



# ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2022



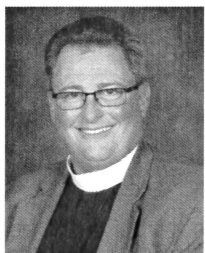
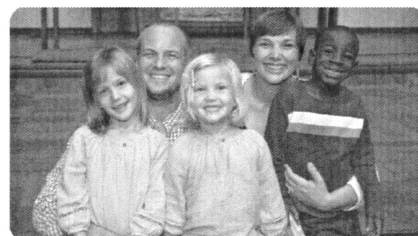
*"To God be the Glory!"* (1 Peter 4:11)

### GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

As we continue in the season of Epiphany and into the month of February, we stay mission-minded.



On February 9 & 13, Elliot and Serena Derricks will be with us. Elliot and Serena are Lutheran Bible Translator missionaries that we help support. Elliot is from Zion Lutheran Church, Wayside. They will share with us the work that they have been doing in Cameroon, Africa. The Lord is certainly blessing their work. If you would like to learn more about their mission, you are certainly encouraged to be in worship when they are here. You can also learn more at <https://lbt.org/project/subula/>.



On February 23 & 27, Rev. Nathan Meador, the Mission Executive of the South Wisconsin District, will be with us. He will share with us the mission efforts of the District that we support through our offerings. Together with the other 202 congregations of the District, we are able to proclaim the Gospel in many different settings, languages, and cultures. Join us as we hear what God is accomplishing in our part of Wisconsin.



On a personal note, you may have likely heard by this time that I am retiring in June. My last Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, June 12. Kris and I will not be going far. We have bought a house in Hilbert (79 S. 11<sup>th</sup> St.). It will probably be at least March before we move.



Together in Christ,

*Pastor Kuehn*

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

## FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

December 2021

Year-to-date Income:	\$157,076.12
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$173,121.23
Year-to-date Budget:	\$169,968.00

+ + + +

### SPECIAL FUNDS CONTRIBUTORS

#### Landscaping Fund

Faith Sonnabend, in memory of Gary Chupita

#### Debt Retirement Fund

Pastor & Kris Krueger, in memory of  
Carolyn Garfield and Dave Kamps brother & sister

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#### WEDDING

Dylan Wendling & Jessica Kelly 12/31

#### TRANSFER

Rich Gustfson to Zion Wayside

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### 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. 6 – Simon  
13 – Natalie  
20 – Addison  
27 – Emma

Ushers: Wed: Dave Sonnabend, Kelly Behnke  
Sun: Pete Zarnoth, Duane Loose

Greeters: Wednesdays: Pearl Zemer

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"A FOOL AND HIS MONEY ARE SOON  
PARTED. THE REST OF US WAIT  
UNTIL TAX TIME."

Pastor will be on vacation from January 31 through February 7. If a pastoral emergency should arise, please contact Pastor Brett Simek at 618-410-9827 or one of the elders.



## 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)

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### 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**

# 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.

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

## I Never make a Commitment

"I never sign a pledge of any kind," said a man whom I was soliciting.

"Are you sure?" I asked.

"Yes," he replied.

"Do you own your home?" I questioned.

"Yes, but it is mortgaged for half its value."

"Did you promise to pay interest on your mortgage?"

"Yes."

"When your telephone was installed, did you agree to pay monthly charges?"

"Yes. What are you driving at?"

"As a matter of fact," I answered, "have you not committed the larger portion of your income to everything your home needs except the church?"

"I surrender," he said.

(Robert Cashman)

## Contentment

Contentment is determined by what is inside of us, not the circumstances around us. While short-term happiness comes to us when our circumstances are free from problems and times are pleasant, we soon discover that this happiness is fleeting and superficial. As soon

as the conditions change, the shallow contentment that we enjoyed will disappear. Even in the midst of good times, we will often experience a nagging hunger or emptiness that demands to be filled. The philosopher Pascal wrote, "There is within every man a God-shaped emptiness that only He can fill."

In Christ alone we will find peace, inner joy, comfort, happiness, and contentment. *"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light"* (Matthew 11:28-30).

Psalms 46:1 promises, *"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."* He carries us through life's heartaches and frustrations even though our circumstances may not change. Only our relationship with Christ can make us content regardless of what life around us may offer.



## On the Lighter Side

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they had expected they would need for repairs to the church building.

Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

"Here's a copy of the service." He said impatiently. "But you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcements about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and sisters, we are in great difficulty...the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected, and we need \$7,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star-Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist.

### **Expressing Your Love**

The three words "I love you" are very powerful. Love is expressed not only in words but also in action. In fact, it has been said, "Talk is cheap." To tell someone that you love him is certainly not cheap, but love also needs to be expressed by what we do and how we act. As God's people, we convey love through our giving and serving.

In God's Word, He tells us how much He loves each of us and then proves it by giving His Son to die for us. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). Jesus gave His life for us and He keeps on giving. We can demonstrate our love for Him through our giving. When we give faithfully of our time, talents, and treasures, we show our love for Jesus.

God takes love seriously. He loves us, and He expects us to love one another. Jesus said, *"Love one another. As I have loved you..."* (John 13:34). We express our love to Jesus when we serve those around us. Serving communicates love. *"For even the Son of*

*Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many"* (Mark 10:45).

The love that Jesus places in our hearts can be our fuel to make a difference not only in our lives, but in the lives of those around us. It is important to express our love as we thank God for His abundant grace, mercy, and blessing, but our words must be supported through the greater expression of our love as seen through our giving and serving as God gives us grace to do.

### **Are You Willing?**

*"Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have"* (2 Corinthians 8:11-12).

There is so much need around us. Daily we are interrupted by telephone calls soliciting our donations to well-deserving causes. We hear of elderly people in nursing homes who never have visitors and of children in need of mentors. Committees within our congregations seek to add to their boards in order to carry out the ministry of our churches.

We may become overwhelmed. Where do we start? How can I—one person—fill all these needs? Often guilt accompanies these questions. What is God asking of us? According to the Apostle Paul, we are expected to give according to what we have. He was speaking here of monetary offerings, but his admonition relates to the sharing of our time and abilities as well. The key, Paul seems to say, is to be willing. *"If the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable."*

**Blessings as you Live Generously!**





## LuWiSoMo Summer 2022 Youth Camps

LuWiSoMo Youth Camps provide campers with faith-growing opportunities and unique learning experiences while having fun in a beautiful Christ-centered outdoor ministry setting.

### KinderCamp

For campers Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 1 preferring to spend the weekend with their parents or grandparents

### JuniorCamp

For campers in Kindergarten to Grade 3 ready to spend a weekend away from their parents

### Youth Camp

A 5-night camp for campers in Grades 2-8  
*Age groups vary for each camp week*

### Lutheran Band Camp

A 6-night camp for students in grades 5-9 with experience playing a band instrument

### High School Camp

A 5-night camp for students in grades 8-11

### CIT Program

For high school students wanting to be leaders at camp

Details & Registration Information @  
[www.luwisomo.org](http://www.luwisomo.org)

## "SOUP"ER



## CHALLENGE

Who's going to win the Super Bowl? NFC or AFC? Let your voice be heard by voting with cans of soup. You have until the end of the service on Feb. 13 to make your prediction. Place your can(s) in the appropriate stack in the narthex.

Soup will be donated to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry.

*Join the fun!*



## ANNUAL CHILI DINNER



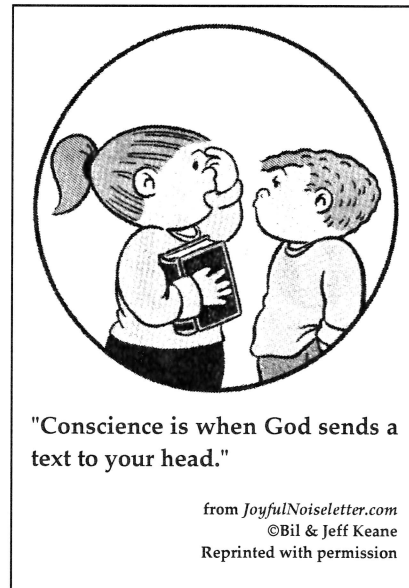
Ladies Aid is planning their Chili Dinner for February 27<sup>th</sup>. You can eat here or take out after service on that day. If you wish to take out, please bring your own container.

Ladies Aid is requesting your help with the Chili Dinner. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can give an hour or two of your time either Saturday, (Feb. 26) or Sunday (Feb. 27) in the morning.

Sign-up sheets are also on the bulletin board if you would like to help with the purchase of some of the ingredients that are needed or bake a pie for dessert.



## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



## PUZZLE EXCHANGE

The puzzles have all been placed on shelves in the first room on the left-hand or east side past the hallway to the Fellowship hall. Feel free to take one or two home to work on. If you have any puzzles you'd like to donate, please make sure all the pieces are in the box and just place them in that room.



## Humor for the hard times

Tourists visited an old, historic church in Alexandria, VA. The tour guide said that George Washington had attended service in the church, and pointed to his pew.

A reverent silence fell on the tourists. The guide then mentioned that church services in Washington's days were very lengthy, often lasting three hours or more.

The reverent silence was shattered when a tourist in the rear loudly proclaimed, "So George Washington slept here, too!"

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

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After church, a woman found she had locked her keys inside the car, so she tried to open the car door with an old coat hanger she found nearby. She was unsuccessful, so she bowed her head and asked God to send her help.

A scruffy old man passing by stopped and asked her what was wrong. She explained her problem and asked him if he could use the coat hanger to unlock her car door.

"Sure," he said, and in less than a minute, it opened.

The woman hugged the man and through tears, said, "Thank you so much! You are a very nice man."

"Lady," the man replied, "I am not a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday. I was there for car theft."

The woman, sobbing, hugged the man again and cried out, "Oh thank you, God! You even sent me a professional!"

– Columnist Smiley Anders  
*Baton Rouge (LA) Advocate*

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Sign outside Western Hills United Methodist Church:

"If you love to sin,  
our chancel choir will welcome you."

– via Howard Macy  
Newberg, OR

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A mother said to her young son, "Every time you disobey, I get a few more gray hairs."

"Gee, Mom, look at Grandma," her son replied. "You must have been a terror."

– via Rev. Joseph C. Moll  
Justice, IL

## Hymns for Seasoned Citizens

"The Old Rugged Face"

"It is Well with my Soul, But my Knees Hurt"

"Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing"

"Just a Slower Walk with Thee"

"Give Me that Old Timers' Religion"

– via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft  
Dover, DE

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## God's kids say & do the funniest things

The teacher was helping one of her kindergarten students put on his cowboy boots. He asked for help and she could see why. Even with her pulling and him pushing, the little boots still didn't want to go on. Finally, when the second boot was on, she had worked up a sweat. She almost cried when the little boy said, "Teacher, they're on the wrong feet."

She looked and sure enough, they were. It wasn't any easier pulling the boots off than it was putting them on. She managed to keep her cool as together they worked to get the boots back on, this time on the right feet.

He then announced, "These aren't my boots."

She bit her tongue rather than get right in his face and scream, "Why didn't you say so?" like she wanted to. And once again, she struggled to help him pull the ill-fitting boots off his little feet.

No sooner than they got the boots off, he said, "They're my brother's boots. My Mom made me wear 'em."

Now she didn't know if she should laugh or cry, but she mustered up the grace and courage she had left to wrestle the boots on his feet again.

Helping him into his coat, she asked, "Now, where are your mittens?"

He said, "I stuffed 'em in the toes of my boots."

– via Joygerm Joan White  
Syracuse, NY

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Teacher: "Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?"

"No, ma'am," Clyde answered. "It's the same dog."

– via Risa Samra  
Saginaw, MI

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"They begin the Evening News with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't."

– Winston Churchill

# February Birthdays

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



"We have two choices for Valentine's Day: we can fly away by private jet to a romantic meal in Bali, or we can plunk down 12 bucks for the church's spaghetti supper."

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com  
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## DECEMBER SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	75	1.88
Applebees	25	2.00
Bath & Body Works	35	2.80
BP	400	6.00
Cabelas	125	13.75
Cobblestone	110	5.50
Dairy Queen	10	2.00
Econo	1,650	49.50
Exxon	100	5.00
Festival	225	6.75
Fleet Farm	180	9.00
Kohls	800	32.00
Kwik Trip	450	18.00
McDonalds	40	1.60
Menards	125	3.75
Piggly Wiggly	225	6.75
Red Robin	25	2.00
RL/OG	50	4.00
Starbucks	45	3.15
Target	70	1.75
VISA	200	2.50
WalMart	225	5.63
TOTALS	5,190.00	185.30

## INK CARTRIDGES



We will no longer be collecting ink cartridges for recycling.

## 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.