

LAMPLIGHTER

Fall 2017



Distinctly Lutheran: Celebrating Reformation 500

by Kristi Meyer

October 31, 1517. The door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. If this were an answer on *Jeopardy!*, most longtime Lutherans would have no trouble coming up with the question: “When and where were the 95 theses posted, thus sparking the Lutheran Reformation?” In this 500th anniversary year (dubbed “Reformation 500” by the WELS), our church and our Synod are celebrating our Lutheran heritage in a variety of ways.

One might question why we are putting such emphasis on Reformation 500. After all, don't we remember Martin Luther on a regular basis? Pastor Joel Leyrer explains why it is so important to look at the Reformation with fresh eyes during this anniversary year. “We seek to instill an appreciation for a form of worship and the centrality of the Gospel which we may take for granted. This wasn't always there; it was clouded over for centuries. To be able to have such clarity as a centerpiece of our worship each Sunday is a great, great blessing. It helps us remember who we are.”

Thus far in 2017, Reformation 500 has been a focus of the large group Bible studies at St. John's. This will continue in the fall with two more Reformation themed studies. Beginning in September, Prof. Joel Otto of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will present “Luther's Lasting Impact,” an examination of some of Luther's key theological emphases and their impact on the life of the church and the daily life of the Christian. Following Prof. Otto's class, Pastor Leyrer will present “A Return to Grace.” This study uses excerpts from the 2017 Reformation film and explores how Martin Luther impacted the world both in 1517 and today.

There will also be a number of worship opportunities celebrating Reformation 500. Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary will host “A Celebration of the Hymns of Martin Luther” on Sunday, October 1, at 7:30 p.m. featuring the Seminary Chorus, the Wisconsin Lutheran College Choir, and the Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee. St. John's will celebrate Reformation Sunday on the weekend of October 29 with festival worship services. The following Sunday, November 5, the Southeastern Wisconsin District will hold an area-wide Reformation worship service at the Miller High Life Theater in downtown Milwaukee.

In addition to these worship and educational opportunities, the WELS is producing a number of resources for Reformation 500. For more information these on resources, visit www.wels.net/Reformation500.

With this yearlong celebration of Reformation 500, it's easy to become overloaded on “all things Martin Luther.” And yet so many of the things we take for granted can be directly ascribed to Luther's work and priorities: the centrality of the Word and Sacraments, liturgical worship, a commitment to excellent Christian education, and exceptional pastor and teacher training programs. “We bear the name of a man whom we do not necessarily revere as a saint, but we gratefully recognize his contribution to the restoration of the Christian faith and the pure Gospel,” says Pastor Leyrer. In this Reformation 500 year, let us remember and give thanks for Martin Luther —not because he is the one we follow, but because his work allows us to see the One we follow more clearly.

Sola Scriptura— By Scripture Alone

by Pastor Eric Schroeder

Scripture and human reason . . . Scripture and church tradition . . . Scripture and science . . . Scripture and popular opinion . . . All of those seem like good combinations—after all, they all include Scripture, right? Any of us could point out that the Bible isn't the only voice that directs our behavior or our attitudes in life, because the Bible is seldom the only voice that we hear. We need to find ways to balance God's Word with the other voices we hear, right?

Do you know the problem with that kind of philosophy? At

various times in the history of the Christian Church, different groups within the Visible (organized) Church have made the determination to strike a balance between Scripture and _____ —fill in the blank with any of the examples above. Without fail, in every case, the balance has quickly shifted to the point where Scripture takes a back seat, a secondary position to human reason, or church tradition, or science, or popular opinion. In every case where Scripture is given equal standing with an opposing viewpoint, the opposing viewpoint tends to come out on top in the end.

By God's grace, Martin Luther and his fellow reformers had the courage and the wisdom to include Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone) as one of their watchwords of the Reformation that began 500 years ago. They made a conscious decision to let Scripture alone stand as the voice above all other voices, the ruling norm for all doctrine and for the Christian life. Did this cause conflict for them? Absolutely. Will holding to the principle of Sola Scriptura cause conflict for everyone who still maintains such an unyielding position in our world? If you have ever shared your faith with someone who disagrees, you know that conflict and opposition are to be expected.

So, is it time to change? Is it time to find balance between Scripture and the other voices in our world? Is it time to be more accepting of other worldviews, philosophies, and ideas? God forbid that we ever lose Sola Scriptura. Only one voice saves, and it is the message of God's unchanging word, centered in Jesus Christ. May God's Word—Our Great Heritage—be the light that we spread from age to age as our chief endeavor . . . Lord, grant while worlds endure, we keep its teachings pure throughout all generations!



Memorials

- In Memory of Sharon Bonesho
From Doris Krause and Sandy Hemp (debt reduction)
- In Honor of Pastor Steve Stern's 50th Anniversary
From Don & Opal Hackbarth (General Fund)
- In Honor of Dawn Treichel
From Jeff & Karen Sitz (youth mission trips)
- In Memory of Wilma Frailing (mother)
From John Frailing (campus beautification)
- In Memory of Mark Gehl
From Amy Gehl (Lutheran Boy Pioneers)
- In Memory of Chris Hansen
From Jeff Scheibe (youth mission trips)
- In Memory of Annette's Mother
From Annette Birkholz (debt reduction)
- In Memory of Martha Ellenberger & Alfrieda Meiers
From Dan & Lori Meiers (debt reduction)
- In Memory of Martha Ellenberger
From John Ellenberger (debt reduction)
- In Memory of Jack Schmeling
From Delores Schmeling (Lau/Tuition Assistance)



Sunday School: Growing in Faith

by Brianna Pollesch

For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to be a teacher. This year I was given the opportunity to get a glimpse of teaching by helping with Sunday School. I have been a member at St. John's my whole life, attending school here from K3 through 8th grade, and then going on to Wisconsin Lutheran High School where I just graduated from. Being asked if I was interested in being a teacher's aide at Sunday School opened up a whole new perspective for me.

I was blessed to be able to work with multiple grade levels over the course of the year. However I spent the majority of the weeks with the 5th to 7th graders. It was great to work with this age group for multiple reasons. By this age, they know the Bible stories well, so we were able to discuss the story and connect it to our everyday lives. They also brought in new ideas every week that would either be very random or would hit our topic right on the dot. It was always interesting to see which one it would be.

It was amazing to be able to work with these children and share the Word of God with them, because I was able to see how each one grew in their faith along with getting to know them as the older and more mature (for the most part) versions of the little kids I used to see in grade school. I was also able to grow in my faith when I heard the kids tell stories how they had witnessed to somebody. This is so encouraging to me as I go into a new chapter of my life at college. If these young children can put it all out there and share the Word with a stranger or unbelieving family member or friend, then I sure can too. Teaching Sunday School gave me the opportunity to become more connected and involved in the church while using my talents and interests.

2017 Fall Pathways Bible Studies

Luther's Lasting Impact

September 24 – October 22

taught by Professor Joel Otto of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

The fact that the world is marking the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses says something about the lasting impact of the Reformation. This is especially true for us who call ourselves "Lutherans." This Bible study will examine some of Luther's key theological emphases and note how they impacted the life of the church in areas like his translation of the Bible into the language of the people, education and his catechisms, worship, and the daily life of the Christian. Luther's theological emphases, rooted in Scripture, continue to impact the life of the church today and the way we, as Lutheran Christians, live our faith in the face of 21st century challenges.

RIBS (Renewed and Inspired by Our Savior)

Women's Bible Study • Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.

The Vine Speaks by Cindy Steinbeck

Using wine and vineyard analogies, we'll be studying John 15 and exploring how we are rooted in, grafted to, and fed by Christ's life and his Word and Sacrament. Begins September 6.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study • Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m.

The book of Revelation

Thursday Morning Bible Class • at 10:30 a.m.

The Gospel According to St. Mark begins September 14

Financial Peace University • Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

9-week course • cost \$93

"Scholarships" are available for members who may need assistance to partially defray the cost. To register for the Financial Peace course being held at St. John's, see a video preview and an overview of the topics covered, please visit: <https://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1042498>

Andrew DeLonge



Mark Gaub



Brian Lampe



Michael Skocir



Zachary Wood



Welcome New School Staff!

by Angela Ebeling



Renee Pastorek 2nd & 3rd Grades

Mrs. Renee Pastorek was born and raised in West Allis, Wis. very close to County Stadium (Miller Park). Because of the proximity to the baseball stadium, she often walked with her family to Brewer games. For her education, she first attended the

grade school right behind her house, Theodore Roosevelt Elementary. Her family joined Woodlawn Lutheran Church during grade school and she attended the grade school there for 7th and 8th grades.

Knowing she wanted to be a teacher, Renee attended Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, Wis. for high school. After graduating she followed her desire to be a teacher by attending Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minn., graduating in 2005 with a B.S. in high school English and Elementary Education. Her first assignment was to St. Paul's in Fort Atkinson where she taught for 12 years.

Renee married her husband, Matthew, in 2005. They have been blessed with 3 children: Evan (8), Dylan (5), and Mikayla (3). They moved to Milwaukee at the end of June. Some of her hobbies include spending time outside hiking with her family, photography, playing volleyball, and reading. She also loves following the Packers and the Brewers.



Janeen Roska, Piano Instructor

Mrs. Janeen Roska is a Milwaukee native. She grew up on the north side of Milwaukee where she attended Mt. Lebanon Lutheran School for grades K-8. After graduating from Wisconsin Lutheran High School she attended Wisconsin Lutheran College, obtaining a bachelor's degree in Elementary and Early Childhood Education.

Janeen has been very active in local churches—she has directed the adult handbell choir, taught piano lessons and both handbell/handchime and vocal choirs at St. Lucas in Bay View; taught (and will continue to teach) piano lessons at Star of Bethlehem in New Berlin; and currently is a member of the adult choir and handbell choir at her current church home in Living Water, Wind Lake, where she is also an organist/pianist and directs a children's choir.

Janeen married her husband, Jeff, in 2002 and they have three children who will be in 8th, 6th, and 4th grades this fall. She calls herself a “band and choir” mom since all three sing with the Milwaukee Children's Choir and the older two are in band in their schools. When Janeen has a free minute, she enjoys reading and taking walks and bike rides. An interesting fact: she has a “fun” car that was her dad's for many years before it was hers— a 1970's MG Midget.

Kevin Festerling



Adam Greggs



Troy Schulz



Pete Stauffer





CES Events

by Tracey Lampe

Our Christian Education Society (CES) plans and sponsors a number of events throughout the course of the school year. Here's a brief summary of these events.

Welcome Back Reception

This reception takes place the Sunday before school starts. It's an opportunity for us to welcome any new teachers or staff members and for our church and school families to reconnect after summer break.

Spirit Wear Sale

At the beginning of each school year (and sometimes at Christmas), CES organizes this sale for our church and school families to purchase clothing, hats, drawstring bags etc. and show school spirit. St. John's receives a portion of the price of each item sold.

Fall Family Festival

Usually occurring in September or October, this festival is planned in conjunction with the Board of Outreach. By focusing on a different theme each year, we invite the community to get to know our church and school and enjoy a day of family fun!

Family Night Out

This event occurs in October and April. CES works with a local restaurant to plan a night out for our church and school families. A percentage of the sales are returned to St. John's School.

Christmas Decorating

CES organizes the decorating of our school for Christmas in November. Anyone who enjoys decorating is encouraged to volunteer for a few hours of fellowship and enjoyment of the Christmas spirit.

Spirit Week

CES plans this week of fun in January or February for our students, teachers, and staff. Each day of the week is planned with dress up days such as pajama day, crazy sock day, and school colors day.



Father/Daughter Dance

In February, CES plans a special evening out for our fathers and daughters. Our school gym and commons area are decorated, and the evening is filled with memorable dancing, smiles, and laughter.

Discovery Day

Held in March, this is a favorite for our students, teachers, and parent volunteers. Planned entirely by CES, it's a day filled with new ways of learning and trying things through hands on experiences.



School Play Reception

Along with the school play in May, CES organizes a reception by providing refreshments tied in with the theme of the play.



Mother/Son Evening

Also held in May, CES plans an evening for our mothers and sons to create memories and laugh together. The school gym and commons area are set up with games, refreshments, and activities.

Teacher Appreciation Week and End of the Year Luncheon

In May, CES organizes this special week for our teachers and staff. We take time to recognize them and thank all of them for their care and service by providing thank you gifts each day. CES also provides lunch for our teachers and staff on their last day of meetings.

Parent Informational Meetings/Presentations

Occasionally, CES is able to bring in special presentations for parents. We welcome ideas or contacts if you know of anyone.

Science Camp: Teambuilding through Service

by Chloe Todor

After spending a tiring Saturday driving to Illumine Lutheran Church in Rock Hill, South Carolina, Sunday was filled with activity! We attended church, enjoyed a welcoming potluck, helped set up for the science camp, and finished the evening with a barbeque.

Beginning bright and early Monday morning, each day of camp started with us greeting the kids, coloring, watching videos, and the day's message from Pastor Reeder. There were multiple stations set up such as a snackivity station making body parts out of food, experiment stations watching things react when mixed, a message review station showing how God is connected to each body part, and a craft station.

In addition to spending time outdoors, the kids sang some fun songs, my personal favorite being *The Sheep Song*. Pastor Reeder ended the day by giving us a final message. We started the week with about 77 kids. By the last day, that number had grown to 86, and saying goodbye to them on that last day was really hard.



After the kids left for the day, the St. John's teens were able to relax through activities ranging from going to the lake to swim, tubing down a local river, having a scavenger hunt in downtown Charlotte, and spending time at Carowinds amusement park. Mixed in with these activities were team building games: friendly competitions like imaginative videos we had created and a hilarious talent contest. We would always end the night with a group devotion led by our chaperones.

Our trip back home included a stop overnight at Beautiful Savior in Cincinnati, Ohio. I think I can speak for all of us on the trip when I say a huge thank you to both Illumine and Beautiful Savior for their warm and generous hospitality. I loved working with the kids and spreading God's message. I look forward to more trips.



The entire youth mission team just before they split up and headed off



Making Connections

by Hannah Leyrer & Ethan Rindfleisch

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms” (1 Peter 4:10). Members of the St. John’s youth group had the opportunity to put this passage into action at Abiding Grace Lutheran Church in Hampton, Georgia in mid-July. “Code Camp” was the theme for the Vacation Bible School, designed for campers ranging from ages 12 to 17.

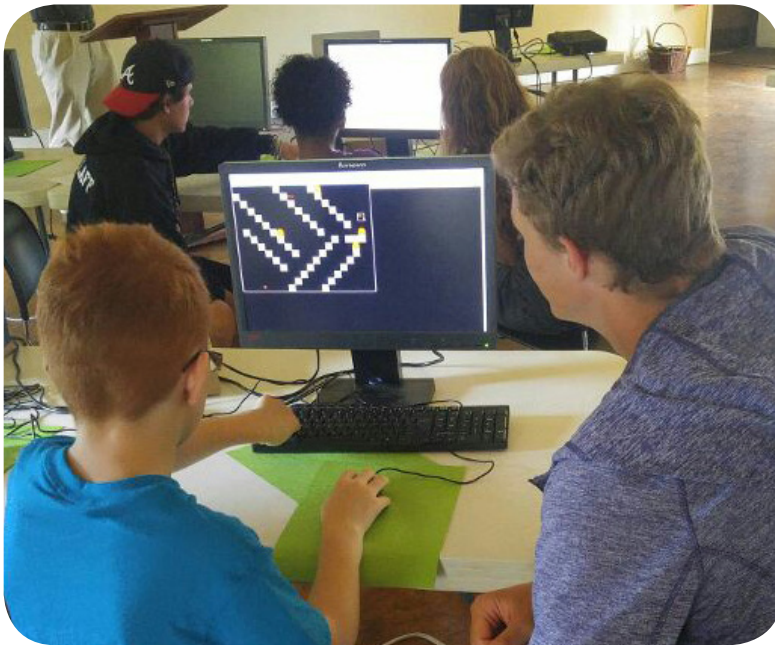
Each day the Code Camp consisted of two devotions given by Pastor Steenbock of Abiding Grace, an hour of learning coding concepts, and an hour of creating a video game. The campers were mentored by Mr. Eric Hein, who is en route to earn his PhD in computer engineering. Mr. Hein presented coding techniques using Python software which would later be applied into the code for each camper’s computer game.

The bigger picture, however, is that the message of God’s Word was conveyed to the campers throughout the week. As Riley Pape (St. John’s Class of 2015) reflected, “You can spread God’s Word through almost anything, like coding.” For example, in one of his devotions Pastor Steenbock correlated the concept of sinful nature with a gamer’s intrinsic desire to use cheat codes. For Anna Johnson (St. John’s Class of 2014), the value of the camp was “being able to see these kids create something . . . and at the same time be hearing the gospel every day through something that they love.”

Along with the general code camp, many of our teen volunteers helped the congregation by renovating a daycare room, filing paperwork, and organizing different areas in the church. Although serving at this sister congregation was the purpose of the mission trip, the teens and chaperones also experienced several memorable activities, like exploring the city of Atlanta and enjoying a wonderful day at Stone Mountain Park. These opportunities helped to rekindle friendships and to strengthen the Christian bond of fellowship. Whether it was helping the campers learn code or refurbishing the church’s nursery, these members of St. John’s youth group were able to use the various gifts with which God has blessed them in faithful stewardship.



to their respective camps in South Carolina, Georgia, and Toronto.



Chronicles of a Mission Trip “Bad Boy”

by Christian Willick

“Alright losers, listen up—I’m playing!” Yes, you read that correctly. No, that statement is not a typo. Those were the first words I shouted to a group of over 230 children at a soccer camp in Canada, just after forcing myself into a game that was happening right in front of their eyes. This is the story of how one week on a St. John’s mission trip turned me into a bad boy.



Early Saturday morning, at the end of a row of four enormous 15-passenger vans, one little black minivan with an inferiority complex started out on its 10-hour trek from St. John’s to Cross of Life in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada. We were a select few, Pastor Bitter’s proud picks to help coach a week-long soccer camp. The fact that not one of us had touched a soccer ball in years was irrelevant.



We all entered the coaches’ meeting Sunday night with varying levels of trepidation. Although this was the 17th year of soccer camp at Cross of Life, it was the first year without its founder Pastor Joel Schulz, who had recently taken a call to Delray Beach, Florida. Fortunately for us and for Cross of Life, the camp was in capable hands under its new director Werner Lomker. But it was also this very man who initiated my corruption.

As usual, each day of camp featured a skit which then led into devotion time. Werner planned the skits around mock soccer games, each starring a new misfit main character who would teach the kids about soccer skills that translated into biblical values, such as passing the ball/passing on the Gospel. The first day’s skit called for a bad boy who didn’t play by the rules, complete with leather jacket, ripped jeans, and sunglasses. That’s where I fit in.

My performance as a bad boy earned well-deserved shouts of anger from the camp children. I picked up the soccer ball with my hands, shoved the ref, and even tied up the other team with a rope. It was a miracle that I retained credibility with the kids I coached!



The week moved on. More misfits took the stage. The weather cooperated. God answered prayers. The coaches served as Christian role models, and the children learned about soccer and about Jesus. I even came back on the last day as a law-abiding bad boy and dominated a soccer game with the other reformed misfits! It was truly a blessing to see the amazing work God accomplished through the Cross of Life soccer camp to kids and families that may otherwise have had no exposure to Jesus’ name. Take it from this bad boy.



Using Community Events for Outreach

by Pastor Kyle Bitter

This summer, the newly formed School Promotion Committee partnered with the Board of Outreach to develop a stronger St. John's presence at some of the many community events happening in Wauwatosa. God has blessed this work by introducing us to a number of families who toured our facility days after each event and who are considering enrollment in our school. Thanks to the many St. John's members who made these outreach efforts possible!

Tosa Farmers Market

During the summer, church and school volunteers handed out St. John's monogrammed shopping bags in front of our school to attendees of the Tosa Farmers Market. Our playground was also open to the community, and free lemonade was available. Over two Saturday mornings, about 600 bags were distributed to community members. A number of families stopped by to use the playground and talk with our volunteers. Not only were these positive contacts made with community members, but the St. John's bags will serve as silent promotion in our community this fall. One more Farmers Market event is being planned in conjunction with our school's Fall Festival.



Tosa Farmers Market

Tosa Night Out

St. John's once again manned a booth at the Tosa Night Out festival on August 4. Due to construction in the Tosa Village, this year's event was again held at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The St. John's booth distributed promotional material and flyers, talked to dozens of families, and served as the "glow stick stop" on the annual flashlight walk.



Chili'n on the Ave

TosaFest, Chili'n on the Ave, and more!

If you were gone over the summer and unable to participate in community events like the ones mentioned above, fear not. A weekend rarely passes in Wauwatosa without some kind of festival, and St. John's has plans to participate in several upcoming events.

New this year, St. John's will be the host site for the annual TosaFest Cupcake and Chili Challenge on September 8 & 9. Visit the TosaFest website (www.tosafest.org) for information about entering cupcakes or chili in the contest, and look for the St. John's booth selling cupcakes and chili on the Saturday of TosaFest. For the second year, St. John's will also run a booth at Chili'n on the Ave, the annual East Town Tosa community event held on North Avenue at the end of September (www.easttosa.org/chilin-on-the-ave). This year, we hope to offer face painting for kids as well as our usual promotional material and flyers.

If you'd like to be involved in these or other future community events, contact Pastor Bitter or speak with a member of the Board of Outreach listed on the bottom of this page.



Dan Ebeling



Kurt Handeland



Ben Haferman



Jim Schneider

Not pictured:
Brett Taylor

Modeling Excellence in Worship

by Kristi Meyer

“The [Reformation anniversary] was celebrated in an elaborate fashion . . . Much celebratory music was composed . . . Even though there was much elaborate music, the primary thread of the music making was supplied by congregational hymns . . .” You might guess the above paragraph describes the WELS National Conference on Worship held this summer.

You’d be wrong. This is actually a description of the 1617 anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation held in Dresden, Germany. Much has changed in the 400 years since this celebration of the Reformation. And yet the focus of these celebrations remains the same: to glorify God through music and the arts and to receive his gifts through Word and Sacrament.

Funding from St. John’s sponsored the attendance of a number of our worship leaders at the conference. Here are some of their reactions.

Pastor Kyle Bitter: “My favorite part is the worship services and seeing what is possible with nearly limitless resources. When our worship leaders see worship done creatively and well, our whole congregation benefits through their work.”



Lynn Kozlowski: “It is exciting to see a new generation of accomplished performers who are well trained in the art of church music and who understand the principles of worship. How heartwarming for me to see so many young musicians whom I mentored and encouraged now taking on positions of leadership”

Mandy Treder: “I enjoy participating in workshops, the fellowship with other church musicians who are doing the same kinds of work I do, and seeing and catching up with friends who are serving in various roles and various places throughout our Synod.”

Seven students from St. John’s School also participated in the Worship Conference. **Megan Dvorachek** had a great experience singing in the Children’s Choir. “I loved making new friends and all the fun things we did together.”

Morgan Festerling particularly enjoyed the Children’s Choir director. “Mr. Cereske was awesome. He made rehearsals really fun!” And **Eva Kuehn** loved being part of the Worship Conference. “The singing and the different worship services were very special.”

For me personally, Worship Conference was an amazing experience. From playing in the conference handbell choir to attending workshops about incredibly useful church resources to singing “Jerusalem, the Golden” during the closing service, Worship Conference was uplifting in so many ways. I am confident that I speak for all our participants in thanking the members of St. John’s for their financial support of Worship Conference. Let’s do it again in three years!

Long Range Planning Update

by Kristi Meyer

Although the last update from the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) was at Mission and Ministry Sunday in late January, things are still happening on the school expansion front. Here’s a brief synopsis of the current status of the project:

- **Discussions are ongoing with Aurora** to explore the possibility of utilizing some of their property for expansion. These discussion include the potential for expanding down Harwood Avenue towards the Tosa Village.
- St. John’s is committed to engaging the **services of an architect for a building expansion and master site plan**. However, there has not been an architect selected and contracted at this point in time.

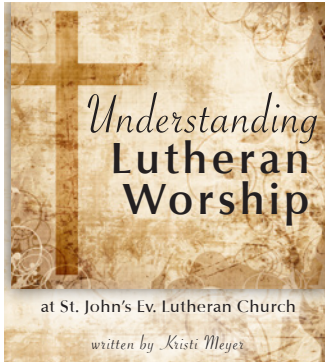
- A **building committee has been formed** but has not yet met. This committee is ready to assist in any preliminary architectural involvement.
- Growth in student population and program improvement is continually monitored with an eye toward the future; however, no suggested timeline for school expansion has been developed. Future steps include conducting a **feasibility study for funding and exploring the potential for a capital appeal**.

Keep watching the various St. John’s publications—Lamplighter, News & Notes, and E-News—for more information and updates from the LRPC.

Excellence in Worship: Using Our Gifts

by Pastor Kyle Bitter

God has blessed our congregation richly with many musicians, directors, and planners who pour their hearts into making our public worship services as excellent as possible. This article will share a few of the bigger projects our worship leaders have been working on.



A New Resource

Worshippers have probably noticed the book *Understanding Lutheran Worship*, written by St. John's member Kristi Meyer, in our pews. Each household also received a copy in the mail. This is a great educational resource

written on a level accessible to anyone. Worshippers are encouraged to take a few minutes to page through this resource. Spend some time learning what the routines of our liturgy mean. Discover why our congregation finds these rituals worth continuing even after many centuries of use. Observe how liturgical rites serve to proclaim the timeless gospel message. Learn why we worship the way we do, and you will discover a deepening appreciation of worship in the Lutheran church.

Adapting to New Worship Habits

Over the last few years, attendance in our Saturday night services has steadily increased. On many weekends, Saturday worship draws as many worshippers as the early service on Sundays. A decade ago when Saturday services first began, worship was designed for a smaller, more intimate group. Because this service is now attended by many more worshippers, the Board of Elders

recommends that during the 2017-2018 school year, these services more closely mirror our Sunday morning services. To accomplish this goal, Saturday worshippers will notice the organ being used as the primary instrument on communion weekends. In addition, some of our choral and instrumental ensembles will periodically participate in Saturday worship.

Using All God's Gifts in Worship

Lutheran worship strives to make use of all the gifts God has given to his church. In the Mission Vision document approved by the congregation in 2012, St. John's members recognized this and stated the following goal: *"We appreciate the rich variety of resources that can be used within the framework of Lutheran liturgical worship, and we take steps to incorporate them into our worship services."* (I.2). Fulfilling this goal is an ongoing project involving the pastors, the Board of Elders, and the Worship and Services committee. St. John's has enjoyed a wealth of variety in classical music for many years. Over the last few years, worshippers have also enjoyed piano/instrumental services during the months that have five Sundays. These services use the same liturgical texts as regular worship services, but they make use of different instruments and musicians—offering an even wider variety of musical sounds and involving the talents of even more members in addition to the many who already serve in so many ways.

Third Thursday Noontime Concerts

All concerts begin at 12:15 p.m. and last about 45 minutes. Concerts are free and open to the public.

September 21, 2017

Piano Excursions • Kevin Becker, pianist
Mozart to Shostakovich and more

October 19, 2017

First Lutheran Hymnal • Lynn Kozlowski, organist
Chorale preludes on hymns in Luther's 1524 Achtliederbuch

November 16, 2017

A Banquet of Bells • Kristi Meyer, Katie Wierer, Kyle Bitter & Lynn Kozlowski
Handbells, chimes, tower bells, piano, and organ

January 18, 2018

Reflections on the Nativity • Carrie Johnson, Jessica Gromacki & Lynn Kozlowski
Vocal and organ solos and duets on music for Christmas and Epiphany

February 15, 2018

Eclectic Treats • Naomi Hathaway, mezzo soprano and flute
Serious and not so serious selections for voice and for flute

March 15, 2018

Reprise of the Wisconsin Avenue Girls • Sue Pajunen and Lynn Kozlowski
Duets for organ and/or piano

April 18, 2018

Children's Songs • St. John's Junior Choir and Mandy Treder, organist
Sacred and secular music for youth choir

May 17, 2018

Reeds and Valves • Mike and Suzanne Swenson
Music for oboe and French horn

Membership Changes

NEW MEMBERS

BY TRANSFER

Jenelle Seubert and Paxton from St. Paul's, Muskego, WI
Jonathan Unke from St. Paul's, Howard's Grove, WI

BY ADULT CONFIRMATION

Bret & Anna Harttert and Cash & Quinn
Lissa Smith and Avery
Mark & Jackie Bye
David & Caley Mancl
Kevin & Anna Travis

BY PROFESSION OF FAITH

Mary Schulz

MEMBERS LEAVING

BY TRANSFER

Megan Brinkman to Our Redeemer, Yorktown, VA
Derek & Alicia Campbell and Arya & Kellen to Bethlehem, Carmel, IN
Shawn & Stephanie Conaway and Ryan & Kayla to Christ the Lord, Brookfield, WI
Juan Diaz & Ela Simon-Diaz and Victor Robbins to Eternal Life, Concord, CA
Ned & Dawn Farley and Elizabeth & Clarissa to Morning Star, Jackson, WI
Mark & Erin Greschner and Alaina & Ellie to Christ the Lord, Brookfield, WI
Christopher & Kim Ipsa and Bella, Noah, Nathan & Niko to St. John's, Mukwonago, WI
Vinath Khounmy to Peace, Hartford, WI
Sarah Mainwaring and Dylan to Christ the Lord, Brookfield, WI
James & Vicki Milroy and Evan & Kaitlyn to Peace, Hartford, WI
Eric Sitz to Good Shepherd, West Bend, WI
Juli & Abigail Thorgerson to St. Matthew's, Milwaukee, WI

RELEASED BY REQUEST

Anthony & Ericka Balistreri and Joseph, Elizabeth & Mia

Pastoral Acts

BAPTISMS

Theo Backus	June 22, 2017
Everett Binger	June 24, 2017
Wallace Festerling	July 8, 2017
Macy Leyrer	July 12, 2017
Thea Haferman	August 13, 2017

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Bret & Anna Harttert	June 18, 2017
Lissa Smith	June 18, 2017
Mark & Jackie Bye	August 20, 2017
David & Caley Mancl	August 20, 2017
Kevin & Anna Travis	August 20, 2017

MARRIAGES

Stephanie Gaub & Grant Simmons	May 21, 2017
Victoria Stoffer & Matthew Klieforth	June 10, 2017
Erin Greenfield & Scott Rivers	July 29, 2017

Worship Opportunities



Pastor Kent Reeder from Illumine Lutheran Church in Rock Hill, South Carolina will be our guest preacher on both Saturday and Sunday. He will also lead a special Bible study at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday.



Mark Maurice



Mark Naumann



Dan Pollesch



Adam Sipe