

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

500 Village Drive
Marshall, MN 56258

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

From the **PASTOR**—

Kyrie eleison: Lord, Have Mercy

When a friend and classmate texted me with the news that our friend and brother in the ministry had died, his message read: “Nate Seelow died this afternoon. Lord, have mercy.”

Lord, have mercy. In the New Testament, these are the words people used to get Jesus’ attention—people who were hurting and in need. Some were paralyzed or blind or leprous or demon-possessed or sick and dying. Others were caring for family members who were. In short, they were sinners living in a cursed and decaying world. And when Jesus came near them, they cried out to Him for help, for mercy.



These might possibly be the most commonly used words in church. For good reason. We are sinners in a broken and dying world. We and our loved ones are in need. Some are sick. Others are hurting. We’re all dying.

Jesus promises that when we gather in His name, He is present with us. When He comes near to us, we likewise cry out to him for help and mercy. We do not deserve it. What we deserve is far worse than the pain we experience. But according to His word and promise, we cry out to Him: Lord, have mercy.

There are moments in our lives when we're not sure what to pray or how to respond and react. There are times when any prayer seems too small compared to the great need. There are times when our shock and sorrow render most words meaningless.

The words "Lord, have mercy" have come to be prominent words in the liturgy of the church. The threefold Kyrie eleison is the first of the main five texts of the historic liturgy, where it has been sung for the last 1600 years or so. But we also sing "Lord, have mercy" multiple times in the Gloria in excelsis and the Agnus Dei. We often summarize our petitions in the prayer of the church with this conclusion.

Is that too much? Or, is there a better prayer that we could address to our Lord in our time of need? Is there ever a time in our lives when this is inappropriate or unnecessary?

On the one hand, we are always in need of Christ's mercy. But the frequent repetition also prepares us and trains us how pray and how to react in those times of dire distress. I have often said that when we come to church, we are practicing. We are both putting into practice the things we believe (by putting them onto our lips and impressing them upon our hearts). But we are also practicing how we will confess and cry out even when a heavy cross is laid upon us, even in times of crisis, even practicing for the time when our own death draws near.

Then we'll know where to turn, know what to cry, know also that even in the very worst this life can bring, we will find shelter and comfort in our Lord's unfailing mercy.

PIONEERS/CLYF

In October the Pioneers had a joint event with CLYF. We volunteered to pack snacks for Marshall Food4Kids. We packed over 800 bags of snacks for children in preschool – 8th grade and this was only 1 weeks' worth of snacks! We fluffed plastic bags, assembled the bags with some healthy snacks, and packed the bags in specific numbers in totes assigned to teachers. It took a little bit, but we got pretty efficient at our assembly lines. We had 7 CLYF, 10 Pioneers, and 4 adult participants. It was a great opportunity to support our community, work together as a team, and enjoy each other's company. Thank you all for your help!

THANKSGIVING

Charles Dickens said that we are somewhat mixed up here in America. Instead of having just one Thanksgiving Day each year, we should have 364. "Use that one day just for complaining and griping," he said. "Use the other 364 days to thank God each day for the many blessings he has showered upon you."

In the Christian Church, thanksgiving is not relegated to an annual event. Rather, thanksgiving is a fixed feature of our regular gatherings. Whenever the church gathers, it is to give thanks. In fact, the Greek word for thanksgiving, eucharist, is one of the names used for our Lord's Supper. We use this term because we read before instituting this supper, Jesus "gave thanks." Giving thanks to our Lord for what He has given us is simply what we do whenever we gather.

Likewise, in Christian homes, we are taught in the catechism to "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good" every time we sit down and receive a meal. For every meal, not just the big one in November, comes only by the hand of our gracious Father, and not because we have earned or deserved it.

On Wednesday, November 24th, we will gather on the Eve of our national Day of Thanksgiving to recollect and recap our all-year-long continual life of thanksgiving. This service will take place at 7:00pm. Please join us.

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

The 5th Annual Light Up The Night Parade is scheduled for November 26th at 7 pm in Downtown Marshall. The Lights Reveal along with Fireworks at Independence Park will follow the parade. Drive-Thru routes to enjoy the lights will be available Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 26th. This event is a community favorite and for the past few years Christ has had a presence in the parade, sponsored a tree and volunteered to help work the drive-thru route for a night. We are excited to stay involved with this great event again this year and need volunteers! Volunteers can help decorate the parade float, decorate the sponsored tree and/or help with the activities on Saturday, Dec. 11. Event Night Volunteer time slots are from 5 pm to 6:30, 5 to 7 pm and 6:30 to 8 pm. 12 volunteers in total are needed for our night. Volunteer duties include: greeters, drive-thru supervisors, trolley drivers, pace car drivers, and wagon drivers. Contact the office for more information and to sign-up. A sign up sheet will also be available at church on the table in the narthex by the bulletin board.



SLS NEWS AND NOTES

The first quarter seems to have gone quickly as it ends on Friday, November 5 and we are looking ahead to prepare for all the events that are coming up through the end of the year 2021. The school will be putting on an activity called "Fall Into Reading" for students in preschool-2 grade along with their parents on Tuesday, November 2 as a way to kick off our book fair week. This activity will include four stories and end with a devotion. Please feel free to let other families with children that age in our community know about this event. We thank Mrs. Ellingson again for all of her hard work in setting up our book fair which is the week of November 2-November 5. The 5-8 graders will be attending the Forensics Meet at MLC this year on Thursday, November 18. Please make note that our Christmas Concert will be held on Friday, December 3 starting at 6:30 p.m. We are planning on having a normal Christmas Eve Children's Service on Friday, December 24; however, we are still waiting to finalize a time depending on the time we are able to have a service at church. We will get the time out to you as soon as we have it finalized. Thank you to all who came to cheer on the girls for their volleyball games this year. They played hard in all of their games and had a lot of growth throughout the season. The basketball season will be coming up soon. We have our beginning of the year tournament on Saturday, December 4 at Redwood Falls, but are still working on finalizing the rest of the schedule. You can keep updated on the schedule by going to our church/school website or following this link <https://bit.ly/slsbball21-22>. Please note that all the games highlighted in yellow are still being finalized. Finally, we would like to thank everyone for all that they do for our school through donations of items and time, helping with work bees, words of encouragement, and prayers. We humbly ask that you continue to remember Samuel, the faculty, the students, and their families in your prayers. In Christ's service, Mr. Ryan Obry

CHURCH COUNCIL

Submitted by Craig Heil—September 13, 2021

Members Present: Craig Heil, Dave Biastock, Brian Onken, Kevin Lee, Mark Patzer, Ryan Obry, James Hartke, Adam Henning. Pastor Caauwe not present (at Pastor's conference). Craig Heil called meeting to order and opened by reading WELS daily devotion. Minutes from the August board meeting were read by Craig Heil, accepted as presented.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Caauwe not present, however discussed the following: Possibility of having guest pastor once per month discussed to help Pastor Caauwe with his schedule but also to provide an opportunity to see if adding 2nd service back in will benefit attendance. Motion made by Brian Onken and second by Dave Biastock as follows: Perform 2 services that Sunday; Bible study in-between; Same Sunday each month (as feasible); Motion passed unanimously. Pastor Caauwe to seek potential guest pastor options. Pastoral call meeting scheduled for Thursday 9/23 at 6:30PM

Board of Elders (Dave Biastock):

No membership changes presented

Financial Secretary (Brian Onken, Mark Patzer):

Reviewed August Numbers: \$1,050 house rental – not seeing April's rent on report. Kevin Lee believes it rolled into general fund but will check with Linda Onken. Report accepted as presented.

Treasurer (Kevin Lee):

Commented that week before hymn festival, to add note to organ fund balance as part of notice that loose offering will go toward that. Budget related items to consider: Budgeting for pension going into 401k or some other gain/share program – Kevin Lee to look into details to put together proposal. Cost of living increase budget – will monitor WELS synod matrix suggestions (anticipate 2.5-3%). Housing Allowance; Organist pay increase; Janitorial; Marketing \$ for school; Pastor Salary/Benefits – full year, assuming 10 year (Grade G) w/family coverage & moving expenses (guessing \$10k for moving expenses, Kevin to research). Reviewed Financial Statement, accepted as presented

Stewardship/Endowment (Geoff Stelter):

Geoff not present, no report

Evangelism (Adam Henning):

Pie Social held on September 12th was a success

Upcoming Events: October 9th SMSU Homecoming Parade.
November 26 - December 26 "Light up the Night" Hospice House Event. Signing up for 1 day as we have before. Adam to check into options (5-9PM on Saturday?). Adam to get us signed up and communicate to Linda for bulletin.

Sound system install completed, however still ironing out a few bugs. Some potential changes in balcony to accommodate new sound equipment/general organization. Discussed moving acoustic piano into back corner of balcony (same side as organ currently is) to accommodate sound equipment table. Electric piano potentially between speakers in front. Remove one or both of the front pews for space for choir director, soloists, space for special instruments, etc.. Go through and move any cabinets not being used into basement. Adam Henning to work with Gordy Timmerman on design/construction of sound table for new equipment.

Education (Lennis Kennedy/Ryan Obry – Lennis not present):

Another state grant available for pre-k. BOE suggested we do not apply for this but bringing to council for discussion.

Grant \$ based on # of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff (=2 for us)
\$430/FTE staff = \$860/month

>70% to be used for increased wages/benefits as long as applied toward increased compensation

Consensus by council that we do not pursue (agreement with BOE suggestion), as it is not currently needed, and at some point it will be taken away which is difficult to do

Review cradle list

Lost 10 kids with 4 families moving away

Not including 4 year old's, that leaves us with only 13 from baby to 3yrs old

Up to 19 currently in pre-k (4 from church members, 15 from community)

Concern with number of young families in church sending kids to school on decline

Suggested that we contact area church's to keep our school in mind

School projects 100% complete (bathrooms, flooring, lighting)

We have 24 signed up for Sunday School

12 - 6th-8th grade

4 - 3rd-5th grade

3 – 1st-2nd

5 – pre-k

Final enrollment number = 48

Older orange/brown chairs removed (~78) due to safety

concerns in addition to appearance from wear and tear

Motion from BOE: Purchase 84 tan deluxe steel folding chairs and a 2-tier chair dolly for ~\$2,500, using funds from school gift fund to replace. Second made by Mark Patzer. Motion Passed unanimously

Issues with dog excrement around school grounds, neighboring apartment tenants likely source

Ryan contacted Suite Livin' to notify that there is a city ordinance that they are in violation of

Consensus to purchase 4 signs to post at property line by sidewalk stating no pets allowed, cost ~\$112

BOE approved a school handbook update stating that clothing cannot contain messages that oppose God's Word

Christmas Concert moved from Sunday Dec 5th to Friday Dec 3rd
Volleyball schedule has been finalized

Maintenance:

Window at school (pre-k room) repaired and invoice yet to be received. BOE considering installation of surveillance cameras sometime in future. Snow guards for roof at school ordered and scheduled to be replaced later this month (September). Parts for custom toilet at church on order. Parsonage bathroom mirror and shelf need to be hung, then will be complete.

Activities:

No report

Worship:

Question was brought up regarding schedule with special reformation service – last Sunday of October. Craig to discuss with Pastor Caauwe.

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilman on Duty for October: Brian Onken

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming Budget/Election Council/BOE Changes

Put together list of who is at end of term, who is going off, etc.

Linda Onken to get letters sent out to everyone on potential nominee list (will use list used in years past, Linda to scrub as needed)

Nominating Committee: Mark Patzer going off of Council, Ryan Palmer moved, open position being filled by Rick Kobylinski (interim), James Hartke, Adam Henning (Council), Lennis

Kennedy (BOE) need to re-up for 2nd term, Need to ask Doug Goodrich if he is able to be on moving ahead.

Suggested we purchase AED for church (already have at school), \$1,895 estimated cost. Motion made by Kevin Lee to spend up to \$2,000 for AED at church, using funds out of the memorial find. Second by Mark Patzer. Motion passed unanimously

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submitted by Charles Hoflock—September 7, 2021

Attendees: Ryan Obry, Darik Lyons, Charlie Hoflock, Aaron Krenz, Lennis Kennedy.

Mr. Obry opened with Prayer and Devotion.

Preschool Report:

- Blinds: Good with what is there.
- Staffing number: 19 total preschool kids.

Minutes: Minutes were read, amended and approved.

Financial Report: Financial Report was read and approved.

Old Business:

- Outside basketball court: No updates.
- Bathrooms: 1 urinal needs to be replaced, waiting for new one. Everything else is complete.
- Floors: All waxed. Will do the lunch room during Christmas break.
- Vacuum Cleaner: Need a new one for teachers.

New Business:

- Darik Motioned to go ahead with 84 tan deluxe steel folding chairs and add one 2-tier dolly. Seconded by Charlie, Discussed and passed.
- Lennis Motioned to buy 4 metal signs stating (NO DOGS ALLOWED). Seconded by Charlie, Discussed and passed.
- Handbook: Darik motioned to add children's clothing may not contain messages that contradicts Gods word. Lennis seconded, Discussed and passed.
- Christmas Concert: Will be on December 3rd instead of December 5th this year.

Closing- Ryan Obry

Next Meeting- October 5th, 2021 - 7pm

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Corner of Third and Marshall Streets
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Website: 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

Phone: (507) 532-2162

E-mail: samuel@christlutheran-marshallmn.org

Principal: Mr. Ryan Obry

Teachers: Mrs. Amy MacArthur Mrs. Renee Manian

Ms. Tabitha Mays

