



St. John's Lutheran Church



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News & Notes ~ October 2023

The whole world paused this morning.

Do you know why? Because an 8 year old's tank was empty.

The boys had already started their school day at their desks and I was preparing to leave for work when I noticed my littlest standing in the bathroom wiping his face.

I paused at the door and asked if he was okay. He looked up with tears silently dripping and shook his head. When I questioned if something happened, again he shook his head.

So I sat on the side of the tub and pulled him in my lap. I told him sometimes our heart tanks feel empty and need to be refilled.

He cried into my chest and I held tight. I asked if he could feel my love filling him up? A nod, and tears stopped... I waited a minute...

Has it reached your toes yet? He shook his head no...

Okay man. We will take as long as you need. Work doesn't matter right now. School isn't important either. This right here, is the most important thing today, okay? Filling you back to the tope. Is that good? *nods*

One more minute...

Is your heart full of mamas love now? Yeah.. Looks in his eyes I see it shining in there, you're full to the top, and you're smiling!

Y'all. You may not be 8- you may be 28, 38, 48 or whatever-but ALL of us run on empty just like he did. His weekend was so busy and so full and his little soul was just dry!!!!

We all have to pause, and take a moment to refill with the good things. Scripture, prayer, sunshine, worship, song, laughter, friends, hugs. Refill your empty, or you'll find those emotions (tears, anger, snappy words) overflowing with no reason why.

Take a moment, Refill. It's the most important part of your day!



BEAR & GEM'S ADVENTURES

Hello everyone!!!! Bear here. I want to introduce to you my new partner. Her name is Gem and she is Pastor Andrew and families dog. She will joining me in the Newsletter and we will be telling you of our individual adventures during the past month.

Hi everyone this is Gem. I came all the way from Iowa. What a ride. I thought we would never arrive in Pennsylvania. It took us about 3 days to get here cause you know I had to take several potty breaks. Mom takes me out walking and I love smelling all the different smells here. Out in Iowa you always smelled the same dogs but here there are sooooo many different ones. Mom and dad took me to the coffee shop and I got a pup-cup. Yum Yum!! I visit aunt Tammy a lot cause she keeps treats in her drawer for me. Don't tell Bear. Mom took me to the doctor cause I had an ear infection so they gave us some medicine. They were really nice humans. I cross my paws that we will be staying here for a long time.

Bear here- Not much going on with me. I've been trying to stay healthy. My allergies are bothering me a little so mom gives me some pills and it knocks my butt right out. Just waiting for fall to come so I can be a little cooler. I have my 6 month check up this month so I cross my paws hoping everything comes out good cause you know I am getting older but I still have the puppy in me. I hope you all enjoy mine & Gem's part of the newsletter. Until we bark next time.

Hugs & Puppy Kisses,
Bear & Gem

Usher Captains for October

October 1- Tim Ceasar
October 8- Tim Ceasar
October 15- Fred Ross
October 22- Fred Kolenda
October 29- Mark Blaho

October Greeters

October 1- Bob Fockler
October 8- Gerrie Meister
October 15- Carmella Kolenda
October 22- Tammy Slavik
October 29- Jennifer Lindgren

Lectors for October

October 1-
October 8- Fred Kolenda
October 15- Tom Lindgren
October 22- Tom Lindgren
October 29- Fred Kolenda

Communion Assistants for October

Oct 1- Fred Kolenda & Mark Blaho

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.

Can't make it to church

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

Save the dates

Oct 1- Pastor Andrew's Installation
Oct 18- Halloween Party @ Harmony Haus
Oct 23- The Ladle
November 19- Thanksgiving luncheon
December 2- Live Nativity & Food Sale and Bake Sale

Autumn Praise

I praise you Lord for autumn:
For falling temperatures & morning chills, trees turned gold, red, brown & orange,
Falling leaves & blowing leaves, the smell of burning leaves,
The joy of leaf pile jumping.

I praise you Lord for autumn:
The interplay of outside temperatures & inside warmth, the promise of cider & pumpkin bread
The blessings of blankets & sweaters.

I praise you Lord for autumn:
The beauty & hope in the change of season, the promise that the coming of autumn
Heralds another ending, a new beginning & the wonder of another
Winter, spring & summer yet to come.