



Blessings and Musings

The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

OCTOBER, 2023

Pastor:
Kal Rissman
765-754-7381

**Church Council
President:**
David Shears

Vice President:
Shon Littlefield

Secretary:
Carol Shears

Treasurer:
Helen Gregory
Accountability

Other Members:
Andrea Barnett
Becky Howard
Donna Key-Kerr
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:

Southwest Airlines has a commercial on television that shows a hectic life and ends with the tag line, "Need to get away?" This would be a very fitting sentiment for Jesus as He is described in our past two Gospel lessons. Jesus is devastated because His front man, the great prophet, John the Baptizer has just been beheaded and Jesus definitely needs to get away and be by Himself to grieve and pray and meditate. However, the crowds will not let him rest and he ends up feeding 5,000 people. Then he tries to get away again and he has to rescue the disciples from the storm and walk on the water to save them.

Jesus has a serious case of compassion fatigue. I remember that at the hospital there used to be a big poster on the board that warned about "compassion fatigue" in health care workers. It noted that when we take care of other people and empathize with them and give of ourselves until we feel that we have nothing left to give; that is compassion fatigue. That is what Jesus had and He needed some time to get away, be by Himself, grieve and think.

It strikes me that we may be having some compassion fatigue of our own in the congregations. There are folks who are in nursing homes and folks who are shut-ins who need a lot of care now and some of the caregivers may be getting weary. Worry, care and grieving all take their toll after a while.

At Our Blessed Savior this notion of compassion fatigue is particularly apt, because we have had 4 funerals in about 5 weeks and it is becoming a burden that we all feel. Family members have been running back and forth to the hospital and planning funerals and crying and talking to each other. The women have had several funeral dinners to prepare and although they do it very willingly, it still is a bit of a strain after several weeks in a row. Not only that, but we have at least one or two more members who are not doing well and may be the next funeral in the very near future.

I must confess that I have felt some of this fatigue myself. The members who have died recently have all been faithful members that I knew pretty well and it takes more out of me to do a funeral service for folks that I knew and loved than for strangers. When I look out at those front rows with the family members grieving and the grandchildren looking up at me with big tears in their eyes it seems to drain energy from me.

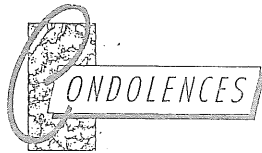
The Lord has promised that He would not give us more than we can bear, but sometimes I wish He wouldn't trust us so much. We could use a break, Lord.

TREASURER'S REPORT

ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.
BOOKKEEPING & TAX SERVICE

August 2023

Income for August
\$ 9,552.55
Income Year to Date
\$ 87,933.90
Expenses for August
\$ 12,141.43
Expenses Year to Date
\$ 84,404.75
Net Income for August
\$ -2,588.82
Net Year to Date
\$ 3,529.56



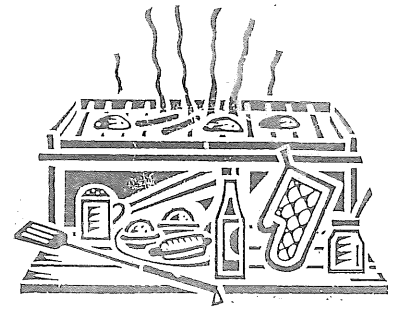
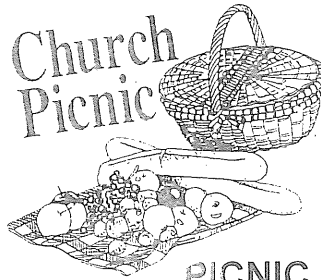
DEATHS

WILLODENE HERRICK
DIED: AUGUST 30, 2023
SERVICE: SEPTEMBER 9, 20



HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Ralph Grose and Reanelle Heritage.
The Social Ministries Committee
sends cards each month to Nursing
home members and those who are
sick. If you know of anyone that is
sick please contact Marilyn in the
church office or Becky Howard ,
Deacon of Social Ministries



PICNIC AT THE PONDEROSA

On Sunday, October 1st we will
have the joint worship service at
Pastor Kal and Deborah's home,
located at 2478 W. 1300 North,
Alexandria, In. 46001.

Sunday School will start at
9:30am on the porch, followed by
worship at 10:30 am in the barn.
Special music will be provided by
Eddie Slaven and the Mountain
Laurel Band.

Join us rain or shine for
fellowship, fabuulous food and fun.
Bring a dish to pass, a drink and a
folding chair. Meat will be provided.



PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

Put this on your calendar! Nov.12,
2023, Bowling for the Christmas toy
fund raiser for our community to be held
at Norwood Bowl. Last year we had 18
of our members participate by bowling
or just sitting, watching and laughing.
Lots of food, drinks, raffles and fun
times! Let's see if we can increase
our numbers this year! Contact
Donna Key for additional information.



THANK YOU
TO MEMBERS WHO DO
EXTRA THINGS AROUND THE
CHURCH

Special thanks to Becky Howard for always making beautiful flower arrangements for the altar flowers. Her time and creativity is greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to George Bennett for always staying back and making sure the doors get locked after the service begins. He selflessly sacrifices sharing in the 1st part of the service to keep us all safe. His commitment does not go unnoticed .



From
Squeaky

We five Lutheran Church mice are really busy. We start to take a nap and we hear someone coming into the church, Marilyn is gone by this time so we have to see who is coming into the church. We wait to take our nap until Marilyn has had her organ practice done. The Pete's Pantry is another very busy place. All the different volunteers that come and go with Donna Key-Kerr who is over the Pantry. She puts in a lot of hours buying food,

ordering food, computer work for the pantry. Debbie Rissman and Marilyn Pierce are co-directors of Heaven's Warehouse. This keeps them both out of trouble. Debbie is over the volunteers on Wednesday nights and Marilyn is over the Saturday volunteers on Saturday. Dick Zarse comes most every day to see if we are having any troubles any where. All the people who work on the Funeral dinners , either making food or working in the kitchen. We all work hard but have good fellowship.



ANNOUNCING...

NEW ANNOUNCEMENT

We are no longer going to collect steel cans or aluminum cans. It just doesn't pay enough any more to come over from Muncie and then have to go back with gas prices so high. We have a recycle place two blocks away from the church.

The secret of the bended knee

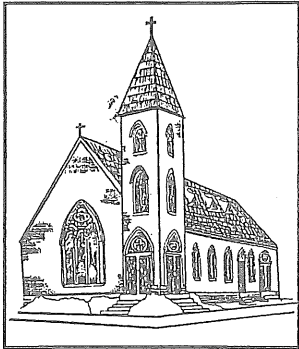
Have you ever watched a bird sleeping on its perch and never falling off? The secret is the tendons of the bird's legs. They are so constructed that when the leg is bent at the knee, the claws contract and grip like a steel trap. The bended knee gives the bird the ability to hold on to his perch so tightly.

Isn't this also the secret of the holding power of the Christian? When Daniel was surrounded by a pagan environment, tempted to compromise with evil, urged to weaken his grip on God, he refused to let go. He held firm when others faltered because he was a man of prayer. He knew the power of the bended knee.

—Gate City United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30am S. S 10:30am Worship. Picnic after service	2 9am Office 9:30am Pantry	3 9 am	4 9am Off 4:30pm Warehouse open	5 9am Office 9:30-10:50 am 7pm Choir	6 9am Office 1pm Bible Study Elwood	7
2 9:30am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	3 9am Office 9:30am Pantry	4 9am Office	5 9:am Office 4:30pm Warehouse open	6 9am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry 7pm Choir	7 9:am Office 1:pm Bible Study St. John Elwood	8 10:00- 12:00pm Warehouse Open for shopping
9 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	10 9 am Office 9:30 am Pantry	11 9:am Office	12 9am Office 4:30pm Warehouse open 6:00pm Church Council	13 9am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry 7pm Choir	14 9 am Office 1:00 pm Bible Study St. John Elwood	15
15 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	16 9am Office 9:30am Pantry	17 9 am Office	18 9am Office 4:30pm Warehouse Open	19 9am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry 7pm Choir	20 9:00 am Office 1:00 pm Bible Study St. John	21 10:00- 12:00pm Warehouse Open for shopping
22 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship	23 9:am Office 9:30am Pantry	24 9:am Office	25 9am Office 4:30pm open Warehouse	26 9 am Office 9:30-10:50 am Pete's Pantry 7pm Choir	27 9am Office 1pm Bible Study Elwood	28
29 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 Worship	30 9am Office 9:30am Pantry	31 9am Office				



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

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



October Participants



ORGANIST

1 Marilyn Pierce
8 Marilyn Pierce
15 Marilyn Pierce
22 Marilyn Pierce
29 Marilyn Pierce

SOUND EQUIPMENT

1 David Shears
8 David Shears
15 David Shears
22 David Shears
29 David Shears

LECTORS

Becca Key-Kerr
Carol Shears
Tina Gilman
Bonnie Haas
Dr. Herb Berner

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Shon Littlefield
Peggy Cox
Dick Zarse
Emily Closser
Andrea Barnett

ALTAR GUILD

Bonnie Haas
Tammy DiRuzza

DEACONS

Donna Key-Kerr
Tina Gilman
Becky Howard
George Bennett
Tammy DiRuzza