

Volume 20 Issue 9

September 2022



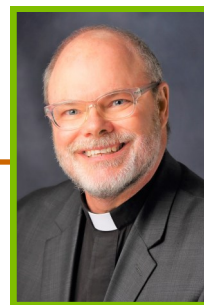
OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - WHITEHALL, WI

Messenger



Pastor Peter Jonas

"Be the One"



I recently saw a television show looking back on the Packers victory over the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XXXI (or 31 for non-Romans) in 1997. I was particularly struck with the pre-game speeches. Bill Parcells addressed the Patriots with the words, "Don't be the one to blow it." "Don't be the one to screw up with the game on the line."

Now I'm no football coach, but what a lousy speech! No wonder they lost. A speech like that would guarantee that the players would play with caution and fear as they carried the enormous burden of their coach's potential disapproval around with them. Listening to a speech like that would make you want to show up to the game and slink around trying not to be noticed.

Now to contrast light and darkness, Mike Homgren said this to the Packers before the big game: "All of you know your assignments. Every single one of you is important to the team, no matter what your role is. Be the one! Be the one to make the big play—make that block that springs somebody; make that catch or that tackle. Be the one!

After hearing a speech like that, who wouldn't want to play their best? Every football player on that team was valued. What use is a great quarterback if you don't have big-old offensive linemen to protect him? Touchdowns don't get you anywhere if you don't have people willing to sacrifice their bodies on special teams to hold back the other team.

The Bible says that everyone who confesses Jesus as Lord has been assigned a spiritual gift. If you are a Christian, God has given you a spiritual gift in your baptismal identity and it is your assignment to use that gift to build up the Church and witness to the glory of God. "To each has been given a manifestation of the spirit for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12:7)

Many people think of the church as the kind of team that only someone like Bill Parcells could lead. "Don't touch that, don't go there, don't move anything, don't change anything . . . Sadly the church can become the kind of place where all that's left to do is to show up and slink around so that nobody notices you.

The Bible describes a much different church. The bible describes a church where slinking around and hoping nobody notices you just won't cut it. The Bible describes a church where you are challenged to *be the one!*

Be the one that makes a difference. God has given you a spiritual gift your church needs. And God would not give you an assignment without also giving you the grace to fulfill it.

Peace

Pastor Peter

Sharing God's Love With All!

Our Saviour's Members in Nursing Homes

Pigeon Falls Nursing Care Center-P.O. Box 310-Pigeon Falls, WI 54760
Jeanette Gilbertson, Norman & Marian Miller

Assisted Living- Pigeon Falls - P.O. Box 310-Pigeon Falls, WI 54760
Richard Eide

Sunrise Manor - 36024 Park Street - Whitehall - 54773
Clinton Larson, & Ann Torrason

Tri-County Memorial - 18601 Lincoln Street - Whitehall - 54773
Lorraine Nehring & James Windjue

Grandview Nursing Home - 620 Grandview Avenue - Blair - 54616
Marilyn Speestra, Mavis Mitskogen & Donna Oates

Meadowbrook Care Center-1311 Tyler Street-Black River Falls - 54615
Fern Moe

The Classic - Eau Claire
Joanne (Selkurt) Martin

In Christian Sympathy

We pray for the family and friends who have lost loved ones especially ~

***Patricia Giebel - August 14th, 2022**

***Iva Marie Gabriel - August 24th, 2022**



Church News



"Stitches of Love/Quilters"



Our Saviour's quilting group will be resuming Tuesday, September 6th. Anyone that can iron, tie a knot, pin, measure or cut fabric (sewing is not necessary) is welcome to join the quilters on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from fall through to spring. Bring a snack, bring a friend, and come join the fun! Everyone is welcome! We do not meet in the summer months

Members in Service

≡ *September* ≡

Alter Guild: Mary Speerstra, Sharon Foss & Dawn Coburn

Alter Flowers: Barbara Johnson



Upcoming Events:

- *W-ELCA - Mystery Meal - September 1st***
- *Sunday School registration—September 11th***
- *Confirmation student and parent Orientation - September 14th***
- *Sunday School kick-off & picnic in the park - September 18th***
- *WELCA—Salad Luncheon - September 22nd***
- *Harvest Dinner - October 9th***

More Church News



Sunday School

Sunday School 2022 - 2023



Sunday School kick-off and registration will take place, Sunday, September 11th after worship.

Our Saviour's will host a Picnic and Bar-B-Que for all Sunday School and Confirmation students and their families at Melby Park on Sunday, September 18th.

Our first Sunday School Class will be on Sunday, September 25th after worship at 10:30 am for all age groups

Dear 7th and 8th Grade Parents and Students

Orientation

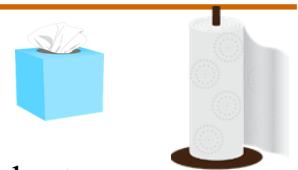
I will host an orientation for Grace and Our Saviour's 7th and 8th grade students and parents Wednesday September 14 at 6:00 pm in the Our Saviour's Fellowship Hall (church basement).

We will go through the schedule and expectations for the year and I will answer any questions you may have to the best of my ability. It is important that at least one parent from each family attends this orientation. I look forward to seeing you on the 14th.

Pastor Peter



Food Pantry Needs



The Whitehall Food Pantry still needs your help. We currently are very short on paper products, especially bathroom tissue. These are items we are not able to purchase from "Feed My People". Kwik Trip gift cards of \$10.00 for participants to purchase milk, eggs, bread, etc are very welcome as well. Donations can be left in the narthex of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church or dropped off at the church office Tuesday thru Thursday. Any and all donations are very appreciated by all those in need in our community.

Thank you for your generosity and God Bless!

More Church News



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Council Minutes - August 2, 2022

Members Present: Dave Anderson, Pastor Jonas, Marnie Anderson, Steve Lamberson, Ellen Hauser, Kris Dubiel, Kay Nelson, Jeff Sygulla, Clarice Laehn, Jacob Paulson and Lori Paulson.

Dave Anderson, council president called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Preparation:

1. Opening Devotions: Pastor Jonas shared a story of Abraham from the book Peculiar Treasures, followed by prayer.
2. Prayer Requests/Homebound: Prayers for Jody Peters, those in nursing homes and Kentucky flood victims.
3. Communication from Congregation:
 - a) Miscommunication amongst lectors. Emails are sent to lectors from the church office. Remind people to check their emails.
 - b) Discussion held regarding requests for hymn sings possibly on Sundays when Pastor Jonas is on vacation.
 - c) Need ideas for use of noisy offerings. One idea would be to sponsor a city flower planter next spring

Communication/Action:

1. **Secretary's Report:** Steve Lamberson made a motion to approve June's minutes with a second by Jeff Sygulla. Motion carried.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Steve Lamberson made a motion to approve treasurer's report with a second by Kay Nelson. Motion carried.
3. **Ministry Teams Updates:**
 - a) **WELCA:** Our Saviour's WELCA will be hosting Grace Lutheran for August meeting. On Thursday, September 22nd Our Saviour's WELCA will be sponsoring a salad luncheon. The guest speaker will be Mary Segerstrom from Eleva on "An Old Fashioned Ladies Aid".
 - b) **Harvest Dinner** on October 9th will be carry-outs only. Shifts will be the same as last year.
 - c) **Life & Growth:** A meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8th.
 - d) **Worship & Music:** Community choir is meeting on Wednesdays at 7p.m.
 - f) **Men's Brotherhood:** No report.
4. Sharing from Pastor: RUTH- Sleep in Heavenly Peace is in need of a president. They will not be allowed to function without one.

Celebration/Affirmation:

Council President Dave Anderson will be on vacation in September. Therefore, motion was made by Steve Lamberson to schedule next council meeting for October 4th at 6:30 p.m. with a second by Jeff Sygulla. Motion carried.

Kickoff for Sunday School and Confirmation students will be after worship on September 18th at Melby Park. There will be a barbecue & games, etc.

Beef & Dairy Days community church service will be at the Whitehall High School auditorium on August 21st at 10 a.m. Pastor Jonas will not be speaking. Ellen Hauser is organizing the choir. Will need help with mikes, lighting, etc. **** *continued on page 6*



More Church News

Church council minutes - continued from page 5



Business Items:

Motion made by Steve Lamberson with a second by Jeff Sygulla to leave the offering plate where it is rather than passing it around. Motion carried.

Adjournment and the Lord's Prayer:

Discussion was held regarding ways the church could reach out to people to ensure everyone feels welcome. A suggestion was made that the church could make a statement expressing this to the community. Youth activities and other activities in the community were also suggested. There will be more discussion at next council meeting and council will continue to talk about this issue.

Steve Lamberson made a motion to adjourn with a second by Kay Nelson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Paulson, Council Secretary

Please keep the following in your thoughts & prayers:



*Mary Harnisch Johnson

*Sherry Pabst

*Susan Solie

*Denise and Samantha Doerr

*Arline Stuve

*Sofia Adams

*Fay Olson

*Mavis Olson

*Dawn Coburn

*Ginny Clipper

*Donna Lindberg

Family and friends of Errol Doerr, Patricia Giebel and Iva Gabriel



More Church News

From the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin Mission Endowment Committee

Strengthening Ministry - Today, Tomorrow, Together

Matthew 13:32 : “It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

This passage beautifully illustrates an image of something so small growing into a vibrant network and support system. This, in many ways is symbolic of your Synod Endowment Fund. Since its planting in 2001, the Fund has continued to sprout new branches and has supported dozens of ministries by:

- Encouraging whole life stewardship, Strengthening and resourcing the ministry of the synod and Enhancing the ministry of the synod in addition to, and apart from, its yearly operating budget, with emphasis on, but not limited to:

- Strengthening congregational vitality

- Developing ministry for the next generation and

- Equipping and supporting new leaders through seminary debt assistance, training, and lay leader development

Since inception, the fund has grown to almost a half million dollars and has gifted over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. In the last five years, the Endowment Fund has made gifts to ministries totaling over \$200,000 with \$81,000 of that total given toward Seminary debt assistance.

This year alone, the Endowment Fund gifted over \$47,000 to various congregations and ministries with almost \$20,000 of that total going to Seminary debt assistance. As you can see, the Endowment Fund has been actively supporting ministries throughout the church by not only speaking of God's Love but putting that Love into action.

At this year's April Synod Assembly, the Endowment Fund launched a two-year campaign to raise awareness of the Endowment Fund and to grow the Fund so that the work of the church and its ministries can continue to be supported and enriched. The theme for this campaign is: **“Strengthening Ministry – Today, Tomorrow, Together”** with an emphasis on:

- equipping and supporting leaders (seminary debt assistance and training lay leaders)

- strengthening congregational vitality

- developing ministry for the next generation

The goal over the next two years is to increase the endowment fund by \$125,000 and to generate future commitments of an additional \$150,000. The Endowment Fund is committed today and into the future to assist and support churches, ministries, and seminarians with their ministry journeys. **Therefore, the Endowment Fund is asking for your partnership through a gift to help ministries of the church in their journey.** Gifts may be cash or an optional future financial commitment. Whether you have much to give or a small amount to share, leaving a gift through the **Today, Tomorrow, Together** campaign will have long lasting impact. Together we are responding to the story of God's generosity in the world.

The Endowment Fund is only able to do all this great work because of people just like you who chose to make a gift to the Synod Endowment Fund. Because of your generosity, incredible stories are unfolding, and lives are being touched. It is truly God's Work, Our Hands.

For more information or to make a gift, please contact the Synod Office or visit the Synod Website

at: <http://nswwi.org/giving>

The image in Matthew 13:32 gives us a promise of new growth, strength, and support. We know that the church in ten years will look far different than it does today. We know that we need to do more to support those changes within ministries and prepare church leaders for the future. Because of your generosity, the smallest of seeds can become the strongest of trees. Thank you for your continued support of the Northwest Synod Mission Endowment Fund.

More Church News



September Birthdays

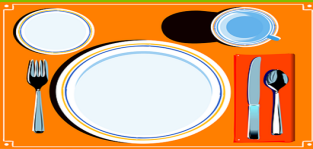
1 - Kurt Johnson, Jason Pronschinske
 2 - Kristina Laehn
 5 - Terry Brekke, Ellen Hauser, Audrey Holtan
 6 - Charles Kastad
 7 - Paula Hentges, Karen Witte
 8 - Brinley Utecht, Brooks Vitse
 9 - Emily Granlund
 10 - Lori Paulson
 11 - Kye Foss
 12 - Charlotte Beck, Curt Beck, Joanne Jacobson
 13 - Blake Herman, Debbie Larson, Sarah oraason
 15 - Scott Waldera
 16 - Brandon Foss, Jerry Leque Jr., Cassidy Przybilla
 17 - Bradley Ivers, Renee Radke
 18 - Brody Jenson, Eric Jordahl, Fern Moe
 19 - Tracy Warner
 20 - Sharon Engen, Ross Sygulla
 21 - Ellen Koxlien, Anita Semb, Aime Stendahl, Tyler Vitse
 22 - Bonnie Johnson, Cashton Kulig
 24 - Charles Gauger, Ella LaBar
 26 - Andrew Engen, Maddison Webster
 27 - Renee Hegge
 28 - Mark Johnson, Randi Lindberg,
 29 - Nancy Lyngen



DISBURSEMENT & GIVING RECEIPTS - AUGUST 1ST THRU AUGUST 26TH, 2022				
Disbursements:				
Administration	\$178.85			
Physical Plant	\$3,837.43			
Salaries & Benefits	\$10,522.50			
Benevolence				
Parish Expense	\$0.00			
Dues and Fees	\$0.00			
Total Disbursements =	\$14,538.78			
Giving Receipts				
Simply Giving Total =	\$3,326.30		General Fund Total =	\$3,484.61
On-Going Total =	\$0.00		Improvement Fund - Total =	\$115.00
August, 2022 Giving Grand Total =			\$6,925.91	



WELCA CORNER



Mystery Meal Trip

Grace & OSL Women-ELCA will be enjoying a Mystery Meal Trip on Thursday, September

1st. This is in place of our Bible Study Meeting. We will meet in the OSL parking lot at 11:30AM for our Mystery destination. We should be returning about 2 pm. Please contact Kay Nelson 715-983-5760 so we can make the correct reservations & plan for car pooling.

Salad Luncheon

Our Saviour's Lutheran W-ELCA is sponsoring a Salad Luncheon on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 12 noon.

It will be an **OLD-FASHIONED LADIES AID so wear a hat.** Our entertainment will be Mary Segerstrom of Mondovi. She will speak in the style of Church Basement Ladies.

Carry-outs will be available at 11:30 am through the back kitchen door off the parking lot. Reservations are not required, but would be appreciated. Call Kay Nelson - 715-983-5760 or church office 715-538-4334.



Our Saviour's Mission Kits:

Dear Friends;

There is still time to donate to help fill this years mission kits. Anything not used in this year's kits will be saved for next year or donated for local needs.

Please note, monetary donations to help offset shipping costs are always welcome.

Thank you and God Bless,

Marnie & Kay, WELCA Missions Coordinators

September 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<u>1</u> Pigeon Falls Nursing Home 10:30 am WELCA Mystery Meal	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am	<u>5</u> 	<u>6</u> Quilting 8:30 am	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Magnolia Giebel Baptism Sunday School Registration	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> Sunrise Manor- 1:30 pm	<u>14</u> Bible Study 9:30 am Confirmation Parent Oreintation-6:30 pm Friends of Whtl Public Library-Brat/burger fund raiser	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Alexis Girtman & Steve Kunich Wedding Renewal—Osseo
<u>18</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Picnic & Bar-B-Que for Sunday School & Confirmation students at Melby Park. All are welcome	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u> Quilting 8:30 am	<u>21</u> Bible Study Confirmation Class— 2:30 pm Grace Council-7:00pm	<u>22</u> WELCA—Salad Luncheon—12:00	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u> Sunday Worship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am	<u>26</u> Pastor out of office	<u>27</u> Pastor out of office	<u>28</u> Pastor out of office Food Pantry - 11:00 am to 1:00 pm	<u>29</u> Pastor out of office	<u>30</u>	



Dear Church Members,

Fall is here, which means it's time for our annual harvest dinner! **We will be doing carry out meals ONLY due to COVID.** Our Saviour's Lutheran Church's Harvest Dinner will be held Sunday, October 9, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Confirmation students and parents are asked to help with the carry outs & many other folks donate their time, talents & treasures for which we are very grateful. The money earned for our dinner goes into our GENERAL FUND. In the past we have earned \$6-7,000 so it is a successful project!

Each family is asked to contribute a minimum of **\$10**. This money will be used to buy supplies and food needed for the dinner. In lieu of asking some members to make a pan of bars, we are purchasing them from Lucy's Lunch Wagon. Please turn in your monetary donation by October **2nd**. Monetary donations can be dropped off, **labeled Harvest Dinner**, in the following ways:

- ✦ At the church office
- ✦ In the mail slot in the church secretary's door
- ✦ Placed in the offering plate during church
- ✦ At RCU in Whitehall

In addition, we are ASKING that **volunteers** from last year do the same job you did then. If you don't remember what you did, look online at the address below or check the lists posted in the narthex. If you can do this assignment again, please initial the list in the narthex. If you cannot do that job please contact the church office or a committee member. You and your family members can volunteer to help by:

- *Signing up online; this link is <https://tinyurl.com/3b6esa9c> or it can be found on Our Saviour's Lutheran Church's Facebook Page. The online lists are the same as last year. You may update it if you wish to change your assignment.
- *Contacting someone from the Harvest Dinner committee
- *Signing up on the volunteer sheets in the back of the church

Lastly, thank you for your help with church family fundraiser. The Harvest Dinner Committee has worked hard to make this event successful, but we can't do it without the support of the entire church. We hope your family will buy carry outs of our delicious Harvest Dinner!

Sincerely,

Harvest Dinner Committee:

Kay Nelson 715-983-5760

Paula Powell 715-538-4828

Mary Speerstra 715-538-2456

Dawn Peterson 715-538-2226

Kris Matchey 715-694-2379

Mike & Brenda Gilbertson

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
36197 Main Street
P.O. Box 455
Whitehall, WI 54773

Return Service
Requested

"Sharing God's Love With All"



Pastor: Peter Jonas

Pastor Email: pastoroslc@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday



Church Secretary: Sherry M. Pabst

Church Office: 715-538-4334

Church E-mail: osluthwh@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook at: [Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Whitehall, WI](#) and

[United in Faith Parish](#) and [OS Sunday-School](#) and [Sunday School - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Whitehall, WI](#)

Harvest Dinner Raffle



We will once again be having the Harvest Dinner Raffle, but in a different format than previous years. This year raffle prizes will be cash and gift cards. By doing so, we will be able to mail prizes to the lucky winners, without the need for us to deliver or the winners to pick them up in the church office. We feel that this is a way to hold the raffle, but safely.

We will not be soliciting donations from business owners as we have in the past. Many of them have been impacted financially with Covid-19 and we do not believe that it is the time to ask them for a donation. We instead encourage you to purchase and donate a gift card from a local business, if you are able. In this way you are supporting our local business community and the church at the same time.

Gift cards may be left in an envelope with your name and placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. You may also contact one of us and we will be happy to arrange for pickup.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to one of us. Thank you for your support! Barb Mathson (75-533-3057) and Karen Witte (715-299-1060).