

The Messenger

A Monthly Newsletter from St. John Lutheran Church and School

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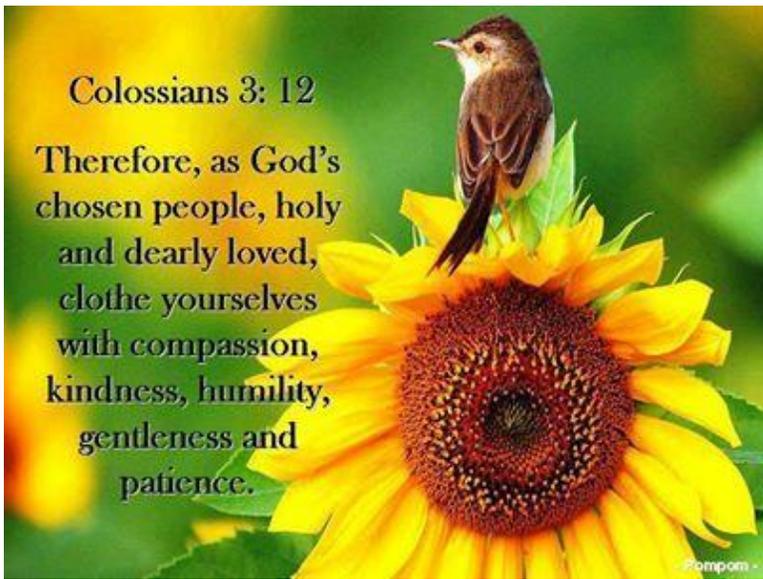


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Gather. Grow. Go. To the Glory of God!



Colossians 3: 12

Therefore, as God's
chosen people, holy
and dearly loved,
clothe yourselves
with compassion,
kindness, humility,
gentleness and
patience.

Devotional Corner

Pastor Mike Gehl

They often embarrassed their mother by the way they acted in public. It seemed to her that her sons were always arguing. At the supermarket, the brothers would fight about which cereal she should buy. When they were home they could never agree which movie to watch. Sometimes she doubted that her two boys would ever survive their childhood together.

While they often bickered, the brothers were also fiercely loyal to each other. If another child from the neighborhood made fun of one of them, the other was sure to come to his defense. It baffled their mother! How could they quarrel so, yet a short time later seek to protect their would-be rival? Blood truly must be thicker than water!

This scenario is a reality for many of us. Sibling rivalry, it seems, is universal. And for the most part, defense of one's own family is equally universal. Playground conversations usually prove this true.

God has another scenario he wants us to follow. He encourages us in the Bible to treat all people as though they were family.

*"Make every effort to add to your
faith... brotherly kindness"
2 Peter 1:5,7*

There are dozens of things that make each of us different from everyone else in the world. They include where we live, the color of our eyes, our talents, the size of our paycheck, and so on. Even though we enjoy associating with people who are like us, God wants us to treat everyone the way we would treat an idolized brother or sweet sister. After all, God's love prompted him to send his Son, so that everyone who believes in him has life in his name.

Blood is not always thicker than water. Every person who is made a child of God through his Word and the water of baptism also becomes our brother or sister in Christ. They are family. Why don't you stop by for a visit at church some weekend and meet some of your spiritual family?

In Christ's Service and Yours!
Pastor Mike Gehl

Worship With Us!

Now through September 26th: Worship Sundays at 9:00 am at our Turner St. campus.

**Beginning October 3rd: Worship Sundays at 7:45 or 10:45 am at 1537 Day St.
Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:00 am.**

Beginning October 14th: Worship Thursdays at 6:30 pm will be added at 1537 Day St.

Christian Parenting Today: Back to School Advice from a Former Teacher

Excerpts from a christianparenting.org article
from Janet Denison

New shoes, new backpacks, new teachers—same attitude?

Most kids are excited about returning to school, even if they don't want to admit it. Each year has a unique set of accomplishments and challenges. I used to teach school, and I well remember the first day of the year.

Some of the kindergarten kids were crying . . . mostly because their moms were.

The first graders came in looking nervous and looking to see who else had lost their teeth over the summer.

The second graders came in feeling confident, and looking for the person they sat next to the year before.

The third graders came in and the boys went to one side of the room while the girls went to the other.

The fourth graders came in, already smelling like wet puppies. The boys punched one another in the arm or put a friend in a headlock, while the girls rolled their eyes and checked out each other's outfits.

After fourth grade, the conformity starts to change. Individual personality starts to emerge.

The high school years are unique. The goal is finding the group of people that call you a friend, because no one fits into every group. And that stays true for the rest of their lives.

Back to school means back to carpooling, schedule managing, social training, academic motivating, and not enough sleeping—not to mention, a massive amount of laundry. It also means a certain degree of worrying. Will he like his teacher? Will the other girls include her? Will he try harder this year? Will she be in trouble again? Every year provides something new to worry about.

So, allow a former school teacher to offer a few thoughts:



First, don't worry until October. Kids are amazingly skillful at working things out themselves. Try to stay out of their way. Chances are, whatever you were worried about will be resolved by Halloween.

Second, pray about how "involved" you should be. Our kids want to see you up at school, but after second grade, they probably don't want to see you that often. Allow them to develop their own circles, even if you had hoped for a different one. (With one exception: if they choose the group wearing skulls and fake tattoos, you might want to be a little more involved!)

Third, offer suggestions carefully. Most parents think they know what is best, but don't underestimate your child's ability. I think I was right about fifty percent of the time, and I might be trying to make myself feel better with that percentage. The rest of the time, I was just making my kids think I didn't trust them enough.

Fourth, treasure these crazy, precious years. They do go by quickly.

And finally, take a moment to realize that while so many things matter right now, Jesus still matters most. Find time in the coming weeks to pray for teachers, friendships, academics, and remember that spiritual success is the most important success your child can achieve. In fact, spiritual success is the best way to accomplish all the others.

A word from the Apostle Paul for back-to-school:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:6-7.

Don't worry. God's got this!

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 19th - Kickoff to WELS National Hymnal Week

Join us at 9:00 am for a special service followed by a 10:00 am Hymn Sing to celebrate National Hymnal Week and the release of a new hymnal.



Wednesday, September 29th - FVL Community Parents' Night: "Innocence Lost"

Every year, FVL seeks to help parents stay informed of issues affecting local children. This year's focus will be on sex trafficking and will feature a special viewing of "Innocence Lost", a video that includes three short stories designed to raise awareness of this all-too-relevant matter. The film was produced locally by 5 Stones- Fox Valley. The viewing begins at 6:30 in the FVL auditorium and is for mature audiences only.

Sunday, September 26th - Church Decommissioning/ K-8th Grade Students Sing

Join us in bidding our current church building a fond farewell. The 9:00 am service on September 26th will be the final one in the Turner Street campus before relocating to the former St. Paul, Greenleaf building at 1537 Day Street, which will serve us until the new, combined campus is built. School parents, please note that students in grades K-8 will sing at this service and should meet in the basement at 8:45 am.



Mark Your Calendars!

- September 3- No after school care
- September 6- No School (Labor Day)
- September 9- FVL Schools Band Open House 6:30
- September 18- FVL Schools Band Open House 9a
- September 19- Hymn Sing following service
- September 24- No School (Teacher Inservice)
- September 26- Church Decommissioning/ Grades K-8 sing in church
- September 29- FVL Community Parents' Night
- October 3- First Service at Day St. campus
Sunday School begins

***Each Saturday from now through September 25 will have an opportunity to help move and pack up the church. Come on down and help us move!**

Church Highlights

Church Move in Progress

Our newsletter last month mentioned an offer on our current church building that has been moving forward. The closing is coming quickly, and our occupancy of the Turner Street location will end at the close of September.

The fast-approaching date required a quick decision on where to hold services until our Plum Road campus is built and ready for occupancy. Fortunately, we had a couple of options available to us, and church voters met on Sunday, August 15th, to discuss them: either rent back, with limited occupancy, our current building or accept an offer from St. Paul Greenleaf to be given their property free of charge.

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A large majority of the voters chose to accept the Greenleaf site as our temporary home. Benefits of this location include a site that will keep the look and feel of a church, will belong to the congregation outright, and will be able to be used as collateral on loans for the BOLD STEPS building project.

We plan to offset a more limited pew space by offering three services each week at the Greenleaf location beginning in mid-October. Accessing the Greenleaf location may also give some difficulty to those with physical hardships, as there is no lift or elevator; please let us know if we can assist you in entering the building in any way.

We give thanks that our building was able to sell so quickly, that we have another location to meet our needs through this transition, and for all who are working to bring about the move and our building plans. Please keep our church in your prayers as we continue on our journey towards a combined campus.

Registration for Sunday School

Sunday School will have a delayed start this year as we complete the moving process. Classes will begin on Sunday, October 3rd, at the 1537 Day St. location. Please see page 7 of this newsletter for a registration form and drop it off at church or school.

Church Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following church members celebrating in the month of September!

Sep 1 Owen Propson

Sep 2 Allen Johns

Sep 6 Ervin Zittlow

Sep 11 Liberty Cisler

Sep 11 Dennis Jandrey

Sep 12 Lena Abrahamson

Sep 12 Barbara Verbeten

Sep 15 Kenneth Lemke

Sep 15 Ethan Propson

Sep 17 Lois Baumgartener

Sep 18 Trystin Kluess

Sep 19 Dane Schisel

Sep 21 Andrew DeMerritt

Sep 25 Scott Schroeder

Sep 26 Trevor Golden

Sep 27 Michael Breister

Sep 29 Brett Reschke

Sep 29 Jesse Schmidt

School Highlights

Picture Day Announced

School pictures for all classes will take place on Wednesday, October 20th. A retake/ missing student day will be announced later for anyone who is not able to attend on the 20th or for anyone not satisfied with their pictures. Early childhood students who do not normally attend on Wednesdays may either come early in the school day or wait for retake day to get their pictures taken.



Janitor Needed

St. John Lutheran School is currently seeking applicants a janitorial positions. The position offers flexible timing with 10 hours a week and a starting wage of \$10/hr. Please contact Mr. Raddatz for more information.



School Birthdays

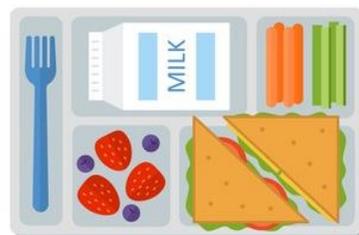
Happy Birthday to the following students celebrating in the month of September!

- September 11th- Liberty
- September 13th- Evelyn B.
- September 19th- Dane
- September 30th- Chase



Spirit Wear Store Closes Soon

We are excited to once again offer St. John spirit wear! Visit our online store at stjohnlutheranfall2021.itemorder.com/sale between now and September 12th. There are several items available in a variety of colors and sizes. Many thanks to Courtney Schisel for the time spent arranging this for us. Hurry to order, the store won't be open long!



Free Lunch Menu Online

For those who want to know the expected menu for the WASD free lunch program, please visit Wrightstown.k12.wi.us, click the silverware icon, select the 4K-5 Lunch option, and click "view menu". We will also try to print the menu on the back of our monthly calendars beginning in October.



Sunday School Registration Form

***Please note that Sunday School will begin on October 3rd at the Greenleaf site and will run through the rest of the school year.**

Student name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Grade level: _____

Parents' names: _____

Address: _____

Parents' phones: _____

Parents' emails: _____

Home church: _____

Special information (allergies, medical needs, ect): _____

Parent's signature: _____

In Need of Help?

We would like to be able to offer sections in this monthly newsletter for a prayer corner and volunteer opportunities. If you or your family is in need of any such help, please fill out this form, detach it, and bring it to the church or school office.

Name of person/family requesting help: _____

Type of help requested (circle any that apply): Pastor Visit Prayer Volunteer Help

Additional details: _____

Best way to follow up: Call Text E-mail

Phone number: _____

E-mail: _____

Save on Tuition with Scrip!



Save on tuition spending or support our school through use of the Scrip program! Scrip is a highly rated fundraising program that allows customers to purchase gift cards at face value and receive a portion of the money spent as a rebate to their organization. St. John Lutheran School partners with the Scrip program to allow families to use a portion of the organization's rebate towards paying off their tuition. Saving is easy—just fill out a form to get physical gift cards from us or use the online program or app to get printable certificates, cards that can be scanned from your phone, or to reload a previously purchased card. To get started, check out stjohnwrightstown.com/resources or contact Mrs. Wicks or Dierdra Starry.

Contact Us

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