



St. John's Lutheran Church

A Lutheran Congregation in Mission for Christ
And

North American Lutheran Church

News & Notes ~ June 2023



USING GOD'S GIFT OF TIME

First, you must acknowledge that you have time—the same amount God has given to everyone. You, with God's help, must determine how to use your time. You err in letting others decide your priorities and make your schedule. Remember that by using small bits of time faithfully, you can accomplish great things.

The foremost challenge we face is not to orchestrate our life or to plan a year but to order each day, allowing for sufficient rest, proper nourishment and exercise and a quiet time spent exclusively with the Lord. To focus on what is really important, meaningful time must be assigned for vital relationships, especially with a spouse and children at home.

To the Hebrews, a day began in the evening—with rest and family fellowship, as well as study and meditation of God's Word. Jesus said, "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness." One way to do that is to devote the evening hours to quiet rest, reflection, and "inner preparing"—in other words, to prepare yourself in the evening for the coming day as well as to plan your day.



THE BEAR FACTS

May was not a good month. I had surgery on May 8. The doctor told mom it was a tumor on my butt that needed removed before it got bigger. Well, mom started crying in the doctors office and continued through the day. Mom & aunt Marianne dropped me off a week later around 8am the day of the surgery and of course mom started to cry when she left me. Doctor called mom around 10:30am and said I did fantastic and I was up looking around like where in the world am I. Mom and aunt Marianne picked me up around 2pm. I was a sleepy puppy and a little sore on my butt. I have to take antibiotics and pain medicine. I get my 7 stitches our in 10 days and then the doctor will check my butt again. I wish they would leave my butt alone. I know I have a nice wiggle butt. I have good nurses taking care of me at the doctors office and at home. So for now I'm going to try and lay my sore butt down and take a nap. Thank you all for asking about me and all your prayers. Now we just have to pray the biopsy comes back negative.

Hugs & Puppy Kisses,
Bear

We would like to share a letter we received this month:

Dear Friends:

For over four years the Ladle has been operating out of St. John's Lutheran Church. St. John's has been a part of the Ladle since its inception, May 2005. Through the years we have developed and deepened our relationship through shared service to the Lord and Ambridge and its surrounding communities. On behalf of the Ladle, thank you for hosting this ministry and showing your love, His love to us and to all those we serve. Enclosed is a check for \$1500.00

Sincerely, fondly,
Aida King Dugan, Director

A Priest passing through his church
In the middle of the day,
Decided to pause by the altar
To see who come to pray.
Just then the back door opened,
And a man came down the aisle,
The Priest frowned as he saw the man
Hadn't shaved in a while.
His shirt was torn and shabby,
And his coat was worn and frayed,
The man knelt down and bowed his head,
Then rose and walked away.

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In the days that followed at precisely noon,
The Priest saw this man,
Each time he knelt just for a moment,
A lunch box in his lap.

Well, the Priest's suspicions grew,
With robbery a main fear,

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He decided to stop and ask the man,
'What are you doing here?'
The old man said he was a factory worker
And lunch was half an hour
Lunchtime was his prayer time,
For finding strength and power.

I stay only a moment
Because the factory's far away;
As I kneel here talking to the Lord,
This is kinda what I say:

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*'I JUST CAME BY TO TELL YOU, LORD,
HOW HAPPY I HAVE BEEN,
SINCE WE FOUND EACH OTHERS FRIENDSHIP
AND YOU TOOK AWAY MY SIN.
DON'T KNOW MUCH OF HOW TO PRAY,
BUT I THINK ABOUT YOU EVERYDAY.
SO, JESUS, THIS IS BEN,
JUST CHECKING IN TODAY.'*

The Priest was feeling foolish,
Told Ben that it was fine.

He told the man that he was welcome
To pray there anytime.
'It's time to go, and thanks,' Ben said
As he hurried to the door.
Then the Priest knelt there at the altar,
Which he'd never done before.
His cold heart melted, warmed with love,
As he met with Jesus there.
As the tears flowed down his cheeks,
He repeated old Ben's prayer:

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*'I JUST CAME by TO TELL YOU, LORD,
HOW HAPPY I'VE BEEN,
SINCE WE FOUND EACH OTHERS FRIENDSHIP
AND YOU TOOK AWAY MY SIN.
I DON'T KNOW MUCH OF HOW TO PRAY,
BUT I THINK ABOUT YOU EVERYDAY.
SO, JESUS, THIS IS ME,
JUST CHECKING IN TODAY.'*

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Past noon one day, the Priest noticed
That old Ben hadn't come.
As more days passed and still no Ben,
He began to worry some.
At the factory, he asked about him,
Learning he was ill.
The hospital staff was worried,
But he'd given them a thrill.

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The week that Ben was with them,
Brought changes in the ward.
His smiles and joy contagious.
Changed people were his reward.
The head nurse couldn't understand
Why Ben could be so glad,
When no flowers, calls or cards came,
Not a visitor he had.

The Priest stayed by his bed,
He voiced the nurse's concern:
No friends had come to show they cared.
He had nowhere to turn.
Looking surprised, old Ben spoke up
And with a winsome smile;
'The nurse is wrong, she couldn't know,
He's been here all the while.'
Everyday at noon He comes here,
A dear friend of mine, you see,
He sits right down and takes my hand,
Leans over and says to me:

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*'I JUST CAME BY TO TELL YOU, BEN,
HOW HAPPY I HAVE BEEN,
SINCE WE FOUND THIS FRIENDSHIP,
AND I TOOK AWAY YOUR SIN .
I THINK ABOUT YOU ALWAYS
AND I LOVE TO HEAR YOU PRAY,
AND SO BEN, THIS IS JESUS,
JUST CHECKING IN TODAY .'*

Author unknown

Bible Study & Prayer Time

Please join us every Tuesday @ 10am for Bible Study. We are studying "The Chosen".
Prayer time with Paul is every 3rd Wednesday @ 10am in the Chapel.

Sewing get together

Stitches in Time for sewing meet every Tuesday evening from 6pm-8:30pm. What a great way to make things and have some great fellowship.

Preaching schedule for June

June 4- Pastor Strunk
June 11- Paul Kamzelski
June 18- Paul Kamzelski
June 25- Pastor Strunk

June Grass Cutting

June 3- Fred & Carmella
June 10- Fred Ross
June 17- Bob Ferry
June 24- Mark Blaho

June Greeters

June 4- Rosalind & Evie Stanley
June 11- Jennifer Lindgren
June 18- Rick Mercadante
June 25- Jennifer Lindgren

Lectors for June

June 4- Paul Kamzelski
June 11- Tom Lindgren
June 18- Fred Kolenda
June 25- Tom Lindgren

Communion Assistants for June

June 4- Rick Mercadante & Jerry Droz

Usher Captains for June

June 4- Fred Kolenda
June 11- Mark Blaho
June 18- Fred Ross
June 25- Rick Mercadante

Can't Make it to Church

No worries. Watch us on Facebook live on Sundays @ 10:30am

Save the dates

June 21- Civil War Dinner. Tickets are \$20.00

August 6- Congregational Picnic @ Old Economy Park Barn

Keep in Prayer

NALC- as they start the process of finding us a new pastor.

Albert Stauch- pray for God's mercy as Albert is dealing with some medical issues.

Lord, we thank you for a brand new month. Please grant us the strength & grace to handle every obstacle & opposition we will face. We pray that our lives will be aligned with your will, & all that you have in store for us will manifest. We pray against every power of the enemy that seeks to delay, disrupt and block your purpose and blessings for our lives. Through Christ, our Savior. Amen!!!!