Wilson Lutheran Church 401 310<sup>th</sup> Street Wilson WI 54027 Address Service Requested

<u>Mission Statement</u> Gathered. Renewed. Sent

We are: Gathered by the Spirt. Renewed by the Word. Sent to Serve

# September 2022, Newsletter for Wílson Lutheran Church



Wilson Lutheran Church 401 310<sup>th</sup> Street, Wilson, WI 54027 Phone: 715-772-3150 Office Email: wiluth@wwt.net Web Site: wilsonlutheran.org Pastor: Rev. Bob Dahm Pastor Email: PastorBob@wwt.net

Cover Picture by Pastor Doug Brandt

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

#### September 2022 – Season After Pentecost

Fall means a return to routine: to work, to school, and to worship. Summer vacations typically end with the Labor Day weekend, sending our young people back to the classroom. Our 9the grade confirmands begin their final preparations leading to their Affirmation of Baptism on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders begin, or continue, their confirmation journey, and our younger children return to Sunday School on Rally Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. And, fall signals visible changes in the created world as crops are gathered, leaves begin to fall, and the cold winds begin to blow; a harbinger of things to come. It may still be the "green season" of our lectionary, but change is afoot and God's hand is in all of it.

# Sunday, September 4 – Pentecost 13

- Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- Color: Green
- Holy Communion Continuous Serving
- Readings: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21
- Holy Gospel: Luke 14:25-33: Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

## Sunday, September 11 – Pentecost 14

- Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- Color: Green
- No Communion
- Readings: Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 51:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17
- Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-10: Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

### Sunday, September 18 – Pentecost 15

- Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- Color: Green
- Holy Communion Continuous Serving
- Readings: Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-7
- Holy Gospel: Luke 16:1-13: Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

### Sunday, September 25 – Pentecost 16

- Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- Color: Green
- No Communion
- Readings: Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19
- Holy Gospel: Luke 16:19-31: Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

# MISSION STATEMENT

#### GATHERED – RENEWED – SENT

#### Gathered by the Spirit. Renewed by the Word. Sent to Serve.

**Pastor's Office Hours:** Pastor Bob may be reached at the church office, 715-772-3150, Wednesday through Friday, and Saturday morning. In the event of an emergency or hospitalization, he can be reached at 715-235-4900 (home), 612-270-3838 (cell), or by email at <u>PastorBob@wwt.net</u>.

## Wilson WELCA: WELCA meetings are cancelled until further notice.

**Wilson Council:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Thursday, September 13. All members of the church are welcome to attend.

# August 11 Council Meeting Highlights: (Complete minutes are available in the church office.)

- David and Tracy will meet to make a decision on guideline signs for the cemetery
- Mike and Chuck are working on repairing the outside front steps
- The outside leakage of the roof has been repaired. The ceiling and tiles inside the room will be repaired this winter
- Don Roach will be seal coating and painting the parking lot
- Mike will contact AMP Asphalt Maintenance for an estimate for fixing and correcting a I ½ inch gap by the entrance
- Mike will address an eaves spout issue
- David made a motion to approve Covid precautions outlined by Pastor Bob, second by Louanne. Motion carried
- Council decided to do the Feed My Starving Children event in Eau Claire at Peace Lutheran Church in October, date to yet to be decided, for God's Work. Our Hands Sunday
- Tracy made a motion to place the green jug out during services for those who wish to donate to Lutheran Disaster Relief Kentucky Flooding/Wildfires, Jerry second. Motion carried
- Mike will get a surge protector strip for the upstairs balcony replacing the current power strip
- Barb Knopps made a motion to offer assistance to a member of the congregation family, seconded by Jerry. Motion carried

**Tuesday Community Supper:** St. Mary's Church will be handing out supper from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 in the Gethsemane parking lot. Drive by to pick up a Chef Salad, Fruit and Dessert Bar.

The Tuesday Community Supper is served the first Tuesday of the month at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 1350 Florence Street, Baldwin, Wisconsin. This is a free meal open to anyone in the community. Area churches, businesses and organizations take turns preparing and serving good nutritious food.

**Food Pantry Support:** Thank you for your continuing support of our Food Pantry program serving the five area food pantries: Baldwin, Elmwood, Glenwood City, Spring Valley, and Woodville. People are continuing to seek help from food pantries, so your contributions are especially welcomed. Don't forget to include items like paper products and personal care supplies.

Your generous July and August donations again filled the Food Pantry Box. July went to support the Woodville Food Shelf. August donations went to the Baldwin Food Shelf. September contributions will go to Glenwood City.

#### PARISH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES – SEPTEMBER 2022

| Birthdays |                |         |               | Anniversaries |                           |  |
|-----------|----------------|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|--|
| Sept 1    | Jordan Gedatus | Sept 15 | Duane Butler  | Sept 2        | Leroy and Karen Esanbock  |  |
| Sept 4    | Ben Pomasl     | Sept 20 | Dean Timm     | Sept 9        | Dwight and Karen Johnson  |  |
| Sept 5    | Steve Bowell   | Sept 21 | Adam Wyss     | Sept 28       | Mark and Stephanie Butler |  |
| Sept 7    | Andy Lamb      | Sept 30 | Lydia Wittmer |               |                           |  |
| Sept 8    | Margaret Gray  | Sept 30 | Lindsey Asher |               |                           |  |
| Sept 10   | Brianna Wyss   | Sept 15 | Duane Butler  |               |                           |  |

#### ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

| Month               | nth Altar Care Communion Assistant |              | Ushers                      | Sundays   |  |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| September           | Karen Esanbock /<br>Barb Lamb      | Peggy Timm   | Mike and Sherry<br>Ellefson | 4 Sundays |  |
| October Tracy Davis |                                    | Janet Brandt | Vicki and Jerry<br>Glampe   | 5 Sundays |  |

#### ACOLYTE and READER SCHEDULE

| Month        | Date | Acolyte                      | Reader          |
|--------------|------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| September    | 4    | Cade                         | Linda Powers    |
|              | 11   | Brady                        | Sherry Ellefson |
|              | 18   | Maggie                       | Barb Knopps     |
|              | 25   | Owen                         | Dean Rambo      |
| October      | 2    | Ryan                         | Kathy Borton    |
|              | 9    | Billy                        | Don Hogenson    |
|              | 16   | Cade                         | Ryan Peterson   |
| Confirmation | 23   | Brady and Maggie Jes Lamb    |                 |
| Reformation  | 30   | Owen and Ryan Ginny Overland |                 |

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

| DATE              | Time       | EVENT   |  |
|-------------------|------------|---|--|
| September 11      | 9:00 a.m.  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Sunday                          |  |
|                   |            | God's Work. Our Hands Sunday.                               |  |
|                   |            | Rally Sunday / Sunday School Begins                         |  |
| Soptombor 14      | 6.20       | 7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Begins |  |
| September 14      | 6:30 p.m.  | Parent / Confirmand Orientation Meeting                     |  |
| September 25 - 27 |            | Pastor's Fall Ministry Retreat                              |  |
| September 28      | 6:30 p.m.  | 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Begins                   |  |
| October 22        | 10:00 a.m. | Confirmation Rehearsal                                      |  |
| October 23        | 9:00 a.m.  | Confirmation Sunday   |  |
| October 30        | 9:00 a.m.  | Reformation Sunday  |  |
| November 6        | 9:00 a.m.  | All Saints Sunday   |  |
| November 23       | 7:00 p.m.  | Thanksgiving Eve Worship                                    |  |
| December 14       | 7:00 p.m.  | Service of Healing and Hope                                 |  |
| December 24       | 4:00 p.m.  | Christmas Eve Worship                                       |  |
| December 25       | 9:00 a.m.  | Christmas Day Worship                                       |  |

#### **RALLY SUNDAY**

On Sunday, September 11 we will celebrate the return of our young people to Sunday School, present a Bible to our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students, observe "God's Work. Our Hands Sunday", and enjoying a <u>Pot Luck Brunch</u> <u>following worship</u>. Don't miss this special day.

## **COVID PRECAUTIONS**

According to the CDC classification system, the level of community transmission of COVID 19 in St. Croix, Dunn and neighboring counties has risen to "High". As a precaution, we will return to observing the COVID worship practices we had in place earlier this year.

- The Offering Plate is located at the top of the stairs and will not be passed during the service.
- Adult and children's masks are available in the narthex for those wishing to use them.
- Portions of the liturgy, such as the Sanctus (Holy Communion liturgy), will be spoken instead of sung.
- We will sing a portion of the Sending Song at the close of worship. Other hymns are listed in the service folder so you may follow along in silence.
- Communion will be served by continuous serving only.

# FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Every year, millions of children die from preventable causes such as pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria and undernutrition. Hunger is still causing nearly half of deaths in children under 5 years old. The heartbreaking truth is, an estimated 6,200 children die each day from causes related to undernutrition.

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, FMSC is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development.

FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition. Nutrition allows children to grow, thrive and develop to their full potential.

The process is simple. Donations fund the meal ingredients. Volunteers hand-pack the meals. Packed meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved!

Last fall five people from Wilson participated in a food packing event in Woodbury. I know they all found it very rewarding. This year we have another opportunity to participate in this life saving program by volunteering to pack meals at Peace Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. The exact dates and 2-hour time slots have yet to be released.

If we can put together a group of six to twelve people from Wilson, we can join other groups at the packing site to provide these life-giving meals. Without making a firm commitment at this time, if you would be interested in helping pack FMSC meals, or learning more about the FMSC's program, please speak with Pastor Bob. Or, check out the FMSC Web site at <u>www.fmsc.org</u>.

# LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF – KENTUCKY FLOOD RESPONSE

The "Green Jug" is out to receive our <u>Free Will Offerings</u> dedicated to Lutheran Disaster Relief in support of the ELCA response to the Kentucky flood disaster. 100% of the donations received will go the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, working directly with local congregations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

#### LAY SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

Applications for the 2022 – 2023 Synod Lay School of Ministry (LSM), an educational ministry of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, are now being accepted. If you ever wondered about what it meant to be a Christian, or simply to be Lutheran, this is an outstanding opportunity to answer those questions.

With instructors from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, and other Lutheran seminaries from throughout the country, as well as local pastors from within the NW Synod, LSM is widely recognized as one of the best lay school educational opportunities church wide.

This two-year course of study, includes classes designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of the Bible, Worship, Spirituality, Christian History and Lutheran Theology.

Classes meet at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chippewa Falls the second Friday evening and Saturday morning each month, beginning September 9 and concluding in May. Tuition is \$475 per year. Books will add approximately \$250 to the cost. Don't let the cost deter you. Funds to cover the cost of tuition are available. Application forms are available on line.

Ginny Overland is a graduate of the program, as is Pastor Bob. In fact, it's where he began his journey to ordained ministry. So, if you have questions about the program, contact Pastor or speak with Ginny about her experience.

#### WE HAVE ANOTHER TIMM IN OUR MIDST

Welcome Wes! We've been waiting for you. Wes Edward Timm, the newest addition to the Tyler and Tori Timm family, arrived on June 17<sup>th</sup>. As you can see, he came compete with all the usual parts. We'll get to welcome him to God's family later this fall.



#### AMAZON SMILE

If you make any purchases on Amazon, consider signing up for Amazon Smile at <u>www.smile.amazon.com</u>. Buying though Smile is the same as placing your orders through your regular Amazon account, with one big difference – Amazon donates 0.5% of the total price of your purchases to a charitable organization of your choice. Amazon products, prices and services are all the same, and the donations are made at no additional cost to you. One of the charitable organizations is Lutheran World Relief, which received nearly \$2500 "Smile Dollars" the first three months of this year.

Since it's inception, Amazon Smile has donated more than \$355 million to US charities, and over \$403 million to charities worldwide. This is just one more way we can help our neighbors in need. Check it out!

## VANCO (GIVEPLUS) ONLINE GIVING PROGRAM

The Vanco GivePlus Online Giving Program is available for Wilson members and anyone wanting to make a special gift to our mission and ministry. GivePlus allows you to set up weekly and special offerings, as well as special one-time donations. Contributions may be made to the General, Benevolence, Memorial, or Building Funds. Contributions to the Memorial and Building Funds may be designated for specific projects. MasterCard, Visa, and Discover are accepted. You can also contribute using your financial institution's debit card, checking or savings account. Visit our new Web site at <u>www.wilsonlutheran.org</u> and click the "Online Giving" link in the menu bar at the top of the Home Page, or download the GivePlus app for Apple or Android smartphones.

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### PASTOR'S NOTE

There was a time when being a Christian, attending worship (nearly) every Sunday, and being directly involved in the life of the church, was a given. It was one way we gave meaning to our lives. But, for more and more people, that is no longer the case.

Today there are many who believe they can have a meaningful life without engaging with the Divine; without any encounter with Jesus. One of the challenges faced by the church (which is all of us) is explaining why being a Christian is important. It's called "sharing our faith", which is something Lutherans are not real good at, or comfortable doing.

So, consider this. If you were asked any of the following questions, how would you reply?

- Why are you a Christian?
- Why is it important to you to be a Christian?
- What's your favorite story about Jesus? Why?
- What difference does Jesus make in your everyday life?
- What's one thing you really like about Jesus?
- How does faith in Jesus give meaning to your life?

I would be interested in your answer to any of these questions, if you would like to share them with me.

# THOUGHTS TO PONDER

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Forgiveness means we no long have to let the past determine the present. Unknown

#### \*\*\*\*\*

You're so much more than the bad things that happen to you. Nightbird

#### **CONGRATULATIONS JORDAN!!**

Jordan Lamb has had a busy and very successful summer competing in various livestock shows at the state and national levels. The picture below is from the Junior Nationals. The results are quite impressive.

Junior Nationals

- Showmanship finalist for the Intermediate age group.
- Top 30 out of 250 exhibitors.

State Livestock Judging

- Reserve Senior team
- 5th High Senior Individual
- 3rd High Senior Reason

Wisconsin State Fair

- 2nd in Class with all Three Heifers (October calf, April yearling, January Yearling)
- 5th place 15-Year-Old Showman

Well done, Jordan. We're very proud of you.



# Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings – Year C September 2022

| Date | Day       | Psalm         | First Reading            | Second Reading        | Gospel               |
|------|-----------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1    | Thursday  | Psalm 1       | Genesis 39:1-23          | Philippians 2:25-30   |                      |
| 2    | Friday    | Psalm 1       | Deuteronomy 7:12-26      | Colossians 4:7-17     |                      |
| 3    | Saturday  | Psalm 1       | Deuteronomy 29:2-20      |                       | Matthew 10:34-42     |
| 4    | Sunday    | Psalm 1       | Deuteronomy 30:15-20     | Philemon 1-21         | Luke 14:25-33        |
| 5    | Monday    | Psalm 101     | 2 Kings 17:24-41         | 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5    |                      |
| 6    | Tuesday   | Psalm 101     | 2 Kings 18:9-18          | 1 Timothy 4:6-16      |                      |
| 7    | Wednesday | Psalm 101     | 2 Kings 18:19-25; 19:1-7 |                       | Luke 18:18-30        |
| 8    | Thursday  | Psalm 51:1-10 | Genesis 6:1-6            | 1 Timothy 1:1-11      |                      |
| 9    | Friday    | Psalm 51:1-10 | Genesis 7:6-10: 8:1-5    | 2 Peter 2:1-10a       |                      |
| 10   | Saturday  | Psalm 51:1-10 | Genesis 8:20-9:7         |                       | John 10:11-21        |
| 11   | Sunday    | Psalm 51:1-10 | Exodus 32:7-14           | 1 Timothy 1:12-17     | Luke 15:1-10         |
| 12   | Monday    | Psalm 73      | Amos 7:1-6               | 1 Timothy 1:18-20     |                      |
| 13   | Tuesday   | Psalm 73      | Jonah 3:1-10             | 2 Peter 3:8-13        |                      |
| 14   | Wednesday | Psalm 73      | Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6      |                       | Luke 22:31-33, 54-62 |
| 15   | Thursday  | Psalm 113     | Exodus 23:1-9            | Romans 3:1-8          |                      |
| 16   | Friday    | Psalm 113     | Ezekiel 22:17-31         | Romans 8:31-39        |                      |
| 17   | Saturday  | Psalm 113     | Isaiah 5:8-23            |                       | Mark 12:41-44        |
| 18   | Sunday    | Psalm 113     | Amos 8:4-7               | 1 Timothy 2:1-7       | Luke 16:1-13         |
| 19   | Monday    | Psalm 12      | Proverbs 14:21-31        | Acts 4:1-12           |                      |
| 20   | Tuesday   | Psalm 12      | Proverbs 17:1-5          | 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 |                      |
| 21   | Wednesday | Psalm 12      | Proverbs 21:10-16        |                       | Luke 20:45-21:4      |
| 22   | Thursday  | Psalm 146     | Proverbs 22:2-16         | 2 Corinthians 8:8-15  |                      |
| 23   | Friday    | Psalm 146     | Proverbs 28:3-10         | Ephesians 2:1-10      |                      |
| 24   | Saturday  | Psalm 146     | Proverbs 28:11-28        | Luke 9:43b-48         |                      |
| 25   | Sunday    | Psalm 146     | Amos 6:1a, 4-7           | 1 Timothy 6:6-19      | Luke 16:19-31        |
| 26   | Monday    | Psalm 62      | Amos 6:8-14              | Revelation 3:14-22    |                      |
| 27   | Tuesday   | Psalm 62      | Hosea 10:9-15            | James 5:1-6           |                      |
| 28   | Wednesday | Psalm 62      | Hosea 12:2-14            |                       | Matthew 19:16-22     |
| 29   | Thursday  | Psalm 37:1-9  | 2 Kings 18:1-8, 28-36    | Revelation 2:8-11     |                      |
| 30   | Friday    | Psalm 37:1-9  | 2Kings 19:8-20, 35-37    | Revelation 2:12-29    |                      |

#### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Prayer Ventures September 2022

**1** Pray for musicians and worship leaders as they develop and broaden their skills and explore existing and new worship resources at the Augsburg Fortress Summer Music Clinics.

**2** Pray that we will look to God's wisdom as we ponder the world, our purpose in life and how we might live with one another in global community.

**3** Give thanks to God for the ELCA International Leadership Development Program, which provides financial support for the short- and long-term academic training of established and emerging leaders in global companion churches and institutions.

**4** "Now you must get rid of all such things — anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another" (Colossians 3:8-9a). Give thanks that, through our baptism and the ceaseless work of the Spirit, we are being transformed in *every way* to reflect the image of God in which we were created.

**5** Pray for the leadership, wisdom and well-being of our presiding bishop, Elizabeth A. Eaton, as we and our siblings in Christ try to unify this church in a world of ever-evolving complexity, conflict and division.

**6** Give thanks for the chance to combat hunger around the world through ELCA World Hunger's Global Farm Challenge, and for the generous donors matching our gifts to reach the fundraising goal of \$525,000.

7 Praise God that we find our true treasure in God's love and mercy given through Jesus Christ, a relationship that endures for all eternity.
8 Pray for voting members, leaders, guests and staff of the churchwide organization participating in the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire their decision-making and spiritual discernment together on behalf of the entire church and to strengthen and unify them for doing God's work in the world.

**9** International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples There are over 476 million Indigenous people living in 90 countries around the world. They have unique languages, traditions, cultures, knowledge systems, worldviews and systems for governing themselves. Pray that we will value them as children of God; respect their rights, freedoms, dignity and lands; and ensure their right to participate fully in political and economic activities. With repentant hearts, ask God's forgiveness for our harmful and unjust actions and policies throughout history, for taking what was not ours, and for forcing our own language, culture, religious beliefs, worldview and authority upon Indigenous peoples. Pray that we will work to rectify injustices and inequities, develop new relationships of trust and respect, and do the work necessary for reconciliation and healing.

**10** Ask the Spirit to bolster us in praying for worldwide peace and reconciliation and in supporting people, ministries and organizations committed to making peace, providing relief, bearing hope and defending the vulnerable.

**11** Pray that God will equip, inspire and sustain new synod bishops for serving in diverse contexts across the ELCA, and pray that they will find support, care and encouragement for their ministry and personal lives.

**12** International Youth Day Give thanks for the gifts, wisdom and perspectives of youth around the world, and remember in prayer young people who live in areas of war and conflict, suffer poverty and hunger, long for educational opportunities, provide care for their siblings and parents, and live in hope for a better future.

**13** Remember in prayer and give thanks for nurses, who use their gifts and skills in global mission, responding to disasters and serving their communities. Pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Parish Nurse Association and its work supporting and equipping parish nurses, helping congregations develop new health ministries and encouraging people to pursue nursing as a vocation.

**14** Followers of Christ can suffer criticism and opposition. Ask God for courage, boldness and patience to share the gospel and serve our neighbors in need; pray that, when people oppose or criticize us, the Spirit will give us the confidence to respond with respect, love and humility.

**15** Give thanks to God that, following a two-year pause due to COVID-19, Young Adults in Global Mission will send 25 new volunteers into the world to serve alongside our global companions and churches.

**16** Ask God to help us discern between those who speak and teach God's word faithfully and those who deceive others by preaching and prophesying for personal gain, recognition or power.

**17** Give thanks for the chance to enjoy the awe and beauty of God's creation in wilderness areas and city, state and national parks. Pray that, working together, we will make these treasures more accessible to people of all ages, abilities and economic circumstances.

**18** Remember and give thanks for people now and throughout history who have inspired and strengthened our faith, helped us to understand God's word and ways, encouraged our service and witness in the world, and influenced our lives and actions through their fearless pursuit of justice and healing for all people.

**19** Give thanks for the gifts, leadership, service and generosity of the laity of our church, who respond to God's call to serve our communities of faith, our society and our world.

**20** Pray for companions and care providers who help people deal with illness, disability or the demands of aging. Ask that they will find the spiritual, physical and emotional strength necessary for their work, and that they will be renewed by rest, sabbath, self-care and the support they receive from others.

**21** Ask God for forgiveness when, intentionally or not, we have discouraged total inclusion and involvement of all people in the church or society. Pray for an open mind and a willingness to listen to the stories and needs of those who are excluded or feel unwelcome; ask the Spirit to unite us in changing our practices, traditions, facilities and institutions to remove all barriers and deterrents to full inclusion and participation.

22 Pray for the young people gathering from a variety of backgrounds, churches and geographic regions for the World Council of Churches Stewards Program assembly in Germany. Ask God to bless their time together, nurture ecumenical unity and understanding, and inspire them to bring their experiences and ecumenical enthusiasm back home to their local contexts.

**23** Give thanks for the ministry of the Christian Education Network of the ELCA, which supports and encourages professional and volunteer leaders who advance lifelong faith-formation ministries through congregations and partner organizations.

24 Express awe, reverence and thanks for the new covenant God has made with humanity and sealed in

Jesus Christ, an enduring covenant of unconditional love, forgiveness and restoration of our relationship with God.

**25** Pray for students beginning the new school year, especially those feeling uncertain, hesitant, insecure or fearful. Ask the Spirit for opportunities to care for students with tutoring, mentoring, counseling, family support and safe programs before and after school.

**26** "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103:8). Bless the Lord and give thanks!

**27** The end of summer is a time of transition for many people in seasonal jobs. Pray that they will be appreciated for their skills and service, find employment and housing, have consistent and affordable access to insurance and health care, and be welcomed and supported by communities and congregations wherever they go.

**28** Pray that we might not rate ourselves above others because of their life circumstances, race, ability, appearance, education, income, religion, social status or political affiliation. Ask the Spirit to fill us with respect, thoughtfulness and compassion for our neighbor, no matter who they are.

**29** Remember in prayer teachers, classroom assistants, student teachers, counselors, coaches, school staff and school administrators. Ask the Spirit to sustain their enthusiasm and inspire their wisdom, creativity, patience and concern for students and their parents.

**30** Paul's instructions to the Hebrews couldn't be more timely: "Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:1-2). Pray that we will turn to Scripture and the wisdom shared by our communities of faith for guidance on how to live and serve our neighbors in these times of deep division and conflict.

**31** Pray that the fall programs and community ministries of our congregations will flourish, welcome guests, inspire faith, spread the gospel, respond to our neighbors' needs and equip people for doing God's work in the world.



Synod Women's Organization of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Fall Retreat St. Croix Valley Conference \*\*\* Saturday, September 17, 2022 Joy Lutheran Church 1435 St Croix St, Prescott, WI 54021



\$10 Admíssíon Fee

8:15am - 8:45am Registration and Coffee

8:45am - 11:30am - Event Lunch to follow

speaker Gaye Líndfors

This is Livin'!

Life is good. And life can be messy! The good news? We don't have to wait for it to be perfect before we can live it to the fullest! We can look for, create, and celebrate good moments even during the *"You've got to be kidding me!"* seasons. Let's laugh a bit, push the reset button, and chuckle some more as we rediscover how to create great moments, which turn into great days, which turn into a great life!

# SEPTEMBER 2022

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY                 | TUESDAY                | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY | SATURDAY  |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|---|---|--------|-----------|
|  |                        |                        | August 31<br>6:30 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Grade Acolyte<br>Orientation                 | 1<br>9:30 Pastor's St. Croix<br>Conference Meeting –<br>Spring Valley | 2      | 3         |
| 4<br>9:00 Worship with<br>Holy Communion   | 5<br>Pastor's Sabbath  | 6<br>Pastor's Day Off  | 7   | 8<br>12:30 Council<br>Meeting   | 9      | 10        |
| 11<br>9:00 Worship<br>Gods Work. Our Hands<br>Rally Sunday<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Sunday<br>Sunday School Begins | 12<br>Pastor's Sabbath | 13<br>Pastor's Day Off | 14<br>6:30 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Grade Parent /<br>Confirmand<br>Orientation Meeting | 15  | 16     | 17        |
| 18<br>9:00 Worship with<br>Holy Communion  | 19<br>Pastor's Sabbath | 20<br>Pastor's Day Off | 21<br>6:30 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Grade Confirmation                                  | 22  | 23     | 24        |
| 25<br>9:00 Worship   | 26<br>Pastor's Sabbath | 27<br>Pastor's Day Off | 28<br>6:30 9th Grade<br>Confirmation Begins   | 29  | 30     | October 1 |
| Pastors Fall Ministry<br>Retreat   |                        |                        | -   |   |        |           |