



Blessings and Musings

The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

DECEMBER, 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.

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Sunday School:
9:30 A.M.

Worship:
10:30 A.M.

Printing:
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The Zarse Family

From the Pastor:

We have a refrigerator at our house that dispenses ice and water out of the door. It is a handy thing to have, but I don't get too enamored of it, because I oftentimes just drink water right out of the tap and grab ice cubes by hand out of the freezer. However, my wife, Deborah thinks that this is the greatest thing since canned milk and she is forever clunking out a few chips of ice and squirting some filtered water out of the refrigerator door. But then came the dreaded day when the water dispenser quit dispensing!

Deborah was very upset with this situation and said that we had to get somebody to do something about it right away. I thought we could probably live without it, but that's just me. In order to keep peace in the family I called my go-to guy for all things mechanical, Jerry Bogue.

When Jerry showed up, he went over to the refrigerator and laid hands on it and pressed the water button and lo and behold, water came flowing out of it! Jerry claimed that he didn't have any special powers and that it was just a fluke that the thing started working, but I know different, because I had laid my hands on it and it had done nothing. Jerry has the gift and you cannot tell me otherwise. Now it seems to be working fine after several weeks. Jerry also can lay hands on sinks, toilets and log splitters.

It dawned on me that I had heard this story before somewhere and it took me a minute to recall where I had heard it. Then it hit me that this refrigerator situation was just like Moses and the children of Israel wandering in the desert as described in Exodus, chapter 17. The people were, like Deborah, complaining bitterly because they had no water and they thought that Moses had just dragged them out into the desert to kill them with thirst. Moses reached out to his own go-to guy, the Lord, and the Lord told him to strike the rock with his staff and he would have water. Sure enough, water came flowing right out of the rock!

I now regard Jerry as my modern day Moses. He saved me from the bitter complaining from the thirsty. I believe I should refer to him as "The Mechanical Moses". Jerry can fix anything and I appreciate him very much, because I am not that good at fixing things. I like to run machinery, but I do not like to fix machinery. I like to use the tractor, but I don't want to lay under it and try to fix it. I just want stuff to run and not be bothered with it. Jerry seems to find broken stuff as an interesting puzzle that he will have joy in solving. I view these same things as irritating and annoying and I feel impotent to make them behave like they should and work.

One thing that I have discovered over the years that has stood me in good stead is that not only are there people who are different, but they have different skills and interests from me. What that means is that there are people out there who actually enjoy doing some of the things that I hate. There are people who really like to cook, clean floors, drive all day and fix things. On the other hand, there are things that I don't mind doing that some others just hate. For example, I talked to a woman not too long ago that said that if she ever had to stand up in front of people and talk that she would just die. That seems odd to me, because that doesn't bother me at all.

The trick is to listen carefully to folks and find out the things that you would consider difficult and distasteful, but that they find enjoyable and then let them do those things for you! There is no sense in depriving these folks from the opportunity to do stuff that they like, but that you hate! That doesn't mean that it is a one way street, because you can do some of the things for them that they don't enjoy also.

The Christian Church is often referred to by St. Paul as the body of Christ. He goes on to say that not all parts of the body have the same function, but all of the parts are important. We all have different skills, talents and preferences, but if we put all of us together, we make a good functioning body. So let the hand do hand things and the foot do foot things and the eye do eye things and so on. We can do the things we enjoy and others can do what they enjoy and the body functions properly. Thanks for the diversity, Lord.



MERRY

CHRISTMAS

AND A

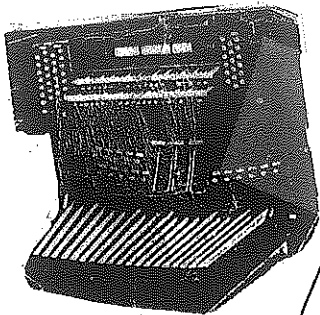
HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE

CHURCH STAFF



Bible Study

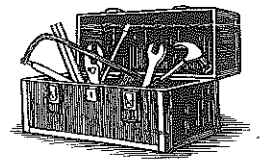
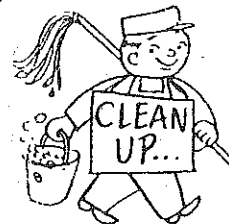


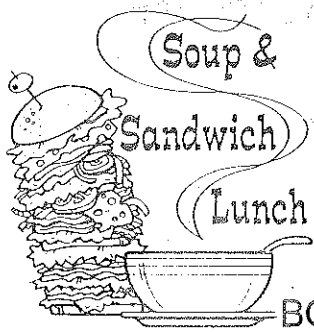
Monty Jean Pierce



Pastor Kal Truman

Amy McRally





BOWL OF CARING

The Souper Bowl of Caring will be on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11th. The youth will be providing information in their skit and there will be a pitch-in soup and sandwich dinner after the service.

Council News

CONGREGATION MEETING

There will be a congregational meeting on December 10th immediately following the service. Please plan to attend this important meeting, because we will be adopting a budget for 2024 and reviewing our accounting system to see if we can make it simpler and more understandable.



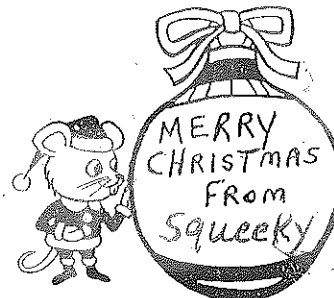
HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Ralph Grose, Roselynn Brown, Barrett Key, and Gary Howerton Sr. 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.

TREASURER'S REPORT

ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.
BOOKKEEPING & TAX SERVICE
October 2023

Income for October
\$ 13,676.00
Income Year to Date
\$ 108,528.90
Expenses for October
\$ 7471.71
Expenses Year to Date
\$ 102,834.05
Net Income for October
\$ 6,204.35
Net Year to Date
\$ 5,695.36

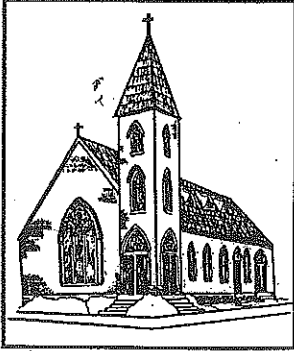


We five little Lutheran Church mice want to tell you HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY. We five mice have so many things to thank our Lord for, plus all the food at the Closser Dinner. We can hardly wait.

**FROM SQUEEKY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH MOUSE**

DECEMBER 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 3 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship | 4 9:00am Office 9:30 am Pantry | 5. 9:00 am Office | 6 9 am Office 4:30pm Warehouse open donations | 7 9:00 am Office 9:30am Pantry 7 pm Choir Alexandria | 8 9:00 am Office 1:00pm Bible Study St. John Elwood | 9 10:00 am Warehouse open shopping only |
| 10 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 worship. Congregational Meeting | 11 9:00 am Office 9:30 am Pantry | 12 9:00 am Office | 13 9:00 am Office 4:30pm Warehouse open donations | 14 9:00 am Office 9:30 am Pantry 7 pm Choir | 15 9:00 am Office 1:00 pm Bible Study St. John Elwood | 16 |
| 17 9:30 am S.S. & B.C. 10:30 am Worship | 18 9:00 am Office 9:30 am Pantry | 19 9:00 am Office | 20 4:30pm Warehouse Open 6pm council | 21 9:00 am Office 9:30 am Pantry 7 pm Choir | 22 9:00 am Office 1:00 pm Bible Study St. John Elwood | 23 10:00 am Warehouse Open Shopping only |
| 24 No Service in Morning. 6:00 pm Worship | 25 Office and Pantry closed for Christmas Day | 26 9:00 am Office | 27 9:00am Office | 28 9:00 am Office 9:30 am Pantry 7 pm Choir | 29 9:00am Office 1:00 pm Bible Study Elwood | 30 |
| 31 9:30am S.S. & B.C. 10:30am Worship. | | | | | | |



**Lutheran Church
of Our Blessed Savior**
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Alexandria, IN 46001

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



DECEMBER PARTICIPANTS



ORGANIST

3 Marilyn Pierce
10 Marilyn Pierce
17 Marilyn Pierce
24 Marilyn Pierce
31 Marilyn Pierce

LECTORS

Audrey Salazar
Stephanie Salazar
Carol Shears
Becca Key-Kerr
Dr. Herb Berner

ALTAR GUILD

Linda Howerton
Amy McNally
Jarid Frix

SOUND EQUIPMENT

53 David Shears
10 David Shears
17 David Shears
24 David Shears
31 David Shears

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Andrea Barnett
Dick Zarse
Shon Littlefield
Shon Littlefield
Emily Closser

DEACONS

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