

# THE FISH TALE

Immanuel Lutheran Church – Senior Newsletter

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## A Dubious Distinction

*“Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:12*

The five year old boy was at a fast-food restaurant with his mother, brother and sister. I'm proud to say that the family saw no need to change their custom of praying before their meal. The boy asked if he could say the prayer. He prayed with the volume and vigor of a normal five-year old: “Come Lord Jesus be our guest and let these gifts to us be blest . . .and, Lord, if Mom would add fruit pies for dessert. I would be even more thankful. God, this is Your Friend. Danny, signing out for the entire family. Amen”

A lady in the next booth whispered, so all could hear, “No wonder this country has gone to the dogs. Kids today don't even know how to say their prayers. As if God doesn't have other things to do than provide fruit pies.” The boy asked, “Was that a bad prayer? Shouldn't I pray for fruit pies?” An older man leaned across the aisle and said, “I've been praying a lot of years, and if I know God like I think I do, He would rate that prayer as being one of the best He's heard. In fact, I think it's a shame more people don't ask Him for fruit pies. Fruit pies can be good for our hearts and souls.”

Mom bought fruit pies for the entire family. The little boy turned around, tapped the shoulder of the lady who had put down his prayer, and said. “Here, I want you to have my fruit pie. Fruit pies can sometimes be good for our hearts and souls.”

The boy had successfully survived his first taste of persecution. In the years to come, Satan will return to try again. Scheming and shrewd, Satan will try to wear down, grind down, and tear down the boy's Christian confidence, conviction and courage. He will do the same to you. When that day comes, I encourage you to remember that you are not alone. Christian heroes, in every generation, have been persecuted for their faith. In those moments of challenge, they have turned to their Redeemer for courage. Like St. Paul they believed, *“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all”* (2 Corinthians 4:17). Confident in Christ's promises, they emerged victorious and gave proof to all those around them that Christ is still triumphant.

By the late Rev. Ken Klaus  
Lutheran Hour Ministries

# John Baptizes Jesus



***Read Matthew 3; John 1***

## **God's Word in Review**

*Circle the word or phrase that answers each question.*

1. What was the theme of the message John preached?  
(Repentance – Rejoicing – Waiting – Forgiveness)
2. John baptized with water; what did he say Jesus would baptize with?  
(Water – God – Incense – Holy Spirit)
3. Whom did John feel unworthy to baptize?  
(Citizens of Jerusalem – Jesus – A Pharisee – Mary)
4. Which Old Testament prophet did John quote?  
(Isaiah – Malachi – Jeremiah – Ezekiel)

## **God's Word to Think About**

1. In his preaching, John said that it was time to repent. Why?
  2. Some priests and Levites asked John who he was, and John clarified that he was neither Elijah nor Christ. How did he describe himself?
  3. Why was John angry when the Pharisees and the Sadducees came to him to be baptized?
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4. How can you tell that John recognized Jesus as the Christ?
5. What reason did Jesus give John for being baptized by him?
6. How did God show Jesus as the Savior whom He had promised to send?
7. How was each person of the Trinity revealed at this Baptism?

### **Application of God's Word**

1. Why did Jesus not need to be baptized as a sign of repentance?

Why, then, was he baptized?

2. Three years later, after Jesus rose from the dead, He instructed His disciples to baptize "all nations" (Matthew 28:19). Does this command include babies too? Explain.

3. When we were baptized, the sign of the cross was made on our forehead and over our heart, what does this mean?

Why is this sign a continual reminder of our Baptism?





## **Fun Summer Activities**

Summer is right around the corner! For many people, it is time to go out and enjoy fun activities with family and friends. Physical activities aid in healthy aging and seniors can benefit greatly by adding more activities into their daily routine.

### **Why Summer Activities?**

- 1. More Sunlight:** This allows the body to make more Vitamin D which helps bone, brain and muscle function.
- 2. Socialization:** Interacting with others helps to lessen the feeling of isolation and loneliness that is associated with a long-term indoor stay.
- 3. Fresh Air:** Fresh air is good for the brain and can also aid in digestion.

### **Ride a Bike**

For bike lovers, summer is a time to hit the roads and cycle away! Aside from being a great means of exercise, it helps you soak up fresh air. If it is challenging to balance on a bike, you can try the four-wheeled quadricycle which is easier to ride, and it comes with a comfy seat!

### **Treasure Hunt**

How about finding hidden treasures? With a metal detector in hand, you can pick up valuable objects in public places such as parks, beaches or rivers. Who knows what you might find, rare metals and coins or maybe even gold?

### **Participate in Competitive Sports or Activities**

If you used to play a competitive sport, a summer sporting activity may be a good fit. You can also organize a small sporting event such as a mini-golf course with your friends. Whether you are good at archery, badminton or bowling, you can always find a game that interests you.

### **Enjoy Pool Time**

An indoor or outdoor pool is good for taking a dip during summer. You can stay afloat, place your feet into the pool, swim or perform simple aerobics.

### **Volunteer for a Cause**

Bring back those old days of activism by volunteering for a community cause. You will not only benefit from the social engagement but also feel good about helping people or the environment.

### **Gardening**

Stay active and maintain flexibility by engaging in various gardening activities. Gardening is a rewarding activity and it can be learned from local garden clubs who are new to it. There are also many active community gardens!

### **Take a Walk**

If participating in other summer activities is not feasible, try out a simple walk! Walking through gardens or taking a hike in a nearby reserve are great options. It is a chance to enjoy fresh air and keep up with environmental changes.

### **Fishing**

Fishing is a slow-paced activity that requires little movement. Just sit down, cast your baited hook and wait for the fish.

### **Bird Watching or Feeding**

Calm your mind and connect with nature by watching birds. Not interested in going far away from home? No problem. Grab a pair of binoculars and place birdhouse or feeder in the backyard. That way you can enjoy wildlife activity right in the backyard.

### **Visiting Craft Shows or Festivals**

Go to craft shows or festivals to buy special crafts and even learn the acts of craft making. It is an opportunity to pick up new hobbies and make new friends while enjoying the beautiful scenery and cool activities.

**Your summer activities should allow you to stay active while also enjoying the activities you love. Stay lively, healthy and happy as you enjoy summer!**



So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**Galatians 3:26-27**

**Luke 3:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."



**CONTACT INFO**

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**WORSHIP** WITH US

**Traditional Worship** – 5:30 PM Saturday (In Person)  
8:00 AM Sunday (In Person & Live Stream)  
**Contemporary Worship** – 10:30 AM Sunday (In Person & Live Stream)  
**Christian Education Hour** – 9:15 AM Sunday (In Person)  
**On-Line Bible Study** – 9:00 AM Wednesday (Live Stream)

# HUMOUR



SO TODAY AT CHURCH A GUY IN A  
SUIT TRIED TO DROWN ME

AND I KID YOU NOT, MY FAMILY JUST  
STOOD THERE TAKING PICTURES

“God  
sometimes  
takes us into  
troubled  
waters not  
to drown us  
but to  
cleanse us.”

What is a dentist's favorite hymn?

*Answer: Crown him with many crowns.*



Where is the best place to get an ice cream cone?

*Answer: Sunday School.*

## Running Late

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"

As she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late... But please don't shove me either!"

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Happy  
Birthday

# July / August

### BIRTHDAYS

7/1 – Paula Neisen  
7/6 – Linda Arvidson \*  
7/7 – Wally Will  
7/13 – Mary Grommesch  
7/14 – Karen Correll \*  
7/14 – Lon Morsching  
7/18 – Julius Tadevich  
7/19 – Don Krueger \*  
8/1 – Rich Krohn  
8/3 – Nancy Jasmer  
8/8 – Bev Busacker  
8/10 – Ken Ziemann  
8/28 – Lynn Arvidson  
8/29 – John Busacker  
8/31 – Pam Mueller

\* Denotes a milestone date

### OTHER DATES

7/2 – The Visitation  
7/4 – US Independence Day  
7/22 – St. Mary Magdalene  
7/23 – Parent's Day  
7/25 – St. James the Elder, Apostle  
8/6 – Transfiguration of the Lord  
8/15 – St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord  
8/16 – Senior Luncheon  
8/24 – St. Bartholomew, Apostle  
8/29 – The Martyrdom of John the Baptist

Happy Anniversary!

### ANNIVERSARIES

7/11 – Gene & Cheryl Thomas  
7/23 – Dan & Marilyn Borchardt  
8/5 – Terry & Karen Correll  
8/22 – Charlie & Diane Haag  
8/24 – John & Suzanne Busacker  
8/31 – Mark & Robin Borchardt



JESUS  
Loves you

