



News and Notes from Pastor and Principal September 2020

Worship

- ❖ After Labor Day our in person worship times will remain the same as they have been (Thursday 6:30, Sunday 8:00 and 10:30). We will continue to stream a service at 9:15 until upgrades to the church audio and video systems are completed. At that time we will begin to live-stream one of the services held in the church.
- ❖ For centuries letters have been used to communicate with people from different places. Most letters today are not sent through the mail where you have to wait at least a few days before it is received. They are sent electronically and received in an instant. How excited are we when an email from a dear friend enters our inbox? We open it, read it and maybe even share what was written with someone else. This fall in our worship beginning Labor Day weekend, we are going to be receiving “emails” from people we only know through the pages of the Bible. Yet these people have so much to tell us. As these “emails” are opened and shared, we will be encouraged and guided in our life today either through the sender’s life experiences or by the words God called on them to write. Worship with us each week as you hear an important message addressed, **“Dear Christian...”**
- ❖ If you are not comfortable with being in larger worship gatherings yet, but would like to receive the Lord’s Supper, please contact Pastor Heuer. Small group communion will again be organized for this month. However if that doesn’t work for you, something can be arranged at some other time that may work better for you. Just as it is important to remain in the Word, it is equally as important to be fed with the body and blood of our Savior given and shed for you.

Bible Studies

- ❖ Children learn from adults all the time. However, adults can also learn from children too. Intergenerational learning happens all the time in our homes. With this thought in mind, our Sunday morning Bible study time will take on that home-like learning atmosphere where one generation learns from the other as a family. This new and unique **Family Bible Study** approach to what we have traditionally called “Sunday School” and “Adult Bible Study” begins on September 13. Gathering together distantly in the gymnasium at 9:15, people from all ages, whether you have children or not, are welcome to learn together as a Christian family. Yet each group will have it’s own time. Partway through, the children will be dismissed for music/activity and a Bible story that relates to the study topic while the adults dig deeper. At the end of the lesson, home activities and discussion questions will be provided for family conversations at home. Join us as we study God’s Word together.
- ❖ **“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”** (Philippians 4:4). Sometimes it’s hard to imagine being able to rejoice when the stresses, pains, and anxieties of life start to pile up. Yet Paul writes a beautiful, joy filled letter, and he writes it from a jail cell! He writes it to the church in Philippi that is suffering, poor, and persecuted. God gives this letter to us too. In this, our first Family Bible Study topic, we will see as we study Paul’s beautiful letter to the Philippians that regardless of our current situation, Christ has blessed us and we have reason to rejoice always.

- ❖ Join Pastor Heuer virtually from his office for a midweek **“Study in the Pastor’s Study”**. He will post a video of a study on Facebook as well as an audio recording of it on the church’s podcast sometime on Wednesday. Beginning after Labor Day Pastor will lead a study on the Triune God is and the work of each person.
- ❖ We are looking to start **small group Bible studies** led by lay leaders during the week that would meet in various places - church, homes, out in the community, or even perhaps online through Zoom. At this point we want to know who might be interested in such a study. If this type of Bible study interests you, please fill out an informational survey (<https://forms.gle/dqHihSLTQtNotqsg6>) telling us when during the week might work best for you as well as a preferred location. If you do not have internet capability or the link doesn’t work for you, please contact Pastor Heuer.

Christian Day School

- ❖ We begin our 40th year of Christ-centered education here at First Lutheran School. Our school theme this year from Psalms 118:24 encourages us to **rejoice and be glad on this day which the Lord has made**. This reminder is especially beneficial as we face the challenges of an abnormal lifestyle under the current restrictions. As Christians we will therefore continue faithfully to strive for service to our Lord, Who has made this day, and to each other, who need us to be glad more than ever.
- ❖ Our school enrollment has increased. While our 4K-8 had 35 students last year, we have been blessed by the Lord with 43 this fall, with a possibility of four more in the second semester. Four of the new families are prospective members. Mrs. Kuehl will have 11; Ms. Szmanda, 6; Miss Buelow, 13; Mr. Glodowski,10; and Mr. Falk, 4.
- ❖ We have made plans to do what we can to keep our students safe from catching a virus. A couple items have gotten the trustees involved. Since students should wash their hands often, a sink will be installed in grades 3-4 and 5-6. To help students stay hydrated and to eliminate a highly touched surface, two bubblers will have a bottle filler installed. Thank you to Chris Collins, Tom Stech, and Joe Kuehl for their help.

LWMS Fall Rally

The LWMS Fall Rally will be held on **Saturday, October 3** at Peace Lutheran Church, Wilmot. Registration begins at 8:45 AM with opening devotion at 9:00 AM. Mr. Sean Young, director of WELS Joint Missions Operations will speak about the Hmong outreach in Vietnam. During the past seven years, the relationship between the Hmong Fellowship Church in Vietnam and the WELS has grown and a full time pastoral training program has been developed. Mr. Young will talk about the synod wide campaign in 2019 to raise funds to buy land and build the training facility in Hanoi and the blessings the Lord has given to the Hmong. The mission offering will be taken to support the Hmong outreach in Vietnam as funds are needed on an annual basis to pay for the continued training and operation of the facility. A door offering will be taken Sundays, September 13 and 20. Mark your calendars. Carpooling will be available.