

Our Shared Mission: We are saved by grace through faith to share the good news of the Gospel with all people and live God's love by our words and actions.



Gethsemane Lutheran Church P.O. Box 98

Wallace, MI 49893 (906) 788-4234 E-mail: Goffice@gsslutheran.org Reverend Brenda L. Greenwald

Phone/Text: 720.989.8218 E-mail: Pastor@gsslutheran.org St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 435

Stephenson, MI 49887 (906) 753-4932 E-mail: Soffice@gsslutheran.org

JOINT NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2020



(1) Online Worship: our online service will continue, available via Facebook.

Two Options for Worship Services during the month of August!

(2) <u>Outdoor Worship</u>: we will gather for a brief, outdoor service on Sunday

Details for Sunday's Outdoor Service

- We will gather for worship at the LARGE Pavilion in Stephenson (*Erickson Park –easily accessible via Cedar St*, off of Willow St.) each Sunday during the month of August.
- The service begins at 9:30am and will be approximately 40 minutes.
- Service will include: Prayers, brief homily, songs (by Pr. Brenda only, not congregationally), and Holy Communion.

Some Fun Facts

- Pavilion is covered for shade/weather.
- Amplification System will be used.
- Bathrooms are available. Kitchenette is NOT.
- Holy Communion will be served using individual packets, opened and disposed of by individual congregants.
 The wafer AND the juice are included in these packets.
- Masks are to be worn at all times (and available on-site).
- Hand-sanitizer will be available.
- Socially-distanced SEATING will be designated (sitting with your family is just fine)
- Feel free to bring your own chair, if you know that will be more comfortable.







PLEASE NOTE: If the <u>weather</u> forecast for Sunday looks to be ominous, we'll simply have the online service. Pr. Brenda will make the final call on Friday by noon, and post it to the <u>website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>Answering</u> Machines of each church.

While we WON'T be able to have a Fellowship Time just yet, we WILL be able to gather safely outdoors in a holy way. Be sure to do what's right for YOU and your comfort level – that's why both options for worshipping are still being made available. **See you for worship on Sunday, online or outdoors!**

TOGETHER We PRAY We SERVE We LOVE

Comfort and hope of the resurrection to the family of +Clyde Thoune+ who died on July 14, 2020.

Keith Thoune Tracy Klatt Dean Gerue Shirley Wangerin Wayne Sundstrom Stephanie Walren Tammy Parrett **Emily Christenson Evelyn Gewerth** Christine Havelka Karen Raether Lewis Nicholson Robert & Macy Berzsenyi Cheryl Bogdan Lorrie Stone Denise Marineau Dave Koski Lois Azelton Caitlin Christophersen Luann Q. Kiefer David Kohrt Michelle Bouchard **Darcy Fournier Bob Slight** Larry Pepin **Julee Nordin**

Sheila Konkel
Tom Wenger Mike Lubore
Coralee Mack Kevin Havelka
Deloris Erickson Audrey Anderson
Judi Freis Crystal Salo
Tony Gill Becca Merk
Al Macco Norman Plutchak
Tim Leiphart Bruce Christenson

Charlotte Brochhausen

Tammy Veraghen Brian Raether Thank you for holding the friends and family of our Congregants in your daily prayers.

~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~

Please keep the office informed as to the status of people on this list, and when to remove their name.

~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~

Corrections? Additions?
Please contact the Church
Office. Thanks!

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY And Their Families

Jared Jurmu Brent Jurmu James Dutkavich Jay Chapple Thomas Dutkavich Julie Tanguay Trish Dams

Birthday Blessing

- 1 Tyler Sulk
- 2 Janet Salo
- 3 Lynda Keller, Peany Parrett
- 4 Karen Tickler
- 8 Emily Caylor, Brian Johnson
- 11 Kayla Berger
- 12 Bob Stone
- 13 Sharon Etelamaki
- 14 Carol Heydn, Scott Krzych
- 23 Patty Vandenberg
- 24 Perry Erickson
- 25 Mike Caylor
- 28 Russell Burie, Morgan Peretto, Autumn Rasner, Sue Skowronski
- 30 Fred Lesperance

Happy Anniversary!

- Jeff and Sharon Peretto
- 4 Mike and Lynda Caylor
- 5 Paul & Kelly Francour
- 19 Jim & Janet Voss
- 20 Nicholas & Jessica Schultz
- John and Sandy Beardsley
- 27 Roy & Tammy Parrett
- 29 Vernon and Cindy Paul



If you can volunteer to assist clients at the Food Pantry from 9a-12p on Sat. Aug. 29th, please call Harlan at (906) 458.8326. THANKS! The newly, handcrafted sign at Bethesda Cemetery.

Thanks for all of your hard work, Keith Olson and Alvin Etelamaki!



IMPORTANT Fall Fest Information!

Have an item to donate?

- All submissions are due on or before September 1
- Our Fall Fest Committee respectfully requests that **all donated items have a value of at least \$50.** Due to the remote nature of our auction, we need to account for shipping costs and are unable to take items of lesser value.
- Fortune Lake
 Fall Fest
 October 3, 2020
- Value of items will be assigned by the Auction Committee's assessment of item based on the cost of materials provided.
- Please attach the <u>Fall Fest Auction Donation Form</u>. (next page) to each donated item.

2020 Fall Fest Auction

- Our 2020 Fall Fest will be a virtual experience that will bring together supporters and friends of Fortune Lake from far and wide!
- We'll still have all your favorite elements: beautifully crafted quilts, other quality hand-made art, and plenty of fun ways to support our outdoor ministry. New in this year's auction will be some Fortune Lake experiences to bid on! Details are still in the works, but it is sure to be an exciting day.

Silent Auction: Sept 23 - Oct 3

- Bidders will be encouraged to register to our safe, secure platform early to participate in our silent auction which will begin on **September 23 and go through October 3**.
- The silent auction will contain most of our items, and you'll have plenty of opportunity to make your selection and set your maximum bids.



Live Auction: Oct 3

•A few select items will be held over for a live virtual auction on **October 3**, during which we invite all of our supporters to join us online for a grand event celebrating the camp we all love!

Fortune Lake Fall Fest 2020 Guidelines for Donated Items

- 1. Please fill out form completely and legibly.
- 2. Measurements must be on each item.
- 3. ALL ITEMS due to Camp Office by **SEPT** 1ST, 2020 to be considered for inclusion in the auction.
- 4. This will be a juried auction, so the Auction Committee will look at all items submitted on time, to decide which to include in the Auction.
- 5. Quilts/Projects that are valued at less than \$50 or small items may be grouped together and/or will be part of the Store or Draffle drawing. A few items may be offered as door prizes.
- 6. Value of items will be assigned by the Auction Committee's assessment of item based on the cost of materials provided.

The Auction Committee would like to get the highest possible income from the auction items in order to benefit Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp with this fundraiser, so there will be a limited number of items in the Auction. Remaining items will be used at the discretion of the Committee.

THANK YOU for your generous and talented support of FLLC!!

For use by Auction Committee:			
CHECK-in REFERENCE (alpha-#):	Date Rec'd:	AUCTION LOT #:	
	OR in Corner Country Store @ \$	OR in Draffle	
FORTUNE LAKE FALL FEST and QUILT AUCTION (Saturday, October 3, 2020)			
AUCTION / STORE DONATION FORM			
SUBMISSION of ITEMS: Projects s	hould be received at FLLC by Tues	day, September 1. 2020.	
[PLEASE NOTE: Any items received la	ter than September 1, 2020 WILL NOT	be considered for the auction.	
Late submissions or remaining auction item	s may be retained by the donor, or its	use designated at the discretion of	

the Committee.

Attach this Sheet to Project (Please print legibly. Thank you!) Donated by: Address: ______ City, State, Zip: ______ EMAIL ADDRESS: PHONE: Congregation: _____Congr City_____ Piece/Pattern Name: ______ Size: in. X in. _____ Main Colors: _____ Material/s: Technique: _____ Other Info/Description: _____ Hours of Labor: ___ Cost of Materials: \$__ (Information only) (Not suggested retail value) Please list any history or other significant information here (attach addtl sheet if needed):



STEWARDSHIP AND JOINT COUNCIL UPDATES



During this unique time of worship, we will depend even more on the generosity of this community. We pray that you will continue to support Christ's mission through sending in your weekly Offering.

Updates from Your Joint Councils

JOINT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - via Zoom July 7, 2020

- The Joint Councils met to further discuss the re-opening of our churches.
- With a definite increase in number of virus cases in both Menominee County and Marinette County, it was determined that nothing would change at this time.
- The possibility of outdoor services was again discussed with no action taken.
- Because of the connection difficulties, it was suggested the next meeting be an in-person meeting. No action was taken.
- The next Joint Council meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 28 at 6:00 pm

JOINT COUNCIL MEETING (in-person, outdoors) July 28, 2020

- Pastor Brenda opened the meeting with greetings and prayer.
- She then presented three options for Worship for the month of August:
 - 1. Continue with online services
 - 2. Outdoor Worship
 - 3. Something NEW we haven't thought of just yet!!
- Following lengthy discussion concerning the pros and cons of Outdoor Worship at the large pavilion at Erickson Park in Stephenson, it was decided to give it a try for the month of August. The two major reasons for moving forward with this option were 1) the opportunity for in-person worship, and 2) participation in Holy Communion.
- Masks and social distancing will be a requirement.
 The major con was the reluctance of some parishioners to gather in groups during this time of the pandemic. The fact that this would be a shortened service, as would be the Online service for those who are unable to attend in person, was also a concern.
- After more discussion, it was decided to try the posting of the Worship via FaceBook Live. (NOTE: Pr. Brenda has later decided against this option due to sound and text/prayer issues.)
- Next Meeting was scheduled for August 25th at 6 pm, at which our <u>September Worship Plans</u> will be discussed. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

FROM THE REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY

Sunday Aug 2 – 9TH Sunday after Pent: Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21

Prayer of the Day: Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

Mon – Aug 3	Deuteronomy 8:1-10	Romans 1:8-15	Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29
Tue – Aug 4	Deuteronomy 26:1-5	Acts 2:37-47	Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29
Wed – Aug 5	Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35	Matthew 15:32-39	Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29
Thu – Aug 6	1 Kings 18:1-16	Acts 17:10-15	Psalm 85:8-13
Fri – Aug 7	1 Kings 18:17-19, 30-40	Acts 18:24-28	Psalm 8:8-13
Sat – Aug 8	1 King 18:41-46	Matthew 16:1-4	Psalm 85:8-13

Sunday Aug 9 – 10th Sunday after Pent: 1 Kings 19:9-18, Psalm 85:8-13, Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

Prayer of the Day: O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons & daughters from fear, & preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior + Lord, Amen.

Mon – Aug 10	Genesis 7:11–8:5	2 Peter 2:4-10	Psalm 18:1-19
Tue – Aug 11	Genesis 19:1-29	Romans 9:14-29	Psalm 18:1-19
Wed – Aug 12	Job 36:24-33, 37:14-24	Matthew 8:23-27	Psalm 181:1-19
Thu – Aug 13	Isaiah 45:20-25	Revelation 15:1-4	Psalm 67
Fri – Aug 14	Isaiah 63:15-19	Acts 14:19-28	Psalm 67
Sat – Aug 15	Isaiah 56:1-5	Matthew 14:34-36	Psalm 67

Sunday Aug 16 – 11th Sunday after Pent: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15:10-21-28

Prayer of the Day: God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

Mon – Aug 17	2 Kings 5:1-14	Acts 15:15-21	Psalm 87
Tue – Aug 18	Isaiah 43:8-13	Romans 11:13-29	Psalm 87
Wed – Aug 19	Isaiah 66:18-23	Matthew 8:1-13	Psalm 87
Thu – Aug 20	Ezekiel 28:11-19	1 Corinthians 6:1-11	Psalm 138
Fri – Aug 21	Ezekiel 31:15-18	2 Corinthians 10:12-18	Psalm 138
Sat – Aug 22	Ezekiel 36:33-38	Matthew 16:5-12	Psalm 138

Sunday Aug 23 – 12th Sunday after Pent: Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

Prayer of the Day: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation & form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, Amen.

Mon – Aug 24	1 Samuel 7:3-13	Romans 2:1-11	Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32
Tue – Aug 25	Deut. 32:18- 20, 28-39	Romans 11:33-36	Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32
Wed – Aug 26	Isaiah 28:14-22	Matthew 26:-13	Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32
Thu – Aug 27	Jeremiah 14:13-18	Ephesians 5:1-6	Psalm 26:1-8
Fri – Aug 28	Jeremiah 15:1-9	2 Thessalonians 2:7-12	Psalm 26:1-8
Sat – Aug 29	Jeremiah 15:10-14	Matthew 8:14-17	Psalm 26:1-8

Sunday Aug 30 – 13th Sunday after Pent: Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

Prayer of the Day: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen.

Mon – Aug 31	2 Samuel 11:2-26	Revelation 3:1-6	Psalm 17
INIOH — AUS 2T	Z Salliuel 11.Z-ZU	Nevelation 3.1-0	rsaiiii 17

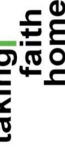
AUGUST 2, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart







Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is a dream you have for your future?
- Tell or think about a time you had a dream that came true.
- How do your dreams reflect your faith in Christ?

EVOTIONS

children. It comes right after the beheading of John the Baptist at another feast, the banquet of King Herod. Just as Jesus' banquet is a far cry from other earthly feasts, so is God's invitation to eat and drink without payment unique to other economies we experience. Isaiah 55 includes a feeding the masses, not just five thousand people, but five thousand men plus the women and challenge to all who want glory and feasting: "Why do you spend your money for that which is envisioned in a banquet feast that never ends. What is it that you want to pursue in life? Does Pray: God of abundant joy, help us to remember and believe that your kingdom gives us a not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?" (55:2). Isaiah gets to the heart of the problem of life: pursuing that which is not important, not essential. And now, ever since your pursuit reflect the faith and joy of being invited to God's banquet? Why or why not? Feasting is a biblical image of God's providence and grace. In Matthew 14 we have Jesus lesus fed the masses, God has reached out to all people with the promise of true joy joy like no other through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

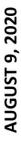
The crowds followed Jesus. Jesus "had compassion for them and cured their sick" (Matthew 14:14b). There are many organizations that are treating and researching cures for diseases. Think or talk about ways to support or donate to an organization that is doing this work.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

a prayer and engage in caring conversations as you enjoy the meal together. After guests leave, friends or someone you may not know very well for a meal in your home. Begin the meal with End your day with this or a similar prayer: Lord, help me to find joy in your abundant care for God's love and care for people is shown in the Bible with stories of meals and feasts. Invite take time to think about what you enjoyed the most as you prepared and hosted the meal.



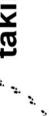
In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org



HYMIN OF THE WEEK

We Are Marching in the

÷



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Would you use the word beautiful to describe feet? Why or why not?

- Describe something you think is beautiful. What makes it beautiful?
- The Apostle Paul quotes an Old Testament passage about someone who is beautiful because he or she brings good news. What is beautiful to you about the message of

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 10:5-15.

Paul continues an intricate dance of balancing the covenant given to Abraham, Moses, and the but to proclaim the good news that Christ is the fulfillment of the law. That message only helps Christ told to others. Who in your life is beautiful because of his or her sharing Christ with you? the same promise: salvation is meant for all (v. 10). Therefore, our job is not to judge (vv. 6-7) larger Jewish community with the new covenant given in Jesus. Finally, it is the same God and message of salvation without hearing. We are those sent to share good news with others. We are the beautiful souls not because of feet or noses or eyes, but because of the good news of if it is heard (vv. 8 and 14). What is so beautiful is not really people's feet—perhaps the least Pray: Living God, may we see the beauty of the gospel and the beauty of those who share attractive part of a person's body—but the person him/herself. People cannot receive this our saving message with others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Serving others reminds us of the breadth of the Kingdom of God and that our faith is personal but not private. Faith motivates us to serve the world in love. In what ways do you serve in your home, your congregation, and in the community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

another piece of paper draw lips. Write a list of ways you can use your lips to tell others about lesus died for us. That is how much God loves us. This is good news! "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). Trace your foot on a piece of paper. Write a list of ways you can use your feet to tell others about the good news of Jesus. On the good news of Jesus. Keep your drawings as a visual reminder of the good news.

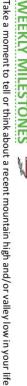


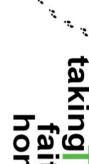
In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

All Are Welcome **AUGUST 16, 2020** HYMN OF THE WEEK

3

WEEKLY MILESTONES





CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections

- Think or tell about a time you went to or met someone from a foreign country.
- What do you learn by meeting people from different cultures?
- It is easy to overlook how God's grace and mercy is not just for ourselves but for all people. How can you extend kindness to someone of a culture that is foreign to you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 15:21-26.

not just our ethnic group, not just "our people," and especially not just our nation. With whom Commission of Matthew 28:16-20. Directed by Jesus, we are to make disciples of all nations, might Jesus be calling you to share God's love and mercy? This story lifts up the essential mission of Jesus and the church of all generations. It is the Great she does. The result, however, is clear: Jesus' ministry, like that of the God of the Old foreigner, both good reasons for Jesus not to talk to her and especially not to address her plea The Canaanite woman is central to this story for many reasons. She is a woman and she is a Testament (see Psalm 67) is for all the nations, not just the sons and daughters of Abraham. her (v. 28). It is not easy to understand how this woman seems to teach and change Jesus, but (v. 24). This woman is also a critical figure because her plea for help changes Jesus' response to before addressing the needs of the Jewish people, "the lost sheep of the house of Israel"

world through Christ our Lord. Amen. *Pray:* Generous God, help us to see the breadth and depth of your love for all people in the

SERVICE &



that person by writing a note, calling, or sending an email. what comes out of the mouth that defiles". Is there someone you know who needs to hear be careful of what you say, "It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is kind, caring words, rather than hurtful ones? Take time to say loving and encouraging words to The words we say to others can sometimes be hurtful. In Matthew 15:11, Jesus is warning us to



God and a reminder of God's continual blessings on us. Write the words from Psalm 67:3 on a The theme this week is, "God's saving work is for all people." Psalm 67 is a song of praise to piece of paper and place it near your bedside so that when you rise and when you lie down, RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

you can recite: **"Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."**



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

AUGUST 23, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK Send Me, Lord





WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



What is something you are tempted to do that you know is not helpful or right?

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What influences a person to do something wrong?
- How is the kingdom of Jesus different from other powers that want to shape your life?

DEVOTIONS



lives like the Canaanite woman and her daughter in Matthew 15. Jesus has the power to bind rather arbitrarily. Jesus as the "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (v. 16) will transform an attempt to influence—or even control—people's thoughts, actions, and loyalties. In lives that are judged and condemned to lives that receive mercy. How does Jesus as the and to loosen lives (16:19) and Jesus intends to loosen lives from death to life, from sickness to ancient world were recognized and worshiped, fickle gods that were seen as ruling human life Matthew 16 Jesus and his disciples are in Caesarea Philippi, a place where many gods of the To be conformed to the world (Romans 12:2) is to be shaped by the powers of domination in Read: Matthew 16:13-20. Pray: The Lord's Prayer. Messiah, the Son of the living God free your life to be a servant of mercy to others? health, from despair to hope, from broken relationships to a life of mutual forgiveness, from

SERVICE &



church in the world. The entire faith community (body of Christ) is needed to do God's work. the work of the church like serving, teaching, encouraging, giving generously, leading, and the larger world. being compassionate. Make a list of gifts you have been given and can use to support the In Romans 12:6-8, the Apostle Paul lists a number of gifts that God has given people to support Take action by using one or more of the gifts you listed to help people in your community or

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



thankful for. Take the heart and put it in a visible place as a reminder to give thanks and praise heart" (v. 1a). Draw a heart on a piece of paper. Inside the heart write a list of things you are Psalm 138 is a song of thanksgiving and praise: "I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole for God's steadfast love and faithfulness.



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life **WEEKLY MILESTONES**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections: CARING CONVERSATIONS

Tell or think about a time when you or someone you know was in pain.

- Reflect on a time you felt someone's pain. What makes you take on someone else's
- How does your faith in Christ help you when you are in pain?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 16:21-28

suffering is still part of life. It is part of the Christian life because Jesus shows us that the way of the great movement of divine love by caring, suffering, and celebrating Christ's victory over sin others for the sake of love. It is also the path that allows us to see the kingdom of God at work. didn't get it, even if he knew Jesus was the Messiah. Peter had to be humbled and corrected. And we do, too. God shows the depth of love from the cross of Christ. We are invited to join death, and evil. Part of that celebration is our openness to the pain of the world, the pain of In an era where we can do so many things to avoid or stop the pain, it can be surprising that

ray: Compassionate God, help us to see in suffering and death the very path of life and love Why do you think suffering is an important aspect of the Christian faith? hrough Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

be painful to experience the suffering of a loved one. Those serving in the role of caregiver can Most people have someone in their life who is ill, declining in health, or in hospice care. It can often times be exhausted and in need of a break. Do you know of someone for whom a visit, meal, or call may give them the break they need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

easy and hard times. We see crosses in many places in our lives. As a follower of Jesus, notice death on the cross. The cross is a Christian symbol. It reminds us that Jesus is with us through the number of crosses you see in your home and in the community this week. Each time you In Jesus' time, the cross was about death. It is not easy to understand or talk about Jesus' see one, take a moment to pray: Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross to save us.



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an

effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR BRENDA

Greetings, Church.

HYMIN OF THE WEEK **AUGUST 30, 2020**

What Wondrous

ove Is This

My note to you this month is **short and sweet**, as worship preparations have now expanded to in-person options, and this Pastor of yours is hard at work! © We shall attempt to do as many outdoor (and online) services as safely possible before the weather changes, and drives us back indoors. I pray that, through prudent and cautious measures, we keep ourselves and one another safe.

In the meantime, I would challenge EACH of you to reach out to three people during the month of August. Call them, e-mail them, text them, write them. The days can become long, family members haven't visited in months, and one can easily become lonely. Without regular worship gatherings, it's easy for folks to feel as though they have been



Be sure to check-out the newly installed porch/railings at the **Parsonage**. No more worrying if the awning will fall down during heavy winds with supports as strong as these!

forgotten. PLEASE join me in reaching out to our fellow members and friends of the congregations. Grab the directory (or call me if you need someone's number) and simply say hello. No need for an eloquent speech: just a friendly hello will go a LONG way!

Even with Outdoor and Online Worship services, I'll still provide a daily devotional that you can find on either church's Facebook page. What started as a devotional practice with my Grandmother 20 years ago, now reaches across the nations, as folks find themselves tuning in for a moment of time in God's Word. Take a listen, share the Good News, and brighten someone's day with a quick hello. Pr. Brenda



Northern Great Lakes Synod www.nglsynod.org

MONTHLY JOINT NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020

This Edition of our Monthly Newsletter covers information for the Congregations of both Gethsemane + St. Stephen's Lutheran Churches.



P.O. Box 435 Stephenson, Michigan 49887

2f. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Stephenson