



Bethany Lutheran Outlook
June 2019

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



Put your hope in God,

FOR I WILL YET PRAISE HIM,
MY SAVIOR AND MY GOD.

PSALM 43:5, NIV



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

A couple of months ago, Bishop Katherine Finegan and the Synod Council appointed me as the Northern Great Lakes Synod representative to the Board of Directors of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC), the seminary from which I graduated in 1996. Our synod is one of those that partners with and provides financial support for LSTC.

While my term doesn't officially start until October 1, having been invited to the May Board meeting as an observer, Kathy and I drove down to Chicago after church on a rainy Sunday.

It had been nine or ten years since either of us had been back to Chicago and LSTC, but especially as we got off Lake Shore Drive and onto the streets close to the seminary, we were reminded of how much we liked it there. A part of us was thinking that it was hard to believe we actually lived there, it's so different, so much more urban than any place we've lived before or since, and yet right away there was a degree of familiarity and a sense of belonging, a homecoming of sorts. The familiarity was even greater when we arrived at LSTC and found that they had us staying in an apartment in the same building on the same floor we had lived in my senior year, always the third floor, but that's another story!

There are only a few faculty members and a few staff members still there from the time I was a student, but adding to the sense of belonging is that they remembered and seemed genuinely pleased to know that I was back and on the Board. Attending the meetings I found another impressive group of people all of whom made me feel welcome. All of the staff people that Kathy and I encountered went above and beyond to make sure we were comfortable and had what we needed. LSTC places great emphasis on "community" and what we found was that it's not just a word; it's real. In the couple of days we were there, we experienced a model of the kind of community and hospitality that every church should offer.

I'll have more to say about it in the future, but as the church evolves and changes and faces challenges so do the seminaries. You can be sure though, that there are good and faithful people at places like LSTC working hard to find ways to partner with churches and synods, working hard to ensure that the ELCA will have good and faithful leaders to help to navigate the changes in the church landscape. I'm pleased to have the opportunity to be part of that work.

As an end note...you perhaps know that when you hang around with Lutherans it winds up being a small world. For example, the father of one member of the Board served as pastor in L'Anse back in the early 60s; someone else knew members of Katherine Finegan's family. On hearing that I was from Ishpeming, Dr. Gordon Braatz, a delightful and gracious man who received an award for his many contributions to LSTC, said to me, "I was confirmed many years ago in January rather than May or June because our pastor was leaving, having accepted a call in Ishpeming." I said, "What was his name?" and he said, "Eskil Bostrom." It is indeed a small world!

Pastor Geier

Blessing that Undoes Us

On the day
you are wearing
your uncertainty
like a cloak
and your sureness
goes before you
like a shield
or like a sword,

may the sound
of God's name
spill from your lips
as you have never
heard it before.

May your knowing
be undone.
May mystery
confound your
understanding.

May the Divine
rain down

in strange syllables
yet with
an ancient familiarity,
a knowing borne
in the blood,
the ear.
the tongue,
bringing the clarity
that comes
not in stone
or in steel
but in fire,
in flame.

May there come
one searing word—
enough to bare you
to the bone,
enough to set
your heart ablaze,
enough to make you
whole again.

—Jan Richardson

DAILY LECTIONARY



The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”
—Martin Luther

June 2019

1 Psalm 97 Exodus 33:18-23 John 1:14-18

2 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26

3 Psalm 29 Exodus 40:16-38 Acts 16:35-40
4 Psalm 29 2 Chronicles 5:2-14 Acts 26:19-29
5 Psalm 29 Ezekiel 3:12-21 Luke 9:18-27
6 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Isaiah 32:11-17 Galatians 5:16-25
7 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Isaiah 44:1-4 Galatians 6:7-10
8 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 2 Kings 2:1-15a Luke 1:5-17

Readings for the Vigil of Pentecost

Exodus 19:1-9 Psalm 33:12-22 Romans 8:14-17, 22-27

9 Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17

10 Psalm 48 Joel 2:18-29 1 Cor. 2:1-11
11 Psalm 48 Ezekiel 11:14-25 1 Cor. 2: 12-16

Readings for the feast of Barnabas, Apostle

Isaiah 42:5-12 Psalm 112 Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3 Matthew 10:7-16
12 Psalm 48 Numbers 24:1-14 Luke 1:26-38
13 Psalm 8 Proverbs 3:12-18 Ephesians 1:17-19

14 Psalm 8 Proverbs 3:19-26 Ephesians 4:1-6
15 Psalm 8 Proverbs 4:1-9 Luke 2:41-52

16 Holy Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8 Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15

17 Psalm 124 Proverbs 7:1-4 Ephesians 4:7-16
18 Psalm 124 Proverbs 8:4-21 Ephesians 5:15-20
19 Psalm 124 Daniel 1:1-21 Luke 1: 46b-55
20 Psalm 42 and 43 Genesis 24:1-21 Romans 2:17-29
21 Psalm 42 and 43 Job 6:14-30 Galatians 2:15-22
22 Psalm 42 and 43 Proverbs 11:3-13 Matthew 9:27-34

23 Second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-15a Psalm 42 and 43 Galatians 3:23-29 Luke 8:26-39

24 Psalm 59 2 Kings 9:1-13 1 Cor. 1:18-31

Readings for the feast of John the Baptist

Malachi 3:1-4 Psalm 141 Acts 13:13-26 Luke 1:57-67

25 Psalm 59 2 Kings 9:14-26 Ephesians 2:11-22

26 Psalm 59 2 Kings 9:30-37 Luke 9:37-43a
27 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 1 Kings 22:29-40, 51-53 2 Cor. 13:5-10
28 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 2 Kings 1:1-12 Galatians 4:8-20
29 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 2 Kings 1:13-18 ; 2:3-5 Luke 9:21-27

Readings for the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles

Acts 12:1-11 Psalm 87:1-3, 5-7 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18 John 21:15-19

30 Third Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 Galatians 5:1, 13-25 Luke 9:51-62

“The Holy Scriptures ... are nothing less than the ongoing Pentecost miracle.”

—Martin Kähler

Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heav'n and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

*I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

“Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

*I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

By Civilla D. Martin, 1905



Fellowship Hall Floor original 1962 Will patch asbestos floor and put down carpet squares which are replaceable if ruined.

Sanctuary original 1970 Carpet

Church Pews and Choir Chairs 1970 reupholster both

His Eye Is on the Sparrow: the Story Behind the Hymn

Civilla Durfee Martin (1866-1948) was born in Nova Scotia and died in Atlanta, Ga. In “His eye is on the sparrow” (1905), she has provided one of the most influential and often-recorded gospel hymns of the 20th century.



The most stirring renditions of this song are associated for many with actress-singer Ethel Waters, who loved this it so much that it became the title of her autobiography (1950).

Martin was the daughter of James N. and Irene Harding Holden, and was a schoolteacher with modest musical training. Together with her husband, Walter (1862-1935), they often wrote gospel songs for revival meetings. “Be not dismayed” (*UM Hymnal*, No. 130) is an example of their collaboration.

Walter Stillman Martin was a Baptist minister who received his education at Harvard. He later became a member of the Disciples of Christ, teaching at Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) in Wilson, N.C., before moving to Atlanta in 1919, a location that became the base for revivals that he held throughout the U.S.

The song was obviously inspired by Matthew 6:26: “Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”

Later in Matthew (10:29-31), the Gospel writer continues on this theme: “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.” Similar thoughts are cited in Luke 12:6-7. Stanza two quotes part of John 14:1 directly, “Let not your heart be troubled...”



Civilla Martin describes the context out of which the hymn was born: “Early in the spring of 1905, my husband and I were sojourning in Elmira, New York. We contracted a deep friendship for a couple by the name of Mr. and Mrs. Doolittle—true saints of God. Mrs. Doolittle had been bedridden for nigh twenty years. Her husband was an incurable cripple who had to propel himself to and from his business in a wheelchair. Despite their afflictions, they lived happy Christian lives, bringing inspiration and comfort to all who knew them. One day while we were visiting with the Doolittles, my husband commented on their bright hopefulness and asked them for the secret of it. Mrs. Doolittle’s response was simple: ‘His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.’ The beauty of this simple expression of boundless faith gripped the hearts and fired the imagination of Dr. Martin and me. The hymn ‘His Eye Is on the Sparrow’ was the outcome of that experience.”

The next day she mailed the poem to Charles Gabriel, a famous composer of gospel songs, who wrote a tune for it.

The themes of solace in spite of sorrow, and a profound sense of being under the watch-care of Jesus, who is a “constant friend,” offered the African-American community comfort during the Civil Rights movement. The refrain seals the theme by offering an apology for singing—“I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free”—words that would speak to everyone, but especially African Americans

Yes, it's wonderful!

Toward the end of her life, the gifted singer/actress, Ethel Waters, wrote a book titled: *To Me It's Wonderful*. It is the story of her life before and after meeting Christ, and it is quite touching. Her last words in the book were addressed to other performers whom she thought of as her children.



She wrote: "To you among my precious children out there in the professional world - or anywhere - just in case we don't have a chance to talk before Mom goes home, I would like for you to make me very happy in carrying this thought: Jesus Christ can dry your eyes, and wipe that unhappy look off your faces. He sees it, too, just the way I see it. I miss you. All of you. Jesus misses you. And if you believe in my love for you, just try to think how much he loves you!"

"Right now, wherever you are, you can turn around and he'll be there welcoming you. Waiting to prove his love to you as he's proven his love to Ethel Waters.

"A lot of people think the world had the best years of my life. That's not true. With Jesus, every year is the best year of anyone's life. So, therefore, this is the best year of my life."

"Children, Jesus is real. He loves every 'sparrow' best. I know, oh, how I know. And you will make me very happy if you let me know that by faith you now believe with Mom when she sings ... 'To me it's wonderful.'"

-Ethel Waters,
in To Me It's Wonderful



Blake Forbes graduated from Westwood on May 30, 2019 . After graduation he will begin a job with Dan Perkins on June 3.

Blake's graduation party will be held at Bethany on June 15 from 1-4. Everyone at Bethany is welcome to share in Blake's celebration.

Sarah Waters received a Masters Degree in Education at NMU's May 4th graduation

Congratulations, Blake and Sarah!

Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly Report May 16-18, 2019

Submitted by Kathryn Geier



Attending Synod Assembly is always enjoyable for me. Conducting the business of the church requires a significant amount of sitting and listening time but provides opportunities to learn more about the work being done by various committees of the synod and how Bethany is connected to ministries outside its walls. There is worship, prayer, good conversation, and insight to be gained. This year over 270 people gathered at Bay College in Escanaba from May 16-18 to accomplish these things and focus on the assembly's theme, "Equipping the Saints".

Bishop Katherine Finegan presided over the assembly and reminded us that the derivation of the word synod is "walking together" which is what the 80 congregations and 27,500 congregants of this synod do.

The delegates elected Pastor Kay Richter from New Evangelical Lutheran Parish as synod secretary to replace Pastor Doug Johnson, who has served in the position for twelve years. Chuck Thomas from First Lutheran Church in Gladstone is the new synod vice-president as Pam Long leaves office. In addition, open positions in the Synod Disciplinary Committee were filled. Louise Ingalls, retiring from her work as secretary in the synod offices since 1995, was honored for her ministry.

Budgets were approved: \$1,275,517 as an amended budget for 2019 and \$1,237,825 as a projected budget for 2020.

Representatives of NGLS ministry partners presented reports. Those partners include Finlandia, Fortune Lake, Northland Lutheran Retirement Community, Lutheran Social Services for Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Campus Ministry, Synodical Women's Organization. Complete reports from these and other partners can be found at nglsynod.org

ELCA Mission Support Director Victoria Flood presented information about the work of the wider church, including a message from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. Among the ministries supported by our ELCA benevolence dollars are new congregations, missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission, Youth Gatherings, World Hunger, and Disaster Response. Ms. Flood also mentioned that a new ELCA Social Statement, [A Declaration](#)

of inter-Religious Commitment, will be presented for adoption at the Churchwide Assembly this summer. More information on the ELCA is available at elca.org

While immigration policy is a current issue in the news, we learned that *Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services has been active for 80 years and has resettled 500,000 refugees. Its role is to advocate for migrants and asylum seekers and to promote the establishment of a just and humane immigration system. Their work is crucial: 68 million people have been forcibly displaced worldwide, and 24.5 million are registered with the United Nations. At the same time, the number of immigrants accepted into the US has declined in number from 85,000 in 2016 to 30,000 in 2017.*

This year's keynote speaker was Rev. Dwight Zscheile, a professor at Luther Seminary and author of The Agile Church : Spirit-Led Innovation in an Uncertain Age. Dr. Zscheile presented an informative and encouraging analysis of the social, economic and cultural changes taking place at this moment in time, and how we may consider their influence on our churches and spirituality. His overarching message regarding the impression that the church is in a state of decline was: "It's not your fault."

Worship and music is always a meaningful part of Synod Assembly. Especially notable and beautiful this year was Holden Vespers held on Friday evening under the direction of Lucas Wickstrom. Saturday morning worship included music from the Houston Youth Gathering by the "Houston Youth and Pastor Band" accompanied by Pastor Doug Norquist on the piano and featuring an amazing rap solo.

The annual collection of funds for ELCA World Hunger is a highlight of the Assembly. This year the theme was "Everyone Deserves a Piece of the Pie" (actual pie could be found with their display, too). Through Noisy Offerings, proceeds from the Pie Social and contributions from the Social Ministry Board and Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Bethany donated \$1019.20 adding to a total of \$35,787.03 that was collected. In our area, a 2019 Domestic Hunger Grant was awarded by ELCA World Hunger for \$25,000 over three years to Room at the Inn in Marquette.



Pop Quiz on NGLS ministry partners:!

1. Who gave \$10,000 to the Mkuza Girls' Secondary School in Tanzania, and bought a hot food cart for Fortune Lake?
2. Who has programs and services in all of these areas: adoption, foster care, housing and homelessness, disabilities, and more?
3. What is the only private institution of higher learning in the Upper Peninsula?
4. Where are over 400 children going to spend part of their summer according to new director Amanda Rasner?
5. What may be found at Good Shepherd in Houghton and Messiah in Marquette?

What Rains Reveal

Unless you're a pluviophile (someone who loves rain), a stretch of sunshine-free days can seem drab and dreary. To make South Korea's long monsoon season more colorful, art students created murals on some Seoul sidewalks with hydro-chromic paint. It's invisible on dry surfaces, but as soon as water hits, vibrant images appear. Rain transforms gray pavement into bright scenes of fish, whales and turtles.

Life's storms, whether literal or figurative, can dampen our enthusiasm and even challenge our faith. Yet adversity often reveals God's true colors — and ours. No matter what clouds pass overhead, God remains perfect, loving and steadfast. And by praising God "rain or shine," we, as his artwork, reveal that our Creator and his every brushstroke are trustworthy.



Affirmed in Baptism—May 19, 2019



Ian Bivins

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Isaiah 43:1-3



He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

Proverbs 28:13



Jarin Johnson





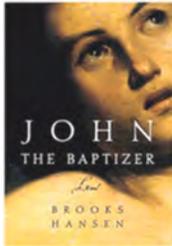
Library Notes for June 2019

By Keenan Tunnell

We celebrate the Nativity of St. John the Baptist in the month of June. I am a great fan of historical fiction and I think I have chosen a pair of winners in this category this month! We also celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and the greatest of the mysteries of our faith: The Holy Trinity. We have both fiction and theology investigating both so... accept the challenge and see what you can learn about this "voice crying in the wilderness" and other mysteries of the Faith!

Hansen, Brooks. **John the Baptizer.**

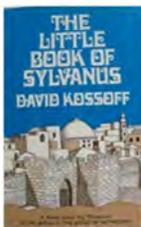
FIC HAN



Traditionally, John the Baptist is seen as little more than an opening act...in the great Christian drama. In presenting the epic of John's life, novelist Brooks Hansen draws on an extraordinary array of inspirations, from the works of Caravaggio, Bach, and Oscar Wilde to the histories of Josephus, the canonical gospels, the Gnostic gospels, and the sacred texts of those followers of John who never accepted Jesus as Messiah. Gripping as literary historical fiction, and fascinating as a diligent exploration of ancient and modern sources, this book brings to eye-opening life the richly textured world...into which both John and Jesus were born. *John the Baptizer* is a captivating tapestry of power and dissent, ambition and self-sacrifice, worldly and otherworldly desire, faith, and doubt. (from Amazon.com's intro.) Also see the other title: James, R.R. **The Baptist, FIC JAM**

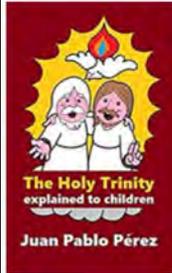
Kossoff, David. **The Little Book of Sylvanus**

FIC KOS



Kossoff presents the New Testament stories of the early appearances of Jesus and the miraculous events after the crucifixion, using as narrator the character of the court civil servant, old Sylvanus...the cool, reasonable bridge who leads the reader to ancient wonders, self-styled as ""detached in attitude. . . Skilled at standing away a little. . ."" Sylvanus goes about methodically interviewing a handful of ordinary citizens and then followers of Jesus who saw the flames and heard the rush of wind at Pentecost--the ones to whom Jesus appeared as a traveler along the road and later at an inn as their beloved friend and leader. And almost imperceptibly Sylvanus is drawn, if not to belief, at least to an unusual state of ""being hugely interested. . . [a] stimulating condition.""

Perez, Juan Pablo. **The Holy Trinity explained to children JUV FIC PER**

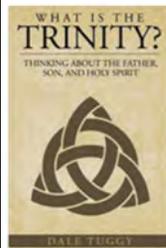


In this book, Juan Pablo Pérez introduces the Most Holy Trinity in a simple way that makes the central dogma of the Catholic faith easy to learn by children. As he writes in his introduction, "I hope this book will help many kids understand God better and believe in him with their whole heart." (Note: "Juan Pablo Pérez, has done a stellar job in explaining the Holy Trinity to children, and all the more so when one considers that he is a freshman in high school and was a child not that long ago. Perhaps because of this age proximity, he seems to intuitively know how children learn best: through stories, through object lessons, through opportunities to apply their learning (e.g. prayer) and through a test-yourself quiz. " fr. Amazon Reviewer)

Tuggy, Dale. **What is the Trinity?**

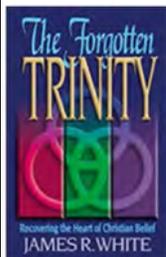
248.4 TUG

If you find the Trinity confusing, you are not alone! What does it mean to say God is "three Persons in one essence"? It *might* mean a number of things, and it has been understood in several ways by theologians. But how *should* it be understood, and how was it originally meant? This book shines light on the fog shrouding this subject, equipping you with basic information about the meaning and history of trinitarian ideas, so that you can see the various options and search the scriptures with fresh eyes.



White, James R. **The Forgotten Trinity 248.4 WHI**

The Trinity is a basic teaching of the Christian faith. It defines God's essence and describes how He relates to us. The Forgotten Trinity is a concise, understandable explanation of what the Trinity is and why it matters. It refutes cultic distortions of God. It shows how a grasp of this significant teaching leads to renewed worship and deeper understanding of what it means to be a Christian. And amid today's emphasis on the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, *The Forgotten Trinity* is a balanced look at all three persons of the Trinity.



Also see these two novels set at the time of the final days of the life of Christ thru the time of the Resurrection and Pentecost by well known Christian / Romance writers Janette Oke and Davis Bunn: **Book One: The Centurion's Wife and Book Two: The Hidden Flame (FIC OKE)**

A Final Note:



Living Lutheran May 2019

Cover Story:

- Dignity & grace in the face of mental illness (Wendy Healy)

Features:

- The issue behind all issues; the authority and interpretation of the Bible (Herbert W. Chilstrom)
- “Do not worry about your life”; Alleviating anxiety in our fast-paced world (Michelle DeRusha)
- Alive in the church: Campus ministry provides a place, purpose
- Not your average runner’s club (Jennifer Bringle)
- More than a game (Angela Denker)
- From the ashes; congregation serves community six months after Camp Fire destruction (Jay Saunders)

Reflection:

- Get Up and Go (Tiffany C. Chaney)

Faith and Family:

- Gear Up for a Faithful Summer (Dawn Rundman)

Deeper Understandings:

- The Ministry of Contextual Formation (Charles Dean)

Media in Ministry

- Parenting with Grace and Justice; An interview with Cindy Wang Brandt (Cara Strickland)

From Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton

- Questions in Life





Rev. Justin "Joe" Silvius

Bethany was saddened to hear of the passing of Rev. Justin "Joe" Silvius on May 18, 2019, at the age of 86 at the Brookside Care Center.

He was born in Mitchellville, IA on June 1, 1932, the son of the late Theodore and Helen (nee: Hainline) Silvius.

Joe graduated from Carthage College when it was located in Carthage, IL. He also graduated from the Northwestern Lutheran Seminary in Minneapolis. However, before his ordination in 1959, Joe fulfilled his civic duty and served his nation with the U.S. Army from 1957-59. He served in military intelligence in Berlin.

On June 23, 1961, Joe married Maxine Siverson in St. Paul, Minnesota.

He served his first call at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Postville, IA. He also served at St. James Lutheran in Johnston, IA, Hope Lutheran in Cedar Rapids, Bethany Lutheran in Ishpeming, MI, and Gethsemane Lutheran in Brookfield, WI. Joe retired from St. Mary's Lutheran Church in Kenosha. During the last half of his ministry he created "piano ministry" playing various styles of pop music with a religious text. Joe used this medium in sermons and also at church celebrations

Pastor Silvius served Bethany from the fall of 1971 to 1981. Bob Nadeau remembers fondly that one of the first outings Pastor Silvius had with the Luther League was attending *Jesus Christ Superstar* at NMU. Those who remember can still see him playing the *Bethany Boogie* at our special anniversary dinner that was held at the Phelps School. He was the source of many happy memories for the people at Bethany. We also loved having Joe and Maxine return during blueberry season. It was the return of old friends.

After his retirement Joe and Maxine became active members of Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church. They traveled overseas to Europe and China and enjoyed many Road Scholar programs in the US. For many years Joe was a Friendly Visitor with KAFASI. He enjoyed swimming at the Y and biking on trails. His good friend Tom Van Dahm and Joe spent many Fridays at the veterans' coffee at Festival Foods.

In addition to his loving wife, Maxine of Kenosha, he is survived by his sons and daughter-in-law, Timothy and Paula Silvius of Pella, WI, Roger Silvius of Kenosha, and Daniel Silvius of Wind Lake, WI; his four grandchildren; his three great grandchildren; his sister, Marilyn Ullestad; his brother-in-law, Gerald (Marlys) Siverson; as well as nieces and nephews. Joe was also preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Norman Ullestad.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Lutheran World Relief or the Shalom Center in Kenosha

Condolences may be sent to Maxine and her family at...



Maxine Silvius
8044 42nd AVE
Kenosha WI 53142-4591



Congratulations, Sabrina and Taylor!



Sabrina Holm-Brown and Taylor Bordeaux were united in holy matrimony at Bethany on May 11. Our best wishes to both of you, and many prayers for your health and happiness.



**THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE OUTLOOK WILL BE A
JULY/AUGUST 2019 ISSUE.**

If you have any event, meeting, or article that relates to July and/or August, please give the information to Linda Dahl by June 22, the deadline for this issue. Thanks.



**The June Noisy Offering will go to
The Seminarian's Fund.**

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

Write the names of the parents of these biblical children.
 For help, look up the verses in an NIV Bible.

Joash (<i>2 Kings 11:2</i>)	A _____
Obed (<i>Matthew 1:5</i>)	B _____
Joseph (<i>Genesis 35:22-24</i>)	_____ C _____
John the disciple (<i>Matthew 4:21</i>)	_____ D _____
John the Baptist (<i>Luke 1:13</i>)	_____ E _____
	F _____
Lo-Ruhamah (<i>Hosea 1:3, 6</i>)	G _____
Jezreel (<i>Hosea 1:2-4</i>)	H _____
Esau (<i>Genesis 25:28</i>)	I _____
David (<i>1 Samuel 16:19</i>)	J _____
Jacob (<i>Genesis 25:28</i>)	_____ K _____
Samuel (<i>1 Samuel 1:19-20</i>)	_____ L _____
Gershom (<i>Exodus 2:21-22</i>)	M _____
Samuel (<i>1 Samuel 1:19-20</i>)	_____ N _____
Jesse (<i>Matthew 1:5</i>)	O _____
Gershom (<i>Exodus 2:21-22</i>)	_____ P _____
	Q _____
Joseph (<i>Genesis 35:23-24</i>)	R _____
Isaac (<i>Genesis 21:3</i>)	S _____
John the Baptist (<i>Luke 1:13</i>)	_____ T _____
Jonathan (<i>1 Samuel 14:1</i>)	_____ U _____
Solomon (<i>1 Kings 2:1</i>)	_____ V _____
	W _____
	X _____
Jesus (<i>Matthew 1:18</i>)	_____ Y _____
Isaiah (<i>Isaiah 1:1</i>)	_____ Z _____

The Power of a “THANK YOU!”

NGLS Bishop Emeritus Dale R. Skogman

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing... abundance for every good work.” 2 Cor. 9:8

The abundance in this case amounted to \$1,150,000.00!!

I served as the pastor of First Lutheran Church in Gladstone, MI from 1971-76. During that time, Norman Lamberg, who grew up in Gladstone and whose family were members of First Lutheran would send occasional gifts to the congregation. My secretary, June Hawkinson, would be very excited when the checks would arrive in the mail. Norman had moved out east and became a most valuable employee of the Ball Seed Company as a horticulturalist and top salesman. In the process he amassed a lot of money.

I learned from Norman’s sister who is a member of First Lutheran that he was battling cancer and I reached out to him reminding him of his past generosity to First Lutheran and thanking him once again for his benevolence which was deeply appreciated. I also sought to affirm and support him in his illness.

Much to my amazement Lisa Zulke, our church secretary, called me one day and said “I have a \$50,000.00 check here designated for “Skogman Projects!” I was amazed, humbled and most grateful for Norman’s thoughtfulness and generosity. The money was divided between First Lutheran, Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, The Northern Great Lakes Synod and Finlandia University. I humbly thanked Norman for his generous gift and shared with him the invaluable ministry that his benevolence would support.

More amazement!!! Lisa Zulke called saying “I have another check in the amount of \$100,000.00 ear marked for “Skogman Projects.” Now my previous amazement turned to utter astonishment! Again, the money was divided between our synod’s ministries and I provided a careful accounting and most grateful thanks to Norman for his astonishing and wonderful gifts.

The story doesn’t end there!!! Recently Norman succumbed to the cancer and he managed to amaze me once again, this time beyond belief. In his will he designated \$1,000,000.00 for “Skogman Projects” under the auspices of First Lutheran Church!

Yes, I lost a little sleep pondering how to be a good steward of Norman's profound generosity! One thing was certain! In my experience as a pastor and bishop I knew that the very worst thing I could do was to give the entire amount to First Lutheran as it would stifle our sense of responsibility and stewardship for the support of our ministry!!

After much prayerful consideration and conversation with trusted friends and church leaders the previous and current money has been divided as follows:

\$122,500.00 has been directed to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp to pay off their mortgage and to ease their persistent "cash flow" between camping seasons.

\$212,500.00 has been directed to the Northern Great Lakes Synod to establish the "Norman Lamberg Fund for Pastor's Debt Retirement." Many of our pastors begin ministry with staggering and almost insurmountable debts from their college and seminary training. It is our hope that this support will both attract and retain pastors in our rural context.

\$592,500.00 has been directed to Finlandia University which struggles mightily with the costs of providing a viable academic institution in a rural context, as it is distanced from its Finnish roots by the passing of generations and faces competition from public schools with cheaper tuition. I served on the Finlandia board for fourteen years and as chair for nine. I was also responsible for persuading President Philip Johnson to accept the presidency despite his hesitancy and I am most grateful to him for doing so!

\$222,500.00 has been directed to First Lutheran. Some of these funds are supporting our Intern and the Church Council is to provide guidance as to the best utilization of this gift for our life and ministry together.

One last word: Never underestimate the power of saying THANK YOU for kindness and generosity past, present or future! It has been at the heart of my ministry as a Christian, pastor and bishop and remember: "God is able to provide you with every blessing... abundance for every good work!"

Fortune Lake Fall Retreat



It may seem to be too early to think about The Fall Retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp., but it's not too late to get it on your calendar. The theme for this year's retreat will be "Plant the Seed." It will be held Friday through Sunday, Sept. 20 - 22, 2019. There will be a prayer box at the Registration Table, so please bring your prayer requests.

The Chaplain for the retreat will be Pr. Stacy Petrhe, of Faith and Trinity Lutheran Churches of Ishpeming, MI.

Information and forms for the Retreat and Scholarship forms will be on the kiosk. Scholarship amount is \$75.00 and the forms are due by July 15, 2019 and the final payment for the retreat will be Sept. 6, 2019. You must be a member of an ELCA congregation from The Northern Great Lake Synod to apply for a scholarship. If you have any questions, please ask Cathy Barton or Kay Chartre'.

Fun in the Sun

Enjoy some summer-themed laughter while you lounge!

Seen on a church sign (and appropriate for grilling season): "God doesn't make mistakes."

Person approaching a shoreline: "Is this river any good for fish?" Response: "It must be. I can't get any of them to leave it."

Q: Why do people go to church in the summer?

A: It's prayer-conditioned!

Q: Why was it so hot in the stadium after the game?

A: All the fans left.

Q: While hiking, how can you identify a dogwood tree?

A: By its bark.

Q: What do sheep have on sunny days?

A: A baa-baa-cue!



Bethany Congregation Messaging System

Last year Bethany tested a system for sending out group messages to congregation member's cell phones and email addresses using the Shepherds Staff software. Those tests failed because the information did not reach our members in a timely fashion. Some people received the information days after it was sent out defeating the purpose of sending an immediate message, such as to cancel worship due to bad weather.

We are trying another approach using a different system called "Member Caller." This voice messaging software delivers a recorded message to either your home or cell phone. It is capable of sending group messages to our congregation members and will go out in a timely manner if there is a need for our congregation to respond to a crisis, such as the Houghton County floods that took place last June.

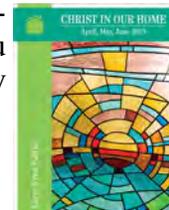
Member Caller will send a recorded voice message to the home number you have already provided to the church directory, or your cell phone if you provided that using the Shepherds Staff idea from last year. We will be running a test of this system sometime in the coming months once the software is installed and the telephone numbers are entered into the system.

The caller ID feature on your phone will show the call coming from 888 996-3623. We encourage you to program that number into your cell phone directory as belonging to Bethany Lutheran Church, so you will know the church is messaging you and not a telemarketer. For those who still have a landline provided by AT&T, Spectrum, or another provider, the same 800 number will show up on your caller ID and it will also show "Member Caller Service" so make note of that.

Pastor will be making announcements regarding this as we move forward, and the Outlook bulletin will also contain information informing you of upcoming tests of this new system.

Bethany Adds New Subscription

In addition to issues of *Living Lutheran*, Bethany also subscribes to *Christ in Our Home*. This three month devotional booklet is published by Augsburg Press. Both standard and large print versions are available. If you are interested in this devotional, you can pick up a copy at the library desk.



Council Highlights— May 2019



1. Work is resuming on the church maintenance projects including: flat roof repairs, insulate the education wing attic, carpet replacement in the entryway and other areas and other projects.
2. Synod Assembly: a new synod VP & secretary were elected. The keynote speaker gave a presentation called "Faithful Innovations" about dealing with the changing church.
3. Pastor attended his first LSTC Board of Directors meeting in Chicago on 20-21 May 19.
4. The council approved a \$1000 donation to the LSTC from the Hult Fund.
5. Ishpeming Public Schools may be able to have a pre-school in the Birchview School instead of in our building.
6. The next 150th anniversary committee meeting is 15 Jun 19.



YTD Income: \$62,189.52

YTD Expenses: \$71,706.34

January—April

Thank You

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting me. I am so honored to have such a wonderful church family. Your support has helped a lot.

I am now able to go to Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. I go to camp on August 7, 2019 for twelve days. Once again thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Ashley Chartre'

You're Invited!

Ben Bruhnke's Graduation Open House
Bethany Lutheran Church
Sunday, June 9th 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Please join us in celebration of this occasion!



Blood Drive
Bethany Lutheran Church
June 26th
3-6 pm

Mother's Day Hat Ladies



Answers to Pop Quiz

1. NGL Synodical Women's Organization - WELCA
2. LSS (Lutheran Social Services)
3. Finlandia University
4. Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
5. Lutheran Campus Ministry

Answers to "Can You Name the Parents?"

Answers: Ahaziah, Boaz, Jacob, Zebedee, Zechariah, Gomer, Hosea, Isaac, Jesse, Rebekah, Elkanah, Moses, Hannah, Obed, Zipporah, Rachel, Sarah, Elizabeth, Saul, David, Mary, Amoz

The Free Store

The Free Store is an interfaith non-profit group supporting people who express a need for free clothing, linens, hygiene and cleaning supplies. Anyone in need is welcome. Free things are offered as "in God's economy there is always enough." The Free Store is located at 1420 East M28 next to Lakestate Industries. It is open Wednesdays Noon-4PM (1st, 2nd 3rd weeks of month) Facebook@thenewfreestore.

There is a collection box in our church entry. Donation requests rotate on a monthly basis.

**Suggested donations for June:
Razors and Shaving Cream.**

Bethany's Website
www.bethanyishpeming.org



To view the latest edition of the Outlook in color, please visit Bethany's website.



Keep In Your Prayers

Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents:

Valente:

Jacobetti: Carol Waters

Teal Lake Senior Living Community: Jean Johns, Annette Larson,
Adeline Johnson

Mill Creek: Marilyn Pontti, Betty Geier



- Amanda Bivins
- Bob and Peggy Clark and family and friends who mourn the loss of Bob's mother Rosemary Clark
- Maxine Silvius and family and friends who mourn the loss of Rev. Justin Silvius
- Paul Kniivila
- John Lusardi
- Ann Wise
- Cindy Warner
- Loreth Johnson
- Bob Kaukola
- Emilie Brown
- Bob Maki
- Kathy Geier
- Mark, Kathleen, and Karmen Slown
- Dan & Sharon Argall
- Ray Chartre
- Roger & Ruth Solberg
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Jim Sodergren, Jr.
- Ted Swanson
- Judy Hogan
- Mark
- Lois Goethe
- Zander Atkins
- Jim Bjorne
- Angie Kempainen
- June Forsberg
- Those in the military that they may remain safe

Contact **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

485-1625
linkarzig@gmail.com

Bethany Lutheran Church
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau
Asst. Exec. Director, Robert Clark
Christian Education, Amanda Bivins
Finance, Jim Kinnunen
Personnel, Jim Bjorne
Property, Robert Bruhnke
Social Ministry, Jill Carter
Stewardship, Tom Perry
Worship & Music, Keenan Tunnell



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod



June Worship Assistants

June 2

Assisting Minister - Karen Plaisier
Altar -
Acolyte - Reid Frustaglio
Coffee Hosts - Finance
Flowers -
Bread - Ray & Barb Yunkari

June 9 Pentecost

Assisting Minister - Robert Clark
Altar -
Acolyte - Leo Dockery
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers - In memory of Peter Cain by Debbie
Cain
Bread - Kathy Geier

June 16 Trinity Sunday

Assisting Minister - Rick Rhoades
Altar -
Acolyte - Luke Holmgren
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers - In memory of Olga Norell by Blewett
Trust
Bread - Shirley Tyni

June 23

Assisting Minister - David Leverton
Altar -
Acolyte - Brady Johnson
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers - Deb & Bruce Bussone
Bread - Kaye Frederickson

June 30

Assisting Minister - Linda Dahl
Altar -
Acolyte - Jacob Bivins
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers - In memory of Shirley
Sundblad by Ann Sundblad
Bread - Kay Chartre

June Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Don Meyer
Dan Sleeman
Bob Bruhnke
Rick Rhoades



July Ushers:

Bob Nadeau
John Carlson
Tom Brown
Maurice Hansen
Tom Sodergren
Greg Stahlmann
Don Hurrell
Jim Penhale

Thank You!

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Edmund Holmgren
- 1 Thomas Holmgren
- 1 Hannah Skewis
- 2 June Forsberg
- 2 Eric Nault
- 3 Peter Lemire
- 5 Curtis Hosking
- 5 Luke Holmgren
- 7 Josie Connors
- 8 Jacob Christopherson
- 8 Katie Johns
- 9 Jean Johns
- 10 Kara Harrington
- 10 Karen Johnson
- 10 Avery Horne
- 13 Clara Carlson
- 14 Elaina Kaukola
- 16 Faith Cain
- 16 James Penhale
- 17 Denise Clark
- 19 Hadley Riutta
- 21 Donna Day
- 21 Ashley Chartre
- 21 Lois Palkki
- 22 Jill Carter
- 23 Andrew Goldsworthy
- 24 Michael DuBord
- 25 Barbara Kinnunen
- 26 Susan Dobson
- 26 Katelyn Hough
- 26 Ryan Jarvi
- 26 Eric Horne
- 27 Sarah Waters
- 27 Sherri Holmgren
- 27 Dale Toivonen
- 28 Donna DuBord



Happy Anniversary!

David and Katherine Finegan
6/4/1988 31 years

Keith and Sherri Holmgren
6/5/1999 20 years

William and Anne Carne
6/9/1963 56 years

James and Barbara Kinnunen
6/12/1982 37 years

Mark & Kathleen Slown
6/12/1976 43 years

Paul and Diana Sandstrom
6/15/68 51 years

Daniel and Sharon Argall
6/19/71 48 years

Tim and Patricia Nault
6/21/86 33 years

