

Lamb of God Ev Lutheran Church & Academy
September of 2020 ~ Newsletter



*“O give thanks unto the Lord:
for he is good: for his mercy
endureth forever”* Psalm 136:1 KJV

The Psalmist implores us to give thanks to God “for his mercy endureth forever”. The word forever does not simply describe a very long period of time. It also describes every possible circumstance we experience while time passes. Of course, these experiences are as wide and varied as the human race itself. Many of our experiences are joyous and pleasant, while many of them are difficult and painful.

Naturally, we are disposed to give thanks for the events that are pleasant but the Psalmist urges an all-encompassing gratitude. He does so for two reasons.

1. God is truly in charge of all that happens to us.
2. God is gracious and loving, showing us His mercy at all times – even the “bad”.

In the midst of all that has occurred to us this year of 2020, we can be comforted that God’s “mercy endureth forever”. He is always present with us and sustains us in ways that we do not deserve. He is very merciful.

There are those who will say “thanks for nothing God” when they experience a painful, difficult event. They respond as if they deserve to experience only what pleases them. Since they do not believe that our Father’s mercy endures forever, they blame Him when pain arrives.

The truth is that undeserved love and mercy attends us throughout every second of our lives. In fact, the Psalmist’s words are all the more important to hear during moments of pain and struggle. It is in the midst of pain that the eyes of faith perceive the depths of suffering that our Lord endured for our sake. Could there be any greater reason to thank God than this – He will never leave me nor forsake me and His mercy is all prevailing. That mercy is worth more than all the earthly treasure and pleasure one could ever experience. It is our source of life and peace in a world of brokenness. That’s something for which we really should thank God every day of the year. Every moment of every day, thank God for His ever-present help and mercy bearing us up in His hands each day of our lives.

Blessings to each and every one of you,

Pastor Houser

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10).

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.

“For the fruits of His creation, thanks be to God. For His gifts to every nation, thanks be to God
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth’s
safekeeping, Thanks be to God

In the just reward of labor, God’s will is done. In the help we give our neighbor, God’s will be
done in our world-wide task of caring, for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are
sharing, God’s will be done

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has
found us, Thanks be to God” LSB # 894 Text (sts. 1–3): © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License
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Birthdays, Anniversaries, Schedules for Our Little Lambs

September Birthdays

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|--------------|-------------------------------|
| September 2 | Tim Stohlmann |
| September 6 | Randy Bilbrey Matthew Rock |
| September 7 | Tessa Tedder |
| September 9 | Phillip Schroeder |
| September 13 | Kade Rubenthaler |
| September 15 | Chuck Martin |
| September 20 | Tyler Schilling |
| September 23 | Shirley Johnson |
| September 26 | Margaret Baca |
| September 28 | Aaron Sinnett |

Please let us know if your birthday has not made this list. Thank you

September Anniversaries

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|--------------|--|
| September 5 | Steve & Stephanie Sleeper |
| September 8 | Vincent & Erica Shaw |
| September 16 | Mike & Cheryl Lindblom |
| September 19 | Phillip & Nancy Schroeder-40 th |
| September 29 | Erich & Breonda Ziegler |

September Baptismal Birthday

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|--------------|------------------|
| September 8 | Anne Schipper |
| September 8 | Theresa Schipper |
| September 19 | Cynthia Page |
| September 30 | Braidon Benjamin |

Flower Schedule for September

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|--------------|---------------------------|
| September 6 | Steve & Stephanie Sleeper |
| September 13 | Emily Horacek |
| September 20 | Phillip & Nancy Schroeder |
| September 27 | Ron & Kathy Sinnett |

**Reminder: Congregation Assembly Meets
Sunday September 20 at 10:30 am**

September Deacons Schedule

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|--------------|------------------|
| September 5 | Dwayne Bolling |
| September 6 | Louis Riva |
| September 12 | Louis Riva |
| September 13 | Gary Schilling |
| September 19 | Joey Rubenthaler |
| September 20 | Erich Ziegler |
| September 26 | John Adams |
| September 27 | Joey Rubenthaler |

September Altar Guild Schedule

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|--------------|-----------------------|
| September 5 | Eileen & John Bergoch |
| September 6 | Donna Rock |
| September 12 | Stephanie Sleeper |
| September 13 | Carol Schilling |
| September 19 | Carol Krenzer |
| September 20 | Jillene Houser |
| September 26 | Terri Liddick |
| September 27 | Denise Bolling |

Schedule subject to change

Thank you for your willingness to register for attending services. This is very helpful

Wednesday Evening Communion Service:

If you are not able to attend services on Saturday evening or Sunday morning, please consider joining us from 6:30 to 7:00 pm on Wednesday evenings.

Luther' Small Catechism

The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Colossians 3:16 – Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God

In the Life of our Congregation Family

Board of Properties – September 2020

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending the upcoming Voter's Meeting (20 Sep @ 10:30)! It may be tight, but we will maintain social distancing via seating and encourage everyone to wear masks to keep us all safe. After multiple design discussions, and with the creativity of Amanda from Slate Architecture and the building expertise of Dave from Rosacker and Associates (R+A); we are ready to present the proposed Schematic Design and Project Costing for our proposed new facility to the congregation. Amanda will begin with the presentation of the building design and a short virtual walk-through. We will then present the projected costs and finally wrap up with a question and answer period. I do not expect you will be surprised by the Phase 1 design since it is based on many of the other facilities that we have called home. However, I do hope you share the excitement we do on the BOP knowing that another important step on our journey for a permanent home for Lamb of God is completed.

We will be providing advance presentation handout materials during the previous week. Since everyone may not be able to attend the meeting, with the help of our webmaster we hope to have the same information available on our website, also. Please note that this is not a "vote to build" meeting. There is still additional work that needs to be explored regarding financial options and the development of a recommendation for the congregation's consideration.

Continue to pray for wisdom and guidance in the decisions we will face in the upcoming months. As always, if you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact me or others on the BOP.

Randy Bilbrey: 402-201-5901

Sunday, August 23, 2020

A good day in the life of our congregation. Pastor Houser baptized two children of God



Breanna Marie Terry is engaged to James Bolling.

Brenna June Benjamin is newborn infant of Braidon & Kaila



Our guest for this day was Seminarian Zach Burgdorf who preached the sermon. An excerpt of his message to all of us: *"In the waters of baptism God has claimed you as his own. In the waters of baptism you have been adopted into the family of The Christ. The Son of the Living God's blood covers you and has washed you clean and whiter than any snow. Your sinful confessions, your selfishness and sins have been drowned as you entered into the font, and as you emerged a new confession was placed within you. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. This is the reality your baptism proclaims to the world."*



Burgdorf family Claire, Zachariah & baby John

Grandparents Pastor & Jillene Houser