



Zion Lutheran Monthly

February 2021

Pastor's Corner

"Put your sword back into its place."

- Jesus to Peter (*Matthew 26:52*)

The "fresh start" we were hoping the New Year would bring basically vanished on January 6th. Our own Capital building was raided by a violent mob of our own citizens hoping to overturn our own elections. Not a great start to a supposedly new (and better) year was it?

One of the many spiritual concerns I have in our current cultural climate is in regard to "*rebellion against the state.*" There are several pastors/media personalities trying to convince people the election was fraudulent and that it is proper for Christians to fight it . . . and I do mean FIGHT. In their minds, we can't allow the Christian church to suffer. In their minds, we can't allow Christian rights to possibly be taken away. To these Christian pastors/media personalities, and to all of us who may be listening to them, I encourage us to follow God's Word when it comes to governments and the suffering God allows His church to endure in this world.

It is true that we are to disobey a government if the government forces us to go against God's Word (*see 4th commandment explanation; Acts 5:29, Matthew 22:21*). However, disobeying a government never means to actually take up arms and FIGHT that government. The Apostle Paul wrote about obeying governments in 55 A.D. saying, "*every person [should be] be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed*" (*Romans 13:1-2*). Keep in mind, Paul was referencing the ROMAN government which did the following to Christians: outlawed Christianity until 313 A.D., blamed Christians for a fire in Rome and crucified/beheaded most of them in the city in 64 A.D., and beheaded Paul the same year. It was about THIS government that Paul said, "*every person [should be] be subject to the governing authorities.*"



I pray that we, as Christians, take Paul's Words to heart. When we are dealing with politics, I also pray we keep our mouths in check. Always keep in mind, you are an ambassador for Christ, you represent Him in this world. Every time we speak ill of our governing authorities (regardless of the party), we are making a mockery of the authority God has put into place in this world. God has always watched out for His church on earth. It is His church to care for and He will continue to care for her in good times and bad and, yes, He may even bring persecution upon her at times to refine her (*Isaiah 48:10*). In the end though, it is God who will preserve His church, and bring her to life everlasting (*Revelation 21:2*). We don't need to give in to fear. We can give in to faith that Christ will care for us as He always has.

— Pastor Grimenstein

Chairman's Report

The Days are Getting Longer

February is dawning and Ash Wednesday is the 17th of the month!!! Christians on this orb will be getting ready for the most important holiday, Easter. Amen.

Your Church Council is planning a rather busy schedule of activities this year. Hopefully in the summer we'll be making a few improvements to the facility. We'll be remodeling the kitchen and replacing the carpeting in the school building classrooms. Both of those projects need to take place in the summer window of opportunity when the buildings are least utilized. Your Trustees are also looking at adding the same type of air conditioning units to the Fellowship Hall that are installed in the Sanctuary. That should really help us keep the hall more comfortable and better utilized in the future during hot weather.

Of course, there are a lot of uncertainties facing us due to the ongoing situation regarding the virus pandemic. Yet, it is our hope we will move ahead with conviction of purpose and keep getting things accomplished while maintaining our Christian services and keeping the Sacraments available to the membership. The days might be getting longer but the "light" to which we aspire isn't the light of the sun, but the Light of the world, Christ Jesus.



1 Tim. 6:12 encourages us to, "Fight the good fight of the faith." We shall. Thank you for your time, talent and treasure in supporting the "fight" to keep the "Faith" alive and flourishing at Zion. Pray for the Christians on the Earth, our LCMS churches and our church at Zion as 2021 lays the challenges before us and we march into battle against the foe.

— Paul Klemash

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday school check-in runs from 9:20-9:30 am. Classes begin at 9:30 am. See the checklist below for what you need to know before, upon arrival, and leaving Sunday school.



February Lessons & Teachers

Dates	Lessons	Pre - K	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 6
		Room 205	Room 208	Room 207	Room 206
February 7	Jesus and the Samaritan Woman	Barb Oechslein	Megan Glasser	Linda Kroeger	Tess Carter
February 14	Jesus is Rejected at Nazareth	Barb Oechslein	Carrie Lemonovich	Linda Kroger	Susie Bishop
February 21	Jesus Calls Disciples	Barb Oechslein	Carrie Lemonovich	Andy Weldon	Susie Bishop
February 28	Jesus Heals Many	Barb Oechslein	Carrie Lemonovich	Andy Weldon	Susie Bishop

February Apologetics Lessons (Post-Confirmation Age)

February 7	Is the God of the Old Testament the same God of the NT?
February 14	What is my identity?
February 21	Does human life matter? When does it begin/end?
February 28	As a Christian, can I like science?

Teacher:
Michelle Wallace

Classroom:
Lower Conf Rm

Sunday School Checklist

We have been working hard to put appropriate safety measures in place. Information has been emailed to Sunday school parents with specific details regarding COVID-19 practices and requirements for Sunday school. Below is a Quick Checklist parents can use before arrival.

- Submit **Release Form regarding COVID-19 Matters** (www.zlcb.org/sunday-school)
- Submit the **COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures Form** (www.zlcb.org/sunday-school)
- **Face masks** are required. Don't forget to send one with your child.
- All children will report to their designated **Temperature Check Station** before going to class.
- All children will **wash or sanitize hands** before entering and upon leaving their classroom.
- **No food or water** will be provided! Water fountains are closed. Parents can send a labeled water bottle, if necessary.

Virtual Sunday School Options

We will offer LIVE Sunday school lessons via Zoom to our students from 1st - 9th grades. Your teacher will email you requesting an RSVP to the virtual class. If you have not received an email and would like your child to participate, please contact Katie Gielarowski.



Save the Date!

June 21st-25th

9 am to noon

In the Spotlight

Zion Lutheran Preschool Program



The man came down, down, down, and Jesus raised him up, up, up!

This was the rhyme Pastor taught the children during our Chapel lesson last week. Each week we gather in the sanctuary to hear another Bible story taught by Pastor. In non-COVID years, the children would sit together on the steps in front of the altar and listen intently as the story was being told. This year the children are sitting in the pews in their "classroom bubbles". At first, I was not happy about changing the way we had to do Chapel ... the children could not sit together, or interact with each-other ... just another thing COVID was interfering with!

As the weeks went on I realized that I was focused on the wrong thing. As I sat in the pew behind the children I realized that not only were they still loving every minute of Chapel, but now they were able to see our beautiful cross with Jesus ... their little eyes were now focused on Christ, as mine should have been all along, and not focused on the logistics that were not appealing to me. We were still able to gather and hear the Word of God just like the many people who came to hear Jesus teach and heal the paralytic man. So many people came to hear Jesus teach, to hear his Father's word. They did not care if they were inside or outside of the house, sitting on the steps of the altar, or in the pews ... hearing the word of God is all that matters. I pray that we can all keep our eyes focused on Christ, and not the challenges we each face daily. Look up to Christ to get us through those challenges.

God's blessings to you!

Tracey Harris



2021 National Lutheran Schools Week

Last week was a celebration of all Lutheran Schools across the country!

--Did you know?--

Schools in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod serve children in early childhood programs through grade 12 in over 1,900 schools nationwide and 3 schools internationally. Additionally, 9 colleges and universities operate to serve post-secondary and graduate students across the nation. (LuthEd)

We have many Lutheran schools in the Pittsburgh area! Redeemer in Verona offers a preschool – 12th grade education, St. Luke's in Butler offers a preschool – 8th grade education, and many area churches have Lutheran preschools, Zion's being one of the largest!

Lutheran school across the country celebrated this special week in a variety of ways, such as fun dress-up days and events, and service activities for the homeless and elderly. Some students also joined thousands across the nation on a virtual mission field trip to Thailand each day! It was a busy week and tons of fun.

Your support of Lutheran schools is needed to help them continue to show the love of Christ to their students and their families while equipping them for a life of Christian citizenship and discipleship. Consider donating your time/talents/treasure to a Lutheran School today!





Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In recent weeks, I have received a number of inquiries from concerned members of the Synod about the COVID-19 vaccines, as they seek to maintain their support for the sanctity of life and for religious freedom. These questions have come not in the interests of politicizing the matter, but out of sincere Christian moral convictions. Having consulted with our district presidents and other agencies of the Synod, I requested that the staff of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, in collaboration with the Office of National Mission's Life Ministry, draft "[The LCMS and COVID-19 Vaccines: Facts and Considerations.](#)" On the basis of this counsel, let me address a few of your most pressing questions.

1) Are COVID-19 vaccines related to abortion? The science regarding this is complex. The two vaccines currently approved by the FDA — Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna — were not designed, developed or produced using cell lines derived from aborted human fetal tissue. Other vaccine candidates — including the UK-approved Oxford/AstraZeneca — did use human fetal tissue, however. The Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines did perform laboratory tests using cells derived from abortions (one from 1972 and another from 1985) to confirm the final vaccine quality (as, surprisingly, do many other commonly used medications and vaccines). For more information on how the COVID-19 vaccines relate to abortion, I encourage you to consult the website of the [pro-life bioethicists at the Charlotte Lozier Institute](#) and the list they maintain there. According to their assessment, neither the Pfizer/BioNTech nor Moderna vaccines contain any substance derived from aborted human fetal cells.

2) Does the Synod have a position on the reception of vaccines using human fetal tissue? The Synod does not have an official position on such vaccines at this time. Official decisions of this nature come through the Synod acting in convention, and no convention action has yet been taken. However, our church body remains firmly committed to the sanctify of life, and we continually seek to advocate for pro-life positions in the public square.

3) Can I obtain a religious exemption for the COVID-19 vaccine? Religious or personal belief exemptions are based on conscientious objection and do not require official support from the denomination. The absence of an official Synod stance does not impact your ability to seek an exemption. Please consult your local lawmakers or public health officials for more information on how to proceed should the need arise.

Cont'd.

4) Should I take the COVID-19 vaccine? This is a question only you can answer. Some may choose not to take the vaccine because of concerns over its relation to abortion or fear of possible health complications. Others may take it in spite of such reservations out of concern for their own health or that of their neighbor. Since neither Scripture nor the Synod has explicitly addressed this issue, it remains a matter of Christian freedom where you must choose according to your individual conscience.

5) How should I talk about the vaccine with others who disagree with my view of it? In a sensitive issue of this nature, we remember the words of St. James: “Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger” (James 1:19). Listen carefully and openly to the points of others. Consider them. Share your positions patiently and objectively. Reflect upon your own penchant for error. Forgive others where they sin against you and ask for forgiveness where you wrong them.

In this contentious issue, we must respect the consciences of fellow believers who share our same commitment to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, as well as our life together as a Synod. As St. Paul urges us regarding matters of conscience, “let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor” (1 Cor. 10:24), and “let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother” (Rom. 14:13). At a time of cultural upheaval, I would encourage you not to allow disagreement even over undoubtedly important matters such as this to take precedence over the faith that unites us in Christ. In all things, we should heed the call to “maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Eph. 4:3).

[Please study the document linked here.](#) It provides a summary of what we know about the vaccines, their relation to the issue of abortion, and what we can (and cannot) say about these matters from the Synod’s perspective. I hope it proves useful to you as you wrestle with how to bear Christian witness in this world through your love of both God and neighbor. “Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen” (Heb. 13:20–21).

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Matthew C. Harrison
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

P.S.: “The LCMS and COVID-19 Vaccines: Facts and Considerations” document is available online at [lcms.org/doc/covid19-vaccines-fact-sheet](https://www.lcms.org/doc/covid19-vaccines-fact-sheet).



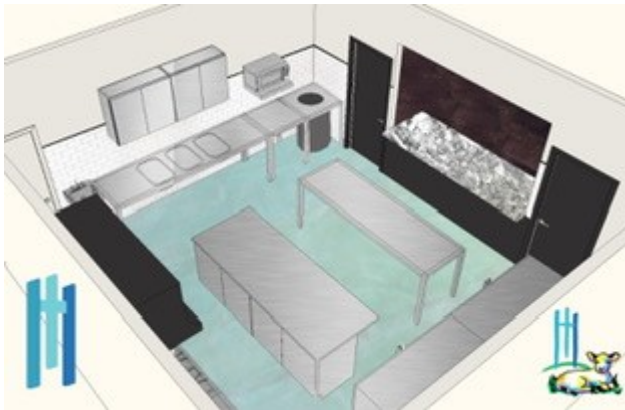
Zion's Forward in Faith Kitchen Campaign to resume at in early February

At the Voter's Meeting on Sunday 1/31, voters approved the recommended kitchen design plan presented by Zion's Kitchen Upgrade Committee (see mock-ups, below, presented at meeting).

Voter's also approved resuming the Forward in Faith Kitchen Campaign to raise the remaining funds necessary in order to complete the renovation during the period from 6/28/21 through 8/6/21.



The campaign will resume with a letter to all member households the first week of February. Please be on the look out for your letter!



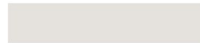
Zion Kitchen Aesthetic Design Plan

Aim: to create an aesthetically pleasing design that is functional, easy to maintain, affordable, durable, efficient, and timeless; Bright and appropriate for a windowless food-prep space; Coordinates with the design identity of Zion's Church and Preschool.



Logo Wall Art

- Personal to Zion; both church and preschool logos incorporated
- Sets foundation for limited color palette



Wall Color Above Tile

- Drywall above tile removes "basement" feel of cinderblock, easier to maintain, allows for visually appealing application of tile below (no contrasting/conflicting grout lines)
- Warm, neutral greige white keeps space bright and clean but sets off tile



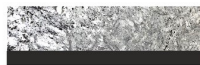
White Subway Tile

- Glossy white tiles, bright & easy to clean
- Exact white to be coordinated with granite
- Standard running bond pattern; classic and timeless
- Thin, grey grout lines easy to maintain & don't show dirt



Black Cladding on Hood, Trim on Fellowship Doors

- Appealing visual contrast
- Durable and resistant to scuffs/damage



Black Cabinets on Outer Pass-through; Granite Counter

- Cabinet color discreet & withstands wear
- Granite Counter black & white with large texture & movement
- Creates warmth & blends Fellowship Hall with Kitchen
- Coordinates well with floor color, stainless, and pulls in black & white



Stainless Counters, Prep Spaces

- Appropriate for large community kitchens
- Timeless, easy to clean, ideal for food prep



Polished Concrete Flooring

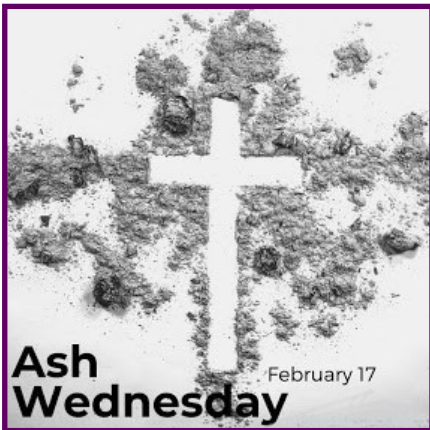
- Muted "Robin's Egg Blue" adds color without being too bold
- Bright for windowless room, coordinates with Zion Logo
- Blends very well with stainless, black & white
- Practical & efficient; Tranquil & airy color choice





2021 MEMBER CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES are available on the long table in the back of the sanctuary in alphabetical order. Please be sure to take yours, as well as those of any family members or friends who may not be attending church at this time!

ALTAR FLOWER & ETERNAL LIGHT SPONSORSHIPS for dates in 2021 are now available in the back of the sanctuary!



The season of Lent begins
Wednesday, February 17th

Beginning on 2/17, we will have two Lenten services each week ... an afternoon service at 2 pm for those who are uncomfortable driving at night, and our regular 7pm service.

- Wed. 2/17 — 2 pm & 7 pm Ash Wednesday services
- Wed. 2/24 — 2 pm & 7 pm Lenten services

The afternoon Lenten services are being offered on a trial basis, and their continuation into March will be based on the level of attendance in February.



**Unable to attend church on Sunday?
No access to a computer for online service? ...**



No problem! Simply tune your radio to ***“God with Us”*** Sunday mornings at 10:30am on WORD-FM 101.5. The program features a worship service conducted by Rev. Dr. Daniel Hahn, Pastor of the Tri-Parish community of St. John’s, Bethel and Zion (Lawrencville) Lutheran Churches.



Bethesda Lutheran Communities is a national organization providing homes and other services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Headquartered in Watertown, Wis, Bethesda strives to become a central point of connection that unites people who have disabilities with communities and provides essential resources to help them live their lives to the fullest. An RSO of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Bethesda offers more than 300 programs across the country, and is guided by Christian faith. For more information, go to <http://www.bethesdalc.org>.

In Love, We Serve:

Meet the Volunteers of the Bethesda Auxiliary

The Bethesda Lutheran Communities Auxiliary is a network of people brought together to provide spiritual and financial support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Auxiliary's mission is to share the love of Jesus Christ with people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities in partnership with Bethesda Lutheran Communities. The talents of more than 3,400 men, women and youth create connections—in the church and in the community—that help the people Bethesda supports pursue their faith.

The Auxiliary currently serves in organized groups in Hawaii, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Colorado, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Texas/Louisiana as Bethesda's Good Samaritan Home Women's Auxiliary, and in more than 25 other states.

Get Involved

In Oregon, Auxiliary volunteers join Bethesda's ministry consultants and staff as they show the love of Jesus by leading Bible studies and providing social gatherings. In Washington, Colorado, Idaho, Hawaii and many other states, Auxiliary volunteers hold bazaars and other events to provide financial support for projects. Each year the Auxiliary funds between \$80,000 and \$120,000 for these projects. In Texas, the Auxiliary raises money by honoring the memory of cherished loved ones.



The Bethesda Auxiliary continues to grow nationwide, providing service opportunities to people of all ages. We invite you to contact us to learn more about how you can get involved and begin making an impact today.

Scrapbook Project

The Bethesda Auxiliary is launching a new scrapbook project with the goal of making a scrapbook for each person Bethesda supports. Scrapbooks are made with the person's interests in mind and includes space for pictures, memorabilia, memories, holidays and more. The focus of this project is to involve congregations and youth in disability ministry.

Contact Bethesda at 800.369.4636 to learn more about getting involved with the Auxiliary.

Shout Out to Students



Highlighting the academic awards, scholarships, and extra-curricular achievements of Zion's students in Kindergarten through College.

Ava Pasquini and her teammates on the All Star Cheer team won 1st place at the Super Nationals cheer competition in Indianapolis, IN recently. They earned a bid to compete with teams from all over the country in Orlando Florida this May! Ava is a Sophomore at Upper St. Clair H.S.



Aidan Dibert recently passed his test to become a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do! He had been studying and practicing Tae Kwon Do for more than four years, working his way toward becoming a Black Belt. Aidan is in 4th grade in the Canon-Mac School District.



Charles Wallace, a Sophomore at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI, was recently accepted into the University's pre-seminary program following an interview process. Charles aspires to become an LCMS Pastor and has been interning at Peace Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor, where he assists the Pastor with the liturgy during Sunday services.

Thank you to the congregation for the love, prayers and many cards of hope and encouragement during Peter's illness.

Love,
Barbara (and Peter) Fisher





What About...

Holy Baptism

Suppose for a moment that there was a doctor who had such incredible talent that he could prevent people from dying, and bring those who had died back to life, never to die again. Just imagine how people would do whatever they could to be treated by this doctor! Now consider that in Holy Baptism, God actually does give us the gift of eternal life! Let's learn more about this marvelous blessing.

What is Baptism? *Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.*¹

What's so special about a handful of simple water? Nothing, until God connects His Word to it! In Baptism, that is exactly what God is doing. He combines His life-creating and life-giving Word with the waters of Holy Baptism, and thereby we are born again of water and the Spirit (John 3:5).

What is that Word of God? *Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt.28:19).*

Our Lord commands Baptism. It is not optional, nor is it simply a nice "extra." God's Word takes on many forms, according to His good and gracious will. The Word is preached, taught, and proclaimed. It is read, studied and meditated on. It is shared by Christians, with non-Christian and fellow believer, alike. And it is that Word of God, His promise, that makes Baptism what it is. God Himself is present as His name is joined to the water, with all His power and all His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. Christ consecrates the water of Baptism with His Word, so as we in Baptism stand with Christ in the water, the Father calls us His beloved children, the Holy Spirit is given to us, and heaven is opened to us. Those who receive Baptism after they have been brought to faith by the preaching or teaching of the Word also receive all the blessings God has attached to Baptism.

What benefits does Baptism give? *It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare. Which are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter*

of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16).

In and through Baptism, God cleanses us from all our sins, snatches us from the power of Satan, and gives us everlasting life. It is all God's doing. It is His promise. In Baptism, our Triune God imparts to each of us personally the gifts the Lord Jesus Christ won for the world through His life, suffering, death, and resurrection. See Gal.3:27; Col.1:13-14; 1 Peter 3:21; Titus 3:5-7 and 1 Cor.6:11.

How can water do such great things? *Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's Word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying" (Titus 3:5-8).*

Of course, simple water can't do such great things, but the water of Baptism is not simple water! Baptism is one very special way God delivers to us the blessings Christ won for us. Baptism is not something we do, but something God does. Therefore, it is far more than a symbol. It is a sacred act in which God Himself is at work forgiving sins, giving new life in Christ and bestowing on us the Holy Spirit with all of His gifts. Baptism gives us the faith through which we receive these gifts. God the Holy Spirit works faith in the promises attached to Baptism.

What does such baptizing with water indicate? *It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever. Where*



What About...

Cont'd

Holy Baptism

is this written? St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through Baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life"(Rom.6:4).

In Baptism we are buried with Christ, and in Baptism we are raised with Christ. His death and resurrection are made our own, and because of that fact, through our entire life, we are able to say, "I am baptized!" Having been buried with Christ into His death we do not have to be afraid of the tomb in which we will rest one day. Christ has already been there. In Holy Baptism we have passed through His grave into His resurrection.

As Luther says in his Large Catechism, "If I am baptized, I have the promise that I shall be saved and have eternal life, both in soul and body. ...No greater jewel can adorn our body and soul than Baptism.

...Baptism is a treasure which God gives us and faith grasps, just as the Lord Christ upon the cross is not a human work, but a treasure comprehended and offered to us in the Word and received by faith."

What does Baptism have to do with our daily life?

Everything! Our entire life is a life lived trusting in the promises of God, given to us in and through Holy Baptism. We are constantly returning to Baptism. In moments of temptation and suffering in our lives, when all seems to be crashing down on us, and in particular in those moments when our sin and the guilt of those sins haunt us, we are able, as Luther says, to "Pull out our Baptism and wave it under the devil's nose and say, 'I am baptized. ...I have God's bath. It is Christ's own blood.' It is a bath blessed and mixed with the blood of Christ."² We can't return to the cross of Christ, nor should we attempt to imagine ourselves back there. No, we turn instead to the "here and now" reality of God's work in our lives. We return to our Baptism. For it was there and then that God buried us with Christ and raised us with Him to a new life.

In his *Large Catechism*, Luther says, "Every Christian has enough to study and to practice all his life. He always has enough to do to believe firmly what Baptism promises and brings—victory over death and the devil, forgiveness of sins, God's grace, the entire Christ, and the Holy Spirit with His gifts." And: "If you live in repentance, therefore, you are walking in

Baptism, which not only announces this new life, but also produces, begins and promotes it. In Baptism we are given the grace, Spirit and power to suppress the old man, so that the new man may come forth and grow strong. Therefore, Baptism remains forever.

...Repentance, therefore, is nothing else than a return and approach to Baptism."

Why are infants and young children baptized?

They are baptized for the same reason adults are baptized— because of the command and promise of God. What is promised in Baptism is given to all who receive it; therefore, infants and young children also have the promise of God. They, too, are made children of God. They, too, are included in the words "all nations" (Matt.28:19). Jesus specifically invites little children to come to Him (Luke 18:15–17). But most important, as sinners, infants need what Baptism gives. By His word, God created all that is seen and unseen. By His word, our Lord Christ called a dead man from the tomb (John 11:43–44). The unborn child, John the Baptist, leaped in his mother's womb when he heard the word of God (Luke 1:41–44). Why is there any doubt that in and through the Word and the promise of Baptism, God works a similar gift of faith in the infant? If we misunderstand Baptism to be our work, then we will always cast doubt on it. When we recognize that it is not our work, but God's gracious promise and work, we realize that infants are to be baptized and receive the treasures offered in and through Baptism. Sadly, there are individuals and church bodies that deny Baptism to young children and infants. They do not believe that these little ones need what Holy Baptism gives. They do not believe what the Bible teaches so clearly, namely, that God saves us through Baptism. As a result of these false teachings, they deny both to themselves and to others the power, blessing and comfort of Holy Baptism. That is tragic, for it is a most serious offense against God to deny what He plainly declares in His Word: "The promise is for you and your children" (Acts 2:39) and "Baptism now saves you" (1 Peter 3:21).

1. The words in italics are from Luther's *Small Catechism*.

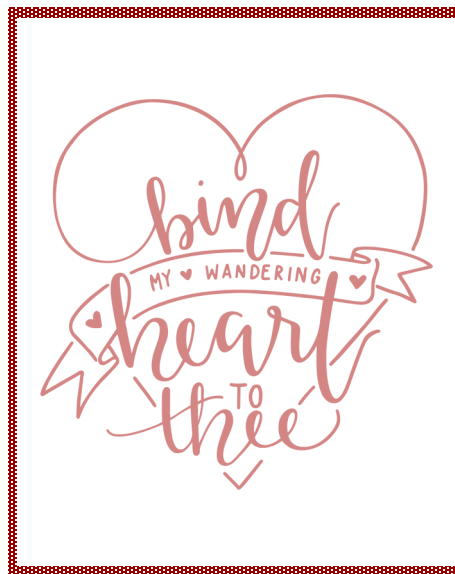
2. WA 47:651,10-19,32-36.

Dr. A. L. Barry
Past President

The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod

February Service Participants

Date	Time	Acolytes
February 7	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Will Schrag Johnny Lemonovich
February 14	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Decklan Pasquini Christian Bonacci
February 21	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Will Schrag Kate Lemonovich
February 28	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Noah Wallace Christian Bonacci

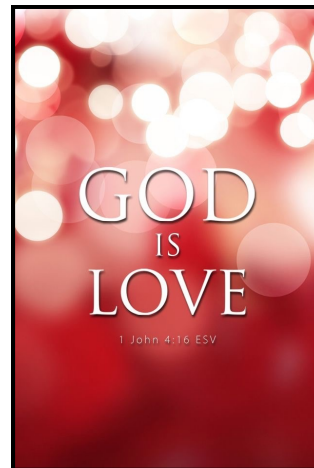


	Elders	Altar Guild	8:00 am Ushers	10:30 am Ushers
Feb	Brian Pasquini Mike Wallace	Janet Oelschlager Marian Oelschlager	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier, Dale Miller	John & Tom Garrubba, Dan & Tracey Harris
Mar	Bill Bishop Mike Kroeger	Janet Oelschlager Marian Oelschlager	Brian & Megan Pasquini, Wayne & Barb Oechslein	John & Kari Gresh, Andy & Dwight Weldon

February Birthdays

2nd – Nell Wilson
4th – Ginny Kimberland
5th – Hope Mance
5th – Alice Miller
5th – Charles Wallace
6th – Tracey Harris
9th – Nancy Gielarowski
10th – Margaret Hajduk
11th – Jenna Eckels
12th – Kitt Kroeger
13th – Tracey Coyle
13th – Chuck LaJeunesse
16th – Nathan Grimenstein

18th – Sarah Erbrecht
21th – Joyce Wood
22th – Olivia Gielarowski
25th – Gladys Kolljeski
25th – Betty Valentino
26th – Tom Erbrecht
27th – Rich Berardelli
27th – Kathleen Conn
27th – Kristen Neill



Bridgeville Area Food Bank





The February collection for the Bridgeville Area Food Bank is Sunday, February 14th. The “item of the month” is CEREAL & BREAKFAST FOODS. Items may be placed in the wicker receptacle in the narthex near the coat rack.

You are also welcome to help at the food bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 am and noon at Bethany Presbyterian Church (contact Barb Oechslein for more information). Many families in our area are in need due to the financial downturn. Please continue to support the Food Bank with your donations and volunteer service!



February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir 7:00 pm Trustees Mtg 7:15 pm Choir 8:15 pm Faith Bell Choir	2	3 7:00 pm Service of Prayer & Preaching	4 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	5	6 10:00 am Small Group Worship Service
7 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/ Teen Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	8 6:00 pm 1st yr Confirmation 6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir 7:00 pm 2nd yr Confirmation 7:15 pm Choir 8:15 pm Faith Bell Choir	9	10 7:00 pm Service of Prayer & Preaching	11 7:00 pm Council Meeting	12	13 10:00 am Small Group Worship Service
14 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/ Teen Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship FOOD BANK COLLECTION	15 6:00 pm 1st yr Confirmation 6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir 7:00 pm 2nd yr Confirmation 7:15 pm Choir 8:15 pm Faith Bell Choir	16	17 ASH WEDNESDAY 2:00 pm Lenten Service 7:00 pm Lenten Service	18	19	20 10:00 am Small Group Worship Service
21 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/ Teen Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	22 6:00 pm 1st yr Confirmation 6:15 pm Grace Bell Choir 7:00 pm 2nd yr Confirmation 7:15 pm Choir 8:15 pm Faith	23 7:00 pm Sunday School Mtg.	24 2:00 pm Lenten Service 7:00 pm Lenten Service	25	26	27 10:00 am Small Group Worship Service
28 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/ Teen Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship						

Sunday morning worship at 8:00am and 10:30am



Zion Lutheran Church
3197 Washington Pike
Bridgeville, PA 15017

