



MEMORIAL MESSENGER

October 2018

“The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

These lines are being written on the day the Jewish religion marked *Yom Kippur*, the Day of Atonement.

The Old Testament *Yom Kippur* was an annual sacrifice that pointed to one victim suffering for the guilt of all the people. The day began with the selection of two male goats. One goat was sacrificed as a sin offering. That goat’s blood was taken by the high priest into the Most Holy Place of the temple. The high priest was the only one who could enter that room, and the only day he could do so was the Day of Atonement. The high priest put some of the blood on the cover of the Ark of the Covenant.

Do you recall what happened to the second goat? It was released into the desert. That goat escaped death, and is called in the King James Version translation of the Bible “*the scapegoat*”.

The Old Testament Day of Atonement was a clear picture of the coming sacrifice by Jesus for the sins of the world. Only the blood of the innocent Savior, sacrificed on the altar of His cross, cleanses us sinners. Jesus became one of us to make the sacrifice for us; that’s what He teaches us every time He calls Himself “*the Son of Man*”, as He does in the verse above. Because of His sacrifice, all our trespasses are forgiven and we escape the punishment of hell we deserve for our sins.

Sadly, the Jewish religion today marks the Day of Atonement as nothing more than feeling sorry for sins and promising to do better. Their observance overlooks completely God’s reason for telling His chosen people before the time of Christ to observe the Day of Atonement. Their observance ignores the sacrifice for the sins of all made by the One born of a Jew. What good does it do anyone to feel bad about sins, but not trust their complete covering by Christ’s blood?

Jesus didn’t come to our world to make Himself comfortable. He came to serve us by being *the* sacrifice for all. Jesus didn’t come to our world to make a decent living and build up assets. He came to save all the world.

We guard our hearts daily against the temptation to reshape God’s Word to fit what sounds good to us. Instead, we go daily to His Word for His truth! We live our thanks every day that Jesus didn’t do what would be most comfortable for Him, but did what is eternally essential for us sinners! May our worship and Bible Class attendance, as well as our daily living, give evidence that we are centered on the Savior’s sacrifice.

Pastor Voss





FOREVER WITH THE LORD! Our Savior has taken to Himself the soul of our sister in the faith *Ramona Canfield*. Her soul entered eternal life in heaven on September 3. The Christian funeral service to comfort Ramona's family and friends was held at our church on September 14.

We ask our risen Savior Jesus to continue to comfort Ramona's loved ones, and all others who mourn her death. But we also rejoice with them that Ramona's soul now is in the best place of all: at home with Jesus forever!



WELCOME
New Members

We welcome to our congregation *Lynea Nichols and sons Corbin, Linkin, and Jaxsin*. The four of them were baptized on July 30. On Sunday, September 23 Lyn was received as a communicant member of our congregation as she confessed her agreement with the doctrines of Holy Scripture, and that the teachings and confessions of our congregation and Synod are in keeping with the Bible's truths. The boys are students in our school and preschool.

We pray that their membership in our congregation will be a blessing both to them and to our congregation!



WE HAVE RETURNED TO OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE. Worship services are once again held at **8:00** and **10:30** Sunday mornings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS sessions have also begun.

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.

BIBLE CLASS The first three weeks of Bible Class in September centered on a study of the divine call to the public ministry of the Gospel. We used God's Word to set the foundation for the doctrine, then covered situations and answered questions about the divine call process in our Synod, how vacancies in our churches and schools are filled, and more.

Beginning September 30 we began a six-week study titled *To the Ends of the Earth*. That is the name of the new WELS DVD that has been recently released. Join us to review the life-changing power of the good news about Jesus Christ, as well as ways to share that power with others who are living without it.

Join us Sunday mornings at 9:15!

WE WILL HAVE REFRESHMENTS the first Sunday of each month, resuming **Sunday, October 7**. On those Sundays, our Sunday School and Bible Class sessions will not begin until **9:25**. The refreshments will be available ***in the fellowship hall 9:05-9:23***. Join us!

These monthly gatherings are designed to provide time for our members to greet and visit with each other, much like we do on non-Communion Sundays in the summer months.

The Board of Evangelism & Stewardship will provide the refreshments on October 7. If you are willing to provide something simple for future first-Sunday refreshments, please speak to Joe Janecke, Dan Kasischke, Jason Leitz, or Pastor Voss.

CHOIR rehearsals begin *Thursday, October 18*. The choir will meet Thursday evenings at **7:30** in October; the time for rehearsals in November and December may be a little earlier. We welcome and encourage all our communicant members to consider joining our choir!



The first scheduled service for choir music is the late service on November 4 for our Reformation service.

We invite new choir members to join us! If you can play an instrument that might accompany our choir, please speak to Laurie Voss or Pastor Voss.

CHIME CHOIR rehearsals begin *Thursday, October 4 at 6:30*. On that date, the chime choir will begin practicing music for the late service on October 28, as well as some Christmas season music. There will likely not be any chime choir rehearsals in November, due to Linda Janecke recovering from an eye procedure.

We encourage all members from 5th graders to senior citizens to attend chime choir rehearsals as music is practiced to edify our worship services. If you desire more information or have questions about playing in our chime choir, please speak to Linda.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING is *Tuesday, October 23 at 7:00*. Each year at the October meeting we elect officers and board members (those terms begin January 1), as well as adopt a budget for the next calendar year. After the Church Council meeting in October, we will have a proposed 2019 budget ready for consideration by the voters.

An open forum will be held at 11:35 on *Sunday, October 21* as reports and the proposed 2018 budget are presented for discussion. If Pastor Voss has your email address, he will send those reports to you by email on Friday, October 19.

Men at least 18 years old who are not yet voting members of the congregation and who would like to become voting members should speak to President Dane Nickols or to Pastor Voss about how to do so.

THE LADIES FELLOWSHIP GROUP We are celebrating 30 years of fellowship and working together. This month at our October 1 meeting, we will talk about several projects and events we hope to accomplish. We regret that we had to cancel our pancake meal but hope to reschedule that after winter some time.



We will be hosting the Advent supper on December 12 and will make plans for that meal this month as well. We've decided on a new menu idea. ☺

We ask our gals to look for candle making supplies as you see sales so we can make those at our November meeting.

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!

AMAZON has a program in which 0.5% of qualified Amazon purchases can be given to a charity of the buyer's choice. Our church's unique charity link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-2130250>. You must use this Amazon link when you order to be able to have the percentage go to our church.

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.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORTS

PASTOR'S REPORT – I will contact several prospects about beginning to study God's Word together in Bible Instruction Classes. Included in that number are the families new to our school this school year. Should the personal and/or family schedules of any prospects indicate that several classes would need to be conducted each week (rather than having one class for all the prospects), I will offer to meet with each when it is most convenient for the person and/or family to do so.

Please let me know if you are aware of anyone else to contact about these classes.

WELS news WELS leaders, at various meetings this fall, will discuss how the basically flat mission offerings will impact funding the approved WELS budget. Important work will be done by the Synodical Council this fall to prepare budgets for the next two fiscal years, budgets that will be recommended to WELS Convention delegates this next summer. It is the WELS Convention that sets the Synod's budget for every two years.

Our teachers are discussing attendance at, travel to, and lodging for the Michigan District Teachers' Conference October 10-12 in Stevensville.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Enrollment is 33 this year - preschool: 5; kindergarten: 8; grades 1-5: 20.

Some families have donated as a special gift their 10% tuition discount for paying tuition in full at the start of the school year.

Special monthly lunch organizers are working on a menu for the year.

PTO will order and pay for school T-shirts for all students for the 2018-2019 school year.

PTO was asked at the September meeting about hosting the Advent supper on December 5 and the Lent supper on March 6. We also covered school cleaning with the parents (and what might happen if a family doesn't clean when scheduled), volunteering, our financial situation, and more.

Sunday School calls have been accepted.

BOARD OF ELDERS – The Elders reviewed the summer worship schedule and the Thursday attendance numbers.

The Elders discussed the upcoming midweek Advent services. Pastor will switch pulpits for these services with other area pastors.

The board discussed HymnSoft use. We thank Laurie Voss for contacting the publishing house whenever a software glitch is discovered.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND STEWARDSHIP – We will post a slate of candidate by October 14th for nominations for election at the October 23 voters meeting. Nominees are being contacted by our board members.

Discussed having a Trunk or Treat in our church parking lot. We will look into this more. No one on the board has ever been part of one, and we are asking those who have to let us know what the event entails.

We thank all who brought food for the summer refreshment hours.

We will resume 9:05 – 9:25 refreshments the first Sunday of the month on October 7. That day, and subsequent first Sundays of the month, we will move the start of Sunday School and Bible Class to 9:25 – just as we did last school year. The board will encourage families to volunteer to host refreshments.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Our school staff is keeping a log to monitor the number of copies made each month. The log will be utilized to help limit the number of copies so we do not exceed the monthly allowance.

We discussed exterior lighting on the east side of school and replacing burned out lights in the school parking lot.

Thank you Domke family for the new mulch for the school playground.

Thank you for everybody's help to get the school ready for another blessed school year.

Many thanks to everyone who helps with keeping the properties functioning and beautiful.



BADGER NEWS from SCHOOL

FROM MRS. LEITZ AND PRESCHOOL-KINDERGARTEN: We are in full swing and have mostly adjusted to our new routine! This year we have 5 preschoolers (3-3 year olds, 2-4 year olds), and 8-kindergartners. We have some new faces and some familiar ones but all these little ones are hearing God's Word every day. What a blessing!

The three year olds have been working on recognizing colors, cutting, and holding their crayons. The four year olds have been working on recognizing and writing their letters. The Kindergartners have been working on writing and recognizing the sounds of their letters.

Something fun that we've done already was going on our field trip to the Country Mill Apple Orchard. We still have mother (of three of our students) who volunteers to teach art and we now also have a father volunteering his time to teach gym. He is the father of three of our students.

Next month we look forward to learning about fall and pumpkins and fire safety. Grades K-5 usually get to enjoy a visit from the fire department.

Have a blessed month!

FROM MRS. DOMKE AND GRADES 1-5: We're off to a great start! This year twenty eager learners are in grades 1-5. Already we're working hard and in a good groove.

In our Bible lessons this year we are studying the New Testament. So far we have learned about the announcements and births of John the Baptist and our Savior Jesus, the Magi, flight to Egypt, twelve year old Jesus at the temple, and Jesus' baptism and temptations. In all these we see our Savior taking our place so we can one day live eternally in heaven. How high and wide and deep is His love for us! We strive to live lives of love and service to thank God for all His goodness!

We enjoyed a trip to the Country Mill as a kickoff field trip this year. It is always fun to learn about apples, pick a pumpkin and an apple, and take a wagon ride. And nobody refuses a cup of cider and a freshly made doughnut!

Our class also enjoyed the wonderful experience of watching a monarch caterpillar change from the larva stage to a butterfly. The chrysalis was beautiful and each day it was exciting to be able to see how the caterpillar was changing into a butterfly before our very eyes. Finally, we released the butterfly. It would be so fun to know if it makes it all the way to Mexico!

In the upcoming months we hope to head to MLS to see Beauty and the Beast, travel to Eaton Rapids to a museum as part of Michigan History, and keep on working hard in school.



SERVING OUR LORD FOR OUR OCTOBER SERVICES:

<i>Ushers</i>		<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Greeter(s)</i>	<i>Cleaners</i>
10/07 - #2 V. Domke	#8 D. Fisher	C. Burris	L. Voss	J&M Stiefel
10/14 - #5 S. Houser	#3 J. Janecke	S. Rector	F&N Mills	B&N Tobia
10/21 - #6 E. Ruhlig	#1 T. Marion	K. Ward	D. Steiner	Pastor & L Voss
10/28 - #7 D. Kasischke	#4 B. Grinnell	C. Kasischke	L&K Ward	N. Russell