



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

## News and Notes from Pastor and Principal November 2020

### Connecting People with Word and Sacrament

- ❖ It feels more and more like we are living in the End Times every day, doesn't it? Pandemics rage, political leaders rant, fights and violence erupts almost every day, and God's Word is disregarded and set on the shelf by man. Don't be afraid. Don't be overwhelmed. Jesus is coming. Jesus is here. This month, during the season of End Times, we will gather together in worship to reflect each week on psalms. We are acutely aware that the end of time is always getting nearer, so we will direct our eyes to God's Word to be prepared and even excited for those last days.
- ❖ 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. Something can be arranged. *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.*
- ❖ In an effort to maintain social distancing while still providing every opportunity for you to worship with us this holiday season, we are adding services to our normal holiday season schedule. Sunday service times will remain the same. Our special services in the building will be as follows:
  - Thanksgiving Eve - 3:30 and 6:30 PM
  - Midweek Advent (December 2,9,16) - 6:30 PM
  - December 20 - 8:00 AM (Advent worship service in the church) and 10:30 AM (Children's Christmas service in the gym with only family of the children attending).
  - Christmas Eve - 3:30, 6:30, and 8:00 PM
  - Christmas Day - 8:00 and 9:30 AM
  - New Year's Eve - 6:30 PM
  - We will be streaming recorded services for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. The time for those services to be premiered has yet to be determined.
- ❖ Pastor Heuer will be resuming the Thursday morning Bible study on November 5 at 9:00 beginning with a study called "Politics Is Driving Me Crazy". This study reframes the government as God's instrument of order and reminds believers "to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good" (Titus 3:1) Participants will explore God's two kingdoms, separation between church and state, and our messy political world. Because this study will take place during the school day, we will gather in the meeting room distanced as much as possible. However, depending on how many people attend, distancing may not always be easy. *Therefore, we are asking that all participants wear a face covering.*
- ❖ If you would like to attend any of our Bible studies here at church, but are not comfortable with being here, please let Pastor Heuer know. A Zoom link and lesson materials will be emailed out to you so that you can still grow in God's Word with us.

## General News

- ❖ On Sunday, November 1 at 6:00 PM, our congregation's quarterly voter's meeting will be held in the gymnasium. One of the topics on the agenda is to decide as a congregation whether our school should enter into the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program. A packet was sent to every household with the report of the School Choice Task Force, thoughts from our teachers, an opinion from two of our Board of Education members, as well as other information from WELS publications. *We ask that you please read through those materials before the meeting so that you can better determine whether this program is a good fit for our school at this time.*
- ❖ The Giving Tree has been placed in the narthex. We are collecting new hats, mittens, scarves, and socks for those in need. If you would like to donate, it is greatly appreciated.

## Sanctuary Audio Video Upgrades

- ❖ A project was approved to enhance the technology in our church sanctuary. This project mainly consists of adding two 86" video displays in the front of church near where the banners currently hang, a 65" video display in the back of church for the presiding pastor, a new high definition video camera, as well as updating parts of our sound system which are outdated. These upgrades will cost approximately \$30,000 and begin after the first of the year. Some funds have already been secured for the project. Any special gifts toward these upgrades are appreciated. We thank you for your generosity.
- ❖ These technology upgrades will be a tremendous blessing to our congregation as we gather for worship. The video displays allow us to place the order of service, hymns, graphics, videos, and announcements up on the screen in a better, clearer, and easier to see way. The video camera and other included software allows us to live-stream a regular Sunday service for those who may not be able to join us in worship that weekend. As you know, we have been doing all of that for months. However, these upgrades give us the ability to be more efficient and improve upon what is already being done.

## Christian Day School

- ❖ The volleyball season has ended , but the robotics season is starting. We have four teams of three each this year. Practices will be starting in early November.
- ❖ During the first quarter of the year, our students have been donating their mission offerings at Friday chapel to CAMM. The Central Africa Medical Mission not only shares God's Word but also provides healthcare for many families. We have a guest speaker from CAMM making a presentation after chapel on November 6.