A Note from the Pastor ...

School Days

As we have spent some time in the Gospel of John this past August (three weeks with Jesus as the Bread of Life), I noticed a comment about school. School is what is on the mind of many as we come to the month of September. School starts again. Routines are resumed. Teachers have been prepping. Moms have been waiting. School supplies have been obtained and there is a sense of anticipation. With some students who are changing schools — perhaps even a little fear.

Anyway, in John chapter 6 beginning at verse 43 Jesus says, “Do not grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me... I am the bread of life.” This is at least the fifth time that Jesus has referred to Himself as the Bread of Life in this section of the Scriptures.

But there is a teaching element that goes hand in hand with partaking of this bread of life. What does Jesus teach us? What have we learned from Him as He is in us and we are in Him? Perhaps more correctly who do we learn from? Jesus teaches us that He is the Living Bread that gives life — which means, as the rest of the Scriptures teach us, that we were dead in our trespasses and sins, but in Jesus we have forgiveness.

Jesus teaches us that we are to see ourselves as children (even little ones who believe in Him), for when the disciples query Him about how to pray He responds saying, “When you pray say, “Our Father who art in heaven...” Jesus teaches us that we are precious in His sight. He lays down His life for us. He endures the cross. He came not to be served but to serve and offer His life as a ransom for man. He would have us know that the angels of the little ones see the face of God, the Father. He reminds us that no one can snatch us out of His hand. Not even one bird falls from the sky without the knowledge of the Father and He challenges us to think — reminding us that we are more precious than these.

Jesus teaches us not to worry. We live in a worried world. We can even be a worried congregation especially in light of changes that are on the horizon. How long will it take to get another staff person? Who will it be? When? But that is just one aspect of our worry. Global worries. Worries over things which we have a hand time controlling. Jesus, speaking to Martha said, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

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And then the day is coming when all of the schooling will be done. The prophet Jeremiah says, “And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” (Jeremiah 31:34) That’s the day school is out!

Pastor Brandt
**Stewardship Update**

Year to Date Contributions, as of 08/19/2018 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Received</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$ 380,921</td>
<td>$ 364,904</td>
<td>$ + 16,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Fund Contributions</td>
<td>$38,082</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Debt Update:**

The current balance on the Building Loan is $1,259,112.

**LCEF Accounts – Unclaimed Funds Notice:**

As part of the “Shared Blessings” program through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, you may have opened a savings account through LCEF with a nominal deposit. If you did fund an account with an initial deposit but have not taken any additional action in the years since, you may receive a notice from LCEF about the account being designated as “unclaimed property”.

State law stipulates that after three years without any withdrawals or deposits, a bank account is considered dormant and unclaimed property, requiring the bank to release the funds to the State. Prior to doing so, they are required to attempt to contact the account holder to allow them the opportunity to cancel the asset forfeit. If you receive one of these notices, you have approximately two months to send the form back (or by the date listed in the letter) to maintain the account in good standing. If you think you may have an account that falls into this category, keep an eye out for any incoming mail from LCEF!

If you have any questions about your LCEF account, you can reach them at 1-800-843-5233.

If you have questions, please contact me at the church office.

Thank you. Adam W.

**September Devotion**

-JUDY C.-

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness And to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Have you seen the “Rules for Living” poster? Most of them seem quite sensible:

- If you open it, close it.
- If you turn it on, turn it off.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- If you unlock it, lock it.
- If you break it, admit it.
- If you can’t fix it, call someone who can.
- If you borrow it, return it.
- If you value it, take care of it.
- If you move it, put it back.
- If it belongs to someone else, get permission to use it.
- If you don’t know how to operate it, leave it alone.
- If it’s none of your business, don’t ask questions.

You can probably add a few that would apply to your life, too.

I found this poster recently in my “stuff” folder and was reminded that rules that seem logical often have exceptions. If I turn on a light, but someone is still in the room when I leave, I don’t turn it off. The same goes for locked doors. (We run into these situations frequently at church.) And we might be tempted to ask about things that are none of our business with the intention of wanting to pray for situations or people.

God gave us Rules for Living also. Originally they were given to Moses in the Old Testament as the 10 Commandments. Matthew records that Jesus simplified them into two: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37-39)

There doesn’t seem to be much room for making exceptions in God’s economy. Martin Luther does us a good service in writing explanations to the commandments. He outlines not just the actions but the motives—the heart attitude—that we need to have to operate within the context of our relationships with other people and to God.

The truth is found in another quote from my “stuff folder”:

The law will never change our hearts—It may change our behavior, but only the gospel produces a change of heart.

So our motives and our attitudes depend not on our human will to do or refraining from doing something, but on our heart’s desire to be in relationship with God our Father which occurs when we become part of His Kingdom. The Holy Spirit not only creates in us a desire to please God, but He also creates in us the ability to do just that. And we want to walk with Jesus not because we are fearful of breaking the law, but because we recognize the gift of salvation we have through Jesus Christ, who kept the law perfectly in our place. The gospel is indeed, Good News!

The attitude of wanting to love God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind is encouraged in Ephesians 5:18b-21, “Be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.”

How great is our joy when we focus on praising God for what He has done for us rather than dwelling upon those things we don’t have or complaining about our disappointments and problems. When fear, doubt, worry, or other negatives intrude upon our life, we will be best served by singing “psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” making melody to the Lord. The hymnal is a great resource for words of praise, comfort and encouragement. Why not begin with the words of What A Friend We Have in Jesus? Or with God Is So Good. Or Jesus Loves Me, This I Know. Then experience the change of heart that only the gospel can give.
**Shut In Ministry**

"You are those who have stood by me in my trials." - Luke 22:28

Living Savior has an active team of people who have a heart for those who are unable to attend church because of illness or disabilities. As a visitor to shut ins, they have an opportunity to make a positive difference in someone’s life by visiting and bringing to them fellowship and love from the congregation.

- **WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT SHUT INS?**
  Volunteers are trained for this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or have questions, contact Peggy H. or Lola E. at the church office.

- **DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WE CAN VISIT?**
  Contact Peggy H. or Lola E.

**BOOK CLUB**

We have put together a list of books for next year that bring variety into our usual reading choices. You are not expected to come every time. Select the books that you find interesting and that you have time to read and please join us next year.

We meet the second Saturday of each month, 10:00-11:30 am, September-May. This time affords a lively discussion of the book, fellowship and delicious refreshments, coffee and tea.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>Island of Saints: A Story of the One Principle That Frees the Human Spirit</td>
<td>Andy Andrews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td>The Warmth of Other Suns</td>
<td>Isabel Wilkerson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 10</td>
<td>The Present</td>
<td>Spencer Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 12</td>
<td>Little Women</td>
<td>Louisa May Alcott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>Border Child</td>
<td>Michel Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 9</td>
<td>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas, An American Slave</td>
<td>Frederick Douglas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 13</td>
<td>Albanian Escape: The True Story of U.S Army Nurses Behind Enemy Lines</td>
<td>Agnes Jensen Mangerich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>The All Girl Filing Station’s Last Reunion</td>
<td>Fannie Flag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THEOLOGIAN OF THE CROSS**

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18** [Noon to 9:00pm]
**AND WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 19** [10:00am to noon]

Conference for Pastors and Lay People

While Martin Luther’s nailing of the 95 Thesis on the church door in Wittenberg is viewed as the start of the Reformation, in reality it was a process. There are numerous 500th Anniversaries to come including the Heidelberg Dispute and Leipzig Debate which took place the summer and fall of 1518 (500 years ago from right now).

Therefore, along with Concordia University we are hosting a conference for Pastors and Lay people entitled, “Theologian of the Cross.” It will feature Dr. Suzanne Hequet of Concordia University, St. Paul Minnesota where she teaches Reformation Studies and Lutheran Church History. She holds a PhD in Church History from Luther Seminary, St. Paul.

Registration for the whole conference is $40 which includes a German style meal in the evening. Or you can come to the meal and evening session on Tuesday, which feature artist Kurt Burgdolt MFA of Concordia University as he will give us a history of the use of the Cross. The Tuesday evening dinner and session are offered separately for $10.00. You can pay at the door, but we are asking that you call the church office to reserve your place at dinner or to register for the whole conference.

**CHOIR ROUNDUP – SEPTEMBER 5, 2018**

It is time to think about returning to our choir schedule. In the past I have shared the information that I have found about the healthy value of singing with a group. I now have gathered some more ways that music is a benefit to you.

1. Music decreases levels of stress the same as a massage.
3. Music causes the brain to release dopamine, the same as eating chocolate.
4. Music has been used for healing for centuries.
5. Music that brings you joy expands blood vessels and improves your cardiac health.

Every Wednesday the Living Savior Choir meets in the balcony from 7 to 8:30pm to join together in singing the wonderful anthems – some new and some old – that we share with the congregation at our regular services. Please consider joining us. No one is too young or too old! It is helpful if you have a little music background. I am excited about seeing all of you old timers and hope to see some new folks too. We work hard but have fun.

**SAVE THIS DATE: SEPTEMBER 5th**

- Dorothy H. Director
Compassion:
Deeply sharing the suffering of another, together with the inclination to give aid or support
As we look at Jesus’ suffering, death, and resurrection, we observe the ultimate example of compassion. He now calls us to follow his example and to be deeply concerned for one another. Stephen Ministry is a ministry filled with compassion. It provides compassionate Christians with a place where they can use those gifts in ministry as a Stephen Minister. It also provides a haven where those in need of compassion can receive it in a confidential relationship with a Stephen Minister.

They Are among Us!
No, we’re not talking about angels or aliens. We’re talking about individuals who care about others. The Scriptures describe their service well: “Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering” (Hebrews 13:3).

If you or someone you know wants to do more as a Christian caregiver, consider Stephen Ministry. This is our congregation’s one-to-one caregiving ministry.

A training class is scheduled for September, 2019! Call the leaders or Pastor for more information.

Karen H. 503-694-8773
Valorie W. 503-740-6734
Andrew W. 503-593-4613
Pastor Brandt 503-692-3490

Fall Education Classes

Sr. Youth Mission Trip
September 9 + 9:45am
The Sr. youth will share with the congregation the adventures and work among the people of the Crow Reservation in Montana that took place last summer.

Adult Sunday Morning Class
Dr. Ted Englebrecht will lead a class on World Religions beginning September 16 at 9:45am.
The class meets in the Fellowship Hall and everyone is welcome to attend.

Senior High Youth
Beginning September 16, Pastor Brandt will lead a class for the Senior High Youth in a study of the Athanasian Creed which is full of present day implications. All Sr. Youth are invited.

Sunday School
Christian Education Classes resume on September 16 for children ages three through high school. Children from preschool though grade 2 meet downstairs and grades 3 through 5 meet upstairs. The Jr. Youth meet in the Berea Room (also identified as The CREW). The Sr. Youth study will meet in the Youth Room upstairs.

Please consider volunteering to teach or assist as a helper for our Sunday School classes. Please contact the church office to volunteer or for more information.

Open Hearts Bible Class
This is an adult Sunday School class for students with intellectual disabilities, ages 16 and over. This class meets at 10:45am in the Joppa Room upstairs.

It’s Back-To-School!
Our theme this year in preschool will be BUTTERFLIES! The teachers will be fluttering around with these little butterflies (preschoolers). The children are ready to hear about the love of Jesus while we prepare their minds and have some fun in the garden (classrooms) with these little ones!

Preschool families will start on September 10th!
The excitement is building for our Pre-K class which will start September 5th, a week before preschool. Their theme is woodland animals with 16 little Owls (Pre-Kers) flying about gathering knowledge!

Our students and their families met their teachers and classmates on Popsicle Days and the Pre-K Potluck Play date the last week of August. Now the children know school will be starting soon!

We start the 2018-19 school year off with two openings in our afternoon 3 & 4’s class. Do you know of any families in need of a preschool? Children must be 3 or 4 by September 1st to qualify for preschool. Please pass the word along!

The staff and I rejoice and give thanks for the Lord’s presence in our lives.

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”
Matthew 19:14

We look forward to welcoming back returning families and getting to know all our new families.

Thanks to the congregation for your support and prayers for preschool.

Denice and the Preschool Staff
Call Document Forms are available in the Narthex to describe the qualities/attributes you feel would be a benefit to Living Savior when calling a new staff member. All submissions will be reviewed by the Call Committee during their deliberations.

Serving Opportunity

Would you like to help with worship services? The Altar Guild is looking for more volunteers to serve on a regular basis. Training will be provided. Please contact Margaret H. at the church for more information.

PUZZLES!

The church library is offering puzzles for lending. We use the honor system so please return a borrowed puzzle in a timely fashion so others may use them. If you have quality puzzles, no pieces missing, that you would like to share with others, place them in the plastic tub to the right of the puzzle shelf in the library.

News from Bethesda

As summer comes to an end, it is time to focus on our usual activities. Unfortunately, I was slow to check for available dates on the church calendar, so we will not have the bazaar this fall as we had in the past.

We need to have some type of event to raise funds for Bethesda Auxiliary. If you have an idea or suggestion, I would welcome hearing about your idea(s).

I will put up a sheet on the Bethesda section of the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall entry, or you may call me at 503.692.3490.

We need to show our support for this organization’s projects that supports Bethesda’s life programs.

–Sylvia S.

Annual Phil Fribley Memorial Golf Tournament

WHEN: September 9, 2018, 1:30pm, trophy presentation to follow play
WHERE: Charbonneau Country Club, Wilsonville
WHAT: Nine holes of play, scramble format

Four person teams—coming as a single? We will assign you to a team, or sign up with 3 friends. Sign-up sheet in the narthex. Questions, contact Jon H. at the church office.

Community Warehouse

Many thanks to those who have been contributing items in the purple bag in the corner of the entrance into the Fellowship Hall.

Community Warehouse is like a food bank – only they focus on household goods and furnishings. They are located in Tualatin at 8380 SW Nyberg Street 503-612-0020

M–F, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm + Sat-Sun. 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

We will continue to collect smaller items that will fit in or next to the purple bag. If you are looking for a worthwhile organization to donate furniture that truly serves needy people in our community, this is a great place.

You can either drop it off yourself or they will pick up large items at your house for $30.

For information about Community Warehouse go to: www.communitywarehouse.org

Most needed items, no missing parts:

- Pots & Pans Clean; no excessive wear
- Baking Pans & Dishes Clean; no chips, cracks or broken parts
- Toasters/Toaster Ovens Working condition
- Can Openers
- Dressers Good condition; 6 foot or smaller
- Mattresses 15 yr. or newer, stain free
- Kitchen Tables/Chairs Good condition, 5ft. or smaller
- Sleeping Pillows Free from stains & tears
- Blankets No electric, no stains & tears
- Alarm Clocks Working condition

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Champoeg Tour

The September outing will be Thursday, September 20. Meet at the church at 9:00am to carpool to Champoeg for a tour of the historic Robert Newell House, which will begin at 10:00am. The tour costs $5.00 each and docent Marilyn O. will be our personal guide. After the tour we will head to the nearby Butteville General Store (Restaurant) for a no-host lunch. I will try to distribute menus before the trip to give the store an idea of what to plan for.

We plan to return by mid afternoon.

A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Questions? Please contact Cheryl A. at the church office.

Regular meetings resume on September 6 at the church, beginning at 1:00pm. We will discuss events for the fall season. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy the discussion and fellowship of the day.

–Dave C.
Military Ministry:

Thank you everyone for your generous contributions and participation in this outreach. Looking for the safe return of Micah and Dennis at the end of the month we have enough supplies and monies to carry out our shipments through February 2019.

Prison Fellowship Ministries: Angel Tree

Gea C. has volunteered as coordinator for the Angel Tree Project this year. More information will follow as we get organized and ready for the children to be assigned in October. Please let Gea know if your interested in doing some phone calls and mailings as this is our first phase. Call the church office.

Living Savior has joined an Impact Circle Program. This is a circle of friends linked together with African students as they become the next generation of leaders. We are empowering a young leader to build a hopeful future that extends farther than their own family and community. Partnership is part of the transformation that is happening in Africa right now. When one joins an Impact Circle, the life of an African scholar is transformed. By partnering with a student we’ll be kick-starting a journey together. Alongside others in our Circle, we’ll provide the $3,600/year that enables our student to thrive as a future leader. Living Savior is part of Africa’s rising story, lifting up one of the future leaders of the continent.

Tough choices

Here’s some information that should prompt all of us to gratefulness for the freedoms we enjoy in our state and country. Pray for our fellow believers in hostile environments:

According to a July 16 article in the South China Morning Post*, a current crackdown on Christianity in China is part of a broad push by President Xi Jinping to “Sinicize” all of that nation’s religions by infusing them with “Chinese characteristics” such as loyalty to the Communist Party. In recent months, local governments have shut down hundreds of private Christian “house churches” which had been cooperating legally with the Religious Affairs bureau. In July, 47 churches in Beijing alone reported unprecedented harassment. As an example, one long-used church was destroyed with electric saws, Bibles and computers were confiscated, and several worshippers briefly taken into custody.

Typically, police and local officials interrupt worship, ordering the congregation to disperse. Requiring that the cross, images of the Last Supper, and Bible verses in calligraphy be taken down, services were stopped until each attendee (along with the church itself) is registered with the government. Believers of all five recognized faiths are seeing their freedoms shrink dramatically.

Last Supper, and Bible verses in calligraphy be taken down, services were stopped until each attendee (along with the church office).

*summarized by Dave K., LSLC Mission Board

Lutheran Women in Mission

What Is God Saying?
Women’s Fall Seminar at Living Savior
October 27, 9am - 3pm

What is God saying? Who of us has not searched for the answer to this question? We want to make the right decision, we want to respond in the best possible way, we are eager to follow His guidance, but how do we know what He is saying to us? This Seminar will help to clear away the confusion and help you learn to clarify the issues and motivate you to move forward with satisfaction and contentment. Our God is always communicating with His people. Are we tuned in, plugged in and available?

Led by interdenominational women’s Bible teacher, Bobbie Hassman, President of the Panache Living ministry, this seminar will give us definite tools for connecting with God. We will learn to quiet the external noise in order to turn up His signal and joyously hear the “still small voice” of our amazing Lord. Remember, He is always longing to be our close companion - our Good Shepherd and Friend!

Save the date and invite your friends! There will be small group discussions as well as teaching sessions. Lunch will be served and a free-will donation collected. Signup sheets will be available in September.

Questions? Contact Cathy D. at the church office.

Another Invitation For Women

October 20, 9am - noon

West Hills Zone Rally at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Save the date. “Jesus Saved Me” is a program which introduces children around the world to Jesus by providing books for children from Hindu, Muslim and Buddhist backgrounds. A guest speaker from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation will present the program. The morning’s activities will also include a Bible Study and conclude with lunch provided by the host congregation.

An ingather offering will be accepted to support in making books available for children.

September Mite Focus

Equipping Youth to Witness for Life — Y4Life

Lutherans for Life — $25,000

Y4Life seeks to equip young people to be the voices for life in a culture that glorifies the choice of death. The need is especially true for teens, college students, and young adults who are bombarded with secular life styles that are contrary to God’s wonderful plan for life. Currently, the Y4Life program is serving college campuses. The mission grant funds will go directly towards expanding the initiative to include Lutheran high school campuses. By training student leaders and providing ongoing mentorship and support for the individual campus ministries, they can raise their voices for life.

More information about this grant can be found at http://www.lwml.org/2017-2019-grant-13

2017-2019 LWML Mission grant goal is $2,075,000.