

St. John's Journal

Volume 50, Issue 9

LUTHERAN DISTINCTIVES

IV. Lutherans believe that the Bible alone is the final authority for Christian teaching. Part 2

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Lutherans accept as authoritative other writings that are in complete agreement with the Bible, such as the three ecumenical Creeds and the official Lutheran Confessions. We accept their authority precisely *because* we recognize them to be in full harmony with the Holy Scriptures. We regard these writings as authoritative in a secondary or derived way, as subject to the Word of God. We acknowledge these writings as “normed norms,” distinct from the Bible, which is the “norming norm,” that is, the supreme norm or standard by which all other norms or standards are judged.

God demands and expects all Christian preaching and teaching to conform strictly to His Word. He says through the prophet Jeremiah, “He who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully.” *Jeremiah 23:28* The apostle Paul instructed his assistant Timothy, “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me.” *2 Timothy 1:13* He likewise wrote to Titus that a bishop (pastor) must “hold fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convince those who contradict.” *Titus 1:9* In the same way, Peter wrote, “If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God.” *1 Peter 4:11*

With these commands of God consciously in mind, we Lutherans have carefully examined certain confessions of the Christian faith, and having found them to be in full agreement with the Bible, have accepted them as authorities for teaching in the church. These confessions are the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed, as well as the documents contained in our Book of Concord, namely, the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology (Defense) of the Augsburg Confession, Luther's Small Catechism, Luther's Large Catechism, the Smalcald Articles, the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope, and the Formula of Concord.

We state our belief on this matter in the Formula of Concord itself. Here we confess “that the Word of God is and should remain the sole rule and norm of all doctrine, and that no human being's writings dare be put on a par with it, but that everything must be subjected to it. This, of course, does not mean that other good, useful, and pure books, such as interpretations of the Holy Scriptures, refutations of errors, and expositions of doctrinal articles, should be rejected. If they are in accord with the aforementioned pattern of doctrine they are to be accepted and used as helpful expositions and explanations. Our intention was only to have a single, universally accepted, certain and common form of doctrine which all our Evangelical (Lutheran) churches subscribe, and from which and according to which, *because it is drawn from the Word of God*, all other writings are to be approved and accepted, judged and regulated.” *Formula of Concord, Rule and Norm: 9-10*

So we thank God for the Holy Scriptures above all, but also for these other faithful confessions of the church, which are drawn from the Scriptures. Because they all reliably declare the truth of God, we accept them with gratitude, and see in them His saving grace in Jesus Christ.

- Pastor Bishop

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Christian Education
Sunday School

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL
PERFECT ATTENDANCE

June, 2024

None

July, 2024
Third/Fifth Grades
Aiden Harms



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 3

Jodi Schmick

Sept 4

Ellen Hill
Thomas Theleritis

Sept 5

Leslie Weyhrich

Sept 6

Katie Gaitros
Roberta Hudson
Michael Mauer
Ashley Schmidgall
Maesyn Theleritis
Robert Williamson III

Sept 7

Mitchell Hansen
Hazel Nichols (*Happy 103rd Birthday*)

Sept 8

Mary Ashbaker
Christa Wilson

Sept 9

Lori Svendsen
Ian Terrell

Sept 10

Joseph Bonnette
Quest Dobbelaire
JoAnne Ferree
Jenna Tassart
Keisha Williamson

Sept 11

Scott Hall
Keturah Harley
Tanya Rahn

Sept 12

Bradley Hoover
Joseph Schiavone

Sept 13

Kevin McCammon
Leslie Norman

Sept 14

Cody Wilson

Sept 16

Peggy Patten
Robert Watson

Sept 17

Jaylah Dalton
Erin Theleritis
Kethry Whitlatch

Sept 18

Zachary Webb

Sept 19

Althea Geiser
Wallace Hammond
Brian Lundeen

Sept 21

Quinn Theleritis
Tyson Winstead

Sept 22

Kathryn Emery

Sept 23

Debra Dant
Ashley Jones
Olivia Oliverius

Sept 24

David Kesselmayer

Sept 25

Gabrielle Dagit
Laura Dagit

Sept 27

Tonya Burris
Chad Swibold

Sept 29

Adam Bollinger
Ella Friedinger
Shelby Reese

Sept 30

Luke Morgan
Brenda Sayles



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 4

Patrick & Melissa Flatley

Sept 5

Rick & Kay Aulenbach
John & Christine Neumann

Sept 6

James & Tracy Glass

Sept 7

Eric & Michelle Dupent

Sept 9

Daniel & Kathryn Heisel
Michael & Shannon Lines

Sept 11

William & Mary Ashbaker

Sept 15

Douglas & Melanie Tiona

Sept 25

Daniel & Laura Dobbelaire



Parish Notes



Church Attendance

June 2024 **500** 15 services
 June 2023 **432** 12 services
 June 2022 **458** 12 services

July 2024 **431** 12 services
 July 2023 **562** 15 services
 July 2022 **513** 15 services

Y-T-D Sunday School Attendance

June 2024 **754**
 June 2023 **804**
 June 2022 **742**

July 2024 **884**
 July 2023 **943**
 July 2022 **889**

Videographers

Lexi & Lilly Daniels

Worship Chairman

Vince Tennell

Ushers

8:00

Ray Barnes
 Dave Kesselmayr
 Garret Kesselmayr

10:30

Andrew Knussman
 Brian Lundeen

ACOLYTES SCHEDULE

9/1 8:00 Kenna Donovan
 9/8 10:30 Silas Gould
 9/15 10:30 Kenna Donovan
 9/22 8:00 Silas Gould
 9/29 8:00 Kenna Donovan

ELDERS COMMUNION ASSISTANCE

9/1 8:00 Randy Couch
 10:30 Ross Gould
 9/15 8:00 Ross Gould
 10:30 Brian Ford
 9/29 8:00 Randy Couch
 10:30 Jon Bolt

My deepest apologies to John & Christine Newman. I inadvertently left them out of the new directory.

Their address is 709 Washington St.
 Phone: 346-1922.

Again, my apologies. Sandy

ST. JOHN'S received the City of Pekin Bright Spot award for the month of July. Thank you to all who work on keeping our grounds beautiful.

Camp CILCA -- You are invited to Camp CILCA's **26th Annual Chicken Dinner and Auction on September 1, 2024**. The meal is served 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Meals are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children 4-12. The menu includes grilled chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, roll, homemade desserts, and drinks. The live auction begins at 12:30. The Trading Post and beach will be open in the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

resumes Sept. 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the basement classroom. We will continue our reading and discussion of 1 Peter, beginning at Chapter 5. Everyone is welcome, and you can easily join in, even if you missed out on the first chapters of the epistle.

MUSIC FOR MISSIONS is a sacred music concert and hymn sing in support of Christo Rey (Christ the King) Lutheran Church, East Moline.

The event is scheduled for Sunday, October 13, 2024, 2:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 711 Court St., Pekin.

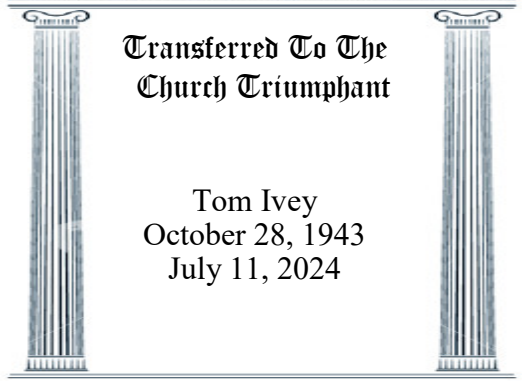
Music for Missions will feature guest organist Samuel Bishop, vocalists Allison Harley and Jennifer Rosa, the Bells of St. John's, St. John's Sanctuary Choir, and ample congregational singing.

A free will offering will be gathered to support Christo Rey Lutheran Church, a mission congregation of the Central Illinois District, LC-MS.

Refreshments will be served following the program. Everyone is welcome!

Parents of College Students

Parents, we would like to receive the names of your college student(s), name of college or university he or she is attending and their mailing address at school. We would like to send them our monthly Journal. You can call the office 347-2136 or send email to stjohn-sec@grics.net. Thank you.



TREASURER'S REPORT—JUNE, 2024



TREASURER'S REPORT—JULY, 2024

	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
INCOME	26,739.41	169,165.30
EXPENSES	<u>30,247.04</u>	<u>193,231.77</u>
INCOME-EXPENSES	<u>\$ (3,507.63)</u>	<u>\$(24,066.47)</u>
<u>General Fund Accounts</u>		
General Fund		(10,621.66)
General Fund Total		(10,621.66)
<u>Educational Fund Accounts</u>		
Educational Grant Fund Checking		1,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21		51,863.96
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22		51,835.93
Educational Grant Fund #2-Vanguard		<u>63,386.88</u>
Educational Fund Total		169,035.33
<u>East Bluff Property</u>		
East Bluff Property—Vanguard		38,590.70
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21		53,741.35
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22		53,770.40
Cat Stock at FMV		<u>122,914.97</u>
East Bluff Property		269,017.42
<u>Memorial</u>		
Memorial Fund Checking		32,247.12
Memorial Vanguard		<u>94,871.16</u>
Memorial Fund Total		127,118.28
Building Fund Checking		32,778.33
Sunday School Fund Checking		<u>13,083.87</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>		<u>\$621,654.89</u>
<u>Checking Account Balance</u>		
Checking Account Balance		90,679.54
<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>90,679.54</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Payroll Liabilities		2,732.11
Misc. LCMS Orgs Fund		<u>194.49</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>		<u>2,926.60</u>
<u>Fund Balance</u>		
Net Income (Loss)		5,834.77
Capital Accounts		<u>612,893.52</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</u>		<u>618,728.29</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE</u>		<u>\$621,654.89</u>

	<u>JULY</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
INCOME	53,502.44	222,667.74
EXPENSES	<u>36,077.59</u>	<u>229,309.36</u>
INCOME-EXPENSES	<u>\$17,424.85</u>	\$ (6,641.36)
<u>General Fund Accounts</u>		
General Fund		<u>28,703.54</u>
General Fund Total		28,703.54
<u>Educational Fund Accounts</u>		
Educational Grant Fund Checking		1,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21		51,863.96
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22		51,835.93
Educational Grant Fund #2-Vanguard		<u>64,342.43</u>
Educational Fund Total		169,990.88
<u>East Bluff Property</u>		
East Bluff Property—Vanguard		39,174.22
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21		53,741.35
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22		53,770.40
Cat Stock at FMV		<u>127,748.87</u>
East Bluff Property		274,434.84
<u>Memorial</u>		
Memorial Fund Checking		36,097.12
Memorial Vanguard		<u>96,304.53</u>
Memorial Fund Total		132,401.65
Building Fund Checking		34,048.33
Sunday School Fund Checking		<u>13,113.02</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>		<u>\$652,692.26</u>
<u>Checking Account Balance</u>		
Checking Account Balance		113,910.57
<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>113,910.57</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Payroll Liabilities		2,740.12
Misc. LCMS Orgs Fund		<u>150.49</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u>		<u>2,890.61</u>
<u>Fund Balance</u>		
Net Income (Loss)		36,908.13
Capital Accounts		<u>612,893.52</u>
<u>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</u>		<u>649,801.65</u>
<u>TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE</u>		<u>\$652,692.26</u>



Reversing Roe v. Wade: Part 2 (provided by Peoria Area Lutherans for Life)

The 1973 US Supreme Court companion cases Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton that made abortion legal in our nation were brought to court in Texas and Georgia by the lawyers for two real women: Norma McCorvey (known as Jane Roe) and Sandra Cano (known as Mary Doe). The young, feminist lawyers (Sarah Weddington and Linda Coffee) who brought Norma’s case to court had an agenda to make abortion legal in Texas and used her poor, pregnant and desperate situation as a way to do that. They promised to help her get an abortion (which she never had, but instead birthed her baby and gave it up for adoption) while buying Norma pizza and beer as they discussed the affidavit they would write for her and submit to the court asking for the judge to grant her a legal abortion. Sandra’s story is equally sad, involving an abusive step-father, a mother who wanted her to abort her fourth child, and a drunken husband from whom she wanted a divorce. Sandra also never had an abortion, and spent years speaking out against abortion across the country. Norma and Sandra’s lives after abortion became legal were not pleasant. After watching many years of death and destruction brought on by their “Roe” and “Doe” court cases and feeling at least partly responsible for it, these women who knew each other both decided they wanted their cases to be reversed by the courts. Norma became a Christian and even started a non-profit ministry called “Roe No More”. Through a series of seemingly “random” occurrences, The Justice Foundation agreed to represent Norma and Sandra using a little-known and seldom-used Rule of Civil Procedure known as a “Rule 60 Motion” which allows a person to file for relief from an earlier court ruling under certain conditions. During the next 22 years, The Justice Foundation developed and implemented the strategy that was finally successful when the US Supreme Court reversed Roe and Doe in 2022. There is much more to tell about how God inspired and aided Allen Parker and his team in this effort, but that will have to wait until Part Three next month.

You Are Invited!

Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center will be hosting their Annual Celebration Event to be held at Five Points Washington on Thursday, September 26th. Doors open at 6:00pm with an hors d’oeuvre and dessert reception. Special guest, Josh Taylor, will speak at 6:45pm. Josh is an author and speaker who has experienced numerous battles in his life and feels the calling to challenge us to lean toward obstacles and opportunities and to live forward for God. Please register for general seating at www.TCprcevents.org by September 19th. There is no cost to attend the event thanks to Underwriters.

CHRISTIAN CIVIC OUTREACH

September is St. John’s month to provide non-perishable items to Christian Civic Outreach.

Donations will be collected in the designated boxes on the stage in the gym throughout September.

Boxed foods, peanut butter, instant mash potatoes, cookies, crackers, pasta, spaghetti sauce, shortening, etc.

Toiletries: razors, powder, shampoo, etc.



Received a thank you letter fro Lutherans for Life for our donation toward their Gospel motivated, life-affirming ministry.

Received a thank you letter from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis for your gift. Vicki Biggs

Rev. Bishop and People of St. John’s, Your special mission gift is gratefully received. Rev. R. Rahn, Founder of Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

Dear St. John’s & Pastor Bishop,

We would like to extend our appreciation of your service to Ellen Morrison. It was a comfort knowing she was taken care of spiritually.

Please accept this personal donation in memory of Robert and Ellen Morrison for being part of St. John’s. We know the church meant a lot to them.

Again, thank you for providing the comfort and prayers to our family. Sincerely, Mark & Monica Morrison & Family of Ellen & Bob Morrison.

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Trinity Lutheran Church is pleased to invite members of your congregation and/or school to our 7th Financial Peace University class on Wednesday evenings, 6-8 p.m from September 4 through October 30. The class is co-led by Director of Christian Education Scott Rauch & long-time Ramsey advocate Jacob Mol with refreshments each week and free childcare as needed. There is no cost for the class but participants are invited to make use of Ramsey Solutions paid resources as they choose.

See information regarding this on the bulletin board in the gym.

Central Illinois Lutheran Deaf Ministry Fund

Finally, we have officially established the Central Illinois Lutheran Deaf Ministry Fund (CIL DMF). The purpose of this fund is to give continuing support for Lutheran Deaf Ministry in the Central Illinois District of the LC-MS. The fund is managed by the Lutheran Legacy Foundation. All donations (up to the first \$500,000) will gain an extra 20% through a generous matching grant from the Werner Foundation. For more information on how you can contribute to the CIL DMF today or even after you go home to heaven through your estate planning, please go to www.IllinoisDeafLutherans.org and follow the "Support Us" tab.

Camp CILCA
Whippoorwill Challenge
Hickory Point, Forsyth, IL
Friday, September 13, 2024
Registration deadline 9/9/24
Shotgun Start: 12:30 p.m.
Format: *Scramble*
(build or join a team)
Check-in begins: 11:00 a.m.

Proceeds collected from sponsors and players will all go directly to Camp CILCA and the CILCA Endowment Fund.

For cost and payment information see flyer on bulletin board in the gym.



LIBRARY CORNER
By Eileen Tiona

"The gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come," Matthew 24:14

I haven't any new books to report on this month, but you are welcome to come into the library and check out all the other wonderful books that are available for your enjoyment.

Deanna Oltman is now at Cedarhurst of Waterloo. Address is 518 Legacy Dr., Room 29, Waterloo, IL 62298.

St. John's Lutheran Church will once again have a booth in the Civic Collage on Saturday, Sept.7, and Sunday, Sept. 8, of the Marigold Festival.

Volunteers are needed to man the booth. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the gym. We have items to give away for adults and children as well as bottles of water. Please sign up for the times you can help. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Bishop or Joyce Lonergan.

SHUT-INS of the MONTH: Even though some of our members cannot attend church, we want to keep them in our thoughts and prayers and let them know they are not forgotten. Please send a card or pay a visit to these shut-ins this month.

Shut ins for September are: Sheryl Riley, UAW Apartments, Apt. #1212, 444 S. Parkway Dr., Pekin; Ruthanne Scott, Pekin Manor #605, 1520 El Camino Dr., Pekin; and Butch Williams, Chalet Rehab Healthcare Center, 4851 Tincher Rd., Room 35, Indianapolis, IN 46221.

Thank you from your St. John's Ladies Guild.

IN OUR PRAYERS

If you know of anyone who needs to be added, please let the church office know.

All our shut-ins

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Pastor Niemann | Sandy Morgan |
| Robert Rilea | Jeff Ferree |
| Peggy Farlin | Debbie Miller |
| Addie Burling | Julie Rilea |
| Eileen Tiona | Keith Gleason |
| Gabriella Kesselmayer | Paula Jensen |
| Pat Proehl | Suzanne Reising |
| Kellen Norman | Joyce Barnes |
| Lee Morgan | Ray Garber |
| John Durdle | Suzanne Reising |
| Anna Knussman | Butch Williams |
| Megan Gould | Rosetta Turner |
| Kathy Daly-Unfricht | Melvyn Gentry |
| Bob Hurst | Ruthanne Scott |
| Deanna Oltman | Michelle Watson |
| Beth Kammeyer | Wilma Garber |
| Bethany Canopy | |

(Address Service Requested)

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 230

Matt. 1:1-13

N	M	C	H	A	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	S	Y	E
O	D	H	H	A	I	Z	Z	U	J	E	S	U	S	S
L	T	R	N	J	I	R	D	E	B	O	C	A	J	S
Y	A	I	O	E	H	K	E	Z	E	R	E	P	S	E
B	H	S	M	C	J	E	E	H	B	O	A	Z	A	J
A	E	T	A	O	E	G	P	Z	T	R	E	A	L	U
B	S	A	T	N	N	R	O	M	E	A	A	B	M	D
P	S	H	L	I	S	N	E	H	O	H	F	I	O	A
I	A	S	K	A	O	O	O	P	A	T	K	U	N	H
M	N	R	A	H	D	B	L	Z	J	A	H	D	I	A
S	A	E	S	A	O	B	E	O	I	O	Z	E	Y	J
O	M	H	V	A	A	R	U	L	M	H	S	O	R	I
O	A	I	M	H	A	G	E	O	I	O	T	I	R	B
N	D	D	A	H	E	Z	R	O	N	X	N	U	A	A
A	B	R	A	H	A	M	A	R	O	H	E	J	R	H

Genealogy of Jesus

ABIJAH	ABRAHAM
ABIUD	BABYLON
AHAZ	BROTHERS
AMON	CHRIST
ASA	ELIAKIM
AZOR	FATHER
BOAZ	HEZEKIAH
DAVID	HEZRON
EXILE	JECONIAH
ISAAC	JEHORAM
JACOB	JOSIAH
JESSE	JOTHAM
JESUS	MANASSEH
JUDAH	MOTHER
KING	NAHSHON
OBED	RECORD
PEREZ	REHOBOAM
RAHAB	SALMON
RUTH	SOLOMON
ZERAH	UZZIAH

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

MORE PUZZLES AT:
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