



Memorial Messenger October 2024

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“Now these three remain: faith, hope and love” ([1 Corinthians 13:13](#)).

Hope builds dreams on faith in a future. When our eyes opened to catch the first light of our first day, we were surrounded by the hopes of those who love us and care for us. They had faith in the potential of our birth, growth, and development. And hope is contagious. We learn to look forward in hope.

As the days turn to weeks, months, and years, we experienced the fulfillment of some of the hopes of those who love us and the hopes we have adopted and adapted as our own. Yet often we have been forced to adjust our hopes when they have been dashed. But we have not given up hope; we only have created new hopes.

Hope doesn't actually see the future. It anticipates a future we believe is possible. The rubble of our dashed hopes teaches us to be resilient, optimistic, and most often, ready again to place stone upon stone to build a new hope. What a blessing that is! Our lives need to be filled with hope.

Yet, we often ignore the more difficult lesson: All our hopes are temporary. And the dark side of that lesson is that we are temporary. We have a sunset ahead of us when we will be unable to create a new hope or a new dream for tomorrow.

In the face of that lesson some simply believe that they can continue to create new hopes after the sunset but in a different world. Others choose not to think beyond the sunset of life. They resign themselves to what they see and know from life's experience. They conclude that our hopes and dreams here on earth are all there is.

God does not leave us in that bleak present or in the darkness of the unknown future. He has given us a new set of eyes to see the present and the future. We don't see ourselves as others who do not share our vision.

We see our ups and downs—our realized hopes and our dashed ones—differently. God has opened our eyes to see that “in Christ Jesus [we] are all children of God through faith” ([Galatians 3:26](#)). Our faith rests on Jesus. We face each day with hope. “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?” ([Romans 8:32](#)). That means we can face joy, sorrow, pleasure, pain, acclaim, or persecution, knowing he will care for us as his dearly loved children.

God also corrects our vision to see that we are more than temporary residents with an expiration date. As children of God, we see ourselves as aliens here in the days God allows us. As all believers before us, we know that “here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come” ([Hebrews 13:14](#)). As Jesus promised, we have eternal life ([John 3:16](#)). Our hope rests on his promises, and we “fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary” ([2 Corinthians 4:18](#)).

So whether our hopes are realized here or dashed, we have hope for each day and the eternity beyond the sunset of our lives. We have an inheritance “that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for [us]” ([1 Peter 1:4](#)).

A SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING is called for *October 6*, immediately after the service to vote on a decision to extend a call for an upper grade teacher.

DIVINE CALL EXTENDED The Holy Spirit, working through the voters of our congregation, has called Pastor David Frey of Living Word Lutheran Church in California to serve as the Pastor of Memorial Ev. Lutheran. We **encourage** members to reach out to Pastor Frey at pastorfrey11@gmail.com. We ask the Lord to be with Pastor Frey, his wife Heidi, and their five children as he prayerfully considers the two divine calls that he now has. The call recognition letter is posted on the bulletin board

LADIES FELLOWSHIP will meet on Monday, October 7 to discuss our year long Christian Life project and begin work on our Mission gift table items.

TRUNK OR TREAT This year, Memorial will once again hold a Trunk or Treat event in the church parking lot on **Saturday, October 26th** from 2 to 4pm. If you would like to “*open your trunk*” filled with treats for the kiddos, please see the sign-up sheet. Invite your friends! If members would like to provide drinks and cookies or other baked goodies for parents and the kids during the event, that would be appreciated!



Cars will be lined up on the south end of our parking lot. They can be decorated with a theme or just fun items or not decorated at all. You can dress in fun costume or come just as you are. If you have a means to play music and have some fun holiday music that would be great too.

THE CAMPUS MINISTRY at Michigan State serves both domestic students (and actually any young adults 18-20s in the Lansing area) and international students. It is *supported* by local WELS congregations and individual WELS members in the area and also WELS Home Missions. If you would like to stay informed about this important ministry, put your name and contact information on the signup sheet in the narthex.

A big part of our ministry to internationals is helping international students with speaking English. We do this with “English As A Second Language” (ESL) classes or in simple gatherings for English conversation over light refreshments. If you are willing to do either, we need you! Please let **Pastor Burger (517-505-3052/ normburger@comcast.net)** know if you would like to find out more about or help with this important aspect of our ministry. Thank you for your prayers, interest in, and support of this ministry!

PICTURES REQUESTED The Board of Evangelism & Stewardship is working on a new church directory. We kindly ask members to submit a family photo. You can do so by texting your photo to Karl Remus at 517-490-6208, sending your photo via email at remuskarl77@outlook.com, or by asking Karl, Joe Janecke, or Jason Leitz to take a photo for you at church.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Purchased filter for the bottle filling station at school.

The fire extinguishers at school are being recharged.

The Trustees would like to thank Victor Domke and everybody else that helped with updating the landscaping at the church, and to Pat Crandall for fixing items in the boy's bathroom at school.

BOARD OF ELDERS:

The Elder's discussed the upcoming special services—Thanksgiving, Midweek Advent, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve. The final times will be discussed at October meeting.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM & STEWARDSHIP:

We will still urge members to share service links with others.

We will continue to have the smaller 1 Sunday a month refreshments after the service.

The board would like to thank all those the help/helped out with the once a month refreshments.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Next school year will be our 50th year at the school.

We have a large participation in cross country running at the school this year—12 participants working on coaching and practice time.

The Michigan District Teachers conference is October 9-11.

We will be doing Red Cedar Games this winter, Saturdays only.

BADGER NEWS from SCHOOL

News from PreK—grade 5



The students and teachers are off to a great start! We have 33 students in grades PreK-5 this year all ready to work hard.

In grades 1-5 we are studying the New Testament in our study of God's Word. Right now we are learning about Jesus' first miracles. Jesus showed his power as true God and his willingness to take our place as true man. Our faith is strengthened, too, as we learn about how Jesus lived as our substitute.

We are studying Michigan history in social studies. It is fun learning all about this wonderful place we live. So far we have learned about our state symbols, our peninsulas, connections to the Great Lakes, our counties, lakes and rivers. Next we will begin to dig into the first people that lived in Michigan: the Hopewell.

On September 16 we had a fun day after school with games and races before the hot dog supper and PTO meeting. A good time was had by all. On September 24 we went on our first field trip of the year. We had a delightful morning at the Country Mill in Charlotte. We picked apples and pumpkins, enjoyed cider and donuts, and learned about how apples are grown. We saw the cold storage room, the bakery, the cider press, and the apple sorter. A great day.

Mrs. Leitz
Mrs. Domke

SERVING OUR LORD FOR OUR OCTOBER SERVICES:

	<u><i>Ushers</i></u>	<u><i>Altar Guild</i></u>	<u><i>Playlist</i></u>	<u><i>Greeter(s)</i></u>	<u><i>Cleaners</i></u>
10/06	D. Rector, K. Remus	Karen Unruh	Jameson Collins	A&J Rusnak	(to be done 10/05) Tobia
10/13	Fisher, Crandall, B. Janecke	Shelly Unruh	Carol Lycos	V&J Domke	(to be done 10/12) Arnston
10/20	B. Briggs, D. Miller	Ruth Hoag	Nancy Hart	G. Withey	(to be done 10/19) Briggs
10/27	Marion, Clark, Fortin	Robin Olin	Jason Leitz	J&S Janecke	(to be done 10/26) Clark
11/03					(to be done 11/02) Coulter