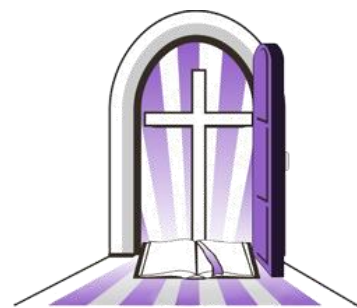




MEMORIAL MESSENGER

July 2015



The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. **Psalm 51:17**

2024 will mark the 500th anniversary of the first ever Lutheran hymnal. To celebrate that anniversary, and to provide our Synod with new and revised hymns and liturgical resources, an appointed WELS Hymnal Committee has been working for several years already on a new hymnal to be published around 2024. In connection with that work, there is much discussion in our Synod about how and why Lutheran Christians worship the way we do. Such discussions provide the needed reminder that there's nothing wrong with using more modern melodies and words and instruments in worship as long as the Bible's message of our sins and the Savior's sacrifice continues to be the center of our worship.

When we ponder seriously and sincerely our sins and Jesus' salvation, we bring our sacrifices to God. We don't bring sacrifices of animals, as did the Old Testament Jews. But, like the faithful in Old Testament Israel, we do bring sacrifices from the heart: *"a broken spirit...and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise"*.

That is a message modern America needs to take to heart. We tend to blame others, rather than admit our guilt. We like to present ourselves as victims of society, instead of as sinners against the holy God. Americans seem more ready to appear on scandalous shows to discuss what has driven them to outlandish acts than they are to kneel before the Almighty and confess that they have sinned. It doesn't help that public figures in political office, professional sports, even church positions blame others and plead with people to accept them as they are.

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise." A broken spirit doesn't boast about sinful behavior. A contrite heart doesn't simply shrug, "I'm sorry, God!" Our contrite heart is deeply ashamed and spiritually bothered—not only that we were caught, but especially that we offended the great and gracious God who made us and saved us and should damn us. Our broken spirit sobs—not before television cameras in some press conference, but in private confession before the holy Lord God Almighty.

But how awful it would be if our relationship with God ended at an altar on which we lay our sins and at which we hear Him say, "You have offended Me!" We know that it doesn't end there. We trust that our relationship with God continues eternally because at the altar of the cross Christ sacrificed Himself for our guilt!

Those who claim they don't get much out of the weekly worship service or out of personal devotions are told by God to take their sins more seriously. *"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart."* When we realize how hopeless our situation is because of our trespasses, we will rejoice to hear weekly and daily the same great news that the LORD deals with us not as our sins deserve, but for the sake of His Son.

Worship fads will continue to come and go. Today's trend toward worship that is more entertaining than proclaiming God's message of sin and grace will likely fade in place of something else. But God's faithful people will always desire worship that allows them to confess their sins to Him, hear of His love in Jesus for them, and express in word and song their thanks to Him for His love.

Pastor Voss





OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE has begun. There is one Sunday service through Labor Day weekend, and the service begins at **9:00 AM**.

Most summer weeks we also hold *a Monday evening worship service at 7:00*. The Monday evening service is the same as the service the previous morning. So, if the Sunday before is a Communion service, the Monday evening service includes the Lord's Supper.

There will be no Monday evening service when Pastor Voss is out of town: July 20, July 27, and August 24. This summer schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend. Please note that the evening service Labor Day weekend will be held *Thursday, September 3* to avoid the conflict with the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 7. That service will be the same as the service that will follow on Sunday, September 6.



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.

THE QUARTERLY VOTERS meeting will be held *Tuesday, July 28 at 7:00 PM*. An open forum for all our members to discuss the reports prepared for the voters meeting will be held after the worship service on Sunday, July 26.

We will send to our members via email on July 17 or 18 the reports prepared for the voters meeting. Please read the reports—and print your own copy, if you wish. For those who are unable to receive the reports via email and/or are unable to print them, we will have some printed copies available in the church narthex.



MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
invites you to attend our
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL.

From Crib, to Cross, to Crown

Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31
9:00-11:30 each morning
for children 3 years old – those going into 8th grade



Invite neighbor children and others to come to our VBS. If transportation is a difficulty, please speak to Pastor Voss or Linda Janecke so that rides can be arranged for your child(ren).

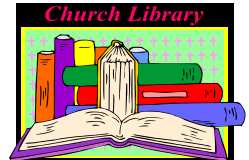
DONATIONS for VBS lesson materials and other items are welcome. A canister for donations is in the narthex.

WE ARE ASKING our members to provide refreshments for VBS. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

A GOLF OUTING has been scheduled for *Sunday, August 2 at Oak Lane Golf Course in Webberville*. Tee times will start at **12:00**. Cost will be **\$40** for the greens fees, a cart, and prizes. A sign up sheet will be posted. Speak to ***Bruce Painter*** for more information.

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.

CHURCH LIBRARY We remind all of you about the wonderful resource we have in our church library. The variety of books we have appeal to all ages. We recommend you look at the books while you are down in the fellowship hall for our refreshment hours this summer. Check out some books for wonderful summer relaxation and enrichment.



WE HAVE RESERVED tickets to the Lugnuts game *Saturday, August 8 at 7:00 PM*; a fireworks display will follow the game. Tickets cost \$10.00 for reserved seats; these are no longer bench seats, but chair seats. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to indicate how many tickets you want. Payment is due by **July 5**.



OCTOBER HARVEST HIGH TEA! Please mark your calendars now for **Saturday, October 17**. The Ladies Fellowship is hosting a high tea, and **all women and gals of all ages** from our congregation are invited. We also invite you to bring any female guests you might like to invite. This will be held at **1:00**. Our special guest is going to give us a presentation and demonstration on how to make and grow small fairy gardens. It will be hands on as well. We haven't had an activity like this for some years and we are hoping that attendance will be terrific. We are having great fun planning this!

PLEASE NOTE that the schedule of those who serve each week in various ways is now posted on our web site. Usher team numbers are on the calendar labeled "*Our Calendar*" along the right side of our web site's home page.

The Altar Guild, church cleaners, greeters, and ushers are also listed by date in a separate link. Along the top of our home page, under "*Memorial Lutheran Church*", click on "*Serving for Services*" for quick reference.

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.

IF YOU HAVE IDEAS for our church and school web site, please let Laurie Voss know.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORTS

PASTOR'S REPORT - WELS News – Among other recommendations that delegates to the July 27-31 WELS Convention at MLS in Saginaw will consider is one to have WELS Convention delegates serve at two successive conventions. The reason for the recommendation is that it would provide for better-informed delegates from those districts of our Synod that don't prepare WELS Convention delegates the way our district does. Our Michigan District Convention last month urged our district's delegates to the WELS Convention to speak against this recommendation. Adoption would mean that some pastors and teachers would never get to serve as WELS Convention delegates.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – At this point we anticipate the same number of students to be enrolled in K-5 for the coming school year, with the possibility of the enrollment begin slightly higher.

Mornings with Mommy was held May 14 with an attendance of 3. The next session will take place in August.

Ads ran in the local papers (*Williamston Enterprise* on May 16 and *Town Courier* on May 16 and 30).

We recognized our fifth grade graduates: Natalie Beauchamp, Leah Domke and Seth Domke.

The board believes that we need a new printer to more efficiently and cost effectively manage our printing needs at the school. We will consult with Kim Fedewa to see what that best value will be for our needs.

VBS dates will be July 27-31 from 9:00-11:30. Calls have been extended.

BOARD OF ELDERS – Due to Pastor being away there will be no Monday evening services on July 20, July 27, and August 24.

The Elders discussed getting a portable electric keyboard for use in various activities with children and young people. We will check on the condition of the keyboard at the school that could be used on occasion, as well as one owned by a member. The Elders will continue to discuss this.

A door offering was collected June 14/15 and June 21/22 to present as a gift from the congregation to Aaron Voss who graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and will enter the WELS pastoral ministry in August. The Elders will look for a Sunday to present this gift to Aaron.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND STEWARDSHIP – Community Outreach: We are planning to support a spaghetti dinner for the community. It will be held at church in the fall. We will advertise with an ad in the newspaper, sign in front of church and through member invites. We will ask for volunteers and ask for representatives from various church groups to also attend.

A golf outing is tentatively planned for August 2. Lugnut game is August 8. There will be a church campout at school on the Friday of VBS week.

We discussed summer refreshment hours and are looking for members to volunteer.

We began preliminary planning for our church picnic in September.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – The parsonage water heater was replaced. Kim Fedewa has the invoice for \$697.00.

We are still looking into new stools for the parsonage, re-staining the deck, and repairs to the shower tile.

The church lot was repaired by One-Way asphalt.

The lawn mower is running very well thanks to Victor. It is leaking more oil than it should. We will look into it and see what needs to be fixed.

SERVING OUR LORD FOR OUR JULY SERVICES:

<i>Ushers</i> <i>9:00</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Greeter(s)</i>	<i>Cleaners</i>
07/05 - #8 D. Rector	D. Steiner	C. Douglas	Coulter
07/12 - #7 D. Kasischke	J. Vogt	R&J Mosher	Crandall
07/19 - #1 T. Marion	M. Zoran	L. Voss	Domke
07/26 - #2 V. Domke	S. Rector	B&G VanOstran	J Douglas

