

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 5



# Messenger

Celebrating 150 Years!

## *From the Pastor's Desk* *We're having a baby!*

This was the news from our children this past month when two of our sons and their wives Face Timed, showing us ultrasounds. Cathy was so excited! She would be a grandparent next year around April! She was thrilled, couldn't wait, and already making plans to visit. She immediately began to check out Amazon.com for books she wanted to give as gifts to the young couples. 10



books wrapped up and sent in a box with the instructions "open one each month". These were books Cathy read to our boys every night before going to bed. I can't remember the titles but they were read many times until the boys could repeat them by memory. They never got

tired of them. It

was a time of bonding more than anything else. So much was talked about, the day, the future, what they wanted to be when they grew up. The tenth book sent was the most important. You probably can guess what it was, a Bible Story book for children. Every night the Holy Spirit was working in their hearts, as they heard the stories of God, Jesus and His people. They knew how much Jesus loved them, forgave them. How much He wanted His best for them and to hear them pray.

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## Upcoming Events:

**October 4:**

**10:00AM Contemporary Worship**

**11:30 AM Executive Council**

**October 5:**

**7:00PM Elders**

**7:00PM WOW**

**October 19:**

**6:30PM Evangelism**

**October 26:**

**7:00PM Ushers**



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"We're playing house—Zach and I are going to work, and Becca is running the day-care center."

## Social Ministry

### *Food Pantry Update*

*Hebrew 13:5, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

How would you feel if you lost your job and had no food to feed your children? How would you feel if your food stamp allotment had been cut in half and your total income is \$400.00 a month? These are just a few of the stories told to us in the food pantry. Most of these same people still say they are blessed and are thankful to God for His care.

We serve on an average of 50 families a week. We are continually grateful to you for your assistance. May God continue to bless us with the food we need, through your generous gifts, so that we can keep our doors open to serve the community.

We are still getting acclimated to our new surroundings in the school. Clothes cannot be accepted until about the first of November, as we have no storage for them at the present time.

## Parish Health

### Herbal Remedies

This month I want to share some thoughts with you on Herbal Remedies and your Health. The Bible reminds us that God lovingly gave "...every green plant for food" (Gen. 1:30).

Today many people seek assistance to feel better and live fuller lives with chronic illnesses. Pharmacies have many herbal products, which can be taken without a Doctor's order. Many of these products are available as teas, tinctures (concentrated liquid) and tablets. You need to be sure that the product you buy is the pure form of the herb. Most of the medications we take are plant based. It is best to think of medications and herbs all as powerful drugs.

Before trying any herbal or other over the counter treatments a word of caution is in order. I strongly encourage you to visit with your Doctor. There are several strong interactions possible when we combine certain foods, herbs and medications. Studies have shown that grapefruit can make some drugs as estrogen, some heart and blood pressure medications more potent in the body. Ginkgo can increase the risk of bleeding for persons taking Coumadin.

If you have any medical problems or questions call the church office or Maureen Rehmer at 352-6266.

*All glory to our great God for calling us  
"...a planting of the Lord for the display  
of His splendor." Is. 61:3*



*Blood pressures will be taken on the third  
Sunday of the month at 9:30 A.M. in the  
fellowship hall.*

He heard our prayers. Four wonderful Christian Men married to four beautiful Lutheran wives who love the Lord and serve him with their gifts.

How did I take the news? Well... the ultrasound to me looked like tadpoles in a fish bowl. I took the news well enough! I was definitely excited for them. But, I did want to say that a baby



changes everything! For me this was the beginning of the end. I was getting old. So in my own way of celebration I pulled out my Swisher Sweets (cigars) and poured a glass of Port wine and sat on my deck in the dark, reminiscing and reflecting how much the Lord has blessed me. Hey, maybe it's weird but it's my way of talking and thanking the Lord. These are milestones in one's life. Right?

Our gospel reading for Sunday comes from Mark chapter 10 with the themes of divorce, marriage,



children and adultery. I don't have to tell you what the world has done to distort the

institution of marriage. This gift of God from the

time of creation has been very clear: First, the two shall become one, marriage, second, sexual relations, and third, have children. With this come the blessings of the Lord.

Outside of this biblical order the announcement "We're having a baby" can create another reaction by parents: panic, shame, consequences, for others headaches, hardness of heart, abortions, broken relationships, divorce, and adultery. It may be no surprise to you that the percentage of children that leave the faith from divorce families is so much higher.

Jesus in our text is outraged at the disciples when they were rebuking parents bringing children to Him for a blessing. He says "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Then he took them in his arms and blessed them. May your grandchildren be a blessing to you too!

*The Lord bless you ...all the days of your life! May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel! Psalm 128:5-6*

"We're having a baby!"

***"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord." Psalm 127***



**JOIN US FOR A NEW BIBLE STUDY**  
Sunday mornings at 8:30AM

A special DVD bible study series on  
The Story!

It is a book of selections from the Bible, arranged chronologically, that reads like a novel. During this unique experience discover together with us how our story is found in God's story!



# Evangelism

## *Autumn*

We have entered the third season of the calendar year. Soon the leaves on the trees will turn color and fall to the ground. This is God's way of telling nature that winter is coming.

In the same way we at St. Johns will come to the close of the church year, then advent and the coming of our Savior and a new year will begin.

Eagle School has begun its new school year and it's good to see the children's happy faces coming to school in the morning. St. Johns supports the Compass before and after school program and preschool. It is here that 80 children are learning about Christ daily. There are many upcoming opportunities for the congregation to get involved and show your support by attending and volunteering. Check out the calendar monthly for events! Let the church office know if you would like to help!



## *Rally Day 2015*







October 1 Jessica Goskie  
 October 2 Alexis Bohannon  
                   Steve Gentz  
 October 3 Jonathon Schmidt  
 October 4 Amy Holdenreid  
 October 7 Marsha Jackson  
 October 12 Ben Thomas  
 October 16 Doris Seevers  
 October 22 Erica Pierce  
 October 26 Gretchen Meyer  
 October 27 George Turner  
 October 28 Gerry Engert

### 2015 Meetings Voters

November 1  
December 13

### Executive Council

October 4  
December 13

**George Turner**  
**Eden Village**  
**200 S. Station Rd.**  
**Glen Carbon, IL 62034**

### ~ October 2015 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 8:00AM Bible Study	3 8:00AM Social Ministry 8:30 AM Food Pantry
4 8:30AM Bible Class 10:00AM Contemporary Worship 11:00AM Executive Council MO District Conference	5 3:30PM Compass 7:00PM Elders 7:00PM WOW MO District Conference	6 3:30PM Compass MO District Conference	7 8:00AM Eagle Coffee & Conversation 3:30PM Compass	8 3:30PM Compass 2:00PM Home Bible Study 6:30PM ESOL	9 Eagle No School 8:00AM Bible Study	10 8:30 AM Food Pantry
11 8:30AM Bible Class 10:00AM Worship w/ Communion	12 Eagle No School	13 1:30PM Home Bible Study 3:30PM Compass	14 10:30AM Avalon Bible Study 3:30PM Compass	15 3:30PM Compass 2:00PM Home Bible Study 6:30PM ESOL	16 8:00AM Bible Study	17 8:30 AM Food Pantry
18 8:30AM Bible Class 9:30AM Blood Pressure 10:00AM 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship	19 3:30PM Compass 6:30PM Evangelism	20 1:30PM Home Bible Study 3:30PM Compass	21 3:30PM Compass	22 3:30PM Compass 2:00PM Home Bible Study 6:30PM ESOL	23 8:00AM Bible Study 6:30 Eagle Fall Ball	24 8:30 AM Food Pantry 9:00AM-3:00PM Servant Event with Abiding Savior
25 8:30AM Bible Class 10:00AM Worship w/ Communion	26 3:30PM Compass 7:00PM Ushers	27 1:30PM Home Bible Study 3:30PM Compass	28 3:30PM Compass	29 3:30PM Compass 2:00PM Home Bible Study 6:30PM ESOL	30 8:00AM Bible Study	31 NO Food Pantry

***ALL VOTERS PLEASE READ***

During the September 13, 2015 Voter's meeting, it was motioned and seconded that we eliminate the debt on the loan we refer to as the Restoration Loan. In the next voters meeting this motion will be discussed and voted on. As you may or may not know we took out a loan to restore and improve our facilities. (Fellowship Hall, air conditioning, elevator, bathrooms, nursery, etc.)

Here are the facts after talking to Lutheran Church Extension Fund:

- Original loan taken out on December 20, 1993.
- The original loan amount was \$312,090.00
- As of August 2015, we have paid \$509,813 toward the repayment of that loan.
- Our monthly payments to LCEF are \$1,194 this will continue until the maturity date of 2026.
- The current balance on the loan is \$96,162.00 plus interest, which is at this time 3.875%. (It does change annually)

In addition it was also moved and seconded that we use our endowment money to pay it back.

You may or may not know that we have a fund called the endowment fund. As noted in our Constitution and By-Laws, typically the earnings from the fund are used for mission work of the congregation and for the general fund. Investments of the principal are the decision of the Endowment Fund Committee. (Eunice Bain, Debbie Schmidt, Alexis Bohannon) They then in return report back twice a year to the congregation. Withdrawing funds from the endowment principle should only be done in extreme circumstances upon recommendation of the Church Council and two-thirds majority of the Voters Assembly. The vote would take place at the next Voters meeting after the initial motion, November 1, 2015.

Here are the facts after talking to Alan Peterson, Advisor at WEDBUSH:

- The most recent statement, (8-31-15) there is a net worth of \$154,326.45
- It is accessible at this time.
- The interest we receive at this time is less than a 1%
- If said money is asked for by the voters (two-thirds majority) they would immediately send a check for the amount from the account.
- Pending the signatures on the WEDBUSH account, (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and a number of elected voting members) and a copy of the minutes from a voters meeting giving the go-ahead.
- None of the money taken out is taxable and
- There are no fees in connection with a withdrawal.

These are the facts to help you make an informed decision on this matter. Please prayerfully consider this issue and voice your opinion in our discussion and vote of this motion.



***August 2105-July 2016 Budget***

<b>Income</b>	<b>Aug. 1, 2015- July 31, 2016 Budget</b>
Envelopes	\$110,000.00
Basket	\$4,300.00
Birthday Envelopes	\$0.00
Sunday School	\$470.00
VBS	\$50.00
Memorials	\$1,000.00
Building Use	\$800.00
Investments	\$2,500.00
3rd Source/Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$300.00
EEl Rent	\$20,000.00
EEl Compass	\$80,000.00
EEl Utilities	\$35,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$254,420.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Bank Charges	\$400.00
Christian Stewardship	\$200.00
Church Material & Supplies	\$2,300.00
Copier Lease + Copy Fees	\$2,500.00
Convention	\$350.00
Church Workers Conferences	\$750.00
Evangelism	\$200.00
Insurance(property)	\$26,895.44
Trash Collection	\$1,100.00
Maintainance	\$8,500.00
Missouri Synod	\$2,000.00
Salaries and Benefits	\$110,000.00
Guest Preacher/Organist	\$1,000.00
Social Ministry	\$200.00
Auto Allowance (Sem)	\$500.00
Utilities	\$50,000.00
Compass	\$80,000.00
Educational Endeavors	
Lutheran High	\$6,700.00
Elementary School	\$3,750.00
Sunday School	\$200.00
VBS	\$500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$298,045.44</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>\$43,625.44</b>



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