



FAITH

EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

October
2017
Newsletter

DEVOTIONS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER

If you read the Lord's Prayer on the pages of Matthew and Luke's gospel, you will notice that Jesus did not teach us to say, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever." That doesn't mean, however, that these words aren't fitting. These words were added by Martin Luther and are known as the Doxology. A doxology is a hymn of praise; and when isn't our Savior deserving of a hymn of praise!

At the end of this hymn of praise we then say "Amen." "Amen" means, "Yes it shall be so." So, as we close out the Lord's Prayer, we offer up a hymn of praise and then rest assured that what we have just prayed for is acceptable to God and that he will hear us.

But how can we be so certain that when we pray the Lord's Prayer it is acceptable to the Father? Well, we can base that certainty on three things. First, it is because we know that our Savior Jesus commanded us to pray these petitions. It's what he wants us to do. If it is what he wants us to do, then we can be certain it is acceptable. Second, we can be certain because with these petitions we are praying for his kingdom. That is something our Savior told us to seek when at the end of his discourse on worry he said, **"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33)**. Finally, we can be certain because with these petitions we are praying to God's glory. God is pleased when we give him glory alone, for he alone is God and he alone has planned and carried out our salvation.

So yes, these petitions are acceptable! Yes, they are pleasing to God! Yes, we can say "Amen" wholeheartedly. But maybe there is one more question that Satan loves to stir up in the back of our mind – will God listen to, hear and answer these prayers? To that we can also respond with a definitive "Yes!"

Just consider: God promises to hear our prayer; and he never goes back on a promise. **"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened" (Matthew 7:7,8)**. Read with joy these words: **"God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?" (Numbers 23:19)** Then keep in mind that God lacks no power – **"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Ephesians 3:20)**.

All this adds up to the same conclusion that Martin Luther came to: "See how intensely God desires that we should have the confident certainty that we are not praying in vain and that we should by no means view our prayers with a disparaging eye."

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

September 18, 2017

OPENING DEVOTION

At 6:05 p.m. Pastor Neumann continued his Council Devotion Series on *Terms of the Bible*, tonight reviewing Redemption. We reviewed that Redemption means the act of buying back. Our need for redemption, the cost of redemption, the result of redemption and discussion followed.

ELDER'S REPORT

There was an Adult Profession of Faith of Tim Loftus on September 5, 2017

Transfer to Bethel Lutheran Church, Arcadia, WI – Retired Pastor Ron and Karen Baerbock, September 18, 2017

Summer Worship Attendance: Comparing the total number of worshippers between the summer services at both locations in 2016 and 2017 showed that there was an increase of 20 total worshippers from 2016 to 2017 for the 13 Sundays.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A statistical report was reviewed

Ministry report reviewed 30 souls studying Saturday morning Bible class *What in the World is Going On?*; Wednesday night in BRF and Sunday morning in Cataract studying *The Word Endures: Lessons from Luther Yesterday & Today*

Worship report outlined upcoming special services, including Stewardship (New Steps of Faith) on Sunday, November 5, 2017 followed by every member being encouraged to attend a Stewardship Bible class offered multiple times the following week at both locations

Miscellaneous report reviewed (all approved MSC):

We discussed Parasynodical organizations that we might like to have come to Faith in the future. The council discussed and decided to have a Prison Ministry Sunday in 2018 with a possible joint service, Bible class and guest preacher;

Guest preacher Pastor David Neumann (Pastor Neumann's father) in October who has volunteered to preach during a visit with family in BRF;

Guest Bible class presenter Pastor James Korthals, retired Seminary Professor (and Pastor Neumann's father-in-law) to lead a 6 week study in March 2018 Sunday mornings in BRF on Islam at Synod recommended service rates (~ \$136/class with mileage);

Youth group attending special outing to Wisconsin Dells and supper meal provided by Faith;

Outreach postcards/hangers to invite those on our prospect list to special services

FINANCIAL REPORT

Report on file showing the continued blessings God has poured out on Faith through the First Fruit offerings of our members

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The BRF septic system citation for non-inspection and pumping was dismissed on Court's Own Motion after ASAP did the pumping and Dave explained to the County that the church's address was incorrect (they continued to use Pastor Berg's previous home address) and attempted to have it changed. A follow up letter from the County still had our incorrect address and Dave will re-contact the County to attempt to get this changed again.

Property Committee recommends that we move forward with a KDF system from Halverson Plumbing to solve all water problems, especially the "rotten egg" smell, if a follow up visit by Halverson's confirms this will work. Preliminary cost analysis showed that this option is likely the best and most cost and labor effective over time; it will require up to \$3,500 for a one-time purchase of the system. MSC if this analysis is consistent with our expectations.

OLD BUSINESS

Church computer, report pending from Pastor Neumann after further research is completed

NEW BUSINESS

CMO Address by District President Jensen postponed until next month

BRF Ladies of Faith (LOF) fund source explained. Many years ago the LOF placed their funds in the general church funds, with the understanding that funds up to \$500 per year will be budgeted for necessary uses. The LOF group reported that the pillow cases for Bolton Refuge House has been very successful and pillows will be purchased for the pillowcases at a cost of ~ \$100; the council thanked the ladies for this service of love project for those in need in our community

Pursuant to Faith Bylaws Article IV, Duties of Officers, Section 1. President: "The president shall preside as chairman of all business sessions of the congregation and church council . . . In the absence of the president, the council shall appoint a temporary chairman." With President Templeton's planned absence for the October 16 Council meeting and the October 22 Congregation meeting, Cody Heller was appointed temporary chairman to preside over these two sessions. MSC

Closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:45 p.m.

In His Service, Temporary Recording Secretary - Dave Kellen



LWMS RALLY

Faith Lutheran Church is a member of the Scenic Coulee Circuit of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS). That means that every woman who is a member of Faith is also a member of the LWMS. That also means that every woman who is a member of Faith is invited to the Fall Rally of the Scenic Coulee Circuit that will be held at English Lutheran Church in Viroqua on Sunday, October 22. Here are the details:

When: October 22, 2017 (1:30 pm registration; 2 pm presentation begins)

Where: English Lutheran Church (741 N East Ave – Viroqua, WI)

What: Retired Pastor Ron Baerbock (yes, that pastor Baerbock!) will give a presentation on mission work taking place in Mahahual, Mexico. The theme is: Beach Evangelism and Thatched Roofs – Bringing the Gospel to Mahahual, Mexico.

Questions: Any questions can be addressed to Pastor Neumann, who currently serves as Lay Advisor for the Scenic Coulee Circuit of the LWMS.

October Birthdays

Nathan Mlsna	10/4
William Rahmlow	10/4
Dale Jessie	10/9
Gale Jessie	10/9
Isabel Neumann	10/14
Eric Markhardt	10/23
Gary Johnson	10/23
Karen Noard	10/28

October Anniversaries

Gale + Karen Jessie	10/6
Bill + Karen Yahnke	10/9
Benjamin + JoDee Leisso	10/12
Kevin + Nicole Kiesow	10/15





GO HUNTING WITH FiSH!

Invite your friends to a fun afternoon of scavenger hunting on Saturday, October 7, in Black River Falls! Put together a team of 2-4 people, or come as a single and teams will be created. Church doors open at 1:00 pm for team registration, with the hunt starting at 1:30. Find as many of the objects on the list as you can around Black River Falls in 1½ hours. Treats will be served at 3:00 while the scores are tallied. Daycare will be provided.

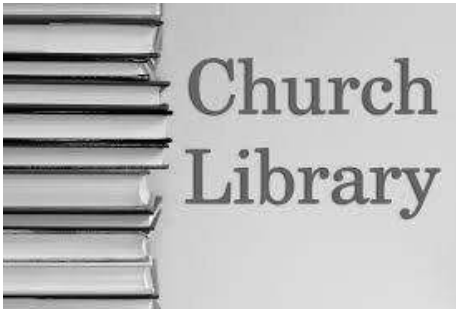
FiSH is a social group geared toward recreational activities for adults, single or married, younger or older.

**For more information, contact Nicole Stelter at:
715-299-8520 or steltnic@hotmail.com.**

YOUTH OUTING

On Saturday, October 14, the youth group will be heading to the Wisconsin Dells for a youth outing. They will enjoy time spent together with Christian friends as they do some mini-golfing and try out Wizards Quest. The exact time of departure has not yet been determined. However, the idea is to have the kids eat a lunch at home with the congregation covering the cost of supper. The youth will be responsible for the cost of mini-golfing & Wizards Quest (about \$30 total). If you plan to go, please sign up in back of church so that we know how many vehicles we may need to take.





From the Library

Want to learn more about Martin Luther? Look for these books in our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at the BRF location.

- **Luther - Biography of a Reformer (Church History)**
- **Katherine - Wife of Luther (Church History)**
- **Martin Luther's Christmas Book (Devotions)**
- **Martin Luther - A Man Who Changed the World (Lutheran History)**

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.

NEWSLETTER HELP

Would you be interested in gathering, arranging, and putting the newsletter together each month? If so, please let Pastor Neumann know. We are looking for someone who might have the time, computer skills, and desire to help in this capacity. If it is something that interests you, but you're not sure what it all involves, talk to Pastor.

VOTERS' MEETING

Our next quarterly voters' meeting will be held at 12:15 pm in Cataract on Sunday, October 22. Voters' please mark your calendars now so that you set that time aside to share the work that the Lord has given to us here at Faith.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

If you have information to include in the monthly newsletters, please send it to janeen.folgersx@gmail.com by the second to the last Sunday of the month.