

WHEN TO CALL YOUR PASTOR

Most people are familiar with the jokes about a pastor's schedule...that he only has to work one day a week and, therefore, he has it pretty easy Monday – Saturday! In reality, most people don't believe the joke. My experience is that people believe the opposite to be more true: that the pastor is so busy that he should not be bothered. I know this because many people with whom I interact, either in person or on the phone, comment, "Oh, Pastor, I know you're so busy..." or "I hate to bother you..."

Here's the truth about my schedule (*and most pastors I know*): it's flexible! A pastor's schedule must be responsive to the needs of the people he is called to serve. Yes, it's true my schedule can easily get filled with visits, meetings, phone calls/e-mails, on top of the time that must be devoted to prayer, study, worship & sermon planning. I also have a spouse and children. Nevertheless, I am your pastor 24 hours a day, 7 days week. So don't be afraid to call me, especially when you need a pastor!

Here's a helpful reminder for you concerning specific situations when you should call your pastor:

AT THE TIME OF HOSPITALIZATION.

The days are long gone when the hospitals will call the church to let us know you're in the hospital. If you want the pastor to visit, don't assume he knows you're there,

even if you told some of your friends from church. Call him! Some people are anxious about the pastor visiting when they're not looking their best. Don't be concerned! Your pastor wants to bring the comfort of God's Word to you when you need it most. One old German word for pastor is "seelsorger", which translated means "**curer of souls.**" The medicine of God's Word and Sacrament is needed when a person is sick just as much as the medicine & therapy that comes from physicians and nurses.

AT THE TIME OF DEATH OF A LOVED ONE.

It is preferable, if at all possible, that you call the pastor before death occurs. Your pastor has words of comfort for the dying person as well as for family members confronted by the reality of death. Your pastor also can be a resource to help you navigate the steps that need to be followed following death (*calling the hospice nurse, the funeral director, etc.*).

DURING TIMES OF MEDICAL TESTING OR WHEN A DIFFICULT DIAGNOSIS IS RECEIVED.

It can be difficult to face the uncertainty of waiting for test results or coping with an unpleasant diagnosis. Your pastor wants to pray with you and for you to help you cast your cares upon the Lord and trust in His faithfulness to endure.

YOU KNOW YOU WILL BE ABSENT FROM WORSHIP FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME.

(Continued on page 2)

The GOOD NEWS Gazette Double Issue

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
910 S. St. Augustine Street
Pulaski, WI 54162
✠
(920) 822-3511
www.stjohnpulaskiwi.org

(Continued from page 1)

Sometimes people can't get to church because of illness, frailty, weather, or other job-related issues. Whatever the reason, don't be afraid to call your pastor. He can come right to your home and bring you God's gifts with a brief service of Scripture and the Sacrament.

YOU ARE EXPERIENCING MARITAL, FAMILY, OR RELATIONSHIP DIFFICULTIES.

If your marriage is struggling, or if you are struggling as a parent, or if difficult family circumstances emerge, your pastor is trained to apply God's Word to the different situations that come up as sinful people live and / or interact with one another. Such difficulties could include: unemployment, imprisonment, addiction, abuse, mental health, etc. A pastor is a "safe" person to speak to, but he is not a professionally trained therapist. His wisdom and counsel is only from the Word of God. He may even suggest that you seek professional help. Remember also, your pastor prays for you and your family and you can enlist his prayers!

AT PREGNANCY AND THE BIRTH OF A CHILD.

Your pastor will not ask you if you are pregnant! Please let your pastor know so he can pray for you and your unborn child. Likewise, when the child is born, inform the pastor so that he can visit and bless the child and make arrangements for baptism. If, God forbid, there are complications at the birth of a child, call your pastor. He can come perform an emergency baptism.

YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT BECOMING ENGAGED / BECOME ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED.

Your pastor should be one of the people that you seek guidance from as you make such an important life decision. Certainly, the pastor should be consulted before you select a wedding date! A Christian marriage needs to be rooted and grounded in God's Word and Christ's love. Your pastor will meet with an engaged couple for pre-marriage instruction.

YOU HAVE SPIRITUAL STRUGGLES OR QUESTIONS.

Questions often come up about the faith that you may not know how to answer. Don't be afraid to talk with your pastor about them. Most pastors love to discuss God's Word and help people grow in their understanding of it.

YOUR CONSCIENCE IS TROUBLED BY SIN & YOU DESIRE THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND GRACE.

Let's face it, even faithful church members sin. However, God does not leave you alone to struggle with temptation and guilt. The devil loves to use such opportunities to lead even Christians to despair. God invites you to confess your

RENOVATION FUND **HELP OUR THEROMETER GROW!**

To complete the work of an overhaul of the church sanctuary and the fellowship hall, as well as new carpeting in the hallways, main office, and coat room we need to raise \$80,000.

As of the May 22nd, the Renovation Fund was at \$68,079. We are currently \$11,921 shy from what we need.

Work will begin on Sunday, June 5th.

A detailed schedule of work to be done, days, and hours is currently listed on the bulletin board in the narthex. It is subject to change.



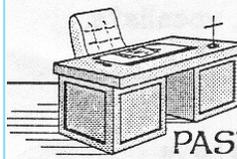
sin and receive forgiveness for Christ's sake. You can go to your pastor for "Individual Confession & Absolution" knowing for certain that he will not reveal what is confessed, neither will he judge you. He will speak God's Word to you so that you will leave knowing "as far as the east is from the west so have your transgressions been removed".

YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE WHO WANTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FAITH IN CHRIST.

One way of spreading the Gospel is to invite people to come and see. Don't be afraid to invite your friends to speak to your pastor, especially if they have questions that you don't know how to answer!

Please feel free to contact me at any time. I am available to meet you at home, for lunch or a cup of coffee, or in my study at church. You can call me at church, on my cell phone, or send me an email!

Serving you in Jesus' Name,



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

Pastor Jerry Miller

Support St. John when you shop Amazon!

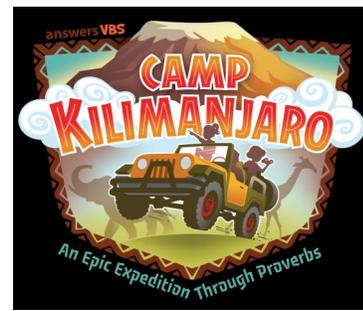
That's right! When you shop online why not help support the church in the process? All you need to do is shop at AmazonSmile.

AmazonSmile is operated by Amazon which lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Now you can select Saint John Pulaski! On your first visit to smile.amazon.com type in the pick your own charitable organization box to search for "*Saint John Pulaski*". Select the church to receive donations from your eligible purchases before you begin shopping.

Amazon will remember your selection, then every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation to the church.



Online Readers: to shop using AmazonSmile selecting St. John, click on the picture above now.



Vacation Bible School (VBS) is approaching fast

This year it will be on August 1-4 (Monday-Thursday) from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Join us for an epic expedition through the book of Proverbs at Camp Kilimanjaro VBS!

At this time we are asking you to:

REGISTER THE CHILDREN:

Registration forms available on the table in the Narthex.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP:

The major volunteer leadership roles are filled, yet we are actively searching for more people to help with directing the groups of children, and assisting with games, crafts, snacks, music, etc.

This is an event where you can actively use the gift(s) God has given you to be of service to Him and His people.

Jambo! Welcome to *Camp Kilimanjaro*!

Every day, our kids are faced with choices about who to listen to, who their hearts worship, how to speak to and about others whether to work diligently at school or home, and who to hang out with. Will they choose wisely or foolishly? Will they base their decisions on the wisdom of the world or the wisdom that comes from above?

At *Camp Kilimanjaro*, kids will go on an amazing adventure while learning that true wisdom comes only from the one true all-wise God, who wants us to be wise! As you safari up Mount Kilimanjaro, your hikers won't want to miss even one minute of the day!

Set your compasses for Africa and prepare for an epic expedition at *Camp Kilimanjaro*, VBS!

Register Your Child Today:

Registration forms are available on the table in the Narthex or you may contact the Church @ (920) 822-3511,

Adult Helpers Also Needed

QUESTIONS:

Jeff Johnson (920) 660-9557 or jjohnso66@gmail.com
Dana Brandt (920) 676-4797 or dbrandt@netnet.net



Monday, August 1st - Thursday, August 4th

Help support our congregation
through Thrivent Choice®.

 Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®

St. John's ~ Elder's Corner

ST. JOHN BOARD OF ELDERS

PLEASE FEEL FREE

TO CALL ANY ELDER:

Families by last names
& their assigned Elder

- ✠ **Aprill—Carlson**
Elder: Neal Sharkey
713-6493 Box 132
- ✠ **Christensen—Heagle**
Elder: David P. Schmidt
432-0349 Box 268
- ✠ **Heckmann—Lambert**
Elder: Jeff Stachura
639-5041 Box 253

✠ **Lancour—Natzke**
Elder: Larry Slaght
822-3532 Box 423

✠ **Nelson—Schenk**
Elder: ~Vacant~

✠ **Schlender—Ullmer, B.**
Elder: Gene Schroeder
822-8591 Box 434

✠ **Ullmer, T. — Zankle**
Elder: Mike Stone
819-8845 Box 227

HEAD ELDER:
GENE SCHROEDER

ST. JOHN ELDERS — HERE TO SERVE YOU!

What is an elder & what should our congregation expect of its elders? Elders assist the pastor in matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the congregation, public worship, Christian discipline and restoration. Elders serve all members of the congregation. In order to perform such services, they concern themselves with the spiritual growth and well being of St. John's members through prayer and individual contacts.

Do you have a spiritual concern? In need of prayer or someone to listen to your concern? Contact one of the elders today! We are here to serve you; showing the love, mercy, and peace of Jesus to those in need.
(See James 5:13-16)



THE ELDERS' CORNER

'FLAG FOLDING CEREMONY'

This month's Elders' Corner Piece focuses on the folding of the American Flag. While this article may not be entirely factual on what each fold represents, it does serve as a good reminder of our Lord and those who serve not only Him, but also one another by their service to our nation in the Armed Forces.

The flag folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing the states our veterans served in uniform. The canon field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted when draped as a pall on a casket of a veteran who has served our country in uniform.

In the Armed Forces of the United States, at the ceremony of retreat the flag is lowered, folded in a triangle fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead. The next morning it is brought out and, at the ceremony of reveille, run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body.

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain a peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "*Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.*"

The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation,

under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the ones who entered in to the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who made this country great have been molded.

The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were born.

The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "*In God We Trust.*"

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

The Meaning of Flag Folds





STEWARDSHIP

MAXIMIZING GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR HIS GLORY

LOVE MEANS SACRIFICE!

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son” ^{John 3:16} “God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” ^{Romans 5:8} “I am the good Shepherd. The good Shepherd lays His life down for the sheep” ^{John 10:11}. Love means sacrifice. Sacrifice means a humbling of oneself for the good of another. And this is what the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ teaches us: Love means sacrifice.

We love our families. And we love them by sacrificing ourselves for them. We put their needs before our own. We sacrifice our own wants and desires for their good and for their needs.

We love our country. And we love it by pledging our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor to defend her. We ask not what our country can do for us, but what we can do for our country. We make sacrifices for our country's good and we do it because we love her.

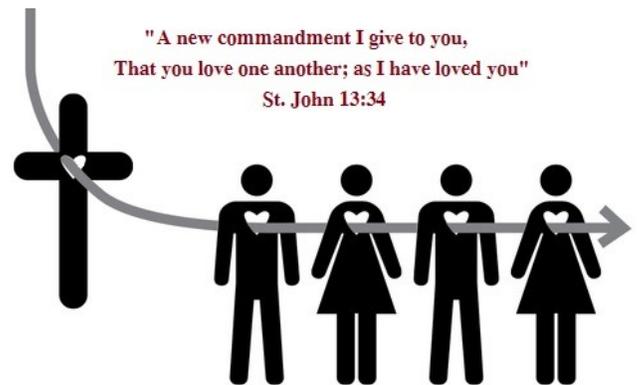
We love our church. And we love our church by giving of ourselves, by sacrificing our time, talents, and treasures in service to it. We volunteer to teach Sunday School, VBS, and other various boards. We help out cleaning and fixing what needs to be cleaned and fixed at the church property. And we give a portion of the income God has given us, so that the lights will go on, and the heat and air conditioning may run; so that a pastor will preach to us both law and Gospel and administer baptism and the Lord's Supper; so that the Word will go forth into all the world through the missionaries we call and send out.

God has called us into these three spheres of family, country, and church. He puts the solitary into a home. No one is an island unto himself. Everyone is put into a family, a country, and a church. In these spheres, God cares for all our needs of body and soul. He employs other members of these spheres to ensure that we have everything we need for this body and life and for the next.

These callings place a claim upon us, a claim upon our presence, our prayers, our time, talents, and treasures. They give us a duty. That duty is to love. And love means

sacrifice. And sacrifice means that we humble ourselves for the good of another.

So then, “let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another” ^{1 John 4:7-11}. And love means sacrifice.



2016 FINANCE REPORT

In an effort to provide more communication regarding the church's financial position, a

monthly report will be provided in the newsletter to indicate the year-to-date budget versus the year-to-date (YTD) actual amounts for both contributions and expenses. The information reported in the newsletter will be for the most recent fully completed month.



FOR THE MONTH ENDING APRIL 2016

YTD Contributions- Actual	\$ 74,651.06
YTD Expenses- Actual	\$ 66,882.21
YTD Difference	\$ 7,768.85

~ Questions or Concerns ~

Contact our Church Treasurer, Krista Brassfield

To meet our projected expenses for this year the Voters' Assembly passed in December the **2016 budget — \$228,975**



FOCUS[®] ON THE FAMILY

Answering Parents' Questions on Gender Confusion in Children

The following article was taken from 'Focus on the Family' and written by Glenn Stanton

At the news of every child's birth, what is the first question we ask about the baby — even before we ask if the baby is healthy? *We want to know if it's a boy or girl!*

Knowing the sex of the child is the first way we seek to connect with and understand the new human being. To be human is to be gendered — male or female. And one of the most important jobs of a parent is to help their children develop as healthy boys or girls and into strong, confident men and women.

Here are answers to some of the biggest questions parents have about gender issues with their children:

Is it normal and healthy for young children to participate in cross-sex behavior?

Of course! The whole world of a child is exploration. The role of the parent is to make sure their children explore and learn about their world in safe and directed ways. My son has four sisters, and when he was very small he loved to play dress up with his sisters, even in their own dresses and sparkly shoes. This is fine at 2 years old. Not so much at 8 years old! It is important for parents to not overreact to such behavior but to slowly guide it in gender-proper directions. That is how kids learn.

Remember, most little boys and girls have never been men or women before, and they need both mother and father to show them what being one is like, as well as what it is not!

Is "tomboy" behavior in girls just as concerning as "sissy-girl" behavior in boys?

There are important differences here. Tomboy behavior in girls is more prevalent and often more short-lived than distinct feminine behavior in boys.

It is more important for parents to lovingly, calmly but confidently steer fem-boys into more masculine directions. Make sure you find masculine things your boy is interested and can find identification in. All boys need to be intentionally welcomed into the world of men, and both mother and father play a key role here. Girls, likewise, need to be introduced into the world of women.

It is also important for parents to recognize that "tomboy" girls are much less likely to be teased for various reasons than "sissy" boys. Of course, teasing is always wrong, but parents must be aware of what things are more likely to attract harsh teasing and steer their children away from it.

What about boys or girls who display strong cross-sex behavior in pre-adolescence?

There are some children who, as they grow, will demonstrate stronger cross-sex behavior. Some of these boys will be obsessed with mermaids, frilly girl things and long hair. It is important for parents and extended family to look not just at the child, but the family system itself. Such behavior is typically a curious indicator of deeper problems within the family.

Dr. Kenneth Zucker, one of the world's leading authorities on gender confusion in children, calls this dynamic "family noise" which he explains as unhealthy relationships between mother and father, parents and child, as well as sibling to sibling. He says allowing a boy to live as a girl might solve the immediate anxiety of such a child, but it would ignore the larger problem driving such desire, and it fails to serve the child and the family.

Is it true that cross-sex behavior & transgenderism in children have a biological root in the brain?

In a word, no!

New developments in brain research indicate that the human brain develops with distinct male and female characteristics, but there is no data showing this drives cross-gender behavior.

- A 2014 book for clinicians, *Treating Transgender Children and Adolescents*, explains, in academic parlance, "No unequivocal etiological factor [i.e. causal root] determining atypical gender development has been found to date." Translation: We're just not sure what causes it.

These Dutch authors explain that both brain and

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

genetic factors could be contributors to gender dysphoria, but caution "this research is still very limited and the findings are sometimes inconsistent." Although, "With the current state of knowledge, it remains most plausible that a complex interaction between a biological disposition in combination with intra- and interpersonal factors" are contributors."¹

- Dr. Zucker explains, "Gender dysphoria (confusion) is increasingly understood [by some] ...as having biological origins [in] small parts of the brain. In terms of empirical data, this is not true. It is just dogma." ²
- Professor Eric Vilain, a UCLA geneticist specializing in sexual development, recently explained to the Atlantic Monthly that, "there is no evidence of biological influence on transsexualism yet." If we ever do find some hard-wired biological component for gender identity, he says, "my hunch is, it's going to be mild."³ He indicates that family factors play a key role.

What is the best course for helping children who are gender confused?

It should be remembered that very few children who demonstrate gender confused behavior continue to do so in their later teen years or early adulthood. Most grow out of it and learn to live well in their masculinity or femininity. This fact also speaks against a biological foundation.

It is critical that both mother and father work together to provide loving but intentional direction. For boys, the mother should be the one to "push" the child from feminine behavior, and the father should "pull" the boy toward more masculine play and interests. One of the worst things is for dad to "shame" the boy for girl-like behavior. He should always work to welcome his son into the curious world of men. That is how healthy masculine identity happens.

Harvard professor Jerome Kagan has spent four decades studying such children and he finds that parenting style is critical for helping children move out of gender confusion. Kagan says parents who are particularly affirming of their children's cross-sex identification ultimately have the worst outcomes in child health and well-being.⁴

With children showing opposite-sex tendencies, mothers should deeply and carefully guard against overprotection and coddling, while fathers should guard against shaming and nagging.

Again, mothers should become the pushers away from gender-discordant behavior and fathers the gentle pullers toward healthy gender-aligned attitudes and behaviors.

(NOTE: Referrals to Web sites not produced by Focus on the Family are for informational purposes only and does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of the sites' content.)
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1. Annelou L. C. de Vries and Peggy T. Cohen-Kettenis, "Clinical Management of Gender Dysphoria in Children and Adolescents: The Dutch Approach" in *Treating Transgender Children and Adolescents: An Interdisciplinary Discussion*, Jack Drescher and William Byne, (eds.) (Routledge, 2014), p. 10, 11. ←
 2. Quoted in Hannah Rosin, "A Boy's Life," *Atlantic Monthly*, November 2008, p. 67. ←
 3. Quoted in Hannah Rosin, "A Boy's Life," *Atlantic Monthly*, November 2008 ←
 4. Leonard Sax, M.D. Ph.D., *Why Gender Matters*, (New York: Doubleday, 2005), p. 227. ←
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**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
THOSE IN NEED ESPECIALLY...**

SICK, ILL, OR REQUESTED PRAYERS:

Arlin Johnson, Zach Kolzow, Herman Rhode, Larry Yaw
(Pastor's Grandpa), Ed Verville

SPECIAL REQUEST:

Youth Group attending the National Youth Gathering:
Amy Dyer, Jean Kohlmeyer, Rylie Kohlmeyer,
Aryan Brunette, Michelle 'ChaChi' Wood

OUR SHUT-INS:

Dewey & Shirley Folkman, Bob Hubbard
Gladys Nelson, Gen Wilke

OUR MISSIONARIES:

Pastor James May & family and the work
of Lutherans in Africa.

Phil's Friends & their cancer support.

Pulaski Food Pantry and the many local families
touched by their care.

Peru Mission Team:

Lynn Aprill, Amy Dyer,
Linda Jicha, Pastor & Heidi Yaw



BOARD OF EVANGELISM

*To inspire the congregation to reach out through
God's love, to serve the community,
and to bring people to Christ.*

VACANT SEAT

We are currently seeking an individual who has a
heart for the Lord and a love for others to fill our
Board of Evangelism spot. This individual works
with pastor and the congregation in carrying out the
Gospel in word and deed through various activities.

If you want to learn more or you are willing to use
your God given abilities in service to other, please
see Pastor Yaw or Rick Cricks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH BLOCK PARTY – DATE TO BE DETERMINED

Join us in helping plan this wonderful annual church
event. If you would like to be a part of the planning
team contact Pastor Yaw. Fresh ideas always
welcomed.

THE BACK PEW - JEFF LARSON



A Church Tradition!!

<http://thebackpew.com>

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATORY CLASS



Parents & youth interested in
receiving First Communion and
going through a preparatory class
need to speak with Pastor Yaw.

Mid-July Pastor will be offering a
week day class that will cover the Lord's Supper (i.e.
Holy Communion). This class is a requirement for
those interested in First Communion. You must sign
up ahead of time to attend this class. Additional
information will be available on the church website
and Sunday bulletin in June.

To receive 'First Communion' prior to Confirmation
youth need to attend this class in addition to
knowing the 10 Commandments, the Lord's Prayer,
and the Apostles' Creed; as well as be examined by
the pastor.



CONFIRMATION RETREAT

**SUNDAY, AUG. 14TH –
TUESDAY, AUG. 16TH**

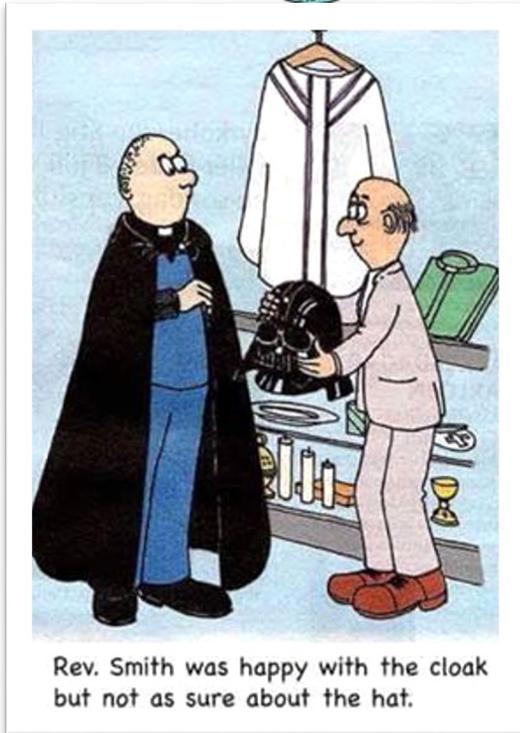
Confirmation youth going into year
2 & 3 of confirmation (i.e. 7th & 8th graders) mark
your calendar for our annual confirmation retreat to
Camp Luther. We will leave Sunday the 14th after
church and return Tuesday the 16th around 3:00 pm.

This is a required retreat for all confirmation youth.
The cost is only \$50 per youth – and covers lodging,
meals, and materials.

A letter will be sent home in June with a meeting
scheduled for late July or early August.



HEAVENLY HUMOR



WORDS OF WISDOM TO GROW OLDER WITH!

As we grow older, and hence wiser, we slowly realize that wearing a \$300 or \$30 watch - - - they both tell the same time.

Whether we carry a \$300 or \$30 wallet/handbag - - - the amount of money inside is the same.

Whether we drink a bottle of \$300 or \$10 wine - - - the hangover is the same.

Whether the house we live in is 300 or 3000 sq. ft. - - - the loneliness is the same.

You will realize, your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world.

Whether you fly first or economy class, when the plane reaches its destination - - - everyone arrives at the same time.

Therefore . . . I hope you realize, when you have mates, buddies and old friends, brothers and sisters, with whom you chat, laugh, talk, sing, talk about north-south-east-west or heaven and earth -- that is true happiness!

FIVE UNDENIABLE FACTS OF LIFE:

- 1) Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy so when they grow up they will know the value of things not the price.
- 2) Best wise words: "Eat your food as your medicines. Otherwise you have to eat medicines as your food."
- 3) The one who loves you will never leave you because even if there are 100 reasons to give up he or she will find one reason to hold on.
- 4) There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it.
- 5) You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!

If you just want to walk fast, walk alone; but, if you want to walk far, walk together!

SIX BEST DOCTORS IN THE WORLD:

- 1) Sunlight
- 2) Rest
- 3) Exercise
- 4) Diet
- 5) Self Confidence
- 6) Friends

The nicest place to be is in someone's thoughts, The safest place to be is in someone's prayers, and the very best place to be isin the hands of God.

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(See Exodus 14)

07-28-2014

MOSES ENJOYING SUMMER BREAK

Laughter!

‘When Ball Becomes Baal’

IS YOUR KID'S SPORTS INVOLVEMENT A FAMILY IDOL?

BY: JIM ELIFF

Article taken with permission from: <http://ftc.co/resource-library/blog-entries/when-ball-becomes-baal>



It’s rare to see kids playing sports in the neighborhood anymore. We’re now organized and “professionalized”—including uniforms, state-of-the-art facilities, endless trips to the field, competitive coaches, equally competitive parents, and the after-season tournaments designed to give parents “bleacher bottom.” In addition, you’ve got to pay to play—and when you’ve paid that much, you’ll be sure to play.

It is also fun, and it can be instructive. I love to watch my kids play sports. In fact, they need to play—*some*. But, it’s not so easy as handing over seventy bucks and saying, “Sign up Johnny and Susie this year.” Making that decision means that you may be out four to five times each week during the season. Soon sports becomes all about calendarization and control of your life—especially if you have more than one kid. Perhaps nothing outside of a change in your job has so much potential to turn the family schedule upside down.

“This man understands,” you say.

Now comes the part you won’t like:

“Behold, I say unto you, you have made sports the household god.”

Too strong? OK, not all of you. But the deification of sports is happening to many.

How does ball become Baal?

Answer: *When it controls you, and you give it devoted worship.* It is around your god that you order your life—and you can almost never say “no” to it.

Like “athlete’s foot” on the hygienically-challenged teenager, sports has taken over more and more of the life of believers. Almost overnight we have awakened to the sad fact that, in many communities, sports has even usurped the hours believers meet on the Lord’s Day. All too often members are saying to church leaders, “We’ll be gone next Sunday because of the soccer tournament.” In turn, leaders are supposed to acquiesce

humbly. After all, we can’t afford to appear “legalistic;” everyone knows that the greatest crime a church can commit is to demand something of someone.

You’ll hear, “But the team needs all the players. We can’t let the team down.” It never occurs to them that the church Body is being deprived of a necessary body part, or that God is marginalized and disobeyed. We are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together, states God in Hebrews 10:25.

Devotion is the operative word. When the team says, “We need you,” we sacrifice to do it. But when it crosses the time allotted to spiritual edification and worship, the Ruler of the universe is often sent to the bench. In the process, we teach our children that devotion to sports is more important than both devotion to God and loyalty to our spiritual family. Have you considered that you may be teaching your kids to worship sports?

Here are some ways to put sports in the proper place:

First, decide beforehand that there will be no contest between the church’s essential activities designed for your family’s spiritual growth and what the team plans for your lives.

If you will talk this over ahead of time with your child and then the coach, there will be no confusion. Through the years I’ve found that many coaches respect that decision. But, it must be a prior decision, not one made on a case by case basis. When sports conflicts with Sunday worship or youth camp or a special spiritual activity, the decision has already been made.

Secondly, determine that your children cannot play every sport.

There is a sanctity to the home life that must be

(Continued on page 11)

JOY

September 29 – September 30

What is the conference about?

How are Christians to live in hope and joy and pastors to preach and minister with confidence in a world filled with so much suffering, distress, and sorrow?

Come sit at the feet of renowned Bible teacher and pastor John Kleinig as he guides us into the fullness of joy as revealed in the Scriptures to people who – like us – lived in a culture drenched in decadence and plagued with uncertainty and anxiety.

Where: The beautiful & comfortable surroundings of Koburg Hall on the campus of Concordia Seminary St. Louis will be the setting for this two day conference for your enrichment and encouragement

Register—\$130 plus lodging

To register for the conference, speak with Pastor Yaw or go to the following website <http://www.doxology.us/events/insight-on-joy/>

Discounted hotels and campus housing available.

OPEN TO EVERYONE:

This conference is for pastors, church workers, lay leaders and interested laity (that means you) will find the conference to be rich with Biblical teaching and encouragement, as well.

If you are interested in attending with Pastor Yaw, please speak with him by August 1st.



GOING TO THE CABIN OR CAMPING?



Don't take a vacation from church. *Remember your tithes & offerings even while you're away.*

You can schedule to give your offering online for the sake of convenience via our website

www.stjohnpulaskiwi.org .

Also, remember we have a 7:00 pm Thursday Service for those who will be gone on the weekend.

If you will be gone for an extended period of time, please contact the church office so we don't worry too much. Thank you!

"Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer" **Hebrews 10:25**

(Continued from page 10 - When Ball becomes Baal)

protected. You need quiet evenings at home. You need meals together. Just let your children know that you are excited about sports, but there are limits. You then determine what those limits are. For us, we attempt to have only one sport per year for each child.

Finally, think about some creative choices.

One of my sons played basketball, but the season was interminably long. I was also traveling. So, I would be gone speaking over the weekend, then, when I was home, I was out two or more nights sitting on the sidelines watching my son practice. It was not really "time together." This wasn't going to work.

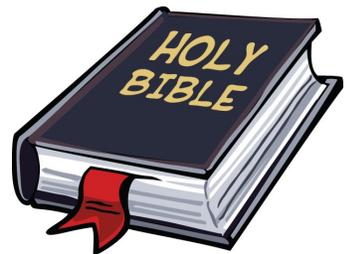
The solution came to me after prayer. I asked him if he would be willing to learn golf in the place of basketball. We could play together, along with his brother, and we could do it whenever we wanted. We could enjoy this for the rest of our lives. I've paid some extra money, but I've bought back some time with my sons and some good exercise for me also. It's a bargain.

God Himself uses sports language in the New Testament. He's not against it, unless it steals the devotion belonging to Him. All other gods have to go!



DID YOU KNOW?

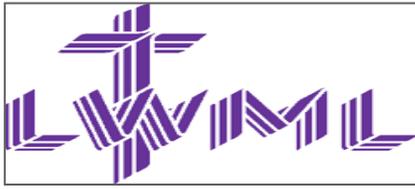
Our Sunday School children raised enough money by the end of May to purchase 240 Bibles to send to Lutherans in Africa for Pastor May to share with the people there so that they can have God's Word.



Sunday School is still collecting funds through the end of July with the hope to be able to purchase over 300 Bibles to send to Lutherans in Africa.

Way to go Sunday School kids – keep up the faithful and loving work.





Corner

BIBLE STUDY – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8TH 6:30 PM
WE WILL ALSO MEET ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 27TH

Bible Study will be led by Jackie Brassfield. We hope you can join us for studying God's Word and for fellowship. We do not meet in August. In July, we will be meeting briefly at church to plan our pie and ice cream fundraiser and then adjourn to Dairy Queen! Who doesn't love that! All are welcome to join in!

UPCOMING EVENTS

FATHER'S DAY ROOT BEER FLOATS

On Thursday, June 16th & Sunday, June 19th we will once again be honoring fathers with traditional root beer floats.



North Wisconsin District LWML Convention **June 23rd-25th, Eau Claire, WI – 'God Gives Growth'**

What a fitting title for our church as well. With that being said, our group needs to grow in numbers. Perhaps you feel you're too young or too old to come join us. There is NO age limit and we welcome you with open arms. Jackie Brassfield and Shannon Schwartz are attending the gathering. Gifts of the heart ingathering will take place at the gathering. A basket is located in the social hall for collection of the following items to be taken. Please have them here by June 19th.

Gifts of the Heart*

1. **MOST Ministries:** Eyeglasses-all sizes and kinds. Please do not send broken glasses. Soft eyeglass cases are also needed.
2. **Bethesda Lutheran Communities:** Electric can openers, coffee makers, battery-operated camping lanterns and extra batteries, CD/ radios (combo), religious music (esp. contemporary) and movies, personal care items
3. **Hope Gospel Mission's Ruth House- Eau Claire:** Twin sheet sets, pillows, cleaning products, toiletries

Stepping Stones of Dunn County: Bath towels and washcloths, kitchen towels, hot pads, all sizes of bed sheet sets (no king), household cleaning items, personal care items, kitchen utensils, pots and pans, bakeware, socks and underwear for all ages.

Kids' Korner

By: Jean Kohlmeyer



'INTERESTING CREATION'

I like the short radio show *Creation Moments* with Ian Taylor. It has many interesting things about all types of nature and our amazing Creator.

A new science called biomimetrics research actively seeks to study creation to learn new designs that solve engineering problems.

Did you know? Thistles inspired velcro. Engineers use the design of owl's wings to make a structure that carries electrical current to trains.

The moth's eyes' ability to not reflect light helps make it harder for it to be spotted by birds. This design has now been used to make a non-reflective film. The film can be used to help prevent windows from reflecting light.

Some dyes are toxic. Yet many creatures show off bright colors without using toxic substances. Materials engineers study the jewel beetle to see how it produces color. The result is a film that changes color depending on the angle it is viewed from.

The sandcastle worm builds itself a tube by gluing together sand particles and bits of shell. This amazing glue hardens under water in 30 seconds. After several hours it becomes like leather. Scientists are attempting to mimic this glue, perhaps to bind bones together, and it's non-poisonous.

A caddisfly is an insect that makes silk underwater. It stays sticky despite the wet environment. Scientists hope this can help make a surgical tape for use in the body.

A Japanese company developed a swimsuit material, taking a cue from a swift marlin. The material is embedded with polymers so it mimics the marlin's skins' absorption of water.

Since fish never run into each other, the Nissan Motor Company is studying fish schools to discover what it must do to build cars with better anti-collision equipment.

Many bacteria have become resistant to antibiotics. Study of the ocean sponge have found a chemical called ageliterin. This compound prevented biofilms from forming. It makes resistant germs susceptible to antibiotics, thus making them sensitive to bacteria that can cause infection.

This summer as you spent some time outside, take a closer look at God's amazing creations. His thumbprint is everywhere. Enjoy your summer break and don't forget to have some God time too.

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Pulaski Summertime Music Series at Shippy Park
Sundays at 7 p.m. – Free and Open to the public
 50/50 Raffle Fundraiser for PHS Band Trip to Pasadena

JUNE 19
Amy & Pat

Music Genre: Acoustic Classic Rock



JULY 24
The Blend

Music Genre: Bluegrass



JUNE 26
The Clydes

Music Genre: Americana, Bluegrass



JULY 31
Northwoods Brass

Music Genre: Brass/Concert



ANGELICA

JULY 3

Schmidt Family Band

Music Genre: Brass/Concert



AUGUST 7
Community Band

Music Genre: Concert Band



JULY 10
KNX Party Band

Music Genre: Country Variety



AUGUST 14
HUSH

Music Genre: Classic Rock



JULY 17
Community Band

Music Genre: Concert Band



AUGUST 21
Community Choir

Music Genre: Choral, Solos and Duets



Presented By

Pulaski Area Chamber of Commerce
 Pulaski Area Community Education
 Pulaski Community Band



Contact Info

Gloria Morgan – 920-655-8109
 Mark Heck – 920-822-6051



Shippy Park

Located in beautiful downtown Pulaski



* Rain & Inclement Weather Location: Cocktales



A PRAYER FOR OUR GRADUATES

Dear Lord Jesus,

You have brought these individuals to this goal of their formal education. As they receive their diploma, we thank You for the support of their parents, their teachers, and all who helped them along the way.

Thank You for Your Word which has guided and helped them throughout their days. Now as they face the future, grant them a keen sense of responsibility and calling in life.

Assure them again of Your guidance and blessing for the days ahead. In all that they do, O God, help them to glorify Your name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Nina Anne Josephson

Do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments ~ Proverbs 3:1

Nina graduated from Pulaski High School with plans to attend UW-Milwaukee pursuing a degree as a Medical Scientist.

Rylie Shae Kohlmeier

But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin ~ 1 John 1:7

Riley graduated from Bay Port High School with plans to attend Concordia University in Mequon pursuing a degree in biology

Matthew Michael May

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ~ Romans 12:2

Matthew graduated from Pulaski High School with plans to attend St. Norbert College pursuing a degree in business.

Michelle 'ChaChi' Ann Wood

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ~ Romans 10:9

Michelle graduated from Pulaski High School with plans to attend UW-Whitewater, pursuing a degree in Special Education and a double minor in music and theatre.

GOD BLESS ALL OUR GRADUATES!!