



FAITH

EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

September
2017
Newsletter

DEVOTIONS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER

Only the very inexperienced are surprised when something breaks, fails to function, or goes wrong. The older you get the more you realize that sooner or later everything in the world wears out, clogs up, rusts, becomes diseased, withers, rots, dies or becomes useless. This is the disastrous result of sin. Sin covers creation like dew. Nothing escapes. Everything is affected. Everything is doomed.

When you think about the world covered with the curse of sin, you almost want to yell out, "Get me out of here!" God will, in due time, get us out of this vale of tears. But in the mean time we should cherish our life as priceless. Our life is God's gift. Eternal life is his greater gift. True, we are still in an evil world, but through Jesus we will overcome.

While we trudge through this sin-cursed world we pray, "Deliver us from evil." Now, when we pray this petition we should not expect to be engulfed in a pink cloud and be spared all the agonies, disappointments and heartaches of life. Evil is part of life. But when we pray this petition, there are four things that we are praying for.

First, we ask God that if it be his will, he keep evil from us altogether. Certainly God can and does do this. How many times don't we see this very thing throughout the Bible? The lions didn't harm Daniel; the fire didn't consume Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; and Peter was miraculously released from prison. If only we knew how many times God has kept us from evil by preventing an accident (perhaps by a child making us late), averted a fire (perhaps by some appliance breaking down), or any such thing, we would pray this petition with even greater earnestness.

Yet because we are sinners living in a world ripe with evil, we know we won't always escape that evil. So secondly, we pray in this petition that God give us the strength to bear the evil that comes our way. Satan seeks to use the evil that comes upon us to turn us from our faith, and no greater evil could befall us than to lose saving faith. So we ask God to help us bear it patiently, trusting that he is faithful and **"will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).**

Thirdly, when we pray "deliver us from evil," we pray that God in his good pleasure would turn the evil we must endure into good, much like he turned the hatred of Joseph's brothers into the good of raising Joseph to the position of leadership in Egypt. God comforts us with the truth that he will use evil for our good when he has Paul proclaim, **"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him" (Romans 8:28).** We might not always see how he uses it for our good, and the way he uses it may only be for our spiritual and eternal good. But how God decides to use it isn't for us to know; it is simply for us to trust his promise that he will use it for our good.

Finally, when we speak the words of this petition, we are also asking that no evil take away our faith and that God deliver us from all evil completely by taking us to heaven. In this petition we are saying, "Rescue me from all the evil consequences of my sins. Save me from the clutches of the devil. Rip me out of the jaws of hell. Do not let its flames engulf me in the hour of death and on the day of your just judgment. Even in this life do not deal with me as my sins and my sinful nature deserve. Deliver me from the shame that I would have if everyone around me knew all that I have done to deserve disgrace. Deliver me from the terrors of mind and the afflictions of the body that would be mine if I had to suffer even here for each of my offenses in my mind and sins committed with my mouth, my eyes, my ears, my hands and feet. Father, dear Father, deliver us from evil."

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting opened at 6:00p.m. with Pastor Neumann leading us in a short devotion about the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible.

ELDER'S REPORT

Non-Member Baptism: Zachary Morgan (7/30/17)

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor reviewed a statistical report for the month of July.

Pastor encouraged everyone to consider attending upcoming Bible Classes this coming year. Pastor requested attendance at the Symposium on Reformation 500 at WLS. This is already approved as part of our annual budget.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Cody presented a financial report showing a net loss of \$12,900.86 for the month of June. MSC to accept financial report for July, 2017.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Outreach

Koine Concert - 231 attended the concert in the park. The venue for the concert was great to include the community.

Faith Family Fun Nights - Had between 45-49 people every night of the event. Big Thank You to everyone who planned and participated in the event.

Reformation Trip - Bus leaves at 11:15am for anyone wanting to attend on October 29th

Property

The Church received a citation for not inspecting the septic system within the three year time-frame required by the County. We suspect that they have been sending the notices to Pastor Berg's previous home address in BRF. Contact will be made with the proper authority to have this resolved.

OLD BUSINESS

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. The recommendation was made and passed that we have just two services that day. The first service to be held at 10:00 am at BRF (this being the Children's Christmas Eve service). The second service on Christmas Eve will be held at Cataract at 7:00pm.

New Year's Eve also falls on a Sunday. The recommendation was made and passed that we would hold regular services at both facilities on the morning of New Year's Eve and a special service at 6:30 in BRF.

NEW BUSINESS

The Church computer is having some issues. Pastor and Cody will look into purchasing a new laptop to replace the current computer.

It was recommended and passed to change the October Voters' meeting from October 29th to October 22nd at 12:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. with Pastor leading us in the Lord's Prayer.

The next Church Council meeting will be 6:00pm on September 18th at BRF.

The next Congregational meeting will be at Cataract at 12:15pm on October 22nd.

Recorded By Brad Rahmlow



September Anniversaries

Jeff + Penny Nicolai 9/7
Dale + Emily Timm 9/14

September Birthdays

Noah Hanson 9/7
JoDee Leisso 9/7
Jon Mlsna 9/18
Channing Manske 9/18
Rudy Jeseritz 9/19
Les Mlsna 9/20
Majesta Heller 9/23
Jan Eggen 9/28



WESTERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT REFORMATION 500 CELEBRATION



We are Lutherans who treasure God's grace, our faith, and our Bibles. Our heritage goes back to the church at the time of the apostles and traces its history through Martin Luther. God blessed Luther's efforts during the Reformation to restore the church to its apostolic roots in the Bible. It's been 500 years since that Reformation and we want to celebrate.

For a couple months now you have heard that special plans are being made to have a district wide celebration in Madison, Wisconsin on October 29, 2017. You have also heard and seen that our congregation has reserved a coach bus to transport our members from here to there and back again – at no cost to you!

There are 18 seats still available on that coach bus. If you haven't signed up already, do so now! If you need to talk with Pastor, please speak with him no later than the first week of September. The celebration will be at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison and begin with a worship service at 4:00 pm and will include adult and children's choirs and special speakers. A special hymn sing will follow the service featuring the musical group Koine. We will be leaving from Black River Falls by 11:15 a.m. that Sunday so that the choir members can be there in time to practice for the service.

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.



BEGINNING THIS MONTH

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will begin for all 6th-8th grade children on Wednesday, September 6th. We will meet from 5-6 p.m. this year.



SUNDAY SCHOOL



Which is more important – the physical or spiritual well-being of your children? God makes that answer clear in his Word. It is the spiritual well-being. Sunday School gives your children the opportunity to be in the Word. The Word is what strengthens faith. So, bring your children to Sunday School. We have something for every age group! Sunday School starts on Sunday, September 10 @ 9:15 at our Black River Falls location.

CHOIR

Choir begins on Wednesday, September 13 at 6:15 p.m. in Black River Falls.

This falls right before Wednesday evening Bible Class. So, come for choir and stay for Bible study.

If you like to sing, this is the place for you. If you have any questions, please talk with Nancy Templeton. **Please note:** There will be a special choir practice on September 6 for those who plan to sing at the Reformation 500 service in Madison.



BIBLE CLASS

Four separate Bible Classes offered at five different times begin in September. Take a look on page 6 and plan to attend!



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUMMARY

July 30, 2017

ELDER'S REPORT

Ratified the reception into membership of Chad and Jenny Goetzka (Thomas, Owen)

Membership changes in the 2nd Quarter

Baptism: Xylr Jeffrey-Mark Heller - 4/4/17

Confirmation: Mackenzie Bedell; Chase Manske; Chase Severson; Jeremiah Spaude (5/7/17)

Profession of Faith: Joe and Alisha Southwood (Derek, Leah) - 4/16-17 5.

Release: Heather Holcomb (Rilyn) - 4/24/17

Transfer In: Carmon Smith (Elijah) - 4/24/17

SPECIAL REPORT'S

Outreach: Brad Markhardt gave an update on the Koine Concert; Faith Family Fun nights; and the Reformation 500 Road trip to Dane County Coliseum on October 29th. Outreach is also looking to coordinate a marriage enrichment event in the future.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Cody presented a report showing a net loss of \$10,837.37 through 6/30/17.

Pastor Salary Recommendation was moved, supported and passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bylaw Addition - Pastor reviewed the bylaw changes to our Constitution. Weddings and Funerals. It will be added as Article X. Section 1 and 2. The current Article X will become Article XI. MSC to accept recommendation.

LADIES AID IN CATARACT

The Ladies Aid in Cataract will have their first meeting of the year on Thursday, September 7 at 12:30 p.m. in Cataract. All ladies who are members of Faith are welcome to attend. They will start with a potluck lunch that day, so bring a dish to pass.

LADIES OF FAITH TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (2017-18)

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 9-11-17 | Appetizer/Salad dinner |
| 10-9-17 | Christmas Crafts for Kids prep night |
| 11-13-17 | Card making |
| 12-3-17 | Advent social and treat exchange |
| 1-8-18 | Movie night |
| 2-12-18 | Sweetheart dinner/dine out |
| 3-12-18 | Community project |
| 4-9-18 | Handiwork night |
| 5-14-18 | Banner making/photo sharing night |
| 6-11-18 | Pillow case sewing |
| 7-9-18 | Pillow case sewing |

THE WORD ENDURES: Lessons from Luther Yesterday and Today

In 1530 the Reformation of the Christian church was in full swing. Martin Luther's popularity had pushed his writings to the top of the best-seller list. What if you had a chance to hear him speak? What if you could sit at the feet of this scholar of Scripture who taught crowds of not just princes but also peasants? Well, you can. In "*Lessons from Luther Yesterday and Today*," you will engage with this master teacher in the study of topics such as prayer, marriage, the Lord's Supper, and teaching children—topics still at the heart of your Christian faith today.

Starting in Black River Falls on Wednesday, September 6 @ 7 p.m.

Starting in Cataract on Sunday, September 10 @ 11 a.m.



WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?

IDENTIFYING HOLLOW AND DECEPTIVE WORLDVIEWS

How does your Christian faith fit in with today's culture? Non-Christian worldviews may be influencing your beliefs without you even realizing it, because the media, friends, or other influences can easily cloud our Christian view.

The book "*What in the World Is Going On? Identifying Hollow and Deceptive Worldviews*" uses Scripture passages and real-life examples to explain the confessional Lutheran worldview. It also explains a number of truths about Secular Humanism, Pantheism, Modernism, and Postmodernism. This book explains how other beliefs may creep into our lives through the media, college professors, and even popular books for children and teens. We will work through study and discussion questions for each chapter that are in the back of the book. Read this book and find out what's really going on today.

Starting September 9 at 9 a.m. – We will meet at the church in Black River Falls

ADULT CHRIST LIGHT LESSONS

Christ Light is centered on Christ and grounded in God's Word and serves as an excellent way for adults to visit or revisit Old and New Testament Bible stories in group Bible study.

These lessons correspond with those offered during the Sunday School Year, so parents of Sunday School kids can discuss lessons during the week at home.

Starting in Black River Falls on Sunday, September 10 @ 9:15 a.m.

Starting on Thursday, September 14 @ 6:15 p.m. – We will meet at the church in Black River Falls



ADULT BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS (BIC)

When was the last time you reviewed the basic teachings of the Bible and how those teachings applied to your life? Do you have questions about Communion, Baptism, prayer, marriage, money, parenting, or death? This class covers each of those topics, plus much more.

This class is for anyone and everyone. It is an introduction to the Christian faith for those who have not been confirmed or would like to join

Faith, as well as a review for those who have.

