

Newsletter



October 2023

Special points of interest:

- Uncommon Conversations
- Trunk or Treat
- Fall Supper
- Birthdays

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Pastors Ponderings

“Just” a Bunch of Stories?

That’s how some people like to dismiss the value of the Bible... like it’s merely a collection of fables that have little to teach us today. But they are so much more. I would argue the reason we continue to tell these stories is not only because they are really good and fascinating but because they teach us truths about ourselves, about who God is and what God is like – and in doing that, they are life-giving and life-changing.

So, what stories do we have in store for us this month? On Sunday, October 1, we jump in with both feet into the book of **Exodus**. We hear from portions of chapters one, two, and three. The main thrust of these chapters has to do with what do people do with their ordinary lives in the face of violence and tyranny? Listen to how Pastor Safwat Marzouk writes

of these chapters and tell me if it doesn’t feel relatable:

“Tyranny emerges at times of transition and change; times in which fear of the other dominates the scene; times in which the world is polarized and divided between us and them; times in which power is misused by the tyrant (Pharaoh in this case) to dehumanize the other (the Israelites). But even as tyranny feeds on xenophobia and fear of the other, and as it tries to dominate those whom God created to be free and to live with dignity, agents of resilience, resistance, and transformation emerge.” As we attempt to live as God’s people in the 21st century, it sounds like we need to ask, “Whose side are we leaning on?”



I hope you respond, “Leaning on the Lord’s side!” On October 8th, we zoom ahead to **Deuteronomy** five and six to hear from Moses who reminds God’s people of all of the wondrous deeds God did to get them to this far – free from Pharaoh and their time in slavery. In light of God’s grace, Moses calls on the people to hear and obey the teachings and ordinances that God lays out before them. They, and all of us who are alive today are called to remember these stories and laws and teach them to our children.

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September Church Council Meeting Minutes 9/18/2023

Meeting called to order @ 7:00PM

Attendance: Amber Hoffman, Pastor Jonathan, Ned Hahn, Derrick Oberle, April Goodwin, Dave Anderson, Angela Jeske

Ned motioned to approve the agenda, April second.

Amber motioned to approve the secretary's report, Ned second.

FUN Ministry Team Report

- Trunk or Treat - Sunday October 29th 10:30-Noon
- Hosting an Uncommon Conversation on Monday, October 2nd at 7:00
 - o VIP Guests- Mayor Rob Unruh, Police Chief Joel Klatt, Chief Deputy Brent Standaert joining for the event

Property and Management

- Rooms have been rearranged for Confirmation Class and Youth Group
- Downed tree moved & shed has been cleared out
- Installing a new garbage disposal in kitchen
- Fairstand Proposed work
 - o The Executive Committee and a few others from Property & Management & the Fair Stand will meet on Sunday October 15th at 10:30 at the Fair Stand to discuss projects for 2024. No more work in 2023, organizing and taking out freezable items is all that's left and Angie will take care of

Faith and Life Team

- Bible Study / JAM / Confirmation / Wednesday worship have all resumed
- Mentor Meet-up on Wednesday September 27th
- 9th Grade Confirmation Class to meet on Wednesdays, Oct. 11th and 25th
- Several confirmation students still in need of completing their confirmation project
- High School Youth Group "First Meeting" on Wednesday October 4th

Resources

- Motion made to move \$11,047.09 of the from the Fair Stand account to the General Church Account. Leaving a balance of \$6,500 for projects in 2024. Motion also made to use building funds to help pay for the church bell painting and the front doors. Motion made by April, second by Ned.
- Ned motioned to approve the Financial Report, Dave second.

Council Business

Next Meeting scheduled for October 16th @ 7:00

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM

JOIN THE CHOIR!!

OPEN INVITATION ---

JOIN THE CHOIR!

Can't read music?

Never fear...

If you can carry a tune,

We want you here!!!

Contact Lindsey Krueger

at 715-265-4886 and leave

a message with your name

and number.

Thank you.

Called by the
Holy Spirit
to Come
to Grow
to Live
as Disciples of
Jesus Christ

*"The vibrations on the
air are the breath of
God speaking to man's
soul. Music is the
language of God
Beethoven*



Holy Cross October Birthdays

10/1	John Moe	10/11	Nicholas Hierlmeier	10/22	Jack Lindelof
	Reeyce Jeske		Cam Unruh	10/23	Joan Cassellius
10/2	Kinsley Jo Schug	10/12	John Marczak	10/24	Carol Kelm
10/6	Cory Berends	10/16	Gerald Maske	10/25	Greg Olson
10/7	Ronald Johnson		Kyra Dahl	10/26	Scott Hoffman
	Andi Jo Britton	10/17	Travis Teigen	10/27	Lori Luepke
	Asher Hoffman		Hunter Bonte	10/28	Riley Berends
10/8	Craig Lindstrom	10/18	Aiden Thompson		Riley Krueger
10/10	Jean Ann Rose	10/19	Dennis Flick	10/29	Lisa Logghe
	Mathew Schutz		Lisa Krueger	10/30	Vickie Grant
		10/21	Roger Ludtke		Tamara Johnson
			Mike Mounce		

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	2 11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Uncommon Conversation	3	4 3:30pm-JAM 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:00pm-Worship 7:30pm-Youth Group Meeting W/Parents	5	6	7
8 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship	9 11:00am Bible Study 7:00 pm Faith & Life / FUN Teem Meeting	10 10:30 Glenhaven Worship	11 3:30pm-JAM 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:00pm-Worship 7:30—9th Graders Class	12	13	14
15 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship 10:30—Fair Stand Meeting	16 11:00am Bible Study 1:00 Resource Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	17 6pm-Threads of God's Love	18 3:30pm-JAM 4:30-7pm Fall Supper 7:00pm-Worship	19 Newsletter Items Due	20	21
22 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship 5:30 pm—Youth Group Sunday Funday	23 11:00am Bible Study Bloodmobile St Johns Host	24	25 3:30pm-JAM 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:00pm-Worship 7:30—9th Graders Class	26 8:00am Quilting WELCA Meeting	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday 9am—Worship 10:10—Fellowship 10:30-12 Trunk or Treat	30 11:00am Bible Study	31				

WELCA by Velma

After being off for two months, we got together in August and made decisions on the Fall Supper. We will be having the supper October 18, 4:30 pm – 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, back to our normal way. We will be having take-out also, coming inside to pick up your meal.

Becky & Betsy Circle is in charge. Menu is Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,

Squash, Green Beans, Wild Rice stuffing, Rolls and Pumpkin Bars. So when your circle leader calls please “Say YES” to whatever they ask. We need lots of willing hands to pull this off.

Other things are our garbage disposal is not working, it’s very old and might need to be replaced. It would be great to get that replaced by the supper.

Also after the last funeral

our speakers in the kitchen are not working properly and wonder what can be done to fix this. It’s nice to know when it’s closer to the end of the service, to get coffee and water out, etc. God Bless! Next meeting, September 28, at 1:00 p.m.



Youth Group by Melanie

October marks the beginning of the Youth group year. We will be welcoming new and current members and parents to an information meeting on October 4th at 7:30pm in the fellowship hall. We will share what our plan is for the coming year. For the coming year we want to prioritize

making God's world a better place; we will concentrate on giving back to our community, and growing relationships between each other and our congregants and community. Postcards inviting our high schoolers and their parents have been sent out so if you didn't receive one please reach out to me (715-781-2612) or Wanda in the church office (715-265-4411).

We have several events already on the calendar:
 Trunk or Treat – October 29th
 10:30 – 12:00 p.m.
 Veterans Program – November 5th
 Advent Meal – December 6th
 Christmas in the Barn – December 2nd & 3rd

Can't wait to see you on October 4th!
 Melanie

JAM Has Begun!!! By Bruce

Our Jesus And Music program began on September 13th with 25 participants grades 1-6. Our theme this year is “God is Good All the Time,” Our expectations are to try to

be like Him in many phases of our life, in school, on the

GOD is good
All the time

playground, at home, and at church. Our first lesson included the stories of creation and about Adam and Eve in the garden. We also played an ice breaker game to get

to know one another better. If you have a son/daughter that would like to attend JAM, it is never too late to join us. Contact Holy Cross Lutheran Church office 715-265-4411 or Bruce Kelm 715-495-5202.

BE ATTITUDES FOR JAM

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Kind
- Be Fun-Loving
- Be Helpful



Confirmation Corner by Jill

Confirmation is off to a great start as we welcome THIRTEEN 7th grade students! Our first class was Wednesday, September 6th, with near perfect attendance.

To give us much needed space we switched classrooms with our high school youth. We meet for supper at 5:30 in fellowship hall and class begins at 6:00 in the large blue classroom (east wing across from conference room). Worship is every Wednesday at 7:00 in the church sanctuary. We invite and strongly encourage Parents and Mentors to join us. Communion is offered every first and third Wednesday. Students volunteer to acolyte, read and assist with communion.

On Wednesday, October 18th our students will assist with the Holy Cross Fall Supper held in

the fellowship hall. Each student will sign up for a 2-hour shift. Our Youth have fun helping serve and assist with carry out meals. Please bring your family for a delicious meal!

Our 9th Grade Confirmands will meet on October 11th & 25th with Parents and/or Mentors to share ideas for their favorite Bible verse, song and faith statements.

Please mark your calendar for these VERY IMPORTANT DATES!

Confirmation Retreat-Nov. 3-4

Confirmation Sunday- Nov. 12 at 11:00 a.m.



Featured Foto this month is Alletta Meijer who designed and planted the Holy Cross planter in June with beautiful flowering plants. She has faithfully watered and nurtured this summer. Thank you Alletta!

Financial Update

As fall is rapidly approaching, and three quarters of the year are behind us, we are grateful for the generosity of our members and friends. Our finances for the end of summer are good. The fair stand money is not yet shown in the general fund. It should be there by next month and will show that we are on target with the budget for the year. I'd like to remind everyone again if you are interested in simply giving, please contact Wanda in the church office or Joan Bartz. Thank you all for your commitment to Holy cross.

	Monthly	2023 YTD Actual	2022 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Budget
Regular Giving	9,116.00	7,5874.82	74,207.64	85,186.40
Simply Giving	2,643.15	2,0692.05	22,545.05	23,333.36
Misc Giving	289.24	18,560.86	19,306.22	12,433.36
Total Income	\$12,048.396	\$115,127.73	\$116,058.92	\$120,953.12
Total Expenses	\$10,974.94	\$11,4432.20	\$11,8841.422	\$12,0952.00
Unrestricted	11,719.55			
Checkbook Bal				
Total Checkbook	39,296.34			

Uncommon Conversation

On Monday, October 2 at 7:00 p.m.
we will be hosting an uncommon conversation with

- ◆ **Mayor Rob Unruh**
- ◆ **Police Chief Joel Klatt**
- ◆ **Chief Deputy Brent Standaert**



We definitely have many strengths in this community as well as some shared concerns. We want to hear from these leaders about their vision and hopes to make our community stronger and more healthy. We also are seeking to create more open dialog on issues of safety and the vitality of our local economy. While we understand we cannot cover every topic of interest, we believe that as people of faith, it is of great value to convene these kinds of respectful, uncommon conversations. We trust that doing so will serve us well – with the goal of creating a healthier, stronger community for everyone.

Please plan to attend and invite other community members to join you!

This is brought to you by our Faith Uniting Neighbors team.

Sunday, October 29th,
10:30am – 12:00pm

Holy Cross Lutheran Church parking lot

All are Welcome!

Families, friends, neighbors, relatives



Please bring a non
perishable food item
for the WestCAP
Food Shelf

Come in costume and join in the excitement as children go from trunk to trunk collecting treats and delighting in many festivities:

- **Games**
- **Horse Drawn wagon rides**
- **Free hot dogs, s'mores,
hot chocolate and apple cider**
- **Visit with our first responders;
Police car, fire truck and
ambulance will be on hand**

Trunk *or* Treat



Fall Supper

Wednesday October 18, 2023
4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Squash,
Green Beans, Wild Rice stuffing,
Rolls and Pumpkin Bars

\$14.00 a Meal

(5 years and younger free)

Dine-in in the Fellowship Hall
Or Carry Out Available

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
615 Maple Street
Glenwood City, Wisconsin
(715)265-4411

**HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Pastors Pondering from Page 1

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On October 15th, we hear of the great love, loyalty, and devotion shown by God's servant **Ruth**. When disaster strikes you in your life, does it bring out your best self or your worst? In the face of a disastrous famine in the land, Ruth and Naomi are refugees and survivors. When our lives are turned upside down by tragic losses, to whom and where do you turn?

On October 22nd, we are reminded that what goes down, also re-

bounds. The story in **2 Samuel 5 & 6** tells of David's rise from shepherd-boy to shepherding. The time of David's anointing as King relates a time of unity and hopefulness for God's people after a time of division. God's presence is manifested in the ark of the covenant which is carried to Jerusalem yet God's power is not under human control.

On October 29th, Reformation Sunday we get another reality check as the hopeful-

ness and unity that was glimpsed by God's people is no more. Stop me if you've heard this one before but... in **First Kings 12** jealousy, greed, and selfishness in David's own household and among his descendants lead to a descent into violence and rebellions. The self-serving and oppressive King Rehoboam leads God to tear away part of the kingdom for the far more servant-minded King Jeroboam. But he too fails to serve God alone. Rejection of the first commandment is an evil in the sight of the Lord..