



St. John Messenger

St. John Lutheran Church
V. 27, No. 9

168 Mound St.

Berlin, WI 54923

October, 2022

Doctor: I have good news and I have bad news.
Patient: What's the good news? Doctor: The good news is that the tests showed you have 24 hours to live. Patient: That's the good news? What's the bad news?

Doctor: The bad news is I forgot to call you yesterday! "Gospel" means "good news." And yet so many people have an incorrect understanding of what the Gospel is so let's set the record straight about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel is simple enough for a child to understand (Matthew 19:14) yet complex enough to fill thousands of books (John 21:25).

The Gospel is eternal, from eternity past: **"[Christ] was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you"** (1 Peter 1:20).

The Gospel is powerful: **"[I]t is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes"** (Romans 1:16).

The Gospel is not popular: Jesus warned, **"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you"** (John 15:18).

The Gospel is exclusive: **"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved"** (Acts 4:12).

The Gospel is controversial: **"While some said, 'He is a good man,' others said, 'No, he is leading the people astray' . . . So there was a division among the people over him"** (John 7:12, 43).

The Gospel is universal: **"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).

The Gospel is life-changing: **"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? ...But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God"** (1 Corinthians 6:9,11).

The Gospel is unchanging: **"But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed"** (Galatians 1:8).

The Gospel has rewards: **"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates"** (Revelation 22:12).

-The Gospel is absolutely free: **"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"** (Romans 6:23). It requires no custom, no compulsion, no cash, no performance, no partnership, no particular posture. It's free for one and all.

The opening joke highlights one important truth: We don't know when our time will come. We are all recipients of the bad news of the death penalty for our sin. The good news is that we freely receive an eternal, complete, irrevocable pardon from all our sins thanks to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus from the dead. That's the Gospel! Believe it. Receive it. Live it!

Pastor Mundinger

+In Our Prayers

Muriel Kroening

Kathleen Thom

Ralph Van Dellen

Carolyn Schmudlach

Duane Schmudlach

Gladys Hall

Mark Selzler – Grandson of Ken &
Shirley Keenlance

Donna Dretske

Joan Parsons

Orville Behm

Deb Schubert

Jaden Schubert

The Family of Minnie Blackmore

Jan Roper – cousin of Becky Nisiewicz

The Family of Jeff Rodensal, son of
Sylvia Wells

Jean Hoffman

Frank Weiss – Father of Kelly
Mundinger

Vicky Clark

The Family of Billi Jo Kaufman

Our Shut-In and Homebound members

Sending Our SYMPATHY

Jeff Rodencal

Son of Sylvia Wells

Minnie Blackmore

Died – September 16, 2022

Funeral - September 22, 2022

Billi Jo Kaufman

Wife of Shawn Kaufman

Mother of Karson and Violet

Died - September 23, 2022

Funeral - September 29, 2022



MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF WALTER SCHMUDLACH

For Playground

From RAI Ministries.....\$500.00

IN MEMORY OF JEFF RODENCAL

For General Fund

From Russ & Robin Henriksen.....\$ 25.00

DONATIONS

In the Hospital

Jean Hoffman

For Playground

From Scrips.....\$ 41.30





The St. John LWML met on Monday, September 19. Our Fall Retreat was in Fond du Lac this year on September 23rd and 24th.

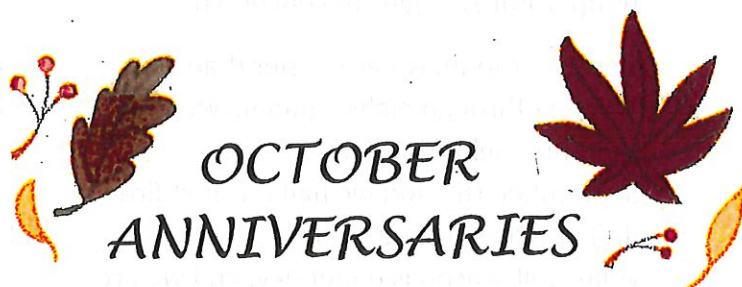
LWML Sunday will be Sunday, October 16th. We are working on getting a guest pastor that day. After church the LWML ladies will be in the back of church with the large Mite boxes seeking donations to fund our Mission Grants. If you ever want to know more about our Mission Grants, there is information on the bulletin board in the card room.

We will be hosting the Fall Rally on Saturday, October 29th at St. John. Registration begins at 8:30 and the program will start at 9am, the theme is "Time, Talents and Treasures". There will be several videos shown about the program-Gifts from the Heart and we will have a Bible study. Our Gifts from the Heart will be school supplies for Lutheran schools in our zone. These are items we are collecting: Tempura paints, bottled acrylic paint in basic colors, heavy construction paper, drawing paper, dot stampers, stickers, masking tape, Kleenex, paper towels, copy paper (white and colored) and Lysol wipes. There will be a bin in the card room for your donations. All are welcome to attend. We will provide a light lunch to conclude the rally, hope you can join us.



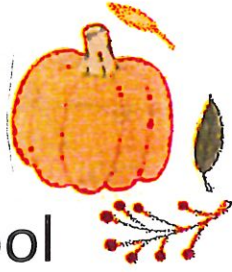
New Members

**Paul and Michelle Gabor, and sons
Nathan and Theodore**



October 3, 1964 - Henry & Bernice Lemke
 October 6, 2001 - Adam & Elissa Ewald
 October 8, 2005 - Nathan & Brianne Hess
 October 9, 1954 - Orville & Joann Behm
 October 11, 1980 - Brian & Cindy Drews
 October 11, 2014 - Charles & Kathleen Nechkash
 October 12, 1985 - Kevin & Joan Parsons
 October 15, 1994 - Michael & Laurie Radke
 October 16, 1982 - Bruce & Marion Kobishop
 October 18, 1980 - David & Gail Chappa
 October 18, 1991 - Keith & Anita Krenke
 October 19, 1996 - Troy & Judy Uchtyl
 October 19, 2002 - Kevin & Rachel Vergin
 October 21, 1978 - Robert & Janet Bunn
 October 24, 1964 - Bob & Betty Dewhurst
 October 24, 1981 - Lyle & Dorothy Schrank
 October 27, 1979 - Larry & Sara Chier
 October 27, 1962 - Darwin & Donna Krause
 October 29, 2005 - Mike & Katie Mehn
 October 29, 1971 - Gary & Julie Olson
 October 30, 2009 - Dale & Sara Bruss

From St John Lutheran School



Happy October to you all. We are now entering the fall season, a time when the world around us begins to prepare for winter and a time of rest. The farmers are harvesting the gifts God has sent and the leaves are changing colors as the temperatures begins to cool down.

Here at St John, we are busier than ever. The first through eighth graders went on their first field trip of the year on September 16th and we had our first fire drill practice on September 15th. Our volleyball season is underway, and we are offering a soccer skills and drills Mondays from now until the end of October. Our theme for the school year is the same as South Wisconsin's "Making Disciples for Life"

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age'" (Matthew 28:18-20).

Our enrollment for the year is 71 students and while that may seem down a bit from previously years it is important to note that our 4K program is no longer part of the public school district so while we have less

4K students they are fully part of our school not a satellite site. This years' enrollment number also includes 32 "school choice" students. We praise the Lord for the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus with all our students.

On the 14th of October our third through eighth grade students will be traveling to St. Paul's in Sheboygan Falls to participate in the Feed My Starving Children program as a service to those in need around the globe. We are also in the middle of a shoe fundraiser to raise money for our playground and the organization sends the shoes to developing countries around the globe. Our Chapel offerings for the first quarter will be donated to Human Care to help our local community. We believe it is very important for our children to think of others both globally and locally.

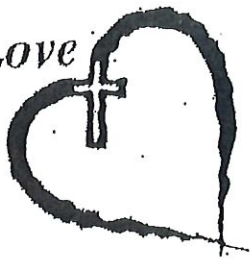
There are a few dates in October to keep in mind. The 3rd and 4th are parent transport days – there is no bus. The 6th and 7th are no school days as the teachers will be traveling to Milwaukee to attend the Lutheran Educators Association conference. October 5th our first progress reports will be going home and October 27th and 28th have been set aside for parent/teacher conferences.

Have a blessed October. I am yours in Christ's service.

Miss Melissa Linse



Divine Love



Human Care

When you're a child, you love birthdays! You can't wait until you are a year older. You even break your age into segments. You are 6-and-a-half years old! You continue to love birthdays until you have children of your own. Then you have to plan birthday parties attended by screaming little ones. The thrill is gone.

When your grandchildren arrive, you are totally over your own birthdays. They're a nuisance, but it's okay, you suppose, if a small fuss is made over you.

Betty Reid Soskin turned 100 this year. When you reach that age, you understand why people are going to take notice of you. You are a rare species of life! A centenarian! This is an amazing achievement.

It was even more so in Soskin's case, because she was still employed! However, she chose to quit working when she turned 100. Her decision was covered by the media when it discovered that she was retiring as the oldest active National Park Service ranger!

Soskin's most recent job was to lead programs at the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California. She told about her own experiences since she lived through World War II, the very time period she was hired to explain and interpret!

At Soskin's retirement party, April 16, 2022, people were quick to bless, praise and thank her for her many years of service. And perhaps that is what birthdays are for, at least for us adults: to give others around us an opportunity to express appreciation for the love, friendship and guidance we have been able to offer.

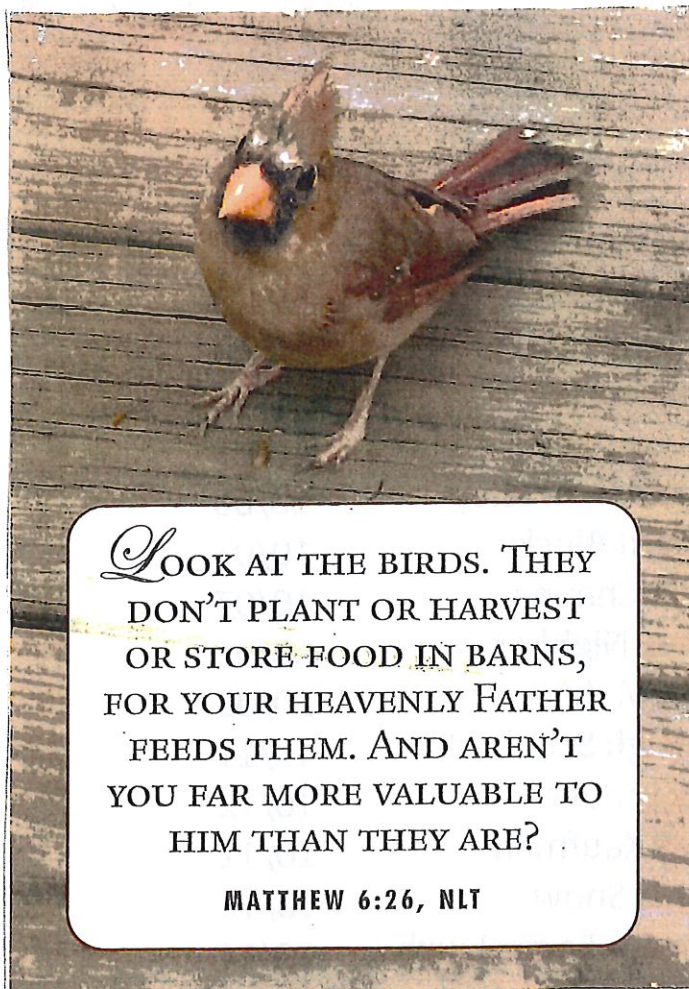
This may surprise some of us. We might be astonished to discover that we actually mean something to others - that others genuinely care about us!

That's why birthdays are a good time to remember that God cares about us, too. The Bible says that we should "cast all [our] anxiety upon him, because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5 :7).

So the next time our birthday comes around, let's rejoice because of God's loving care for us, and because of the love that others show to us.

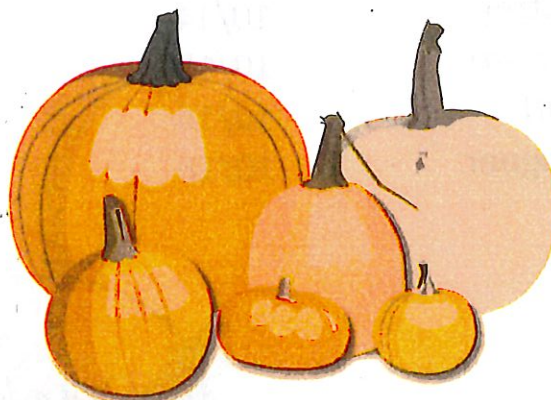
Perhaps, we might even revert to the childhood habit of counting our years. We now will proudly tell others, "I am 84-and-a-half years old, going on 85!"

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for the years of my life, and the life in my years. In Your name. Amen.



Look AT THE BIRDS. THEY
DON'T PLANT OR HARVEST
OR STORE FOOD IN BARNs,
FOR YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER
FEEDS THEM. AND AREN'T
YOU FAR MORE VALUABLE TO
HIM THAN THEY ARE?

MATTHEW 6:26, NLT





Laura Touray	10/02	Vicky Bergens	10/17
Nathan Hess	10/03	Ben Piechowski	10/17
Lincoln Parker	10/03	Dawn Schroeder	10/17
Kent Kamps	10/04	Nathan Chier	10/18
Zachary Wilson	10/05	Eugene Thom	10/18
Ronald Beardsley	10/06	Joshua Schubert	10/19
Richard Block	10/07	Conrad Van Ornum	10/19
David Chappa	10/07	Paul Olson	10/21
Kelsey Nighbor	10/07	Ashley Ryckman	10/21
Katie Mehn	10/08	Cynthia Schuett	10/22
Ashleigh Schubert	10/11	Luke Hartzke	10/23
Amy Brooks	10/12	Richard Kraus	10/23
Haley Kaufman	10/12	Dominic Schubert	10/23
Sophia Snow	10/12	Mike Hess	10/24
Wingate Barraclough	10/14	Harlan Groskreutz	10/25
Jayne Kersten	10/14	Joyce Parsons	10/27
Laurie Siegmund	10/14	Emily Giebink	10/28
Darlene Strey	10/14	Nancy Kumbier	10/28
Donna Krause	10/15	Ashley Gravunder	10/29
Bob Radliff	10/16	Martha Maas	10/29
Roger Wagner	10/16	Anna Scheer	10/29
		Gretchen Chier	10/30



St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Date: September 20, 2022

The September meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Rich Wallner. Pastor opened with prayer.

Present: Pastor Mundinger, Keith Krause, Amy Radliff, Bob Radliff, Rich Wallner, Melissa Linse, Tina Markowski and Adam Ewald.

Absent: Debra Thiel

Secretary's Report by Amy Radliff

Motion B Radliff/Krause Motion approved.

Financial Secretary's Report by Bob Radliff

	<u>August 2022</u>	<u>August 2021</u>
General Fund	\$60,483.64	\$71,780.79
Children's Fund	\$ 136.14	\$ 115.49
Elderly Fund	\$.00	\$.00
Memorials	\$ 50.00	\$ 4,060.49
Attendance	172 per week	158 per week

Motion by A Radliff/Krause to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report by Debra Thiel

Square Account August 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$ 45.62	Income:	\$7,025.58
Expenses:	\$7,025.58	Ending Balance:	\$ 45.62

Hot Lunch Account August 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$13,584.77	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$ 2,873.08	Ending Balance:	\$10,711.69

Elderly Fund August 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$7,702.28	Income:	\$.00
Expenses:	\$.00	Ending Balance:	\$7,702.28

Children's Fund August 2022:

Beginning Balance:	\$175,672.26	Income:	\$ 17,186.14
Expenses:	\$ 19,913.82	Ending Balance:	\$172,944.58

Motion by B Radliff/Krause to accept Treasurer's report. Motion approved.

Board of Trustees Report by Keith Krause

- Meeting didn't have quorum, no formal minutes
- New flooring suggestion of rubber tile for 2 classrooms.
- Snow removal bid received from Tyler Kettlewell
- Looking at new site-line wiring for wifi between school and church
- Sidewalk heaving due to tree roots

Motion by B Radliff/Wallner to accept Trustees report. Motion approved.

Board of Elders Report & Pastor's Report by Rich Wallner

- Kevin Koch has volunteered to be a lay delegate for Synodical Convention

Official Acts:

Baptism – Emma Achterberg, daughter of Lyle Jr. and Megan Achterberg (non-members)

Affirmation of Faith – Dennis Munro

Adult Confirmation Class – Nicholas Williams

Transfer In– Paul and Michelle Gabor and sons Nathan and Theodore.

Released by Request - Allison Marks, Justice Keller, Blaine Hartzke, Payshence Kettlewell and son Samuel.

Communicant Members 481

Baptized Members 570

Church Families 294

Motion by B Radliff/Krause to accept Elder's report. Motion approved

Board of Education Report by Tina Markowski

- School Kick-off was a success.
- Shoe Drive and special event at Vines & Rushes to be held with funds earned going toward playground equipment.
- Playground installation date is tentative to begin October 17th. Tyler Kettlewell will be leveling out the area prior to install. Once the playground is installed, the swing set needs to "set" for 2-3 days. Signage and fencing will be set up around the area to keep people off the equipment during that time.
- The board had a guest presenter to demonstrate how to have more effective meetings and potentially shorten the meeting time overall.

Motion by Wallner/Krause to accept the Board of Education report. Motion approved.

Old Business:

- Playground update: fencing will be replaced as close to timeframe of playground installation.

New Business: (none)

Meetings next month: Trustees – Monday Oct 10th – 6:30 pm. Board of Education – Tuesday October 18th - 6pm.

Elders – Wednesday, October 12th – 6pm. Council – Wednesday, October 26th – 6pm.

Quarterly Voters Meeting – Sunday, November 6th following service (approx. 10:15)

Motion by Linse/Krause to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:17 pm. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

*Respectfully submitted,
Amy Radliff, Secretary*

****Note:** These minutes have not yet been reviewed by the Council and are subject to revision and correction at the next meeting.

Always room in God's kingdom

Jesus told a parable about a man who invited his friends and neighbors to a banquet, but they declined. So he told his servants to go find anyone who was hungry or lonely or in need. Still there was room. "Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in," the host said, "so that my house will be full" (Luke 14:23, NIV).

In *Searching for Sunday*, Rachel Held Evans retells this story and writes: "This is what God's kingdom is like: a bunch of outcasts and oddballs gathered at a table, not because they are rich or worthy or good, but because they are hungry, because they said *yes*. And there's always room for more."

We're all "outcasts and oddballs" in one way or another! May we know that God warmly invites us to his banquet — for no reason but that we're hungry.



October 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 Sun School 10:15 Bible Class	3	4	5 3:45 Public Confirm 7 pm Sr. Choir	6 No School 1 pm Ladies Aid 6:30 Worship/HC	7 No School	8
9 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 Sun School 10:15 Bible Class	10	11	12 3:45 Public Confirm 6 pm Elders 7 pm Sr. Choir	13	14	15
16 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 Sun School 10:15 Bible Class	17	18	19 3:45 Public Confirm 7 pm Sr. Choir	20 6:30 Worship/HC	21	22
23 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 Sun School 10:15 Bible Class	24	25	26 3:45 Public Confirm 6 pm Council Mtg. 7 pm Sr. Choir	27 No School 6:30 Worship/HC	28 No School	29 LWML Fall Rally
30 Reformation 9:00 Worship/HC 10:15 Sun School 10:15 Bible Class	31					

