



# Blessings and Musings

## The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

### JUNE, 2023

**Pastor:**  
Kal Rissman  
765-754-7381

**Church Council  
President:**  
Tina Gilman

**Vice President:**  
David Shears

**Secretary:**  
Bethany Bennett

**Treasurer:**

**Other Members:**  
Andrea Barnett  
Donna Key-Kerr  
Marilyn Pierce  
Stephanie Salazar  
Dick Zarse  
Kim Zarse

**Organist:**  
Marilyn Pierce

**Church Secretary:**  
Marilyn Pierce  
765-717-2992  
9 AM - Noon  
Mon. Tues. Wed.  
Thurs. and Fri.

**Office Phone:**  
765-724-3671

**Email Address:**  
pastorkal 2015  
@gmail.com

**Sunday School:**  
9:30 A.M.

**Worship:**  
10:30 A.M.

**Printing:**  
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The Zarse Family

#### From the Pastor:

Every spring before the cows arrive to be turned out on my pasture, I have to walk the fence line to make sure the fence is still intact. This has become a much bigger task over the past few years ever since the Emerald Ash borer arrived here and killed all the Ash trees. Now these dead trees have become brittle and some crack and fall down right on the fence. This year I had 5 different spots where the fence was smashed down by fallen trees.

Another complicating factor is that many trees have fallen into Lilly creek that runs through my property and there are huge log jams up and down the stream. Now when we get a big rain, I can always expect that the creek is going to back up and flood my front pasture until the whole thing is underwater. I talked to the County Surveyor and they said that sometime this summer they would come with equipment to clean out some of these log jams, so that might help.

One of these log jams floated down and ripped out the hanging gate that used to prevent the cows from walking down the creek and into the neighbor's property. There really needs to be some kind of barrier there over the creek, because you just can't count on a cow's good nature to stay where you want her to without a clear boundary.

Water is powerful, whether it is a creek, a pond, a lake or the ocean. It is beautiful and it is dangerous. It is life-giving and life-taking. It is soothing and it is irritating. It is calming and it is unnerving.

In Scripture, water is described in all of these both positive and negative terms. Water was important in a desert country, but the deep waters are also a symbol of chaos in the Old Testament.

Jesus talked about "living waters" which meant that the spirit of God was within a person and they had a good relationship with the Lord and then things flowed smoothly. Jesus description sounds like a nice stream with no log jams.

As Christians we all have this living water in us, but unfortunately, sometimes things get jammed up. We may be jammed by resentments to others that have piled up. We may be blocked by perfectionism that keeps us from trying anything new. The flow may be interrupted by guilt over things we have done wrong or by the shame of the wrongs that others have done to us. There could be a stack of false pride that keeps us from admitting our mistakes and learning from them.

Whatever jams up the flow of our living waters can leave us flooded and overwhelmed and drowning. Hopefully, we can do some work this year and remove the blockages that stop the flow and then we can go with the flow!

# TREASURER'S REPORT

ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.  
BOOKKEEPING & TAX SERVICE

April 2023

Income for April  
\$ 12,161.00  
Income Year to Date  
\$ 42,151.25  
Expenses for April  
\$ 9,938.42  
Expenses Year to Date  
\$ 44,340.24  
Net Income for April  
\$ 2,222.63  
Loss Year to Date  
\$ -2,188.79

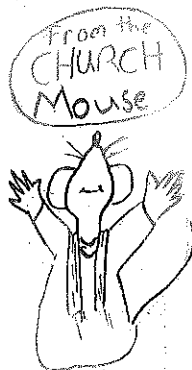
Kal to the shared ministry of Our Blessed Savior and St. John. Of course, the greater attraction for us was the bigger dinner downstairs, which meant more crumbs for us to eat!

However, in between snacks we did hear a lot of interesting conversation from the members of the two churches. The combined choir has been especially inspiring lately on Easter and at the installation. The combined Bible Study on Fridays at St. John has been really interesting. There is talk about a combined confirmation class. One member said that we probably should have been having this cooperation all along, but it would be easier now to support one another's ministries.

Pastor Kal was pleased that the two churches now have a future, because neither one could afford a pastor by themselves, but the combined budget will make an attractive position for the next pastor. His exact words were "when I drop over dead the shared ministry will be well positioned to call the next minister. This could be any time, because I have been haggling with the Lord about the early check-out plan.

All in all, everyone seemed excited and there was even talk of more combined dinners, so we are excited too, because this means more crumbs!

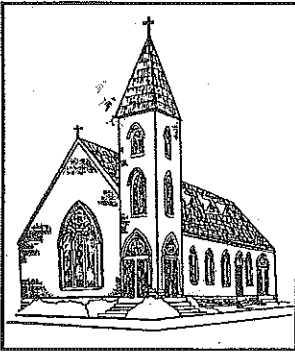
Squeaky,  
The Lutheran Church Mouse



We five little church mice were very excited and pleased with the big crowd in church for the installation of Pastor

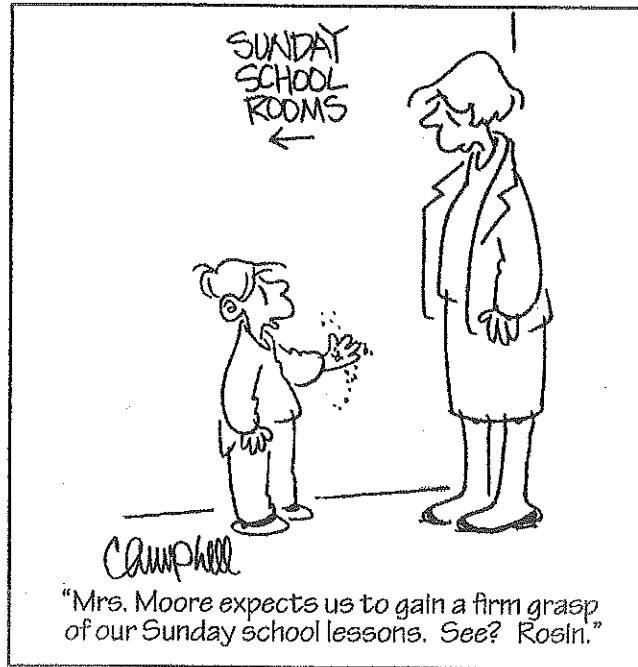
# JUNE 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9:30 am S.S.& B.C. 10:30 am Worship	5 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	6 9:00 am Office	7 9:00 am Office 4:30pm Warehouse	8 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	9 9:00 am Office	10 10:00am Warehouse shopping only
11 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	12 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	13 9:00 am Office	14 9:00 am Office 4:30pm Warehouse 6:00pm Church	15 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	16 9:00 am Office	17
18 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	19 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	20 9:00 am Office	21 9:00 am Office 4:30pm Warehouse	22 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	23 9:00 am Office	24 10:00 am Warehouse shopping only
25 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	26 9:00 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry	27 9:00 am Office	28 9:00 am Office 4:30pm Warehouse	29 9:00am Office 9:30-10:50am Pete's Pantry	30 9:00am Office	



**Lutheran Church  
of Our Blessed Savior**  
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PO Box 206  
Alexandria, IN 46001

**Church Office**  
765-724-3671  
**Pastor Kal Rissman**  
**Home: 765-754-7381**



## JUNE PARTICIPANTS



### ORGANIST

4 Marilyn Pierce  
11 Marilyn Pierce  
18 Marilyn Pierce  
25 Marilyn Pierce

### SOUND EQUIPMENT

4 David Shears  
11 David Shears  
18 David Shears  
25 David Shears

### LECTORS

Dr. Herb Berner  
Carol Shears  
Becca Key-Kerr  
Becca Key-Kerr

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

Emily Closser  
Andrea Barnett  
Shon Littlefield  
Michael Thompson

### ALTAR GUILD

Judy Stevens  
Amy McNally  
Jarid Frix

### DEACONS

George Bennett  
Tina Gilman  
Becky Howard  
Donna Key-Kerr