



December

2017

St. John Lutheran Church
 2888 W. Houghton Lake Drive
 Houghton Lake, Michigan 48629

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The View from Here

What Does the Incarnation of Jesus Mean?

We are preparing to celebrate, once again, the Incarnation of Jesus ... or Christmas, the birth of the Christ. The incarnation of Jesus is a powerful Christian doctrine and so, a reality taught in Scripture. The word 'incarnation' is based on a Latin word which means to become flesh. One can describe it as the 'enfleshment' of Jesus, His becoming human. Jesus, truly God, the second person of the Holy Trinity, becoming a human being.

So that's what the word incarnation literally means, but its significance is where we find the power of the term. The significance of the incarnation is huge. It can be summed up by John 3:16, that beautiful and concise summary of the Gospel, or as it has been called: 'The Gospel in a Nutshell': ***"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life"*** (John 3:16 ESV). God loved us so much, He sent Jesus to become human in order to save us.

The Apostle Paul tells us in Philippians, chapter two: ***"Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God something to be grasped ... He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross"*** (Philippians 2:5-9 ESV). Paul goes deeper with that significance of Jesus' humanity in 2 Corinthians 5. He says, ***"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God"*** (2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV). So, we see that Jesus humbled Himself by becoming a human being--but even more than that--He also willingly became sin itself for us. Jesus became human like us, but He lived a perfect life. And upon Him was placed all our sin and imperfection, our faults and failures. Jesus was punished by God the Father in our

place for our sin to save us from the consequences of our guilt, our disobedience, and our brokenness. He was that Sacrifice that saved us when He died on the cross.

The writer of the book of Hebrews summed that up, that sacrifice, when he wrote: ***"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but***



one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15-16 ESV). Hebrews 10 goes on to say that Jesus was the perfect sacrifice. It says, **"We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all"** (Hebrews 10:10 NIV). Those are great verses. They tell the significance of the incarnation of Jesus. It says, **"We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus once for all."**

You see, Jesus became our Substitute. Where we failed, He succeeded. He became like us, but instead of sinning, He lived a perfect life in our place. And, amazingly as the sinless Son of God, all our sin was still placed upon Him and He took the punishment for it. Even more amazingly He rose from the dead and His sacrifice was confirmed as acceptable before God the Father. Now God looks at each one of us, through faith in Jesus Christ, and He sees us perfect because all our sins have been paid for in Him.

The reality is that the incarnation of Jesus changes everything. Without it, we would still be lost eternally. Only God Himself could save us. Only Jesus in the flesh, God in the flesh, could do that. Here we think of St. Paul's words in 1 Corinthians, chapter 15: **"For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive"** (1 Corinthians 15:21-23 ESV). That's why Jesus is sometimes called the "Second Adam." He fixed, repaired and restored what the first Adam broke, so that incarnation shows us the remarkable love of God. He is inviting everyone personally to have faith in the Savior who paid for your sins, who rose from the dead. One day we will even see Him face to face. We will see the wounds that earned our grace, and receive His physical embrace. But in the meantime, He is with us always even to the end of the age. And that's the comfort, isn't it, of which Isaiah wrote: **"Comfort, comfort ye my people"**? He is with us always, even to the end of the age.

God's blessings to you and yours in this holy time and always!

That's the View from Here.

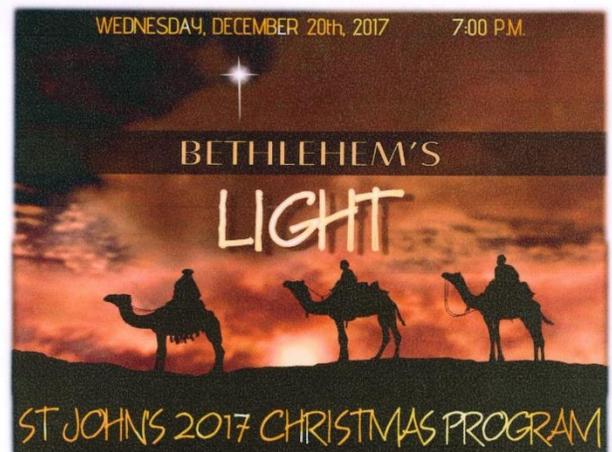
Pastor Winter

Pastor Bill Winter

News From the Branch – KIDZ CHURCH



Join us on Wednesday, December 20, 2016, during the final Midweek Advent Service beginning at 7:00pm for the Children's Christmas Program!



News on Bible Studies . . .



Bible
STUDY
Join us!

Please watch your weekly
News & Notes for
information regarding Bible
Studies for the New Year.



Ladies Bible Study Group:



The Thursday Night Ladies Bible Study Group will start up again in January. We will continue to meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month. We are currently looking into our next adventure. Come join us Thursday, January 11, 2018, to find out where God leads us next!

Those Who Serve...

Please submit names of those you know who are currently serving so we can print an updated, and accurate list for 2018

News From the Elders –

Submitted by Peter Daellenbach and previously published in the News & Notes.

After 23 years of service to our Lord and St. John Lutheran Church, Art Ketelhut has retired as Elder of Zone



7. Erich Springer is the new Elder and will be looking after the people of Zone 7. Erich will be contacting each family to get better acquainted with you. *The Board of Elders.*

News From the Synod for Today's Families -

Waiting and Receiving

December 2017



Ask most parents what they want – truly want – for their children, and you're likely to get one or more of just a handful of answers: "I want my children to be happy," or "It would be great if they were successful in life," or even a simple, "As long as they believe in God, I'm fine."

That's a tall order, though, isn't it? I mean, what is happiness all about, anyway? Who defines "successful," and is that really what is most important in life? What if a child grows up to "believe in God" but is disconnected from the Church, following false teachers, or living in grave sin?

Maybe The Rolling Stones were right: you can't always get what you want.

And sometimes, Scripture just ups the ante, giving us an even longer list of things that we are to be or do. Or at least it seems that way.

Take Titus 2 for example.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works. (Titus 2:11-14)

All we tend to see is that we and our children are to be godly, self-controlled, upright, pure, and zealous. And we do want that for our families, don't we? But once again, it's a tall order. Who can be quite this perfect?

But wait! Take another look. Who is doing the verbs here? Who – ahem – has the active role? Hint: it's not us.

Our Lord is the doer. He appears, brings salvation for all people, trains us to be all of those wonderful things that He would have us be, gives Himself for us, redeems us, purifies us, makes us His own. It's almost as though there's nothing left for us to do! Indeed, in this epistle, for us, there is only waiting and receiving. That is all we are given to do, and it's just enough (see Titus 3:5-7).

We wait "for our blessed hope," for Christ to return and make us perfect once and for all, never again to die or find ourselves separate from Him. And while we wait, God gives us the perfect job to do: to receive.

So we continually receive His Word, His body and blood, and His forgiveness, life, and salvation. After all, this receiving is truly just a down payment on what is to come. We might as well get used to it!

So where do happiness, success, and a generic "belief in God" fit into all of this? Those goals we might have for our children pale in comparison to what our Lord, in Christ, has done, is doing, and will do. What He offers is better than happiness – it's salvation. Who needs success in this life when we are redeemed eternally for life with Him? And more than just a God we believe in, our Lord makes us His own, setting us in a forever relationship with Himself. Now *this* is all truly worth wanting! Together, let's wait and receive, and teach our families to do the same, because Christ has much to give.

Author: Dcs. Jennifer L. Miller

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Midweek Advent Services

We begin our Midweek Advent Services on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, with a fellowship potluck meal followed by Worship. The following two Wednesday nights we invite you to take the night off from cooking and come fellowship with us as we enjoy a Soup Supper provided by the Ladies Aid on

December 13, and Taco Night hosted by Pastor & Judy on December 20. After supper we gather in the sanctuary for special worship services created just for Advent. Come to make some memories and build excitement for the coming of the Christ Child.

*Put on the Light – Dec 6
Many Lights Together – Dec 13
Bethlehem's Light – Dec 20*



THE TIME AND PLACE ARE SECURED! Kirk and Amy Koupal have offered to host a New Year's Eve party following Pastor Winter's final worship service New Year's Eve Service. Worship will be held in the sanctuary beginning at 7:00pm on December 31, 2017, and then the congregation is welcome to bring a dish to share (finger foods and the like, as well as your beverage of choice) and head on over to the Koupals for a night of merry making as we ring in 2018.

As stated last month - This is it, folks. Our ushering out of what will undoubtedly be the longest pastorate in St. John Lutheran Church's

history throughout the coming ages, and the welcoming in of a new year.

Here We Stand ...

Let's pull out the stops!

Bring on the Food, the Drink!

Let the Merry making commence!

Let's gather in fellowship as we face the beginning of a new chapter ... **and go forward!**



Christmas News from ... Martin Luther

This Sermon was given by Dr. Martin Luther on the Afternoon of Christmas Day, December 25, 1530, and is based on Luke 2:1-14.

You have heard today the story from the Gospel of St. Luke of how it came to pass that our Lord Christ was born and then also the message of the angel, who announced who the boy was who was born. Now we shall go on and take up the message of the angel. So for today you have heard only that the child was born and that he is the Lord and Savior. Thus we spoke of the story, how it unfolded, and who the persons in it were. This article is so high that even today it is believed by only a few. Nevertheless, God has preserved it even through those who have not believed it. For at all times in the monasteries and universities there have been disputations and lectures which dealt with the fact that Christ the Lord, born of Mary, is true man and God. But it went no further than saying and hearing it. But this belief is held by the devil too and the Turks and all the godless among Christians, and is the kind of belief which everybody believes that it is true but would not die for it, as Eck and many others show today. If they had as much from Christ and the teaching of the gospel as from the devil, they would also think as much of Christ. The Turk too admits that Christ was born of the Virgin Mary, that Mary was an immaculate virgin, and that Christ was more than a man; but the Word of God, as it is given in the gospel, he denies, and yet I fear that the Turk believes more of this article than does the pope. Therefore it is a high article to believe that this infant, born of Mary, is true God; for nobody's reason can ever accept the fact that he who created heaven and earth and is adored by angels was born of a virgin. That is the article. Nobody believes it except he who also knows this faith, namely, that this child is the Lord and Savior.





But for whom was he born and whose Lord and Savior is he? The angels declare that he was born Lord and Savior. The Turks, the pope, and the scholars say the same thing, but only to the extent that it brings in money and honor. But that anyone could say, "to you is born," as the angel says, this is the faith which we must preach about. But we cannot preach about it as we would like to do. Indeed, who could ever grasp [the full meaning of] these words of the evangelist: "a Savior, who is the Lord," and, "to you"! I know well enough how to talk about it and what to believe about it, just as others do. So there are many who have this belief and do it, just as others do. So there are many who have this belief and do not doubt this first belief that Christ is the Lord, the Savior, and the virgin's Son. This I too have never doubted. But if these words are planted no higher than my thoughts, then they have no firm roots. We are certain that this was proclaimed by the angel, but the firm faith does not follow. For the reason does not understand both sides of this faith, first that Christ is a man, but also the Savior and Lord or King. This needs to be revealed from heaven. One who really has the first faith also has the other.

Who, then, are those to whom this joyful news is to be proclaimed? Those who are faint-hearted and feel the burden of their sins, like the shepherds, to whom the angels proclaim the message, letting the great lords in Jerusalem, who do not accept it, go on sleeping. Beyond the first faith there must be the second faith, that Christ is not only the virgin's Son, but also the Lord of angels and the Savior of men. The words anyone can understand, anti-sacramentarians, fanatics, sectarians, and Turks; but they do not proceed from the heart they come only from hearing and go no farther than hearing. This is not faith, however, but only a memory of what has been heard, that one knows that he has heard it. Nobody ventures upon it, so as to stake goods, life, and honor upon it. And yet we must preach it for the sake of those who are in the multitude to whom the angel preached.

This is our theology, which we preach in order that we may understand what the angel wants. Mary bore the child, took it to her breast and

nursed it, and the Father in heaven has his Son, lying in the manger and the mother's lap. Why did God do all this? Why does Mary guard the child as a mother should? And reason answers: in order that we may make an idol of her, that honor may be paid to the mother. Mary becomes all this without her knowledge and consent, and all the songs and glory and honor are addressed to the mother. And yet the text does not sound forth the honor of the mother, for the angel says, "I bring to you good news of great joy; for to you is born this day the Savior" [Luke 2:10-11]. I am to accept the child and his birth and forget the mother, as far as this is possible, although her part cannot be forgotten, for where there is a birth there must also be a mother. Nevertheless, we dare not put our faith in the mother but only in the fact that the child was born. And the angel desired that we should see nothing but the child which is born, just as the angels themselves, as though they were blind, saw nothing but the child born of the virgin, and desired that all created things should be as nothing compared with this child, that we should see nothing, be it harps, gold, goods, honor, power, and the like which we would prefer before their message. For if I received even the costliest and the best in the world, it still does not have the name of Savior. And if the Turk were ten times stronger than he is, he could not for one moment save me from my infirmity, to say nothing of the peril of death, and even less from the smallest sin or from death itself. In my sin, my death, I must take leave of all created things. No, sun, moon, stars, all creatures, physicians, emperors, kings, wise men and potentates cannot help me. When I die I shall see nothing but black darkness, and yet that light, "To you is born this day the Savior" [Luke 2:11], remains in my eyes and fills all heaven and earth. The Savior will help me when all have forsaken me. And when the heavens and the stars and all creatures stare at me with horrible mien, I see nothing in heaven and earth but this child. So great should that light which declares that he is my Savior become in my eyes that I can say: Mary, you did not bear this child for yourself alone. The child is not yours; you did not bring him forth for yourself, but for me, even though you are his mother, even though you held him in your arms and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and picked him up and laid him down. But I have a greater honor than your honor as his mother. For your

honor pertains to your motherhood of the body of the child, but my honor is this, that you have my treasure, so that I know none, neither men nor angels, who can help me except this child whom you, O Mary, hold in your arms. If a man could put out of his mind all that he is and has except this child, and if for him everything—money, goods, power, or honor—fades into darkness and he despises everything on earth compared with this child, so that heaven with its stars and earth with all its power and all its treasures becomes nothing to him, that man would have the true gain and fruit of this message of the angel. And for us the time must come when suddenly all will be darkness and we shall know nothing but this message of the angel: "I bring to you good news of great joy; for to you is born this day the Savior" [Luke 2:10-11].

This, then, is the faith we preach, of which the Turks and the pope and all the sectarians know nothing. The fanatics do, it is true, snatch to themselves the words of the angels, but how earnest they are is plain to see. For they receive the Word only as a piece of paper, as the cup and corporal receive the body and blood of Christ. The paper does no more than contain something and pass it on to others, but yet it remains paper. Thus you copy something from one paper on another paper; from my tongue the Word sounds in your ear, but it does not go to the heart. So they receive this greatest of treasures to their great harm and still think they are Christians, just as though the paper were to say: I certainly have in me the written words, "to you is born this day the Savior"; therefore I shall be saved. But then the fire comes and burns up the paper.

Therefore this is the chief article, which separates us from all the heathen, that you, O man, may not only learn that Christ, born of the virgin, is the Lord and Savior, but also accept the fact that he is your Lord and Savior, that you may be able to boast in your heart: I hear the Word that sounds from heaven and says: This child who is born of the virgin is not only his mother's son. I have more than the mother's estate; he is more mine than Mary's, for he was born for me, for the angel said, "To you" is born the Savior. Then ought you to say, Amen, I thank thee, dear Lord.

But then reason says: Who knows? I believe that Christ, born of the virgin, is the Lord and Savior and he may perhaps help Peter and Paul, but for me, a sinner, he was not born. But even if you believed that much, it would still not be enough, unless there were added to it the faith that he was born for you. For he was not born merely in order that I should honor the mother, that she should be praised because he was born of the virgin mother. This honor belongs to none except her and it is not to be despised, for the angel said, "Blessed are you among women!" [Luke 1:28]. But it must not be too highly esteemed lest one deny what is written here: "To you is born this day the Savior." He was not merely concerned to be born of a virgin; it was infinitely more than that. It was this, as she herself sings in the Magnificat: "He has helped his servant Israel" [Luke 1:54]; not that he was born of me and my virginity but born for you and for your benefit, not only for my honor.



Take yourself in hand, examine yourself and see whether you are a Christian! If you can sing: The Son, who is proclaimed to be a Lord and Savior, is my Savior; and if you can confirm the message of the angel and say yes to it and believe it in your heart, then your heart will be filled with such assurance and joy and confidence, and you will not worry much about even the costliest and best that this world has to offer. For when I can speak to the virgin from the bottom of my heart and say: O Mary, noble, tender virgin, you have borne a child; this I want more than robes and guldens, yea, more than my body and life; then you are closer to the treasure than everything else in heaven and earth, as Ps. 73 [:25] says, "There is nothing upon earth that I desire besides thee." You see how a person rejoices when he receives a robe or ten guldens. But how many are there who shout and jump for joy when they hear the message of the angel: "To you is born this day the Savior?" Indeed, the majority look upon it as a sermon that must be preached, and when they have heard it, consider it a trifling thing, and go away just as they were before. This shows that we have neither the first nor the second faith. We do not believe that the virgin mother bore a son and that he is the Lord and Savior unless, added to this, I believe the second thing, namely, that he is my Savior and Lord. When I can say: This I accept

as my own, because the angel meant it for me, then, if I believe it in my heart, I shall not fail to love the mother Mary, and even more than child, and especially the Father. For, if it is true that the child was born of the virgin and is mine, then I have no angry God and I must know the feel that there is nothing but laughter and joy in the heart of the Father and no sadness in my heart. For, if what the angel says is true, that he is our Lord and Savior, what can sin do against us? "If God is for us, who is against us?" [Rom. 8:31]. Greater words than these I cannot speak, nor all the angels and even the Holy Spirit, as is sufficiently testified by the beautiful and devout songs that have been made about it. I do not trust myself to express it. I most gladly hear you sing and speak of it, but as long as no joy is there, so long is faith still weak or even nonexistent, and you still do not believe the angel.



You can see what our papists and Junkers, who have chosen innumerable saviors, have felt about this faith. Indeed, the papists still want to retain the mass, the invocation of saints, and their invented works by which we are to be saved. This is as much as to say, I do not believe in the Savior and Lord whom Mary bore; and yet they sing the words of the angel, hold their triple masses [at Christmas] and play their organs. They speak the words with their tongues but their heart has another savior. And the same is true in the monasteries: if you want to be saved, remember to keep the rule and regulations of Francis and you will have a gracious God! And at the Diet of Augsburg they decided to stick to this. In the name of all of the devils, let them stick there! It has been said sufficiently that this Savior lies in the manger. But if there is any other thing that saves me, then I rightly call it my savior. If the sun, moon, and stars save, I can call them saviors. If St. Bartholomew or St. Anthony or a pilgrimage to St. James or good works save, then they surely are my savior. If St. Francis, then he is my savior. But then what is left of the honor of the child who was born this day, whom the angel calls Lord and Savior, and who wants to keep his name, which is Savior and Christ the Lord. If I set up any savior except this child, no

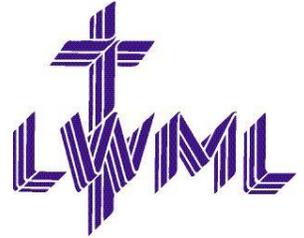
matter who or what it is or is called, then he is not the Savior. But the text says that he is the Savior. And if this is true—and it is the truth—then let everything else go.

One who hears the message of the angel and believes it will be filled with fear, like the shepherds. True, it is too high for me to believe that I should come into this treasure without any merit on my part. And yet, so it must be. In the papacy this message was not preached in the pulpit, and I am afraid that it will disappear again. It was the other message that the devil initiated and has allowed to remain in the papacy. All their hymns are to this effect. Among the Turks the devil

has completely wiped it out. Therefore, remember it, sing it, and learn it, while there is still time! I fear that the time will come when we shall not be allowed to hear, believe, and sing this message in public, and the time has already come when it is no longer understood; though Satan does not allow it to be spoken with the mouth, as the papists do. But when it comes to declaring that he is born for you and to singing:

In dulci júbilo
 Now sing with hearts aglow!
 Our delight and pleasure
 Lies in praesepio
 Like sunshine is our treasure
 Matris in gremio
 Alpha est et O!
 —this he is unwilling to allow.

What we have said, then, has been about that second faith, which is not only to believe in Mary's Son, but rather that he who lies in the virgin's lap is our Savior, that you accept this and give thanks to God, who so loved you that he gave you a Savior who is yours. And for a sign he sent the angel from heaven to proclaim him, in order that nothing else should be preached except that this child is the Savior and far better than heaven and earth. Him, therefore, we should acknowledge and accept; confess him as our Savior in every need, call upon him, and never doubt that he will save us from all misfortune. Amen.



LADIES AID/LWML MEETING - NOVEMBER 2, 2017

Our meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. The hymn for the day - "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" and Pastor based his devotion on 1 John:1:7.

Roll call was taken with 13 members present.

A motion was made by Erma Stevens and seconded by Jan Wilton to accept the October minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report as presented by Erma Stevens shows: beginning balance \$3,985.42, income \$1,246.68, expenses \$472.75, ending balance \$4,759.35, petty cash \$2.70, CEF 3,219.54. Final amounts for rummage sale: rummage \$551.15, bake sale \$438.45, pickles \$205.00, jelly \$24 for a total of \$1218.60.

Happy November birthday to Eleanor Rabideau and Pauline Stroh.

Thank you to our hosts today, Lois Pike and Sylvia Tumath.

OLD BUSINESS

Bake sale - will be held Sunday, December 10. We are hopeful to have multiple bakers. There is a need for many cookies.

NEW BUSINESS

Advent Meals - Wednesday, December 6, is a potluck. Wednesday, December 13, we will be serving soup, and cornbread, Wednesday, December 20, Pastor and Judy will serve tacos.

Advent by Candlelight Service - will be held on Sunday, December 3, at 6:00 P.M.

Thanksgiving Turkey - A motion was made by Ruth Serniuk and seconded by Sonja Springer to purchase ten turkeys for Project Hope (Roscommon County Food Pantry). Motion passed.

Thursday, December 7 - we will have our Christmas party beginning at 12:00 noon, followed by our meeting at 1:00 P.M. Please bring finger foods. Also, we will play Christmas Bingo, and if you would like, bring a white elephant gift for bingo prizes.

A motion was made - by Naomi Mason and seconded by Barb Duwe to give Christmas gifts to our church employees. Motion passed.

LWML

Treasurer's Report - not available.

Bakers - for Sunday, November 19, are Arlene, Erma and Sonja. Thank you to those who baked for October.

Fall Rally - held at St. Paul, Hale was attended by Sylvia and Lois and there were quilts nicely displayed on the backs of the pews.

Quilting - In October there were six quilters and five quilts were put together.

St. John, AuGres, - will hold their Christmas Bazaar on November 18 from 10:00 - 2:00 and will serve cookies and coffee. There will be a raffle for a quilt.

Annual Bethlehem Christmas Breakfast - at Zion Lutheran, Tawas will be held at 9:30 A.M. on December 2. Cost is \$7.00.

We closed our meeting at 1:30 P.M. with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting, our Christmas party, will be held on December 7. Bring finger foods - 12:00 noon. Meeting 1:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Andrews

Minutes subject to approval.



Lutheran Women in Mission

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! (1 Chronicles 16:34)

Christmas Season 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I greet you in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, I wonder, "How many people do not know Christ?" **One way you can share the love of Jesus with others is by your prayers and offerings for LWML Mission Grants.** Your continued support will help missions reach the lost around the world so that they know this season is a season to celebrate Jesus' birth.



1978-1979 JEM Seminary received a \$75,000 grant from LWML to fund the library expansion and books/course materials needed.

As we finish celebrating LWML's 75th Anniversary this December 2017, we reflect on the mission grants impacted with the mites YOU gave over the years and are still in existence today! One such grant recipient is the Jonathan Ekong Memorial Lutheran Seminary (JEM) in Obot Idim, Nigeria. Lutheran Church in Nigeria (LCN) operates the JEM Seminary (named after the late Rev. Dr. Jonathan Udo Ekong, the pioneering father) in Obot Idim and continues to be an important partner for Gospel proclamation, preparing young men for the ministry in the LCN in the most populous country in Africa.

According to the Rev. John A. Fale, Executive Director of the LCMS Office of International Mission,

"the dormitories did and will continue to enable students to get proper rest and maintain focus on their rigorous studies in an environment that is clean and safe."



JEM Seminary received a \$120,000 grant from LWML during the 2015-2017 biennium to renovate the seminary.

Today, JEM Seminary is expected to complete new dormitories for students in July of 2018. In recent years, the student population experienced record highs with 79 students in 2014 and 87 in 2015 compared to 54 students in 2009. It has been a blessing to see your mighty Mites reach the unknowing around the world and create a foundation for Gospel outreach for many years to come. As highlighted in our recent Giving Tuesday materials, your support has a long-reaching impact. From one generation to the next, you can share God's love to the ends of the earth. Prayers and support are needed monthly throughout the biennium in order for LWML to reach the mission goal of \$2,075,000.

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St. John Lutheran Church Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2017

Members Present: President - Jim Mueller
 Vice-President - Jeff Krentz
 Treasurer - Jim French
 Secretary - Monika Pfannes
 Board of Elders - Peter Daellenbach
 Board of Evangelism - Glen Bromm
 Board of Social Welfare - Paul Reda
 Board of Stewardship - Erma Stevens
 Board of Trustees - Marlin Shull
 Spiritual Leadership - Pastor Winter

Absent:
 Mike Michaelson

Guests: Rev. Theodore & Mrs. Linda Voll, Kirk Koupal, Jim Leedy

President Jim Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Pastor opened the meeting with a reading from 2 King 5:1-19 (Healing of Naaman) and a devotion from Edmund Steinley. God will speak through the least likely people at the least likely times. There is a difference between looking for God and finding Him. We need to come to God as a soul in need of His help. That is what He wants from us.

Secretary's Report: After review of the minutes from the October 11, 2017, Board of Directors meeting, a motion was made by Erma Stevens, second by Jeff Krentz, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: After review of the October Treasurer Report, a motion was made by Paul Reda, second by Erma Stevens to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. Erma then made a motion to move ahead with the annual Christmas gifts to the employees of the church as has been done in past years. Second by Marlin Shull. Carried.

Board Reports:

Board of Christian Education: In Mike's absence, Peter Daellenbach reported that a lengthy discussion was held at the last Elder's meeting regarding Sunday School. We will continue with Kidz Church for the younger students, Centershot for the middle elementary, and Pam Joles has agreed to shepherd the older youth.

Board of Elders: Peter Daellenbach reported this week's bulletin will announce that Art Ketelhut will be retiring as Elder after 23 years of service. The new Elder for Zone 7 will be Erich Springer. Monika will place an announcement in both the bulletin and next month's newsletter.

Board of Evangelism: Glen Bromm reported tonight's Community Meal had a lower turnout, 54 people served, than past events. The next meal is being planned for January, 2018.

Board of Stewardship: Erma Stevens would like the church to look into purchasing six (6) or more Large Print Lutheran Service Books for use by those members who find the print of the hymnal in the pew challenging to read. Monika will check into the pricing of the large print hymnals. A motion was made by Erma Stevens, second by Peter Daellenbach, to purchase a minimum of six (6) Pew Edition Large Print Hymnals. Motion carried.

Board of Social Welfare: Paul Reda reported there were three requests for assistance during the past month. We were able to assist, as well as refer for additional assistance, two of these requests. Unable to contact the third request.

Board of Trustees:

Water Softener for Church & Parsonage - Marlin Shull reported we have backed off of this project for now. The water quality in the church and parsonage is good. Our well is 156 feet deep and was drilled in 1995.

Trees - The company called had their equipment break down. The monument marker for the back property line was found and it has been determined that the line of trees is right on the center line. We are holding off on taking those trees down until the owners of the adjoining properties can be contacted. The trees are diseased, with seven trees currently dead. The wood from the trees will be available.

Trash Area - Marlin reported that we have contracted with Republic Waste because the price

was negotiated to a lower amount than Waste Management for a larger dumpster. As a motion was made last month, voted and approved for service to be contracted through Waste Management, a new motion was made by Erma Stevens, second by Paul Reda, that we contract with Republic for a trash dumpster. Motion carried.

Snow Removal - Quote for snow removal has been received from the same company that performed this service last year, *Better Yards*, for the same price as last year. A motion was made by Jeff Krentz, second by Paul Reda, to accept this bid for the 2017-2018 Winter Snow Removal. Motion carried.

Basement Water - Marlin reported that when the sprinkler system was shut off, the leakage into the basement seems to have stopped. Spring will be the earliest time we can verify that the sprinkler system has been the source of our water problem in the basement of the church and parsonage.

Carpet cleaning - The carpet in the fellowship hall and hallway will be done on Thursday, rather than Tuesday of the coming week.

Pastor Winter: Pastor reported that he and Judy would be on vacation in Tennessee for the next two (2) weekends. Mike Michaelson will be delivering the sermon. Pastor also reported that Markey Baptist Church had an incident requiring removal of an individual by authorities. We may want to consider measures to secure our sanctuary during services. This will be discussed under New Business.

Intentional Interim Ministry Program:

- Pastor Winter introduced Rev. Ted Voll and Mrs. Linda Voll. Rev. Voll has been suggested by Dr. Kasper to serve us as the Interim Pastor beginning Jan. 1, 2018. This would be Rev. Voll's fourth IIP call. He currently lives in West Branch. Jim Mueller and Peter Daellenbach spoke with the District office last week. They contacted Rev. Voll and invited him, and his wife, to come to our Community Meal and the Board meeting following as an informal meet and greet opportunity. Jim Mueller, Peter Daellenbach and Jim French will be meeting on November 13, to go over the proposed contract, and a formal negotiation meeting has been set up for Tuesday, Nov. 21. Attendees at that meeting will be Peter Daellenbach, Jim Leedy, Kirk Koupal & Rick Joles from the Elders, and Jim Mueller, Jim French, Erma Stevens and Monika Pfannes from the Board of Directors. Rev. Voll reminded the Board that a vote from the congregation will be required in order to call an Intentional Interim Pastor. The date for this special voter's meeting is to be decided.

Old Business:

- *Church Office Security* - Paul Reda has put together a bid to install a 3' x 2' window, 1 side active with tempered glass and a deadbolt in the church office for \$1100. The cost to install some type of barrier for the door window should be minimal. A motion was made by Peter Daellenbach, second by Jeff Krentz, to authorize up to \$1,500 to upgrade the security in the Church Office with work to be completed by Paul Reda. Motion carried.

New Business:

- *Church Security* - Marlin Shull initiated a discussion regarding safety and security of the congregation during service in wake of the recent events in Texas. He has received information from the insurance company to purchase *Terrorist Coverage* which can be added to our policy for a nominal annual amount. After lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Marlin Shull, second by Paul Reda, that all exterior doors of the church building except the north door by the church office be locked during services. Motion carried. The Elders will take responsibility to make sure the doors are locked and the north entrance is monitored.

Visitor Remarks: None

Correspondence: None received

Miscellaneous: No miscellaneous items were presented.

A motion was made by Jeff Krentz, second by Glen Bromm, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09pm with the Lord's Prayer. Motion carried and meeting was so closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monika Pfannes

Minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting

St. John Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018
Treasurer's Report
Month Ending October 31, 2017

SALARIES

	<u>Previous Balance</u>	<u>Oct 2017</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Pastor's Salary	\$ 13,917.00	\$ 4,717.00	\$ 18,634.00	\$ 27,837.00
Pastor's Housing Subsidy	1,800.00	600.00	2,400.00	3,600.00
Pastor's Retirement & Ins.	7,295.88	2,354.96	9,650.84	15,162.00
Pastor's Social Security	2,130.00	0.00	2,130.00	4,260.00
Car Displacement	1,200.00	400.00	1,600.00	2,400.00
Car Expense	302.56	120.00	422.56	1,000.00
Employees Social Security	583.37	595.15	1,178.52	3,050.00
Organists	1,529.21	509.55	2,038.76	7,980.00
Office Manager	3,794.12	1,732.58	5,526.70	15,860.00
Custodian	2,284.60	1,179.66	3,464.26	9,155.00
Guest Preachers	0.00	0.00	-	1,000.00
Interim Pastor(s)	0.00	0.00	-	25,000.00
Total Salaries	\$ 34,836.74	\$ 12,208.90	\$ 47,045.64	\$ 116,304.00

PROPERTY

Reserve Rd Expense/Improvement	\$ 240.89	\$ 92.68	\$ 333.57	\$ 1,000.00
Equipment Purchases	158.97	0.00	158.97	\$ 3,000.00
Supplies Lawn & Repairs & Snow plowing	1,055.33	624.57	1,679.90	\$ 7,000.00
Electricity	1,228.47	369.45	1,597.92	\$ 5,500.00
Telephone	493.08	168.50	661.58	\$ 2,200.00
Fuel-DTE Gas	762.00	254.00	1,016.00	\$ 4,750.00
Sewer Usage	198.00	198.00	396.00	\$ 800.00
Disposal	287.02	97.12	384.14	\$ 1,050.00
Insurance	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 5,000.00
Total Property	\$ 4,423.76	\$ 1,804.32	\$ 6,228.08	\$ 30,300.00

Charities

Synod's Work	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 9,600.00
T.I.M. (Sri Lanka/Pastor Mahlburg)	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 3,000.00
Lutheran Home & Family Services	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
Social Welfare	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 1,000.00
Community Fund	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 200.00
Lutheran World Relief	0.00	500.00	500.00	\$ 500.00
Katie Conference Endowment Fund	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 200.00
Local Charities	100.00	0.00	100.00	\$ 500.00
Lutheran Hour Ministries	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
Sowers Fund	500.00	0.00	500.00	\$ 500.00
Miscellaneous Charities	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
Veterans of the Cross	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
L.A.M.P.	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
Northern Michigan Children's Assess Ctr	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
Lutherans for Life	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 500.00
Total Charities	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 19,000.00

CHURCH SUPPLIES

Bulletins & Worship Aids	\$ 1,078.91	\$ 578.59	\$ 1,657.50	\$ 4,800.00
Altar Guild	126.92	270.00	396.92	\$ 2,000.00
Postage	147.00	98.00	245.00	\$ 750.00
Office Supplies	894.18	196.85	1,091.03	\$ 5,500.00
Technology Expenses	2,405.42	913.08	3,318.50	\$ 7,000.00
Portals of Prayer	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 900.00
Confirmation Materials	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 600.00
Sunday School & VBS	697.03	0.00	697.03	\$ 3,000.00
Puppet Ministry	110.00	0.00	110.00	\$ 500.00
Praise Team	0.00	0.00	-	\$ 600.00
Total Church Supplies	\$ 5,459.46	\$ 2,056.52	\$ 7,515.98	\$ 25,650.00

St. John Lutheran Church
Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018
Treasurer's Report
Month Ending October 31, 2017

MISCELLANEOUS

	Previous Balance	Oct. 2017	Year to Date	Budget
Conferences	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Evangelism	262.60	61.20	323.80	\$ 1,000.00
Outreach	1,060.18	75.38	1,135.56	\$ 1,500.00
Centershot Ministries	37.85	0.00	37.85	\$ 1,100.00
Coffee & Donuts	400.49	104.38	504.87	\$ 2,400.00
Other Miscellaneous	181.74	353.40	535.14	\$ 4,500.00
Pastor's Retirement Party	7,403.66	154.49	7,558.15	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 9,346.52	\$ 748.85	\$ 10,095.37	\$ 27,500.00

Special Projects

Major Repairs	\$ -	\$ -	0.00	\$ 3,000.00
Total Special Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00

TOTALS - MONTH / YEAR TO DATE / BUDGET

\$ 57,066.48	\$ 18,118.59	\$ 75,185.07	\$ 221,754.00
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INCOME SUMMARY

Worship Services	\$ 52,478.63	\$ 19,483.26	\$ 71,961.89	Income / Expense Comparison Current Month \$2,219.98 Year To Date \$1,442.18
Coffee & Donuts	366.94	157.57	524.51	
Interest	0.75	0.00	0.75	
Donations	67.00	325.00	392.00	
Miscellaneous	491.00	372.74	863.74	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 53,404.32	\$ 20,338.57	\$ 73,742.89	

CHECKING ACCOUNT

	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance
General Fund	\$ 5,454.16	\$ 20,338.57	\$ 18,118.59	\$ 7,674.14

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance
General Fund Savings	\$ 78,897.60	\$ 12.01		\$ 78,909.61
Teddy Bear Fund	2,881.98	0.35	400.00	\$ 2,482.33
Improvement Fund	5,299.98	75.65		\$ 5,375.63
Memorial Fund	8,294.02	101.02		\$ 8,395.04
Univ/Sem Ed Fund	2,388.16	0.29		\$ 2,388.45
Youth Fund	5,060.43	2.95		\$ 5,063.38
Bell Choir Fund	2,313.40	0.28		\$ 2,313.68
Flower Fund	88.48	0.01		\$ 88.49
Parsonage	26,201.00	3.21	66.00	\$ 26,138.21
School Bldg. Fund	2,170.56	0.27		\$ 2,170.83
Thrivent Choice Funds	4,053.03	296.50		\$ 4,349.53
Choir Fund	552.40	0.31		\$ 552.71
Kidz Church/VBS	159.97	0.02		\$ 159.99
Together In Mission (T.I.M.)	1,780.53	75.22		\$ 1,855.75
Praise Team Fund	180.43	0.02		\$ 180.45
Centershot Ministries	842.38	0.10		\$ 842.48
Outreach Team	937.65	0.11		\$ 937.76
Building Fund	6,034.64	0.74		\$ 6,035.38

	Previous Balance	Income	Expenditures	Balance
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 1,421.84	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,421.84
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 16,514.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,514.50
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 23,953.49	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,953.49
CEF - One Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 50,244.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,244.40
CEF - Two Year Fixed Rate Note	\$ 49,669.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,669.75
Credit Union Savings Account	\$ 2,115.79	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,115.79
Church Extension Fund-One Year Fixed Rate Note				\$ 23,657.14
CEF 24 Month Step-up Note				\$ 46,012.28
Credit Union Savings Account				\$ 2,112.02
2 Year Fixed Rate Note				\$ 48,928.19

December 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Birthdays and Anniversary Celebrations!!	4 Ricky Joles Gloria Owaski	5 Debra Tate	6 Nicole Outman Erich Springer	7	8 Nicole Outman Erich Springer	9 Cooper Friend Fred & Kay Kleinfert - 45
10	11 Lynn Tate	12 William Janner Jim & Pat Zabel -54 yrs	13	14	15 Brittany Manifold Richard Mitchell Bill & Janet Wilton - 55 yrs	16 Sarah Bromm
17 Ruth Serniuk	18 Amber Hawkins	19 Roxel Petras Jim & Karen Kruparsky-37 yrs	20	21 Aaron Palmerton	22 Jim & Mona Previch - 61 yrs	23 Nicholas Peer
24 Carol Newman	25 Beverly Cole	26	27	28	29 Melinda Nagy Dave Rickwalt Josephine Wolf George & Alice Mandley - 50	30
31						

December 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Midweek Service Sermon Topics Dec. 6 – <i>Put on the Light</i> Dec. 13 – <i>Many Lights Together</i> Dec. 20 – <i>Children's Program</i>	 4 Watching & Waiting 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine with HC 6:00 pm – <i>Carols and Candles</i>	5 10a - AA	6 9a - Trustees 5:30 Advent Supper 7p-Midweek Service	7 12:00 - Ladies Aid/LWML 4:00 - Jr Confirmation 5:30 – TOPS 7 - Elders	1 10 - AA 1pm – Decorating the Church	2 10 - AA 1pm – Decorating the Church
3 Watching & Waiting 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine with HC 6:00 pm – <i>Carols and Candles</i>	4 Watching & Waiting 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine with HC 6:00 pm – <i>Carols and Candles</i>	5 10a - AA	6 9a - Trustees 5:30 Advent Supper 7p-Midweek Service	7 12:00 - Ladies Aid/LWML 4:00 - Jr Confirmation 5:30 – TOPS 7 - Elders	8 10 - AA	9 10 - AA
10 We Need Something Stronger ONE SERVICE 9:30 - Divine with HC SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING FOLLOWING SERVICE <i>Ladies Aid Bake Sale</i>	11 Special VOTERS' MEETING	12 10a - AA	13 9 - Trustees 5:30 Advent Supper 7p-Midweek Service 8p - Board Meeting	14 4:00 - Jr Confirmation 5:30 - TOPS	15 10 - AA	16 10 - AA
17 Living Grateful Lives 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine with HC Brunch following service Confirmation	19 10a - AA	20 5:30 Advent Supper 7p-Midweek Service Children's Christmas Program	21 5:30 - TOPS	22 10 - AA NewsLetter DEADLINE	23 10 - AA	29 10 - AA
24 According to Your Word 8a - Blended with HC 9:30 - Divine 7:00 – Christmas Eve Srv "The Gift in the Manger"	25 9:30 Service with HC "Life Light" Christmas	26 10a - AA	27 11:30a - Trustees	28 5:30 - TOPS	30 10 - AA	31 A Lamb Takes Your Place 8a - Blended 9:30 - Divine with HC 7:00 – New Year's Eve Srv With Communion "What's Your Resolution?"

The missionary prayer letter of
Tim and Beth Heiney

[View this email in your browser](#)



November 30, 2017

Dear Friends,



Whew! Just made the end of November!

Read all about the exciting team that just visited from MOST Ministries. There's also a link to a photo album below the link to the newsletter. Enjoy! 545 pairs of glasses were given out in less than a week, and how grateful people were. One woman in Conakry told me that getting glasses at the doctor can cost sometimes \$50. She almost fainted when I told her I didn't want any money. Thanks to all involved, and to MOST Ministries for sending out this brave team!

Don't miss past newsletters!

[May 2017](#)

[Summer 2017](#)

[August 2017](#)

[September 2017](#)

[October 2017](#)

For More Information on Us:

[Tim and Beth Heiney](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

For More Information on the

Maninka People:

[The Maninka of Guinea](#)

To support our work in



Since we were in Conakry we were able to pick up a small turkey for Thanksgiving this year (usually it's chicken!) We spent the day with fellow workers about 2 hours away and had a lovely time!

SERVING THE LORD IN

SRI LANKA

NEWS FROM THE MAHLBURG FAMILY

November/December
2017

smahlburg@yahoo.com



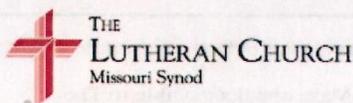
ALL SAINTS ON A TEA PLANTATION

On November 4, our whole family was privileged to All Saints' Day with the saints of Christ Lutheran Church in Dunsinane. This was on a tea plantation in the upcountry of Sri Lanka.

Rev. Arulchelvan is the pastor of this congregation along with two other congregations. He is one of four pastors in the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church and must travel around to serve the people scattered through his areas of the upcountry.

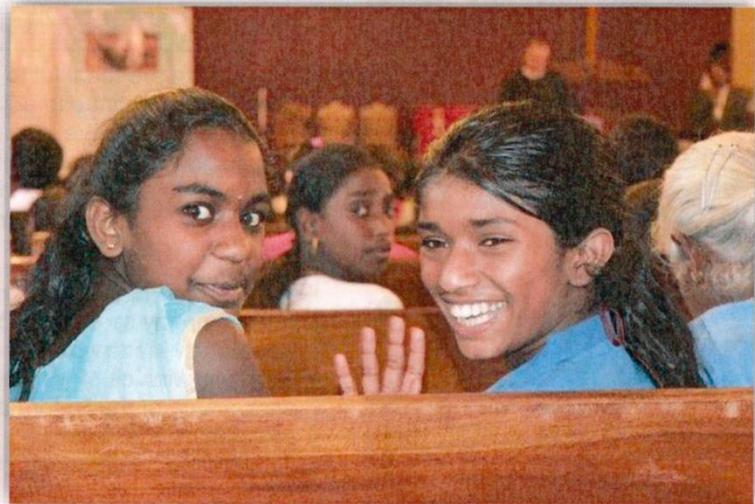
The building is a small, humble structure in need of some repair. There is no plumbing, but they do have electricity. Of course, they don't come to church for physical comfort, but to receive the gifts of Jesus in Word and Sacrament.

We also celebrated Angle's second birthday after the service. What a joy to see the children brought to God's house and raised in the Christian faith.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to newsletter@mahlnews.com with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Psalms 46:11

Lutherans around the world celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sri Lanka rejoiced in the clear proclamation of salvation in Christ alone by grace alone through faith alone. The churches and mission stations gathered together in Nuwara Eiliya on November 3rd to give thanks to God and learn more about the Reformation and why it is important today.



I was privileged to speak about one of the great blessings which resulted from the Reformation, namely, Luther's Small Catechism. The Small Catechism is an important tool to pass along the basic teachings of the Bible to our children. This is how the head of the family should teach in a simple way, so that the next generation will know and believe that our Christian faith is still all about Jesus.





PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *Guidance from the Holy Spirit to carry out the Father's will of proclaiming the Son, who died and rose for all.*
- *For patience in learning languages and adjusting to the culture.*
- *For health as our bodies adjust to our new environment.*

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *The Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC).*
- *The faithful pastors, vicars, and people of the CELC.*

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- *The work of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel.*
- *The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage us and support us.*

CONSIDER:

- *Adding us to your congregation's mission budget as a Together in Mission partner (Call 888-930-4438 for details).*
- *Ongoing prayers and financial support as a family or individual.*

Family News



We are thankful to God for the opportunity to serve the Lord in Sri Lanka. We continue to adjust to life here and seek the Lord's help and guidance through the ups and downs. We missed celebrating Thanksgiving with our families in the states, but the Lord provides. We were able to enjoy gathering for a Thanksgiving meal with the other missionary families and two teachers who came to teach music during their Thanksgiving break.

Martha, Autumn, and Liberty have been playing their instruments to accompany special services along with another missionary Monica Naumann. Martha plays bassoon, Autumn plays violin, Liberty plays flute, and Monica plays piano and clarinet. They played for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation service, and will play for the Christmas program.

Please Consider a Year End Gift:

As the year comes to an end, please pray about contributing a special year end gift to help us continue serving God's people in Sri Lanka.

We thank all of you for partnering with us through prayer and financial support. Your prayers are an encouragement to our work and your generous support allows us to share the Good News to the people here. Please prayerfully consider supporting us for another year. Thank you for sending us and making it possible for us to share the message of our crucified and risen Lord with those in Sri Lanka.

*In His Service,
Steven & Martha,
Autumn, Liberty, Skye, Rose, and
Duncan*

SOCIAL MEDIA

Blog: MissionSriLanka.wordpress.com

Twitter: twitter.com/MahlburgMission

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/missionSriLanka



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Steven Mahlburg, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Mahlburg-Sri Lanka". Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/Mahlburg.

2017 Advent Program

*Carols and
Candles*



St. John Lutheran Church
December 3, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Refreshments following the program

December



Coming Attractions....

(Times can be found on the Calendar)

- Dec 06 – Outreach Meeting
- Dec 06 – Potluck Supper and Midweek Advent Service #1
- Dec 07 – Ladies Aid Meeting
- Dec 07 – Elders Meeting
- Dec 10 – One Worship Service with Special Voter’s Meeting to follow
- Dec 13 – Soup Supper and Midweek Advent Service #2
- Dec 13 – Board of Directors Meeting
- Dec 17 – Confirmation Sunday with Brunch to follow
- Dec 20 – Taco Supper and Children’s Christmas Program
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Worship Service
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day Worship Service
- Dec 25 – Church Office will be Closed
- Dec 31 – New Year’s Eve Worship Service
- Dec 31 – Ushering in the New Year at the Koupals
- January 1, 2018 – Church Office Closed for Holiday

