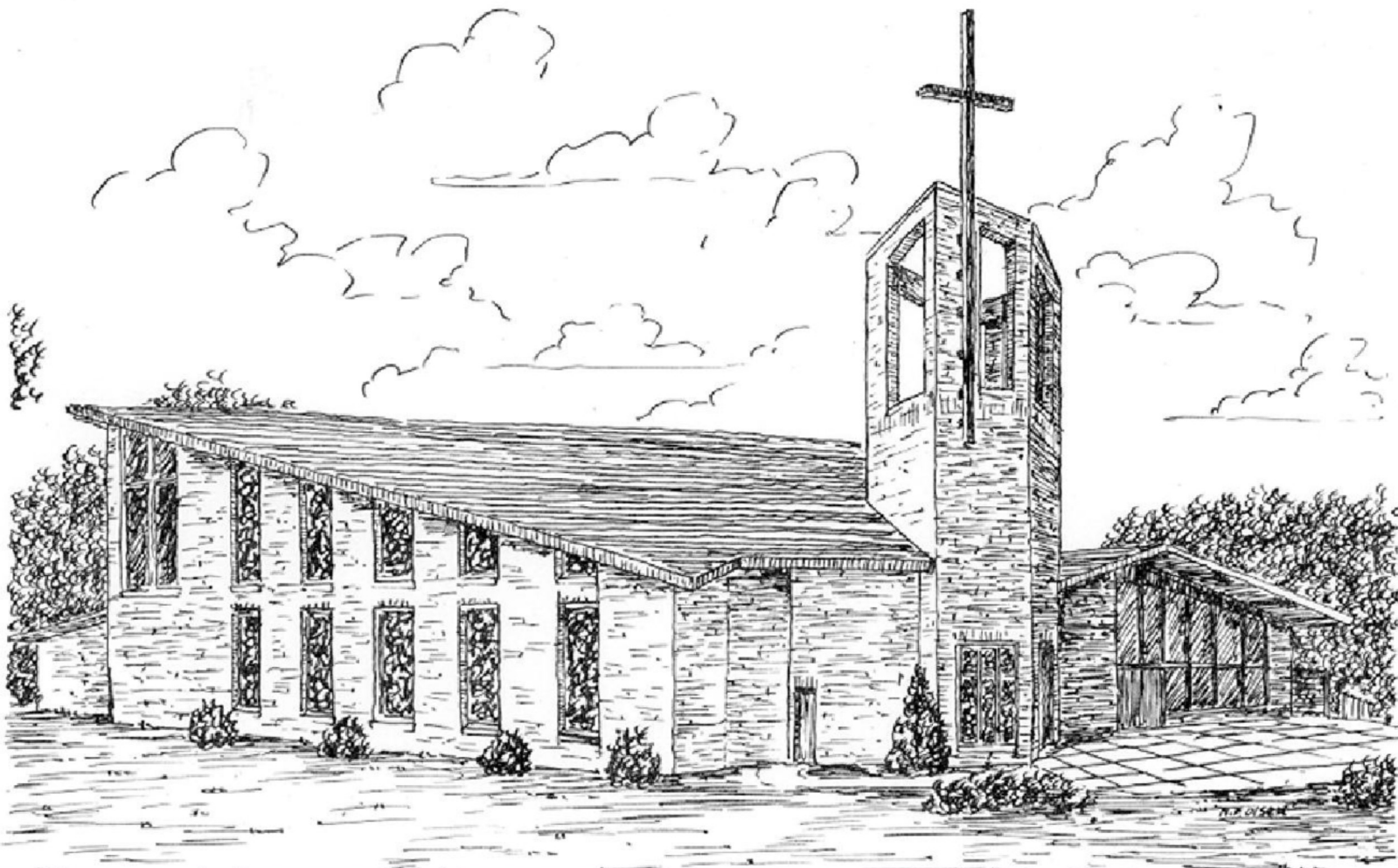


GOOD NEWS AT MEMORIAL

Memorial Lutheran Church Newsletter
July/August 2023



| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| In This Issue: | |
| Pastor's Page | 2 |
| Deacon Dennis' Neighborhood | 3 |
| Council Update | 4 |
| Website/Social Media | 5 |
| Good News in Action, Bible Study | 6 |
| Birthdays & Anniversaries | 7 |
| Thank You/Laughter Corner | 7 |
| Calendar | 8 |

PASTOR'S PAGE

Each year in September, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has a **God's Work. Our Hands.** ministry event that takes place throughout the nation. The people or leadership of each individual congregation decide if they will participate and/or how they will participate. It is not a requirement that congregations get involved. The national church simply asks individual congregation to consider being a part of the national event as a way of expressing unity with one another in the common cause of service to others. The date for this year's event is Sunday, September 10, 2023.

The ELCA website describes the event in this way: "This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace." In previous years we have collected desired products for some of the area ministries that we support and/or collected items for Lutheran World Relief care packages – including School Kits.

Last year we decided to offer support for one of the ministries of Hephatha Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. As many of you know, we have been in partnership with Hephatha for many years. But last year we focused on collecting for their Strong Baby Sanctuary Ministry. Each month Hephatha works with about 50 families through their Hephatha's Strong Baby Sanctuary Ministry. This ministry is in place to help respond to the crisis of the high infant mortality rate in Milwaukee, especially among black babies. With their congregational nurse's involvement, they offer classes to new families to offer support and share strategies to keep babies safe and growing healthy. At the end of those classes, they also share much needed supplies with these families.

Since this event was so very successful for us last year and so helpful for Hephatha and the families that they support, we have decided to support this project again in 2023. The supplies that they need are as follows:

- **Diapers: Sizes that we need the most: size Newborn, 4, 5 and 6 (newborn and size 5 greatest needs of all diapers)**
- **Pull ups: Sizes 2t-3t (boys) 3t-4t (boys)**
- **Cans of powdered Formula small cans of powdered Similac advanced(blue can) and Similac Sensitive (orange can)**
- **Baby Wash**
- **Baby Lotion**
- **Diaper cream**

PASTOR'S PAGE, CONTINUED

And, just like last year, it is my understanding that paper products, such as toilet paper, can also be used by Hephatha to distribute to families who are part of this or other programs that they support.

In order to give people time to gather these supplies, I am sharing this information with you now so that you can plan ahead and look for any sales. Feel free to bring products to the church at any point in the summer on or prior to September 10. On Sunday, September 10, we will gather to sort through the products and box similar items together. We will then get these products to Hephatha as soon as possible after that day.

Thank you for all that you do in service to others. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

In Christ,

Pastor Lester Spies

DEACON DENNIS' NEIGHBORHOOD

There is not too much to convey for this newsletter. Now that I am back to being mostly mobile I will have more time to devote to my weekly messages, 1) the bulletin insert and 2) the Mid-week Meditations. Somewhere in the next few weeks I will be ending a concentration on Matthew. Since many of our summer gospels will be coming from Matthew, I felt I could cut short some parts, especially miracles and parables.

Pastor Spies and I have talked about some spiritual and devotional items I can share in the upcoming months. They include:

- A study on the Psalms
- Sharing a twice weekly devotional based on the Daily Lectionary readings. They will include the Bible passage and a very brief meditation. Hopefully, we could eventually post them on our website.
- This is future planning, but a Midweek Meditation on the Psalms will be coming after we finish the study of Matthew.

It is not too late to give funds to *Equipping the Saints* initiative from the synod. Ask me if you want to know more about it.

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER, BUT ALWAYS LOOK FOR PRAYER IDEAS ON THE SPIRITUAL TABLE.

COUNCIL UPDATE

The Church's Financial Position

| | Receipts | Expenditures | Deficit |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| May | \$13,167.21 | \$29,779.85 | (\$16,612.64) |
| Year to date | \$111,231.99 | \$187,178.12 | (\$50,430.13) |

The Council decided that it was worthwhile to publish the above information in our newsletter.

Background

Financial Reports (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) are prepared each month. This provides good, timely information. The Cash position (checking account and savings account) are monitored closely throughout the month. To keep key people informed, Financial Reports are discussed at every Council meeting. The church's cash position changes with the seasons – collections generally go up around Christmas and Easter, collections go down during the summer months.

Current position

The current Checking and Savings account balances are approximately \$70,000 – this represents more than 3 months of spending even if no contributions were collected. We also have short term investments at US Bank to draw upon if needed. This protects us in emergencies and prevents overdrawing our checking account. This year we have seen some extraordinary spending. The Air Conditioner cost was about \$50,000 with needed electrical work. The replacement lawn mower cost approximately \$3,400. We used a couple of the Restricted Accounts to pay for the Air Conditioner. Abiding Savior gave us a gift of \$15,000 when they closed; we used that entire gift in purchasing the Air Conditioner. We also used \$10,000 from our Special Projects fund (\$5,000 of which was gift specifically for the Air Conditioner). To make up the \$50,000 total, the Endowment Fund lent us \$25,000 for 5 years.

Looking Forward

While we are in a relatively good cash position, our spending has risen due to inflation. The overall budget increased about 5% over the previous year. As stated earlier, collections usually go down through the Summer months. Due to both those realities, we are asking you to consider carefully your giving and consider making an additional contribution.

At the beginning of the year, our president, Ron Searles urged everyone to **TRY SOMETHING NEW**. We are halfway through the year and you might want to do a check-up on where you are on this challenge. To help you-- take a look at the chart on the next page and see where you can contribute! We all have different talents; let us reveal those talents in service to our congregation.

COUNCIL UPDATE

TRY SOMETHING NEW!

| JOB | TASKS | CONTACT/TRAINING |
|------------------|---|---|
| COMMUNION DUTIES | filling cups or after service clean-up | half hour before or after service revlesterspies@gmail.com |
| LECTOR READER | reading during worship | info provided in advance revlesterspies@gmail.com |
| PRAYER CHAIN | pray for those in need | you set the time ruthann2799@gmail.com |
| HOMEBOUND VISITS | visit/call a homebound person, provide communion | revlesterspies@gmail.com ruthann2799@gmail.com |
| QUILTERS | help make quilts for donating | weekly (Wednesdays 9-11:30 am) alammi@juno.com |
| OUTREACH | jello bucket; casserole; food pantry corner | an hour or less revlesterspies@gmail.com |
| MONEY COUNTER | work with another person to prepare deposit | 30 minutes after service revlesterspies@gmail.com |
| COFFEE HOUR | make coffee/put out snacks/clean-up | 15 min. before and half hour after service ruthann2799@gmail.com |
| OFFICE HELP | sharpen pencils; pew racks; newsletter | about an hour or less/monthly memoriallutheran@sbcglobal.net |
| USHER | guide people to communion; collect offering; bring gifts | 15 minutes during worship revlesterspies@gmail.com |
| GREETER | welcome people at door before worship | 15 minutes before worship revlesterspies@gmail.com |
| YARD HELP | trim around trees or signs in the yard OR weed a flower bed | you set the amount of time and when revlesterspies@gmail.com |

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE PROJECTS

A student from Cardinal Stritch University, Febe Chale, is working with Memorial Lutheran Church this summer to help us improve our website and social media presence. She is not getting paid to do this work for us. However, she is getting academic credit that will help her to complete her degree program this summer. So, this is one of those wonderful win-win situations for her and for the church.

As we work on making these improvements, we will definitely need your input and help in spreading the word about these changes. Please look for upcoming messages via email or announcements regarding these developments. And please “like,” “share,” “comment,” “follow,” or any of the other appropriate terms connected with these resources. We are hoping this will have a positive impact for us in our mission to share with others the great things that are happening at Memorial. Thank you!

GOOD NEWS IN ACTION COMMITTEE

SUMMER WORK PROGRAMS SUCCESSFUL IN FUNDRAISING!

Memorial is absolutely delighted in funds raised for the Summer Work Programs at both Hephatha and Reformation Lutheran Churches this year. We raised \$8150 with \$4375 going to Hephatha and \$3775 going to Reformation Lutheran Churches. We can be proud. Hephatha has already started their summer work program and Reformation will start June 26th. It was a joy watching the Hephatha kids starting their program on June 20th. More photos and information will be forthcoming as the summer progresses.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE

Change for Change with the Veterans Outreach of Wisconsin located in Racine, WI was given a check for \$856 for funds given through the Change for Change bucket in the narthex. The endowment fund always doubles what we raise.

QUARTERLY MISSION

Our 3rd quarterly mission is the Urban Ecology Center located just south of Riverside High School in Milwaukee. This facility has been in operation about 30 years. There will be a display on the east bulletin board in Bruemmer Hall. Some people may think there is not a religious part of this facility but the committee thinks that it accomplishes so much, especially for young people in the city who do not get a chance to experience God’s creations outside. Believe it or not, some children have never even seen Lake Michigan. There are three facilities with the Urban Ecology Center. The main one is located at Riverside Park located at 1500 E. Park Place, the second is located at Washington Park 1859 N. 40th St. and the 3rd is at Menomonee Valley located at 3700 W. Pierce St. They teach all members of the community.

FALL 2023 THROUGH SPRING 2024 STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor Spies is looking forward to offering a Bible Study using a resource from our church publishing house, Augsburg Fortress, entitled *The Greatest Story: Bible Introduction*.

The study features 16 lessons and will be spread out over the fall, winter, and spring seasons. The 16 lessons cover both the Old Testament (9 lessons) and the New Testament (7 lessons). Because there are additional Sunday programming events that happen throughout the year at Memorial, including studies led by volunteers, we will not meet every week. So, please look for more specifics regarding dates and topics starting in September. If you have any questions, or want to get a preview of the topics/stories that will be discussed, please see Pastor Spies.

Marlene Kapustanczek will also continue the study of **St. Peter’s Letters, 1 and 2**. The dates for the next studies are **September 17, October 15, November 19, December 10**. You do not need to have been present for previous studies to join Marlene. There is no required homework either! You are welcome to join whenever you are available. Looking forward to seeing you there!

JULY AND AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

JULY BIRTHDAYS

5 Marlys Veitel
 13 Char Ghazarian
 18 Kathy Cormany
 19 Jerry Kuntz
 21 Susan Rose
 22 Christopher Siegel
 29 Carolyn LeBeck



 **JULY ANNIVERSARY**
 29th - Louis & Susie Beese ... 56 years

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

4 Kathi Siegel
 18 Rudy Underkofler
 21 Robyn Kelley
 28 Margo Pavlik
 29 Stephanie Cybela
 29 Irene Peterson
 30 Barbara Cybela



 **AUGUST ANNIVERSARY**
 2nd - Dale & Barbara Cybela ... 37 years

Memorial Lutheran Church
 7701 N. Green Bay Avenue
 Glendale, WI 53209
 414-352-1160
 memoriallutheran@sbcglobal.net
 www.memoriallutheran.com

DATED MATERIAL

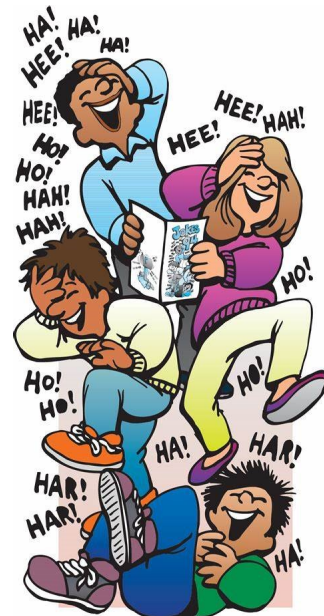
Worship

Sunday: 9:00am

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the folks who help put the service together.. filling the wine cups each Sunday and providing bread...for our Ushers, Lector, Gardeners, Coffee hour hosts, communion assistants.. We couldn't do it without you.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR



You Know You're a LUTHERAN when.....

- ◆ You can identify with all the characters in Lake Wobegon
- ◆ You carry silverware in your pocket to church in case there's a potluck
- ◆ You think Lime Jell-o with cottage cheese and pineapple is a gourmet salad
- ◆ You know you can't get into heaven without bringing a hotdish along
- ◆ You feel guilty about not feeling guilty
- ◆ It's 110 degrees outside and you still have coffee after service
- ◆ You hold your family reunion in the church basement

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH · GLENDALE, WI JULY/AUGUST 2023 GOOD NEWS AT MEMORIAL

JULY

| | | | |
|------|------|------|-----------------------------|
| Sun. | 7/2 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 7/9 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 7/16 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 7/23 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 7/30 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |

AUGUST

| | | | |
|------|------|------|-----------------------------|
| Sun. | 8/6 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 8/13 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 8/20 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |
| Sun. | 8/27 | 9:00 | Worship with Holy Communion |

