

Cross CURRENTS

A monthly publication to keep you informed about the ministry of Living Water and the opportunities for you to grow your relationships with the Lord and each other.

Living by Faith

“In the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’” (Romans 1:17, NIV)

501 years ago, those words were part of the inspiration for a Roman Catholic monk named Martin Luther. They helped move him to post his 95 Theses for all in the German town of Wittenberg to read. 501 years ago, Luther hoped that those theses would spark a conversation in the Catholic Church – a conversation would that would get back to the biblical truths of how people are saved from sin. 501 years ago, on October 31, the Reformation was started with a few hammer strokes from Luther.

501 just doesn't have the ring that 500 does. Last year, we spent the month of October praising God for the work he did through Martin Luther. In 2017, we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation – a period of time during which men like Martin Luther



championed these four biblical truths: sola gratia (saved by grace alone), sola fide (as received through faith alone), sola Scriptura (as revealed by Scripture alone), solus Christus (on account of Christ alone). But while the 501st anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation doesn't quite have the same marketing ring, those four mottos should always have the same spiritual ring for us. Ponder with me some of those phrases in Romans 1:17.

In the gospel – The Bible is full of this gospel, that is, “good news.” In this sinful and dangerous world, we often don't hear that much good news. But we Christians know where we can always find the best news for body and soul. In the Bible we can find God's good news again and again and again. It will always be there.

A righteousness from God is revealed – What is that good news? You have a right relationship with God, and you didn't have to do a thing! And you'll never ever have to do a single thing either. It all comes from God who let you in on the secret of his good news when he shared his Word with you.

THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

P.3 Upcoming Events

P.4 Senior Moments & WinGS News

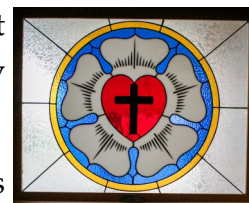
P.5 A Habit of Prayer Devotion

P.6 Prayers

A righteousness that is by faith – Again, you don't have to do a thing to be declared righteous before God! You simply receive it through faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior from sin. Jesus' perfect life and death earned righteousness for you, and his resurrection guarantees it. The Holy Spirit has firmly placed that perfection into your possession through faith. And now God the Father sees you as innocent in his sight!

This is the good news that moved Martin Luther to reform himself spiritually every day, to humbly stand his ground when an entire church told him to believe in human tradition above God's Word, and to reach out to others with the good news. 501 years ago, Martin Luther embodied the last phrase, "The righteous will live by faith."

That's what we do as individual Christians and as a congregation. You and I are motivated by the good news in Romans 1:17 that motivated Martin Luther. Now, we may live it in different ways than Luther, but we live it all the same. By faith, we seek to reform ourselves each and every day as we say no to sin and yes to our Savior. By faith, we dig into Scripture and reject any human thought, motto, or philosophy that puts itself above God's Word. By faith, we reach out to others with the good news we have come to know.



We'll live out our Christian faith as Luther taught it in two special ways this month as a congregation. First, on October 14, we'll have a Mission and Ministry Sunday on which we will, of course, hear the good news about Jesus. But we'll also see how the synod we belong to (the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) is sharing that good news with people around the world! Then, on October 27, we're hosting our Trunk or Treat Fest event. We'll be inviting people in the community to come onto our property so that we can hopefully build bridges with them. The goal is that we develop relationships with others and a chance to share the good news of Romans 1:17 with them, just as Martin Luther did with others 501 years ago.

This October, be proud that, as a Lutheran, you have benefited from the work God did through Martin Luther over five hundred years ago. More importantly this October, be overjoyed that through faith in Jesus as your Savior you have been given the righteousness that comes from God himself. This October, live out that faith as you reveal the gospel to others!

Living our Lutheran-Christian faith with you,

Pastor Aaron Voss

The Kids Connection

Thank you to all of you who provided feedback regarding showing the Kids Connection video during worship or Sunday School. The feedback that the Elders received was mixed.

We took this feedback, prayerfully sought the Lord's guidance, and chose to move the Kids

Connection video to Sunday School. One important point that we heard through all of the feedback was making sure there are specific ways to reach the children during worship. We will be approaching this topic in the months to come and keep the congregation updated on our discussions.



October 27 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far to help with our Trunk or Treat Fest! As part of a broader strategy to share the gospel with more people, we are excited to host this event so that we can start building bridges between us and the community. Would you like to help us do that?

You can volunteer in a variety of ways! You could help the day of, giving about three hours of your time to serve refreshments or help a child paint a pumpkin; check the sign up sheet at church for options. You could drop off candy that will be handed out from trunks. You could donate items listed on the lobby's bulletin board. You could invite some neighborhood children to stop by. You could even just show up, enjoy the fellowship yourself, and mingle with visitors.

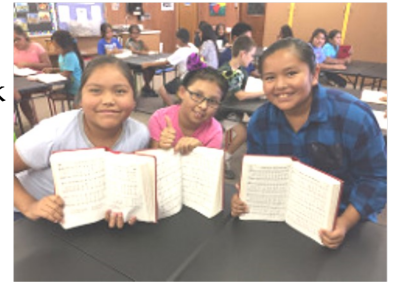
If nothing else, please pray that God blesses this event and all our outreach efforts!

Mission and Ministry Sunday

October 14

Did you know that the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, of which Living Water is a member, has been doing mission work among the Apache people for 125 years?

That mission work is just one of ministries Living Water's offerings help support, but



on October 14, we'll learn more about this specific ministry and Christian mission work as a whole. Pastor Tim Dolan, who serves as the chairman of the Native American Mission Administrative Committee, will preach and lead Bible study, sharing God's Word with us and connecting it to the work God is doing in the Southwest. A free will door offering will also be collected to help support this mission.

Mark your calendars for the special worship service and Bible class happening that day.

Shoreland Lutheran HS News



Live Stream

SLHS will now be live streaming chapel, sporting events, and much more. Click on the following link and subscribe to enjoy Shoreland's live stream at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_B0jDiTzcB1JSZS97PbvEw.

Dessert Concert

Enjoy an indulgent evening of music and food as Shoreland hosts a Dessert Concert on Wednesday October 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Coffee, lemonade and desserts will be provided along with performances from all of Shoreland's musical groups. Please join us for a casual and enjoyable evening and don't worry, we won't be counting calories either!



Mark your calendars!

October 5, 7:00 pm — WELS night at Wisconsin Lutheran College-Volleyball !! Come cheer on Jenilee who is the talented volleyball coach.

October 14, 11:30 am — Meeting following Bible study. Discussion will be on "gentle outreach" and November can drive for James Cares (Jesus Cares ministries)

October 21, after church — Elegant Farmer! Meet at church @ 10:15 . We'll visit their Smiling Barn Cafe, get some delicious apples and apple pie! Maybe a hay ride? We'll have to decide! Have children or grandchildren? Bring them along!

October 27, 12:00 start — volleyball tournament at Wisconsin Lutheran

Most Important! Do you need a ride to or from an event? Please let me know! Whether it's a meeting or a gathering event there is always someone who can help! We want all women to have the benefit of Christian Fellowship. If you need a ride, please contact Kathi Boziel at kboziel@gmail.com or 262-895-2038.

Advent by Candlelight

Advent by Candlelight is an evening of enjoying friendships and meditative worship in preparation for the Christmas celebrations. Ladies, this year's event will be held on Sunday, December 2. We hope to see you there!

We are also in need of hostesses. This includes decorating your table and bringing place settings (can be paper plates). Please contact Janeen Roska or sign up in the narthex.

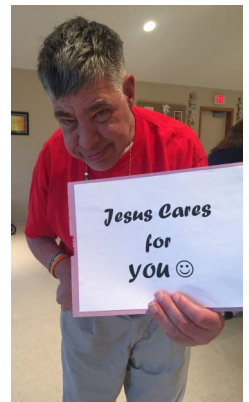


Our Planning Meeting was held on September 29th. After making plans for the coming year, we went to North Cape Lutheran Church for a fish boil. Watch the bulletin and next month's newsletter for a list of Senior Moments' upcoming activities. We're looking forward to another great year!

Jesus Cares

Jesus Cares began another year of ministry last month. Praise God for the blessings he has given through his Word through this ministry.

One of the individuals that was fed God's Word is Billy. Get to know him a little bit better here and pray that God would continue to grow his faith.



What do you like to do?

- Make crafts, and go to football games

What is your favorite activity at Jesus Cares?

- Arts and crafts

What have you learned at Jesus Cares?

- That Jesus loves us!

What has Jesus done for us?

- He cares for us.

The Power of Habit: Prayer TEEN DEVOTION

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. – James 5:16-18

Why we don't pray more? I can only speak for myself, but I sometimes don't pray more because I think I can get more done if I actually "do" it than if I pray about it first. I think that my thinking, my working, my worrying, and my planning are more powerful than actually praying about it.

When I write it down it sounds pretty foolish, doesn't it? But our lack of prayer says just that. Our lack of praying says to God that our activity and our working is more important than asking him to act and work and do.

James inspires us to believe that prayer is a powerful thing. He tells us that our prayers are powerful and effective. Our prayers matter. Our prayers change things. Our prayers make a difference.

If you believed that something was powerful, would you do it? Of course. If you thought something would make all the difference in the world, you would make sure it happened. If you thought something mattered, you would make time for it, intentionally, purposefully, regularly. That's what we do for things that make a difference and matter to us.

James gives an example of an effective prayer. He reminds us of the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 17 and 18. Elijah prayed that it would not rain—and it didn't rain. God withheld rain for three and a half years because of Elijah's prayer. Then Elijah prayed again that it would rain—and God sent rain.

Prayer works. Prayer matters. It is powerful and effective, not because of the person who is praying, but because the person praying invokes God's powerful name and humbly relies on God's gracious promises and saving will. The story of Elijah—and many other stories throughout the Bible—show us that this is true.

So pray. Make a habit of it. Your Father in heaven loves you. He has forgiven all your sins, and he now invites you to call on him in prayer. In his love for you, he hears your prayers and works powerfully for you and for the world.

Prayer: Lord God, you teach me that prayer is a powerful thing. In your grace, Father, you invite me to pray. Help me to understand how powerful prayer is so that I make it a part of the very fiber of my life. Yes, Lord Jesus, teach me to pray without stopping. Amen.

Teen Devotions are brought to you by WELS Commission on Youth and Family Ministry.

Prayer



Lord of the church, as we celebrate what you accomplished through Martin Luther and the Reformers, we give you thanks and praise for the four biblical truths that the Lutheran Reformation handed down to us: by grace alone, through faith alone, through Scripture alone, on account of Christ alone.

Pour out your grace on Living Water and all her members. Let your undeserved love comfort our guilty consciences and comfort our broken hearts. Fill our hearts with your grace so that we encourage and strengthen one another as a family of believers, especially those who are suffering emotionally or physically. Remind them that your love for them never changes and that the trials you let them go through will serve to strengthen them until they reach their heavenly goal.

Through Word and sacrament, strengthen the faith of all your believers that we trust completely in Jesus and what he has accomplished for us and for our salvation. Send your Holy Spirit to all those who are wavering in their faith, have doubts, or are drifting

from away from Word. Use us to help them in their struggles and bless our loving witness to them.

Bless also the study of your Scriptures which happens at Living Water: Bible class, Sunday school, Jesus Cares, and catechism class. Increase our knowledge of your Word so that we may better see your plan of salvation and be better equipped to teach it to others. Prosper our efforts to also share your Word with others who do not know the good news it reveals.

In everything we do as Christians and as a congregation, may we reflect the love Christ showed us through his perfect life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Motivate our hearts and actions with his love and cause that love to permeate everything we think, say, and do.

We pray through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Living Water STATISTICS AND NUMBERS

Year to Date Membership Changes	
Transfers In	20
Profession of Faith	1
Adult Confirmation	0
Transfers Out	0
Released	0
Baptism	0
Confirmation	1
Death	1
Net Gain/Loss	20

Membership Statistics	
285	Baptized
249	Communicants
116	Family Units
115	Average Weekend Attendance

Worship Attendance			
	Sun.	Mon.	Total
8/26	96	18	114
9/2	85		85
9/9	102	23	125
9/16	102		102
9/23	101	24	125

Offerings				
	General	Special	Education	Total
Total Given	\$ 171,585	\$ 15,255	\$ 823	\$ 187,663

Budget		
Year-to-Date Budget	General Offerings Given	Difference
\$ 171,730	\$ 171,585	(\$ 145)

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:15 am Children's Choir Practice 8:20 am Prayer Group 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School	5:15 pm Catechism Class 7:00 pm Worship with Communion 8:00 pm Elders Meeting	8:00 am Men's Breakfast	6:30 pm Handbell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:15 am Children's Choir Practice 8:20 am Prayer Group 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School	5:15 pm Catechism Class 7:00 pm Worship with Communion 8:00 pm Church Council Meeting	Pastors Conference through October 17	6:30 pm Handbell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice			9:00 am Fall Clean Up Day
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:15 am Children's Choir Practice 8:20 am Prayer Group 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School 11:30 am WinGS Meeting	5:15 pm Catechism Class 6:00 pm Jesus Cares 7:00 pm Worship 8:00 pm Church Council Meeting		6:30 pm Handbell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:15 am Children's Choir Practice 8:20 am Prayer Group 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School WinGS Outing to Elegant Farmer	5:15 pm Catechism Class 7:00 pm Worship with Communion		6:30 pm Handbell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice			1:00 pm—3:30 pm Trunk or Treat Fest
28	29	30	31			
8:20 am Prayer Group 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School	5:15 pm Catechism Class 7:00 pm Worship		6:30 pm Handbell Practice 7:30 pm Choir Practice			



6525 Milwaukee Avenue
Wind Lake, WI 53185

Worship Information

Sunday Worship Service - 9:00 AM
Sunday Education Time - 10:30 AM
Monday Worship Service - 7:00 PM

Contact Us

Pastor: Aaron Voss
Church Office: 262.895.3700
Pastor's Cell Phone: 262.330.3399
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Office: church@livingwaterlutheran.com
Website: www.LivingWaterLutheran.com

2018 Church Council

Here is a list of people to contact if you have any questions or suggestions regarding anything happening in our ministry. Also, if you send a single e-mail to council@livingwaterlutheran.com, it will reach all members of our Church Council.

John Wiederhold—President
Jim Mertz—Treasurer
Craig Scherbarth—Financial Sec.
Bob McGill—Secretary
Jeff Roska—Head Elder
Neil Hankwitz—Outreach
Gary Steffens—Trustee
Brian Haag—Education

Fall Clean Up Day

Mark your calendars for
Saturday, October 13.
We'll begin working at 9:00 am.

Rain date is Saturday, October 20.

