

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor's Desk...

The Bible often compares God's Word to food: "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103) And, "Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation." (1 Peter 2:2) The comparison is easy to understand. Just as good food helps to maintain a healthy body, so also God's Word gives us what we need to grow, mature, and be healthy in our life in Christ. Food keeps us alive, God's Word keeps us alive forever!

Here is another helpful verse making this same comparison: "About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. ¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, ¹³ for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil." (Hebrews 5:11-14) And one more from the prophet Jeremiah: "Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts." (Jeremiah 15:16)

As we read and listen to God's Word, He works through that Word to give us the gift of forgiveness and life through Christ's atoning sacrifice. God gives us peace, joy and hope in Christ along with a renewed will to live in His Commandments. He strengthens our trust in Him and helps us to look to the needs of others in love. God's Word is always good for our health!

If your craving for God's word has diminished recently, such that you are not consuming it as often as He wants you to, the answer is simple: just eat more! Regular attendance in the divine services at church, active bible class participation, daily private devotions; in all these ways we partake of God's good food, His Word. So let us pray regularly: *Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we so hear them, read, mark and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

In Christ's service, Pastor Knuth



CONFIRMATION

May 7, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Braelyn Marme Jane Bruesch

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Alexus Marie Harmsen

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 4

Raegan Marie Holz

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Brayden Alexander Reed

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! Psalm 139:23-24

Markiya Michael Martina Uherka

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Galatians 5:22-23

Dane Christopher Wachter

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13 (NIV)

Kaitlin Clare Westphal

I trust in You, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.'" Psalm 31:14

Join A Bible Study

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class:

Join us at 9:15 through May 21 and at 10:15 for the summer.



Thursday Morning Bible Class: We are studying the book of Acts at 10am each Thursday.

Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study: Men of all ages are invited at 7am. Currently looking at the book of Job.

NEW! Tuesday Evening: Beginning May 2, Pastor Knuth will lead a 4-week bible study at 6:30 p.m.

Church Directories are Here!

If your photo was taken or submitted, please pick up your free copy in the church office.

From the Vicar's Desk...

““ He said to them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’
¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven’” (Matthew 16:15-17). In the Service of the Word, after hearing the Scriptures read aloud, we get to confess our common faith together by reciting one of the Creeds. The title “Creed” comes from the Latin word *credo*, which means “I believe.” Like Peter confessed the true identity of Jesus the Christ, we get to confess the true identity of our Triune God. These words, although not found word-for-word in the Scriptures, are a full and proper explanation of what is taught throughout Holy Scriptures regarding who God is and accurately describe what we, as Christians, believe.

There are three Creeds: The Apostles’, The Nicene, and The Athanasian. The Apostles’ Creed received its name from an ancient Christian tale that on the day of Pentecost, each one of the Twelve Apostles spoke a portion of the creed, thus creating a testimony of the faith they would proclaim to the world. In the Middle Ages, the creed was taught in twelve articles reflecting this belief. By the time of the Reformation, this pious fiction was scrutinized for lack of basis and Luther taught it in three articles, returning its trinitarian view. The Nicene Creed is called so because it was first adopted by the Church at the Council of Nicea (325 AD) in defense of the Arian heresy that denied Christ being the eternal Son of God, co-equal with the Father. This creed’s expanded and fuller statement of faith, especially respecting the Person of Christ, makes it popular to use on days where Communion is held. The Athanasian Creed is the longest and most detailed of the three and is typically recited on Trinity Sunday.

The creeds exist because it is necessary to state publicly our acceptance of the truths of God’s Word. It prevents heresies from creeping into the Church and provides a basis for learning the basics of our faith. Repeating one of them each Sunday definitely helps reinforce our faith, but there are many ways to utilize the creeds. One option I highly recommend is to use the parts of a creed to help shape your family devotionals throughout the week. Flesh and blood do not reveal the truths of the Creeds to us, although they were written by men it was our Father in heaven that revealed it in His Word. Amen.

In Christ’s service, *Vicar Schober*

2023-24 Vicar



Pella has been assigned Cody Schrepferman to serve as our next Vicar. He is from Elburn, Illinois and is currently completing his second year at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Vicar Schrepferman and his soon-to-be bride, Grace, will join us this summer. Please keep them in your prayers and let us all give them a warm Pella welcome to Waupun!

Future Vicar Funding

The future of our church body relies on having Pastors to preach and teach God’s Word. As you know, we have been helping with this need by hosting Vicars, assisting them in their training to become Pastors.

It costs about \$55,000 per year to fund the Vicarage program here at Pella. This includes salary, housing, utilities, insurance and other related expenses. Vicars Aaron Wendorff, Josh Benish, John Schober and Cody Schrepferman have all been funded with money from a large gift received in 2019. However, to apply for a Vicar for 2024-25 and beyond, we will need to raise funds. One thing we can do is re-evaluate our current budget items. Ideally, we would have enough funds set aside to be able to host a Vicar for several consecutive years so we can keep the same apartment in place.

To be able to apply for a Vicar in 2024-25 (deadline is February) we would need funds raised or a plan in place by the October voter’s meeting so that a decision can be made at that time. With a cursory look at what we currently have in funds, we will need approximately \$25,000 to go forward in 2024. If you wish to contribute specifically for this purpose, above and beyond your current giving to the general fund for the current needs of our congregation, please put your donation in an envelope marked “Future Vicar”. You may use your own envelope or pick up specially-marked envelopes in the narthex or church office. In your 2024 Contribution envelopes there will be quarterly envelopes designated for the Future Vicar Fund.

Our Vicars have all stated that their time at Pella has been a blessing to them, and that they have benefited from being trained by Pastor Knuth and our members as they prepare for full-time service to the Lord as a Pastor. If you support the on-going Vicarage program we have here at Pella, please prayerfully consider making a special donation to the Future Vicar Fund.

AROUND PELLA

Service Time Change

Beginning **May 28** we will have one Sunday service at 9:00 a.m. Bible class will follow at 10:15 a.m. Please make a note of this change for the summer.

May Select Mission:

Missionary Rev. Michael Paul

Our Select Mission support of \$1,000 will be sent to **Rev. Michael Paul** as he and his wife, Irene, serve the Lord in Taiwan. Pastor Paul will be at Pella to preach on **Sunday, May 14**. Please plan to stay for the bible study hour to hear more about the work they are doing in Taiwan.



Saturday, May 6

9 AM to 3 PM

We will work together to package nutritious meals to be sent to those in need, particularly to those suffering in Ukraine as war continues. Everyone is welcome to help, no experience necessary. Hours are 9am to 3pm, but you can stop in for whatever time works with your schedule. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Our goal is to pack 20,000 rice meals and up to 80,000 oatmeal-based meals. To God be the glory as we work in His name to serve others!

Super Seniors Dinner

Sunday, May 21 at Noon

RSVP by May 10 at (920) 324-3321 x101

May Birthdays

1 Trista Gallenbeck	16 Debbie Kuenzi	25 Loretta Gedamke
1 Carter Bunkoske	16 Brylea Martinez	26 Kenneth Baumhardt
5 Julie Vanderbush	16 Aaron Schouten	26 Dusty Gerrits
5 Cassidy Pluim	18 Logan Hopp	26 Lyla Mattheis
6 Sam Mattheis	18 Lori Schmidt	27 Bernice Schultz
7 Arlyn Landheer	20 Jeffrey Pluim	28 Julie Verheyen
9 Jordan Parsons	21 Travis TerBeest	28 Eugene Wock
9 Sarah Schober	22 Amy Hopp	28 Veda Pulda
11 Janelle Hendricks	22 Lisa Vande Slunt	29 Crystal Slosser
13 Kathy Ryan	23 George Baumann	30 Cory Peterson
14 Celestine Witkowski	23 Luann Westhuis	30 Jeffrey Swan
16 Jeffrey Bonack	24 Braeson Cornelius	31 Kenneth Pluim
	24 Addilyn Pluim	

Mother's Day Roses



Mother's Day roses will be available in the narthex and by the elevator entrance on Sunday, May 14th. Celebrate and honor your mother on her special day this year by giving her a rose - the international symbol of the pro-life movement. Suggested donation is just \$2 for each flower. All proceeds will benefit Wisconsin Right to Life.

Benish Call



Our former Vicar, Josh Benish, has been called to serve in the South Wisconsin District as Church Planter, specifically in Monticello, Green County. Please keep Josh and Talitha in your prayers as he completes his seminary classes, as they move their household again, and as he is ordained and installed in the Holy Ministry.

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.



May Anniversaries

1 Fred and Sandra McIver	58
3 Matthew & Cassandra Shadley	9
12 Gary and Kim Luchini	33
14 Michael and Suzanne Pluim	40
26 Jeffrey and Julie Bonack	33
30 Arlyn and Mary Landheer	42

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)

'Together in Mission' Missionaries:

Cindy Zirbel Wrucke (Czech Republic)
Rev. Michael & Irene Paul (Taiwan)

PELLA

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Bible Verse of the Month

*“Like newborn infants,
long for the pure
spiritual milk, that by
it you may grow up
into salvation.”*

1 Peter 2:2

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www.pellalutheran.org

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Treas. Sandy Armga, ext. 104
treasurer@pellalutheran.org

Jenna Westphal, ext. 103
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May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 PM Youth Board	2	3 9:00 AM Quilting 6:00 PM Sr. & Jr. Youth 7:00 PM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	4 10:00 AM Bible Study	5 Church Office Closed	6 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9AM-3PM Mercy Meals Packing
7 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 8:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast	8 7:00 PM Elders' Meeting	9 6:30 PM Trustees Meeting	10 9:00 AM Quilting 6:00 PM Sr. & Jr. Youth 7:00 PM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	11 10:00 AM Bible Study	12 Church Office Closed	13 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
14 Guest Pastor Michael Paul 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast	15 7:00 PM Church Council	16	17 9:00 AM Quilting 6:00 PM Sr. & Jr. Youth 7:00 PM Divine Service (Ascension Day Observed)	18 Ascension Day 10:00 AM Bible Study	19 Church Office Closed NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
21 (Ascension Day Observed) 8:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 9:15 AM Education Hour 10:30 AM Divine Service 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast NOON Super Senior Dinner	22	23	24 9:00 AM Quilting 6:00 PM Sr. & Jr. Youth 7:00 PM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	25 10:00 AM Bible Study NEWSLETTER MAILING	26 Church Office Closed	27 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
28 NEW SUMMER SCHEDULE! 9:00 AM Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Radio Broadcast	29  <i>Memorial</i> DAY Church Office Closed	30	31 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Divine Service	Pella Lutheran Church 315 S. Madison St. Waupun, WI 53963 920-324-3321		

May 2023 Serving Calendar

Date	Time	Organist / Pianist	Elder/Usher	Finance	Video Recording	Audio / Radio Recording
Wednesday May 3	7:00 PM	Sarah Schober	Ben Kuenzi			
Sunday May 7	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Sarah Schober	George Baumann	Marj Peachey Diana Beder	Val Loehrke	G. Baumann / Warren Schmitz
Wednesday May 10	7:00 PM	Lora Huizenga	Darwin Wetzel			
Sunday May 14	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Lora Huizenga	Kevin Hahn	B. & D. Kuenzi M. & P. Hopp	Val Loehrke	G. Baumann / Warren Schmitz
Wednesday May 17	7:00 PM	Candis Breitkruetz	Ben Kuenzi			
Sunday May 21	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Candis Breitkruetz	Ben Kuenzi	Gail VanLoo Cheryl Pater	D. VandeZande	Dan Holz
Wednesday May 24	7:00 PM	Sarah Schober	Darwin Wetzel			
Sunday May 28	9:00 AM	Sarah Schober	Warren Schmitz	Ben & Debbie Kuenzi	Steve Schmitz	G. Baumann / Warren Schmitz
Wednesday May 31	7:00 PM	Candis Breitkruetz	Darwin Wetzel			

Altar Circle Committee: Donna Klosterman & Tomi Knuth
Soul Accounting: Ken & Val Loehrke

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
Serve the LORD with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing! Psalm 100:1-2*

