

Pastor's Letter

Autumn is my favorite time of the year. The earth is preparing for a long winter's nap: trees are dying, leaves falling to the ground; the light is dying sooner each evening; the days can still be sunny and warm, but the nights are cool; camp fires, caramel apples, football, sweaters, and harvest festivals. Autumn is filled with activities. It is also a special time in the history of Protestantism, because it was the end of October, 1517 when Martin Luther, the Augustinian Monk who turned Christendom on its head, nailed a letter on the door of a church in Germany. NOTHING has been the same ever since.

Luther was complaining about the abuses of the corrupt clergy, and how the church was oppressing the people by actually charging them money to have their sins forgiven. We all know it is God who forgives sins, freely through Grace, but in Luther's time, people thought they could buy their salvation and that of their relatives, all to support the rich lifestyles of the clergy. Needless to say, Luther was not popular with the Pope! But he did many amazing things, most of which we take for granted. Did you know that, if not for Martin Luther, there would not be the German language? Luther had to create the grammar for the language so he could translate the Bible for all the people. And because he translated the Bible, we can all have access to it. Having access to the Word of God is the one thing that makes our relationship with God direct – we don't need the priest to pray for us, we can do it for ourselves.

We celebrate Luther and all the accomplishments of the Reformation on the last Sunday of October. This year, we will also celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism for our 9th grade class. They will bring the worship service, and their personal statements of faith, at the 10:15 service, which will be followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. This will mark the end of their being "children" in our congregation. They will then take their place as adults, voting members. Instead of seeing them come up for the children's sermon and being acolytes, they will become ushers, lectors, greeters, assisting ministers, Sunday school teachers, council members – just like all the other adults in our community. The end of confirmation does NOT mean the end of discipleship (remember, *disciple* is the Greek word for *student*. Discipleship NEVER ENDS!

We will also be celebrating Holy Communion with our 5th grade students that morning. Please continue to pray for our young people – they are not only the future of our congregation, but the future of Christianity as a whole. We are preparing them as witnesses in the world, by investing in their education as well as by being good models. As we come to the waning of the year, keep your energies up by working with our young people, keeping them connected to the community. Remember the African saying: it takes a village to raise a child. We are that village. We made that promise the day they were baptized. Our children, and Christ, are counting on us. Thanks be to God! AMEN!

October Coming Events

October 4th, 11th, 18th

First Communion training following 10:15 Worship

October 18th

Pumpkin Pizzazz & Chili Cook-off

5:00 – 7:00 pm

October 25th

Reformation Sunday

First Communion

Confirmation for 9th graders

Prayer Requests

Greg from SS food kitchen is recovering from a stroke

Dana K for drug addiction

Lori K, Dana's mom for wisdom & comfort

Rick L & his family. Rick passed away September 11th

Vera Krinsky who has heart & lung issues

Judy Darisz who is starting chemo

Shantel Belot who continues to proudly serve in the military

Muskego Food Pantry Update

Again many thanks to Bethel for the donation of \$155.00 for the food pantry. We serve between 15 and 23 families per week. Each family of 4 gets 2 boxes of cereal, 6 cans of vegetables and 4 cans of fruit among other staples. We go through 20 to 30 boxes of cereal per day. If you wish to donate we could use cereal, canned fruit or canned vegetables. Thank you so much for all your generosity.

Julie Frahmman

Southside Food Kitchen News

On September 8th volunteers from Bethel helped feed 457 very needy people. A huge thanks goes out to all who participated in the making, delivering and serving of this food.

Simply Giving Program to be discontinued

Several years ago we offered the Simply Giving program to have your weekly or monthly donations automatically transferred from your checking account to Bethel's checking account. Over the years participation has declined to now having only two families participating in the program. We will be discontinuing the program at the end of the year due to new charges that will go into effect in 2010.

Those of you who are currently participating in the program don't need to do anything. I will complete the proper paperwork to withdraw you from the program.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy McGregor, Financial Secretary at

414-422-9254.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

The council meeting was held September 15th. It opened and closed with prayer. Financial reports were reviewed and approved. All bills are currently paid. Committee reports, including Education, Evangelism, Outreach, Resource, and Worship, were reviewed and approved. It was noted that the Weight Watchers contract would be up for renewal in November. New business included the need to prayerfully look at the need for new council members starting January, 2010. Another item of new business included a proposal to develop a new website for the church which would be user friendlier and enable trained members of the congregation to keep the website up to date.

Training Sessions Scheduled for Sunday October 4th

On Sunday, October 4th training sessions will be held after the 10:15 service for those people who has signed up for Altar Care, Assisting Ministers, Acolytes, Ushers, Greeters and Lectors. Trainers will be Kathy Beale, Debbie Zortman, Marcia Marquardt, Jean Paape, and Pastor Anne.

Each training session will review the steps required to complete each task. There have been a few tweaks to some of the job responsibilities so please try to attend even though you may have been doing something for a long period of time. This will also be a good opportunity for new people to sign up for a new task or to switch to something different. REMEMBER, the more people each group has the less an individual is assigned to the activity.

Please contact Kathy Beale or Pastor Anne with any questions regarding these training sessions.

Save the Date

How many Christians does it take to...?

How many Lutherans does it take to...?

How many volunteers at Bethel does it take to work in God's ministry?

We will celebrate the MANY who give of their time and talents to further God's work in this place at a dinner on Friday, November 6. Please stay tuned for more information in Sunday bulletins, on bulletin boards and in the November newsletter.

You are invited to this Fall Event for Congregation and Community!

PUMPKIN PIZZAZZ & CHILI COOK OFF!

On Sunday, October 18 at 5:00-7:00pm

Invite another family to join us!

5:00pm--Pumpkin carving, a special time for the kids to discover the secret message in the pumpkins, and a scavenger hunt

6:00pm--Chili Cook Off with guest judges from the community and then a potluck family meal to enjoy the chili

Bring Chili, hot dogs/buns, Fall pie or side dish for the potluck dinner. Bring a pumpkin, carving tools, and newspaper if you would like to join in the pumpkin carving activity.

Tuesday Bible Study with Marcia

A great time to be refreshed and renewed! Tuesdays at 9:30-11:15am in Room 201 at Atonement Lutheran Church, S70 W16244 Martin Drive in Muskego. Members of Bethel and Atonement gather together in this study.

First Communion Classes

Fifth Grade and older students are invited to prepare for First Communion on Sundays, October 4, 11, 18 at 11:30am-12:30pm. First Communion is Sunday, October 25. Invite someone from the community to join us for these classes.

Confirmation for Ninth Graders

Join us as we celebrate with the Ninth Graders as they affirm their Baptisms on October 25.



Assisting Minister

October 4

8:00 Julie Frahmman
10:15 Janel Francis

October 11

8:00 Heidi Lindhorst
10:15 John Francis

October 18

8:00 Cathy Pierce
10:15 Ed Hammer

October 25

8:00 Julie Frahmman
10:15 Buzz Getzel

Lector (reader)

October 4

8:00 Jonathon Bauer
10:15 Cassie Cook

October 11

8:00 Alex Martin
10:15 Resse Rasmussen

October 18

8:00 Josh Wutke
10:15 Fred Kolkoski

October 25

8:00 Marcia Marquardt
10:15 Ed Hammer

Ushers

October 4

8:00 Randy & Debbie Bauer
10:15 Dan & Diane Conner
Keith Jochims

October 11

8:00 Tom Hettrick, Teri Orlando
10:15 Pat Martin, Debbie Zortman,
Max & Mickey Francis

October 18

8:00 Bryon & Jean Paape
10:15 Russ & Katie Hager
Matt Zanotelli

October 25

8:00 Al Bolter , Debbie Zortman
10:15 Lori & Alex Schwanz
Vicki, Kayla, & Jill Kakonis

Acolyte

October 4

8:00 Zach Wargolet
10:15 Courtney Walsh

October 11

8:00 Tyler Gressle
10:15 Madison Francis

October 18

8:00 Alyssa Wutke
10:15 Christine Zanotelli

OCTOBER 25

8:00 Tyler Hilker
10:15 Kelsee York

Greeters

October 4

8:00 Julie Frahmman
10:15 Jeanne Kolkoski

October 11

8:00 Jean Paape
10:15 Lori Schwanz

October 18

8:00 Annette Worden
10:15 Yvonne Hafferman

October 25

8:00 Julie Frahmman
10:15 Jeanne Kolkoski

Jr. Lector

October 4

8:00 Katie Wasiak
10:15 Kate Jochims

October 11

8:00 Emma Milton
10:15 Sam Runyun

October 18

8:00 Dakota Galkowski
10:15 Alex Pawlowski

October 25

8:00 Ben Schram
10:15 Lauren Gerht

