



St. James News

Equipping and Empowering Families and Students through Christ

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Beloved saints, greetings in the blessing that is your baptismal identity as a forgiven child of God. As I write this letter I sit on my porch not feeling too well. I've been sick a couple of days and have not been able to be a part of VBS as I wished. But thankfully, the few folks that volunteered to help along with the Camp Omega Day Camp counselors are doing a wonderful job. And though not feeling well, I am still better than I deserve as even when not feeling well, the wages of sin have been covered by the blood of Christ!

The next time you read a newsletter will be the beginning of August and attention will be focused on gearing up for the next school year. Our new vicar will have been here a few months as the blessing of serving the Church continues through our service of helping to prepare and educate future pastors. St. James is a blessing to many not only in our community, but an ever growing reality beyond as these men go out and serve the Church as a whole. We give prayer, praise, and thanksgiving for that opportunity.

Speaking of the next school year, what joy we continue to have as our school sees a continued growth in not only students, but also the opportunity to plant the seeds of truth within the souls of those precious children. As you may or may not have heard, our younger grades are growing which has prompted the decision to separate the younger grades again. Kindergarten through 4th grades will be single classrooms again – assuming we find a 2nd grade teacher! And, with the desire to better the Early Childhood area of our school, the decision has been made to bring on an Early Childhood Director who will oversee the Preschool/Childcare in an administrative role.

With these decisions, there are two responses we can have as the church. First, we can look at the reality that we are going to need more

finances than we have brought in the last couple of years and conclude that the decisions are bad. Or, we can look at the reality that we are going to need more finance than we have brought in the last couple of years and conclude that the challenge is worth it because St. James School is worth it. It will be a challenge, and as your Pastor and Administrator of the school, I promise you that I will do what I can in my knowledge, skills, and commitment to St. James to ensure the means to deliver the best education and faith strengthening blessing each child in our school deserves.

Now that all being said, my challenge to each family and member of this congregation is to take some time and honestly assess your commitment to faithful and biblical stewardship. Don't tune me out because you heard that word – stewardship. Remember, stewardship is not just about money (treasure), it's about your time, talent, and yes, treasure. And before considering how you use those three blessings, it's good for you to know that they are indeed, just that – blessings. All you have by way of time, talent, and treasure, is a gift from God. He's given you all you need for this daily life and then some – for the sake of serving those around you. **“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”** (James 1:17) **“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.”** (Romans 12:6-8)

In a recent sermon I made the assertion that the lack of stewardship is never a lack of time, talent, treasure problem, it's a heart problem – it's a

priority problem. That assertion is not my words, they are Jesus': **"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."** (Matthew 6:21) And this is where your challenge comes in. The reality is, St. James – all congregations for that matter – are truly blessed to never need to have conversations about needing to give more time, talent, and treasure. Yet, the need arises. So, consider evaluating your heart. Consider being truthful about the priorities of time, talent, and treasure when it comes to your church.

Might you be able to give of more time? Time through volunteering reduces costs. Lawn mowing and snow removal through volunteers eliminates costs of a service. Instead of driving by the church and school and saying something like, "Oh man, someone needs to spray the weeds," consider getting a group together and have a weeding party, or stop in and ask, "Can I spray the weeds?"

Might you be able to give of more talent? Talent through volunteering reduces costs. There are always maintenance matters that come with having a campus of school building, church building, parsonage, and also a vicarage house. Might you have a skill that could reduce the costs of some of those maintenance matters? Might you be willing to let me or the Trustees know that you'd be willing to share your talent to help out?

Might you be able to give of more treasure? We are blessed with so many faithful which is what makes this conversation difficult to begin with. But perhaps you are reading this and are someone who hasn't been all that faithful in giving. Or maybe you've giving quite a bit and don't want to give more. Or maybe you are one who honestly doesn't have much to give. The bottom line is faithfulness and remembering that what you have is God's gift to you for your daily life and the support of those around you. What is the condition of your heart when comes to your treasure?

Dear saints, please know that this is never an easy conversation. And I wish nothing more than for you to know that you are very much appreciated for all that you do for St. James. Many are involved in much that goes unseen. Thank you. As we move

foreword preparing and eventually moving through the next school year, it will indeed be a challenge. But I simply ask you to remember that as we move forward faithfully, the challenge will no longer be, as it is truly an opportunity to serve in a capacity the Lord has laid before us. **"For we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content."** (1 Timothy 6:7-8)

Pastor Loder

Our Church Records

Church Attendance

Ascension, May 26	37
Sunday, May 29	86 & 46
Sunday, June 5	99 & 68
Sunday, June 12	88 & 68
Sunday, June 19	95 & 61

Communion Attendance

Sunday, May 29	72
Sunday, June 5	148
Sunday, June 12	156
Sunday, June 19	84

Baptism

Lillian Jean Doten daughter of Brandon Doten and Jennifer Mork on June 4, 2022 by Pastor Loder. She was born on January 5, 2012.

Marcella Marie Miller infant daughter of Tyler and Kelli Miller on June 11, 2022 by Pastor Loder. She was born on May 19, 2022. Her sponsors are Adam and Abigail Fischer.

Transfer In

Jared Merges and his children Reagan and Dean Merges on June 1, 2022 from Elm Mission Church, Cokato, MN.

Request of Release

James and Carol Borg on June 2, 2022 to Ostmark Lutheran Church, Watkins, MN.

✠ **Bible Trivia** ✠

See answers below

1. Who ordered the building of the first fleet of ships recorded in the Bible?
2. Which book in the Bible records a beauty contest to replace a queen?
3. Who said, "Let me die with the Philistines"?
4. In what situation in the NT was the equation 70 x7 used?
5. Which book states that nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ?

Answers: 1. Solomon (1 Kings 9:26) 2. Esther (Esther 2:1-17) 3. Samson (Judges 17:30) 4. Jesus said that a Christian should forgive others 70 x7 (Matthew 18:21) 5. Romans (8:9)

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Who is watching out for you? "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son . . ." Jesus has you covered. He carried the full weight of your sin to the cross because He cares for little you. Vicar Klumpp's opening devotion was a beautiful message to LWML members who met June 6th.

Vicar continued with a personal recap of his journey so far in ministry. A full and busy year as Vicar at St. James will be complete the end of June, and he and his family will be moving back to seminary for one more year. We praise God for Vicar Klumpp and his gifts ministry and service.

In celebration of fathers' day, several members shared treasured items belonging to their fathers. Six members will attend the LWML District convention. \$400.00 will be given from our society at the convention for four mission projects.

Ice cream treats were given to St. James 7th and 8th grade students as thanks for their help during the year setting up tables and chairs for events held in our fellowship hall. A July tour suggestion was presented for consideration - a trip to the Dassel Museum followed by a stop at the Dassel Tea shop for snacks. The Litchfield LWML Zone board meeting will be held at St. James on August 22. Our group will supply and serve snacks and coffee.

. . . that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

LWML

Summer Tour

on Wednesday, July 20
to the

Ergot Museum

with lunch at the

Garden Nook Tea House

Dassel, Minnesota

Members and guests will meet in the church parking lot that morning to carpool and leave for Dassel at 10 AM



The museum's main exhibit, **Ergot: From Blight to Blessing**, showcases what the building was primarily used for – processing ergot. From the early 1940s to the mid-1970s, Universal Laboratories provided raw ergot from the grain fields of the western US and Canada to pharmaceutical companies. The history center offers other permanent exhibits, including one on Seed Corn which highlights the important role played by the local seed corn operations in the development of seed varieties, a Peterson Pharmacy exhibit, and Magnus Johnson a local Swedish immigrant farmer who became a US Senator.

The Garden Nook has sandwich lunches, soups, scones and of course a variety of teas. Everyone will be able to order their choices from the menu.





July: Logan Cardinal (1), Annita Power (1), Colby Zillmer (1), Zachary Thorson (2), Anika Monson (3), Cari Schmiege (3), Richard Birkholz (4), Madison Gueningsman (4), Casey Diers (5), Arnold Hechsel (5), Janell Koch (5), Loren Wegner (5), Zoie Drake (6), Marjorie Helinske (7), Astrid Glessing (8), Teresa Schmiege (8), Megan Wiegand (8), Cole Stillwell (9), Megan Stueven (9), Nathan Kotila (10), Paul Lindahl (11), Jim Yukel (11), Heidi Gulso (12), Greta Schlagel (13), Chase Main (14), Alyssa Stoll (14), Layle Dawa (15), Eric Stoll (15), LaVonne Burkett (16), Brycen Diers (16), Jill Kittock (16), Becky Hagemann (17), Michael Stueven (18), Roy Bakeberg (19), Hathaway Heber (20), Kelly Reich (20), Bonnie Bistodeau (21), Luke Dahl (21), Michelle Droneck (21), Tyler Gruenhagen (21), Carolyn Kotila (21), Tammy Oestreich (21), Julie Linder (22), Riley Bickmann (23), Lucas Kilpela (23), Carson Woolhouse (23), Clark Hassa (24), Brooke Gabbert (25), Aaron Horsch (25), Wayne Birkholz (27), Thomas Goepfert (27), Elosie Doster (28), Linda Drusch (28), Erland Hoese (28), Fisher Laplant (28), Dustin Gustafson (30), Carolyn Ittel (30), Dawn Krohn (30), Lynn Burbank (31), Jason Schmiege (31), **August:** Keith Bobrowske (1), Jeremy Cardinal (1), Coleton Main (1), Morgan Niesen (1), Ann Birkholz (2), Daniel Workman (2), Gayle Yager (2), Linda Bakeberg (3), Angela Cardinal (3), Joyce Heuer (3), Marjorie Stueven (3), Ashley Main (4), Russell Schlagel (4), Keith Brose (5), Amy Bureau (5), Madison Marschel (5), Elizabeth Anderson (6), Justin Gabbert (7), Justin Niesen (7), Alexia Probst (8), Thomas Johnson (10), Pastor Loder (10), Gayle Ristow (10), Lila Hennen (11), Marvel Engel (12), Darlene Lind (13), Cass Cardinal (14), Bonnie Jones (14), Gwen Pehl (14), Waverly Stueven (14), Donald Drusch (16), Casey Stueven (16), Wyatt Gueningsman (17), Joseph Pehl (17), Timothy Zander (17), Chris Menk (18), Crystal Collier (19), Marlene George (19), Riley Gruenhagen (19), Shane Heber (19), Hathaway Stueven (19), Mark Bureau (20), Dan Glessing (20), Elijah Wellnitz (22), Shari Zander (22), Kennedy Sparkman (23), Michael Luhman (24), Barbara

Schmiege (25), Mindy Stoll (25), Jeremy Birkholz (26), Joel Hirsch (26), Vivian Nikko (27), Emma Diers (28), Rena Gruenhagen (28), Elise Linder (28), Carol Borg (29), Matthew Goepfert (29), Benjamin Koosman (29), Mildred Molnau (29), Anna Baumann (30), Jeffrey Kilpela (30), Brooke Whitton (30), Taylor Drusch (31), Alexa Olson (31),



7/8 Bernard & Margaret Marketon
7/8 Steve & Bonni Weber
7/9 Brad and Jenna Davis
7/12 Adam & Beth Koch
7/13 Justin & Angela Gabbert
7/17 Martin & Joan Boss
7/17 Lon & Michelle Droneck
7/18 Dustin & Katherine Gustafson
7/19 Steve & Kim Koosman
7/19 Terry & LaNette Thorson
7/22 Jed & Tami Zander
7/25 John & Darlene Lind
7/26 Dave & Samantha Zillmer
7/27 James & Carolyn Ittel
7/29 Dennis & Patricia Lauzer
7/31 Ronald & Roberta Weibel
8/2 Adam & April Stueven
8/4 Warren & Dorothy Anderson
8/10 Ray & Jan Cardinal
8/11 Dennis & Nancy Butterfass
8/15 Pastor & Molly
8/16 Donald & Ruby Drusch
8/17 Jeffery & Leisha Diers
8/18 Jake & Gabrielle Wurm
8/21 Jacob & Jaime Diers



Stewardship- An Article from LCMS

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Newsletter article –July 2022

What Do You Have That You Have Not Received?

New Testament Standard Giving

Whenever the topic of stewardship and giving comes up, the conversation inevitably turns to the question: “How much should I give?” Answers will vary because the motive behind such questions vary also.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though as Lutherans, we know that we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus’ substitutionary atonement. Yet the natural religion of fallen man is to earn God’s favor by what we do.

Take for example the response of our Lord to the rich young ruler who asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus first tells him to keep the commandments. The rich young ruler responds by indicating that all this he has kept from his youth. But Jesus tells him that he lacks one thing: He must sell all that he has and give it to the poor and then follow him. This rich, young ruler went away sad because he was quite wealthy and could not part with his possessions.

Here we see that those who seek to justify themselves by their giving will hear a response that intensifies the duty that God places upon them. Indeed, they will hear a response that makes it impossible to win God’s favor by their works.

But to those who genuinely desire to know what their duty is, as Christians, in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God. And we know that the Word of God has been “breathed out by God and profitable

The Lutheran Hour® Program Guide

July 2022

July 3

"Play the Sunset"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

We can't negotiate our value with God; however, God regards us as infinitely valuable.

(Ecclesiastes 2:25)

July 10

"Power to Enjoy"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus is not a free pass to heaven; Jesus is the Reason why we want to be in heaven, the Source of joy in every place.

(Ecclesiastes 5:19)

July 17

"18 Hours in the Ocean "

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Voltaire said, "Life is a shipwreck." The Bible gives us a rescue beacon.

(Ecclesiastes 9:10)

July 24

"TBD"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

July 31

"TBD"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16–17).

So, we begin to answer the question, “What should I give?” with the question, “What does the Bible say about how much we should give and to whom?”

The Old Testament is explicit. The expectation is that the people of God would give a tithe that is 10 percent, of the first fruits of their labor to support the full-time ministry of the Levites. This is what the Lord gave Moses to teach the people:

“You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the

fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.” (Deuteronomy 14:22–29)

This principle of tithing is carried over into the New Testament, though not explicitly by calling it a tithe. St. Paul teaches the Church at Corinth this: We are to give to the church regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (1 Cor. 16:1–2; Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23). And all of this is because the “Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living by the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14), just as the Levites did.

This our New Testament standard. Since Christ became poor for us in order to make us rich in Him – blessing us with the riches of heaven – so we also have been so blessed to follow the example of our Lord and Savior and give of ourselves and the work of our hands to bless others with the same.

If we have been lax in this, let us – like our Lord, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame – likewise begin to work toward this goal of regular giving of a generous proportion of the first fruits of God’s giving to us. And let us do so not begrudgingly, but for the joy set before us— with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness, and love—to share the blessings of God with those placed into our care.

Our Parish Nurse

SUMMER GREETINGS,

I hope you are enjoying the nicer weather and the chance to be outside more. This article will consist of several “tidbits” of health information, I hope it will be helpful and interesting.

ASPIRIN TO PREVENT HEART ATTACKS AND STROKE

The U.S. Preventative Services Task Force has recently updated guidelines on taking daily aspirin to prevent cardiovascular disease. It is recommended that people aged 60 and older DO NOT start taking aspirin to prevent a first heart attack. The potential harms of aspirin causing internal bleeding in people as they age is increased, therefore it is not encouraged. However, anyone that is already taking the low-dose aspirin because of heart conditions or heart attacks should definitely continue. It is best to check with your medical provider if you have questions regarding taking the preventative aspirin.

COMMON HOUSEHOLD PLANTS

Ordinary household plants can significantly reduce air pollution in homes and offices, according to research led by the University of Birmingham. The common pollutant, nitrogen dioxide can be reduced by as much as 20 percent. Researchers tested three plants- Peace Lilly, Corn Plant and the Fern Arum. In a small office five plants removed around 20 percent of the pollutant. Not only do plants add to the beauty of a home or office, now they also aid in the healthy atmosphere. Let's hear it for the plants!

BLOOD PRESSURE DRUGS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE KIDNEY DAMAGE

The long term use of drugs to treat high blood pressure and heart failure could be contributing to kidney damage, according to researchers from the University Of Virginia School Of Medicine. While the blood pressure drugs can be lifesaving, there is the potential for kidney damage. SO the important thing is to connect with your health care provider and have the blood work that will monitor the kidney function- regularly. Do not stop taking your blood pressure medications without talking with your provider. Not to be alarmed, just aware. If it has been years since any lab work has been done, please check with your medical provider to be sure.

CAREGIVERS

Are you now or do you think you will be a caregiver in the future? Odds are that someday you will be in the position to take care of a loved one. Statistics show that one in five adults will be a caregiver in the future. Here

are some things you need to know if the situation arises for you. Take care of the legal paperwork- Living wills in place will express family members' wishes and will ease any added burdens of decision-making. Having a power of attorney for both healthcare and financial decisions is extremely helpful and almost a must. Have a list of your current medications, your medical provider's names and telephone numbers, bank accounts, insurance information and any other legal or financial information will make your life so much easier. Keep all records in a safe place, preferably a fireproof safe.

Get the conversation started early- don't wait until the health condition is critical and something needs to be done now. Ask your elderly loved ones how they would like to be cared for, should the occasion arise. Have an honest conversation- include all family members- this will avoid any bad feelings or conflicts for the future. Unfortunately, most families do not prepare for future needs of elderly members. Getting everyone's opinion is vital. Include other support friends, should there be those, such as neighbors, best friends, etc. Check into what kinds of resources are available- Home Health Care? Alzheimer,s association, Diabetes support association, any other groups in your area?

Finally, and probably one of the most important, your own health! Caregiving can be mentally, physically, and emotionally draining, and you need to remain in good health to perform the needed tasks. Eat well, get some exercise, and find some time for yourself. Confide in a good friend to be supportive. Depression can sneak-up on you and is common among caregivers. It can be avoided with preventative measures for yourself. It will be normal to feel anger, guilt, anxiety or other emotions that go along with caregiving. Don't forget about your spiritual health. Attending church services and participating in the word and sacraments will definitely keep you grounded and healthy.

As the population ages, we find ourselves in more and more positions to help our elderly loved ones and neighbors. It is vital that we help each other. Financially as well as physically and emotionally. Who is it that needs our love and support right now? Reach out before they need to ask for assistance. An extremely rewarding responsibility and opportunity.

May our Lord and Savior grant you a Blessed summer,

Your Parish Nurse,
Darlene