

THE VIEW

October 2021

vol. 65

NO. 10

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Who or What is a Saint?

“Love the Lord, all you his saints! The Lord preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.” (Psalm 31:23)

When we hear the title of “saint,” we often conjure images or notions of people like Peter or Paul. Maybe we think of Christians who came before us whose likenesses adorn spiritual items, such as necklaces or prayer cards. If it is a title reserved for special individuals from church history, then that would conflict with its use in our translations of the Bible. It becomes even more muddled with our recent observance of the Feast of St. Michael and all Angels, since they are not even human. What or who is a “saint”?

The word, “saint,” actually has a long and twisting journey through its etymology, and therefore it is no surprise that a variety of interpretations have arisen. For a generous portion of the Church’s history Latin was the official language of theology and worship, and remnants of the temporal journey of the Body of Christ keeps souvenirs of the places, traditions, and languages of its peoples. A major component of the Reformation was allowing people to worship in the vernacular, but instead of just translating everything into the language of the people it has gathered into Christ. In our Lutheran liturgy there are elements of Hebrew, Greek, Latin, German, English, Spanish, etc. They all blend into a cohesive mosaic that reveals the unity of all nations and people and times in Christ. The very word, “saint,” does the same.

The term “saint” derives from the Latin word *sanctus*, which means “holy”. We hear the angels calling out the thrice-holiness of God as our liturgy repeats their song from the sixth chapter of Isaiah as we sing the Sanctus. “Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.” (Isaiah 6:3) In the original Hebrew, the word is קָדוֹשׁ (qadosh), which means sacred, set apart for service to God, and separated from impurity or sin. But the Old Testament word, qadosh, doesn’t sound anything like the words saint or holy; that is until the time of the New Testament and the shift of the common language to Greek.

As the Promised Land fell to the Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, and so forth because of the unfaithfulness of Israel, new cultures and languages were introduced to God’s people. This is especially true under the rule of the Greeks who desired to Hellenize (make Greek in culture) the world. Greek

became a common language between the various peoples, and this would be true for hundreds of years, even into the reign of the Romans in the time of Jesus. Scholars even translated the Scriptures (Old Testament) into Greek; this book became known as the Septuagint and was the “bible” of Jesus and the disciples. This changed **קָדוֹשׁ** (qadosh) in Hebrew to **ἅγιος** (hagios) in Greek – later the melding of the Germanic Saxons with the English people would produce the German version of *hagios* as “heilag” and the Old English version of it, “halig,” which has become the modern form, “holy.”

Tradition, however, is sometimes stronger than shifting culture, and the Church’s history with the Latin language outweighed the other languages that speak of the holy things and holy ones of God, thus the term *sanctus* was retained even though the languages of the Western Church changed with the Reformation. Its pronunciation, though, would be modified according to vernacular. In Spanish regions, *sanctus* became “santo” or “santa,” and in regions with a Germanic heritage *sanctus* became “sanct.”

Even though the words *saint* and *holy* have a common origin and are essentially interchangeable, in practical use they are not. It would seem weird to us to refer to the apostles as Holy Peter, Holy Matthew, Holy Paul, etc. Likewise, it would feel wrong to refer to God’s written Word as Saint Bible or to celebrate the Sacraments of Saint Baptism or Saint Communion. In practice, the word *saint* is used to describe a person, and the word *holy* is used to describe an object, even though both are descriptors for that which is set apart for sacred service to the Lord.

While this etymological journey seems like a winding path to simply say that a saint is someone who is holy and set apart for God, like any journey the point is not the destination but what is revealed along the way. It shows that Christ’s Church transcends all times and cultures and yet does not nullify them but unifies them. “After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’” (Revelation 7:9-10). Like multiple voices singing the same song, the uniqueness of each of God’s people is not lost or destroyed when brought into His Church, it is harmonized with their brothers and sisters that all may be enriched through their various gifts. Amazingly, this brings us right back into our question of who or what is a saint?

The title of saint is applied in the New Testament to all believers, who have been made holy and brought into the Body of Christ through Baptism and given the gift of the Holy Spirit. “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9). All true believers are rightly called saints. Yet, even from the earliest days of the church, there were those who were recognized by the Church for their exemplary dedication to God and His Church, that their names were expressly associated with sainthood. Their lives and faith were held up to inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

In our Lutheran tradition, we joyfully accept both the narrow and the broad definitions of who is a saint. While some saints, like St. Augustine or St. Nicholas, may be inspirations to the entire Church throughout the generations, we shouldn’t discount the impact that the saints in a more general sense have on the Church, such as a saintly father or mother who faithfully brings their children to hear God’s word and receive His Sacraments. Who or what is a saint? A saint is one who fully trusts in Christ their Savior and who demonstrates that faith in thoughts, words, and deeds, whether great or small. Thanks be to God for urging us to greater faith through the witness of the saints!

The Lords Supper-By appointment



Faithful People of Mt. Pisgah

Individual Confession/Absolution with Communion will be offered at the church to any who desire to receive it. Congregation members can schedule an appointment to receive the sacrament at their convenience for any time on Mondays from 9 AM to 9 PM or on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 6 PM. During their appointed time, the communicant (or family) will be the only one entering the sanctuary. The sacrament will be sanitarily prepared and placed on a table ahead of time, and the pastor will meet with them at a distance with a brief liturgy and consecration. Sterilization will occur before and after the appointment. This still leaves out the communal aspect of receiving the sacrament with fellow believers. But receiving the body and blood of Christ is far too important and necessary for the believer's wellbeing to continue without it.

Please consider making an appointment for individual communion.

Please call the church office during business hours (Monday-Thursday 9AM-3PM and Friday from 9AM-Noon) to schedule your appointment. We will make every effort to ensure that any interpersonal contact is minimal.

May God bless you with His mercy and grace.

Pastor Jon



SUNDAY SERVICES

will be at 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM and 5:00 PM

BIBLE STUDY at 9:15 AM!!!

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:45 AM will broadcast live

on the website and additionally, posted later for viewing on the web page. A DVD is available outside church door in the red box.

NO NEED TO MISS CHURCH SERVICES OR EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Information for accessing church service or evening Bible Study

Online: Video will be found on the home page at <http://www.mtpisgahlutheran.com>

The service bulletin will also be available on the homepage.

Phone: Service will begin at 10:45 am, dial in direct with no access code to (508) 924-5662 or call toll-free (844) 802-6666 and enter access code 889956

Podcast: Search for “Mt Pisgah Lutheran” in your mobile device podcast app.

YouTube: Recording link will be published on the home page once it is available.

A DVD is available outside church door in the red box on the wall.

LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL

It is time to renew **THE LUTHERAN WITNESS** subscription. In the narthex is a board with names and addresses. Please verify this information is correct, if not please write to correct information next to your current information. If you choose to not receive this subscription, simply draw a line through your name. If you would like to start receiving The Lutheran Witness add you name to the list with mailing address. **The cost of the subscription is \$12.95 per subscription.**

Preschool News

October 2021

We recently received the following letter from one of our parents:

“I can’t thank every single one of you enough for all the love, patience and support you have given us. John Evin wouldn’t be the kid he is without you all. I appreciate SO much all you do for these kids. I am going to miss him being here, but so thankful for all you all have done to get him ready for kindergarten. We love you!”

The school supported the family of one of the students, 3-year-old Andi, who died in a hit and run incident. A gathering for the staff and family was held in our fellowship hall on what would have been her 4th birthday, August 26. Andi was enrolled at the school from the age of 18 months, heard about Jesus daily, and her grandmother told the staff that Andi spoke to her family about Jesus and led them in prayer often.

--From the Preschool Director’s September Report

HUNGER WALK



Since the Hunger Walk was not being held in Jackson Park this year, we had two walks at the church. The preschool walked on Friday, Sept 24th. They collected \$260.00 for the Hunger Walk.

The church also had a walk on Sept 25th on our upper parking lot. In total including the preschool money, we collected \$785.00. Thanks to all who participated and contributed to the Hunger Walk.

Apple Festival

Thank you to our many volunteers. Brendan and Adell Keeney for the firetruck, Pastor Jon, with Zoe, and Remy Christensen, Vickie Amato, John Zagone, Vicki Fisher with grandson Finn, daughter and son, Steve and Kathy Kirchoefer, David and Wendy Maloney with Tyler, Ariana, and Gracie, (Michele was in the performing band) Homero and Sylvia Gonzalez, and Mary Rappley.



Choir

Due to the rising rate of COVID in our area, **choir rehearsals will not begin in September as previously announced.** Rehearsals will resume when it is determined safe for groups to sing in close quarters again and plenty of notice will be given then. Recognizing the blessing of adding a vocal presence in our worship, all congregational members are once again invited to participate individually or as a duet or trio, either performing live or by recording an anthem. Please contact Lois Schweinler, (828) 551-2240, if you are interested in offering your talent in this way. She will be happy to provide a performance piece if you would like her to do so. As it says in Psalm 141, "Let my prayers rise before You as incense" – and that includes singing, too!

Lois Schweinler



Mission of the Month

The Storehouse

In Partnership With You

It's been our vision and ongoing mission since 2000, that each person in Henderson County has sufficient food and hygiene items to live life with dignity and without

hunger. We serve approx. 325 families monthly and individuals of all ages through our client food box pick up at 1049 Spartanburg Highway, our four countywide delivery routes to 50 seniors, and biweekly food box deliveries to Sammy Williams Center serving 40+ individuals. Financial donations are critical to meeting the increasing needs of our Henderson County neighbors. Financial donations are critical to meeting the increasing needs of our Henderson County neighbors. A \$100.00 donation provides us with 665 pounds of food! Throughout the year we also partner with the backpack program at Bruce Drysdale Elementary School, Blessings in Boxes for local children at Christmas and Thanksgiving groceries for 35-40 families.



Financial News

On Sept 19th, we received \$3,652 in general offerings. For September, we have received \$12,901. Year to date we have received \$181,593. Budget YTD would be \$206,720. We are short \$25,127 compared to budget. The budget is \$5440 per week to cover expenses although we strive to control costs and expenses are coming in below budget for most weeks.

Thank you for your continued support of our church.

LADIES GUILD

Mite boxes are collected the first Sunday of the month. Your mites are used by the LWML for various mission projects. If you need a new box, they are located on the table in the narthex.



Prayers and Concerns

Surgeries and Illness

Brian Keeney	Sally Hardy	Helen Hutson (Montgomery)
Neil Motyka (Fry)	Joann Kapugi	Maureen Duemig
Joyce Boss (Kruse)	Kaufman Family	Mary Hill
Brenda Ridgeway (Amato)	Gretchen Sweetser (Mincer)	
Mary Coffman (Rev. Coffman)	Ellen Trinkka (Montgomery)	Stacy Olson (Ryel)
John & Linda Characky (Steen)	Mike & Suzie Characky (Steen)	
Linda Nielsen (Keeney)	Dietrich Fabricius	Judy Fuchs
Nancy Stang	Mark & Julie Rorie (Armstrong)	Les & Mary Jordan (Doster)
Phil & Faith Anderson		

Homebound

Ann Cheadle
Dorothy Lehman
Eleney Selius
Judy Fuchs
Glenn Karnatz
Dave & Lee Marquardt

Kathleen Fox
Dianne Luecke
Louise Bauer
Joann Kapugi
Suzie Karnatz

Joan Ginter
Jan Nelson
Warna Berryman
George Fuchs

Compassion and Sympathy

Other Prayers and Concerns

Our Preschool Staff, Children & Families
Evangelical Lutheran Church & School in Laotchikit, Haiti

ALTAR GUILD

Last year our sanctuary was decorated beautifully for the Christmas holiday with use of fresh green branches.

This year we are planning to purchase artificial garland to cover the altar rail, railings in the choir loft and where ever a garland would enhance our worship.

Altar Guild will be having a fundraiser for these garlands because we believe that our budget should be used for communion supplies such as wine and wafers.

For this reason we will not be using our budget for decorating.

We will be selling small bags of Thanksgiving chocolate with a name tag attached so they may be used for place cards or to be given to specific persons. They will be sold after each service on October 31st, November 7th and 14th for \$2.50 each but only a limited number will be available so please make your purchases

early. The chocolates will also be available in the church office.

PARISH LIFE

The Parish Life Committee will be hosting a Reformation Luncheon on October 31, 2021 after the second service. Join us for good German food, fellowship and fun. There is no charge for the meal. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex.

Haiti Mission in a Glance

2021-2022 School Year Scholarship program for Middle and High School Students

7th Graders* - 29 students

8th Graders* - 15 students

9th Graders – 30 students

10th Graders – 11 students

11th Graders – 11 students

12th Graders – 11 students

13th Graders** - 9 students

Total students on scholarships - 116

Number of scholarships offered by sponsors at MPLC – 70

Number of additional scholarships needed – 46

Are you able to sponsor a student? \$120 per year pays for tuition, books & uniforms for one student in middle or high school.

*7th and 8th grades are taught at the Lutheran School in Laotchikit.

**9th thru 13th grade students walk to Hinche to attend a Christian School. To receive a high school diploma, students must pass the Philosophy National Exam. Many students attend school an extra year to be able to pass the exam. This year is called Philo year or 13th grade.

Evangelical Lutheran School of Laotchikit for Elementary School children

Educates 520 children from K-3 to 6th grade

Annual budget: \$22,870

Annual contribution by Evangelical Lutheran Church of Laotchikit \$1,887

Annual contribution by MPLC \$20,983

Additional amount needed by MPLC for the 2021-2022 school year \$11,957

Prayerfully consider donating to the Haiti Teachers' salary as you are able.

Praise Report!

Three students who completed high school on scholarships are attending university.

Looking back at the 2020-2021 School year for the scholarship program

Total student on scholarships – 121

Students moved to Port-au-Prince – 3

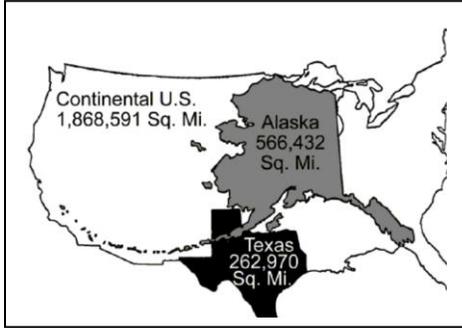
Students who could not attend school due to illness – 2

Girls who stayed out of school last year due to pregnancy - 2 (They wish to return to school this year.)

Boys who quit school to become taxi drivers – 3*

*The boys quit school because their families need the income their sons can generate by working.

Missions in Alaska!



In the summer of 2022, members of Mt. Pisgah will have the privilege to work in the Alaska Mission field. Learn more about mission opportunities in Alaska. Come to the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour at 9:15 AM on Sunday, October 17, 2021. People experienced in the Alaska mission field will be here to answer questions.

Here are the opportunities you have to share your love of Christ with others:

Prayer Warriors – People at home praying for those serving in the mission field.

Vacation Bible School teachers and helpers - This group will teach VBS in a remote Native American village for one week this summer. Barbara Volk is the team leader.

Counselors for Teen Week – There are two Teen Weeks for Alaskan Teens. They fly from their village into camps like Camp Linn Haven located near Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska. During the week, they learn about the grace of God to heal all wounds.

Construction Teams – Performing construction work in various villages usually working on the village church or community center.



Birthday Blessings

10/01 Tyler Maloney

10/02 Roy Reinhold

10/03 Judith Fuchs

10/03 Robert Hamrick

10/04 Alethea Gaston

10/08 David Walters

10/10 Michael Luecke

10/11 JoEllen Eidam

10/14 Bruce Luecke

10/14 Shirley Wing

10/16 Anna White

10/17 Ruth Kugler

10/18 Steve Kirchoefer

10/20 Tony Selius

10/23 David Maloney

10/27 Jessica Luecke

"Praise and thanksgiving to God the Great Physician! And many thanks to all who prayed for me during this past year. Truly I have been helped by God as all the earthly doctors and tests during the past year yielded no answers. I am beginning to recover, and gain a bit of weight back. To God alone be the glory." Jerry Kaufman

Mt Pisgah Lutheran
Preschool staff and families...
Your love and generosity has been such a blessing during our tragic loss of our little Andi.



Pastor and church...
Your preschool ministry and the staff were sent to be a lighthouse for Christ. Thank you all for being the hands and feet of God during this incredibly hard journey.
God Bless!
April, Cheryl, Cate and family



Mt. Pisgah, The Mission Committee,
Wow! Wow! Wow! Marie and I are continually humbled by the extraordinary generosity of Mt. Pisgah. This money is a great example of the Lord always providing for His servants. Your support has helped us in so many ways. We are excited to share that we are now debt free from all our student loans! God be praised! We look forward to now growing our family and giving back to God what He has first given us.

God's blessings,
Jacob, Marie, and Andrew

Dear Friends of the Prayer
Shawl Ministry,

I am so grateful for the
cozy and attractive Prayer
shawl you sent recently. I
love the two colors of blue and
white. At this point in my life
practical gifts like this are
the best! And I know this
comes with love and prayers.
For that I also Thank You.

As you probably have heard
I have vertebral compression
fractures in the spine. They come
on very suddenly and are extremely

painful. They are due to age
(I am 85) and the fact that
I am small-boned and fair-
skinned. The pain comes on
very suddenly - in my
case, I couldn't get out
of bed one morning as
every attempt to move my
waist to get legs on the
floor etc. seemed impossible.
At first Phil & I tried
to take care of this at
home as I spent day &
night in his recliner when
he could raise & lower me
for getting up - we
tho't it was just a
pulled muscle.

Finally we went to Pardee
emergency and they con-
firmed the problem with
2 CT scans and 2 MRI's.
The decision was to do a
procedure called vertebro-
plasty - injecting bone cement
into the ~~fr~~ fractures. It has
been a long time of healing
- partly because doctors and
hospitals are all backed up with
COVID. I have spent 3 months
in our medical area here at
Tryon Estates. I hope  to go
home next week. AMERICAN GREETINGS
Phil now has to have  ASTY 6-2A +
hernia surgery too. Keep  us in your prayers. Faith

Recently Spotted in the News



- Adell and Brendan Keeney graciously let us use their antique firetruck in the Apple Festival Parade. A photo of the truck was in the Hendersonville Times News.
- The next weekend, the Keeneys took the truck to participate in a commemoration of 9/11. A picture of the truck was featured on WLOS News.
- Our church has been graced over the years with many of Judy Morin's beautiful quilts. Several of the banners hanging in the Sanctuary were made by Judy. Recently, Judy entered two of her quilts in competitions at the Mountain State Fair. She received a white ribbon (third place) in the category Quilts – Bed - Pieced and Appliqued and a second white ribbon (third place) in the Miniature (100-inch circumference or less) category. Congratulations, Judy!



- Leah Rye's Letter to the Editor was published in a recent issue of the Times News.
- Determined to get the elusive blue ribbon, Kathy Kirchoefer entered the Apple Festival Baking Competition and received a blue ribbon for her entry "Apple Brandy Cake". Recipe below.

Apple Brandy Cake

With a triple whammy of apple flavor (apples, applesauce, and apple brandy), this cake is dense, moist, and delicious. Decorating with candied apple brandied pecans is optional but adds a delicious crunch!

Ingredients:

Cake Layers

½ cup butter, at room temperature

1 cup dark brown

3 large eggs, room temperature

2 cups unsweetened applesauce

2 tablespoons apple brandy (may substitute apple cider)

3 cups all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon salt

1/3 teaspoon baking soda

2 teaspoons apple pie spice

3 medium Granny Smith apples, peeled and chopped, about 3 cups

1 cup finely chopped pecans

Icing

1 stick of unsalted butter

8 ounces cream cheese

4 cups sifted powdered sugar

Apple Brandy

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Spray 3 9-inch round cake pans with nonstick spray, line with parchment paper, spray paper.

In the large bowl of a stand mixer, cream the butter and sugar until fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time beating well after each addition. Add the brandy and applesauce, mix well. Sift together the flour, salt, baking soda, and apple pie spice; add gradually and beat until well combined. Fold in the apples and pecans.

Transfer to the prepared pans and bake in the oven until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, approximately 30 minutes. Cool in pans on racks for about 10 minutes and then remove the cakes from the pans to cool completely.

Make the icing: Brown 1 stick of butter in a saucepan. Pour into a glass bowl and cool in the refrigerator. When cool, add to 8 ounces of room temperature cream cheese in a large mixing bowl. Cream together until smooth and then add 4 cups of sifted powdered sugar. Add 1 tablespoon of apple brandy and beat until smooth and fluffy, adding more brandy if needed.

Use the icing to put the layers together and frost the top and sides of the cake. Decorate with candied apple brandied pecans, if desired, recipe follows. Store in the refrigerator.

Candied Apple Brandied Pecans

Roast 8 ounces of pecan halves in a 350-degree oven for 10 minutes and then check. Continue roasting until they smell toasty. Meanwhile, melt 4 tablespoons of butter in a small saucepan and add 1 tablespoon of apple brandy, ½ teaspoon of apple pie spice, and a dash of salt. Once combined, pour over the toasted pecans, stirring well so that the nuts are well coated. Return to the oven, stirring every 2 minutes for about 10 more minutes. Remove from oven and add demerara sugar, tossing the pecans with the sugar until well coated. Cool.

My Grandmother's Apple Cake (Mary Kaufman)

Peel and slice 5-6 medium apples into a bowl. Mix 1/4 C sugar with 2 tsp. cinnamon and sprinkle over the apples. Let stand while mixing other ingredients.

In a large bowl mix:

2 C. sugar

4 eggs

1 C. oil

Sift together, and add in several additions, mixing well after each:

BATTER WILL BE VERY THICK...so I usually use a wooden spoon:

3 C. flour

1/2 tsp. salt

2 and 1/2 tsp baking powder

Last add:

1/3 C. orange juice

2 and 1/2 tsp vanilla

Mix well. Using a greased and floured tube pan, layer dough and alternate with apples. End with dough.

Bake at 350 degrees for 1 to 1 and 1/2 hours or until tester comes out clean.

Turn out and ice while hot with 1C powdered sugar and enough lemon juice for a thin icing.

Altar Flowers

Flowers for the altar can be requested by signing the “Flower Chart” in the hallway outside ladies’ restroom. You can call “Forget me not florist” or a florist of your choice to arrange delivery. Please check the chart or call the church office (692-7027) before calling the florist. It is always pleasant to see flowers on the altar.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING In Person & Via Telephone Conference July 15, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Steve Kirchoefer opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was declared.

Council members present: Steve Kirchoefer, Robert Hamrick, Sylvia Gonzalez, John Zagone, Judy Morin, Homero Gonzalez, Jan Tharp, Diane Sanborn, Kathy Kirchoefer, Lydia Cassidy, Wendy White, and Leah Ryel

Others present: Pastor Jon Christensen

Absent: Barbara Volk

Jan Tharp offered the devotions. The Vision Statement was read by all.

Minutes of the June 17, 2021 meeting were approved by Jan Tharp, seconded by Judy Morin, approved by all.

Sylvia Gonzalez presented the June 2021 Financial News, and the Financial Reports as of June 30, 2021 (attached).

Income Statement for the Month of June:

The June Income Statement shows a net loss of \$10,587. The Church had a loss of \$11,151. The Preschool had a gain of \$564. YTD net gain is \$97,719. Without the PPP funding, we would be showing a YTD loss of \$23,581. We will continue to give Church membership weekly offering numbers in the Wednesday e-mails, to inform members of where we stand.

For June, we had 4 Sundays & 2 payrolls. Offerings were \$6,286 below budget based on a 4-Sunday month. For the Preschool, we are not receiving any additional State funding at this time, except to replace the tuition that we were required not to charge the parents from March to October. Preschool will be starting a tuition increase.

Second Round of PPP Loan/Grants:

We did receive our notification that the 2021 PPP Draw 2 was approved by the Federal Small Business Administration to be converted to a grant. We will not be expected to repay any of these funds. This is a true blessing for our Church and Preschool.

New Cleaning Service:

After a shaky start, Jan-Pro has been working fine in cleaning our Church and Preschool. If you see anything that needs to be addressed, please make the office staff aware.

Dedicated Gifts Account:

This dedicated account will be used to maintain funds for the new Fellowship Hall flooring and the new audio/video equipment. The balance at the end of June was \$12,692, after a \$13,000 down payment to Leicester Flooring. We were concerned that the price of the flooring had gone up according to one employee at the flooring company but we talked to our contact there and she got approval from the owner to keep the price the same. It is good to have a face to face with a local company, especially when the owners are fellow Christians. Our balance with them is \$4,500, so we have \$8,192 for A/V equipment at this point. We are aware of additional funds coming in July for A/V, too.

The flooring is scheduled to be installed on August 13th, when there will be a teachers only work day for the Preschool. This date was selected due to the dust and noise that the installation will create, and we didn't want the children present for that. Please note that the Fellowship Hall will not be available for use both the 13th and 14th of August.

Additional Lighting Upgrades:

We will be upgrading the lighting in the main restrooms and in the Sacristy on August 13th. The lights will be the same as the hallway lights for the restrooms and the Sacristy will get the round lights like the ones in the resource room by the sinks.

Pastor Christensen had no report.

Elders' Report (attached) was by John Zagone. On 7/18, we'll announce new seating arrangement. Last few pews on lectern side will be reserved for social distancing. Hymnals will be returned to the pews at that time (7/25). Ushers are needed for 2nd Service. Leah said that Robert "Louie" Armstrong is willing to help.

Pictorial Directory will be started on Friendship Sunday. Pastor will announce on next two Sundays. Meetings will be held in the Library, starting in August.

Pastor is having examination for confirmands on August 22, between Services. Arrange a small service and reception between services. Confirmation will be held on August 29 during 2nd Service.

Outreach & Community Concerns report (attached) was presented by Jan Tharp. June's MOM was the Medical Loan Closet. A check in the amount of \$290 was mailed to them. Mission for August will be school supplies for Bruce Drysdale Elementary School's kindergarten class. Outreach & Community Concerns has a balance of \$662.82. Two employees of Henderson County Sheriff's Department have breast cancer; we will be sending them a check. Two employees of the EMS Department sustained serious injuries in a recent head-on collision. We will be sending funds to First Bank, on their behalf. Kathy suggested having the cookbooks out for Friendship Sunday.

Thirty pounds of personal care items were delivered to Interfaith Assistance Ministry. Cards were sent to shut-ins and members on our sick/surgery list. We and Parish Life will again be delivering "Pokes" to our shut-ins. We are working with Parish Life on the Friendship Brunch on August 1st.

Christian Education had an oral report by Diane Sanborn. Kids are together for Bible study, & Fruits of the Spirit is the subject. Troy McKinney, & Michele Maloney & Zoe Christensen are going to Camp Lind Haven; younger students aren't allowed yet.

Early Childhood report (attached) was by Kathy Kirchoefer. Interview with new hire was 7/14; Jen Hudson, experienced teacher, will work with 1-year olds. Another new employee was hired, as well. Staff Hiring Process was discussed. Staff Retention was discussed. Also, Staff Evaluations were discussed. Sylvia stated that the school has been breaking even financially. If four children are in a classroom, the school will break even. Option through Concordia is for a retirement contribution (403B) for staff to consider. Want to consider a 3% match up to \$15,000 maximum.

There was no report from Stewardship, as there was no meeting, per Wendy White.

Missions had an oral report by Wendy White. There was no meeting. The situation in Haiti is terrible, with criminals in charge. Pastor Walta's life is at risk, as he's a high ranking official who deals with money.

Parish Life had an oral report, by Lydia Cassidy. "Pokes" will be assembled 7/26 for the homebound. Friendship Sunday is 8/1. 64 are signed up.

Board of Inside Property report (attached) was by Judy Morin. The dark color of flooring for the Fellowship Hall was chosen at Sunday's Congregational meeting. New matching grab bar was installed in Men's room. Lights will be installed 8/13. Flooring date changed to 8/3 & 8/4. Tables & chairs need to be removed from Fellowship Hall 8/2, and caps removed and replaced with new caps. No news on stained glass lighting. Some will help tear down after the brunch on 8/1, and on Monday, 8/2.

Board of Outside Property report was given by Homero. He moved some bushes around the sign. Two companies made bids to do the grading work. He recommends the one whose specialty is grading. We had had some work done by the other company, and it wasn't up to our expectations.

Motion #1:

Leah made a motion that we hire the firm Homero recommends for the grading around the sign, at a cost of \$1,500.

Robert Hamrick seconded the motion, & all approved it.

Old Business was previously covered.

New Business:

Friendship Sunday: Steve said that he has a spreadsheet showing who has been invited, & who is coming. There was discussion about the event. We will need to be picking up some of the people.

Steve & Kathy will be out of town on the date that the next meeting had been scheduled, so the date was changed. The next meeting will be held August 26.

Robert Hamrick will offer devotions. The meeting will be held as this one was, with teleconference available, or in-person.

At 7:58 p.m., Steve closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Ryel

Recording Secretary

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM & 5:00 PM	4	5	6 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Prayer Shawl 1 PM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	7 Quilter's Ministry 9 AM	8	9
10 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM & 5:00 PM	11 Ladies Guild 1 PM	12 Elder's Meeting 7 PM	13 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	14 Council meeting 7 PM	15	16
17 Communion 8 AM Alaska Mission Mtg 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM & 5:00 PM	18	19	20 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	21 Quilter's Ministry 9 AM Pastor Circuit	22	23
24 Communion 8 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM & 5:00 PM	25	26	27 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	28	29	30
31 Reformation Sunday Communion 8 AM Reformation Brunch Communion 10:45 AM & 5:00 PM Parrish Life meal						