

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – September 2017

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

Evil is subtle. Very subtle. (In our world today many will say that evil does not even exist. They say pain and suffering are caused by ignorance or fear, etc. Even denying the existence of evil is a clever trick of evil!) Evil has a great way of striking people where they are weak. It is also highly skilled at striking people where they are strong. Evil has no trouble getting people to do bad things. And it is also an easy trick for evil to make good things bad.

Here's an example. I think we would all agree that being a responsible person is a good thing. Responsibility is a virtue. It proves you are trustworthy, loyal and dependable. I hope you all seek to be responsible! But now watch what evil can do. Responsible people tend to attract responsibilities. No boss is going to give a highly important project to an irresponsible employee. It will be given to someone with a track record of responsibility. In families responsible children are given ever greater responsibility. This is all fine and good. But being responsible for too much is crippling. Responsible people hesitate to take risks. While they may be courageous enough to take the consequences of a mistake upon themselves, they don't want their mistake to hurt others. Think about business owners who care about their employees. They may become too risk averse, fearing their employees will lose their livelihoods. Or consider the way good parents feel responsible for their children. They want their children to grow up happy and successful. Their whole lives can revolve around creating a safe and stable home.

What do responsible people do when God calls to them, and what God is calling them to do risks the things they are responsible for? Responsible people do the responsible thing. They turn God down. Evil wins!

As I look at the communities around our church I see thousands of people who want to do the right thing.

They are upright and responsible. They seek to be stable and constructive. They want to help the poor and they are willing to work to make the world a better place. All of these things are virtues. All of them are good. And all of these things are opportunities for evil.

Evil wins when good people are too scared to take risks. Evil wins when good people turn down God's calling because it could lead to embarrassment or instability. Evil wins when good people are too tired out by their lives of virtue to do God's work. Evil wins when good people turn their backs on pain and suffering because they are already too busy doing other good things. I suppose this list could go on forever...

Combating evil is impossible for us. It will win. It will trap you somehow, someday. In *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Martin Luther writes, "If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing." God and God alone can catch evil in all its trickery. Therefore it is important to turn to God always and in all things. If you feel too tired, or too overwhelmed by your life's responsibilities, or your mind is too scattered to ever focus on growing in faith, then evil is winning. Stop, take a hard look at your life, read one of the gospels in the Bible, and do some praying. God's voice will come to you and relieve you of the trap. But don't forget. Evil is still clever. There will be new traps tomorrow. But God is in tomorrow too!

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Sunday School Rally Day September 10th

We'll officially open the Sunday school year at the 10:30 worship service. Remember, Sunday school isn't for just kids. We have classes for all ages!

Hang Around Victor Day – September 9

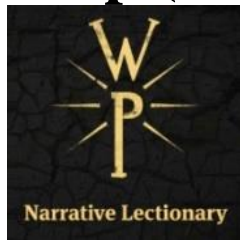
Our booth this year will invite people to help harvest potatoes on Sunday September 10th. The times for the event have changed this year. It runs from 11:00 am to 5:00pm. Please sign up in the Gathering Area to take a shift staffing the booth, and we also need help with set up and tear down.

Worship

September Worship Assistants

	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24
Greeters & Ushers	Kim & Gary Boisseau	Tim & Liz Brown	Gay & John Card	Jack & Pat Hortop
Lector	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30)
Acolyte	Sarah Brownlee	Ben Deibler	Ally Buch	Olivia DeLeon
Altar Care	Liz Brown		Liz Brown	
Communion Assistants	Paul & Babette Huber		Liz & Tim Brown	
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel	Kristi Bullwinkle	Katy Stimmel	Beth Perdan
Counters	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Ethan & Alyssa Minkel	Nancy & Ivan Shuler	Bruce Boncke & Art Fields
Coffee Hour				

Worship (Cont.)



Worship Bible Readings

Here are the primary Bible readings for worship in September. We'll be looking at the life of Jacob.

September 3 – Genesis 28:10-22

September 10 – Genesis 29: 1-30

September 17 – Genesis 29:31-30:24

September 24 – Genesis 29:25-31:21

Nuts and Bolts

Bell Tower

The tower is complete and is awaiting shipment. It's now looking like it will arrive early in September. We'll have a Facebook posting and send an email when we

know the date it will arrive. The bells are also ready and are awaiting shipment. Remember, we plan to dedicate the tower on Tuesday October 31st at 8:00 am. Thank you to everyone who has given to this project!

August Council Meeting Highlights

- Approved Nathan Black's Eagle Scout project to build a Gaga Ball Pit on church property
- Reviewed preliminary budget for 2018 and requested changes from the Finance Committee
- Approved use of \$400 from the Family Promise funds for cleaning the carpets in the education wing, where we plan to house the guests
- Elected Dave Bullwinkle to be Financial Secretary. Many thanks to Don Mansfield for picking up interim duties on short notice.
- Discussed status of Family Promise, Bell Tower, and Reformation Events
- Considering on-line sign-ups for volunteer services for regular church duties, and other time and talent needs
- Council meeting for October has been moved to October 2nd.

Nuts and Bolts (Cont.)

July 16 Special Congregational Meeting Results

The congregation voted to approve renovations to the Fellowship Hall. Work will begin in early September. The renovations will include replacing the windows and siding, improving the lighting, and replacing the carpet. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting.

Financial Update

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date	\$115,93.85	\$ 112,180.17	\$3,723.68*

*This surplus is not 100% true since some bills were being carried over and after they are paid a deficit will be shown.

Service



**God's work.
Our hands.**

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is coming up on September 10th. All churches in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are encouraged to do a hands-on service project on that day to benefit an individual or our community. We will again harvest the potatoes from our garden at the Wymans on this day. We expect to have just under a ton of potatoes this year! Harvesting will begin at 1:00. All of the potatoes will be sent to the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area if you are able to participate.



Garden Project

News from the church garden is mixed. As mentioned above the potatoes are doing well and should be ready to

harvest on September 10th. The sweet corn was also doing well before being marauded by deer and raccoons. They ate all of it! The pumpkin patch is coming along well and we should still have a good harvest this year. If you have extra produce from your garden at home year. For gardeners, you can bring you excess produce to church on a Sunday morning and place it on the kitchen counter for others to buy. All money benefits either the food cupboard or World Hunger.

Community Outreach Committee

- Keep the soap coming! We're well on the way to reaching our goal of 500 pounds by Reformation Sunday!
- Thank you to everyone who helped set up, donated goodies, or cleaned up for Fred Trost's reception after his funeral service.
- Thank you to everyone contributed supplies, donated money, helped with set up or clean up after breakfast and lunch on July 10th when Maggie's Kids were at St. John's for the whole day!
- Thank you to everyone who has brought in school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. We are hoping to fill around 50 bags.

Property Committee

Thanks to Mother Nature and our wonderfully RAINY Summer, Property Committee needs help with the gardens around the church. As most of us have noticed, the weeds are winning!!!

It does not take a "green thumb" to fight this battle, just gloves and a crowbar (or gardening tools).

If anyone has a little extra time to stop over and fight the battle, it would be greatly appreciated!!!

Thanks.

Gods work, our hands (and tools),
Cassie Ross



500 lbs. of Soap Update

So far we have 403 lbs. toward our 500 lb. goal. At this rate we'll reach the goal by our deadline - October 31st. Thanks for your donations thus far and keep it up!

Service (Cont.)

Family Promise News

If you receive the newsletter by email please see the attachment for updates about Family Promise. If you receive this by mail the updates are on the last page of the newsletter.



The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester. Also the Rev. Eric and the Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo as they work in Malaysia.
Gail Holbig as she has health problems and is often confused. She recently moved to a nursing home.
Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip.
Amy Plouffe who has been receiving treatments for cancer in a couple areas of her body.
Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.
Linda and Gabe Roy, sister and brother-in-law of Helen Crown. Linda has metastatic breast cancer and Gabe has brain cancer.
The family and friends of Nicholas Damanski, friend of the Boisseaus, who died unexpectedly.
Leigh Adams, Linda Flood's brother, who is receiving IV antibiotic treatment for an infection in the bones of his leg.
The family and friends of Fred Searles, relative of Linda Flood, as they mourn his death.



-Thank you to everyone who mowed the church lawn in July and August.
-Thank you to the worship band for leading the hymn sing when Pastor Jon was on vacation. Thank you also to Tim Brown for helping to lead worship.
-Thank you to Don Mansfield for his work as Financial Secretary.
-Thank you to everyone who donated toward the Youth Scholarship Fund. It was a big help in covering Confirmation Camp costs this year!
-Thank you to Bruce Stevenson and John CiPollina for making repairs to the playground.
-Thank you to everyone who helped move furniture for the carpet cleaning at the end of August.

-Thank you to everyone who contributed to the school kits for Lutheran World Relief. We received enough to make 80 kits. That's over 1520 items donated!

Miss Maggie's Kids Day Camp – Thank you

Dear Bettina, Burdie, and all of the members of St. John's Lutheran Church,

I want to send a BIG thank you to everyone for your support with Maggie's Kids Week. The breakfast, lunch, and snacks you provided were wonderful and so appreciated. Thank you also for the use of your church. You all made our first day of camp a great success! Again, a heartfelt thank you from myself and all of the kids for making this a wonderful camp.

With appreciation, Dottie Augustine

From Joan Trost

To the Ladies of St. John's Church who baked and served the delicious desserts after Fred's funeral, thank you very much. They were a sweet ending for a celebration of Fred's life well-lived.

Your kind words and support will always hold a special place in my heart. Fondly, Joan and Family

A Facebook Post from Aaron Swigart about his mission trip to El Salvador

¡Buenos días amigos! Sorry this update is coming so later to you all, but I've been in the process of moving and getting ready for school, so this was my first chance to post about my trip to El Salvador. Before I begin, I'm going to apologize because this will be quite a long post.

First off, I cannot begin to explain how amazing of an experience our trip was. Although customs was a bit hectic when we first arrived, everything ran smooth. In total, we saw just a few more than 1,100 patients, all of whom had about 2-3 Rx's, so needless to say the pharmacy was busy! Luckily, of the 32 people on our trip, the pharmacy had 11 people in the pharmacy field, so we had things covered. Because there were so many of us, we got chances to shadow the doctors and even work with patients hands on doing physical measurements in triage, both of which were an amazing way to expand our experience as medical professionals, but also to really connect with those patients who needed help the most.

We also got to work one on one with a translator for the whole week and luckily I got the best on Michelle Juarez! And, although I might be biased, it was incredible to see how each and everyone of the translators were able to be so mature and helpful; we would've been lost without them. (con't. next page)

(from the previous page)

On the first and last few days of the trip, we stayed in a beautiful hotel, the Mirador Plaza, which had an incredible view of the volcano neighboring San Salvador. We also got the chance to stay a night at Mar y Sol, a trendy resort where 90% of the pictures I have are from because it is a beautiful place right on the pacific coast. It also had a beach soccer court, something we used extensively in the day or so we were there for.

The majority of our trip was spent La Union, which is a port city near the southeastern border. The city is about a 3 hour drive from San Salvador, which treated us to a spectacular scenery of volcanoes and ocean views. In La Union, we set up our clinic in a church school yard, where we had anywhere between 3-6 physicians, a handful of dentists, an eyeglass clinic, a triage center, religious counseling and, most importantly of course, the pharmacy.

Over the five days that our clinic was open, we served a wide range of patients including new born children, pregnant women, dock workers, and many elderly, a few of whom were well into their 90s. I have a dozen stories of how even the smallest things that we take for granted here in the states meant the world to the patients we had in El Salvador, but the one that stood out the most was just that someone took time out of their lives just to stop and ask about how they were doing and cared for them. Compassion and empathy are things that cost us very little but can mean so much to another person, even those who might seem like they don't need it.

I'll leave you all on this thought; we are very lucky here in the states. Although we work very hard here to make a very nice life for ourselves and for our friends and family, I think sometimes we lose an appreciation of how lucky we are to live in such a good place and how loved we are by so many that we never even realize. So keep living your lives and doing what you want, but just remember that even a little piece of care or consideration can mean the world to someone and never forget that there are many more out there who love and care for you without you even realizing it.

I'd like to thank the amazing folks at GHO and the CMDA for making this amazing trip possible, the 31 others who I got to share this amazing experience with, the team of translators who made everything we could have hoped for possible and all of those back home who supported us while we were away. Most importantly, I'd

like to thank the people of El Salvador for opening their hearts and homes to us and for letting all of our hearts and minds grow stronger together.

Fun September Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Morgan Sackett |
| 2 | Amy Albert, Kelly Wimot |
| 4 | Adam Storch |
| 5 | Kevin Maynard |
| 6 | Gary Boisseau |
| 8 | David Kravetz |
| 13 | Sue Green, Kevin Sackett |
| 14 | Bob Kerr, Ben Testa, Don Curtis |
| 15 | Melanie Rogers, Katya Kurilovitch |
| 17 | Stan Clarkson, Joseph Krug, Joan Weicht |
| 18 | Roger Pennypacker, Whitney Stevenson |
| 19 | Edward Bremer |
| 22 | Robbie Keefe, Curt Stromstad |
| 24 | Hannah Brownlee |
| 28 | John DeLeon |
| 29 | Trevor Krug, Ian Christman |
| 30 | Andrew Bell |



July/August Bible Trivia Answers– Abraham

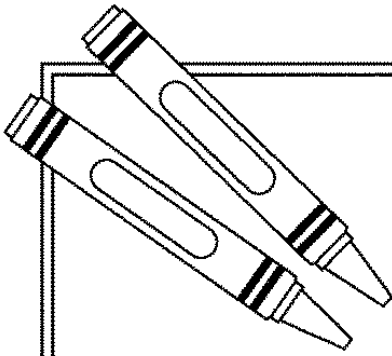
1. From what city does God call Abraham to move? Ur (Genesis 11:31)
2. Who was Abraham's wife? Sarah (also Sarai) (Genesis 16:1)
3. Where does Abraham go when a famine strikes the land? Egypt (Genesis 12:10)
4. How old was Abraham when his first son to his wife is born? 100 (Genesis 17:17)

September Trivia Questions:

1. How many sons does Jacob have?
2. Who is Jacob's uncle?
3. What are Jacob's two wives?
4. How old was Jacob when he left home?

SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <u>13th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Outdoor Worship 10:30 Holy Communion	4 <u>Labor Day</u>	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:30 Women's Bible Study	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	9 11:00-5:00 Hang Around Victor Day
10 <u>14th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 1:00 Potato Harvest Grandparent's Day	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	14 <u>Holy Cross Day</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:30 Women's Bible Study	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	16
17 <u>15th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	21 <u>St. Matthew, Apostle</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:30 Women's Bible Study	22 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	23
24 <u>16th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	25 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 7:00 Boy Scouts	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Property Committee 7:00 Community Chorus	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	28 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:30 Women's Bible Study	29 <u>St. Michael & all Angels</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	30



Just for KIDS

Matthew 4:10

Find the words that fit these definitions. You may use a dictionary or check in a church bulletin or hymnal. Write the letters from the words on the lines below.

A song sung in church _____
1 2 3 4

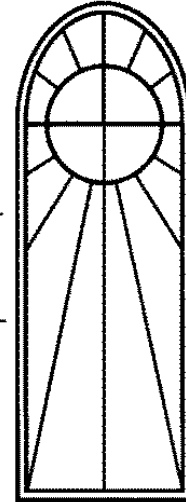
Money given in church _____
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

"The Lord's _____"
13 14 15 16 17 18

What we find written in the Bible:
God's _____
19 20 21 22

Another word for Bible verses _____
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

Warm feeling in your heart _____
33 34 35 36



" _____
19 5 9 23 1 10 13 28 1 8

_____ 33 5 9 22 2 5 29 9 12 5 22

_____ 15 4 22 23 8 9 35 17

_____ 5 4 33 2 1 10 3 "

Matthew 4:10b



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

**Grace for Everyone
-Always-**

*We are a community of faith
committed to living and sharing the love of God.*

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Address Service Requested

September Newsletter

September 9 – Hang Around Victor Day

September 10 – Rally Day

September 10 – Potato Harvest