

ST. BARTHOLOMEW LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2022

This month, on the 21st, the church remembers and celebrates St. Matthew, the disciple of Jesus, writer of one of our four gospels, missionary and martyr in the land of Ethiopia. St. Matthew is the perfect example of Christ's work in and among his people. By profession, Matthew was a tax collector, a group of men not greatly loved in Judea. Many tax collectors were Jewish men, enlisted by the Roman government to collect money from their own people and send it on to Rome. The Romans were not too picky on how men were to go about collecting the money, and didn't care much if the tax collectors took more from the people than needed to keep some aside for themselves.

But Christ came to Matthew at his tax booth and drew him aside to a different life than the one he knew. No longer was he to be a catcher of coins, but in and with Christ he was to be a fisher of men. After the ascension of Christ, Matthew was among those disciples sent into all the nations to proclaim Christ and His saving work. As tradition holds, Matthew did much work among the Jews, but eventually ended up in Ethiopia, where he was martyred, killed, while preaching before the people. We're told that Matthew was killed specifically for speaking out against the king of Ethiopia at that time, against a moral failing of his.

Matthew, like all the apostles, reminds us of the greatness and the risk of Christ's work here on earth. Christ comes unto us all and makes us new, offers us new life in and with him, and promises us an eternal kingdom far greater than any that could be built here. But for many in certain contexts and in terrible times, Christ's work can bring much danger upon their heads. Thanks be to our God who sent his own Son into dangerous days, so that, although we ourselves might face great trials here, the greatest trial, death, has been overcome by Christ himself. Amen and amen!

Pastor Brandmahl

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

July 2022

Year-to-date Income:	\$97,238.95
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$100,533.13
Year-to-date Budget:	\$100,632.00

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NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Joshua Brandmahl, Ashley, Josephine & Violet by transfer

BAPTISM

Aurora Tracy Zoellner 8/14

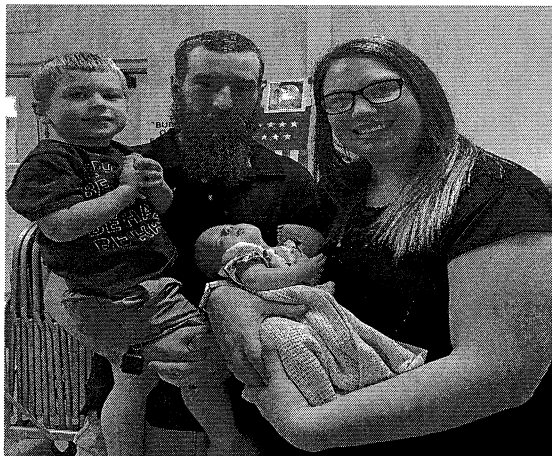
KINGDOM WORKERS - SEPTEMBER

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

Altar Guild: Faith Sonnabend, Renee Bonick

Acolytes: Sep. 4 - Kelvin
11 - Simon
18 - Natalie
25 - Ashlynn

Ushers: Sun: Pete Zarnoth



Aurora Tracy Zoellner
Baptized 8/14/22

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)

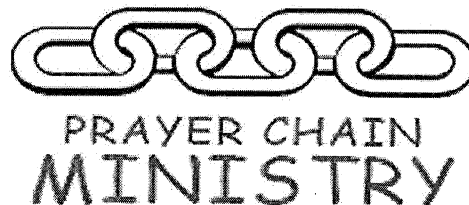
SHARING, BELIEVING LIVING AND CARING



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
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	(920) 871-4039
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)

ELDER GROUPS

(A-G) Tanner Behnke	(920) 427-6201
(H-M) Ron Detert	756-3439
(N-Z) Gary Lemke	(920) 464-1050

Treasurer's Notes

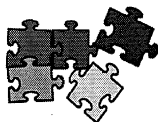
Unfortunately, I do not have good news to report. The summer has been hard on our finances. We continue to spend more than we are bringing in and are back into the red again. I am hoping that we turn this around as the summer vacation comes to an end. As I have said before much can be done when everyone does a little. Let's see if we can get back on track like we did earlier in the year. God's blessing to all of you.

Debbie Kamps -
Treasurer



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. Thank you.

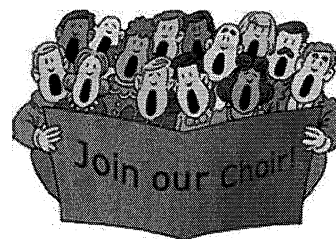


ADULT INFORMATION CLASS



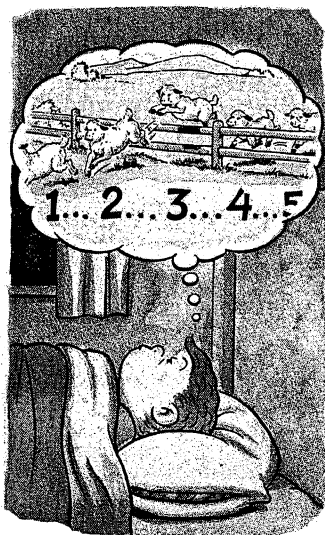
If anyone is interested in joining our congregation from a non-Lutheran background or is interested in Learning the basics of our beliefs Lutherans, contact Pastor Brandmahl (920-756-3031) so a class can be set up beginning in October.

Choir Begins



Choir practice starts Wednesday, September 28th at 6pm! And we are excited to start singing to the Lord a new song! We also hope to see new faces! All are welcomed, so come join us on Wednesdays at 6pm!

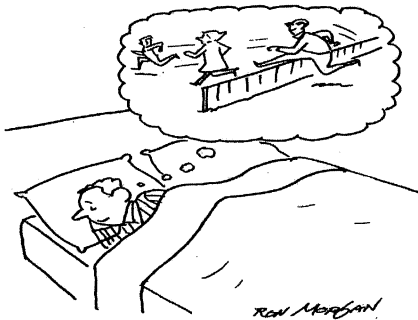
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



JULY SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
BP	1,150	17.25
Cobblestone	25	1.25
Econo	1,875	56.25
Exxon	100	5.00
Festival	200	6.00
Kohls	200	8.00
Kwik Trip	1,200	48.00
McDonalds	20	0.80
Menards	500	15.00
Piggly Wiggly	75	2.25
Roundy's	50	2.00
Shell	150	7.50
Target	50	1.25
WalMart	50	1.25
TOTALS	5,645.00	171.80

The first day of Sunday school will be
September 11 at 8 a.m.
Join us for another fun year!



Pastor Timmonico counting his flock.

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PRODUCE TABLE



The table in the coat room for extra garden produce will continue to be set up during the Fall months. Items may be left on or taken from the produce table throughout the growing season.

Who Are You?

If you were asked to tell someone about yourself, what would you say first? Would you begin by telling where you live? Is one of the first things that you would point out is whether you are single or married? Do you identify your vocation such as a plumber, teacher, dentist, salesman, etc.? Would you describe your family? Would you talk about your education? Would you talk about your interests and hobbies? When would you say you are a Christian who God loves so much that He has adopted you as one of His children?

Each of us would describe ourselves in different ways. We each have several different roles such as father, mother, husband, wife, son, daughter, grandpa, grandma, etc. We play several or a variety of different roles such as neighbors, employees or employers, volunteers, or church members.

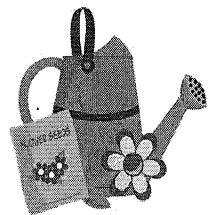
One role that affects all of our roles is our role as a steward. A steward is one who has been entrusted with property which is to be administered according to the owner's will or direction. We are in charge of God's property. God has called and chosen us to be His stewards. As stewards, we automatically think of our role as stewards of our time, talents, and treasures, but we are also stewards of the environment, relationships with others, and the life-saving Gospel.

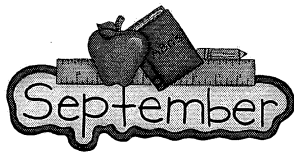
Everything we do, everything we say, and everywhere we go emanates from our sense of identity. Our identity is either in Christ or in the world. C.S. Lewis once said, "There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, 'All right then, have it your way.'" For some it's "God's will be done" and for others it's "my will be done." If it's "my will be done," the focus is only on ourselves. Understanding that God has called us to be His stewards determines what we do.

In Rick Warren's book *The Purpose Driven Life*, he begins by saying "It's not about you." He is exactly right. The Christian life is initiated by God and sustained by God. Our value, our identity, is not to be found in what we "do" in life. Not our performance, our position, our titles, our achievements or the power we hold. Our identity is bound up in who we are in Christ.

Stewardship minute (lay reader talk)

Thank you to Alice Koerth and Linda Streck for taking care of all the outdoor plants during the summer. Thank you to Carolyn Bladow for taking care of the indoor plants.



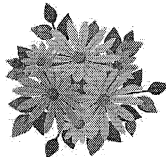


BIRTHDAYS

2 nd	Craig Moline	18 th	Olivia Boldt
3 rd	Kayla Krahn	18 th	Norma Latvala
4 th	Kristen Woldt	22 nd	Molly Gifford
8 th	Lori Horn	24 th	Tim Eickert
8 th	Ashley Beil	26 th	Dave Kamps
12 th	Norman Krahn	26 th	Dori Reidy
14 th	Emma Levash	27 th	Michelle Schleis
17 th	Sandra Koffarnus	28 th	Maya Emmer
18 th	Matthew Boldt	29 th	Elliot Gifford

ANNIVERSARIES

1 st	Thomas & Danielle Schneider
2 nd	Jerry & Sharon Urban
3 rd	Jon & JoAnn Mignon
4 th	Adam & Abigail Geiger
6 th	Randy & Joan Prigge
12 th	Gary & Sue Graf
14 th	Kurt & Erin Propson
16 th	Dave & Debbie Kalies
17 th	Thomas & Shelly Jost
18 th	Duane & Karen Loose
20 th	James Jr. & Tracy Hurda
21 st	Bud & Elaine Zeamer
22 nd	Jay & Amy Krahn
23 rd	Leo & Lyn Skattebo
29 th	Buddy & Brenda Geiger



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

Stewardship Corner

In the book of Genesis, we read that Abraham and Jacob both tithed (giving one-tenth) before God commanded the tithe. They gave the tithe out of gratitude for their blessings from God. In the Old Testament, people gave their tithes because it expressed their belief and understanding that God was the giver of all. In their giving, they were returning back to God what was truly His. King David confessed this thought in 1 Chronicles 29:14: *"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from You, and of Your own we have given You."* May our giving acknowledge God as giver of all and express our thankfulness for His abundant blessings.

Glorifying God

In his letter to the church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote, *"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31). God expects and deserves that all we do is done for the purpose of giving Him glory. We were born by God's purpose and for His purpose. We are alive because God wanted to create us. In Colossians 1:16, we read, *"...All things were created through Him and for Him."* It is only in God that we find our identity and purpose. It is in God's Word that we discover our purpose in life. God is glorified when we, through faith, seek to know and to live out His purposes for us.

In Scripture, God called people to fulfill different purposes. Adam was to tend the garden. Noah was to build the ark. Abraham was to become a great nation through whom all the nations of the world would be blessed. Joseph helped his people survive a great famine. Joshua led the conquest into the Promised Land. David was the greatest king of Israel. Solomon was to build the temple. God called each of these people, and they responded faithfully and obediently. Through faith, we also can respond to God's leading so we can fulfill the purpose that God has given each of us.

In his book *Beyond Blessed*, Rev. Robert Morris wrote, *"Deep genuine happiness and fulfillment stem from living our true purpose, not experiencing worldly, carnal pleasure. If you're fulfilling the purpose for which God created you, you can have nothing and be deliriously happy and content. Conversely you have everything the world says you should desire, and if you're not living out your God-given purpose, you'll be utterly miserable."* When we carry out God's purposes for our lives, we will find true joy and fulfillment.

