


THE VOICE
Of Pentecost Lutheran Church www.pentecost-racine.org

As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God.” (1 John 3:1)

A teacher once asked her students what was most amazing about God. A child responded, “He knows all about me, and yet he still loves me.” Indeed, God’s love for us is amazing. He does know all about us. He knows about our defying his commandments, our failing to carry out his will, our unloving thoughts and unkind words. He knows we deserve nothing but his wrath. Yet, he still loves us. He loves us so much that he was willing to send his Son to die for our sins.

In our text, John tells us that the Father has lavished his love on us. God loves us very dearly. In fact, we could say that his love for us is so vast that we cannot even begin to measure it.

The fact that we are God’s children tells us that God has lavished his love on us. We do not deserve to be God’s children. We forfeited this privilege because of our sins. Yet God in his love for us satisfied his justice. He made us acceptable to himself. He brought us to faith in Jesus. Through faith we possess Christ’s righteousness. We stand before God acceptable to him through his Son. We are God’s sons and daughters. We will inherit the heavenly kingdom our Father has prepared for us.

What a comfort it is to know God loves us. There are times when our conscience condemns us. We recognize our sinfulness and wonder how God can let us into heaven. When problems arise, we may feel God doesn’t care about us anymore. At times such as these we need to look beyond our feelings and reason. By faith we lay hold of the words and promises of God. It is not how we feel about God that gives us comfort. The fact that God loves us give s us hope.

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called the children of God!” What a joy it is to bask in the radiance of these words. We are sinners, it is true. We deserve nothing but God’s wrath. Yet, God loves us. Christ paid for our sins. We are God’s children. Heaven is ours. This is a fact. Thank God for that!

Prayer:

*Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!*

Pastor J



AUGUST Birthdays

Shelly LeGath – 08/03	Tiffany Cooper – 08/17
Gretchen Hansen-08/04	Sue Johnson – 08/18
Jeff Hansen – 08/04	Josette Lisowski – 08/20
Deacon Jacob – 08/04	Carrie Smukal – 08/20
Nadiah Ali -08/09	Quinten Lisowski – 08/23
Mike Wilkinson -08/09	Pam Sinclair – 08/23
Denise Denault - 08/13	Robert Barclay – 08/26
Devon Hetland – 08/13	Karen Merrill – 08/27
Dave VanRuden – 08/14	Mike Smolko – 08/29
Dorothy Holland – 08/15	Betty Schattner – 08/30
Rachel VanRuden – 08/16	



We are still collecting children's socks and underwear through the month of August. To date, we have not received any donations, so please find it in your heart to donate to this much needed project.

Grass Cutting Help Needed



There is a lot of grass cutting season left, and we are in need of some volunteers to help us out our church grounds. If you can assist with this, please

sign up on the table in the narthex. This is a huge money saver for the church, so it would be great to get a lot of volunteers to help with this task. If you need help learning how to use the equipment just contact one of the trustees for their assistance.



Matt & Elizabeth Preuss – 2 years – August 1st
John & Sharon Boehme – 29 years - August 6th
Julie & Glen Heldt – 31 years – August 16th
Mike & Amanda McCray – 10 years – August 19th
Ed & Bonnie Schrubbe – 54 years – August 31st



SPIRIT RUN - St. John's Lutheran is again hosting the Spirit Run of Racine 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 16th at the North Beach Oasis at 9am. This is a fun family event and

a great opportunity to benefit **all** schools in our community! When you designate which school you are participating for, that school will receive 20% of your event fee! Get your friends and family to help out and participate – the school with the most spirit and participation wins prizes! Once a school has over 50 participants, they can pick their own color t-shirts!

There will be a great goody bag, free t-shirt and refreshments for attendees. Stroller friendly, special awards and prizes, and every child under the age of 12 will receive their own medal of accomplishment! Event fee is \$20 individual, \$35 couple, \$15 child. For families of 4 or more and team registration, it is only \$12 per person! You can sign up online at www.active.com.

We are also looking for t-shirt sponsors and volunteers for this race – let us know if you want to help!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kara Kading at 262-930-1211 or SpiritRunRacine@gmail.com.



Pentecost will have their annual Craft Fair on Saturday, October 14th from 9am-2pm. We are looking for crafters. If interested contact Sue Murcek at 262-672-1646 or email at susanmtravel@yahoo.com.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Requests are being taken for prayer shawls within our church community. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Any questions ask Kathy McGregor, Sharing Boehme, or Katy Wagner.

Stewardship Corner

Answering a worried man

A yarn making the rounds among ministers these days is about an older fellow who asked his pastor to visit him.

When the pastor arrived, the man seemed greatly worried. He shared the reason. His doctor had suggested that he get his affairs in order because his days on Earth were growing shorter.

"Preacher," he said with a trembling voice, "I haven't been much of a Christian. I'm worried about my chances of making it into heaven. Do you think if I gave a lot of money to the church that I could make it? I'm thinking about \$50,000."

The church's strained budget flashed through the pastor's mind, and his answer came quickly, "I don't rightly know, but it's worth a try."

Of course, we don't need to wait until the last minute to give to our church. Giving our time, talents and treasures along the way helps not only the church and its programs; it also helps us.



Being in a nursing home doesn't always make it easy to follow that last sentence in the story above, but one lady in our church uses her time and talents to spread God's word at her nursing home. As we watch so many *Portals of Prayer* get thrown out each

quarter, **Gloria Gordon** asks Pastor Jacob to bring her extras so she can share them with staff and others at the nursing home. She asked that the Pentecost card we sent her be placed on her door so others could also see it. Gloria is setting an example for the rest of us to follow. Can you share a *Portals of Prayer* with a co-worker or friend? Do your friends know about your faith and church?

Each week as we pray for our shutins and mention Gloria's name, know that she is thinking of us, too. Add an extra prayer of your own that she will be able to continue spreading the Gospel to those around her.

Let's Nail It Down!



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\$6781

May Roof Fund Income - \$ 290
June Roof Fund Income - \$ 365

Balance in Roof Fund at 6-30-2017: \$6,781

We had some great Noisy Offering containers last year. Are you ready to make a joyful noise to the Lord with your container this year in late September



Onward Christian Soldiers

In 1864 Sabine Baring-Gould was appointed curate of the mission church at Horbury Bridge in Yorkshire. One of the big occasions was the Whit Monday procession - seven weeks after Easter - when the children marched to an adjoining village, headed by a cross and banners, to share in a united festival. They were accustomed to sing while marching, and the new curate sat up most of the night before the holiday writing them a special hymn for the procession. The following day, he taught the words of "Onward, Christian Soldiers" to the children," which he had set to a melody from the slow movement of Joseph Haydn's Symphony in D, No. 15.

The hymn was printed in an English church periodical, the *Church Times*; but not much notice was taken of it till 1871 when Sir Arthur Sullivan (of Gilbert & Sullivan fame) wrote for it the celebrated tune we now sing. He penned the melody while staying with his friend Ernest Clay Ker Seymer, at his large house at Hanford, Dorset. Sullivan dashed it off in a few minutes in the drawing-room, naming the march "St. Gertrude" after Clay Ker Seymer's wife. "We sang it in the private chapel," Gertrude Clay Ker Seymer recalled, "Sir Arthur playing the harmonium."

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt met with Sir Winston Churchill on August 14, 1941 to sign the Atlantic Charter, both leaders chose a hymn to be sung at a special service. Churchill selected, "Onward Christian Soldiers" and both American and British servicemen sang the song together.

The hymn was sung during the funeral of President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the National Cathedral in the District of Columbia March 31, 1969.

<http://www.songfacts.com/detail.php?id=39018>

Destination devotions

Planning a summer trip? Take along a Scripture passage befitting your vacation to use for devotions and prayer time (all NIV below):

- In the mountains: "The mountains and hills will burst into song before you" (Isaiah 55:12).
- At a lake, perhaps on a fishing trip: "They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people'" (Matthew 4:18-19).
- Near an ocean or river: "Let the sea resound ... let the rivers clap their hands" (Psalm 98:7-8).

• In the desert: “They looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud” (Exodus 16:10).

• In the woods: “Blessed is the one ... whose delight is in the law of the LORD That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season” (Psalm 1:1-3).

• In the flatlands: “‘My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me I tell you, open

your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest’” (John 4:34-35).

• On a “staycation” close to home: “Love the LORD your God These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ... Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates” (Deuteronomy 6:5-9).

~ Welcome New Members ~

Matt and Amy Luxem, Seth and Sofia



Matt grew up in Caledonia and Amy grew up in Milwaukee. When we married 21 years ago we moved to Union Grove where we still live today.

Matt is a home improvements contractor. In his spare time, he enjoys bee keeping and vegetable gardening. We recently purchased a small farm so he will be able to combine his multiple gardens into one location. He also enjoys hunting and fishing.

Amy earned her bachelor degree in Spanish and Middle/Secondary Education from UW-Milwaukee and her Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from Carthage. She

teaches Spanish at Wilmot Union High School where she has taught for 21 years. She also enjoys gardening, but of the flower variety. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with the kids and playing the piano.

We have been blessed with three children. After battling cancer for over four years, our oldest, Ryan, passed away in 2010. He loved doing origami and building with Legos. He was a huge Packers fan. Helping others was very important to him as well. We miss him every day.

Sofia will be a sophomore at Racine Lutheran High School this fall. She loves school and enjoys participating in band, hand bells, track, and other activities. She plays the clarinet and the piano and loves reading and drawing.

Seth will be starting 7th grade this fall at Union Grove Elementary School. His favorite hobbies include swimming, roller blading, taking apart appliances, building things with his tools and drawing. He participates in Boy Scouts and enjoys activities such as camping, fishing, whittling, and survival skills.

We are looking forward to growing in our faith and getting to know everyone at Pentecost!