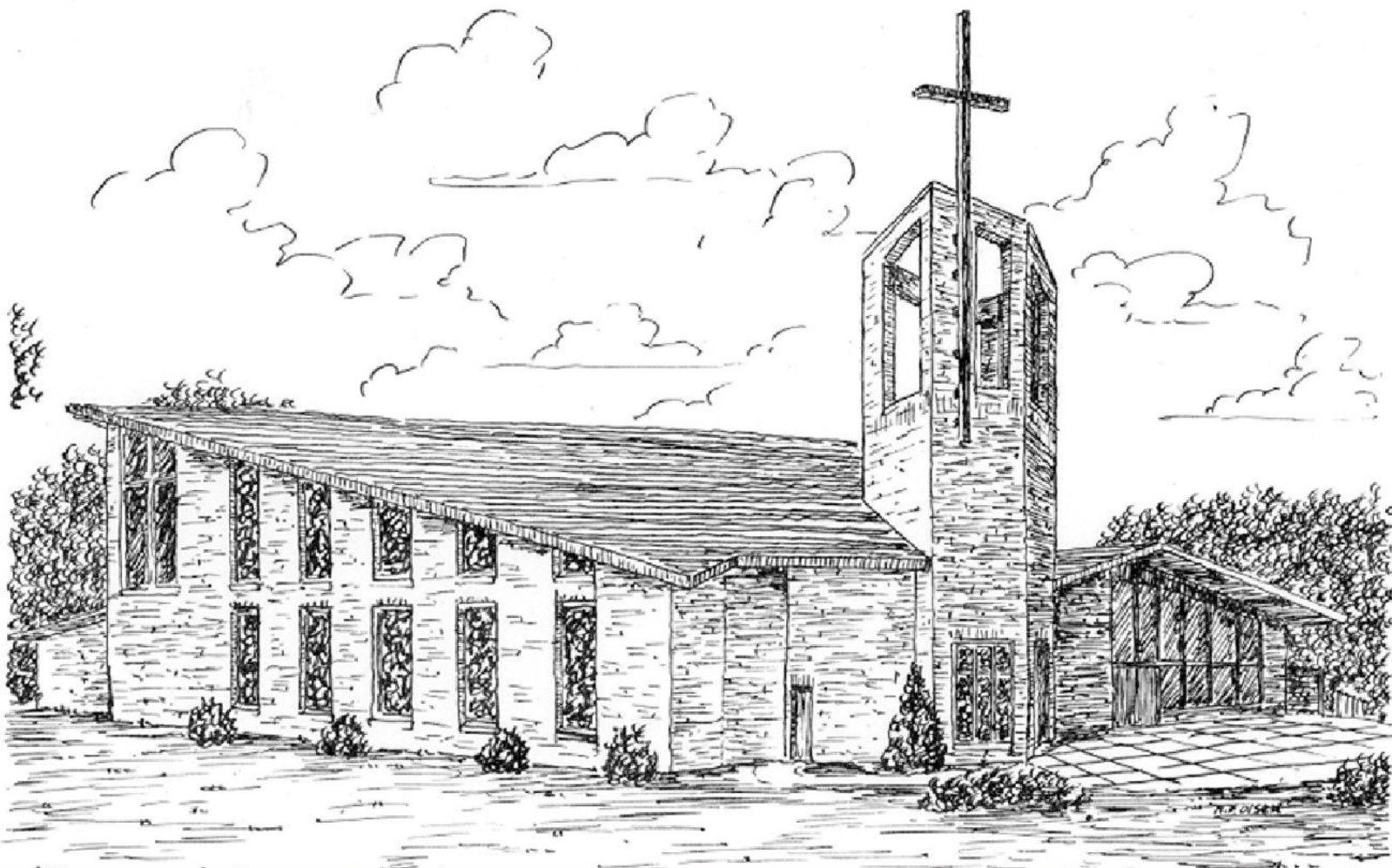


GOOD NEWS AT MEMORIAL

Memorial Lutheran Church Newsletter
September/October 2023



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PASTOR'S PAGE

This past summer, Febe Chale, a student from Cardinal Stritch University who was completing her degree before the closure of the school, worked with our congregation in an unpaid internship role in order to help her receive her final credits for graduation. Nicolle and I met with her on a regular basis throughout the summer, and those conversations led to some noticeable changes in our online presence. And, as the rest of the year progresses, it is our intention to continue to strengthen our online footprint in hopes of making sure that you have the information that you need about our congregation and the events that are taking place in relationship to our ministry and in hopes of reaching new audience members who, in the process of seeing what we are doing, might consider becoming a part of those ministries as well.

In the coming months, we plan to enhance three particular areas of our online presence, and we could use your help in spreading the word among friends and family. There are so many different options when it comes to the various applications that are available for online communication. I saw one company this week that had seven different social media applications on their website that you could click in order to learn more about what's going on in their world. We can't keep up with seven different apps. But we are going to try our best to keep up with three – our church's website, our Facebook account, and, as a new addition, our Instagram account.

For our website, Nicolle did an amazing amount of work this summer to update the site and make it much more user friendly. Updates have been made to the staff page and the Mt. Meru Coffee Project. In addition, new information has been added regarding our Good New in Action ministries and the Memorial Lutheran Quilters. There is also a dedicated tab for our labyrinth. There is even a short video that is found on that page to give you an opportunity to get a taste of what you might see if you walk the labyrinth yourself. Nicolle has also been adding a copy of the upcoming bulletin to the website so that you can have the order of service and announcements in advance of the Sunday service. More changes and additions are forthcoming, but we certainly hope that you find these new elements beneficial for you.

For our Facebook account, we are working to add new information and promotional materials in the coming weeks. Please "like" us on Facebook and please "share" announcements and fun updates that you see on our Facebook page with your friends and family. That is one of the ways that we can get the information out to more people and, hopefully, have a greater impact with our communication. At the writing of this article, the next Free Community Breakfast on September 9 holds a prominent place on that Facebook page. Three people have "liked" it, and two people have "shared" it. That's a good start; but the more engagement we have, the more likely we are to spread the message to a wider audience. If you are like I am and have trouble figuring out which "share" option to use and how to make everything work the way that you want it to work, please feel free to do what I do and call one of your kids or talk to someone in the know. After they laugh at me, they are always happy to help me figure out what to do. Hopefully, you will have the same experience (except the laughing at you part).

PASTOR'S PAGE, CONTINUED

For our Instagram account, I have a friend, Melody Stachowiak, who has graciously agreed to volunteer her time to help me record and post videos for our new Instagram account in the near future. Currently, if you click on the account from our website, you will not see anything there. However, we are hoping that will change starting in mid-September. I plan to do a weekly post called "Mondays from Memorial" starting in mid-September and continuing through the end of this year. The posts will vary greatly with some of them sharing announcements, some of them inviting people to become part of various ministries in the congregation, some of them offering information about the services that we offer within our congregational life, some of them proclaiming a devotional message, and some going in directions that I cannot image right now. This is all new to me. Then, after a few months of trying, we will evaluate its effectiveness and see where to go from there. I will keep you posted on any progress in the weeks ahead. When that is up and running, please share and encourage your friends and family to share these posts with others.

It has been an exciting summer. We have learned a lot, and we are eager to put this new learning into action. Thanks for being a part of the mission to get our message out to our community and the world.

In Christ,
Pastor Lester Spies

DEACON DENNIS' NEIGHBORHOOD

Even though it is Fall and things are starting anew, I don't have much that is new and exciting to convey. I am sure Pastor Spies has filled you in on several new and continuing activities. I will be partaking in some of them, so I have no need to repeat. I will just share whatever plans I have for the upcoming two months.

- Beginning sometime in September my Midweek Meditations will be centered on the Psalms based on one of the many books of the Bible studies offered by Luther Seminary. I have not made a full plan yet, but it will go on for several weeks, maybe until the end of October. Be assured I will not be discussing all of them in depth.
- Sometime in September, I will be writing a short devotion based on the Lectionary for Monday and Friday of each week. They will be posted on our new and expanded Website page.
- Nicolle will again be printing *Prayer Venture* booklets. The ones for September will be on the Spiritual Table. Please pick one up and use as part of a daily devotion.
- When special needs arise, such as the fires in Maui, I will have information available on what needs arise.

COUNCIL UPDATE

The Council is pleased to report that we have added Laura Jeske to the Council. This is a good opportunity to mention that the Annual Meeting in January is a time when the congregation votes to add Council members as other Council members have their terms expire. Please consider joining us on the Council at that time. We meet monthly to discuss the work of our church. You will learn more about the inside functioning of our operations and you will have an opportunity to influence where we need to spend our time and resources. Earlier this year we challenged you to try new things and this could be one of those choices. Thank you for your consideration.

The Church's Financial Position

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Excess/Deficit</u>
July	\$28,851.60	\$28,303.31	548.29
Year to date	\$158,206.80	\$239,398.75	(\$55,675.95)

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

Explanation

The financial status has remained relatively stable the last couple of months. Since these are summer months and contributions might be lower during the summer, being relatively stable is a positive. The year to date totals reflect the large expense of the Air Conditioner and some expenses due to maintenance which we do not expect to continue the rest of the year.

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!

GOOD NEWS IN ACTION COMMITTEE

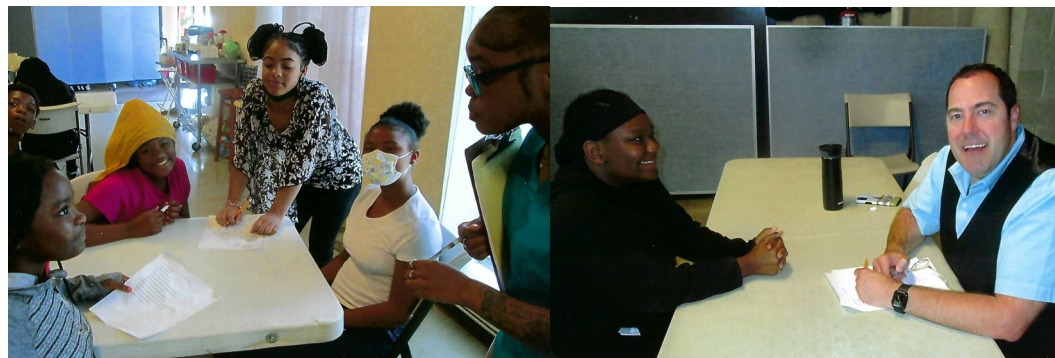
The end of summer is drawing near and the summer work programs have all come to a close! Thank you again Memorial for your record setting donations to both Hephatha and Reformation Work Programs. Hephatha had about 50 youth and Reformation had about 60. Some of the Reformation youth were actually working on a real work program in the community for about 3 hours each session and got together later to talk about what they were doing and what they thought of it, what they learned from it and what they might have done differently.

At Reformation, groups were also put in to appropriate age groups. Cleanup in the neighborhoods was a prime source of work, working at the church another, preparing lunch another, going to see interesting areas of the city, and, of course, attending Sunday services each Sunday.

The experiences the youth had along with the camaraderie among the various youth was a joy to see and the young people had some money this month to buy some school clothing and supplies.

Pastor Mary Martha Kannass has been at Hephatha Lutheran for thirty years and has a great reputation in the city. Pastor Steve Smart is an interim Minister for the upcoming year with Reformation. He has worked with the deaf for many years and is working on his Divinity Degree at Viturbo University.

**“FROM THE FULLNESS OF HIS GRACE WE HAVE RECEIVED
ONE BLESSING AFTER ANOTHER” -John 1:16**



Older students learn how to apply for a job and answer questions they might be asked in an interview for a job.



Young people with bicycles which were donated to Hephatha youth from Memorial members. Buzz is no longer doing this project but it was a great gesture to give them away again.

GOOD NEWS IN ACTION COMMITTEE



Youth are being shown how to trim bushes from a volunteer. Youth are cleaning up at the church after mowing and cutting at the church.

God's Work. Our Hands. 2023

As a reminder, 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 date for this year's event is Sunday, September 10, 2023.

For this year's **God's Work. Our Hands.** event, we will once again help gather the following supplies and give them to the leadership at Hephatha Lutheran Church in Milwaukee for distribution through their Strong Baby Sanctuary Ministry:

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

Please feel free to bring any of these products up to and including Sunday, September 10. And please join us after worship to help with the sorting process. Thank you for your support of this year's **God's Work. Our Hands.** project.

FREE COMMUNITY BREAKFAST - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9



Saturday, September 9, 9am-11am. Please join us! Volunteers, we will set up Friday at 2:30pm. Saturday volunteers please arrive by 8:00am. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the kitchen. Congregation members please come to eat and enjoy the community and fellowship.

QUILT SUNDAY - OCTOBER 1

Please join us for a blessing of the quilts that the Memorial Lutheran Quilters group has worked so hard on this past year. These quilts are donated to organizations that work with those in need. As always, all guests are welcome on Wednesday mornings between 9 and 11 a.m. We'd love to see you!



SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2- Meredith Searles
 3- Louis Beese
 6- Andrew Searles
 14-Marlene Kapustanczek
 14- Kathy Mehlenbeck
 17- Shirley Worth
 22 - Bob Schuette
 25- Rose Fraser
 28- Barbara Spies

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5- Pam Harris
 8- Ronald Searles
 12 - Sandy Galioto
 28- Cathy Zacher
 31- Jim Cormany



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

21 - Bob & Pat Schuette - 56 years
 21 - Richard & Karen Nowak - 28 years



THANK YOU!

A big thank you to the Congregation for your flexibility and rolling with all the changes and challenges in our musicians. And for other changes that are happening, your patience is admirable.

Also, thank you to our great Financial Team for the work they do!

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

-Show me a home where the Buffalo roam, and I'll show you one dirty house!

-What is Chewbacca's favorite city?
 Mil-wookie



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DATED MATERIAL

Worship

Sunday: 9:00am

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH · GLENDALE, WI SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023 GOOD NEWS AT MEMORIAL

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Holiday Craft Fair

Date: Sunday, November 5 & 12

Time: Before and after worship

What's for sale: Silent Auction, Handmade Crafts, "Uniques and Antiques"

How can you help? Donations of ANY items from the above "What's for sale" list would be most appreciated from any and ALL members of Memorial. We would especially like a wide array of handmade crafts. PLEASE PUT A PRICE ON ALL DONATED ITEMS. Thank you!

SEPTEMBER

Sun, 9/3	9:00	Worship
	4:00	Meal Program
Sat, 9/0	9-11am	FREE Community Breakfast
Sun, 9/10	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion God's Work. Our Hands.
Sun, 9/17	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion St. Peter Bible Study
Sun, 9/24	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion Intercessory Prayers Class

OCTOBER

Sun, 10/1	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion Quilt Sunday
	4:00	Meal Program
Sun, 10/8	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun, 10/15	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion St. Peter Bible Study
Sun, 10/22	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion
Sun, 10/29	9:00	Worship with Holy Communion

The Memorial Lutheran Quilters Group meets every Wednesday morning 9-11:30.