



MEMORIAL MESSENGER August 2017



These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name. John 20:31

A few years before Luther nailed his ninety-five statements to the door of the church in Wittenburg, Germany, Juan Ponce de Leon set sail. Ponce de Leon, who had been with Christopher Columbus on Columbus' famous 1492 voyage, had obtained a royal grant to settle a fabulous island thought to contain a fountain whose waters would restore a person's youth—a fountain of life. Ponce de Leon never found it. Instead, he found Florida.

Ever since mankind was evicted from Eden, folks have been seeking a source of unending life. Some, like Ponce de Leon, have looked for magical water, put their hopes in exotic diets, or turned to medicine. But in spite of so much searching and such extensive experiments, people still grow old and die. Is the search hopeless? Are we doomed to a death from which we'll never wake?

No! We have *the* source of everlasting life: Jesus! John wrote near the end of his gospel, "*these (words) are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may life in His name*". How appropriate that in two of our orders of service we sing that very passage following Bible readings that tell us about everlasting life! Jesus, the One of whom John wrote said, "*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life*" (John 3:16). Jesus, the One of whom John wrote paid the price for us when He took our hell upon Himself.

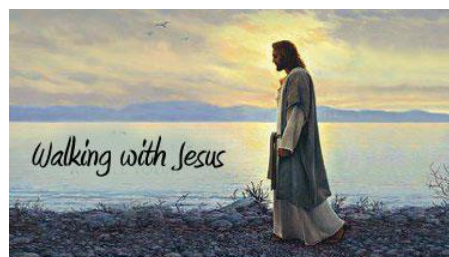
Do you *want* to live forever? Many would answer emphatically, "No way! Not with evil and corruption, sadness and sickness, pain and hunger, arguing and fighting around me every day! Deal with that forever? No thanks!" But what if they found out that everlasting life is filled with love, peace, and joy in the presence of God? Their answer would change. We know that everlasting life will be wonderful—even more precious than we can imagine. In fact, we already have everlasting life through faith in Christ; we're just not in heaven yet.

As our Lutheran Elementary School and Preschool classes resume at the end of August, as Sunday School and Bible Class sessions start up again September 10, we will join our children and grandchildren in being reminded that God knows our sins—and calls for everlasting *destruction* because of them. We will join our children and grandchildren in also hearing that God's love in Jesus provides forgiveness for every sin.

That everlasting life doesn't come in sporadic spurts or by blind luck or out of the clear blue. Everlasting life is won by the greatest price ever paid: the life and death of Jesus for us. Everlasting life is dispensed by God through His means of grace: the Word and sacraments—the fountains from which flows everlasting life! How often this summer have we stopped our projects (or even while on vacation) to drink from what God provides? How often do we intend to drink His wonderful water of life next month?

We don't need a fountain of *youth*. We have the fountain of *life*! Drink from Him and live forever!

Pastor Voss



OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE continues. There is one Sunday service at **9:00 AM** beginning that morning. Most weeks there will be a **Thursday evening service at 7:00** which will be the same as the following Sunday's service.

However, there will **not** be a Thursday service the following evenings this month:

August 3 (Pastor Voss at WELS Convention)

August 20 (Pastor Voss on vacation).

You can also check our congregation's web site and/or the sheets placed on the narthex counter for the list of those Thursdays when there will **not** be a service.

The summer schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE STARTING SEPTEMBER 10 Right now, we aren't ready to announce what the worship schedule will be.

You are aware that our members have been discussing going to just one Sunday morning worship service all year. Our Board of Elders will consider all the comments received, including those at the July 23 discussion about this matter, and present a recommendation to the Church Council on August 8. If a special voters meeting is needed in late August for a decision on this matter and to take effect

September 10, we will inform our members via email and bulletin announcements.

Please look for information to be sent later this month.

REFRESHMENT HOURS will follow the service on non-Communion Sundays this summer. We urge 2 or 3 families to sign up for the dates on the sheet in the narthex. **As of July 28, hosts are still needed for August 6.**

NOW ENROLLING Throughout the summer, our Lutheran Elementary School faculty is available to visit with and provide information to families that are interested in enrolling their children or grandchildren in our school and preschool. Please give to our teachers or to Pastor Voss the names of anyone who would like to be contacted with more information about our school and preschool.

Kindergarten students should be 5 years old by September 1 and preschool children should be 3 years old by September 1.

OUR LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2017-18 school year begins with a worship service at our **school Monday, August 28** at 8:30. The entire congregation is invited!

Parents, remember that classes at our school dismiss at 12:00 that day, and that our Labor Day recess is both **Friday, September 1 and Monday, September 4.**



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017-18 Memorial Lutheran School year will be held **Wednesday, August 23 5:45 – 7:00**. Students are asked to come to registration in order to get set up in their desk that day, as well as to bring their school supplies to the classroom.

If that will not work for you, please contact Pastor Voss, Mrs. Domke, or Mrs. Leitz to make other registration arrangements.

WATER DONATIONS SOUGHT We are also asking for donations of **bottled water** for our booths at McCormick for the National Night Out **Tuesday, August 1**. Please bring donations to church or school.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL was held the last days of June, too late to get this into the July *Memorial Messenger*. 35 children learned what Jesus did to win our salvation, and what He teaches us about His love and forgiveness for all people! We give Christ Jesus our eternal thanks for His Word to share with others!

We also thank our teachers, project organizers and helpers, parents and grandparents for all that they did to prepare and/or help with activities that dealt with the saving work of Jesus, as well as Reformation history. Thanks also to all who donated money for VBS supplies and/or refreshments, including those who brought bottled water, and for those who organized the pot luck supper Thursday, June 29!

Check out pictures from VBS on our congregation's web site and on our Facebook pages.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS sessions begin **September 10 at a time to be announced**.

We urge parents to send their children to Sunday School regularly. Our Sunday School is using the WELS religion curriculum *ChristLight*, which is coordinated with our Lutheran Elementary School Bible History lessons (also from *ChristLight*) to avoid repetition of material. **Classes are for children 3 years old through 8th grade students.**

Parents, set a God-pleasing example and continue growing in your knowledge of God's will by heading up the stairs to study God's Word when your children go down the stairs to do the same in their Sunday School classrooms.

Dear Lord,
Help my daddy &
mommy take me to
church tomorrow.
Amen.



THE ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC will be **Sunday, September 10**. The Board of Evangelism & Stewardship is planning for the meal, and will announce details in the weeks to come. What we can tell you is that the meal will be held in the school gym.

We want to provide activities after the meal which will be enjoyable for members of all ages. Activities for which the board is seeking help include euchre, games for children, frisbee golf, and other activities for members young and old.

If you can help with any of these activities, or have other activities to suggest, please speak with Joe Janecke, Dan Kasischke, Jason Leitz, or Pastor Voss.

COLLEGE STUDENTS, please submit your campus address, phone number, and e-mail address to Pastor Voss. If he has your e-mail address, he would be happy to send a copy of week's sermon to you electronically.

Even if you have previously submitted a college e-mail address to Pastor Voss, please do so once again so that we can be sure to have up-to-date information. Pastor Voss' e-mail address is revdavoss@gmail.com.

We wish you God's richest blessings on your studies!

Electronic Fund Transfer EFT is still available (***see July newsletter under BEST report***) There is no charge by the bank to the congregation or members for this service. If you wish to use EFTs, here are the numbers you'll need:

Routing number: 072402652

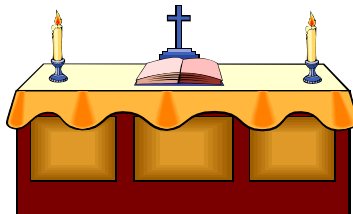
Account number: 1154777.

If you have questions about using EFT for thankofferings, please speak to.....



USE OF CHURCH/SCHOOL FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT: We remind you that members of the congregation may make use of our spacious school grounds, our tables and chairs, and our fellowship hall for picnic and family gatherings. Please contact Dennis Fisher (517-896-3949) to request a reservation of a facility and/or equipment.

AMAZON has a program in which 0.5% of qualified Amazon purchases can be given to a charity of the buyer's choice. Our treasurer has set up our congregation to participate, and the pastor has sent an email with our church's unique charity link. If you didn't get the email, here is the link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-2130250>. To get additional information, please speak to Kim Fedewa or Pastor Voss.



SERVING OUR LORD FOR OUR AUGUST SERVICES:

Ushers

8/06 - #3 J. Janecke
8/13 - #4 B. Grinnell
8/20 - #5 S. Houser
8/27 - #6 E. Ruhlig

Altar Guild

L. Voss
D. Steiner
C. Kasischke
J. Vogt

Greeter(s)

D. Steiner
L&K Ward
P&S Crandall
A&J Rusnak

Cleaners

J. Muscott
C&A Rhodea
N. Russell
J&J Staffeld