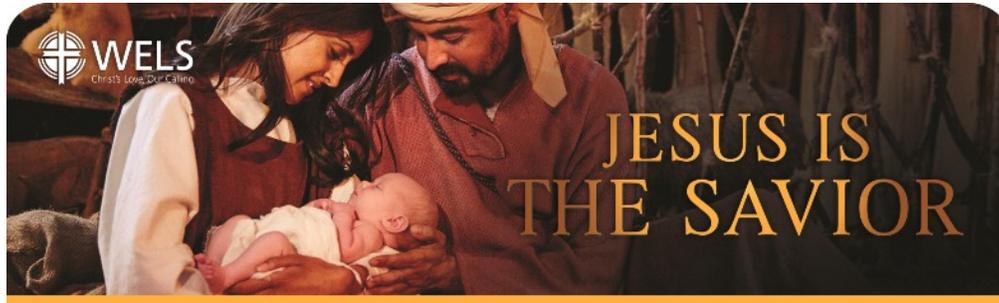


The Messenger

Rooted in Christ.  *Reaching Out With The Word.*

*Faith Ev. Lutheran Church
Pastor Joel Neumann - (715) 284-0772*

November 2016



Jesus is My Savior from the World

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." - John 16:33

Do you struggle in life? Are there days when it seems like you're under siege on all sides? Do you wish someone would save you from your family problems? From your health issues? From mistakes you've made and events you regret but can't change? In this world, everyone needs a savior from something. What, or who, do you need a savior from?

Jesus tells us that he is the Savior: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Maybe at first glance that seems like a somewhat simplistic thing for Jesus to say. How could he possibly hope to cover all the potential issues that could come up in the lives of his disciples in their world, to say nothing of ours today? How can people today trust a promise that was made 2,000 years ago? The world has really changed since then!

But Jesus wasn't talking about overcoming the world by healing diseases or mending broken relationships, although there were times in his ministry when he did just that. He was talking

about something far more timeless than health issues, relationship problems, or regrets from the past. Jesus was talking about breaking the cause of all the suffering and wickedness we have in our world. Jesus was talking about his victory over sin. And whether it's a sin you committed, a sin I've committed, or the sin of those in Bible times, Jesus defeated it. He accomplished a timeless victory, because sin is the root cause behind all pain and heartache, whether caused directly by human activities or indirectly as a consequence of the broken world we live in.

Jesus overcame all of that sin when he lived the perfect and sinless life that God demands. Jesus overcame all that sin when he laid down his perfect life at the cross and died—even though he didn't deserve it. Now you and I can overcome the world too by putting ourselves aside and placing our trust and reliance in Jesus. He leads us through the hardest of times and finally will take us home to his world—the kingdom of heaven he has prepared for all who believe in him.

COUNCIL MINUTES SUMMARY

Attendance: Pastor Joel Neumann, Scott Templeton, Mark Mueller, Brad Rahmlow, Todd Volk, Cody Heller, Dale Jessie.

- A. Call to order-The meeting opened at 6:30p.m. with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion reviewing Faith's Constitution Article VI Section 1-4 and Article VII Section 1-4.
- B. Pastor's report-
 - 1. Pastor gave a statistical report
 - 2. Prison ministry-started the first Tuesday this month
 - 3. Faith Alive Stewardship Sunday will be held on October 23.
 - 4. Wisconsin Lutheran Choir-Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Congregation members will host the Choir on Wednesday night. We will discuss in the future whether to hold a joint service that night at one location.
- C. Financial Report
 - 1. Cody presented a financial report showing a net loss of \$3,459.35. Motion by Todd, second by Dale-carried.
- D. New Business
 - 1. Cody discussed balloon of current church loan.
 - 2. We have two positions to fill by January on the Church Council.



Makaela Kiesow	11/08
Todd Volk	11/10
Wyatt Folgers	11/15
Kayla Manahan	11/19
Nicole Mlsna	11/24
Scott Templeton	11/28
Beverly Zillmer	11/30
Mark Hanson	11/30

Recorded by Brad Rahmlow



CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FOR KIDS



Want to get an early jump on your Christmas shopping? Need a couple hours of relaxation while your husband is off hunting? Do your kids enjoy doing crafts? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then we've got you covered. Have your children join us at Faith Lutheran Church in Black River Falls on Saturday, November 19th from 9-11 A.M. for our second annual Christmas Crafts for Kids. During this time, children will enjoy Christmas cookies and music while they rotate through several fun, Christmas-themed craft stations.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please email or call Nicole Stelter (steltnic@hotmail.com or 715-299-8520).



CHILDREN'S PRACTICE

Starting November 27, 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.



November 16th

Brad & Annette Markhardt

November 26th

Jerry & Nancy Kirchman

November 28th

Les & Wendy Mlsna



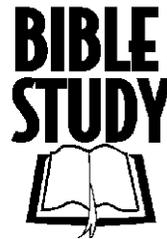
There will be a Faith teachers meeting on Tuesday, November 1, from 6:30-8 pm in the BRF church building.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

As we gather together this Thanksgiving we will lift our hearts in gratitude to the Lord for his provision and loving kindness. We will focus especially on the gift of nation, material blessings, family and church.

We have just one Thanksgiving service, and it will be held at our Cataract location on November 23rd, 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!



NEW BIBLE CLASS

A BIBLICAL REVIEW OF SIN AND GRACE IN LIGHT OF THE ISSUE OF HOMOSEXUALITY

You're waiting on your oil change and to kill time, you check your Facebook status updates on your smartphone. To your surprise, one of your church friends from long ago has come out about being gay. In fact, they are now apparently an advocate for the cause. Yet, under their profile, they still claim to be Christian. Even more mindboggling is the fact that many of your other Christian friends have "liked" their status update...

How do you respond? Do you remain silent? Do you accept these ever-increasing proclamations from family and friends? Do you condemn them all? What is one to do?

This Bible Class is intended to help Christians formulate a response. It also is meant to give Christians the ability to lovingly reach out to those who are caught in a homosexual lifestyle, but recognize something is wrong.

This Bible Class will start in Black River Falls on Wednesday, November 2. In Cataract it will start on Sunday, November 6.



VOTERS' MINUTES SUMMARY

A. Opening of the Meeting:

1. Overview of the agenda-The agenda was accepted without modifications.
2. Acceptance of minutes-The minutes of the August 7, 2016 meeting were accepted.

B. Elder's Report-

1. Transfer of Erin Peterson to St. Marcus-9/19/16
2. Deaths--Lucille Kyser-7/29/16 and Stanley Zillmer-9/23/16
3. Baptism-Kristopher Michael Schwartzenberger-9/18/16
4. Profession of Faith-John Thomas Pleau-7/3/16
5. Transfer In-Richard and Rita Selin-7/18/16
6. Transfer Out-Jacob and Allison Dahlke (Estelle, Vincent, Primrose); Erin Peterson
7. Pastor also provided a statistical report (if someone would like to see this please talk to pastor)
8. MSC-Elder's report was accepted.

C. Special Report's-

1. Outreach-
 - a. Hosted successful Faith Family Fun nights this summer.
 - b. Provided home devotions using Pastor's sermon.
 - c. Festival of Friendship Sunday-November 13, 2016.
 - d. Christmas Craft for Kids-Nov. 19, 2016.
 - e. Seminary Choir-to be in attendance on Ash Wednesday, March 1st.
 - f. Next meeting to be Tuesday, November 22nd at 6:00 pm.
2. Jesus Cares
 - a. No attendance from students at last meeting.
 - b. Next Scheduled gathering will be Monday, October 24th, 106.

D. Financial Report-Cody presented a report (attached) showing a net loss through October 17, 2016 of \$3,459.35. MSC-approved by voters.

E. New Business:

1. Pastor's housing allowance resolution-Being done for tax purposes. Allows Pastor to deduct a portion of his current salary as housing allowance. The amount approved is \$25,000. This will not result in an increase to his salary. MSC-approved by Council

Recorded by Brad Rahmlow

A Word from the PASTOR



“Justification” Defined

...and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood...he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:24-26)

How can I, a sinner, “get right” with God? Since Adam and Eve’s fall into sin, natural man has answered that momentous question in one of two ways: either he must win God’s favor by sacrifices and by following a set standard of rigid rules, or he must gain his good will by an upright life which he will then reward. Neither of these answers is found in God’s Word.

Scripture tells us very clearly that there is absolutely nothing man can do to make himself right with God—no sacrifices, no prayers, no rituals, no works, no goodness—nothing! If man is ever to get right with God, God will have to do the righting. And God has! The words of Romans 3 above tell us how.

The act whereby a sinner is “made right” with God the Bible calls “justification.” God declared the whole world righteous when his Son died on the cross. He removed the debt which every sinner owed but could not pay. He credited to the account of every sinner the perfect righteousness of Christ, his Substitute. God has declared all sinners righteous in his sight; yet not all will be saved. Only in one way does the gift of salvation become our own: by faith. Whoever believes in Jesus Christ is justified and saved.

Perhaps this can be illustrated by means of a little story. It is said that at one time Clay Barnes owed \$10,000 to a bank in Kentucky. A number of sympathetic friends, knowing Mr. Barnes was troubled over his inability to pay, secretly raised the money and quietly paid off the debt. When Mr. Barnes later came to the bank to discuss his large indebtedness, the cashier startled him with the unexpected announcement: “Mr. Barnes, you don’t owe this bank a cent. Your account has been paid in full.” “Why, how am I to understand you?” Mr. Barnes exclaimed. “Well,” said the cashier, “a number of your friends have raised a sufficient sum and have paid off your debt for you. You don’t owe this bank a thing.”

When he went to bed that night Mr. Barnes knew that, at long last, he was “right” with his bank, not because of anything he had done, but because of something someone else had done for him. And he believed it to be true.

So it is with our salvation.



Faith Outreach Meeting

This is an open meeting – anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Agenda items include evaluating Christmas Crafts for Kids and discussing the Seminary Chorus visit. Our meeting will take place Tuesday, November 22, at 6:00 p.m. in the BRF church building.

DEER HUNTER WORSHIP SERVICE

Do you hunt? Wish you could sit in the stand AND worship with your fellow believers on Sunday morning? Well, here is a solution for you. We will have a special worship service on Thursday, November 17, at 6:30 p.m. at our BRF church building to remove the opening weekend/Sunday worship obstacle. God is 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.



Save the Date to Say "Cheese!"



It's time to update our church photo directory and board. Photos will be taken by Majesta Heller on January 7 and 8. All photos will be taken at the Black River Falls location. On Saturday, January 7, Majesta will be at the church from 10 am to 2 pm. On Sunday, January 8 she will take photos after the 8 am worship service for those that aren't staying for Bible study and then she'll continue to take them after Bible study and Sunday school until noon. You may continue to use your current church photo if you have one.

Sunday Sermons

If you would benefit from following along with the sermon while it is being preached, copies of the sermon can be found in the gathering area on the white table (BRF) and countertop (CAT). Sermons can also be found online at www.faithwels.com



Black River Falls & Cataract, WI

www.faithwels.com

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.