



Bethany Lutheran Outlook
July/August 2017

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



**“Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?
Yet not one of them will fall to the ground
outside your Father’s care. ...
So don’t be afraid;
you are worth more than many sparrows”**

(Matthew 10:29, 31, NIV).



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Last year at this time I would have predicted that my effort at iconography was a “one and done” affair. Although the final product, an icon of the Archangel Michael, was respectable, had I known how difficult it would be for me, I would have backed out before I started. However, despite it all, there I was, back in the Soo in mid-June for another go at it, this time working on a Guardian Angel icon. (The normal progression for iconographers is to start with angels before moving to saints, Mary [the Theotokos or Mother of God], and then icons that include Jesus)

Why did I go back? What I ultimately settled on was the importance of the process. The workshops offered by the Prosope School, centered in New York City, are not only focused on iconography, *which would mostly make it an art class, but on iconology as each step of the process has theological significance. Obviously you want to go home with something nice, but the goal isn't to produce professional quality icons or iconographers, but for each person to work on their own inner icon, prayerfully drawing closer to God as they engage the process. Approached that way, it becomes a spiritual discipline. For me it wasn't much easier this year than it was last year; my fine motor ability with a paintbrush isn't a whole lot better, but it's a week away from all that I normally do, a quiet retreat week with a very specific focus.*

As we work through the 22 step process of lines and layers and colors, because each step has theological meaning, each day includes extensive theological discussion. For me it's perhaps the most important part of the week; if it was just an art class I'm quite sure I wouldn't have gone back. As it is though, it becomes an exploration of Eastern Orthodox theology which is quite different from the theology of the Western church of which we are a part. Obviously there are similarities, most notably that we share the same understanding of God as Trinity and Jesus as Savior.

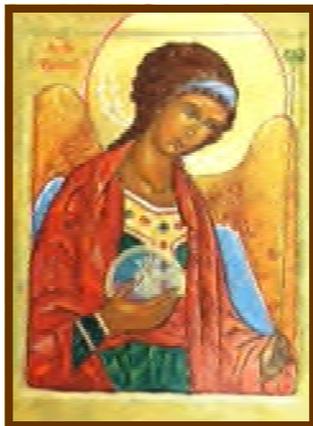
What is different though is that as Western theology evolved, it became more centered on reason and intellect while Eastern theology centered more on the spiritual or mystical. For lack of a better way to put it, Western theology became more about the head, Eastern theology more about the heart. I should emphasize that it's not that one is right and the other wrong; there are positive aspects to both approaches and we can learn from each other. I love the intellectual and imaginative challenge of Western theology but there is a richness and spiritual depth in the tradition of Orthodoxy which adds another dimension. It helps me to continue to work on my inner icon.

Since I now own a smart phone, this year I took pictures of each step of the process from blank white board to finished product. With that I will be better able to show the progression and talk about some of the theological significance. There is much that I still don't understand but I'm better equipped to make a presentation this year than I was last year so I will plan to make it part of Bible Study in the fall.

Working with icons has definitely been a source of growth for me, personally, pastorally and spiritually. I can't say for sure where I'm headed with it, if anywhere. I don't know if I'll do another one next year or not. What I do know however, is that my inner icon still needs work.

Pastor Geier

Pastor Geier's icon of a Guardian Angel (2017)



Pastor Geier's icon of the Archangel Michael (2016)

~~what Peter or John or any of the apostles looked like, or what Mary looked like, nor the child, Jesus.~~ But, the orthodox painter feels, Jesus of Nazareth did not walk around Galilee faceless. The icon of Jesus may not look like the man Jesus two thousand years ago, but it represents some *quality* of Jesus, or his mother, or his followers, and so becomes an open window through which we can be given a new glimpse of the love of God. ”



— Madeleine L'Engle, *Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and*

Art

DAILY LECTIONARY



The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”
—Martin Luther

July 2017

1 Psalm 13 Genesis 26:23-25 Luke 17:1-4

2 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42

3 Psalm 47	Genesis 22:15-18	1 Thessalonians 4:2-12
4 Psalm 47	1 Kings 18:36-39	1 John 4:1-6
5 Psalm 47	Isaiah 51:1-3	Matthew 11:20-24
6 Psalm 45:10-17	Genesis 25:19-27	Romans 7:1-6
7 Psalm 45:10-17	Genesis 27:1-17	Romans 7:7-20
8 Psalm 45:10-17	Genesis 27:18-29	Luke 10:21-24

9 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:10-17 Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

10 Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Genesis 27:30-46	Romans 1:18-25
11 Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Genesis 29:1-14	Romans 3:1-8
12 Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Genesis 29:31-35	John 13:1-17
13 Psalm 119:105-112	Exodus 3:1-6	Romans 2:12-16
14 Psalm 119:105-112	Deuteronomy 32:1-10	Romans 15:14-21
15 Psalm 119:105-112	Isaiah 2:1-4	John 12:44-50

16 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34 Psalm 119:105-112 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

17 Psalm 142	Micah 1:1-5	1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
18 Psalm 142	Jeremiah 49:7-11	Ephesians 4:17 — 5:2
19 Psalm 142	Obadiah 15-21	Matthew 13:10-17
20 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24	Isaiah 44:1-5	Hebrews 2:1-9
21 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24	Ezekiel 39:21-39	Hebrews 6:13-20
22 Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24	Exodus 14:9-25	Matthew 7:15-20

23 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 28:10-19a Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

24 Psalm 139:13-18	Genesis 32:3-21	Revelation 14:12-20
25 Psalm 139:13-18	Genesis 33:1-17	Galatians 4:21 — 5:1

Readings for James, Apostle

1 Kings 19:9-18	Psalm 7:1-10	Acts 11:27 — 12:3a	Mark 10:35-45
26 Psalm 139:13-18	Genesis 35:16-29	Matthew 12:15-21	
27 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b	Genesis 29:1-8	1 Corinthians 4:14-20	
28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b	Genesis 29:9-14	Acts 7:44-53	
29 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b	Genesis 29:31 — 30:24	Matthew 12:38-42	

30 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 128 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

31 Psalm 65:8-13	Genesis 30:25-36	James 3:13-18
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August 2017

1 Psalm 65:8-13	Genesis 30:37-43	Ephesians 6:10-18
2 Psalm 65:8-13	Genesis 46:2 — 47:12	Mark 4:30-34
3 Psalm 17:1-7, 15	Isaiah 14:1-2	Philippians 4:10-15
4 Psalm 17:1-7, 15	Isaiah 41:8-10	Romans 9:6-13
5 Psalm 17:1-7, 15	Genesis 31:1-21	Matthew 7:7-11

6 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21

7 Psalm 17:1-7, 15

Genesis 31:22-42

Romans 1:8-15

8 Psalm 17:1-7, 15

Genesis 32:3-21

Acts 2:37-47

9 Psalm 17:1-7, 15

Isaiah 43:1-7

Matthew 15:32-39

10 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Genesis 35:22b-29

Acts 17:10-15

11 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Genesis 36:1-8

Acts 18:24-28

12 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Genesis 37:12-11

Matthew 16:1-4

13 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

14 Psalm 28

Genesis 37:29-36

2 Peter 2:4-10

15 Psalm 28

Genesis 39:1-23

Romans 9:14-29

Readings for Mary, Mother of Our Lord

Isaiah 61:7-11 Psalm 34:1-9 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 1:46-55

16 Psalm 28

Genesis 40:1-23

Matthew 8:23-27

17 Psalm 133

Genesis 41: 13-36

Revelation 15:1-4

18 Psalm 133

Genesis 41:37-57

Acts 14:19-28

19 Psalm 133

Genesis 42:1-28

Matthew 14:34-36

20 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:21-28

21 Psalm 130

Genesis 43:1-34

Acts 15:1-21

22 Psalm 130

Genesis 44:1-34

Romans 11:13-29

23 Psalm 130

Genesis 45:16-28

Matthew 8:1-13

24 Psalm 124

Genesis 49:1-33

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

25 Psalm 124

Genesis 49:29 — 50:14

2 Corinthians 10:12-28

26 Psalm 124

Genesis 50:15-26

Matthew 16:5-12

27 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8 — 2:10 Psalm 124 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

28 Psalm 8

Exodus 1:1-7

Romans 2:1-11

29 Psalm 8

Exodus 2:11-15a

Romans 11:33-36

30 Psalm 8

Exodus 2:15b-22

Matthew 26:6-13

31 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

Exodus 2:23-24

Ephesians 5:1-6



Social Ministry

The Social Ministry Board would like to remind and encourage people to keep bringing items for the food table in the narthex during the summer months. Donations to local agencies providing food tend to decrease during this time but the number of people in need of food assistance is growing. The table is regularly cleared and food delivered to individuals, families and groups like the Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul.



St. Teresa of Avila wrote:



Christ has no body but yours;
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours.



**The July Noisy Offering will be given to
Synod Seminary Education.**

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

His Eye is on the Sparrow

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.



*I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.*

“Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

*I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.*

— Civilla Martin

His Eye is on the Sparrow: The Story Behind the Hymn

Civilla D. Martin, author of this gospel hymn text, tells of a visit in 1904 to a bedridden Christian friend. Mrs. Martin asked the woman if she ever got discouraged because of her physical condition. Her friend responded quickly: “Mrs. Martin, how can I be discouraged when my heavenly Father watches over each little sparrow and I know He loves and cares for me.” Within just a few minutes Mrs. Martin completed the writing of her new text, which has since been a source of great encouragement to many of God’s people.



It is interesting that our Lord chose the most common of all birds, sparrows of little value, to teach a profound truth: **In God’s eyes, no one is insignificant!** He is vitally concerned with even the details of our lives. Notice also that the Bible uses another bird to teach this inspiring truth: “Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles” (Isaiah 40:31). With an awareness of God’s concern for our lives and the promise of His enabling power to live victoriously, why should we be afraid?

“Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,....
yet I will rejoice in the Lord,
I will be joyful in God my Savior.”

(Habakkuk 3:17-18)



The Memorial Garden...progress

First of all...a big THANK-YOU for your support for the Memorial Garden! So far, after just four weeks of offerings, we have collected nearly 2/3 of the funds required for the initial preparation and planting. Last week I hope I answered a few of your questions regarding the garden: The plan is that it will be an ongoing fixture at Bethany with upgrades every spring/summer, so the need for funds will be ongoing. Although my initial appeal was for \$20 per square foot (there are 210 square feet in the plot), larger amounts are certainly welcome...and have been gratefully received. Gifts may be made in memory of departed loved ones OR in honor of the living and of groups, e.g. circles, the choir, altar guild, bread bakers, graduation classes, confirmation classes. Special thanks to Bob Bruhnke for solving the water issue by locating another external tap and providing the necessary hoses to reach our plot. Attached you will find the current list of donors. It will be updated in future issues of the OUTLOOK. I hope you're all as enthusiastic about this project as I am! Barb Kelly, the horticulturist, is obviously a busy woman at this time of year, so we still don't have a final plan in place. I hope we will be meeting within the next week or so. Keep an eye out for future developments. Thanks again for your support! Keenan

Memorial Garden Gifts

5/28	Tracy Saunders, Becky B & Dennis Kauppila	Margaret Drake & Elvira Haglund
	Mike Richards and Children	Kathy Richards
	Paul & Kathy Kish	Reno & Sue Norell
	Anon	James Chapman; Mr & Mrs Toivo
		Mayry
	Jim Penhale	Bob and Shirlene Penhale
6/4	Bryan & Kimberlee Smith	Jim & Wilhelmina Sodergren
	Debbie Cain	Peter Cain
	Colleen Sundblad	Ray Sundblad
	Pam Allen	Donald & Althea Doney
	Edwin Johnson	Roy &
	LaVerne Koski	Ned Johns
		Evelyn Nadeau, Dora Swanson, & our children

Date: Given by:

In Memory/Honor of:

Keenan Tunnell

Mr & Mrs Robert Tunnell; Inah
Tunell

Rae & Tony Elliot
Sue & Tom Ryan

Shirley & Martin Kangas
Jim Sodergren

6/11 Karen Merckx
MaryEllen Peterson, Bob & Marcia
Schiltz, Judy & Tom Hogan
Ann Sundblad

Pastor Ken Merckx
Helen & Bill Peterson

John & Agnes Beerling
ren Johnson
cas
Jill Carter

Stuart & Shirley Sundblad; Carl
& Katherine Lemin
Departed family members Ka-
Seth Johnson Barb Lu-
Stephen & David Lucas Doug &
Our Parents: Barth & Betty Carlson, Ed & Sue
Richard & Doris Carter
Departed Family

Holmgren

6/18 Ray Leverton
Ruth & Roger Solberg
Shirley, John, Sheryl Tyni
Cheryl & Don Sleeman
Robert & Ruby Kaukola
Marian Medlyn
Jean Johns
Bd. Of Worship & Music

Betty and Steve Leverton
David Solberg
Don Tyni
Our Parents
Dwayne Kaukola
Elsie & Lester Lundin
Ed Johns
Fathers of Bethany



In the June-July 2017 issue of NGLS Notes and Quotes, Bishop Thomas Skrenes interviewed Bishop-Elect Katherine Finegan. Below is a selection from that article. To read the full interview, visit www.NGLS.org

Why I Am a Pastor

BISHOP SKRENES: Why are you a pastor?



BISHOP-ELECT FINEGAN: The short answer of course is the Holy Spirit. But my journey as a person of faith to a person of faith in ordained ministry has been a series of steps and turns, of whippers and tugs, of the Spirit working in my life and my heart to invite me to go in a certain direction.

I heard an interesting statistic the other day. The most opportune time to suggest to a person, indeed a child, that they have gifts for ordained ministry or pastoral leadership is the third grade. When I look back on my childhood, I can say with conviction and yes, without bitterness, that had I been a boy, I would have received such encouragement. But of course, being raised in the Missouri Synod tradition, that simply wasn't a possibility. The message I heard was that pastors were somehow "other", and perhaps even that you had to be particularly holy or somehow more worthy. My childhood pastors would exit the sanctuary during the last hymn of worship and their robes would billow out as they walked to the back of the church. I would always try to see if I could touch their robe without them noticing. Being a pastor was for other people, grown up men people.

But as I look back on my life, I can see the Spirit at work.

At 8 years old, I argued with my third grade teacher, Mrs. Williams, about some point of the Apostles' Creed. I pulled out the hymnal to show her what I was talking about and to prove my point.

At 10, two friends and I decided to skip regular church to have our own worship service in the small chapel of our church. One of us chose the songs, one of us brought donuts and kool-aid from the fellowship coffee (I know, I know. My mother was horrified), and I was elected to preach the sermon. I remember talking about the lion, Aslan, in the Chronicles of Narnia, and how I understood Jesus a little better because of it.

As a youth director, I always felt like there was a pebble in my shoe, that there was a point of dissatisfaction, of this not being enough or not quite right. So I went to seminary. Not to become a pastor, but to feel more equipped for the work I was doing, and to be challenged, because I loved to dig into scripture, not just to answer the “what does this mean to you?” question, but to grapple with its full depth. To consider perspectives of historical context, genre, authorship, cultural influences, translation, and the influence of geography – just to name a few.

So I went to seminary. The application requires a rather extensive essay and more, and it is active or valid for five years. So I went for a year, taking all kinds of interesting classes, oblivious of what candidacy was, that there was a particular order for classes, that the synod should probably have been aware of me. I was just taking classes that fit in my strange schedule on topics that appealed to me.

But after a year, we were expecting our first child and our circumstances changed. Going to school was no longer an option. Three years passed and I had two sons. I realized that if I wanted to go back to school, and not have to apply all over again, I needed to make a decision. I thought, and prayed, and considered. My father asked gently, not wanting to push or pull, “Why not be a pastor?” I realized I had no good reason not to go. I was still living with the sense that being a pastor was “other” and simply not among the choices that were possible for me.

Of course, it was possible, IS possible. I declared myself an MDiv student, contacted candidacy, and figured I would deal with my extended Missouri Synod family later. That’s another story.

So in answer to the question, “Why are you a pastor?”, I would have to say, this is where God has led me.





"Hero Central" is this year's VBS theme.

Bethany joins Bethel Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and Wesley United Methodist (VBS hosts) for a week of fun activities.

There will be science, recreation, music, storytelling, arts and crafts, and more! Bethany is heading up the Recreation and Music activities.

If you are game to volunteer, please contact Tonya Perry or Addy Lemire.

When: August 6 - August 10

Where: Wesley United Methodist Church, Ishpeming

Time: 5:30 - 8:30

Registration forms can be found on the kiosk or register your children online at <http://www.myvbs.org/ishpemingwesley/>.

For more information about VBS, please contact Annie Yeager at 486-4681

God's Heroes Have Heart!



God's Heroes Have Courage!

God's Heroes Have Wisdom!

God's Heroes Have Hope!



God's Heroes Have Power!

"Do good! Seek peace and go after it!"

Lutheran World Relief Kits

School Kits

- Four 70 sheet spiral notebooks (no loose-leaf paper)
- One blunt scissors
- One ruler with inches and centimeters
- One pencil sharpener
- One eraser, approx. 2 1/2" long
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils secured with a rubber band
- Five ballpoint pens secured with a rubber band
- One box of 24 crayons
- All items except crayons should be removed from packaging



Personal Care Kits

- One dark colored bath towel (approx. 52x27)
- Two bath size bars of soap
- One adult size toothbrush left in packaging (if are purchased, put each toothbrush in an envelope)
- One wide tooth comb (removed from packaging)
- One nail clippers with file (removed from packaging)
- Do not enclose any item in plastic bags.



multiple toothbrushes in packaging lope)

Layettes

- New or gently used items can be used.
- Two cotton t-shirts
- Two gowns or sleepers without feet
- Two receiving blankets
- Four cloth diapers
- One dark colored hand towel
- One sweater with hat or sweatshirt jacket with hood
- Two diaper pins
- Two bath size bars of gentle soap



Bethany will be collecting kits for Lutheran World Relief during August, September and early October. Please consider making some kits and/or bringing in items to help complete individual kits.

Deadline for final collection will be in October with the specific date to be announced at a later time.

Fabric Kits

Two pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits or 100% polyester) measuring:

- 2 1/4 yds of 60" wide fabric or
- 3 yds of 44" or 45" wide fabric or
- 4 yds of 36" wide

Two spools of neutral colored thread
Tie items together with ribbon, yarn, string,



or a strip of fabric (No plastic bags)



Library Notes for July/August 2017

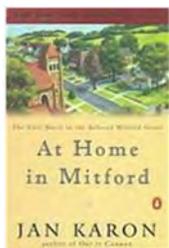
By Keenan Tunnell

It's SUMMER: read for pleasure!! I'm suggesting a few series you might want to get into with a glass of iced tea on a warm/hot summer's day. They each have a connection to church life in small towns. Three are series we already have on hand and I'm introducing a new one with the church connection being a Lutheran one! I haven't read this one yet, so let me know how you like it. I would be happy to add the final two volumes for your reading pleasure. So... get to it! We'll get back to Reformation 500 in September...with books and videos.

Karon, Jan. The Mitford Series (note: we don't have all 11 titles in the series)

FIC KAR

It's easy to feel at home in Mitford. In these high, green hills of North Carolina, the air is pure, the village is charming, and the people are generally lovable. Meet Father Tim, the bachelor rector of Lord's Chapel who is looking for something ... more in his life. Enter Barnabas, a dog the size of a sofa who moves in and won't go away. Add an attractive, artistic neighbor named Cynthia who begins wearing a path through the hedge. Now, stir in Dooley, a lovable but unloved boy, a mystifying jewel theft, and a secret that's sixty years old. Suddenly, Father Tim gets more than he bargained for! Much more than a gentle love story, this is a homespun tale about a town of endearing characters-- including a mysterious jewel thief--who are as quirky and popular as those of *Mayberry*, *R.F.D.*



Gulley, Phillip. The Harmony Series (We have 5 Titles)

FIC GUL

In this acclaimed inaugural volume in the Harmony series, master American storyteller Philip Gulley draws us into the charming world of Rev. Sam Gardner in his first year back in his Indiana hometown, capturing the essence of small-town life with humor and wisdom.



Lindvall, Michael L. *The Good News from North Haven*

FIC LIN

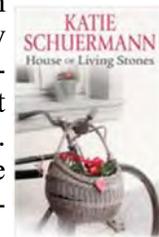
“A collection of tales assembled to illuminate a year in the life of a Presbyterian minister and his small-town Minnesota flock, the novel reads more like a collection of autobiographical essays than fiction. most of the stories [conclude] with a biblical interpretation; indeed some of these could be applauded as enlightened sermons Wandering through the same country as Garrison Keillor and Robert Fulghum, Lindvall has a kindhearted, humorous way of exposing human fears and foibles. This is a stand-alone volume...a series of tales rather than a series of books...easier to pick up and put down!



Schuermann, Katie. *House of Living Stones*

FIC SCH

In the small Illinois town of Bradbury, change doesn't come often, and it certainly doesn't come easily. So when Pastor Fletcher hires Emily Duke as the new choir director at Zion Lutheran Church, he unknowingly sets in motion a chain of events that turns the life of his congregation upside down: the crusty church secretary, Mrs. Scheinberg, must learn to adjust her curmudgeonly ways; Zion's talented but pompous organist, Evan Ebner, must recognize his shortcomings; Emily must come to terms with her past. Even Pastor Fletcher must face reality when his world is shaken by the baggage Emily brings and by the handsome Zachary Brandt who pursues her. (Book One in the Anthems of Zion series)



Congratulations!



On June 4, 2017, Bethany's high school graduates were recognized. The graduates were Savannah Marietti, Hannah Skewis, Jacob Clark, Savannah Holm-Brown, and Noah Kaukola. In addition Bethany congratulates two college graduates:; Christina Mariani and Kate Clark.



Living Lutheran



Cover Story:

- “E Pluribus Unum Deus”: Out of many, one God (K. T. Sancken)

Features:

- Church in society: exploring ELCA social statements (Megan Brandsrud)
- Prom partners (Cindy Uken)
- A vision for a more just society; The EPES Foundation’s International Training Course (Maxine Lowy)
- “Tiny house” project makes big impact on congregation, community (Steve Lundeberg)
- Unity in diversity; The 20th anniversary of the Formula of Agreement (Jill Dierberg Clark)
- Reformation 500: 50 things you may not know about Luther (Timothy J. Wengert)
- Providing comfort; 500 pillows for refugees? (Rachel Pritchett)

Reflection:

- A Spiritual network (Brian Hiortdahl)

Faith & Family:

- Showing up (Kimberly Knowle-Zeller)

Deeper Understandings:

- Luther and ministry “in crisis” (Michael Cooper-White)

From Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton

- Serving the neighbor in charged times



Fellowship Hall Floor original 1962 Will patch asbestos floor and put down carpet squares which are replaceable if ruined.

Sanctuary original 1970 Carpet

Church Pews and Choir Chairs 1970 reupholster both



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today is World Refugee Day. Observed every year on June 20, this is a day when we commemorate the strength, courage and perseverance of millions of refugees worldwide.

There are more people fleeing war and persecution than ever before. We are now facing the largest global refugee crisis, with over 65 million people forcibly displaced from their countries. Twenty-one million of those who are displaced are refugees. The United States opens its doors to less than 1 percent of the world's refugees – 85,000 refugees entered our country in 2016. I

n Matthew 25:35, Jesus said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." As people of faith, we are called to welcome the stranger and to walk alongside vulnerable refugees living in untenable situations. This support is critical in providing protection and hope for those who have fled persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political views and/or associations.

As we recognize the global refugee crisis, let us also celebrate the many contributions that refugees make to our communities as they seek to stabilize their lives and build on their dreams. In this regard, we appreciate all the efforts of our congregations – in collaboration with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service – that are welcoming refugees and providing many forms of hospitality.

It is also important to acknowledge the excellent work being done by The Lutheran World Federation, of which we are a member. These programs assist thousands of refugees every day who have fled their homes, such as South Sudanese now in Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia; Burundians in Tanzania; Somalis, Eritreans and Sudanese in Ethiopia; and Syrians in Jordan, just to name a few.

World Refugee Day offers an opportunity for us to stand in solidarity with people who have been forced to leave their homes. Today and every day we pray for peace for all the children of God created in God's image.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop



An Eight Year Old's Explanation of God

One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth.

He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.



God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy, so you shouldn't go wasting His time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in our town. At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of Him preaching to them and they crucified Him. But He was good and kind, like His Father, and He told His father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.



His Dad (God) appreciated everything that He had done and all his hard work on earth so He told Him He didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So He did. And now He helps His Dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones He can take care of Himself without having to bother God, like a secretary, only more important.



You can pray anytime you want and They are sure to help you because They got it worked out so one of Them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God.



Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun, like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway. If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp. But God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

But you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.

And...that's why I believe in God.



To my Bethany family,

Thank you for your friendship, prayers and support during this past year. I feel comforted when I'm here. Ned missed being with us. God bless you all.

Jean Johns and family



A Special Remembrance

Kay Chartre and her granddaughter Ashley attended Women and Kids Week this year at Fortune Lake. Sadly missing was Kay's grandson Ethan who died last year. In remembrance of the joyful camper that they all missed, two balloons were released in Ethan's and his dad Steven's memory.



Holy Humor Sunday



Thank you Pastor Geier for once again showing Bethany that humor has a place in a Christian's life. It is good to laugh and smile.



Thanks also to Linda Hurrell and Tonya Perry for their jaunty duet on the piano.



Fourth of July at

the Geier's



Please feel welcome to join us at 604 N. Third Street to view the Fourth of July Parade again this year! Coffee, lemonade and snacks and pleasant company will be provided!



BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

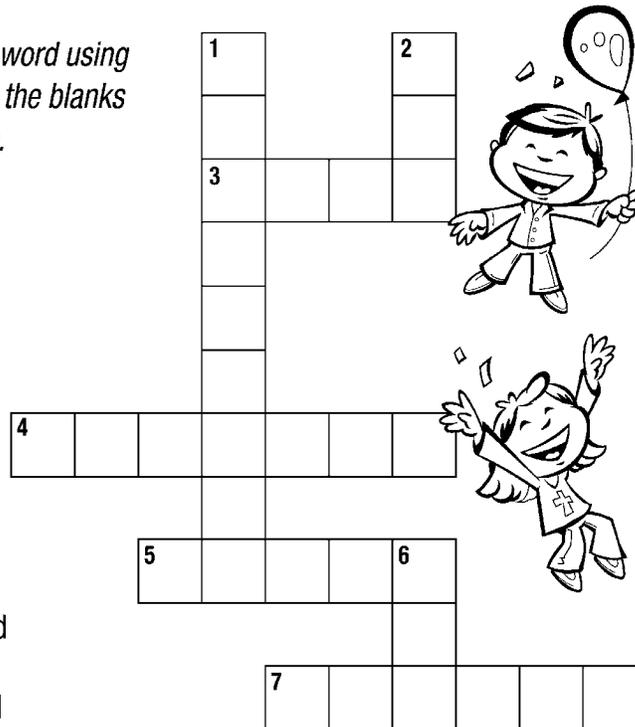
Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.

ACROSS

- 3. A word for happy (rhymes with had)
- 4. What you do when you're very happy
- 5. A song written by David
- 7. Full of joy

DOWN

- 1. People who obey God
- 2. Our Creator
- 6. The month after April



“But may the 1. _____ be 3. _____ and
 4. _____ before 2. _____; 6. _____ they
 be happy and 7. _____.” 5. _____ 68:3, NIV

Council Highlights— June 2017



- Received requests for financial help from Harbor House and Feeding America
- In a letter from Bishop Skrenes he said the synod collected \$43,794.67 for World Hunger. He also expressed thanks for Bethany's gift of money to support Lay School.
- Memorial Garden: Just under \$1000 collected to date. A down payment of \$1200 will go out later this week. Work should begin the week of July 3.
- Pastoral Acts: Baptism: Oliver Wyatt Raetzel (6/19/2017); Funerals: Marjorie Rosten (6/20/2017), Jim Sodergren (6/5/2017), Edward Johns (6/24/2017)
- Income continues to track behind expenses.
- Approved Weight Watchers Exercise Group M-F 8:30-9:30 in basement
- Approved VASA's use of the kitchen and fellowship hall September 25 –26 for potato sausage making and meal.
- Discussed safety issues in the choir loft.



OUR CHURCH'S

FINANCES

YTD Income: \$81,526.47

YTD Expenses: \$86,853.38

Jan. - May



Thank You from the Sodergren Family

Thanks to all the members of Bethany who helped in any way during the illness and loss of our father Jim. We sincerely appreciate all the contributions to the Memorial Fund in Dad's name and wish to especially thank Pastor Geier, Tonya Perry and the Bethany choir, funeral workers, Bob Nadeau, and Gary Sundblad. It has been a great comfort to us to be surrounded by the love of our Bethany family during this difficult time.



---The Family of Jim Sodergren

Baptism at Bethany



Carl and Doris Pellonpaa beamed as their great grandson Oliver Wyatt Raetzel was baptized at Bethany. Oliver is the son of their granddaughter Briana and her husband John Raetzel. The happy grandmother, daughter of Carl and Doris, is Wendy Holton.



Thank You



Thank you for your prayers for our daughter Megan and new granddaughter Luna Mae. They are both doing well.

Tom and Tonya Perry



The Memorial Committee would like to thank
all those who gave memorials in the name of....

Marjorie Rosten
Ned Johns
James Sodergren



“Summer night — even the stars are whispering to each other”

—Kobayashi Issa



Bethany’s Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

To view the latest edition of
the Outlook in color, please
visit Bethany’s website.



Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate
Are Available at Bethany



Café Salvador Coffee
Organic Decaf Coffee
Whole Bean Coffee
Whole Bean Decaf
Sisters’ Blend, Reg. & Decaf
Teas
Hot cocoa
Baking Cocoa
Milk Chocolate Bar
Dark Chocolate Mini Bars

From Small Farmers With Love



Keep In Your Prayers

Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents:

Valente: Doreen Brown, Jean Sandstrom

Jacobetti: Allen Maki, Bob Waters, Pastor Bob Sutherland

Teal Lake Senior Living Community: Betty Geier

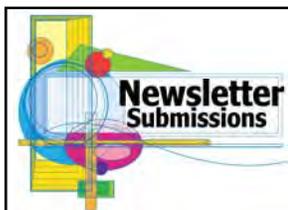
- Sharon Argall
- Dan Argall
- Ray Chartre
- Roger Solberg
- Ruth Solberg
- Carl Pellonpaa
- Debbie Cain
- John and Marilyn Pontti
- Kay Chartre
- Jim Sodergren, Jr.
- Cindy Warner
- Kaye Frederickson
- Bob Kaukola
- Ted Swanson
- Loreth Johnson
- Judy Hogan
- Karmen Slown
- Brown family
- Mark
- Lois Goethe
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Robert Maki
- Zander Atkins
- Jim Bjorne
- Pastor Marcia Solberg
- Angie Kempainen
- June Forsberg
- Carol and Juan Papaleo and family
- Those in the military that they may remain safe



Answers to puzzle Be Happy in the Lord:

Answers (across) 3. glad, 4. rejoice, 5. psalm, 7. joyful

Answers (down) 1. righteous, 2. God, 6. may



Contact **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

485-1625
linkarzig@gmail.com



Bethany Lutheran Church
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Ishpeming, MI 49849

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau
Asst. Exec. Director, Ted Swanson
Christian Education, Tonya Perry
Finance, Jim Kinnunen
Personnel, Tom Ryan
Property, Robert Bruhnke
Social Ministry, Marie Chilman
Stewardship, Tom Perry
Worship & Music, Keenan Tunnell



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod



July Worship Assistants

July 2

Assisting Minister - Keenan Tunnell
Acolyte - Blake Forbes
Altar - Sue Ryan
Coffee Hosts - Kathy, Rae, and Marian
Flowers - In memory of Teckla & George
Holmgren and Barbara Reaubekas by
George & Barb Holmgren
Bread - Marian Medlyn

July 9

Assisting Minister - Beverly Matherne
Acolyte - Abbi Koski
Altar - Clara Carlson
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers - In memory of Steve Pelto by Ed & Sue Holmgren
Bread - Terra Frustaglio

July 16

Assisting Minister - Meredith Seppanen
Acolyte - Jarin Johnson
Altar - LaVerne Koski
Coffee Hosts - WELCA Strawberry Social
Flowers - In memory of Fred & Ruth Kinnunen by Jim & Barb Kinnunen
Bread - Bob Bucan

July 23

Assisting Minister - Gary Sundblad
Acolyte - Ian Bivins
Altar - Marian Medlyn
Coffee Hosts - Property
Flowers - In memory of our nephew Nathan Lunn by
Doug & Jill Carter
Bread - Tonya Perry

July 30

Assisting Minister - David Leverton
Acolyte - Abby Bruhnke
Altar - Sue Ryan
Coffee Hosts - Shawls
Flowers -
Bread - Cheryl Frederickson



Welcome!

July Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Don Meyer
Dan Sleeman
Bob Bruhnke
Rick Rhoades



Thank You!

Happy Birthday!

1 Linda Dahl
2 Therese Korpi
3 Kellie Clark
3 Ned Johns
3 Nicholas Olgren
6 Kristina Mattson
6 Charles Stahlmann
8 Ann Gonyea
8 Florence Pohlman
9 Dan Argall
10 Loreth Johnson
10 Roger Solberg
12 Aaron Mattson
12 Jessica Penhale
13 Ruth Solberg
13 Tim Grant
14 Morgan Rhoades
14 Carol Anderson
14 Lily Brown
15 Kyle Wooden
17 Donald Meyer
22 Judith Meyer
22 Blake Forbes
23 Brady James Johnson
24 Jeffrey Scanlon
25 Debbie Leaf
25 Mike Starrine
26 Kay Chartre
26 Jarin Johnson
27 Marian Franti
27 Shirley Tyni
27 Kathy Geier
28 Leigh Gugin
28 Wendy Penhale
28 Mallory Warner



29 Michelle Richards
29 Kevin Ryan
29 Benjamin Meyer
31 Doreen Brown
31 Cory Clark
31 Sue Holmgren

Happy Anniversary!

Bruce & Debbie Bussone
7/1/1995 22 years

Bill & Annette Larson
7/7/1956 61 years

Nicholas & Jenna Chartre
7/9/11 6 years

Pastor & Kathy Geier
7/11/92 25 years

Jim & Sandi Sodergren
7/17/93 24 years

Dale & Mary Toivonen
7/26/75 42 years

Tony & Lisa Ombrello
7/29/89 28 years



August Worship Assistants

August 6

Assisting Minister - Robert Clark
Acolyte - Abbi Koski
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Finance
Flowers -
Bread - Dan & Sharon Argall

Thank You!

August 13

Assisting Minister - DJ Bivins
Acolyte - Ian Bivins
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers - In memory of Karl Dahl by Linda Dahl
Bread - Kathy Geier

August 20

Assisting Minister - Linda Dahl
Acolyte - Abby Bruhnke
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Stewardship & Personnel
Flowers - In memory of Peter Cain by Debbie Cain
Bread - Shirley Tyni

August 27

Assisting Minister - Kathleen Slown
Acolyte - Jarin Johnson
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Deb & Bruce Bussone and Colleen
Sundblad
Flowers -
Bread - Kaye Frederickson

August Ushers:

Jaak Liivoja
Mike Richards
Tom Ryan
Ted Swanson
John Waters
Tim Grant
John Hansen



September

Ushers:

Bruce Bussone
Tom Perry
Jim Kinnunen
Craig Kitchen
Jerry Plaisier
Knut Strom
Doug Carter

Happy Birthday!

1 Robert Bruhnke
1 Jackson Vidlund
3 Kaitlyn Thompson
4 Kimberlee Smith
7 Craig Kitchen
7 Pat Liivoja
7 Debbie Sodergren
8 David Leverton
9 Mackenzie Ryan
10 Rosemarie Strom
12 Stephanie Swanson
13 Rick Rhoades
14 Joan Sundberg
15 Debra Cain
17 Jamie Rhoades
18 Dallas Leaf
18 Dillon Leaf
18 Barbara Lucas
18 Jerry Plaisier
19 Larry Alexander
19 Jane Anderson
22 Gary Sundblad
23 Joelle Johns
23 Lindsey Young
24 Vera Blewett
24 Linda Hares
24 Kimberlee Smith
31 Tom Perry

Happy Anniversary!

Gerald & Carol Anderson, Jr.
8/2/75 42 years

Raymond & Kay Chartre
8/8/70 47 years



Elizabeth & Russell Aho
8/12/95 22 years

Debbie & David Paavo
8/18/84 33 years

Brian & Anita Ulrickson
8/19/78 39 years

Edmund & Sue Holmgren
8/21/65 52 years

Halley & Bobby Reichel
8/21/2010 7 years

Brent & Denise Clark
8/22/92 25 years

Robert & Ruby Kaukola
8/22/70 47 years

Robert & Harriet Maki
8/22/59 58 years

Craig & Judy Kitchen
8/27/87 30 years

Tom & Debbie Sodergren
8/28/76 41 years

Robert & Peggy Clark
8/29/70 47 years

Greg & Carrie Meyer
8/29/09 8 years

