

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

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500 Village Drive  
Marshall, MN 56258

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**Christ Ev. Lutheran Church** (507)532-2162  
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Marshall, MN 56258



Rev. Johann Caauwe, Vacancy Pastor (507) 828-5136  
Mr. Ryan Obry, Principal (402) 992-4419

## *From the* **PASTOR**—

### **On Lutherans and Confirmation**

Did you know that Lutherans did not always practice confirmation? Because confirmation was not commanded in Scripture and there was no divine promise attached to it, Lutherans could not agree with the idea that confirmation was a sacrament as it was taught and practiced in the church of Rome. For this reason, Martin Luther and others maintained that confirmation itself was unnecessary and useless.

Later Lutherans, such as Martin Chemnitz (“the second Martin”) concluded that confirmation could actually be useful and edifying for the church, explaining that even though the rite and ceremony was not commanded by Scripture, it was a useful practice because it could be associated with Christian catechesis (teaching), public profession of the faith, and prayer for the catechumens. These same elements are still the chief part of our practice of confirmation. A couple differences are that they did not have a set age for confirmation, and it wasn’t always combined with a child’s first communion. Children were confirmed when they had been sufficiently instructed, and they usually began communing at an earlier age than our typical custom today (typically 7–10 years of age). In those cases, confirmation was a separate rite that took place at a later time.

On Sunday, May 2, six young people from Christ Lutheran received the Rite of Confirmation. Because most of our adult members became communicant members through the practice of Confirmation, it makes this a good time of year for everyone to review the instruction they received once upon a time and the promises they made on their confirmation day.

When you hear these questions asked of our confirmands, answer them for yourself anew. Here is an example of some of those questions:

Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God?

Do you intend to continue steadfast in this teaching and to endure all things, even death, rather than fall away from it?

Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the teachings of God's Word, to be faithful in the use of the Word and sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

Notice that the answer to these questions is not only given on a spring day in front of church. They are answers that you live out the rest of your life. It's worth asking: Do you still believe this? Do you know what the Catechism says? Are these still your intentions today?

And of course, the strength to continue answering "I do" is found in the strength God gives through the teaching of the Word of God, the Catechism, and in the use of Word and Sacrament. I encourage all of us, young and old, to regularly review the Small Catechism, (re)commit it to memory, and continue to grow in the faith which you received in Holy Baptism and confessed publicly at your confirmation.

## **DELEGATE CONFERENCE**

On Tuesday, June 1, Christ Lutheran will host the Minnesota River Valley Delegate Conference. This meeting is for pastor, teacher, and congregational delegates to preview the reports and proposals in preparation for this summer's Synod Convention. This year's convention will be held at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI. Only select delegates will attend the convention in person, and other business such as floor committee work and elections will be conducted electronically in advance. Pastor Caauwe is a delegate to the convention, but will not have to attend in person.

## **MONDAY WORSHIP**

Due to current circumstances with our pastor vacancy, we are not planning on holding Monday evening services. However, please note that Pastor Caauwe does lead Wood Lake in worship on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM, beginning May 26<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to join!

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Dear Members of Christ Lutheran Church -

As I entered parenthood (just a few years ago), I recall that people often state that once our kids enter high school, time will fly by exponentially faster. I think we can all agree that people tend to share their "knowledge" quite often, however this is one perspective that at least for us, certainly has held true. As we personally had another child recently navigate the successful completion of high school further highlighting this, I know that all of you can relate in one way or another to this feeling of time here on earth passing by in somewhat of a blur.

So as we neared the ceremony and that feeling of nostalgia settled in, and after catching up on some world events that same morning, I reflected on all of God's blessings that my family and I have been fortunate to enjoy throughout our journey here on earth. Above all, the fact that we still live in a country that offers us the religious freedom that many others do not, the ability to worship the one true God without fear of persecution. Digging deeper, the ability to be able to send our kids to Lutheran schools, that they may further strengthen their faith and take these teachings with them as they depart from our care and enter the "real world", and live God pleasing lives and continue to support our ministry.

I felt compelled to share this in prayer that all of us reflect the blessing we have in Christ Lutheran Church, Samuel Lutheran School and all of our called workers, staff and board members, that each and every day spend their time and efforts toward this mission. I believe it would serve us all well to focus on these blessings more often. There are many means by which to support these efforts, whether it be going to our Lord in prayer and giving thanks, getting more involved in our ministry by offering our time, talents and/or treasure, supporting our Lutheran schools that provide a means for our children to continue their Christian education, or simply thanking and supporting our called workers, staff and board members in Christin Love.

God's Blessings to all of you,  
Craig Heil – President, Christ Lutheran Church

## **MEALS ON WHEELS**

Christ Lutheran is scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheels June 14 -25. This is an important opportunity for our church to volunteer in the community. We thank Joan Sorenson for coordinating our volunteers. Sign up sheets are on the table in the narthex.

## FAREWELL

Please join us in the church basement after the service on Sunday, June 6th to bid farewell to Miss Doble and give her thanks for her service this past year as our preschool teacher. We wish Miss Doble God's Blessings as she will be moving to Wisconsin this summer and will be getting married in December.

## GRADUATION RECOGNITION

Please join us on Sunday, June 6th as we recognize our High School and College Graduates. After this service we will gather in the church basement for our annual graduation coffee hour. We hope you will join us as we congratulate them and wish them God's blessings on what lies ahead for them.

♦If you have someone graduating this year please notify the church office so that they may be recognized on this special day.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

While we will be offering summer music lessons for members this summer, we will not be holding Vacation Bible School. Our music instructor usually runs VBS and is not our dedicated resource this year (as we are sharing with Wood Lake), and we will be renovating the bathrooms at school so the construction may cause issues.

## OWLS

The next meeting of the Minnesota Prairie OWLS (Organization of the WELS Seniors) will be on Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Lutheran Church in Vesta. The day begins with coffee and muffins at 9:00 AM. This will be followed by a devotion, presentation on The Lutheran Chapel Radio Service by Prof. Schmoller, a business meeting, and lunch (purchased from a local cafe). Bring your old Meditations for our WELS prison ministries. The OWLS is an organization devoted to Christian fellowship and life enrichment for WELS/ELS church members who are 55 years or over.

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Ryan Palmer—March 8, 2021

**Members Present:** Craig Heil, Dave Biastock, Brian Onken, Geoff Stelter, James Hartke, Wes Hoflock, Adam Henning, Kevin Lee, Mark Patzer, Lennis Kennedy, Ryan Obry, Ryan Palmer  
Craig Heil opened with devotion and prayer.

Minutes from the March board meeting were read modified and accepted.

**Board of Elders:** Motion by Board to release Derek and Melinda Grohs, Lucas and Logan, second by Brian Onken, passed.

**Financial Secretary:** Reviewed March numbers

**Treasurer:** Reviewed financial statement

**Stewardship/Endowment:** Discussed PPP loan at committee meeting. Motion by Geoff Stelter for council recommendation to Voters to apply for EANS funds for technology updates at the school. Second by Dave Biastock, passed. Motion by Brian Onken for council recommendation to voters to apply for forgiveness of PPP loan funds. Second by Lennis Kennedy, passed.

**Education:** Call meeting for Pre-K teacher held April 12. RoundUps-4 in attendance 5 possibly attending next year for Kindergarten, 15 signed up for Pre-k next year. Activities Banquet April 25. Graduation June 3. Lights have been replaced in gym. Bathrooms by gym-consensus from council for Board of Education to gather detailed estimate of repairs/remodel work to be presented at voters meeting. Summer care will be held this summer, Monday-Thursday.

**Maintenance:** Storage shed is done for the school, will be placed near outdoor basketball court. Motion by Mark Patzer for council recommendation to the voters to convert existing lights in the school to LED that have not already been converted, and add some lighting to Library for a total cost of \$5,050 or so with potential return on investment in 18-24 months. Second by Wes Hoflock, passed. Discussion held on replacing the carpet in Pre-k and Kindergarten rooms. Estimates currently at \$14,800 from Marshall Decorating, and \$12,867 from Floor To Ceiling.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion held on pastoral call packet. Motion by Kevin Lee to subscribe to Church 360 Membership Program, second by Adam Henning, passed. Motion by Geoff Stelter to maintain service sign up and to increase capacity to 160 per service with no change to mask policy, and to return communion and offering to normal practice beginning April 25. Second by Mark Patzer, passed.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Submitted by Charles Hoflock—April 6, 2021

Ryan opened with devotion, prayer.

**Pre-School Report:** Call Update – Next Monday 4/12 at 6:30pm. Will also be requesting a graduate from MLC if a call is

not accepted. Pre-School Roundup – 13 kids signed up with deposits, possibly an additional 2 more. Advertising on billboard - \$50/day, will be doing another 5 days of advertising. Kindergarten Roundup – 4 students showed up, will have 5 students. Summercare: Currently 10 kids total ranging from pre-k to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Discussion about summercare costs

**Motion** by Darik to offer summercare @ \$3.50/hour as long as we have at least 60 contracted child hours/day and only one teacher. **Seconded** by Adam. Further discussion. **Motion Passed**

**Minutes:** Minutes were read, amended and approved.

**Financial Report:** Financial Report was read and approved.

**Old Business:** Bathroom Remodel – Discussion. **Motion** by Darik to request \$30k out of the house sale proceeds for bathroom remodel from council. **Seconded** by Lennis. Discussion. **Motion passed.** Leave of Absence – Lennis will email it to us for review. Janitor – No Updates. PITF (Pride in the Tiger Foundation) – Science Conference was accepted. Gives science activities in the classroom. Banner for Graduation – Ryan is working on it. Dates/Activities - GPL Tournament (3/5-6) – Girls won the tournament. Overall went well.

**New Business:** Gym Rentals/Gym Floor – Discussion about gym floor and gym rentals. Consensus to allow use of gym on a case by case basis. Track Meet/GPL Field Day – Discussion about both. Consensus to try GPL Field Day. Activities Banquet – Possibly scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup>. End of School Year Lunch/Party? – Rentals from Ace Hardware, Picnic? Bouncy House? Discussion. Consensus for Ryan to go ahead with the party using the activity fund to cover costs. Graduation – Date of 6/3 and Ryan is currently planning it. 2021-2022 School Year Calendar – Discussion. **Motion** by Lennis to start school September 7<sup>th</sup> and end on May 27<sup>th</sup>. **Seconded** by Adam. **Motion passed.** Carpeting in Grades 1-8 – Carpet is becoming worn. Future Plans – Discussion about possible music program. EANS Funds – Funds from the federal government for non-public schools. Funds would be used for smartboard updates/other technology St John's Wood Lake Van – They no longer need it and were asking if we would like it. Discussion. Decided not to pursue the van. Families Update – Family with K & Preschool Enrolled.

**Next Meeting:**

May 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Obry closed with prayer.

# **Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Corner of Third and Marshall Streets  
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Website: [www.christlutheran-marshallmn.org](http://www.christlutheran-marshallmn.org)  
**Pastor Johann Caauwe** (507) 828-5136

## **Worship Services**

**Sundays: 8:00 AM**  
**Holy Communion:** 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

## **Service Broadcast times**

KMHL Radio Station at 8:00 AM on Sundays  
Livestreamed on our YouTube Channel at 8:00 AM  
VAST cable channel 17 and Charter cable channel 180  
at 11:30 AM Thursday and 8:30 PM Friday

## **Samuel Lutheran School**

500 Village Drive, Marshall, MN 56258  
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**Principal:** Mr. Ryan Obry  
**Teachers:** Mrs. Amy MacArthur Mrs. Renee Manian  
Ms. Tabitha Mays Ms. Chloe Doble

