

Our Savior Lutheran Church—LCMS

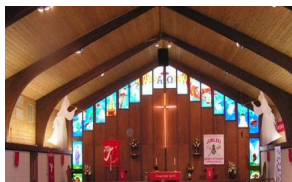
Volume 14, Issue 9

October 2016

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**Our Savior
Lutheran Church**
2611 Lucas Street
Muscatine, IA 52761

Church Phone
563-263-0347

Email Pastor Pautz
oslcp@machlink.com

Text Pastor Pautz
563-554-4488

Divine Service

Sunday at 9 a.m.
Monday at 6 p.m.

Matins Service

Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Bible Studies

Sunday at 10:30am
Wednesday at 6:30am
Wednesday at 9:30am

Stewardship Under the Cross—Part 4

This series of articles is written by Rev. Heath Curtis—LCMS. These articles present teaching that conforms to Holy Scripture and the Book of Concord. They also provide practical guides to practice this teaching in our homes and maybe even in our congregation. As you have questions, please ask. Pastor Pautz

Overcoming the Fear of Tithing

Your heart will always go where you put God's money.

Jesus said that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. As the hymn verse has it: We give Thee but Thine own. God is the ultimate giver of our incomes: all these gifts come from him. To acknowledge this gift and our dependence on the Lord, God calls us to give a portion of our income back to Him for the maintenance of His Church. Indeed, the Scriptures are very clear: God calls His people to give generously to the work of the Church. As we have seen, God commanded Israel to support the Word and Sacrament ministry of the Levites in the Temple with a tithe (10%) of their income. Can we call ourselves generous by doing less?

This calls for faith. Do we trust God's Word? Do we trust that what He says is for our benefit, not our harm? **If you have never tithed before, it can be a scary proposition. Give 10% of my income away!?** *You've got to be kidding.* But God doesn't ever kid us in His Word. Instead, He tells us

to consider these Scriptures:

Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:19-21).

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse-- the whole nation of you-- because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it " (Malachi 3:8-10) .

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as each one of you may prosper (1 Cor. 16:2) .

But just as you excel in everything-- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us --see that you also excel in this grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) .

The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work (2 Cor. 9:6-8) .

We do not make God poor when we fail to give money to Him properly, but we *do* make ourselves poor if we do not give according to the standards He sets for us in His Word, the Bible. God does not need our money, but we need to give the way the Bible tells us to in order to overcome the negative influence money and the things of this world can have on us.

Stewardship Under the Cross—Part 4

God will never tell us to do something that will be to our harm – He loves us too much for that. Jesus gave His life on the cross for me. He loves me and knows what is best for me – so I can know that what He says about stewardship is meant for my benefit. He wants my heart to be with Him – and my heart will always follow where I put God's money. **Tithing is not easy: but it is godly.** Stepping out in faith always changes some aspect of our lives, for the good. You may have to change your lifestyle to accommodate following God's Word in this matter. But tithing will change you in other ways too: it will give you a peace and contentment that can only come from actually putting yourself in the hands of the Lord.

So read through those Scriptures again. And step out in faith this coming year with giving that is in accord with God's Word. And just see if you are not blessed in it.

My hope is that these articles are a useful instruction on a difficult topic. Again, if you have any questions, please contact me.



LWML FALL ZONE RALLY

Ladies Fall Rally will be held at Zion Wilton on October 8, from 8:30-approximately 1 pm. A Rally is when we gather with sister churches of Wilton, Burlington, Fort Madison, Mount Pleasant and Fairfield. We listen to a guest speaker --this time it is Don Johnston a representative of Beacon of Hope Hospice program. We also have worship service and lots of fellowship. Come and join us as we fill our hearts with gladness. "Be Kind and Compassionate" is the theme for this Rally. If you have any questions or wish to attend please let Lisa know, 563 260 0383.

HIGH SCHOOL TABLE TALK

The next Table Talk is Sunday October 2 at 6:00pm. Pizza will be served. Bring a friend. You pick the topic (but I'll come prepared with something just in case). Pastor

OFFERING UPDATE January through August 2016

Sunday Offerings	\$85,870.71
E-Giving	\$11,540.00
Sunday School	\$72.26
Total Offering	\$97,482.97
Budget	\$112,091.00
Operating Surplus	\$4,847.37
Loan Balance	\$51,105.21

PRAYER SHAWLS

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Do you knit or crochet? Have you heard about Prayer Shawls?

Prayer Shawls are made by women in many congregations all over the world. Christ taught that we are to clothe the naked and comfort the sick and dying. A Prayer Shawl represents God's loving arms wrapped around someone who is suffering. Our love and prayers are added to the gift.

If you are interested in finding out more about starting a Prayer Shawl group at Our Savior, I will be here on Monday, October 17th from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Come pray with me

(continued on next page)

WEDNESDAY MATINS SERVICE AT 9:00AM

The congregation is invited to attend Wednesday morning Matins Service. What is Matins? It is a service of prayer and Word with a devotion on the Bible reading of the day.

LWML REGULAR MEETING

You are invited to join our Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) on Thursday October 20, at 7 pm at the church. If you have any questions please ask Lisa at 563 260 0383. Thank you

LWML FALL ZONE RALLY

It is not too late to sign up for the LWML Fall Rally at Zion Wilton on October 8, from 8:30-approximately 1 pm. We will listen to guest speaker Don Johnston, a representative of Beacon of Hope Hospice program. "Be Kind and Compassionate" is the theme for this Rally. If you have any questions or wish to attend please let Lisa Seaba know, 563 260 0383. Thanks.

PRAYER SHAWLS...continued

I will bring yarn and a pattern to get you started. You may also call me at 264-3644 or put a note in my mailbox at Church.

Please consider how this quiet gift of your time can help spread Christ's love. Kathy Logel

LWML MINUTES

The September 15th, 2016 LWML meeting was held at Our Savior Lutheran Church at 7:00 p.m. President, Lisa Seaba, opened the meeting in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Those in attendance were Betty Dunbar, Karen Denison, Becky Ernst, Lisa Seaba, Bonnie Egger, Mary Francis, Angie Banko, Wendi Ingram and Katie Ball.

The theme was, "Jesus Loves Me This I Know". The Ice Breaker was to "share the first hymn you remember singing". The devotion entitled "Back to School in the Word" was read by Lisa Seaba. The Bible Study, entitled "Educated in Christ" was led by Lisa Seaba.

A thank you was given by Lisa Seaba for those serving in Christ in the month of September, which included Karen Denison - Altar Care, Communion Set-Up - Kristi Gibson, communion removal Debbie Martin, and Lisa Seaba - bulletin board and hostess for LWML meeting.

The Secretary's Report for May was read by secretary, Wendi Ingram and a motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Mary Francis and seconded by Becky Ernst. The June Minutes were read by Wendi Ingram, and a motion to approve the minutes as read was made by Mary Francis and seconded by Katie Ball. The minutes of the Special Meeting on August 7th was read by secretary, Wendi Ingram and a motion was made by Katie Ball to approve the minutes as read and Karen Denison seconded the motion.

Treasurer, Mary Francis stated that there was a mistake in the treasurer's report for March and April and that it has since been corrected. The amended statement was given to Wendi Ingram to place in the secretary's book. In May there was a balance brought forward of \$2104.39. Receipts totaled \$123.34 and there were a total of \$87.34 disbursed with an ending balance in May of \$2140.39. In June, July & August there were no receipts or disbursements so the ending balance as of August 31st was \$2140.39. Wendi Ingram submitted a bill of \$173.89 for the pie containers that have been ordered.

Correspondence:

Included a letter from Gary Teis from Mission Central, Lutheran Family Services, Orphan Grain Train, Lutherans for Life, and a Thank You from David and Jenny Preus.

LWML MINUTES

Committees:

Altar Care: Betty Dunbar stated that the parements are being ordered and they will take about one month to come in.

Cradle Roll: No report

Funeral: No Report

Flowers: Betsy Hirschfeld no longer wants to chair the flower committee so Betty Crawford will take this over.

Kitchen: The faucet was fixed by Denny Dunbar and Bob Husband. Charlie Bishop donated a 2 gallon beverage dispenser for the kitchen.

Mission Service: Many items were collected for the school kits, however there a large number of notebooks that are needed. Angie Banko is going to look into purchasing the rest of the items needed for school kits and then also ask Marsh Graf if she can order the bags. If all falls into place then Darrin and Angie Banko will assemble the kits and get them sent. However, if there is a challenge in getting the items then they will be assembled in the spring. We will be donating items to the Food Pantry for November and having the Hat and Mitten Tree for December.

Sunshine: No Report

Wedding: No Report

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

LWML Sunday is October 2nd. Lisa Seaba is to talk to Pastor about conducting a special service. Purple flowers should be on the Altar for that Sunday and ladies are to wear Purple.

The LWML Fall Rally is October 8th at Zion Lutheran in Wilton. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the rally begins at 9:00 a.m. RSVP are to be in by October 1st.

The Zone District Convention is to be held June 15-16 of 2018. Angie Banko is Co-Chairing this event. It will held at the Cedar Rapids Marriot on Collins Rd. A theme is needing to be chosen and Angie is asking for lots of help from everyone. Each society is responsible for a job that needs to be completed to make the convention a success.

LWML MINUTES...continued

Apple Pies will be assembled October 22 and 29th this year. They will sell for \$11.00 again this year. Karen Denison will be getting the order forms in everyone's box, getting the announcement in the bulletin and sign-up sheets posted around the 1st of October. Wendi Ingram will be picking up the supplies.

Becky Ernst presented Lisa Seaba with the President's Pin.

Announcements for next month are: Altar Care is being shared, Becky Ernst will be the Bible Study Leader, Mary Francis will be in charge of communion set up and Angie Banko will be in charge of Communion Removal.

Katie Ball announced that everyone should send with Katie cards to Dennis Thompson as she will be visiting his family.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary, Wendi Ingram

Confirmation Retreat

October 7-8, 2016

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

The Two Tables of the Law

We will go through what the Ten Commandments actually say and split them into two tables. 1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. The first commandment is the foundation of all Ten Commandments. The final nine go into detail on how we should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. The first three commandments teach us specifically how to fear, love, and trust in God.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT...continued

2. Love your neighbor as yourself. This commandment summarizes the final seven commandments. God loves his creation, so we love one another. Christ did not come to be served, but to serve, so we too serve one another. The Fourth Commandment sets the stage for the second table of the law.

The Uses/Functions of the Law

We know what the Law is. But do we know why? We will learn how the Law curbs, shows us our sin, and guides us. The chief function of the Law is to show us our sin and need for a Savior.

The Promises of the Law Verses the Promises of the Gospel

The Law does show that God is good, but the promises are conditional. The Gospel shows that God is good, but it frees us from the conditions of the Law.

Rev. James Preus, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Ottumwa, will be teaching the youth about 10 Commandments during the 2016 Confirmation Retreat. The retreat will take place beginning on Friday, October 7th at 7pm and going through 3 pm on Saturday. This retreat includes dinner on Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. See Pastor Pautz if you re interested in going.

Our Savior Lutheran Church

October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 LWML Sunday 09:00 am Divine Service 10:30 am Sunday School 01:00 pm Homebound 06:00 pm HS Table Talk	3 06:00 pm Divine Service 07:00 pm Bd. of Elders	4	5 6:30 am Men's Group 9:00 am Matins 09:30 am Women's Group 04:00 pm Office Hours 06:15 pm Weekday School	6	7	8 08:30 am LWML Fall Zone Rally At Zion In Wilton
9 20th Sun. a. Trinity 09:00 am Divine Service 10:30 am Sunday School 01:00 pm Homebound	10 06:00 pm Divine Service 07:00 pm Church Council	11 09:00 am Mt. Pleasant Pastors' Circuit Meeting	12 6:30 am Men's Group 9:00 am Matins 09:30 am Women's Group 04:00 pm Office Hours 06:15 pm Weekday School	13		15
16 21st Sun. a. Trinity 09:00 am Divine Service 10:30 am Sunday School 01:00 pm Homebound	17 06:00 pm Divine Service	18	19 6:30 am Men's Group 9:00 am Matins 09:30 am Women's Group 04:00 pm Office Hours 06:15 pm Weekday School	21 07:00 pm LWML	14 01:00 pm Word of God Service for the Deaf	23
24 22nd Sun. a. Trinity 09:00 am Divine Service 10:30 am Sunday School 01:00 pm Homebound	25 06:00 pm Divine Service 07:00 pm Voters' Meet	26	27 6:30 am Men's Group 9:00 am Matins 09:30 am Women's Group 04:00 pm Office Hours 06:15 pm Weekday School	28	29	30
31 Reformation Sunday 09:00 am Divine Service 10:30 am Sunday School 01:00 pm Homebound 04:30 pm Reformation Service in Mt. Pleasant						