



# The Messenger

October 2018

## Searching For What Was Lost

*Jesus told this parable, "Suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (Luke 15:8-10).*

A woman worked with a lady who bought her a lottery ticket every now and then. One day, a rumor spread that the local grocery store where the woman worked had sold a \$100,000 ticket. The woman and her husband both thought, "Are we winners? How would we spend it?" Then her husband said, "Honey, where's the ticket?" After a brief panic, and a 20 minute search of the house, they found it. The ticket was a loser.

When we lose something that we hold to be valuable, we search for it frantically. That's what Jesus described in this parable (*an earthy story with a heavenly meaning*) about a woman searching for a coin that she lost.

Without Jesus you and I are like that lost coin. Our lustful thoughts, hurting words,

and loveless deeds – everything we think, say, or do that fails to be perfect – are sins that separate us from God. How frightening to be lost in sin!

Thankfully, though, there is good news! Jesus came "to seek and to save what was lost" (Luke 19:10). God sent Jesus to find us and reconnect us to God. Jesus did that by loving us so much that he paid for all our sins by his death on the cross. That's how much Jesus loves us!

Jesus searches for us and finds us. Jesus comes to us through his Word and takes away our fear by comforting us with the forgiveness of sins. He assures us that he has made us dearly loved children of God. Through Jesus, heaven is our inheritance.

God loves us so much that he stopped at nothing to find us and save us from eternal separation from him in hell. Through Jesus, we have the gift of eternal life, which is a whole lot more valuable than winning the lottery. How blessed we are! We will never be lost again when we cling in faith to Jesus, our Savior.



## VOTERS' MEETING

Our next quarterly voters' meeting will be held at **11:21 am in Black River Falls on Sunday, October 21.** 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.



## GO HUNTING WITH FISH!

**Invite your friends** to a fun afternoon scavenger hunting on **Saturday, October 13**, 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 to register teams, 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 Brad or Annette Markhardt.



## Anniversaries

Gale + Karen Jessie 10/6  
 Bill + Karen Yahnke 10/9  
 Kevin + Nicole Kiesow 10/15  
 Garrett + Maggie Jessie 10/17  
 Dennis + Candy Janke 10/21

## Birthdays

Nathan Mlsna 10/4  
 William Rahmlow 10/4  
 Dale Jessie 10/9  
 Gale Jessie 10/9  
 Tyrone Laufenberg 10/10  
 Izzy Neumann 10/14  
 Eric Markhardt 10/23  
 Gary Johnson 10/23  
 Karen Noard 10/28  
 Richard Selin 10/29

## HOW IS YOUR MARRIAGE?

How is your marriage? Is it strong? Would you like to make it stronger? Do you see room for improvement? Is it right where you want it to be? Would you like it to be healthier?

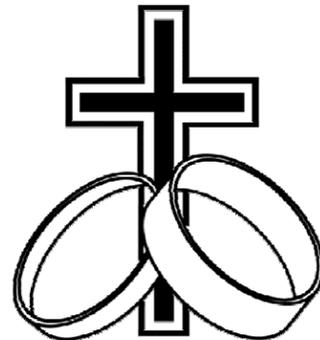
God designed marriage and only he can improve the health of your marriage. Join us for the next marriage enrichment event here at Faith. It will be on **Friday, November 2 at Black River Falls.** At that event we will discuss how to overcome barriers to marriage and oneness. Here again are the details of how that night is arranged.

### 6-7 pm—Marriage Enrichment from God's Word

(This will take place in the fellowship hall of our BRF location)

### 7-9 pm—Date Night!

(Babysitting will be provided at church. You are asked to be back to pick your child(ren) up by 9 pm and may be asked to give \$5 in gratitude for the babysitters time)



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We're on the Web!  
[www.faithwels.com](http://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.

# FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY

AUGUST 20, 2018

## September 2018 Central Africa Medical Mission (CAMM)

"Lord, Why did you pick me? What can I do to help people all the way over in Zambia and Malawi? How can I help give tens of thousands of people healthcare?" All of these are thoughts that have passed through my mind in the last 5 years but especially as I was chosen to be the chairman of the CAMM in late 2017. I am confident that thoughts just like these also passed through the minds of my fellow committee members – Cindy Fietzer (Nurse Coordinator) and Cheryl Valus (Contact Woman Coordinator) and advisory member, Mike Valus – as we were all about to board the airplane to Malawi. Every few years, the Central Africa Medical Mission sends a few committee members to the field in order to make sure that our ex-pat volunteers in Malawi and our national workers in Zambia have the support that they need. In July 2018, that is exactly what we were asked to do!

Malawi – The Warm Heart of Africa – is exactly that. The people are kind, smiling, have a great sense of humor and live every day in poverty. Poverty is hard. As we drove out to our clinic in Suzi, the first thing we all noticed was the litter. There is litter everywhere because of the lack of basic infrastructure like sanitation services. BUT there are also mountains and green farmer fields and children who see the ambulance pass that are waving and smiling and running after us. When we pulled up to the clinic grounds, we see that the Malawians are resourceful – there is a market at the clinic site because the villagers know that there will be people attending our clinic. We see expecting mothers, parents with their children and sick people waiting for the clinic services to start. We see our clinic staff member, Mrs. Howa, educating the patients on diabetes signs and treatment. We hear them singing along to the song that she uses to end the education. And we see smiles – smiles at the visitors who stand out, who don't know exactly where to go or what to do. For Malawi to be called The Warm Heart of Africa is a perfect description.

After our week in Malawi, we went to Zambia. Zambia and Malawi are very different and so are our clinic services in each country. In Malawi, we have 4 clinic sites that our staff travels out to each week. In Zambia, we have one stand-alone clinic in Mwembezi. This clinic is run by Nationals with Mr. Jackson Kalekwa at the helm. Here we offer care 24/7 – including delivering babies. We encourage expecting mothers to come to the clinic to deliver instead of staying in their homes, so we can help if something goes wrong. We also encourage them to bring their newborn babies to the clinic within their first days so that we can assess them for their overall health. In Zambia, the culture says that the baby should not leave the home for 40 days, so we do have trouble getting the moms to bring their babies in. Watch for a request from Cheryl in the upcoming months on how you can help us with a project that we will be doing to help incentivize the moms to bring their babies in to be checked.

Finally, one letter is NOT enough for us to share the news from the clinics and what we saw when we went to Malawi and Zambia. In November, we are going to be doing a campaign where each of us will be sharing a more personal experience with you both in this letter and on Facebook. We know that each of us can give a different perspective on how the little that we do impacts tens of thousands of people every year.

***"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*** Matthew 25:40

Shelly Sievert  
CAMM Chairman  
Chairman.camm@gmail.com



### ATTENDANCE:

Pastor Neumann, Garrett Jessie, Dale Jessie, Jerry Kirchman, Cody Heller, Grady Severson

### CALL TO ORDER

\* The meeting opened at 7:00 pm with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short prayer.

### PASTOR'S REPORT

- \* Pastor distributed his monthly statistical report and upcoming events.
- \* \$50 dollar cost of "Men of His Word" conference will be covered by a budget line item
- \* 3 Para-synodical Organizations were selected for services held in January, February, and March
- \* Regular practice has been to have members of the church council and elders committee serve as communion assistants for Pastor on communion Sunday. Discussion was had as to whether we would like to have Scott Templeton and Jeff Nicholai continue in this capacity even though they no longer serve as church council member or elder. It was decided that if they are willing, we would formally ask them – for the sake of good order - to continue in this roll. MSC

### FINANCIAL REPORT

\* Cody presented a financial report showing a net loss of \$5,790.76 through the end of July. MSC to accept financial report for July, 2018

### SPECIAL REPORTS

- \* Council reviewed the Outreach Committee Report supplied by Brad Markhardt taking note of these four points:
  - a. The Chris Driesbach concert in the park had approximately 191 total people in attendance. Through CD donations and the money received in the Lunda box, we were able to send Chris home with \$728.
  - b. Bible Soccer Camp went well with 24 children attending each day. 11 of those 24 were members from our community.
  - c. The Outreach committee encourages the development of regular meetings for ongoing analysis and revision to our congregation's vision timeline. A meeting for this very thing has been set up for November.
  - d. Discussion was had on whether to raise the Outreach budget for the next church budget. It was decided at this time to keep it as is.

### OLD BUSINESS

\* Cody will present the Strategic Planning numbers to the congregation on October 7th and 14th to both locations after Sunday morning services

### NEW BUSINESS

- \* Pastor's salary was discussed and set according to synod guidelines
- \* A vision timeline meeting will be held with the Council and Outreach Committee members on either November 12th or 13th at 6:30 in BRF

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm with Pastor leading us in the Lord's Prayer

**The next Council Meeting will be held in BRF on October 15th at 6:15pm.**

Recorded by Garrett Jessie

## LWMS RALLY

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Fall Rally will be right here at Faith in Black River Falls on **Sunday, October 21**.

Registration will be at 1:30 p.m. and the presentation will begin at 2 p.m.

The topic that will be presented on will be **Life and Ministry in New York City**. Pastor Dan Olson and his wife Katie were in Queens, NY for ten years after he was assigned there out of the Seminary. Queens is the most culturally diverse county in the world with over 100 languages spoken. There are enough challenges to ministry in reaching out to one culture in one language - let alone many cultures with hundreds of languages. Pastor Dan Olson and his wife Katie will talk about their 10 years of experience at Sure Foundation Lutheran Church in Queens. They will discuss the many challenges and blessings they experienced in sharing God's Word and raising 5 kids in this city.

**Sunday-October 21**

**Fall LWMS Rally**

**In Black River Falls**

**Registration @ 1:30**

**Begins @ 2**



### WHAT IS LWMS?

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) is made up of mission-minded women of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) as well as women belonging to congregations that share fellowship with WELS.

LWMS was formed in 1964 and today is over 800 member congregations organized into 60 circuits throughout North America. Every woman in a member congregation is by virtue of her church membership a member of LWMS.

We encourage women to learn about and pray for our mission efforts in North America and around the world and to support those missions with their offerings as we share the privilege and responsibilities of the work our Lord has called us to do.

The work of LWMS is urgent. Though we have the knowledge and comfort of Jesus' gift of salvation, millions of souls do not have that comfort and are in despair. Every day we have the opportunity to share with people the greatest gift, the gift of their Savior. As the Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the early Roman church, "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:14,15)

Join them on October 21 to learn about and support this mission work!

## Ladies of Faith

The Ladies of Faith will be visiting Pine View Care Center, Thursday, October 18 at 6 pm. The evening will begin with a devotion from Pastor Neumann. Then they will assist residents in making Fall decorations like a wreath or swag. All ladies are welcome! The activity director does have materials, but if you would like to bring/donate materials for that day, they will be using coat hangers, silk fall leaves and/or flowers, ribbon, or any other fall decorations.



### From the library

The Church History section of our church library located in the Fellowship Hall at the BRF location has 2 copies of the book, *Katherine, Wife of Luther*, by Clara Seuel Schreiber. This book is a fictional biography of Katherine Luther. Since information about Kate was hard to find, the author had to dig into many old German books for facts that then needed to be checked out to make sure they were authentic.

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

