



# August Newsletter

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**S t . J a c o b L u t h e r a n C h u r c h**

## FROM THE PASTOR

*"I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39*

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This is the last line of the Epistle lesson for the last Sunday in July. It reminds us of the unsurpassing love of God for us and for all creation. God's love knows no bounds. It is evident and it is eternal. It is revealed most clearly in the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Christ, we are delivered from sin, death and devil. By God's grace, we are saved, through faith.

These are basic tenets of our Lutheran faith. Martin Luther, the namesake of our Church, recognized this understanding back in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and proclaimed it to a spiritual hungry church. He was not the first to make this claim but he was the first to survive. Others who came before Luther understood these same tenets but many of them were martyred. Their witness inspired the young monk from Wittenberg.

Most of us know the story of Luther and the Reformation. We have heard it talked about in classes and sermons. What often goes untold, however, are the other factors that were working in society and culture at the times that also influenced the outcome. Economic, social, national and even technological events shaped what happened in the 1500's that allowed the Reformation to rise and flourish.

Beginning in September, I will be offering a short course (probably about four weeks) on Luther and the Reformation. I will not only be explaining the religious upheaval but the cultural, societal and economic changes as well. More than simply another course on Justification by Grace through Faith (as important and critical as that is), I will be offering an historical-critical overview. Watch the church bulletins and September newsletter for more detailed information as to time and place.

This year is the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. It is a good time to go back, study and remember our roots. The basic tenets of those roots are summarized in the above quote from Paul – that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. It is in the spirit of that gift that I hope you will join me for the short class in September as we study Luther and the Reformation.

God's blessings to you all.

Pastor Dave

### Thought of the Month

Fill the heart with the love of Christ so that only truth and purity can come out of the mouth.

*Warren Wiersbe*

### Bible Trivia Question

When could an Israelite use for given to them by a stranger for a sacrifice?

Answer on page 8



## THANK YOU

**Thank you** so much for awarding me the generous scholarship. I am extremely grateful for it and the support you have shown me by granting me it. It will be very beneficial to me as I continue on in my collegiate career and begin my 2nd semester at OSU. Thank you again! Sincerely, Katrina McGowan

**Thank you** to all who helped make the WELCA Ice Cream Social a huge success! \$1152 was raised for Team Hayden! Thanks to the kitchen help and to those who donated pies, cakes, cookies, and ice cream. And a special thank you for your monetary donations and your prayers! St. Jacob WELCA

\* Additional thank you are on the bulletin board in the church office: Wittenberg University, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, LOMO

## ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

St. Jacob annual golf outing will be held **Sunday, August 6th, 2017** at Shelby Oaks Golf Course. The cost of this year's 4-person team scramble is \$50.00 for non-members and \$25.00 for members of the Oaks and will begin at 1:30pm. This year's outing will benefit the HUGS-Relay for Life team of St. Jacob. If you would like to sponsor a hole for \$50.00, please contact the church office or Joyce Ike. Any donations for door prizes would also be appreciated. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the window in the back of the sanctuary.



## MISSION INTERPRETER NEWS

**After the media leaves, Lutherans stay** What does disaster response look like years later?



Among the first to respond to a disaster and the last to leave the site, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) has a reputation for serving communities even when other agencies have packed up. Working mostly behind the scenes, it's able to respond so readily through an extensive network of partnerships around the world.

Last year LDR worked on 47 relief and recovery projects in 29 countries, distributing almost \$6.6 million. LDR also works globally with such organizations as the Lutheran World Federation. Lutheran World Relief.

LDR's sustainability is intrinsic to the way in which it responds to disasters. After the 9/11 attacks in New York, it continued to help those affected for seven years. Area pastors also reported that counseling is continuing for first responders in their ongoing healing from the trauma at ground zero.

LDR can stay in assisting those impacted by disaster because of our understanding of the incarnation of Christ. Sustaining help for those in need is a building block of the Lutheran faith. This is a Lutheran thing and goes back to the Reformation when Martin Luther said it was the church's responsibility to care for people.

Florida, North Carolina and Georgia were hit hard by flooding when Hurricane Matthew dumped rain in September and October 2016. Nearly a year later, LDR is still working with Lutheran Services Carolinas after the agency was awarded the FEMA disaster case management contract.

Five years after Hurricane Sandy hit the Northeast, volunteers are still working through Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey to help rebuild homes. Volunteers have worked tirelessly to renovate and rebuild homes. They have worked on 354 homes and another 27,000 still await repair.

Nearly \$2.1 million has been given to LDR companions and partners in Nepal, which was hit by a 7.8-magnitude earthquake in April and again by a similar one in May 2015. Work includes rebuilding more than 270 homes and nine schools, restoring water and sanitation systems.

These are just a few of the places that LDR is working. Most of this information was taken from the July 2017 issue of the *Living Lutheran*. There are great articles in this magazine. Pick one up in the magazine racks in the narthex and read what is happening in the Lutheran church. Submitted by: Nancy Martin

## SUNDAY MORNING SERVANTS

	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
<b>Readers (8am)</b>	Linda Pleiman	Jan Elsass	Keith Elsass	Steve Elsass
<b>Readers (10am)</b>	Sharon Schnell	Chloe Spence	Logan Cathcart	Roger Lentz
<b>Acolytes</b>	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon
<b>Greeters</b>	N-Dave & Kathy Fogt	N-Heather & Kristian Althausen	N-Darrell Heintz	N-Amy Stratton
	S-Gina, Gracen & Carly Rogers	S-Nancy Martin	S-Nancy Spence & Betsy Hammergren	S-Kim & Mary Ann Klopfleisch
<b>Communion Asst</b>	Kathy Fogt		Kelsey Meyer	
<b>Blood Pressure Ck</b>	Jan Elsass			

## HUGS-RELAY FOR LIFE NEWS

**HUGS -Wash Away Cancer** fundraiser for 2017. Reminder: Please return your water bottles filled with dimes **by the end of July** to the HUGS team or the church office.



**HUGS-Relay for Life Raffle** tickets are on sale after both services or you may see any HUGS team member or church office for tickets. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. We have over 60 prizes this year! Drawing will be during the Shelby County Relay. The St. Jacob HUGS Relay for Life team will be sponsoring a raffle to raise funds for the America Cancer Society. This is a community affair and fund-raising event for our group.

**HUGS Hog Raffle-** HUGS team will be selling tickets for a ½ hog. Hugs will pay for the standard processing fee, but anything over that is to be paid by the winner at pick up. Drawing will be held during the Shelby County Relay for Life. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 see any HUGS team member for tickets or the church office.

**Shelby County Relay Walker Sign-up-**There is a signup sheet on the back window for walkers during the relay–**August 4-5**. It’s a great time to fellowship and to talk for a great cause. Please consider signing up. Luminaries’ forms & Survivor Registrations forms are available on the back table. Survivors should sign-up as soon as possible.



**Salvation Army School Tools Program-**We are collecting school supplies again this year beginning **June 25-Aug. 6**. There is a blue barrel in the back of the sanctuary for your items along with a list of needed supplies. The supplies will be dispensed in late August to the schools.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 16, 2017

### Members in attendance:

Lisa Brady                      Rick Ike                      David Fogt                      Dave Bell  
Cheryl Pulfer                  Jerry Pleiman   Jim Brandt                      Pastor Westphal  
Deb Christman                  Kim Klopfleisch                  Carol Bodenhorn

### Excused Members:

Keith Elsass                      Ann Huffman

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Brandt.

### Secretary's Report

Roll Call was taken. The minutes from the June 11, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Kim Klopfleisch moved and Dave Bell seconded to accept the Secretary's Report. Motion passed.

### Financial Secretary's Report

For June, 2017, the Current Offering was \$15,505.00 and the Benevolence Offering was \$1,375.00. The Capital Campaign collected \$660.00. Jerry Pleiman moved and Carol Bodenhorn seconded to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report

For June, 2017 the receipts were \$15,980.00 and expenses were \$8,836.30 for a positive difference of \$7,143.70. This brings the Year-to-Date receipts to \$110,336.71 and the expenses to \$79,110.16 for a positive difference of \$31,226.55. David Fogt moved and Kim Klopfleisch seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed

### Offering Our Gifts and Talents

### Trustee's Report

Jerry Pleiman reported that the display cabinet to honor the memory of Karen Schaffer is currently being constructed. After consultation with Jeff Bertke, the trustees are recommending the Low Voltage bid for installation of a security system. Low Voltage's quote is for \$4,444.14. David Fogt moved and Rick Ike seconded the presentation of the Low Voltage bid to the congregation for a vote. Motion passed. A date for this special congregational meeting will be announced in the near future. Jerry will be contacting the organ repair company to schedule a service call. Jerry has received one bid so far to upgrade the lighting outside the church. The bid includes removal of the lights on the ramp leading up to the south side door and instead installing strategically placed light poles and a wall mounted light to better illuminate the ramp, sidewalk and parking lot. These new lights would require underground digging/tunneling. The initial quote is for \$13,000. Other bids will be secured for consideration. Jerry has started talks with the village concerning a site for a building to protect the recently refurbished church bus. The trustees will discuss what type of building to erect (metal siding vs. wood, etc). Until something can be built, Steve and Jan Elsass have volunteered the use of their pole barn to house the bus, they just ask that council ensures that there is insurance to cover the bus in case of fire or some other damaging circumstance. The trustees will take care of trimming the shrubs and bushes around the church. Ceiling tiles are being repaired at various locations throughout the church and asphalt is being patched where needed. Jerry has someone coming to look at the lock on the south door to determine if it can be repaired or if it should be replaced. Jerry recently discovered that we do not have a current service contract with anyone to take care of the furnace or air conditioners. Lochard's was contacted and they have evaluated our equipment. They provided a quote of \$585.00 for annual service (once in the spring for the air conditioners and once in the fall for the furnace). The quote was not very comprehensive, so Jerry will request a more detailed list of all of the items that would be covered under the service contract.

The sound system/sound board currently housed in the balcony was discussed. Council would really like to see it moved the ground floor and put to good use. This would require a group of people to be trained and placed on a schedule to run the equipment during services. Jerry will research the possibilities.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES-CONT.

Rick Ike moved and David Fogt seconded to accept the Trustees' Report. Motion passed.

### Deacon's Reports

**The Parish Ed** committee had no updates to report.

**The Worship Team** reported that Rally Sunday will be on August 27, 2017. They have also picked the music for upcoming services.

**The Vision Development Team** had no updates to report.

**The Benevolence/Christian Action Team** had no updates to report.

**The Evangelism Team** had no updates to report.

Kim Klopfleisch moved and Dave Bell seconded to accept the Deacon's Reports. Motion passed.

### Pastor's Report

Pastor Westphal reported that things are going well with worship services and that he continues to visit home-bound members. And baptisms abound for the month of July.

### Continuing Business

David Fogt gave an update on the call process. The profile report has been submitted and approved by the Synod. Things are now moving forward and the Synod is looking for people who are interested in the position. The call committee will be meeting again in early August to create a list of interview questions. The ultimate goal is to have a new Pastor by the end of the year.

Deb Christman gave an update on Team Hayden. They have Go Bags, bracelets, lanyards and car decals for sale. During the Community Park Activities scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup> they will be having a hog roast to raise money.

### New Business

Cheryl has updated the Servant Keeper software and she is currently working on figuring out the mobile apps.

Deb informed Council that St. Jacob's received a refund from the Bureau of Workers' Compensation in the amount of \$672.74.

### Envisioning Business

Jim asked council to consider a suggestion from a member to show a Reformation DVD on Rally Sunday. Also suggested was renting the Sidney Theatre in October to show a more lengthy Reformation Video and invite other local congregations to attend. There would be a rental fee for the theatre. Further discussion will occur at the next meeting.

The August Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 20, 2017 at 9:00am in the church office area.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Brady

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## LABOR OF LOVE WEEKEND

This year's Labor of Love is scheduled for **Sept. 1st—4th**. We will be spending the weekend helping the less fortunate in southern Ohio, repairing homes or building wheel chair ramps. We will join a group of men & women from the United Methodist Church in Sidney to work on projects of the Jackson Ohio Area Ministry. We will stay in a church close to the work area. We will cook our meals at the church so a nominal fee of \$95.00 will be requested to help with the food cost. We will leave Sidney on Friday 5:30-6:00pm & return Monday afternoon or early evening. Please contact Charles or Steve Elsass by **Sunday, August 13th** if interested in joining us for this Labor of Love weekend.

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## CALL COMMITTEE NEWS



Your Call Committee was formed in April 2017 following a meeting with Pastor Jeff Wick and the church council on March 12<sup>th</sup> and is made up of the following members:

David Fogt	Roger Lentz	Chloe Spence
Matt Himmeger	Morgan Meyer	
Leslie Heintz	Karla Pleiman	
Jeremy Kipp	Donna Russell	

The first meeting of the Call Committee was held on Wednesday May 3, 2017 with Pastor Wick, Assistant to the Bishop of the Southern Ohio Synod to go over the Call process and what our responsibilities would be. During this meeting he told us the complete process could take 12 to 18 months but could be less depending on how quickly we completed our work.

The process began with preparing a 12page Ministry Site Profile for our congregation. This covered information on our congregation and community along with things we were looking for in a minister and what we saw as areas of focus for our congregation. We met every Wednesday night in May to prepare this document and place it on the ELCA Southern Ohio Synod site. Prior to it being posted it was reviewed and approved with some minor changes by the church council. After making the final updates on our profile in June it was reviewed by Pastor Wick and formerly posted.

Now that our pastoral opening and profile are posted on the ELCA Southern Ohio Synod site we are ready to start receiving names and begin interviews. All inquiries will go through Pastor Wick's office first and then be forwarded to us for review and possible interview. Based on conversations with Pastor Wick in June we anticipate having names to start considering in August.

Once the Call Committee agrees on a person we will forward the information to the Church Council who will review the information and work on a financial package with the Pastoral Candidate.

Following the council work and approval the name will come to the congregation for approval. The congregation will be asked to vote to approve the candidate and then vote on the compensation package. Following approval by the congregation the pastor will be contacted and formerly offered the position. Once they have accepted the position arrangements will be made to move them here and start our ministry together.

David R. Fogt, Call Committee Chairman

## BELL CHOIR

The Bell Choir will soon be starting another season of practicing and sharing in our worship services. We would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation to those who gave their time and talent during our premier season: Jim Brandt, Jill Brandt, Gina Fogt, Jenni Shoffner, Linda Pleiman, Eve Pleiman, Sharon Schnell, Sue Althausser, Laura Brady, and Anna Brady. They gave with their whole hearts and hands to make a joyful noise to the Lord. We also want to express our thanks to Pastor Mick Althausser for getting the bells ready by taking them to be repaired and polished and ordering the new tables and equipment, to Nancy Martin for sewing the table covers, to Cody Limbert for setting up and taking down our equipment, and to all of you who supported us with your financial donations, encouragement, and prayers.



We would like to invite more people to join us in our ringing, on **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., starting on September 6th**. If you would like more information, please contact the church office or Amy Stratton at 937-726-0011.

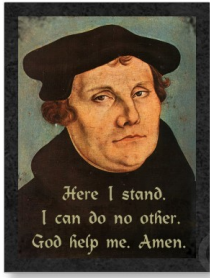
- August 1 LouAnn Levi, Madison Wendel
- August 4 Gene Billing
- August 5 Dominic Consiglio, Vincent Consiglio, Virginia Fields, Diane Frank, Jasson Sniffin
- August 7 Marilyn Free, Connor McCoy
- August 8 Bart Bixler, Vernon Peacock
- August 9 Austin Liess, Jeff Watren
- August 10 DJ Heintz, Linda Pleiman
- August 11 Adam Shadoan, Avery Shoffner
- August 13 Scott Bertsch
- August 14 Brad Lentz
- August 15 Tim Lentz
- August 17 Karin Bok, Darrin Ihle, Wayne Wilt
- August 18 Kelsey Meyer, Tim Schaffer
- August 19 Kayla Ihle, LuAnn Rickert
- August 20 June Barhorst
- August 21 Susan Bertsch, Bryan Hoersten, Madison Weiskittel
- August 22 Jason Fogt, Roger Lentz, Maura Rose
- August 23 Kaylie Kipp, Andrew Prenger
- August 24 Jay Billing, Abbey Lang
- August 25 Liam Cooper, Don Eisenhardt
- August 27 Charles Elsass, Kathleen Hayes
- August 29 Matt Pulfer
- August 30 Candice Consiglio, Earl Schmitz
- August 31 Beverly Smart



- August 1 Kevin & Betsy Hammergren
- August 3 Earl & Joyce Vance
- August 6 Jim & Sara Bertsch, Mike & Sharon Schnell
- August 10 Anthony & Vicki Linkmeyer
- August 11 Keith & Rhonda Vance
- August 22 Rick & Krista Withrow
- August 26 Jeff & Darana Lobaugh
- August 31 Frank & Lisa Brady



Please shower Virginia Fields with cards on her birthday on August 5th. Virginia will be turning 100 years young. Her address is: Dorothy Love Retirement Community, 2500 N. Kuther Rd. Apt 108, Sidney, OH 45365.



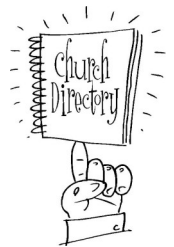
## 500TH REFORMATION

Rally Sunday will be held on August 27, as we begin another year of Christian education in our St Jacob Sunday School. To commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, a DVD presentation of the Rick Steves documentary of our Lutheran roots. Time to be announced.

The movie "Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World" is going to be featured on Sunday, October 29th at 2:00 p.m. at the Sidney Theatre, to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The film is approx. 1 1/2 hours. This is free presentation and open to the public. Sponsored by St. Jacob Lutheran Church.

## ON-LINE DIRECTORY

Coming soon—Members of St. Jacob will have available a free on line church directory. Also, you will be able to update your personal church profile with our ServentKeeper database. Watch for more details to be coming soon in August.



## LUTHER LEAGUE

There will be an important planning meeting for the **2018 Youth Gathering** on **Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>** at 7pm upstairs in the meeting room. We would like at least one parent to be present at this meeting. If you cannot make this meeting, please be in contact with Gary Strasser (937-638-4129) **before** the 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

## ALZHEIMER'S TEAM

St. Jacob Alzheimer's team is in need of a captain! If you are interested in being our captain or co-captain or wanting more information, please contact Cheryl in the church office ASAP.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 4-5 Shelby County Relay for Life Walk-fairgrounds 6pm-noon
- August 6 Blood Pressure Ck 9-9:45am in office area  
Annual Golf Outing-Shelby Oaks tee time 1:30pm
- August 20 Church Council 9am
- August 27 Rally Day/Fellowship Sunday

Save the Date: Sept 23 - Shelby County Alzheimer's Walk

Bible Trivia Answer: Never

