

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk...

Though you have not seen Him, you love him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory. (1 Peter 1:8)

For many families the month of June marks the beginning of all kinds of fun activities. Summer vacation for kids along with family outings such as swimming, camping, boating, golf, and other vacation travels. All of these are fun activities for which we can be thankful to God.

However, as nice as these activities of summer fun might be, there is something far greater, Christian joy! Fun and joy are not the same things. Fun is some activity that we enjoy doing for a while, but if overdone, any fun activity can become burdensome. As a boy I had a lot of fun at carnivals, especially the rides. But after going on the same ride over and over, it started losing its appeal and wasn't much fun anymore. Fun alone can leave us empty.

Christian joy is altogether different. It is a deeper, richer, and more lasting sense of peace, thankfulness and contentment that comes from trusting Jesus Christ and believing His promises for us. Unlike fun activities, joy is something we desire to strengthen and increase more and more which is exactly what God does for us as we continue to trust in Christ and abide in His Word.

Christian joy does not come and go like so many amusing activities, it is steady and constant. Our Christian joy is with us during the fun times but also in times of trouble or sorrow. Christian joy is not dependent on our outward life circumstances or the way in which other people treat us. Rather, it comes from God Himself as a gift we possess inside of us, which nothing can take away. Christian joy will continue to increase in us until that great day when we see Christ with our own eyes and live in His glory forever!

In the Joy of Christ, Pastor Knuth



In HIS Hands Preschool Graduation

Nine children enjoyed a fantastic year at In HIS Hands Preschool here at Pella. We thank Jenna Westphal, Shirley Canniff, Laurel Whiting and volunteer Julie Umentum for their service to our preschool.

Summer Service Time Change

Sunday morning service at 9 a.m. Holy Communion will be offered every Sunday. Bible Class follows at 10:15 a.m. Wednesday evening services at 7 p.m.



2023 VBS

June 11, 12 & 13, 6-8 pm

Register at:

vbsmate.com/PellaLutheranWaupunWI

Open to all children age 3 (potty-trained, unless a parent stays) through 11. Parents and siblings are welcome to stay and learn about Jesus alongside their child(ren) and join in the fun. Spread the word to your family, neighbors and friends!



AROUND PELLA

From the Vicar's Desk...

"...The Levites helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading" (Nehemiah 8:7-8). The opening to the book of Nehemiah chapter eight is a fantastic example in the Old Testament of our tradition of reading from the Scriptures and then offering an explanation, in the form of a sermon, to help people understand what was just read. Jesus also does this when He reads from the prophet Isaiah and explains how the text is about Him (Luke 4:16-29). The sermon is a key component of the Divine Service that leads the congregation from the Scriptures through the confession of the Church (Creed) into the Sacrament of the Altar. Traditionally, preaching in the Sunday Divine service was based on the Gospel reading, while the Epistle was the text for Sunday Matins. The Old Testament text was preached upon at Sunday Vespers, and other texts were expounded upon throughout the weekly services. Now, with fewer and fewer services held, preachers are left to choose which of the texts will be the focus of the sermon.


There are three main components to a sermon: exposition, application, and illustration. Exposition

is explaining the text. It includes re-reading or paraphrasing the text, explaining the context and history of the text, and possibly discussing meanings that can be taken from the original language. Application is, as it sounds, applying the text to the congregation. The main point of the text needs to be made clear along with its connection to us today. Illustrations take the main point and make it more clear. These three components are something Pastor Knuth and I very seriously consider when we write our sermons; but, as Saint Paul writes, we are to know nothing but "Christ and Him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:2). Sermon reports might only be required for confirmands, but it is a wonderful exercise for people of all ages. It can keep the focus on the sermon and help prevent wandering minds. I challenge you to try and identify these components during the sermon. If you have kids looking forward to starting confirmation, that would be a great way to practice with them! The sermon is there to help you understand God's Word and provide encouragement as you go back out into the world to serve your neighbor.

In Christ's service,

Vicar Schober

Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi



Future Vicar Fund

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, to have a Vicar in 2024-25 we will need to raise \$25,000 before the October Congregational Meeting. To date we have \$2,210.07. Thank you to all who support this important service to our church at-large, training future Pastors.

Looking Ahead:

Vicar John Schober's Last Sunday with us is July 16. A farewell reception will be held after the 9am worship service.

Vicar Cody Schrepferman will be installed on Sunday, July 23. More details will be in the July-August newsletter.

Select Mission for June: Food for the Poor

Help us serve the poorest of the poor. Food For The Poor began in 1982 in Jamaica. Today, our interdenominational Christian ministry serves the poor in primarily 17 countries throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. Thanks to our faithful donors, we are able to provide food, housing, healthcare, education, fresh water, emergency relief, micro-enterprise solutions and much more. We are proud to have fed millions of people and provided more than 15.7 billion dollars in aid.

Our faith inspires us to be an organization built on compassion, and motivated by love. Our mission is to bring relief to the poorest of the poor in the countries where we serve. We strive to reflect God's unconditional love. It's a sacrificial love that embraces all people regardless of race or religion. We believe that we can show His love by serving the "least of these" on this earth as Christ challenged us to do in Matthew 25. We pray that by God's grace, and with your support, we can continue to bring relief to the suffering and hope to the hopeless. Learn more at foodforthe poor.org.

AROUND PELLA



Karla Ceman Retiring as Youth Leader

Karla has been our Youth Leader since 2016 and has served well in that role with our young members and their friends and families. She will be missed! We thank Karla for her faithful service and for the many ways she has demonstrated the love of Christ to our young people.

Please keep Megan Quiring in your prayers as she takes the reigns as Youth Leader beginning July 1. Megan will be planning the Youth summer activities so watch for more information to come in the weeks ahead.



Pella's 2023 High School Graduate

Celestine Witkowski

June Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Mason Dykstra | 17 Auden Landaal |
| 2 Adam VandeZande | 17 Cherie Witkowski |
| 3 Calvin Landaal | 19 Carter Harmsen |
| 3 Vicar John Schober | 20 Zane Cornelius |
| 4 Alice Hennig | 20 Crystal Harmsen |
| 4 Michael Pluim | 20 Matthew Shadley |
| 4 Les Marx | 20 Deborah Teachout |
| 5 Nevaeh VandeZande | 22 Kirstie Riese |
| 6 Candis Breikreutz | 24 Eliana Flatau |
| 9 Lloyd Dykstra | 25 Kyra Verheyen |
| 10 Steve Wiersma | 26 Darlene Fuhrer |
| 11 Austin Montanez | 26 Kim Luchini |
| 12 Evelyn Walsh | 27 Stephen Parsons |
| 14 Alexandria Stephens | 28 Carry Ramel |
| 14 Sharon Stephens | 29 Stella Pulda |
| 14 Derek Teachout | 30 Jordan Mitchell |
| 16 Dane Wachter | 30 Aaron Streblov |
| 16 Jeanne Wagner | |

Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life



lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

A newborn was safely surrendered in an Indiana Safe Haven Baby Box on April 8. The surrender marks the fourth that has taken place in the state and the sixth nationwide since the start of 2023. Run by the Safe Haven Baby Box organization, the baby box is a temperature-controlled box equipped with a silent alarm that allows a parent to safely and anonymously surrender their infant under their state's safe haven laws ... In a news release, battalion chief Jason Allen said that responders retrieved the newborn inside the box in under a minute. "Firefighters provided basic EMS care and comfort to the baby until paramedics arrived on scene and transported the baby to the hospital for further evaluation," he said. (*Live Action News*, 4/20/23; *CLR LifeWire*, 4/21/23)

In New Brunswick, Canada, a community recently came together to honor the 77th birthday of one of their most beloved residents, Bruce Brown, who is believed to be the oldest person living with Down syndrome in the nation. A parade of 70 cars drove by Brown's home, showing the power of every person to make unique and invaluable contributions to their community and the world. According to Laura LaChance, executive director of the Canadian Down Syndrome Society, Bruce is not only believed to be one of the oldest individuals with Down syndrome living in Canada but possibly even in the world. (*Live Action News*, *CLR LifeWire*, 4/21/23)

Speaking up For Life

"Let's also recruit, instruct, and support more couples and families toward opening their homes to serve children in need. Multitudes—majorities, even—of foster families and adoptive parents confess Christ and consider themselves for-life. More foster parents—not fewer children—seems the most praiseworthy solution to foster care failures. And those who can recognize those failures may just be the most excellent candidates for the vocation!" *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life*

"Remember, it is your **INDISPENSABLE** hands that gather up all the coins from baby bottles, the diapers from diaper drives, and the layettes and baby clothes that keep pregnancy resource center shelves stocked and able to provide much needed support for a pregnant mother and father to choose life!" *Rev. Jeff Duncan, Lutherans For Life*

"Your ascended Jesus goes with you. When you have doubts and struggles, take them to Jesus. When you're conflicted and troubled by sin and guilt, take it to Jesus and the cross. Together we lift each other up and grow up in Jesus! You are gifted! You are equipped! Know you are serving Jesus, now and to eternity!" *Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota*

Since 1973: 64,443,118 abortions in America

Source: www.lifenews.com/2023/01/09/64443118-babies-have-been-killed-in-abortions-since-roe-v-wade-in-1973

June Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| 5 Andrew & Christal Hopfensperger | 1 |
| 7 Larry and Charmaine Holz | 54 |
| 8 Jerry and Victoria Belleville | 49 |
| 8 Michael and Karla Ceman | 38 |
| 13 John and Sharon Stephens | 53 |
| 13 Darwin and Mary Wetzel | 9 |
| 14 Michael & Susan VandeSlunt | 36 |
| 15 Nathan and Julie Trauernicht | 27 |
| 19 Tom and Mary Mariani | 8 |
| 23 Samuel and Morgan Mattheis | 6 |
| 23 Michael and Julie Nolan | 33 |
| 24 David and Jean Goodall | 38 |
| 24 Frank and Luanna Kreuziger | 56 |
| 25 George and Rosemary Baumann | 57 |
| 25 Douglas and Judy Zuhlke | 35 |
| 26 John and Marilyn Meyer | 58 |
| 26 Craig and Julie Verheyen | 30 |

Long-Term Prayer List:

- Karla Schmidt (mother of Julie Trauernicht)
- Chuck Rhein (father of Jennifer Harmsen)
- Hannah (granddaughter of Ann Keyser)
- Paula Niecling (daughter of Jan Chase)
- Chelsea Talley (granddaughter of Donna Talley)

PELLA

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Bible Verse of the Month

*Though you have
not seen Him,
you love him.
Though you do not
now see Him,
you believe in Him
and rejoice with joy
that is
inexpressible and
filled with glory.*

(1 Peter 1:8)

Visit our Website
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Treas. Sandy Armga, ext. 104
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Jenna Westphal, ext. 103
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June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12</p>				<p>10:00 AM Bible Study ¹</p>	<p>2 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>3 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>4 NEW SUMMER SCHEDULE! 9:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>5 7:00 PM Elders' Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Divine Service/ Holy Communion</p>	<p>8 10:00 AM Bible Study 2:00 PM Ladies Aid/LWML</p>	<p>9 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>10 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>11 9:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 6:30 PM Trustees' Meeting</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Divine Service</p>	<p>15 10:00 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>16 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>17 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>VBS—God's Living Water—6pm to 8pm</p>						
<p>18 9:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>19 7:00 PM Church Council</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Divine Service</p>	<p>22 10:00 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>23 Church Office Closed NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p>	<p>24 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study</p>
<p>25 9:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Divine Service</p>	<p>29 10:00 AM Bible Study NEWSLETTER MAILING</p>	<p>30 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>Pella Lutheran Church 315 S. Madison Street Waupun, WI Phone 920-324-3321</p>

June 2023 Serving Calendar

Date	Time	Organist / Pianist	Elder/Usher	Finance	Video Recording	Audio / Radio Recording
Sunday June 4	9:00 AM	Sarah Schober	Kevin Hahn	Marj Peachey	Val Loehrke	G. Baumann / Warren Schmitz
Wednesday June 7	7:00 PM	Candis Breitkruetz	Kevin Hahn			
Sunday June 11	9:00 AM	Candis Breitkruetz	George Baumann	Milford & Pat Hopp	Val Loehrke	G. Baumann / Warren Schmitz
Wednesday June 14	7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga	George Baumann			
Sunday June 18	9:00 AM	Lora Huizenga	Warren Schmitz	Gail VanLoo	D. VandeZande	Dan Holz
Wednesday June 21	7:00 PM	Candis Breitkruetz	Darwin Wetzel			
Sunday June 25	9:00 AM	Candis Breitkruetz	Ben Kuenzi	Ben & Debbie Kuenzi	Steve Schmitz	G. Baumann / Warren Schmitz
Wednesday June 28	7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga	Darwin Wetzel			

Altar Circle Committee:
Sharon Friese, Jean Goodall,
Bernice Schultz

As each has received a gift, use it
to serve one another, as good
stewards of God's varied grace.
1 Peter 4:10

Soul Accounting:
Darlene Birkholz-Lueck and
Marion Birkholz