



Good News at Renner Lutheran

September 2023

Our Mission:

In sharing the Lord's Word, we: make disciples, love God and neighbor, grow in God's grace and knowledge, glorify God!

In this issue you will find:

- * A special recipe,
- * Events calendar,
- * fellowship occasions,
- * people to wish happy birthday to
- * Humor

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In preparation for teaching confirmation this fall, I re-read the book **Being Lutheran** by LCMS Pastor A. Trevor Sutton. This is a fabulous book, explaining in easy-to-understand terms what it fundamentally means to be Lutheran—what it is that we believe, how it is that we practice our faith, and importantly, why all this matters!

Here is an excerpt from the conclusion of the book:

"...being Lutheran means challenging a culture that is closed, apathetic, confused, lazy, and pastel... Lutherans cherish the distinct work of God in making us new in Jesus through ordinary means, accept that God leaves certain tensions unresolved, and celebrate how He gives us eternal purpose in Christ and authentic community in the local congregation.

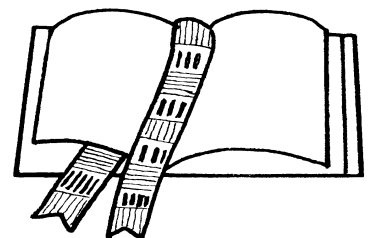
All of this comes to a singular point: being Lutheran is ultimately about following Jesus. We go where Jesus goes, we listen when Jesus speaks, we trust when Jesus promises, we learn when Jesus teaches. And we live because Jesus lives. This is what it means to be Lutheran."

Amen to that! If you're interested in reading the book as a group—let me know. It would make for good study and discussion!

Peace to you, Pastor Laura

Gospel Readings for September 2023

Sept	3	Matt	16:21-28
Sept	10	Matt	18:15-20
Sept	17	Matt	18:21-35
Sept	24	Matt	21:1-16



Council Minutes – August 8, 2023

Present: Pastor Laura, Harold Ahlers, Rahn Siemonsma, David Atherton, Amanda Dieren, Lorie Grau, Mike Eggers, Mary Lei, Natalie Lavender, Tim Eggers, Nancy Houlihan, Wendy Madson and Faye Berghorst.

Absent: Deanne Kracht.

Call to Order: - Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President, Harold Ahlers.

Devotions: Pastor Laura – Feeding the Thousands with 5 loaves and 2 fish.

Council Secretary Report: Approved via email.

Financial Secretary Report:

General offering for June - \$10,324.00, Globe - \$14.00, Interest \$10.81, Memorial \$1000.00, Sunday School - \$0, Youth – \$65.00, Other Giving \$0, Total Deposit for June \$11,413.81.

General offering for July - \$11,851.00, Globe - \$16.00, Interest \$9.03, Memorial \$70.00, Sunday School - \$0, Youth – \$0, Other Giving \$0, Total Deposit for June \$11,946.03.

Motion made Faye and Second by Rahn
to approve and place on file, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Total All Giving for June was \$11,413.81, which was lower than Budget of \$14,579.43.

YTD Total All Giving for June: \$110,802.49 which is higher than Budget of \$80,441.56.

Expenses for June were \$14,494.79, which was lower than Budget of \$14,756.28.

YTD Expenses for June: \$96,914.73, which is higher than Budget of \$91,544.68.

YTD Total All Giving for July: \$122,748.52, which is higher than Budget of \$92,141.82.

Expenses for July were \$13,941.91, which was lower than Budget of \$14,936.53.

YTD Expenses for July: \$110,856.64, which is higher than Budget of \$106,481.21.

Motion made by Nancy and second by Natalie to approve and place on file, motion passed.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Laura continues to visit those that have been hospitalized as well as those that are shut-in.

Wednesday Boost Services have been held since the beginning of June along with a Bible Study about Joseph in June. Church attendance is higher when we have Bible studies as well, so there will be Bible studies in August about Moses, David, and Job.

Three girls attended camp at Lake Shetek in June with two girls completing the entire time, one left due to being homesick. Two girls attended camp at Lake Okoboji in July, and all had a very good experience.

The youth went to Wild Water West on June 26th.

Our church sponsored Food to You on July 22, 2023.

A very successful Ice Cream Social was held on July 30, 2023.

Pastor officiated the funeral service for Jon Clauson on July 28, 2023.

Upcoming Weddings: 9/2/2023 - A J Peterson and Brittany Jackson; on 9/23/2023 Rahn Siemonsma and Jodi Weiler; on 10/24/2023 Chloe Jellis and Jonathan Harmon.

Motion made by Mary and second by Nancy to approve and place on file, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Education:

Vacation Bible School was held August 1 to 3, 2023 from 5:30-8:00 and there were 25 children that came for all three days and 2 joined on the last day. Lorie Grau organized the menu for serving a light meal each day and was assisted by several volunteers.

Rally Sunday will be held on September 10, 2023 with a mini Carnival offering several different games for the children to enjoy. Also during our Church service the blessing of backpacks will occur for the children and in upcoming school year.

Deanne will be ordering new fall/winter Sunday School materials and save the left-over lessons from last spring for the spring of 2024.

Motion made by Mary and second by Nancy to approve and place on file, motion passed.

Board of Deacons:

Readers and Communion servers are covered partially for August. There will be a message placed on the PowerPoint each Sunday asking members to consider sharing some of their time and talents on Sunday's for either reading, ushering, or assisting with Communion.

A sign-up sheet will also be passed around during our service to allow those who wish to sign up the opportunity to do so and then after services, the sign-up sheet will be placed on the table where coffee is served.

Motion made by Lorie and second by Rahn to approve and place on file, motion passed.

Board of Trustees:

Since phase 1 has been completed for our Organ repairs, we are still waiting on the complete upgrade.

Work has been completed on the elevator issue and is now working properly, however there is still a part that will need to be ordered and replaced prior to colder weather and Tim and Mike will take care of that.

Mike stated that there is a company that will be coming to Renner Corner to refresh the paint lines for parking around the building and he will have them come up to the church to refresh the lines for the hand-capped parking as well.

Motion made by Wendy and second by Amanda to approve and place on file, motion passed.

Executive Board:

No new business.

OLD BUSINESS:

Open council positions

Trustee position: is still open! If there is anyone that would like to fill that position, please contact Harold Ahlers or Pastor Laura.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our Church will have a Church Tent located in the third stall of the Fire Department at Renner Days this year. We will be passing out popcorn and ice-cold water and will be open from 10am to 3pm. Michelle Eggers ordered labels to affix to the water bottles advertising our Church and Lisa Siemonsma developed a Church Logo that can be printed on t-shirts and anyone desiring to have a Church Logo t-shirt should get one to Lisa Siemonsma as soon as possible if they would like to wear it that day.

The following individuals will work in the tent: 10-11, Pastor Laura and Michelle Eggers, 11-12, Jan Siemonsma and Faye Berghorst, 12-1, Lorie Grau and Nancy Houlihan, 1-2 Deanne Kracht and Stew Turnwall and 2-3 Rahn and Sophia Siemonsma.

We will also be handing out flyers in our tent regarding Renner Lutheran Church service time and Rally Sunday on September 10, 2023, letting people know about the mini-Carnival that will be held as well as the blessing of Backpacks for the children's upcoming school year.

Also on Renner Days, Rahn will drive Jan Siemonsma's convertible in the parade with some of our Sunday School children riding along to toss out candy to the spectators. Amanda Dieren has made a sign for the side of the car which will also advertise the date and time for Rally Sunday festivities for our Sunday School Program for the upcoming year.

We need a new musician due to the resignation of Nick on August 6, 2023.

Crystal will be able to cover several Sundays, however Pastor Laura will get a new Streaming License at a cost of \$238.00 annually, to utilize on days when we are not able to have live coverage.

SUGGESTION BOX: No suggestions

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

WELCA and Men in Mission: No meetings in August.

Other Giving Missions:

\$280.40 will be given to Veteran's Honored Interment.

Motion made by and second by to approve and place on file, motion passed.

Next month's meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Since Faye will be absent, Pastor Laura will handle the Secretarial notes.

Devotions: Harold Ahlers

Serving: Nancy Houlihan

Meeting Adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Council Secretary: Faye Berghorst

Summary Monthly Financials Summary for July 2023

Total All Giving:	\$ 11,946.03	Budget:	\$ 11,700.26
YTD Total All Giving:	\$122,748.52	Budget:	\$ 92,141.82
Expenses:	\$ 13,941.91	Budget:	\$ 14,936.53
Expenses Year to Date:	\$110,856.64	Budget:	\$ 106,481.21
2023 Line of Credit Limit	\$24,000.00		
Line of Credit Balance (Interest Rate 9.75%)	\$.00	Available:	\$ 24,000.00
Checking Account Balance (per Bank statement):			\$ 63,407.22

Uncleared Transactions \$ 19.65
 Funds Available (includes remaining Line of Credit) \$ 87,387.57

First National Bank COD-General Funds \$ 20,000.00

Each month, 1.26% of our General Offerings are given to Mission Support/July \$ 149.32
 Each month, 1.26% of our General Offerings are given to a designated recipient (voted on by council but suggestions are always welcome!)

A detailed report of monthly financials is available for your review in the 3 ring binder located on the table outside the Pastor's office door.

Endowment Fund Balance: \$ 572.15
Endowment COD \$ 14,000.00

White Sugar Cookies

3 C. flour
 1/2 tsp. soda
 1/2 tsp. baking powder
 2 eggs
 1 C sugar

1/2 tsp. salt
 1 C. butter

Mix the first five ingredients like pie crust; then beat 2 eggs . Add 1 C sugar. Add this to the 1st mixture. Mix well. Roll out thin, cut out and bake 375 degrees. If you substitute for butter then add 1 teaspoon of vanilla flavoring.

What has 4 wheels and fly's?

A garbage truck

Mobile Food Pantry
Food of the month for
September is Hearty Soup

Thank you for all who helped
and participated in Renner
Lutheran Church VBS

**Council @ 6:30 committee
& 7:00 Council September 5**

Dream Weavers
1:00 Mondays All are welcome

West Nidaros Lutheran Church
Harvest Fest! Sept 23th 4:30-6:30,
featuring roast beef, mashed potatoes
and gravy, corn, salad, desserts, and
Norwegian goodies
\$15 Adults \$5 kids 6-10
free for children 5 and under

WELCA

THANK YOU

Wow our Ice Cream Social was a huge success serving close to 150 people. Words cannot express my thanks to everyone who helped make it a success. I would like to thank those who donated their time and those who donated food. Thank you to Lori Grau for hot dog buns, Mike and Laurel Turner for the onions, Fran and Pastor Laura for the pies, eggs, ice cream and chips. Mike and Shelly Eggers for the hot dogs and buns. Renner Meats for the barbeque. Dee Christenson for the beans. Jon and Lisa Siemonsma donated the pickles and Linda and Duane Krumbach the condiments. Thank you to those that set up and worked in the kitchen to serve so many people.

We were able to donate the proceeds from the Ice Cream Social to the Organ Repair Fund and the Elevator Repair Fund.

Kathy Evenson
President WELCA






2-Fran Phillips
 3-Gaylene Powers
 4-Staci Schloe Taylor Anderson
 5-Kate Waldner
 6-Elizabeth Waldner Scott Harkema
 7-Deanne Kracht Paul Evenson
 9-Ryker Pedde
 10- Pastor Laura Phillips
 11-Dawn Cronk Hayden Ask
 14-Blake Myrmoe
 17-Jeff Linder Baya Waldner
 19 -Jon Hofstad Shelly Ahlers

24-Grace Bass
 25- Casey Machmiller
 26-Jeff Christenson
 29-Anita Engle
 30-Julie Ganter

If there are any mistakes or omissions please contact Mary Knudson 413-7404

**MEN IN MISSION
 MONTHLY MEETING
 RESUMES SATURDAY
 SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 9:00**

WELCA took last month off. Next meeting will be Saturday September 9th at 9:00



RALLY SUNDAY!

September 10

**Confirmation returns
 September 13th 7:00**
 let Pastor Laura know if you will be attending

-Blessing Students 9:30
 -Sunday School returns 10:30 with a mini carnival

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 3:00 AJ Peterson and Brittany Jackson wedding
3 9:30 Worship with communion	4 	5 3:30 Pastor's Text Study 6:30 Committee 7:00 Council	6	7	8	9 Men in Mission and WELCA 9:00
10 9:30 Worship blessing students Rally Sunday with mini carnival Sunday School 10:30	11 1:00-Dream Weavers all welcome	12 3:30 Pastor's Text Study	13 7-8 Confirmation Tour of our church	14	15	16
17 9:30 Worship w/ communion 10:30 Sunday School	18 1:00-Dream Weavers all welcome Pr Laura @ fall Synod confrnce	19 3:30 Pastor's Text Study	20 7:00 Confirmation	21 Deadline for newsletter	22	23 3:00 Rahn Siemonsma and Jodi Weiler Wedding 4:30-6:30 W Nidaros Harvest Fest
24 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 5-6:30 Northern Rim Youth Group at RLC	25 1:00 Dream Weavers Ministry	26 3:30 Pastor's Text Study	27 7:00 Confirmation	28	29	30
October 1 Necessities for Neighbors at Peace Lutheran						

THANK YOU to all who worshiped and studied together this summer on Wednesday evenings! THANK YOU to Crystal Aman and Jeff Spargur who served as musicians those evenings! Pastor Laura is looking for feedback regarding Wednesday Boost Worship and the Bibles studies to help in planning for next year. Any suggestions or comments are welcome!

From the Synod Office:

Lutherans Disaster Response Update: Maui Wildfires

Exacerbated by strong winds, wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. The Big Island of Hawaii has also been impacted by wildfires, and more islands remain vulnerable to additional fires this season.

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. We will work with them to provide for immediate needs and long-term recovery amid the widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying recovering communities in the years ahead. [You can give to support this work at here](#), or make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response. Write "U.S. Wildfires" on your check's memo line and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**



We will serve Necessities for Neighbors at Peace Lutheran Church. Many are needed to help at this event from 1:30-4:00. For the month of September, we are asked to collect 2000 large or mega rolls of toilet paper of distribution to our neighbors in need at this event in October. Sign-up to help is located on a clipboard in the fellowship area!

Attendance at a Glance

July 30	60	Aug 9	12
Aug 6	59	Aug 16	12
Aug 13	43	Aug 23	13
Aug 20	64	Aug 27	67

