



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

Physical: N6095 US Hwy 41
Wallace, MI 49893
GOffice@gsslutheran.org

Mailing: PO Box 98
(906) 788-4234
Sunday Worship: 10:30a

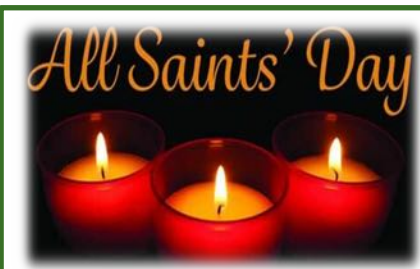
Reverend Brenda L. Greenwald

Phone/Text: 720.989.8218
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Autumn 2024

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During Worship on **All Saints' Sunday**, November 3, 2024, we will say aloud the names of our loved ones who have died in the past year. **May those who we remember rest in peace and rise in glory.**

Join us on Sunday, November 24, to celebrate **Christ the King Sunday**. This service honors Christ's reign over all creation. **Come worship with us as we reflect on His sovereignty.**



Blood Drive: December 10
10:00a - 3:00p at Gethsemane



THE TIME TO
GIVE BLOOD
IS NOW



My, how
they
grow!
Lena
and
Neva



- 1 Brian Panske
- 9 Grandma Dot turns 96!
- 16 Gina Mistark
- 16 Cindy Moore
- 23 Marilyn Pfister
- 24 Sandy Beardsley
- 30 David Kraus



- 7 Tena + Jim Roubal
- 7 Diana + Bob Jarnutowski
- 27 Tom + Andrea Geltz

*We pray for those serving in the military:
Jordan Baril, Jay Chapple, Ken Dams,
Trish Dams, Brent Jurmu, Jared Jurmu*

We continue to hold the following in prayer:

Adam Menor	Carla Dutkavich	Gary Klatt	Heather Brisson
James Dutkavich	Jan Sederquist	Julie Greenwald	Laureen Kaprelian
Sharon Starr	Tom Dutkavich	Tracy Klatt	

*We offer the **comfort** and **hope** of the **resurrection** to the family and friends of **+Jeannie Voelker+***

March 30, 1937 - September 2, 2024

Mother of Patty Vandenberg, Penny Nehls, Butch Parrett, Roy Parrett, and Ronnie Parrett, Grandma to 18, Great-Grandma to 22



Congratulations to
Ashley (Anderson) + Beau Thoney
*who were united in marriage at Gethsemane on Saturday, **September 28, 2024.*** Photo by Cassie Tebo

Hospitalized? Welcome a visit? Contact the Office at **906.788.4234**, or reach out to **Pr Brenda** directly at **720.989.8218** (call/text), and we'll make it happen!



“Top the Tater” Meal Was a Huge Success!

On Thursday, September 12th, our church hosted the much-anticipated *Top the Tater* event, and what a fantastic turnout we had! The evening was filled with laughter, delicious food, and a strong sense of community as attendees came together to enjoy a variety of loaded baked potatoes, each more creative than the last. From classic favorites to bold new combinations, there was something for every taste, and the fellowship shared around the tables made the evening even more memorable.



We are thrilled to announce that the event was not only well attended, but it also played a significant role in helping to raise much-needed funds for the church. Thanks to your support, we are able to continue our work within the community and fund important projects.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who helped make the evening such a success – from those who contributed their time and talents to prepare and serve the food, to those who attended and donated generously. We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you! We look forward to more fun-filled events in the future as we continue to serve both our congregation and the wider community.



Practical Wisdom

A Letter by Brian Morykon

Dear Church, this month's article is by a musician whom I have come to know through Renovaré, a Christian resource group that has strengthened my faith and discipleship over the years. Brian 's powerful words deserve a read, and I commend them to you. *Pr. Brenda*

"Practical wisdom for abiding in and becoming more like Jesus." When disaster strikes—as it does with alarming frequency these days—a community often experiences an initial surge of compassion, energy, resolve, and unity. Then comes the long slog of rebuilding with its accompanying frustration and fatigue. This pattern is true not just of a community struck by tragedy, but with any community that comes together for a purpose—like a worshipping community.

I think of a church plant that initially bursts with life and hope. Then the weight of the weekly work sets in. Meetings become monotonous. Personality cracks are uncovered. And you begin to wonder if doing life together is even worth it.

Bonhoeffer's classic by that title, **Life Together**, can help us here. He says that Christians should bear one another—not just to be there in a hard time, but to allow our brother or sister the **freedom** to be who they are. And who they are is almost always different from who we want them to be.

"Bearing" doesn't mean that we learn to "put up" with people in community while resentment festers under a forced smile. **Instead**, we cooperate with God to come to love and even to like people in spite of—in some cases, because of—their idiosyncrasies. "To bear the burden of the other person means involvement with the created reality of the other, to accept and affirm it, and in bearing with it, to break through to the point where we take joy in it."

One way to bear one another well—that is, to love one another well—is to **hold our tongues**. Yes, Sally is strange. Yes, Peter has problems. And maybe at some point—if we're committed to their good and they've invited us to speak into their lives—we address them directly about some destructive pattern in their lives. But talking around them or about them almost always **harms**, even if it's under the guise of praying for them. (*The Devil gets a special kick out of prayer-request-gossip.*) There are special cases where it is appropriate to talk about someone's flaws with the real intent of how to help that person. But for the most part, a bitten tongue beats a loose one.

The **health** of a community—in times of peril or in times of peace—hangs on its lips. "Bear with each other," says Saint Paul. "Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly."

Lord, I'm convicted. It can be fun to talk—or think—poorly about people to feel better about myself. Forgive me and teach me. You have the words of life. Your silence speaks. Help us learn your way with one another, Amen.



Renovaré

Renovaré offers resources and community for a deeper, more transformative life with God

Joint Service & Potluck



The congregation of Gethsemane had the joy of hosting the congregation of St. Stephen's for a special, Joint worship service on Sunday, September 29, 2024. The Sanctuary was filled with the uplifting spirit of worship as both congregations came together to worship as one. The service was a beautiful expression of unity, with heartfelt prayers, shared songs, and a message of togetherness that resonated with everyone in attendance.



Following the service, the spirit of fellowship continued with a delightful, potluck meal. Members from both congregations brought an array of delicious dishes, from casseroles and salads, to desserts and homemade breads. The tables were filled with both food and lively conversation, as friends and families – old and new – gathered to break bread together and enjoy one another's company.

We extend a special thank you to everyone who contributed to making the event such a success. Whether you brought a dish, helped with set-up, or simply attended, your presence helped make this day a memorable one. As we continue to strengthen the bonds between our two congregations, we look forward to more opportunities for worship, fellowship, and shared ministry in the future.



Sew Blessed: Our Quilters Have Been Busy!

Our Quilters have once again demonstrated their enduring commitment to community and global outreach. In a heartwarming display of creativity and compassion, **102** beautifully handcrafted **quilts** adorned the Sanctuary, filling the space with vibrant colors and intricate designs. These quilts, each lovingly stitched by hand, represent not just the talent of the quilters, but also the Church's dedication to making a tangible difference in the lives of others.



Over the past months, the **congregation** rallied together, contributing to a summer-long collection of school supplies. This effort resulted in the assembly of **75 backpacks** filled with essential items – pencils, notebooks, rulers, and more – ensuring that children in need, across the world, will have the tools necessary for their education. Additionally, **10 fabric kits** were prepared to support the livelihoods of families in communities facing hardship. The school supply kits, alongside the quilts, reflect the collective efforts of many hands, hearts, and prayers.

Last month, the sanctuary's warmth was not only from the visual beauty of the quilts but from the spirit of giving that filled the room. All **102** quilts and the **75** backpack school supply kits, along with the **10** fabric kits, were **blessed** in worship, and carefully packed up and prepared for their journey. An additional **3** quilts were made for Graduates,



4 quilts given to victims of a local fire, **2** quilts were sold, and **3** were given to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp – 2 for the staff, and 1 for their Annual Fall Fest. The quilts and kits have since been loaded into the **Boxcar**, ready to be



transported for distribution through the world. This annual tradition highlights the strength of a community united in service, providing comfort and support to those they may never meet, but whose lives they touch deeply.

We extend a **heartfelt thank you** to everyone who contributed, whether through stitching a quilt, donating school supplies, or offering encouragement and prayers. Your generosity makes a world of difference! **Thank you for supporting and participating in this ministry of care and compassion!**



News from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp



Our **2024 Fall Fest** totals are in! We are so happy to report that we raised a total of **\$28,917!** **THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!**

After adding up online and live auction bids, bake sale totals, paddle raise and online donations and the dollar-for-dollar match, and Country Store and Draffle ticket sales, we are overwhelmed with gratitude.

Thank you to all quilters, volunteers, bidders, donors, bakers, crafters, buyers, and breakfast-eaters! Thanks be to God!



Join us for a **Thanksgiving-themed Senior Day** at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp on Monday, November 18th! We'll gather for a time of fellowship, devotions, and a hands-on cooking experience as we prepare and enjoy a homemade Thanksgiving meal together. Don't miss this chance to reconnect with friends, enjoy delicious food, and share in the spirit of the season. Cost is \$15 (suggested donation) and we'll meet from 10a – 2p CST. **Please RSVP by Wednesday, November 13th.** Call (906) 214-2267 or email hospitality@fortunelake.org

Daily Bible Readings - November 2024

Fri — Nov. 1	Leviticus 19:32-37	Romans 3:21-31	Psalm 119:1-8
Sat — Nov. 2	Numbers 9:9-14	Luke 10:25-37	Psalm 119:1-8

Sun. Nov. 3 — All Saints' Sunday

Deut 6:1-9, Psalm 119:1-8, Heb 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen*

Mon — Nov. 4	Deuteronomy 6:10-25	Romans 12:17-21; 13:8-10	Psalm 51
Tue — Nov. 5	Deuteronomy 28:58— 29:1	Acts 7:17-29	Psalm 51
Wed — Nov. 6	Micah 6:1-8	John 13:31-35	Psalm 51
Thu — Nov. 7	Numbers 36:1-13	Romans 5:6-11	Psalm 146
Fri — Nov. 8	Deuteronomy 15:1-11	Hebrews 9:15-24	Psalm 146
Sat — Nov. 9	Deuteronomy 24:17-22	Mark 11:12-14, 20-24	Psalm 146

Sun. Nov. 10 — Jonah and God's Mercy

1 Kings 17:8-16, Ps 146, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

Prayer of the Day: *O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen*

Mon — Nov. 11	Ruth 1:1-22	1 Timothy 5:1-8	Psalm 94
Tue — Nov. 12	Ruth 3:14—4:6	1 Timothy 5:9-16	Psalm 94
Wed — Nov. 13	Ruth 4:7-22	Luke 4:16-30	Psalm 94
Thu — Nov. 14	Daniel 4:4-18	1 Timothy 6:11-21	Psalm 16
Fri — Nov. 15	Daniel 4:19-27	Colossians 2:6-15	Psalm 16
Sat — Nov. 16	Daniel 4:28-37	Mark 12:1-12	Psalm 16

Sun. Nov. 17 — God Calls Isaiah

Dan 12:1-3, Ps 16, Heb 10:11-14-25, Mark 13:1-8

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen*

Mon — Nov. 18	Daniel 8:1-14	Hebrews 10:26-31	Psalm 13
Tue — Nov. 19	Daniel 8:15-27	Hebrews 10:32-39	Psalm 13
Wed — Nov. 20	Zechariah 12:1—13:1	Mark 13:9-23	Psalm 13
Thu — Nov. 21	Ezekiel 28:1-10	Acts 7:54—8:1a	Psalm 93
Fri — Nov. 22	Ezekiel 28:20-26	1 Corinthians 15:20-28	Psalm 93
Sat — Nov. 23	Daniel 7:1-8, 15-18	John 3:31-36	Psalm 93

Sun. Nov. 24 — Christ the King Sunday

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Psalm 93, Rev 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen*

Mon — Nov. 25	Daniel 7:19-27	Revelation 11:1-14	Psalm 76
Tue — Nov. 26	Ezekiel 29:1-12	Revelation 11:15-19	Psalm 76
Wed — Nov. 27	Ezekiel 30:20-26	John 16:25-33	Psalm 76
Thu — Nov. 28	Nehemiah 9:6-15	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Psalm 25:1-10
Fri — Nov. 29	Nehemiah 9:16-25	1 Thessalonians 5:12-22	Psalm 25:1-10
Sat — Nov. 30	Nehemiah 9:26-31	Luke 21:20-24	Psalm 25:1-10



Church Council Minutes – Sept. 19, 2024 - Council Meeting

Present: Wendy Hanson, Rose Klatt, Carol Klein, Pr Brenda

Absent: Gail Schmidt, Cindy Moore

Opening Devotions: Wendy

Meeting Called to Order: **6:10p**

AGENDA APPROVAL: **Motion** to accept: Pr Brenda; **Seconded** by Rose. **Carried.**
Addition of item 4: "Parking Lots"

SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Motion** to accept Minutes of May: Pr Brenda; **Seconded** by Rose. **Carried.**

PASTORAL REPORT: May 15 – September 18, 2024

CALENDAR

- **Baptisms** **Baptismal Seminars** (6/13/24) and (8/29/24)
Levi Storm Paris (6/16/24) at Gethsemane
Karson Michael Parker (6/23/24) at Gethsemane
Adley Kay Wilczynski (9/8/24) at Gethsemane
- **Funerals**
+Herman Schuette+ (5/18/24) at Gethsemane
+Chad Wendt+ (6/12/24) at Anderson-Diehm
+Zeke Gill+ (6/26/24) at Gethsemane
+Mary Dombrowski+ (8/31/24) at St. Stephen's
+Jeannie Voelker+ (9/5/24) at St. Stephen's
- **SPECIAL Services** (5/19/24): Pent/Confirm/Bap, (6/30/24): Joint Church Picnic, 9/8/24: GWOH
10/6/24: **Blessing of the Animals:** Sunday at 12:30p – Parsonage Backyard
- **Weddings**
Marnie Schuette / Jay Wangerin – (6/22/24) at Gethsemane
Ashley Anderson / Beau Thoney – (9/28/24) – at Gethsemane 12p
Jordan Crawford / Kellie Haulotte – (9/28/24) at St. Stephen's 3p



**Levi
Paris**



**Karson
Parker**

MINISTRY MOMENTS

- **Community** **Baccalaureate** Service – Ministerium recommends discontinuing
Blood Drives (5/30/24), (8/27/24) at G. **NEXT:** 12/3/24 at Gethsemane
9/28/24: Mellen Township Fire Department **Auction: Quilt** Donation
10/2/24: **Stewards of Children** Training: Wednesday at Geth. 5-7:30p
10/12/24: **Congo Resource Fair** at Emmanuel. Hymns, Finance, etc.
10/16/24: **Chili Supper** at St. Stephen's. 4:30-6p
10/19/24: **Boxcar** for Lutheran World Relief: Saturday in Marinette
10/24/24: **Dinner That Shall Not Be Named:** Thursday at Geth. 4:30-6p
(to be shared verbally at meeting)
- **Concerns**
- **Faith Formation** **Shaw** Salo (St) and **Taylor** Schultz (St) – Classes begin (10/13/24)
Bonfire for **FLLC** (5/31/24), Fall Kick-off **Bonfire** (9/22/24) at Zion
Congregation **Day Visit on 6/19** - WOW! **Fall Fest** (10/5/24)
- **Fortune Lake**
- **Health Dept** **EACH** event has been vetted – we know which **license** to procure.
- **Ministerium** Elected **President**. **Incredible grant** from Good Dog Foundation!
- **NGL Synod** Retreat at **FLLC** (6/7-8/24), Retreat at **First** 9/13-14/24
Synod Assembly Hybrid / in-person Rotation. ZION this year.
- **Nursing Homes** **Harbors:** Jack Wittgren's 92nd Birthday Party (9/9/24)
Menominee Health: Worship – 4th Tuesday of each month
Roubals: Elaine Haban now a resident. Worship services continue.
- **Visits** Home: **29** Hospital: **4** Retire. Home: **6** Office: **23**
Phone: **DAILY** Text: **DAILY** Squad Calls: **1**



**Adley
Wilczynski**

TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORTS – September

- Pastor Brenda commented on the faithful and generous giving of the congregation! *Thanks be to God!*
- Pastor Brenda also noted at this time that we will need to be seeking a new co-treasurer as Mary Jo will be leaving us by the end of October. ☹

Motion to accept all Financial Reports was made by Carol, and **seconded** by Rose.

Carried.

MINISTRY TEAM LIAISONS

- Faith Formation:** 3 Baptisms for which Pr B met with the parents; Stephanie Klein is again doing a lesson for the youngsters during the sermon (*Thanks, Steph!*); Confirmation studies will begin on 10/13.
- Fellowship:** Times included two Blood Drives, combined worship/picnic with SS, the FLLC congregational visit, Brat Fry, and Top the Tater along with our regular Sunday morning Coffee Hours.
- Living Trust:** We are waiting for the tech equipment to arrive!
- Memorial Fund:** 30 additional hymnals have been purchased (the majority dedicated to loved ones) and placed in the pews; a banner hanger and several new banners have been purchased using Memorial Fund \$'s. Thank you to Pastor B for making those purchases!
- Property:** The water heater was replaced at the parsonage by Starzynski Plumbing in July; the Handi-Capable signs were put in place and the parking spaces painted by a well-organized crew including: Andrea, Tom, Harvey, Dwaine, and Eliza – thank you ALL! Tom has also painted the door on the back shed! And thanks to Doug for taking care of getting the water tested at both the church and the parsonage!
- Social Ministry:** Several ministry activities took place during the past 3 months including Blood Drives (2), the Brat Fry to raise funds for the HVAC system, God's Work, Our Hands Sunday when we packed-up 75 Celebration kits for the Food Pantry and 75 school bags for LWR, and Top the Tater with proceeds going to our Eagles Wings Fund!
- WELCA:** Activities include the purchase of silverware for the church kitchen with a generous donation and WELCA dollars; banners made for baptisms along with the purchase of cupcakes for Fellowship Hour following those services. A quilt has been quilted by Ann and sent to FLLC for their Fall Fest auction on 10/5!
- Worship/Music:** Several special services happened throughout the summer including: 3 baptisms, Worship in the Park/Picnic, blessing of the quilts, Schuette/Wangerin wedding, funeral for +Zeke Gill+. At Sunday Worship during August, we enjoyed special music with hymn selections from the Hymn Hat! And in September, the Narrative Lectionary was introduced as a new format for worship.

Motion to approve all Ministry Team reports was made by Rose; **seconded** by Pr Brenda.

Carried.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS

- 1. Fortune Lake:** **Congregational Visit** was enjoyed by those who attended and consensus was that we plan to do it again next summer!
- 2. Brat Fry Review:** It was a fun evening of food and fellowship for the benefit of our HVAC fund 0- approximately \$1500 was raised! Kudos to Cindy and Gail for spear-heading that activity!
- 3. Blood Drives:** **2 Blood Drive Reviews** – At the May Blood Drive we exceeded our goal and met our goal of 24 at the August Drive!
- 4. Top the Tater:** **Review:** 140 folks were served and \$1,968 will be added to our Eagles Wings account –thanks to Wendy and the crew and to some very generous monetary donations, along with all the food donations, it was a very fun, successful event!

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Water Heater:** **Replacement (parsonage):** An official vote was needed to okay the purchase of the water heater that was installed at the parsonage by Starzynski Plumbing in July. Motion was made to approve that purchase at a cost of \$1250 from the Parsonage Maintenance Fund.
Motion was made by Carol; **seconded** by Rose. **Carried.**
- 2. Snow Plowing:** Wendy had the costs for snow plowing from Bart Tickler – Less than 4" - \$225; 4" or more - \$265; sanding (at request) - \$150.
- 3. New Toilet:** Toilet Replacement (Ladies restroom): Council voted to approve the purchase and installation of an A.D.A. compliant toilet in the Ladies restroom by Starzynski Plumbing at a cost of \$450.
Motion was made by Rose; **seconded** by Pr Brenda. **Carried.**
- 4. Parking Lots:** After some discussion, it was determined that assessment of our parking areas could be sought so that we have a \$ number to help us move forward with future planning for parking lot improvements!

NEXT STEPS

- Next Gethsemane Council Meeting: October 17th at 6p. Devotions: Carol.

Motion to adjourn was made by Pr Brenda

Meeting closed with *The Lord's Prayer*.

Meeting was adjourned at **7:31p**

Respectfully submitted, Carol Klein, Council Secretary



The **Chili Supper** at St. Stephen's was another tasty success!
Loved by Bob, Doug, Elmer, Janet, Carol, Tom, + Andrea!



Faith Sandahl of **CASA** of Menominee presented the "Stewards of Children: From Darkness to Light" Training on October 30 at Gethsemane.

It was a training that **empowers** adults to **prevent** child sexual abuse through awareness, education, and stigma reduction. **10** of us from G + St took the training – **just ask us** if you'd like to learn more!



Our instructor, Faith, to the left, Abby, Sue, Carla, Kami, Janet and Sue at the back table, and Wendy, Carol, Pastor Brenda, Ann, and Donna in the front.



Well, the reviews are in...people **LOVED** the **Sauerkraut Dinner!** Over **200** guests were served, and close to **\$2K** was raised! **WOW!**

