy care affiliates offer a warm heart, listening ear and helping hand along with a wealth of information to guide those involved in an unexpected life choice.*

*Christian Life Resources founded and supports New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This program began in 1993 in response to the needs of single mothers and their newborns by providing residence and assistance in spiritual, academic, and vocational concerns.*

## THE CHANGE FOR LIFE PROGRAM CONTINUES...BUT IT'S COMING TO AN END!

You might recall that our mission festival service back in February was cancelled because of a blizzard. Yet, we still wanted to have Christian Life Resources (CLR) come and present to us the ministry that they are privileged to carry out. They will be here November 17<sup>th</sup>. Part of that ministry is New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers. Since 1993, New Beginnings has provided a place for a single mother and her child to live, learn to care for her child, and, most importantly, learn about God and the salvation he provides in Jesus. Because we are having CLR come again for a mission festival, we also wanted to participate again in the Change for Life program to help support mothers and babies at New Beginnings. In February we collected and sent in \$700.

If you picked up a baby bottle please return it *on or before November 10*. This way we can send the bottles back with our Christian Life Resources Mission Festival Guest Preacher.



### DEER HUNTER WORSHIP SERVICE



Are you facing that hunting dilemma? You know - the one where you want to hunt but you also want and know you need to sit at the feet of Jesus and his Word. Well guess what, you can do both! We will have a special worship service on Thursday, November 21, at 6:30 p.m. at our BRF church building to remove the opening weekend/Sunday worship obstacle. We want God to be first in our lives. Here is a chance to do just that and still enjoy the blessings of his creation at the same time.

### THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

In the Apostles' Creed we confess, "I believe in God the Father Almighty...I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son...I believe in the Holy Spirit..." When was the last time you read through the "*What does this mean*" in the catechism concerning these articles of the Apostles' Creed? Each explanation of each article gives us reason to be thankful. So this Thanksgiving, we set aside time to thank God for the blessings spoken of in the Apostles' Creed. This service will be held at our Black River Falls location on November 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. Following the service we will have a pie and ice cream social. Mark the date on your calendar and bring your family!



### CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FOR KIDS

Your children are invited to our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Crafts for kids. They will enjoy Christmas cookies, a Christmas devotion, and several fun Christmas-themed craft stations. It will be held at Faith Lutheran Church, Black River Falls, on Saturday November 16 from 9-11 a.m. **Please note: this is a week earlier than in past years!**

