



ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021



"To God be the Glory!" (1 Peter 4:11)

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF JESUS, OUR LOVING SAVIOR!

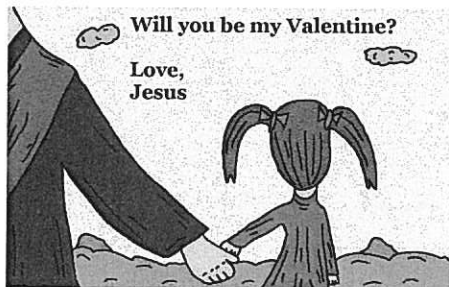
The month of February brings us Valentine's Day, a day on which we take extra care to express our love to those who are special to us. With that in mind, we give thanks for the great love shown to us as we received the greatest valentine when God sent His one and only Son to be our Savior. Hopefully, you will reciprocate that love in your worship of our Triune God, in how you treat others, in how you support the work of the Church, in how you live your life.

The undeserved love which God has shown to us and what Jesus went through for us to be our Savior will be shared once again during the Lenten season which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17. And, yes, we will be having midweek Lenten services. Our theme will be "Places of the Passion" which you can read about in this newsletter. I pray that you will worship with us in-person or through live streaming on Wednesdays *and* Sundays during Lent.

Kris and I would like to thank the congregation for the love shown to us through the monetary Christmas gift which we received. It is greatly appreciated. We would also thank the many individuals who remembered us with cards and gifts. Your love and support mean a lot!

There are a couple of things that I am not loving at this time. One is that, due to the ongoing concerns with the pandemic, the Ladies Aid Chili Dinner will not be held. Two is that, due to technical difficulties, we will not be broadcasting our worship services on the local TV access channel. We are having an issue with the sound not broadcasting. I would love to see both of these things return.

I love that the Military BibleStick challenge is returning. St. Bartholomew vs. St. Peter – who will earn bragging rights this year? It is a friendly, loving way to share the Word of God with our military personnel. You can read more about this later in this newsletter.



Together in Christ's Love,

Pastor Krueger



FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

December 2020

Year-to-date Income:	\$177,497.25
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$167,989.47
Year-to-date Budget:	\$167,232.00

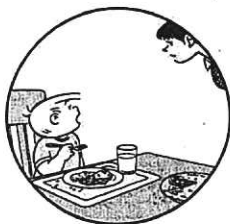
KINGDOM WORKERS - FEBRUARY

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for February in the following areas:

Altar Guild: Connie Koerth, Linda Breitzman

Acolytes: Feb. 7 – Kelvin
 14 – Simon
 17 – (Ash Wed.) Natalie
 21 – Ava
 24 – (Wed.) – Alandra
 28 – Addison

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"If an apple a day keeps the doctor away,
 how many days do I get for an apple pie?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
 ©Bil & Jeff Keane
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ELDER GROUPS

(A-G)	Tanner Behnke	(920) 427-6201
(H-M)	Ron Detert	756-3439
(N-Z)	Gary Lemke	853-3846

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News of salvation with others
 (Matt. 28:19)

Believing in Jesus as our Savior (John 3:16)

Living our faith in what we say and do (James 2:18)

Caring for those in need (1 Peter 3:15; Mark 10:45;
 Eph. 4:28; 1 John 3:17)

SHARING, BELIEVING LIVING AND CARING



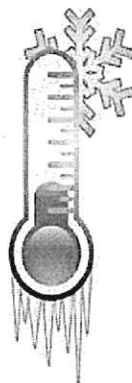
Prayer Chain

A prayer request may be made to any member of the prayer chain. If you are requesting a prayer for someone, let the person know so that they are aware and respect their wishes if they do not want the request given to the prayer chain.

Judy Baer	756-2696
Florence Behnke	(920) 418-4315
Renee Bonick	(920) 296-9164
Sue Detert	756-3439
Lori Fels	(920) 639-3792
Rhonda Geiger	(920) 371-7375
Sandy Haberland	(920) 524-2016
Kris Krueger	756-3912
Faith Sonnabend	756-2779
Diane Zickert	(920) 841-8951
Joan Zutz	756-2501



"This is the confidence that we have toward him,
 that if we ask anything according to his will he
 hears us" (1 John 5:14)



WORSHIP SERVICE CANCELLATION

In the event of bad winter weather conditions, we will be notifying members of any church closings via email for any of those members whose email addresses we have on file. You can also tune into radio station Y100 100.3 FM for any worship service cancellations.

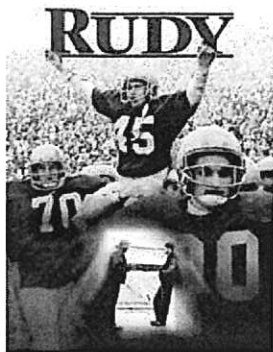


"I miss the good old days, when you could actually
 have an opinion without offending somebody."

– Paul Kurlowicz Portage, MI

Going Above and Beyond

We know of or have heard about people who were able to accomplish remarkable goals and accomplishments through sheer determination and effort. They were driven through hardships, sacrifice, and exhaustion toward the end they were striving to achieve. Some people are blessed with a never-quit attitude. This attitude was captured in a



movie titled *Rudy* that was made back in 1993. This movie is based on a true story of a young man who loved Notre Dame football and wanted nothing more than to play for the team. He was a walk-on, undersized, too slow and too small. He was so determined to make

the team and play in a game that he practiced harder and worked harder than anyone else on the team. At one point in the film, the coach said, "I wish God would put your heart in some of my players' bodies." To play for the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, Rudy went above and beyond.

Most of us are not going to excel on the football field, but, as God's people, we are called to work diligently in our service to others and to extend God's kingdom. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Be steadfast ... always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Cor. 15:58b). God wants us to "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1:10). God wants us to be productive people in His kingdom.



As Christians, we are called into ministry. Through faith we become more than just spectators. Just as Jesus ministered to the people of His time, we are to do the same today. "For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you" (John 13:15). Our ministries take place in our homes, in our neighborhoods, in our churches, and in our places of work. Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the

Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20). Reaching out to the lost is at the very heart of our ministry. We have in Christ the saving truth of the Gospel that all people need to hear.

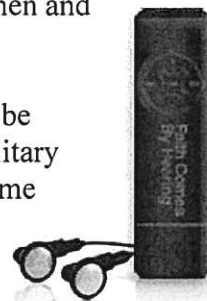
With God's help, we can go above and beyond in our efforts to please God and give Him the glory He deserves. When we commit our lives and resources to His service, we will hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" (Matt. 25:23).



Military BibleSticks Lenten Mission Project

Just \$25 provides God's Word on a Military BibleStick to 1 family. Together we can get God's Word to our servicemen and women!

February 17— April 4, we will be receiving funds to purchase Military BibleSticks for our troops at home and abroad. \$25 sponsors one service member and his/her family.



The challenge is on again: The challenge is between St. Bartholomew, Brillion and St. Peter, Hilbert as to which church can beat their respective goal by a greater percentage. The goal is 55 BibleSticks for each church. Both congregations have gone over these goals before. The winner gets bragging rights!

Your gift of \$5, \$25, \$100, or more can be put in an envelope marked "BibleStick" and placed in the offering plate or dropped off in the church office. Please make checks payable to the church.

The challenge is on! Share the Good News of salvation with our troops!

YES, MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES WILL BE HELD

PLACES *of the* PASSION

Experience the Season of Lent

In this worship series for Lent, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, contemplating what happened at each place our Savior stood along the path of His Passion for our sake. Each service explores the meaning, history, and spiritual inspiration associated with the location highlighted. You will learn things you may not have known before as you grow to understand more deeply the hard road our Lord took that the way to heaven might be open to us.

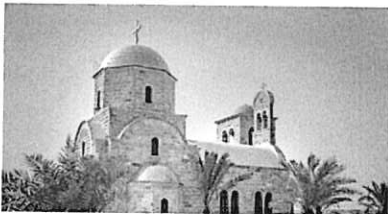


The City of Jerusalem

Jerusalem is the place of the Passover, where Jesus gathers with the crowds.

Matthew 26:1-5

Ash Wednesday, February 17 @ 7 p.m.



Bethany

Jesus is anointed for burial by His friend Mary, at her home in this small town.

Matthew 26:6-13

Wednesday, February 24 @ 7 p.m.



The Mount of Olives

The disciples sing a hymn with Jesus before they head out to this place of prayer.

Matthew 26:30-35

Wednesday, March 3 @ 7 p.m.



Gethsemane

Jesus is betrayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness.

Matthew 26:47-56

Wednesday, March 10 @ 7 p.m.

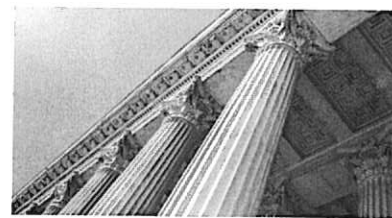


The Courtyard

While Jesus is put on trial before the high priest, Peter denies Jesus in this place.

Matthew 26:57-69

Wednesday, March 17 @ 7 p.m.



Pilate's Judgment Hall

Pilate is positioned here to set Jesus free, but turns Him over to be crucified instead.

Matthew 27:11-23

Wednesday, March 24 @ 7 p.m.

Living Generously

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.

Is Money a Blessing?

It is God *"Who richly provides us with everything to enjoy"* (1 Timothy 6:17). Certainly, money and possessions are some of the gifts God gives us. They continue to be blessings, unless...

- money and things related to it are your greatest priority, causing you to place God second.
- money and things related to it keep you from regular worship of God.
- money and things related to it keep you from generously giving for God's work.
- money and things related to it offer you false security and keep you from relying on God alone.

One the other hand, money is a blessing when...

- it's returned to God in thanksgiving for all His benefits to you.
- it's used to care for those in need.
- it's used to bring the Gospel to all people.
- it's viewed not as your own, but as a loan from God.

Let us keep money in perspective. It is a blessing from God to be used as a tool according to His plan. Chief among our blessings is our salvation won for us by

Christ as He shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Realizing this, we can then count money as a blessing.



They Didn't Believe

The whole plan of salvation is hard to believe. It just doesn't make sense. God comes to earth as a Baby. The Baby grows up just like any other child, but, becoming an adult, He begins preaching and teaching and healing. His neighbors and acquaintances say, *"Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? And they took offense at Him"* (Matthew 13:54, 55, 57).

The chief priest, elders, and teachers of the law finally get their way and hold a trial. *"Are You the Christ?"* they ask. *"I am,"* Jesus answers (Mark 14:61, 61). But this is blasphemy, they agree, so they crucify Him.

Friends and enemies, believers and unbelievers alike witnessed the scene on Golgotha. They saw Him hang on the cross; they heard His words. They saw the soldiers pierce Jesus' side, and *"at once there came out blood and water"* (John 19:34). That they did believe.

But then came the Third Day. When Mary Magdalene reported what she'd heard and seen at the empty tomb, *"they would not believe it"* (Mark 16:13). When the travelers on the road to Emmaus talked about their visit with the risen Christ, *"[their hearers] did not believe them"* (Mark 16:13).

And when Jesus appeared to His disciples, *"He rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw Him after He had risen"* (Mark 16:14). Notice who gets the rebuke. It isn't the messengers; it's those who refuse to listen to the message.

Like Mary and the travelers, we are not responsible for what our hearers do with the message. As stewards of the Gospel, it is our joyful task only to bring the Good News: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Make Your Choice

Joshua had faithfully served the nation Israel after the death of Moses. He was faithful both to his God and to his people. At the end of his life, as the nation is taking its place in the Promised Land, he offers them a choice: *"Now therefore fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and in faithfulness...And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorite... But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord"* (Joshua 24:14-15).

As Christian stewards, we, too, have a choice to make. Maybe we're not tempted to serve the gods of the Amorites, but there is another god that vies for our worship: the

god of wealth. That god promises that, if we put our trust in him, he will make us powerful, envied by others, satisfied by all the possessions he can obtain for us, and bring us status and prestige among our peers. This god, of course, is just as false as the idol the Amorites worshiped. He may bring temporary good fortune, but we find no lasting value, only disappointment and disillusionment, in following him.

The Israelites' answer to Joshua was, *"We will serve the Lord"* (Joshua 24:21). As the Israelites began their new life in the Promised Land, let us begin this new year. Let us "serve the Lord" as He has enabled us to do.



Worth a Smile

A pastor asked a youngster: "Johnny, do you know where little boys go if they don't put their money in the collection plate?"

"Yes, pastor," the boy answered.

"They go to the movies."

Many people spend most of their life losing their health to try and gain wealth, and then spend the end of their life losing their wealth trying to gain their health.

Blessings as you Live Generously!



A little girl asked her mother, "Mom, how were people created?"

Her Mom replied: "First God made man and woman. Then they had kids. Then their kids grew up and had their own kids. Then their kids grew up and had their own kids. In this way, the numbers of people increased."

Later that day, the little girl went up to her father, and asked: "Dad, how were people created?" The father replied: "First, God made monkeys. Then the monkeys evolved into people."

At the dinner table that night, with both Mom and Dad present, the little girl turned to her Mom and said: "Mom, you lied. Dad said people come from monkeys."

"No, dear," Mom replied. "Dad told you about the monkeys in his family. I told you about the people in my family."

— via George Goldtrap
Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

DECEMBER SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	360	9.00
Applebees	25	2.00
B&BW	200	26.00
BP	100	1.50
Cabelas	100	11.00
Cobblestone	25	1.25
Dairy Queen	10	2.00
Econo	1,525	45.75
Exxon	250	12.50
Festival	200	6.00
The Granary	20	2.00
Kohls	100	4.00
Kwik Trip	175	7.00
McDonalds	20	0.80
Old Navy	50	7.00
Piggly Wiggly	125	3.75
Red Robin	25	2.00
Roundy's	100	4.00
Starbucks	25	1.75
Target	50	1.25
VISA	200	2.50
WalMart	300	7.50
TOTALS	\$3,985.00	\$160.55

FEBRUARY Birthdays

2 nd	Cheryl Kittel	13 th	Terry Zeamer
3 rd	Judy Vechart	18 th	Wilfred Boldt
11 th	Andrea Grenzer	21 st	Charity Plate
12 th	Terri Riemer	24 th	Denise Fallier
12 th	Leo Skattebo		



(No Anniversaries this month)

Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list.
Thank you.



"I sure am happy to see you, grandma," the little boy said to his grandmother, his mother's mother. "Now maybe Daddy will do the trick he has been promising us."

"What trick is that?" the grandmother asked.

"I heard him tell Mommy that he would climb the walls if you came to visit," the boy replied.



MARCH MADNESS

MARCH MADNESS begins March 16. For \$2 you can enter your selections in the St. Bartholomew ESPN bracket challenge. The winner will receive a \$25 scrip card. The proceeds will go to Debt Retirement. This is open to all ages and members of the congregation. Give us your name, email address, and \$2 if you want to participate. You can sign up in the narthex after services or in the church office. The deadline to sign up is March 7.



***Subject to change if games are cancelled or changed due to COVID 19.**