

**CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
SAMUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

500 Village Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

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Samuel Lutheran School

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Mr. John Festerling, Principal (507)872-6353

From the **PASTOR**—

I can't believe that it is already time to write the August newsletter! The summer is almost over. Where did it go? Pretty soon there will be a chill in the air.....okay I'm not going there – it's too depressing. Instead let's talk about some good things that summer has brought with it again this year. Let's start with our summer music/VBS program. For the third year in a row Shannon Eggers headed up the program. This will be her last year with us and we thank her for what she has done. She has taught a lot of different people a lot of music skills over her time here with us. We will miss her and while we don't know for sure we hope that next year we are able to offer the program again with a different MLC music student taking over the reins or should I say the baton. We wish Shannon God's richest blessings as she finishes up her schooling and looks forward to serving God full time as a teacher in one of our schools.

If you read last month's comments about this program, and I'm sure you did, you saw that we have over 35 people taking lessons that are NOT members of our church. While we don't know that anyone is going to join our church because of this, we do know that they have been exposed to what our church and school can offer them. Only the Holy Spirit knows if a spark has been ignited in a heart that might someday be fanned into a full-fledged flourishing faith. At the very least the people of our community and those around have had the chance to see and hear that those stuffy, conservative Wisconsin Synod church people aren't so bad after all. It's okay to give ourselves a pat on the back for this program in fact I think Martin Luther would raise his stein to it and say, "Well done".

VBS

As was mentioned in the previous article one of the duties of our music teacher was also heading up our Vacation Bible School program. This year we had about 55 (give or take depending on the day) students “Dive In” and get immersed in God’s Word. A number of our members both young and old volunteered to teach, help with crafts, bring and/or serve snacks and do anything else that was needed so that our program could be successful. We could not do it without these people and that is why we offer you our heartfelt thanks. The theme for this year was DIVE IN! Five unusual ocean creatures led us into God’s Word. Take a peek at a summary of each day.

Day 1: Black Dragonfish - Just as the black dragonfish uses a glowing light to trick smaller fish to come near its mouth, so the devil tries to trick us to follow him instead of God. Our lesson was from Genesis 3: “God Promises a Savior From Sin.”

Day 2: Porcupine Fish - As a porcupine fish fills up with water, its body gets fat and its sharp spines stick out. Enemy fish stay away! We fill up on God’s Word so we can use it to fight our enemy the devil and win. Our lesson was from Matthew 4:1-11: “Jesus Says No to the Devil.”

Day 3: Sand Dollar - People have written stories about the pictures on sand dollars. But God wrote the best story of all, and it is true. He wrote it in the Bible. It tells how he sent his Son, Jesus, to live on earth, die on a cross, and come back to life to forgive our sins and give us life in heaven. Our lesson was from portions of the Gospels: “The Savior Dies and Comes Back to Life.”

Day 4: Sea Anemone - The sea anemone lets certain fish hide among its many arms (tentacles). The one who loves and protects us is God! Our lesson was from portions of Exodus 14-17: “God Protects His People.”

Day 5: Dolphin - Did you know that dolphins sometimes help people *by accident*? Jesus wants us to help people *on purpose* to show that we love him for saving us. Our lesson was from 1 Samuel 18:1-12; 19:1-7: “Jonathan Serves God by Helping David.”

PASTORAL ACTS

Wedding: On Saturday, July 16th, Ryan Palmer and Rebecca Studniski were united in marriage. We wish them God’s richest blessings.

TREE OF LIFE

A couple of yea's ago one of the trees on the Third street side of church was almost completely toppled in a storm. It is very evident that it and a few others are diseased and decaying. We had some tree experts take a look at them and the recommendation was to take out the first two trees closest to Marshall Street and trim up all the others. The council and voters have decided that this is the best thing to do so that we don't have possible serious damage to the church or the rental on Third or injury to people or damage to cars etc. No one likes to see big old beautiful trees come down but all things considered it is the best thing to do. So very soon the landscape on that side of the church will change – at least for a time. That is where the TREE OF LIFE comes in.



Plans would be to plant a new tree where the old trees were taken out. I guess we could buy a \$100 “stick” to put there and wait 25 years for it to grow to a nice size or maybe we could purchase a more developed tree to plant there? The Tree of Life idea would be that anyone who would like to make a donation as a memorial in memory of a loved one or in honor of an event like a new grandbaby or wedding anniversary can do so over the next two months. Then in the October newsletter we will publish a page listing the donors and whom or what it was given in memory of. We will not include the amount of the donation.

While we will have some special envelopes printed for you to use you can just put it in a regular envelope but be sure to list the donor, if you wish, and in whose memory or the occasion it was given for.

One more thing. Did you know that every baptism that we have at church Pastor does not pour the water down the drain into the sewer system but pours it outside on the ground! It is not that it is holy water or anything but it was water used in a Sacrament of the church and thus it just seems proper to dispose of it in a more proper manner. This will give him and maybe pastors in the future a fitting place to dispose of the water that brought Spiritual Life to the child that was baptized.

STINGER'S GAME

The area WELS churches are planning a youth trip to a Wilmar Stingers baseball game on Friday, August 12th. It is a 7 PM game but we will have an all-you-can-eat and drink buffet starting at 6 PM and throughout the game. This is geared toward catechism aged (going into 6th grade) and teenage kids but entire families are invited to attend. The cost is \$25 per person (remember that it includes the game and food). We would like to get an idea of how many will be attending so please sign up on the sheet by the bulletin board ASAP. Any youth 6-12th grade only have to pay \$10. Youth groups will cover the rest.

PARADE

Once again this year we plan on having a float representing our church and school in the Sounds of Summer parade. The date of the parade is Saturday, August 20th at 4PM. If you would like to help out with this event please talk to our Evangelism chairman Mark Patzer.

CLGO AND FELLOWSHIP OUTING **Sunday, August 28th**

It's that time of the year again, time to tee it up at the Christ Lutheran Golf Outing. The date for this prestigious event is Sunday, August 28th. We plan on teeing off at 1:00 PM at Savannah Oaks by Lynd. Mark your calendars now and don't even think about putting away those clubs until after this fun filled event. Don't forget that even if you are not a golfer you can still join us for a meal and fellowship at a local eating establishment yet to be determined. What we need you to do TODAY is reserve the day!



SAVE THE DATE

On Sunday, September 25, 2016 we will recognize Mr. John Festerling's 40 years in the teaching ministry. Please watch future church bulletins and the September newsletter for more information.

SLS NEWS AND NOTES

Summer is flying by. VBS is wrapping up as I write this and Samuel School Registration is scheduled for Thursday, August 11, from 4:00-7:00 pm. We will have a **WORK BEE** on Tuesday, August 16, to cleanup around the school (inside and out) before school starts. We may have some painting to do as well so come prepared. We are also renovating the lower-level bathrooms by the Kindergarten room. Watch the bulletin for more information on the dates and times of the renovation for the end of August. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 6. Please join us for the opening service at Samuel which begins about 8:25 am.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Lyle Patzer—June 13, 2016

Opened with devotion and prayer

Present: Gary St Aubin, Tom Werner, Lyle Patzer, Dan Herrmann, Brian Onken, John Festerling, Pastor Schreiner, Kevin Lee, Mark Patzer, Todd Konietzko, Geoff Stelter, Tom Vanderwerf. Minutes of May 2016 council meeting were read, corrected and approved

Pastors Report: Pioneers may go camping this fall. CLYF will be going to Valley Fair this summer. The Hamilton Funeral Home seminar is scheduled for Tues July 26th at church. The copier at church needs replacing. Maintenance has been out. Proposal for a desktop copier from Marco is \$350 + \$.023 per copy over 1000/yr. Motion by Mark Patzer, second by Tom Werner “to purchase a copier from Marco for \$350 + \$.023 per copy over 1000/year” Motion passed. Pastor will ask the Sunday School group to consider putting funds towards it. Bats have been found at church, maintenance will seal up the chimney in the basement in an attempt to keep them out. Pastors knee surgery is scheduled for Monday June 20, 2016.

Elders Report: In by Affirmation: Amy Magnuson and adult child Annie Magnuson, motion from board second Dan Herrmann, approved. In by affirmation: Jordan Austin, motion from board second Brian Onken, approved. Post card campaign is continuing.

Financial Secretary: Written report was handed out.

Treasurer's report: \$2234 was taken from the building fund to pay for the church attic insulation project. Mission offerings are

up \$1600 from 2015 to \$7618 as of June 12. Gym rentals are up \$720 ytd vs ly. Non-budgeted misc. expense includes \$375 from the WLFCS payment. ECC ytd is \$683.19 in the black. Written report is available.

Stewardship: The Capital Project Wish List is now updated and will be published in the newsletter for the congregation to see. The archiving of church records project is underway.

Evangelism: Pie social was well attended by new members as well as the congregation. Group is working on SOS parade ideas.

Education Report: The board is meeting with faculty this summer to discuss the school's image and policies. Since the call for a director/teacher was returned, the board is looking at help for Mrs Zander. Lower level bathroom project is in the planning/bid process. C&C Cleaning has started and the board is pleased. C&C says that they will not need the mop sink we have been considering. Summer music/VBS has 30+ non-members involved. Funding for the program has been a bit slow coming in this year. Mrs Macarthur is undergoing a continuing education program this summer. School registration is August 11th.

Maintenance: Several bids have come in for the tree trimming/tree removal at church. Brian's tree service bid \$2089 to remove 4 big trees, trim the rest at \$340 each. TSL bid \$450 to trim all 5 trees and remove the 13' stump. Scott's tree service bid \$1350 to remove 2 trees, and trim two others. Motion by Dan Herrmann second by Lyle to have Scott's Tree Service cut down 2 trees and trim the rest for \$1350" motion carried. The Village Drive furnace/AC has been serviced and is running well. July 29th has been set to scrape the ceiling in the dishwasher area at school and repaint. The maintenance committee will get a bid to scrape the parking lot at school. The outside ramp at school needs some attention, it is sagging.

Activities: The service in the park will be the last Sunday in July

Old Business: Newsletter Council Corner writer next month is Todd Konietzko (activities) topic is summer picnic. Councilmen on duty for July is Mark Patzer. The Church Painting project is moving slowly.

New Business: The next voters meeting will be Sunday July 17th after church at 10 AM

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submitted by David Biastock—June 7, 2016

Attendees: Craig Heil, Pastor Schreiner, Charlie Hoflock, Darik Lyons, Mr. John Festerling, Nick Noble, Gary St Aubin, and Dave Biastock.

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.

Samuel Image Discussion: Gary St Aubin was welcomed to the meeting. As chairman of the church council, he felt it would be beneficial for him to sit in on the school image discussion to gain a better understanding of the issues. Craig opened the discussion indicating Craig, Pastor, and Mr. Festerling held a prior meeting regarding the image of our school. Craig summarized the discussion that had taken place to get everyone up to speed. Pastor laid out some scenarios and background of some things that had been brought to his attention and things that he has observed but spoke of concerns in more general terms. Next open comments and concerns were expressed by members of the board.

Action items: Craig will put together an end of the year school survey that in general asks what went well last year and what could we improve upon. In order to keep the survey anonymous we will utilize Survey Monkey. Craig will email the questions to the group for approval prior to sending to Linda to setup the survey and sending it out to parents of children who attended Samuel this past school year. Once survey results have been received, a meeting will be held with all teachers to discuss results of the survey along with concerns raised in tonight's meeting. Revisit our existing school disciplinary policy and research other school's policies. Opportunity areas: Free time/down time for faculty. How do we build better rapport so others are not afraid to speak up. Work together with faculty to flush out policy and better ways to handle discipline. Suggestion box. General Positive Attitude. Pastor support of teachers

After the conclusion of the school image discussion, Gary excused himself from the meeting. Minutes were reviewed from the May 3rd meeting and approved with corrections. Minutes approved by Nick and seconded by Darik.

Financial – Treasurer Reports: Darik reviewed financial activities for May along with current account balances. There are 2 families with outstanding tuition balances, 3 families with outstanding EC balances, and a couple families with outstanding lunch balances. Mr. Festerling will continue to follow up with the

families.

Old Business: Early childhood

Director/teacher plan B – since we did not receive a called teacher from MLC, do we proceed with Plan B? Mr. Festerling will speak with a potential candidate to see if they have interest, what their commitment would be in obtaining their teaching certificate through MLC along with EC directorship classes, and what their pay and benefit requirements would be. Worker challenges – someone who has helped in prior summers has decided to not work for us this summer. Mrs. Zander is working on finding additional help. Mr. Festerling will work with Mrs. Zander to review the policy of how we bill someone during the school year when their child leaves early on a given day. Lower level bathrooms remodel – waiting on additional bids from contractors.

Lunch Report: New warmers cost about \$180. Money to purchase will come out of the lunch program budget. We are due for our onsite school lunch review this year. Mr. Festerling and Darik will start working on pulling the necessary information together. Paint dishwasher room walls and ceiling - this should be addressed prior to the school lunch review. Tentative work date set for July 29th.

Pastor/Teacher Reports:

CLYF – our youth group along with Lake Benton's youth group will be going to Valley Fair on June 28th. The group will be attending a Willmar Stinger's baseball game in August.

Mrs. MacArthur would like to attend a few classes through the SW Service Coop. Cost is \$115 for 4 sessions. In addition she would like to take an online course for \$39. The board gave its approval to attend these classes and use money in the budget allocated for these types of enrichment classes.

Gym floor will be refinished starting June 20th.

New custodians off to a great start.

From the Board:

Several maintenance items in the bathrooms need to be addressed along with door knob/lock on the janitor closet door in the lower level. Mr. Festerling will pass these items onto the Maintenance Committee.

Next meeting – July 5th, 7:00 pm

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor Keith Schreiner (507) 828-3333

Worship Services

Sundays: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

(Memorial Day-Labor Day: Sunday: 9:00 AM, Monday: 7:00 PM)

(Advent & Lent: Wednesdays - 7:00 PM)

Holy Communion: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

Service Broadcast times

KMHL Radio Station at 8:00 AM on Sundays
VAST cable channel 17 and Charter cable channel 180
at 6:30 PM Tuesday and 12:30 PM Wednesday

Samuel Lutheran School

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Principal: Mr. John Festerling

Teachers: Mrs. Amy MacArthur Mrs. Nicole Kotecki

Mrs. Julie Festerling Mrs. Lois Zander



EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

Samuel Lutheran School

