

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

500 Village Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

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From the **PASTOR**—

Blessing of Baptism

Baptism...saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. - 1 Peter 3:21

“Want a tough stain out?” That’s how the old commercial began. It ended by claiming a product that could get the job done. There are lots of sprays, foams, and cleaners that companies promise are the answer to our coffee, wine, and pet stain problems. But can any of those products deliver? If there actually was a stain remover guaranteed to deliver results as promised and was free...would you be interested?

God has one for you. He has provided a special “product” that has his faithful promise and almighty power behind it, and it is completely free. It’s not for coffee, wine, or pet stains, but for something far worse. It’s for guilt!

Guilt is what is left behind when we sin, and like an ugly stain it sticks in our hearts and minds. We want to get rid of it, but how? We can’t shout it out, even though guilt can make us angry and do lots of shouting. We can’t scrub it out, even if we try our hardest to clean up the messes we have made. So, what can get the tough stain of guilt out?

Baptism.

Baptism in a word that means to wash with water. God’s word together with water makes baptism a cleanser that God promises

will bring results: "...not the removal of dirt...but the pledge of a good conscience toward God." A guilty conscience comes from sin, and sin makes us unacceptable before our holy, sinless God. Baptism takes away our guilt because in baptism God connects us to Jesus and his work of salvation. In baptism God gives us the great gift of forgiveness through Jesus. His death was the payment for sin, and his resurrection is the guarantee that the stain of our sin has been removed. By our baptism God frees us from guilt. We are saved from the consequences of sin—death and damnation!

Think about your house with every single stain removed from your carpet and couch, and from your shirt and blouse. Even the toughest stains are eliminated. Baptism is a blessing of God that is much greater! Baptism is God's amazing life-saving "product" to take out the stain of sin's guilt from your heart. Jesus guarantees it.

COUNCIL CORNER

This month we hear from Dan Herrmann, President of the Church Council

Our congregation received many blessings in 2016 and 2017 is looking to be another exciting year. Many maintenance projects were completed last year due to many people giving of their time and talents. The financial support of our congregation allowed us to exceed our budgeting offerings for the year.

This year is starting out to be a very busy year. The interior of the church has been painted giving it a fresh new look. We have extended a call for a new pre-school teacher to take over for Mrs. Zander who is retiring after many years of service to our school and church. The long range planning committee has already met and is working on prioritizing many projects for the church and school.

Thanks again to all the called workers, council members, committee members and all who volunteer to keep our church and school functioning each and every day. Many, many hours are put in behind the scenes that go unseen but are noticed in how our school and church operate. We are truly a blessed congregation to have so many people give of their time.

Thanks for allowing me to be your President in 2017.

Dan Herrmann

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms: Liam Harold and Mason Henry, infant twins of Rick and Ronda (nee Green) Kobylinski were washed with the water of life on January 22, 2017. They were born on January 4, 2017. We pray God continues to bless this young family.

CLYF

We met on Sunday, January 15 to talk about our summer trip to the BWCA. At the meeting we watched a video put out by the National Forest Service about what the area is like and the rules and regulations that are in place when you visit there. Pastor had a slide show going of pictures that he and his wife took a few year ago when they went on a trip there. We got to see what the packs look like that you have to carry as well as how beautiful the area is. He also talked about the fact that while it is a great experience it is a lot of hard work and can be dangerous if you are not careful. We also talked about the outfitter who will be providing all that we need including the meals we will eat. Parents were able to ask questions about the trip and we think there is some real interest from the group. We are now in the process of finalizing who is for sure going to be attending this wonderful experience.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, February 19 starting at 1:00 PM. We will be meeting at the church and will be doing a service project.

PIONEERS

The Pioneers met on January 15, 2017 to begin work on pine cars, while watching the movie "Up" and enjoying popcorn and a soda. The kids chose from 15 different design templates, then cut out the template to use as a stencil, and traced the design on the block. The blocks will be cut and weighted in advance of the next meeting to allow the kids to sand and paint them, along with adding any other design details they choose that fall within guidelines. A total of thirteen Pioneers were in attendance. The Pioneers will meet again in February to continue this project. The derby date has not been set, but will likely be held sometime in March (stay tuned).



SCHWANS DONATION OPPORTUNITY

If you are so inclined you will have the opportunity to support a fundraising campaign for new church landscaping to raise money between February 1 and March 16, 2017 during which we earn 20%-40% back on every purchase during our 45-day campaign, and 5% back on every purchase for the next six months.

Campaign ID: 30969

Campaign page URL: www.schwans-cares.com/c/30969

Campaign starts on: February 1, 2017

How To Support:

Schwan's Cares uses online shopping to eliminate the hassle of money handling and product distribution. As a supporter you choose from over 350 high quality, delicious food options - you can shop online or purchase an eGift Card.

Ordering:

There are 3 ways to place a fundraising order:

1. Via Schwan's Cares. Find your campaign or fundraiser and (1) choose "Buy Now" to purchase an eGift Card (online only; limit 1 per customer, per campaign) OR (2) choose "Shop Now" to place a food order from Schwan's. You can support at the campaign level or at an individual fundraiser level.
2. By Phone. Place your order via toll free number 1-855-870-7208. Make sure to provide your Campaign ID and/or Fundraiser ID when ordering by phone.
3. Via Schwans.com. During checkout simply type in your Campaign ID and/or Fundraiser ID to contribute to your fundraiser.

Delivery:

For existing Schwan's customers, you will need to follow one of the 3 ordering steps above to create your fundraising affiliation and have your order contribute to the campaign. Your order will be delivered on your existing scheduled route day.

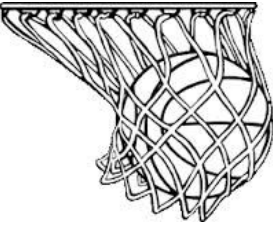
For new customers, you will choose your delivery date and time during checkout.

Form of payment is required when placing fundraising orders, but you can change payment at the door to a preferred method of payment (Check, Cash, EBT, or Credit and Debit Card are accepted). If you are not home during the time of delivery, we will leave your items in a protected freezer bag at no cost to you.

SLS NEWS AND NOTES

The Cougars recently enjoyed some “fun in the sun” as we had our Luau Party. The students stepped into “Hawaii” and enjoyed a Hawaiian themed lunch with fruit kabobs and a sandy beach dessert. We also got to participate in lots of fun games! We had a beach ball relay race, bean bag toss into a palm tree and shark, and did the Limbo!

Basketball is in full swing! Both teams are playing hard and keeping very busy between practices, home games, and away games! Cheerleaders have been working hard to keep our



teams pumped and we look forward to their Spirit Week routine. Speaking of Spirit week, we are just a couple weeks away! As our A team prepares to go to MLC for the end of the year tournament we enjoy a week of fun activities and dress up days!

LADIES AID & MISSION SOCIETY

The Ladies Aid and Mission Society did not meet in January.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Lyle Patzer—December 12, 2016

Opened with devotion and prayer.

Present: Pastor Schreiner, Gary St Aubin, Kevin Lee, Lyle Patzer, John Festerling, Lucas Tietz, Craig Heil, Geoff Stelter, Brian Onken, Wes Hoflock, Tom Vanderwerf, Karl Baumann, Arlen Meyer, Tom Werner, Mark Patzer, Perry Schultz

A welcome was extended to new council members and a thank-you to outgoing members.

Minutes of November 2016 council meeting were read, modified and approved

Pastors Report: **1.** Pioneers put up a Christmas tree at church and CLYF will start up again in January. **2.** Adult information classes will be starting in January. **3.** Church roof is leaking, CAB has been contacted. **4.** We will need 75 chairs from church for Christmas Eve service at school. **5.** We will fill 120 Christmas Candy sacks this year. **6.** This years scholarship recipients Will be Lucas Thoofft MLC; Carlie Heil, Kristina Hagberg, Paxton Schultz and Sarah Werner GPLHS. The scholarship fund has a \$1343 balance as of Nov 30, 2016. Motion by Mark Patzer,

second from Brian Onken “2/3 of the amount will go to Lucas Thooff at MLC and 1/3 will be split by the four attending GPLHS” motion carried. **7.** JCM Christmas service is December 15th at 6:30. **8.** Newly elected Council and school board members will be installed on 12/18/16. **9.** The Annual Voters meeting will be Sunday Jan 15th at 7:00 pm. **10.** Middle school fun night (Gr 5-8) will be Thursday Dec 29. **11.** We will once again run a Christmas ad in the paper, it will be privately funded.

Elders Report: Membership changes – In by Affirmation Roxanne Rieke (Cameren) This is a motion from the Board second by Lyle Patzer, carried.

Financial Secretary: Report was presented.

Treasurer's report: A complete treasurers report Thru Nov 30th was handed out, some of the items highlights were; The parking lot account of \$5000 was moved into the Building Improvement fund towards payment of the 3rd St. rental house loan. Total budgeted offerings are up for the year approx \$8,700 but we still need a big December to actually make budget. ECC was approx \$2,700 in the red for November due to low head count but ytd ECC is \$5,600 to the black.

Stewardship: The Endowment committee is recommending that earnings stay in the fund for future projects rather than being put into the 2016 budget. James Carr has expressed interest in the Village Drive property if we ever decide to sell it.

Evangelism: Advent meals are having a nice turn-out. The committee would like to use some of the funds from the Advent meals to use for more outreach projects.

Education Report: **1.** The school will begin to enforce a late fee on delinquent tuition payments. **2.** The board met with Amanda Berg, the regional ECC coordinator, to help frame the call for an ECC Director/Teacher. **3.** The 1st & 2nd grade teacher has requested an aid. The board is addressing the issue both short term and long term. **4.** School lunches will be going up 5 cents next year per state mandate. **5.** Jason Kotecki is starting a school Facebook page.

Maintenance: 3rd street basement drain issue still needs attention.

Activities: No report

Worship: All December services are set. Christmas day (Sunday) will be regular 8:00 and 10:30 times this year.

Old Business: Councilman on duty for Jan 2017 will be Mark Patzer 1st service and Craig H and Arlyn M for 2nd service.

New Business: 1. Council organization for 2017 is as follows: President Dan Herrmann, Treasurer Lucas Tietz, Secretary Wes Hoflock, Financial Sec #1 Tom Werner, Financial Sec #2 Mark Patzer, Elder Arlen Meyer, Evangelism Perry Schultz, Stewardship Lyle Patzer, Board of Ed Craig Heil, Activities Karl Baumann, Maintenance #1 Geoff Stelter, Maintenance #2 Tom Vanderwerf. 2. The Lake Benton/Pipestone call has been filled but needs a vacancy pastor for Jan 2017. As Circuit Pastor, Pastor Schreiner will cover and make necessary phone calls for that month.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer at 9:15 pm

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submitted by David Biastock—November 29, 2016

Attendees:

Craig Heil, Pastor Schreiner, Darik Lyons, Charlie Hoflock, Mr. John Festerling, Mrs. Kotecki, and Dave Biastock

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.

Aid for Grades 1 & 2: Mrs. Kotecki was in attendance at the board meeting to discuss the need for additional help. With the larger class size there are more learning levels which present a challenge to address the learning needs of all kids. The addition of an aid would allow Mrs. Kotecki to break the classes up into smaller groups to address the various learning levels. At the conclusion of the discussion Mrs. Kotecki excused herself from the meeting.

The board further discussed Mrs. Kotecki's request and the consensus was to move forward with hiring an aid. Motion by Darik to use up to \$3000 from the school gift fund as a non-budgeted item with full board support to hire an aid for grades 1&2 for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year starting January 3rd. Pay rate and hours per week to be determined. Seconded by Charlie. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed and approved with corrections from the November 1st meeting.

Financial – Treasurer Reports: Darik reviewed financial activities for November along with current account balances. To remain compliant with state requirements that we are bound to, we will need to increase lunch prices by \$0.05. Motion by Darik to increase lunch prices by five cents effective January 3, 2017. Seconded by Craig. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Mrs. Zander's retirement – special board meeting will be held December 6th to discuss next steps.

EC Marketing – EC availability will be advertised in the Hy-Vee Trader. We will continue to look at other ways to promote the program.

Late fee for EC program – the late fee will be kept in place if bill not paid by Thursday. The fee will be added to the next bill that is normally sent out on Mondays. If an individual is still late, a follow up phone call will be made.

Mr. Festerling checked into the stove that Lakeview School has for sale and found it will not meet our needs.

Lunch Report:

Lunch survey was recently sent out to parents. Overall positive comments and support of the lunch program.

Pastor/Teacher Reports:

CLYF – Greenery sales went well. No meeting will be held in December.

Pioneers – no meeting in December.

Basketball season/coaches – Mrs. Kotecki will coach A and Mrs. Prahll will coach B. Have had some issues scheduling games with some of the schools we have played in the past.

Area home schoolers have requested the use of our gym however there is not much room in the schedule to accommodate their needs.

Forensics – all went well.

PTF backboards – the PFT would like to donate 2 backboards for the gym to be used for practices.

Scoreboards – reminder that this needs to be completed.

Upcoming Activities:

Dec 4 @3pm-Christmas Concert, Dec 6-Board of Ed EC planning meeting, Dec 10 & 17-Christmas Eve practice, Dec 17-Christmas 4 Kids, Dec 23-Jan2-Christmas break.

From the Board:

Wage adjustments for non-called workers:

Motion by Darik to increase our cook's wages by 3% effective January 1st. Seconded by Craig. No further discussion. Motion passed.

EC assistant teacher/aid – current wages were discussed and the consensus was to not increase pay for 2017.

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

