

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

500 Village Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

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From the **PASTOR**—

I Need More...GOOD NEWS

Indeed, we live in frazzled and frustrated times. Just turn on the nightly news. So frequently we are given reports of events that have devastated property and lives; are told about individuals that have deviated from law and order; and hear of other stories that dampen our spirits. On a regular basis, most of the news is not good news, and a depressed sigh first finds solace in the silence of a turned-off television.

Turns out, though, that we don't have to turn on a TV to know that. We don't even need to be near it. As our consciences rerun the past, we see where our own deviations have had a devastating impact. As a direct result, our spirits are dampened and depressed. Even life-long Christians feel the sting of past sins as their consciences cry a guilty testimony. That's the "news" we know by nature. That's God's Law on sinful hearts, and that's why stricken hearts crave more good news.

The calm to the craving is not attained by turning off; we get it by tuning in. The answer is not in blocking out God's Word or dulling our consciences by making poor excuses. The solution is still found in what God's good news says to every individual—even to you. The calm, promise, and solution remains the message of the gospel! Hearts are calmed at the message of Christ for us! And it's in that message the apostle Paul, a very real sinner, would have sinners still take comfort and confidence. As he lifted Timothy's eyes and heart to the grace of the cross, so he lifts ours: "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance:

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst” (1 Timothy 1:15).

Craving more good news? Forgiven sinner, tune in to the Savior who carried your every sin! See him in his Word! Redeemed believer, tune in to the gospel—God’s good news that quiets sin’s accusations! Hear that saving message! Beloved child of God, tune in to the trustworthy message of the Bible and let your heart sigh with thanksgiving. Jesus came to save sinners. Jesus came to save you! That’s the good news! Crave it. Enjoy it. And stay tuned in!

PIONEERS

In February, Pioneers met for a First aid and CPR class. Thank you to the 22 kids and 3 parents that pushed through the snow to get there! We talked about when to call 911 and what information to provide; we learned how to help someone that may be choking; how to stop bleeding, what to do when bitten by animals or insects; and some other first aid skills. We also learned when to do CPR and how to do compressions. We had manikins to practice on and everything! Some of us need to get stronger to be able to do real compressions, but at least we know how! We also talked about the AED (auto external defibrillator) and how to use it. We looked at the AED we recently installed at school so that if asked, anyone could retrieve it in an emergency. We finished the class with a snack. Hopefully everyone stays safe and we don’t have to use the skills we learned, but we are ready if we do!



PIONEERS AND CLYF

On Sunday, March 10th both of our youth groups will be combining for a community project. We will be filling bags of food for Marshall Food 4 Kids program. This non-profit program provides food support to Head Start and elementary school students by sending home a bag of healthy snacks for the weekend. We will meet from 1:30–3:30 on March 10th at the Agape Fellowship Church located at 301 N. High Street. (This is NOT a religious activity but a civic group that uses their facility.) Wear comfortable shoes as you will be standing. Parents are welcome and encouraged to help too!

PASTORAL ACTS

Funeral: A Christian funeral and burial was given to Ruth Pagel on Monday, February 11, 2019. God called her home to his side on February 6, 2019 at the age of 84.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES ON ASH WEDNESDAY

Part of our preparation for the season of Lent includes our celebration of the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. For those who are new to our congregation I am reprinting the reasons behind and also our procedure for this ancient custom.

Custom:

Ash Wednesday derives its name from a custom of the imposition of ashes that reflects the theme of Lent - repentance. Lent is not Holy Week but a preparation for Holy Week. We prepare first with a sober evaluation of ourselves in the light of God's Law. This attitude of repentance and the sense of mortality produced by the Law (we are sinners who will die!) was invariably connected with ashes, as in the Messianic 102nd Psalm, "For I eat ashes as my food and mingle my drink with tears." Jesus referred to this practice of wearing ashes as an indication of what was in the heart, "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes" (Matthew 11:21). Ashes are also a symbol of our mortality, more than a symbol - a future reality for all of us, "Dust you are and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19). Abraham, the man of faith, understood this. "I am nothing but dust and ashes," he proclaimed to God (Genesis 18:27). The custom of sprinkling earth or dust or ashes over a casket before burial reflects this truth. The first of Dr. Martin Luther's 95 Theses reads, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent!' (Matthew 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." A penitent heart is a humble heart, a penitent heart is one aware of its own mortality. Prepared with a penitent and humble heart we are ready to hear the glorious good news that "with Christ there is forgiveness of sins, and where there is forgiveness of sins there is also life and salvation" (Small Catechism). The austere Ash Wednesday Service reflects the character of the penitent heart! The ancient



and Lutheran practice of the imposition of ashes contributed to this reflection. Unfortunately, it has fallen into disuse in many of our “Lutheran” churches. But through this day and season of repentance, we are once again directed to Christ, in whom alone there is life, and of whom Job sang, “I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes - I and not another. How my heart yearns within me” (Job 19:25-27).

Procedure:

We offer this ancient and traditional rite for those who wish to participate. **Please keep in mind that you are not required to take part in this aspect of the service if you do not wish to! It is only for those who, at present, feel comfortable with the practice.** Early on in the service the ushers will direct those who desire to receive ashes to come forward and stand before the Altar, where the minister will apply ashes to the forehead of each person with the words: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you will return! Members will approach the Altar and return like we do for Holy Communion. Unlike the Lord’s Supper children are also invited to come forward, at their parent’s discretion, and participate. As with anything we do in worship we do it to the glory of God and to edify God’s people. We pray that that is what will happen. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Pastor and he will be happy to speak to you about this matter.

“THREE WORDS OF TRUTH”

In the gospel accounts of Jesus’ passion, there are several striking three-word phrases, such as “Love one another,” “Watch and pray,” and “It is finished.” This Lenten season we will gain understanding of powerful words like these under the theme the *Three Words of Truth*. This year we will be in a pulpit rotation with three other clergy taking part. They are Pastor Adam Manian who serves in Vesta and Echo; Pastor Steven Tews of Balaton and Tyler and Pastor Michael Muehlenhardt from the ELS church in Cottonwood.

PUBLIC SCHOOL CONFIRMATION CLASS

Don’t forget that during Lent we will meet at the church from 5-6:15 on Wednesday evenings. You can then join your parents in the basement for supper before our Lenten Vespers service.

THE SEMINARY CHORUS AT CHRIST

The Seminary Chorus from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is going to present a concert at our church on Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00PM. The 50 men and their director will be arriving late afternoon that day to set up equipment and share a meal prepared by our members. The chorus will stay overnight at homes in our congregation and, after enjoying breakfast together at Samuel, board their coach to travel to their next concert in the morning.

What can we tell you about the Seminary Chorus? Well, the choir has been making music since 1931 and has presented concerts in almost every state of the Union. Its objective has always been to proclaim God's good news in music, and it does this in a variety of musical styles, old and new. We'll hear voices; wait till you hear 50 future pastors singing their hearts out! We'll also hear instruments: everything from organ and trumpets to piano and guitars. We'll have a chance to stand and sing along on several numbers. The choir's reputation is that its concerts are never dull!

The concert will last about an hour and fifteen minutes, and we'll have a chance to visit with the young men afterwards. There's no admission cost, although the choir will be thankful for a generous offering to offset expenses. Be sure to bring your whole family; children love to see the choir as well as hear it. Invite your friends and neighbors, too. We're sure they will enjoy the experience, and you can introduce them to our church at the same time.

The choir members are coming to our church not only to sing for us, but also to tell us about the school they attend, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. The seminary was founded just before the Battle of Gettysburg, way back in 1863, and ever since has been training men to be pastors in WELS congregations. The seminary is located in Mequon, a suburb of Milwaukee, Wis., but its graduates are serving congregations and missions all around the country and all over the world. You can learn more about the seminary at its website, www.wls.wels.net.

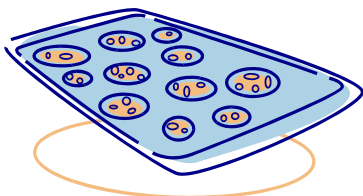


WISCONSIN
LUTHERAN
SEMINARY

LENTEN MEALS

Many members really enjoy our Lenten meals. They are served prior to worship each Wednesday during Lent from 5:30-6:30 PM. We hope you will join us for this wonderful fellowship opportunity. Our youth groups help with these meals and proceeds are divided up between the groups.

Desserts: We are again asking the members to provide desserts. You can choose what day you would like to provide treats by signing up on the sheets on the table by the bulletin board. Thanks.



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Do you know that our church has an Endowment Fund? Not exactly sure what that is or how you might be able to contribute to it? Well then pick up one of the brochures on the tract rack. It contains a lot of information about the endowment fund that our congregation set up a few years back. I suppose many only equate endowment giving with their estate planning and, while that is a major cog in the foundation wheel, giving to this fund can be done any time. And any amount can be given to this fund as well. The hope is that, over time, the fund will grow so that more ministry work can be done through our church. Maybe you have reached the age where you need to take a Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA and you'd like to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution. Or maybe you have an excess on your budget and you could give a donation to the fund. Read through the brochure and give it a thought.

PARKING AT CHURCH

Not having a parking lot at church does have some draw backs. One is that we can't designate any handicapped parking for those who need it. That is why we have tried to keep the spots on Marshall Street in front of church open for those who have more difficulty with their mobility. So if you are able we ask that you leave those parking spots open for those who might need them. Thanks for your Christian Cooperation!

SOCIAL MEDIA

I am hoping that if you are someone who uses Facebook you have already checked out our church Facebook page and, of course, have “liked” it too. If not I hope you will do so very soon. And while you are out there be sure to check out our Facebook page for the school. We pray you take advantage of these ways to keep in touch with everything that is going on at YOUR church. It’s also a great way to share your faith with family or friends who might also be looking for a church or school. By the way if you know of someone that might be interested in learning more about us Pastor is always more than happy to contact people and talk to them about their needs and what Christ has to offer them.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Ryan Palmer—January 14, 2019

Members Present: Pastor Schreiner, James Hartke, Lennis Kennedy, Tom Werner, Ryan Obry, Karl Baumann, Lucas Tietz, Wes Hoflock, Kevin Lee, Mark Patzer, Ryan Palmer

Pastor opened with devotion and prayer.

Minutes from the December 10, 2018 board meeting were read modified and accepted.

Pastor’s Report:

Pioneers met on January 13 for indoor winter fun activities.

CLYF to attend Willmar Warhawks hockey game.

Changing copier contract from Marco to One Office yielding a new printer and potential cost savings.

Board of Education met with Advanced Health and received a bid for adding security features to the main entrance at school for approximately \$2,900.

Soccer camp will not be held this year. Potential of having a camp every other year.

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Choir will be holding a concert at the church Tuesday March 12, 2019. Possible other venues discussed and looking at room/ board options for the choir for that evening.

Stamps for office use approved at \$500.

Mission festival will be Sunday February 3, 2019. Rev. Philip Gieschen will be discussing the outreach in Vietnam.

Long Range Planning committee meeting will be held January 21, 2019.

Annual Meeting is Sunday January 20, 2019.

Board of Elders:

No Report

Financial Secretary:

Offering budget was met.

Treasurer:

Report on 4th quarter ending.

Stewardship/Endowment:

Schwans cares has 44 days left and has raised \$842 as of this meeting.

Evangelism:

Friendship Sunday moved closer to Easter.

Education:

Cassey Davis began classroom activities when students returned from winter break.

Upgraded routers for internet in the school with the capability to have a guest network added.

Ryan Obry is looking into some training for security measures in the school.

Stage in gym is in need of upgrades.

Handbook upgrades continued and looking at maternity policies.

Maintenance:

Mens' room toilet in church

Water fountain in gym

Activities:

Park permit has been obtained.

Worship:

No formal report

OLD BUSINESS:

Newsletter Council Corner for February is Karl Baumann.

Councilmen on duty for February are 8am Mark Patzer, 10:30

Ryan Palmer

NEW BUSINESS:

Call meeting January 20, 2019.

Approval of Committee members for various boards:

Endowment—Dan Herrmann, Tim Meyer, Perry Schultz, Tom Gruhot, Gary St. Aubin Off- Kevin Lee and Lyle Patzer. Motion made by Kevin Lee, second by Mark Patzer.

Finance Committee 2019—Ray Sorenson, Joan Sorenson, Steve Paxton, Brian Onken, Wayne Mitzner, motion by Mark Patzer and seconded by Kevin Lee.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submitted by Adam Baumann—January 8, 2019

Attendees: Mr. Ryan Obry, Pastor Schreiner, Mike Prah, Darik Lyons, Justin Schultz, Rick Kobylinski, and Adam Baumann

Mr. Obry opened the meeting with a devotion, prayer, and read the chief objectives of Samuel Lutheran School.

Minutes: Minutes were read, amended, and approved.

Pre-School Report-Survey Responses:

Discussion about the survey. Update from Kali Gross will be provided at a later date regarding the pre-school numbers.

Financial Report:

Discussion about School Security and waiting for final proposal from contractor.

Check was received from Schwan's to be used for security updates.

Motion by Mike, seconded by Rick to have the security updates to the doors done for up to \$4,500 pending the final proposal from the contractor. The use of the Schwan's check as well as the Misc. Other funds to pay for the updates. **Motion passed.**

Darik then finished presenting the monthly activity report for December and explained the Account Balances.

Old Business:

Gym mats were purchased. Unknown when they will be arriving.

Sports: Reffing situation has been taken care of.

Basketball tournament for February 9th in Hutchinson has been booked.

Teacher Calls: Kindergarten and Pre-School calls were returned. Meeting for January 20th has been tentatively set after the 2nd service for calling new teachers

Internet Computer Issues – Internet was upgraded and there haven't been any issues since

Student/School Safety Issues – Covered with a motion during the Financial Report

Assistant Teacher, Interim Assistant Teacher, Aide, and Cook Pay – Went to Council

Vacation Time – Reporting and Recording

Locker Rooms – Nothing new

Stage Ideas (Help for gym rental) – Justin had some ideas and Ryan will be checking with his old School to see how they built their stage.

Upgrade of Volleyball posts/net – Cables are fraying

Video Taping Equipment – Nothing New

Dates/Activities – Christmas Eve Practices (12/15 & 12/22), Christmas Eve Service (12/24), Christmas Break (12/24/18 – 1/2/19), School Resumes (1/3/19) – Things went well.

New Business:

ALICE Training – Ryan requested to go to the ALICE Training on 6/11/19 that is being put on at the Marshall Middle School. Cost is \$595. Adam will contact School Resource Officer VanLeeuwe with the Marshall Police Department for more details.

Clock for Gym – Discussion about clock Gym options which include: Atomic Clock with metal cage for \$90-\$95, Atomic Clock with Plexi-glass case for \$170-\$180. Ryan will look more into these clocks and other options.

Faculty Handbook (Pages 1-8 & Leave of Absence) – Discussion about some of the wording. Ryan will continue working on it.

Principal Meetings – Ryan has a couple of meetings coming up.

MN Twins Game – Ryan was contacted by the MN Twins regarding having the school come to a game as well as tour the stadium. Tentatively plans for possibly next August as a “back to school.” Discussion about offsetting cost with possible fundraising.

Sunday School report and Superintendent – Report was read. Discussion about the superintendent position. Will table for next meeting so that the Church Constitution can be checked.

Dates/Activities – January 14 & 16 School Spelling Bees 1:00, End of 2nd Quarter January 18, Multiple Basketball games.

CLYF/Pioneers – CLYF is looking at going to a Willmar Warhawks Hockey game. Pioneers are meeting on Sunday.

Families Update – Ryan hasn't heard back from the family that he spoke with in December.

From the Board:

Justin stated he had received some complaints about the parking lot during Christmas. Justin looked into costs to possibly pour concrete in the parking lot. Justin's suggestion was that we pour 5,000 square feet of concrete a year and we would have the parking lot completed in 5-6 years. Justin stated he would forward Pastor the numbers so that he could present the idea to the Long Range Planning Committee.

Next Meeting:

February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor closed the meeting with prayer.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Website: www.christlutheran-marshallmn.org

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 11:30 AM Thursday and 8:30 PM Friday

Samuel Lutheran School

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Phone: (507) 532-2162

E-mail: samuel@christlutheran-marshallmn.org

Principal: Mr. Ryan Obry

Teachers: Mrs. Amy MacArthur Mrs. Nicole Kotecki

Miss Cassey Davis Miss Kali Gross



EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

Samuel Lutheran School

