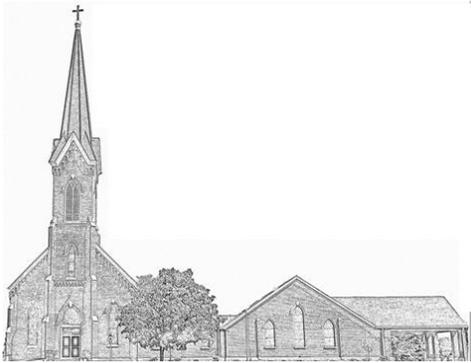


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Lutheran Church*

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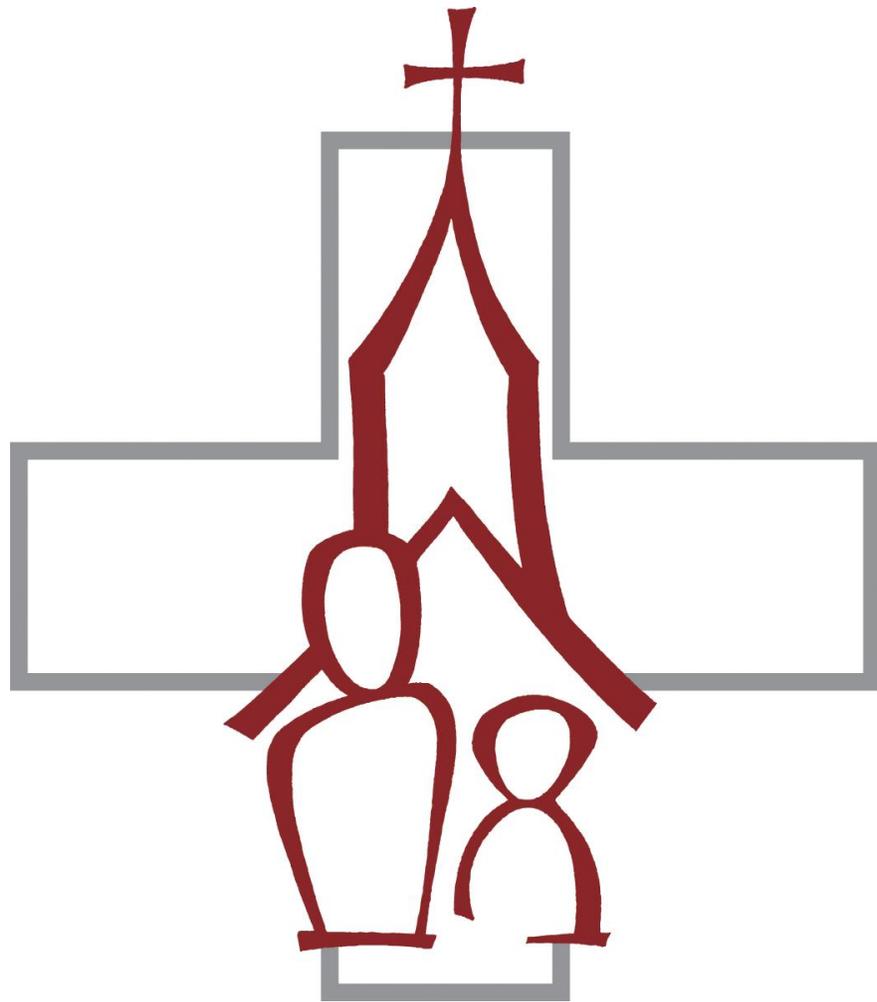
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NEWSLETTER



August 2019



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH † BINGEN

NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXII - Number 6

August 2019

Dear Friends in Christ,

Warm greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord! I hope this summer has found you well and enjoying the many gifts and blessings of God's creation. I also pray that you continually find joy and refreshment in "the one thing needful" - the forgiving gifts of Jesus Christ in Word and Sacrament. These precious treasures of our Savior's death and resurrection are the "medicine of immortality" that heals all ills, mends what is broken, and provides peace that surpasses all human understanding.

Indeed, a new understanding is what the Lord gives us by our Baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The apostle Paul writes in his letter to the Colossians: "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory" (**Colossians 3:1-4**).

This is the heavenly perspective God grants us by faith for Christ's sake, and as the Lord sets our minds on things that are above, we begin to see the things that are below in a new way. Our faith-filled work and honest labor, for example, are holy and sacred - the means by which the Lord grants goods to others. And those others whom the Lord has placed into our lives - they are all people for whom our Lord laid down His life - people we are free to love and forgive. Even the trials and struggles of life can be faced with a new perspective by God's grace. For, as newly re-elected Synod President Rev. Matthew Harrison once remarked, when the end-game is certain, then the penultimate (what is second-to-last) is no longer so deadly serious.

As St. Paul notes so well in his letter to the Colossians, we live in response to what the Lord has done for us. That is true freedom for all of life and from all those things that would worry us. While fallen humankind frantically tries to justify its own existence and worth, baptismal faith lives a life of love in response to that which is not earned or merited, but received. With our future secure in Jesus' death and resurrection, we need no longer live in an unrelenting pursuit of personal gain. Rather, we have true and lasting worth and riches in Christ, and when life's goal is received as a gift, we suddenly find ourselves with a lot of free time on our hands. However shall we fill it?

We get to answer that question every day of our life. Since baptized believers need not lift a finger in order to save themselves, that finger is free to be lifted instead in service to another. Thus the Christian life is not a lazy one, as St. Paul makes plain in **II Thess. 3:6-16**. Nor is the Christian life a perfect one, for "if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (**1 John 1:8-9**). We always live, therefore, from the forgiveness of sins, in response to God's saving gifts to us in Christ. Thus I rejoice in our life together here at St. John, and I pray that you rejoice in it as well. We are all united in our neediness before God, and we are also united in our loving response to His salvation.

*Where charity and love prevail
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love
By love are we thus bound.*

*Forgive we now each other's faults
As we our faults confess,
And let us love each other well
In Christian holiness.*

*Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.
(LSB 845)*

The Lord has blessed us with a congregation full of caring, gifted, and faithful members. You are one of them! So while we may be tempted to wring our hands in worry about how everything will get accomplished and covered over the next few months and years, let us instead give thanks to God for this opportunity for our congregation to come even more closely together, identifying the needs of the Lord's church in this place and joyfully participating in our life together according to the gifts the Lord has given us.

To that end, I lovingly exhort you in the name of our Savior, to consider how the Lord has blessed you – with a special interest or ability, with time or opportunity, with financial gifts that exceed your basic needs – and then consider:

How might the Lord be calling me to invest these gifts for the good of His church here at Bingen?

Knowing that moth and rust destroy the treasures and toys of this earth, how might I use these gifts to lay up the treasures of heaven?

Though I have never considered or embraced this opportunity before, where might I try volunteering my service? Maybe as a Sunday School teacher? Altar Guild member? School volunteer? Family Life Emphasis volunteer? Operation Barnabas volunteer? Grateful financial contributor? Kind voice of encouragement?

Above all, be sure that you are regularly receiving the Lord's Divine Service to you in Word and Sacrament. Through these means of His grace, the Lord grants calm in the midst of chaos, patience in place of panic, and faithfulness instead of fanatical frenzy. His forgiveness, given to you through Baptism, Absolution, Communion, and the Word preached, is the one thing needful. Without first receiving, there can be no responding. So come to God's house. Receive the gifts of your Savior's death. And then depart in peace to live and to love and to serve.

In an effort to serve you and your consideration of the questions noted above, a lot of important information follows, so...

...please read this newsletter carefully.

It contains a lot of information important to our life together here at Bingen.

Calling All Sunday School Teachers!

We need Sunday School teachers (both women AND MEN!!!) for early childhood through 6th-grade classes. If you are interested, please contact PastorBrock@gmail.com / 260-301-1640. We hope to have enough high school youth and adults interested in serving our young people that each Sunday School teacher will only be asked to serve part of the year, thus allowing our teachers to participate in the Adult Bible class as well. "Teacher-friendly" classroom materials will be provided for you, and a **Sunday School Organizational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall**. Please consider this opportunity to serve the Lord and His church. No experience necessary; all questions and concerns will be addressed at the organizational meeting and as they arise throughout the year. We promise to serve you as you serve our young members!



As you prepare for this year's Christian Education opportunities, ask the Lord to send His Holy Spirit into your heart that you may learn earnestly to pray Psalm 86:11: "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name." See you in Bible Class!

SPI v. Wyneken BBQ Cook-Off – August 10, 2019

Please join our five churches and schools on Saturday, August 10 at 3 p.m. for food, fellowship, and fun in the St. John grove across from Wyneken! Activities such as inflatables, corn-hole, volleyball, ladder-golf, and more will be available beginning at 3 p.m.. You are also welcome to bring your own games and/or cards. Four kinds of BBQ (brisket, pork shoulder, ribs, and chicken), water, and lemonade are provided, and you are invited to bring your own beverages and side or dessert. Food warmers and coolers will be available to keep your food ready-to-serve. Food service and BBQ judging will begin at 5 p.m. Please also consider bringing your own lawn chairs, tables or picnic blanket, and tableware, if possible, as a limited amount will be available. A free-will donation will be received to support the PTLs (Parent Teacher Leagues) of our schools. **Volunteers are needed for this event.** Both youth and adult volunteers are needed to help set-up and serve at the August 10 BBQ Cook-Off. Several men are needed at 10 a.m. that day in the grove across from Wyneken to help set up tents, tables, and chairs. Youth and any willing adults are invited to arrive at 2:45 p.m. for a brief description of needed tasks throughout the afternoon such as trash removal, supervision at inflatables, food set-up, etc. As always, many willing hands will make quick work of the clean-up following the event. We look forward to seeing you then!

Christian Education Sunday – August 11 at 8 a.m. Divine Service and 9:30 a.m. Prayer Office

Sunday, August 11 is Christian Education Sunday here at St. John. As in years past, we will bless and distribute bibles, hymnals and catechisms at both services. Kindergarteners will receive a Student Bible and *Luther's Small Catechism*, third-graders will receive a *Lutheran Service Book* (hymnal), and sixth-graders will receive a *Lutheran Study Bible*. Please relay this information to everyone you know who has children, acts like a child, or is a child. These texts are used at school and confirmation classes, so every student is required to have them. Come and receive them as a gift from your church!!!

Confirmation Organizational Meeting – Sunday, August 11 at 10:30 a.m. in Parish Hall

All 7th and 8th grade students and parents are asked to attend this year's Confirmation Organizational Meeting on Sunday, August 11 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The meeting should last no more than 30 minutes and important information will be shared about both Wyneken confirmation instruction and Public/Home School confirmation instruction. If you are not able to attend, please contact Pastor Brock before August 11. Again, please relay this information to anyone you know who has a child going into the 7th or 8th grade.

Youth and Parent Organizational Meeting – Sunday, August 11 at 6 p.m. in Parish Hall

All youth in grades 6-12 and their parents are encouraged to join us on Sunday August 11th at 6 p.m. in the St. John, Bingen Parish Hall for our 2019-2020 Youth Organizational Meeting. We will discuss our events and goals for the upcoming year. We'll likely also ingest ice-cream. Anyone who is 18 years of age or older (and willing to submit to the required background check), is welcome to volunteer their time in serving our youth.

All Youth Back-to-School Bash – Sunday, August 18 at Pine Lake Waterpark

The current plan for the Back-to-School Bash at Pine Lake Waterpark is to meet in the St. John, Bingen parking lot at 12noon on Sunday, August 18 and carpool to Berne. The specifics may be changed at the Youth and Parent Organization Meeting on August 11, but you can pencil in the details for now. The cost for youth is \$5. Chaperones are free as always. You may bring food and beverages in a cooler to be consumed in or near the parking lot at Pine Lake. You may also bring additional cash to purchase concessions such as hamburgers, nachos, ice cream, etc. If you are willing to chaperone/drive, please contact Pastor Brock.

Early-Bird Bible Class – Tuesday, August 13 at 6 a.m. in Parish Hall

The Early-Bird Bible Class will resume on Tuesday, August 13 at 6 a.m. in the Parish Hall. We will continue our study of the book of Acts. Feel free to bring your coffee, tea, and/or blankie.

Sunday School Organizational Meeting – Sunday, August 18 at 10:30 a.m. in Parish Hall

We need Sunday School teachers (both women AND MEN!!!) for early childhood through 6th-grade classes. If you are interested, please contact me – PastorBrock@gmail.com / 260-301-1640. Please consider this opportunity to serve the Lord and His church.

Wyneken Confirmation Schedule

Pastors Brock, Dahling, and Yeager will be covering both 7th and 8th Grade Confirmation, as well as Early-Bird Bible Class and the three weekly chapels, for the foreseeable future. That will be done on a two-week rotation basis. The Wyneken 7th-graders will be taught a bible story-based introduction to the *Small Catechism*. Wyneken 8th graders will be taught the *Small Catechism* as always.

New Church Pictorial Directory

A new photo directory is in the works in conjunction with Bingen's 175th Anniversary in 2020. Please sign up for your photography session in the hallway after Sunday services or online by clicking the link on the St. John website homepage. Two additional photography dates, September 4 and 5, have been added.



If you are unable to be photographed, please submit your photo (preferably electronically) and \$10 to the church office no later than September 4.

Upcoming Youth Events

Middle School Youth Events

Saturday, August 10; 3 p.m. – Back-to-School BBQ Cook-Off

Youth volunteers are needed to serve at this new and exciting event. See details for the event in this newsletter. See Rev. Brock-Solid-BBQ to volunteer.

Sunday, August 11; 6 p.m. – Youth/Parent Organizational Meeting

All youth in grades 6-12 and their parents are encouraged to join us on Sunday August 11th at 6 p.m. in the St. John, Bingen Parish Hall for our 2019-2020 Youth Organizational Meeting. We will discuss our events and goals for the upcoming year. We'll likely also ingest ice-cream. Anyone who is 18 years of age or older (and willing to submit to the required background check), is welcome to volunteer their time in serving our youth.

Sunday, August 18; 12noon – All-Youth Back-to-School Bash at Pine Lake

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(PastorBrock@gmail.com; 260-301-1640)

High School Youth Activities

Sunday, August 4; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Wyneken Service Opportunity

We plan to paint. Please dress accordingly. Please also remember how generously our congregations support the social side of our youth activities. This is a wonderful way to show our appreciation and willingness to serve our churches and school.

Saturday, August 10; 3 p.m. – Back-to-School BBQ Cook-Off

Youth volunteers are needed to serve at this new and exciting event. See details for the event in this newsletter. See Rev. Brock-Solid-BBQ to volunteer.

Sunday, August 11; 6 p.m. – Youth/Parent Organizational Meeting

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(PastorBrock@gmail.com; 260-301-1640)

Sunday, August 25; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Gathering at Parsonage #1

Bible study, snacks, and games. A hearty handshake to anyone who can beat the clergy at foosball.

175th Anniversary of St. John Lutheran Church

✠ *One LORD, One Faith, One Future* ✠

NEW ITEMS

Request for Historically Significant Photographs – 1995-2020

Please e-mail to the church office any photographs you have that capture something of congregational and/or historic significance. These may be included in the 175th book or other publications. If you need your photograph(s) scanned, please contact the church office or Pastor Brock.

Bingen Show-and Tell

The first Sunday of every month in 2020, perhaps excluding the summer months, we will hear from our fellow members during the Bible Class hour about the history of Bingen, share fun stories and memories, and rejoice in the Lord's continual blessings and grace upon this place for 175 years. If you would like to present an interesting item, story, or remembrance during one of these Sundays, please contact Lynn Selking.

The 175th Anniversary committee continues its work preparing for a year of celebration and thanksgiving in 2020. Please take a moment to see the "bricks" that are "building" the model of St. John Lutheran Church in the south hallway of the Parish Hall. These "bricks" are inscribed with a special thanksgiving for a blessing the Lord has granted to one of our families, members, or friends through the ministry of St. John, Bingen. If you would like to "purchase" a "brick," you may pick up a mission offering sheet in the entry of the church. An explanation of our 175th Anniversary Mission Offering is included in the first 175th Anniversary newsletter, which is also available in the entry of the church.

In brief, and in thanksgiving to God for blessing this holy little flock over the years, the congregation has designated a 175th Anniversary Mission Offering with the goal of raising \$175,000 by the end of 2020 to support the mission and mercy work being carried out in Tanzania, Africa. Just as St. John was founded through the missionary efforts of Rev. Wyneken, so do we desire to show forth our faith and gratitude by offering \$1,000 in mission funding for every year the Lord has strengthened and sustained His church at Bingen. These funds will be used in the following areas: 1) the albino orphanage being constructed on the campus of the Mwadui Lutheran Boarding School; 2) the Lutheran seminary in Shinyanga; and 3) scholarships for international students to study at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

The committee has also set up an historic display in the Parish Hall. If you have any historic, Bingen-related items of interest (such as pictures, documents, or artifacts) that you would like to loan for the display, please contact committee chairman Lynn Selking or archivist Linda Abdon. All items will be kept in a locked display case and returned when the display is changed. Please be sure to give Lynn or Linda your contact information along with a description of the item you are loaning, so we may be sure to return it to you.

Historic notes:

In a resolution from a congregation meeting of October 27, 188, the Ladies Society received permission to purchase a crucifix, candlesticks, and altar cloths for the new altar.

On December 2, 1878, it was resolved that chewing tobacco and spitting in the new church be absolutely forbidden. It was likewise resolved that anyone whittling on the pews be obliged to repair the damage.

On March 7, 1880, it was resolved to build a fence around the church to keep cattle off the ground.

✠ Christian Stewardship ✠

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony of receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? The offerings are collected in plates, and they are brought forward and given to the pastor. The pastor turns toward the altar, and, as he slightly bows his head, the offerings are slightly raised to the Lord and placed on the credence table. Why do we have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does – it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion – the bread and the wine – were brought forward with the offerings. The offerings and elements were lifted toward the Lord and placed upon the altar. The altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

Gifts brought to God's altar come from the sweat of His people's brow. They are the bread and wine, the fruits of His people's labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people are to bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. Gifts set upon the altar are offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into service for His gracious work.

For what is offered to the Lord from the sweat of His people's brow – the bread of anxious toil – comes back to us as the bread of life. The bread comes down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup will receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament:

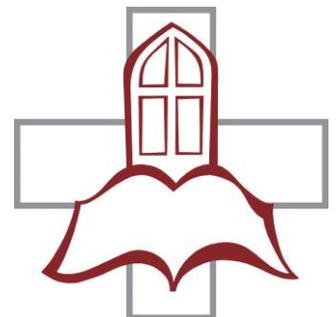
“You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire – oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household.” (Deut. 14:22-26)

What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows. He receives this from us in the first-fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise, and He turns these into spiritual bread. He gives this heavenly bread – the bread of eternal life – back to us so we might have joy.

So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder. The offerings we have given to Him, the Lord gives back to us in His supper so that we may rejoice in the salvation He won for us upon the cross.

Confirmation Organizational Meeting – Sunday, August 11 at 10:30 a.m.

All 7th and 8th grade students and parents are asked to attend this year's Confirmation Organizational Meeting on Sunday, August 11 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The meeting should last no more than 30 minutes and important information will be shared about both Wyneken confirmation instruction and Public/Home School confirmation instruction. If you are not able to attend, please contact Pastor Brock before August 12.



Ladies Aid - Quilting every Wednesday from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Old and new, experienced or non-experienced quilters are welcomed to attend Ladies Aid Quilting. We would love to have you in attendance to share our talent and fellowship. Quilting Days: August 7, 14, 21 & 28

Cancer Pads - Next sewing date: **TUESDAY**, August 20th from 8 – 11 a.m. Contact person is Marilyn Kiess.

Ladies Guild - All ladies of our congregation are welcome to join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Date: August 20, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Parish Hall

Roll Call: Favorite Pastime

Program: Trash to Treasure – Demonstration by Deb Gallmeyer

Serving: Marilyn Kiess and Fay Koenemann

LWML

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) welcomed 3105 people with 691 as first timers to the LWML Convention in Mobile, Alabama, June 20-23, 2019, under the theme "In Praise to the Lord!" based on 1 Chronicles 16:23-24a. A Mission Goal of \$2.1 Million was set for 2019-2021. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 21 mission grants as men and women respond in prayer and offerings during the next two years.

The 2020 LWML Indiana District Convention will be held June 19-21, 2020 at Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, Indiana. The theme is **Transformed Together – Together We Serve**.

Registration is now open for the LWML Treatshop to be held Saturday, August 17, 2019 at the Lutheran High School, Indianapolis, Indiana. You may register on-line at lwmlindiana.org. Contact Marilyn Bulmahn with any questions. 260-919-5007.

September 8, 2019 LWML SRD Workshop – New Hope Lutheran Church – Ossian 8824 North State Road 1, Ossian, Indiana at 3:00 p.m. We will be sewing quiet bags for children.

October 13, 2019 LLL/LWML Fall Rally – Peace Lutheran Church – Berne, 201 South Fulton, Berne, Indiana at 3:00 p.m. Rev. Josef Henning, pastor of Emmanuel-Soest will speak of his life experiences and life with our brothers and sisters in Christ living in South Africa.

Card Games – *No cards through the summer months. See you starting September 12th* on every 2nd Thursday of the month @ 1:30 p.m. We meet in the Parish Hall for cards, snacks and fellowship. **All are welcome to join us!**

Membership Directory Updates/Changes

Rev. Kyle & Brittni Brown (Everett and Baby)– 103 E. Berry Drive, Hobbs, NM, 88240-4417

Roy and Theresa Hammond (Natalie and Isabel) – 2710 E. Yoder Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46819-9721

Steve Holle – 260-257-7798

Jani MacDowell – 14525 Soaring Hawk Trail, Hoagland, IN 46745

Jason & Megan Sauer (Quinton and Kinley) – 8227 E. Arnold Street, Tucson, AZ 85708-1347

Nathan Shelton – 260-200-0329

Mika Patron - Grace Lutheran Church, 303 Ruth Street, Auburn, MI 48611

Thrivent Community – Crossroads

Golf for Hero Meals Event – Sunday, August 11th, 1:00 p.m. @ Cross Creek Golf Club, 1724 Nuttman Ave., Decatur, IN

As a valued member, Donna Fosdick-Baumann and your Thrivent Community would like to invite you and guests to a golf outing. In partnership with Hero Meals, we will enjoy an afternoon of team golf with proceeds helping fund Hero Meals for the upcoming school year. Gather your golf team and join us! Refreshments will be served.

For more information or to reserve a spot, call 724-4222 or email tamara.dahling@thrivent.com

Actual Things Kids Said or Wrote While in Sunday School 😊

- In the first book of the Bible, GUINNESSIS, God got tired of creating the world, so He took the Sabbath off.
- Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.



Good Shepherd Fall Retreat, September 28-29, 2019

What in Heaven Is Going On? Christ and the Angels in the Book of Revelation

The Book of Revelation is one of most studied and least understood books in the Bible. During this two-day retreat, Dr. Charles Gieschen will lead participants through the powerful visions of this book, focusing on the various depictions of Christ and angels who play such a prominent role in this visionary prophecy, including the archangel St. Michael. He will also contrast modern cultural thoughts about angels with what is revealed in the Scriptures, and Dr. Steven Cody will teach on the depiction of angels in art.

The retreat coincides with the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, which will be observed with Choral Vespers in Kramer Chapel on Sunday, September 29, at 4:00 p.m. Featured in the service will be Bach Cantata #149, "Glad Song of Rejoicing and Victory," which was written for the celebration of this festival. In addition, the weekend will mark the opening of a new art exhibit on campus titled "With Angels and Archangels."

Cost: \$25, includes lunch on Saturday

Register: www.ctsfw.edu/FallRetreat

Presenters:

Charles Gieschen

Charles Gieschen is a New Testament scholar who has taught, written, and lectured on Revelation for 25 years, making him one of the leading Lutheran authorities on this book. He has been on the faculty at CTSFW since 1996 and is currently serves as Academic Dean.

Steven Cody

Steven Cody serves as Assistant Professor of Art History at Purdue Fort Wayne. He specializes in Italian art and culture from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Schedule:

Saturday, September 28

9:00 a.m. Welcome and Presentation #1

10:15 a.m. Matins

11:00 a.m. Art Presentation: Angels in Art through the Centuries

12:00 p.m. Lunch (time provided to tour art exhibit and also visit CTSFW bookstore)

1:30 p.m. Presentation #2

2:45 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Presentation #3

4:00 p.m. Adjournment for the day

Sunday, September 29

2:00 p.m. Presentation #4 (focusing on the archangel St. Michael)

3:30 p.m. Break

4:00 p.m. Choral Vespers

5:00 p.m. Library open for tours of exhibit

Save the Date for the Annual Wyneken Golf Outing!

The outing will be held at Cross Creek Golf Club on September 29, 2019, with a shotgun start at 1:00. This is a great opportunity to have some fun, support your Wyneken class of 2021, and have a chance to play a round of golf with your friends. Individual cost for players is \$60 or \$240 for a foursome. Watch for more details in the coming months.

We are also looking for corporate sponsors for the golf outing. If you, or a company you know, would like to be a sponsor, please contact Laura Kukelhan (laurakukelhan@yahoo.com or 260-223-3828) or a member of next year's seventh grade class to sign up. Gold sponsorships are \$400, Silver - \$150, and Bronze - \$75

The students of 2021 are: Ashlyn Black, Izaak Bobay, Alex Flower, Khiana Foreman*, Eden Hoot*, Drew Kolter, Meryl Kukelhan*, Gwen Laurent*, Dane Lenegar*, Reese Loshe*, Lauren McMahan*, Tessa Melcher*, Jack Riehm, Carissa Selking*, Evan Selking*, Evan Sovine, Elijah Steiner, Madeline Vitatoo, Daniel Vogel (* Bingen Students)

August Baptismal Birthdays

McKinsey Amstein
Caitlain Anderson
Delilah Baumgartner
Gracie Berning
Jasper Berning
Theresa Berning
Amber Bradtmueller
Lee Bradtmueller
Hailey Cole
Evelyn DeBolt
Morgan (Grace) Donley
Laura (Hope) Dressler
Crista Elias
Cody Fuelling
Ronald Fuhrmann
Gina Grant
Roy Hammond
Deborah Hardesty
Donald Hartman
Mark Hartman
Sophia Heare
Tyrone Hockemeyer

Joshua Hoot
Lisa Hormann
Carter Howard
Emily Kleine
Grant Kleine
Chase Knowlden
Arabelle Laurent
Elle Laurent
Amanda Loshe
Erika MacDowell
John Mahlan
Chad McBride
Kaitlyn Melcher
Tessa Melcher
Jaqueline Mere
Chevelle Oetting
Jennifer Oetting
Troy Palacios
Daniel Peters
Carson Pulver
Christopher Richmond
Nehemiah Richmond

Aimee Rogers
Jerod Rogers
Corbin Saalfrank
Christina Salerno
Andrew Sauer
Megan Scherer
Aaron Scheumann
Donald Scheumann
Emma Scheumann
Rhonda Scheumann
Anthony Schieferstein
Natasha Schieferstein
Sheri Schlemmer
Benjamin Schwartz
Briana Schwartz
Lynn Selking
Erik Shepherd
Ann Souder
Clayton Whitacre
Amanda Zelt
Camden Zwick

August Wedding Anniversaries

8/2 Joshua & Tracy Hoot
8/3 Larry & Linda Eckerley
8/3 David & Jennifer Sprague
8/4 Eric & Cheryl Stockman
8/5 Daniel & Kelli Fuhrmann
8/5 Lester & Janice Zelt
8/6 Mark & Vickie Gallmeyer
8/6 Jeffrey & Kelly Goble Jr.
8/7 Leon & Janilyn O'Shaughnessey
8/7 Aaron & Amanda Selking
8/8 Rev. Peter & Teegen Brock
8/9 Justin & Jenny Beaulieu

8/13 Matthew & Jaci Allmandinger
8/13 Steven & Kathryn Lommatzsch
8/14 James & Sarah Butler
8/14 Derek & Amanda Loshe
8/15 Greg & Erin Anderson
8/15 Alan & Patricia Lautzenheiser
8/16 Verlin & Marilyn Bulmahn
8/16 Michael & Gina Raymond
8/16 Greg & Jodi Selking
8/18 Christopher & Tina Caston
8/18 Jesse & Kristen Holt
8/19 Ronald & Bessie Fuhrmann

We celebrate with those who have their Baptismal Birthday or Wedding Anniversary this month. If we have left you out, please know it was not intentional, but that our membership records do not reflect your special dates. We invite you to forward your dates to us so that we may recognize you and yours in the future. As the office continually reviews our membership household information, we will make requests of this type of info so that we don't leave you out in the coming year. Please feel free to e-mail churchoffice@stjohnbingen.com or contact the church office (639-6178) with your dates. Thank You!



Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.
5 Martin Luther Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996
Phone: (260)471-5683 Toll-Free: (888)286-8002
WorshipAnew.org / info@WorshipAnew.org

August 2019

August 4, 2019 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 100; Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:24-26; Luke 12:13-21

“What’s In Your Wallet?” - Sermon Text: Luke 12:13-21 - Rev. James Elsner

"What's in your wallet?" goes the TV commercial asking about how you manage your wealth. Jesus had something important to say about that. He cautions about a condition in human hearts – yes, even yours!

August 11, 2019 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-16; Luke 12:22-40

“Anxious Hearts” - Sermon Text: Luke 12:34 - Rev. Shayne Jonker

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” If your stuff is what you treasure, your heart will be devoted to these things and become your gods. Thus, our Lord graciously directs us away from our idols to Himself. For He alone is reliable and can deliver us from anxiety and fear.

August 18, 2019 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 119:81-88; Luke 12:49-53

“A Special Baptism” - Sermon Text: Luke 12:49-53 - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

At Christmas, the angels proclaimed, "Peace on earth!" In our Gospel, Jesus proclaims, "Fire!" "Division!" What happened to Jesus that He would tell us He has not come to give peace but division?

August 25, 2019 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 50:1-15; Hebrews 12:4-24; Luke 13:22-30

“Where Are You Standing?” - Sermon Text: Hebrews 12:4-24 - Rev. Bill Mueller

The reading in Hebrews 12 is always a challenging section of God's Word. Who enjoys struggles? Who even wants to hear that God allows various things in our life to "discipline" us? We thought God was loving! Take a closer look at where we are standing and rejoice in God's even greater love and mercy!

Worship Anew can be viewed every SUNDAY:

7:00 a.m. EPTA-TV 21.2 [NBC]

8:00 a.m. MyTV 21.3

11:30 a.m. WINM-TV 12/38 [TCT]

4:00 p.m. & Monday 10:00 a.m. Comcast 55 & Frontier 25 [PEG]

* **Note:** This is just a short list of viewings on our local channels; more are available with other providers.

“Worship Anew” can also be found on the following website - www.worshipanew.org

Minutes of St. John Lutheran Church + Bingen Voters Assembly Meeting

Date and Time: July 8, 2019, 8:00 p.m.

Called to Order by: Chairman Randy Lepper

Devotions: Pastor Peter Brock opened with the Early Evening Daily Prayers from page 297 of the LSB. Hymn 610 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" was sung. The reading was from Philippians, Chapter 4 followed by comments on the passage and a prayer.

Recording Secretary's Report:

The April 29, 2019 Voter's Meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Witte presented the Financial Summary for the six months ending June 30, 2019 (attached). Net contributions to the Salary and Maintenance Fund were \$215,664.46. With expenses of \$326,611.97, the deficit for the first 6 months of 2019 is \$110,672.50. This compares to \$94,003.00, \$94,111.00 and \$66,784.00 in 2018, 2017 and 2016 respectively. Actual expenses were 3.6% under budgeted expenses (\$11,595.03). Jay noted that actual receipts lag our actual expenses by 51.3% and budgeted expenses by 56.6%. Jay explained that the Lutheran Foundation Grant will support 75% of Pastor Maronde's expenses through July 2019 and 50% of the expenses through December 2019. Jay commented that \$4,573.00. were received in Thrivent Choice Funds and \$8,291.15 was received through the E-giving program. Regarding the 2018 deficit of \$66,883.02, Jay reported that contributions of \$61,156.65 were received through June. The leaves a remaining balance of \$5,726.37. Jay stated that in the second quarter of 2019 the annual HAS contribution of \$4,000.00 was made. Also, \$14,776.00 was spent for the repair of the HVAC system. This amount is incorrectly categorized as Parking Lot Repairs in the report. This project is estimated to cost \$22,000.00. Jay noted that \$11,403.18 was spent in the 2nd quarter for Beautification project expenses. Jay commented that seasonal expenses for Utilities and the Lutheran Witness have caused these line items to be over budget. All other line items are within or under budget at this time.

M/S/C To accept the Treasurer's report as corrected

Financial Secretary's Report: Delin Kleine presented his report for the 2nd Quarter ending June 30, 2019 (attached). Delin reviewed the numbers in his report. Delin noted that without considering the 2018 deficit amount, total receipts of \$234,175.41 for the year are very close to the amounts received the 3 previous years.

M/S/C To accept the Financial Secretary's report as presented.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brock presented the membership changes since our last meeting (attached).

There was one Baptism – Brody Jay Fullenkamp on June 23, 2019.

There were nine Confirmations – Henry Martin Kukelhan, Elijah Louis Laurent, Kyle Joseph McBride, Claire Victoria Nelson, Mackenna Jean Saalfrank, Emily Ruth Schwartz, Benjamin Thomas Sprague and Madeline Rose Wilder on May 5, 2019 and Lucas Andrew Schlemmer on June 2, 2019.

There was one affirmation of marriage – Jon and Cayla Fuhrman on May 4, 2019.

There was one marriage – Frank Salerno and Christina Stockman on May 11, 2019.

One member was transferred to her eternal glory – Ruth Linnemeier on June 23, 2019.

M/S/C To transfer in Reverend Donald Sauls, wife Sandy and son Allan C. from Peace - Berne

M/S/C To transfer in John Cameron Mere, wife Katherine Marie and daughter Jacqueline Alice from Zion – Friedheim

M/S/C To transfer in Eric Whalen, wife Jennifer and children Owen, Weston and Colton from Holy Cross, Highlands Ranch, Colorado

As of July 8, 2019 there were 896 souls and 693 communicants.

Pastor reported that Vacation Bible School (VBS) that was held from June 23, 2019 through June 27, 2019 went very well. The on-line registration was very helpful for the planning. There was excellent participation from the teachers at Wyneken in organizing and planning this year's event. Pastor stated two upcoming events are Lutheran Night at the Tin Caps Tailgate Party on July 22, 2019, the first ever St. Peter Immanuel vs. Wyneken Back-to-School BBQ Cook-off on August 10, 2019.

Pastor announced that Christian Education Sunday will be August 11, 2019 in both services. At the services, kindergartners will receive a Student Bible and Luther's Small Catechism, third graders will receive a Lutheran Service Book and sixth graders will receive a Lutheran Study Bible. Also, The Confirmation organizational meeting will be held on August 11, 2019 at 10:30 in the Parish Hall.

Pastor reported that the Youth and parent organization meeting will be held August 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The All Youth Back-to-School Bash is tentatively scheduled for August 18, 2019 at the Pine Lake Water Park. Pastor noted that the Early Bird Bible Class will resume on August 13, 2019 at 6:00 am in the Parish Hall. The Sunday School organization meeting will be on August 18, 2019 at 10:30 in the Parish Hall. Pastor encouraged both women and men to volunteer to be Sunday School teachers.

Pastor Brock, Pastor Dahling and Pastor Yeager will be teaching both the 7th and 8th grade Confirmation classes on a two week rotation basis. New for this year will be that the 7th graders will be taught a bible story based introduction to the Small Catechism.

Pastor reminded the members that Mission Fest II will be September 8, 2019.

Board of Elders' Report:

No Report

Board of Trustees' Report: Andrew Scheumann reported that the sewage pump broke and a new pump was installed. The system was designed to have two pumps installed and alternate pumping. Currently, only one pump is installed. Andrew had a quote of \$2,850.00 to purchase a new pump, \$990.00 to repair the rails the pumps are installed on and \$1,000.00 for miscellaneous repair expenses. Thus, \$4,840.00 will be needed to repair the sewage system as it was designed to operate.

M/S/C To spend up to \$4,840.00 to repair the sewage system as it was designed to operate

Regarding the stone utility drive along the north and east side of the cemetery, Andrew stated that several members have agreed to volunteer their time and equipment.

Andrew noted that the Trustee's are planning on putting mulch around the shrubs, etc. in front of Church. He will place a note in the bulletin asking for volunteers.

Board of Deacons' Report:

No Report

Board of Education serving Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School Association: Randy Lepper announced that the Spring Association meeting will be July 29, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the St. John – Bingen Parish Hall.

Jeff Kiess referred to the report given at the June 17, 2019 Church Council meeting. At the meeting, Pastor Brock reported that Abigail Springer has been contracted for the 1st grade teaching position at Wyneken. Ms. Springer is a lifelong member of Bethlehem – Ossian and an IPFW graduate. Pastor stated that Chad Bauman has accepted the newly created maintenance position.

Board of Education serving the Congregation:

No Report

Board of Stewardship: Tyrone Boenker reported that the Board met this past week to discuss the Treasurer's position after December 31, 2019. Once his current term is over, Jay Witte has stated that he will no longer be serving in the position. Jay discussed that the position has evolved into more than just bookkeeping. The Board is proposing that the position be divided into three parts consisting of the Treasurer, bookkeeper and tax accountant. The bookkeeper would possibly be a contract paid position.

M/ To create the paid contract position of bookkeeper. The person would be appointed by the President and ratified by the Church Council.

The motion died for lack of a second.

After additional discussion, the Church Council and Board of Stewardship will make a written presentation to the Voter's assembly at the October meeting.

A question was asked about the 2018 annual report. Jay Witte explained that the Treasurer's report is now complete and will be audited in the near future. Once that is complete, the annual report can be printed.

Board of Planning:

No Report

Board of Evangelism: Jon Fuhrman reported that as of tonight only approximately 100 families of the approximately 550 families in the congregation have signed up for sittings with Lifetouch, Inc. for the new Church directory. Currently, the scheduled date of July 13, 2019 will be dropped as not enough members have signed up.

Wills Committee:

No Report

Committee for Management and Care of the Farmland in the New Church Building Fund:

Verlin Bulmahn reported that about 6 trees in the marshy areas of the grove from the recent plantings did not survive due to the wet spring.

175th Anniversary Committee:

No Report

Cemetery Committee:

No Report

Lutheran Laymen's League / Lutheran Hour:

No Report

Men's Activities Committee:

No Report

Lutheran Foundation:

No Report

Old Business:

None

New Business:

M/S/C To allow Wyneken to use the St. John – Bingen grove for the St. Peter Immanuel vs. Wyneken Back-to-School BBQ Cook-off on August 10, 2019

M/S/C To Adjourn at 9:26 p.m.
Pastor Brock closed with the Lord's Prayer prayed in unison and the Benediction.

Members Present: 41

Others Present: 0

Respectfully Submitted
Jeffery L. Kiess

