

HAPPENINGS

January 22-29, 2023

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WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS – Welcome to the Lord’s House. God bless you as you hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.



Youth Sunday is Today!! Thank you to Bonnie Nowak who has helped us with a great script/skit for today. We will be talking about our Identity is in Christ, which was discussed at length at the Youth Gathering. We will be talking about sin, because it **IS** a really big deal, along with many topics related to current events in our world and society today. What is God's role for me as a Teenage Christian in Today's World? Thank you for your continued prayers for our Sunday School.

Note from Bonnie: *The idea that “we’re on a bus” came from Dr. Jim Seemann, LWML fall 2022 rally speaker at Holy Cross. Dr. Seemann talked about his prison ministry. He said that the prisoners who believe in Jesus are on a bus. The taunting and jibes that they receive from the non-Christians do not bother them; eventually, the taunting prisoners accept that the believers are on the bus, and they leave them alone.*

I know there have been many allegories and metaphors written about our earthly journey, but the concept of the bus really spoke to me. I hope you find it helpful in your earthly journey. We’re on a bus. We’re in this together. We are bound for the promised land because we have been redeemed. John 3:16

Youth Sunday Participants



Allie Wagner, 11th Grade, Prior Lake High School;
Colin Kruse, 11th Grade, Shakopee High School;
Daniel Vannett, 9th Grade, Prior Lake High School;
Amelia Weber, 10th Grade, Prior Lake High School



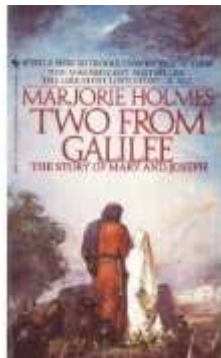
VOTER'S MEETING is next
Sunday, January 29th

NIGHT *to Shine*

SPONSORED BY THE **TIM TEBOW** FOUNDATION™

NIGHT TO SHINE is back in person, February 10, 2023. We are hosting it with St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Bloomington. Night to Shine is a complimentary, exclusive invitation-only event for people with special needs. Night to Shine's mission is to bring faith, hope and love to those needing a brighter day in their darkest hour of need. We need many volunteers to make this magical night happen. If you are unable to attend the event, we also need people to help us pick up items for the event, and donations are always appreciated! Please visit www.nighttoshinemn.org or contact Shari at mnnighttoshine18@gmail.com for more information!

BIBLE BOOKENDERS Our January book is an old classic, **Two From Galilee by Marjorie Holmes**. Join us at church from 7:00-8:30 pm tomorrow night, **Monday, January 23**. Blessings on your reading of first and foremost God's Word, and the fun books we read and share for Bible Bookenders. Questions? Contact Bonnie Nowak, Pat Harvey or Michele Lein.



Life **QUOTES**

JANUARY 22 "When someone struggles with the overwhelming guilt of a past sin, like abortion, repentance and reconciliation are the only source of relief. There is hope! 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness' (1 John 1:9). Through all our days, the Lord never leaves us nor forsakes us. He is a patient God, waiting and wanting all to come to repentance and be saved." *Deaconess Pamela Buhler and Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, Word of Hope – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



OFFERING ENVELOPES The new offering envelopes for 2023 have not been delivered yet. They should arrive in a few weeks. Until then, please place your offerings in a plain envelope marked with any designations beyond general fund giving (Missions, Building Fund, Special Offerings), or use a 2022 envelope you haven't used yet.

If you use a plain envelope, please include on the envelope your name and offering envelope number if you know it, especially if you are giving cash, for recording purposes. If you need an envelope, there will be envelopes available on the work counter opposite the kitchen marked for the next few Sundays. Once the envelopes for 2023 arrive, you can pick them up on the counter as well.

The 2022 giving statements will be emailed out in January. If you prefer a printed statement, please contact the financial secretary, **Sheri Brunner** at 952-807-6473 or sheri.brunner@gmail.com.



MEN'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - Stories for Witness Every Tuesday from 8:00-9:00 am join us for Men's Bible Study. Discover the witness value of stories. We will review the great sacred story arcing over every disciple's life and find themselves in the stories Jesus tells in the gospels. We will also consider their own stories for witness. The point of witness is just where the Christ story, the story of another, and my own story intersect. To emphasize the visual nature of Jesus' stories, art will be used extensively.

Happenings

HAPPENINGS ARTICLES Don't forget to turn in your Happenings articles each week by Wednesday at noon! Email to megan@holycross-pl.org.



PRAYER REQUESTS If you have a prayer request for today, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the service. You can also email weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to the office at megan@holycross-pl.org.



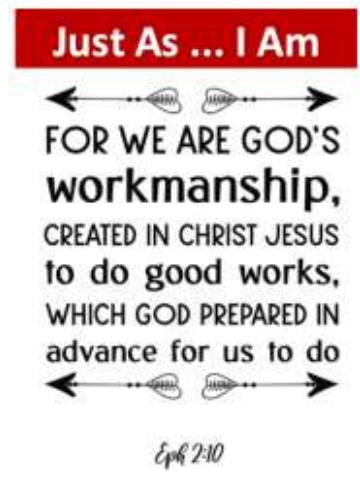
POBLO - PEOPLE OF THE BOOK LUTHERAN OUTREACH Poblo's mission is to meet the physical, social, and spiritual needs of Muslims and other immigrants and refugees in the United States by sharing the love of Jesus in practical and culturally relevant ways.

One of the ways to accomplish this is through the offering of free classes. POBLO Twin Cities has new classes starting up, including English as a Second Language (ESL) classes meeting on **Monday & Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm at Mt. Hope in Bloomington**. Volunteers are needed! For more information, please contact Shari Schulze, POBLO Twin Cities Coordinator, at shari@poblo.org.



CAMP OMEGA Get ready for the best summer ever! Summer camp registration at Camp Omega is now open! There are camps available for a wide range of ages. Check it out! Save \$20 by registering by March 1. Register now www.bit.ly/campomega.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE ESSAY CONTEST Here's an opportunity for students in grades 6-12 to write a life-affirming essay based on the theme **Just As...I Am**. Ephesians 2:10, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" is the theme verse, and is required in the formation of the essay. **Deadline for submission is April 1st.** For more information visit www.bit.ly/LFLessay.



HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated weekly. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you. **Note:** *Communion Kits are available, if needing one please contact Pastor.*





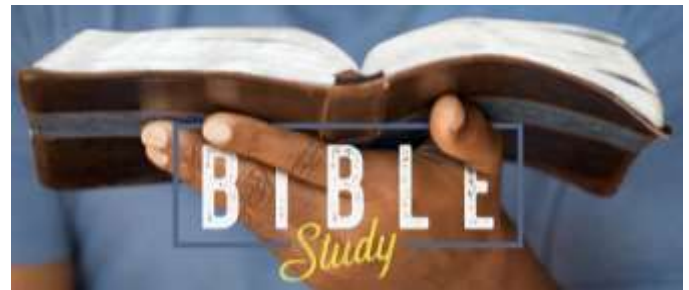
TIME OF GRACE Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style. Subscribe

to Time of Grace resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with "Grace Moments" written devotions and "Grace Talks" video devotions. Pastor Mike Novotny, The Core, Appleton, WI, KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am www.timeofgrace.org

YOUTH RETREAT St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chatfield will be hosting a Youth Retreat entitled, "**Christ the Life Versus the Woke Worldview.**" Rev. Gregory Schulz, Professor of Philosophy at Concordia University, Mequon, will lead the three sessions, tackling the woke principles of knowledge, politics, and the human subject. Retreat is March 24-25, 2023, and the cost is \$25/youth (maximum of \$100/congregation). For more information and to register visit www.bit.ly/chatfieldretreat



MAIN STREET LIVING airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY Join us at 10:15 after the church service. Feel free to get a cup of coffee first and snack before we start.



COFFEE TIME There's nothing like coffee and a treat after worship; it's the Lutheran way!!! A signup is posted in the Commons, so please sign up to help out!

Never provided goodies or made coffee? Talk to Pam with any questions. We ALL enjoy the refreshments, please be a part of putting a smile on everyone's faces!!!

VACANCY PASTOR GADE'S church hours are Monday & Tuesday, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. Other times can be arranged, call 763-333-5896.



CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS - RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Contributions needed each month (General Fund): \$21,844.00 • Contributions received in October \$18,106.00

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023 - 9:00 AM ATTENDANCE

Worship: 60

Communion: 60

Bible Study: 15

Sunday School: 11

SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, JANUARY 22

Elder: Dennis Waderich
Lector: Allie Wagner
Ushers: Jason Kruse
Acolyte: Daniel Vannett
AV: Eric Brown
Offering Count: Wendy Fitzwater & Doug Schulze

SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, JANUARY 29

Elder: Brit Weimer
Lector: Lance Lerum
Ushers: Mike and Pat Harvey
Acolyte: Tate Kruse
AV: Dinah Gilberts
Offering Count: Carol Albrecht & Pam Hunter



A blessing is neither earned nor deserved but received.

"And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God" (Deuteronomy 28:2). Likewise, life ensues as a gift indicating God's grace and a privilege affirming His favor.

A blessing means speaking, a promise humbly hidden in simple words. **"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed"** (John 20:29). Likewise, every life has promise and purpose, no matter what size, skills, or circumstances.

Blessed amounts to more than being merely happy, healthy, attractive, affluent, or influential. **"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied"** (Matthew 5:6). Likewise, every human life exceeds just physical functions and emotional assessments.

A blessing comes from God and connects to Him.

"So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27). Likewise, every human being embodies God's creation, reflects His incarnation, and ensures His ongoing and increasing involvement.

A blessing implies multiplication and abundance. **"I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore"** (Genesis 22:17). Likewise, even at the beginning, every human person makes our heart bigger and our world better.

Blessings often issue from loved ones of significant age and experience. **"[Elizabeth in her old age] exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!'"** (Luke 1:42). Likewise, every neighbor draws us beyond appearances and expectations.

Blessing consists not only of substance but of activity. **"If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them"** (John 13:17). Likewise, life sets love in motion and puts joy into practice.

Life is what God blesses us with and what He blesses us for—life together and life forever!



Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices **For Life**
lutheransforlife.org • info@lutheransforlife.org
 888.364.LIFE (5433) • Item LFL1643BI



For abortion healing, a **Word of Hope** • 888.217.8679
word-of-hope.org

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Upcoming
EVENTS

January 22
January 23
January 29
February 10

Youth Sunday today!
 Bible Bookenders
 Voter's Meeting
 Night to Shine



Amanda Fitzwater January 14
 Michael Schumacher January 15
 Mitch Hoehn January 16
 Rich Mobroten January 16
 Emily Mae Lein January 26

Donna Vig January 26
 Chloe Einarson January 27
 Pastor Gade January 29
 Quinn Fitzwater January 29

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS	
SUNDAY	3rd Sunday after Epiphany & Youth Sunday
22	9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School
MONDAY	
23	
TUESDAY	
24	8:00 am Men's Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation Class
WEDNESDAY	
25	12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due
THURSDAY	
26	7:00 pm Choir Practice
FRIDAY	
27	
SATURDAY	
28	
SUNDAY	4th Sunday after Epiphany
29	9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 am Voter's Meeting