



# **Salem Lutheran Church Childcare and Preschool**

And people should eat and drink and  
enjoy the fruits of their labor, for  
these are gifts from God.

Ecclesiastes 3:13

*Happy Labor Day!*

**September 2022**



# Pastor's Page

Dear Family of God,

September is a popular time to think about education, for that is the month where we think about back to school and even our educational programs at the church kick off again. As you think about education, I want you read about the term *Cultural Liturgy* and how that relates to education and formation in children.

James K.A. Smith has become one of my favorite authors in the church. He has coined the term “cultural liturgies.” This term and the subsequent meaning of it is true. Smith writes that “liturgies—whether ‘sacred’ or ‘secular’—shape and constitute our identities by forming the fundamental desires and our most basic attunement to the world. In short, liturgies make us certain kinds of people, and what defines us is what we love.” (Desiring the Kingdom, 25) Smith defines that when he uses the word liturgy, he means worship.

The two books that I read from Smith up this point include the one mentioned *Desiring the Kingdom* and *You are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. In both of these books he discusses this term of cultural liturgy. He also in these books discusses education, even the education of children. I want you to think about what Smith says when it comes to education as formation. “If education is primarily formation—and more specifically, the formation of our desires—then that means education is happening all over the place (for good or for ill).” (Desiring the Kingdom, 19). Therefore, education is even happening in the home. The home is the most important place for faith education to occur as well. The daily rituals and life in the home, along with conversations between parents and children are all educational, that is, formational.

When parents teach their children, they be teaching not just for the head, but for the whole of the person. When it comes to the faith, parents along with the church support teach the head knowledge of the Christian faith. Parents also need to realize how they impact their children in other ways may teach something far different than the Christian faith depending how they live and prioritize their families and their



children's lives. One clear example of this is do I take my kids to their sporting activity (or other activity) rather than church on Sunday or Catechism class on Wednesday. A parent could be teaching their child the faith at home when it comes to the head knowledge but be teaching something far different in how they live their life.

Smith tells us in his book, *Desiring the Kingdom*: “We are what we love, and our love is shaped, primed, and aimed by our liturgical practices that take hold of our gut and aim our heart to certain ends.” (40). It is really what we do that takes hold of our whole person. Education and training for the kingdom of God needs to be more than just imparting head knowledge, it needs to touch each aspect of the child's life, including the heart.

When that parent takes a child to an athletic event over church, they are showing what is more important to them. They are following what they love.

James Smith actually appeals to Martin Luther in his writing as he connects cultural practices, liturgies, and the worship of one's god. He writes, "To say 'you are what you love' is synonymous with saying, 'you are what you worship.' The great Reformer Martin Luther once said, 'Whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really your god.' We become what we worship because we worship what we love." When parents orient their families toward actions and priorities that do not reflect faith in Christ, they are forming their child to trust in a different god than the true God.

Parents are spiritually forming their children whether they realize it or not by what they are doing. Secular liturgies is a tool that Satan uses to take people away from worshipping the Lord God almighty. Smith writes this piece:

'Secular' liturgies are fundamentally formative, and implicit in them is a vision of the kingdom that needs to be discerned and evaluated. From the perspective of Christian faith, these secular liturgies will often constitute a mis-formation of our desires—aiming our heart away from the Creator to some aspects of the creation as it were God. Secular liturgies capture our hearts by capturing our imaginations and drawing us into ritual practices that 'teach' us to love something very different from the Kingdom of God.

As we see what Smith means about the impact of liturgy in the world and in the home, he points out that God's people "might have Bible verses on the wall in every room of the house and yet the unspoken rituals reinforce self-centeredness rather than sacrifice." (You are What You Love, 127). He goes on to suggest that "each household and family does well to take an audit of its daily routines, looking at them through a liturgical lens. What Story is carried in those rhythms?" (You Are What You Love, 128). As this audit takes place it is important to keep in mind what needs to be in place in the Christian home, which Smith says is that "they are caught up in the wider household of God." (128). Smith even says: "The liturgies of our homes should grow out of out, and amplify, the formation liturgy of Word and Table." (128).

Smith encourages God's families to use the liturgical practices in the home. One way to do this is to follow the Church Year in your home. He also points to the practicality of the Baptismal candle so that each year, you remember your baptism on your baptism birthday.

Here are just a few examples for how you can focus on the Church Year in your homes.

### Connecting Family to the Church Year

"The rhythms of Advent and Christmas, Epiphany and Pentecost, Lent and Easter are a unique way to live into the life of Jesus." (129)

1. Incorporate the Colors of the Church Year into your home.
2. Advent – Make and use of an Advent Wreath during the season of Advent.
  - a. [Advent Wreath for Building and Playing - Wicking Vicar](#) (google WickingVicar Advent wreath)

3. Lent—Observe a form of fasting. (129)
4. The *Lutheran Service Book* has a listing of the colors for each part of the church year on page x in the front part of the hymnal.
5. During Advent and Lent, use the provided devotionals that connect to the midweek worship series.
6. Christmas Eve—read the Christmas Story.
7. Holy Week—Read the Passion Narrative and watch *The Passion of the Christ*.



I encourage each and every household whether you have children at home or not to look and see how your lives are affected by the liturgies in your daily activities and to see if they mesh with worshipping the one true God.

In Christ's Service,

*Rev. Michael Nielsen*

## Council Meeting 8/9/22

**Present:** Pastor Michael Nielsen, Vice President Josh Millerman, Head Elder Paul Millerman, Secretary Sarah Duncan, Treasurer MaryAnn Thompson, President John Steele, Board of Education Chris Severt. **Absent:** Trustee Tom Lipke

**Secretary Report:** Secretary Sarah Duncan read the meeting minutes from 7/12/22. A motion was made by Paul Millerman to accept the minutes and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** MaryAnn Thompson advised the July 2022 financial summary as follows: General fund balance as of 07/01/2022: \$67889.76 Income: \$8612.91 Expenses: \$14585.92 Net income: \$-5973.01. General Fund balance as of 07/31/2022: \$61916.75. Envelope Giving for July: General Fund Envelopes: \$7123.02 Missions: \$538 Building Fund: \$209 Gifts and memorials: \$200 Sunday School offering: \$0 Daycare income (envelopes) \$136 Air Conditioning: \$200 Vacation Bible School: \$0 Oil Well Schultz: \$305.98 Misc Income: \$305.98 Lutheran Hour: \$0 Cemetery Fund \$0 Thrivent Choice Dollars \$0 Current Bank Accounts: Salem Church Checking: \$34174.64 Savings: \$17324.97 Daycare Checking: \$34174.64 LCEF Account: \$28944.72. General fund envelope giving is down about \$8000 so far this year compared to last year. MaryAnn got a quote from Hoff Financial. After a discussion about Accounting agencies, Chris Severt made a motion to move our financials/accounting to Hoff Financial starting September 1. Josh seconded the motion and the motion was carried. MaryAnn will call Matt Hoff to get it switched. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the minutes and seconded by Paul Millerman and motion carried.

**Elder's Report:** Paul Millerman advised that there were no transfers or releases. Bud and Pastor are visiting shut-ins. The Shepherd of the Valley trip went very well. New cross on the bell tower is up. ALICE training will be October 5 from 6:30 to 8 pm. Pastor discussed getting out to visit people with issues or concerns. Elders discussed communion service each Sunday and are making a pro/con list to be discussed at their next meeting. Also discussed a mid-week service for those that cannot make a weekend service. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the minutes and seconded by MaryAnn Thompson and motion carried.

**Trustee Report:** In Tom Lipke's absence, Sarah Duncan read his prepared minutes. There are still some lawn mowing dates that are open. Two weeks in August and 2 weeks in September. Looking for volunteers to step up. All the carpets have been cleaned here at Salem. A big thanks to the volunteers who helped. Cost was \$70 to rent one machine and 4 gallons of carpet cleaning solution. Work on the bell tower is still ongoing. Roger Fagerlin built the new cross which has been installed. The new roof in the bell tower has to be finished and the louvers have to be painted. The Millerman boys have done most of the work. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the minutes and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

**Board of Education Report:** Chris Severt advised that the Preschool Open House is on Friday August 12 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. All parents of the preschool have been invited to the church picnic on that same date. The State came in and inspected the Center. We had a few citations with staff and child files. Melissa is working on getting them corrected. We were aware of them prior to the inspection. We hired two more staff for the childcare center. A full time teacher (Katelyn Hendren) and a full time assistant (Holly Wilhelmi). September calendar and curriculum are done. A motion was made by MaryAnn Thompson to accept the minutes and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Nielsen advised that he will be on vacation August 26-29. He wants to thank everyone for the prayers for his family over the last week as they suffered from COVID. Also, thanks to those who stepped up and helped with this past Sunday's services in his absence. CCLS kick off September 11 at St Matthews in Almena at 1pm. Men's bible study: Jeremiah. Thursday bible study: Basics of biblical interpretation. Sunday bible study: Christians in a woke world. Catechism class orientation is August 31. We need a volunteer to coordinate the Angel Tree Christmas program. The Salvation Army is back in Barron County. They want to come and speak to the Salem leadership and partner in the faith community. A motion was made by Chris Severt to accept the minutes and seconded by Josh Millerman and motion carried.

#### **Old Business:**

NONE

#### **New Business:**

Discussion on communion every Sunday and Mid-week services.

New cross article for the Barron News Shield.

A motion was made by Josh Millerman and seconded by Chris Severt to adjourn the meeting and motion carried.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

Minutes by Sarah Duncan

#### **Men's Club meeting August 2, 2022**

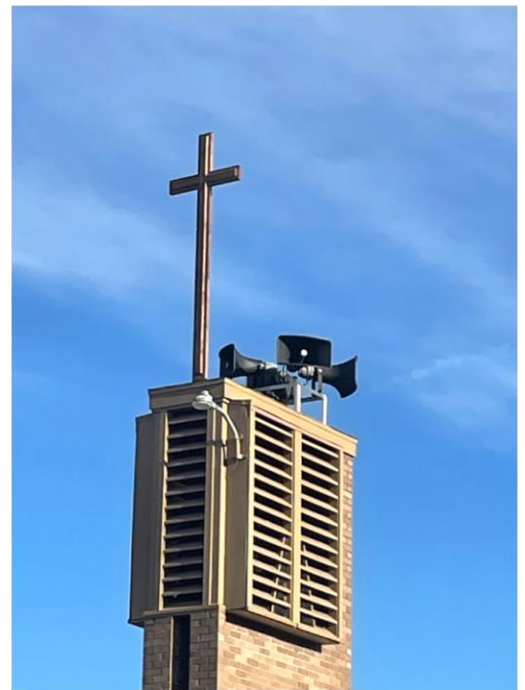
- Present, Tom, Don, John, Geoff
- Talked about the up coming pancake supper September 26, 2022. Don will try to get a Thrivent card. Tom has talked to Kwik Trip to get items donated.
- Tom also mentioned that Men's club purchase lawn spray to help get rid of some weeds at the church and the parsonage lawn.
- Next Men's Club meeting September 6, 2022



Minutes by Don Duncan, Secretary



**New Cross and roof!!  
Thank you to all the  
volunteers that  
helped make this  
happen.**



# North Wisconsin District Adult Gathering

Make plans now to attend the NWD Adult Gathering **on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Weston.** Registration & morning refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m. with the program from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. A catered lunch will be served at noon. Devotions will be led by Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck, president of the North Wisconsin District. Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, president emeritus and professor emeritus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will share the message “Yet to Come the Mystic Close”. Cost is \$30 which includes morning refreshments, program & lunch. Registration deadline is October 10th . An offering will be collected at the event to support the Labor of Love Million Dollar Campaign, which will help eliminate the educational debt of called church workers in the North WI District (more details are included in the brochure). Registration forms are available in the narthex and on the NWD homepage at [www.nwdlcms.org](http://www.nwdlcms.org) under ‘Events and Info’



**SEPTEMBER 8: RICARD & MARLENE SNYER**

**SEPTEMBER 17: BRYAN & SARAH BISONETTE**



**September 4:**

**Shyanne Pearl**

**September 8:**

**Grant Stabenow**

**September 12:**

**Isaac Mickelson**

**September 19:**

**Garrett Steele**





**September 5:** Emily Nielsen

**September 7:** Terry Kirkman

**September 8:** Debra Church

**September 9:** Will Schuettpelz

**September 12:** Debbie Kuhrt

**September 13:** Becky Hamman

**September 16:** Duffy Anderson & Barb Mass

**September 19:** Kathy Schuettpelz

**September 22 :** Summer Hammann

**September 28:** Pastor Nielsen

**September 29:** Steven Amdall & Harrison Fields

**September 30:** Christopher Weise





## How to Contact Us

Pastor Michael Nielsen – (218) 280-0999

Pastor's Email – [rev.mike.nielsen@gmail.com](mailto:rev.mike.nielsen@gmail.com)

Office – (715) 537-3011

John Steele – (715) 769-3133

Preschool – (715) 537-3011 ext.14

Mary Ann Wheeler, Parish Musician – (715) 205-1158

Church Service Phone –1 (888) 505-1870

Church Email: [salemmos@chibardun.net](mailto:salemmos@chibardun.net)

**Salem's New Web Page Is:** <https://www.salembarron.com/>

Click on enter the following link and follow the prompts to support Salem.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-6137330>

## September Altar Guild: Denise Stabenow

### September Greeters

4 – David & Janee Anderson

11 –

18 – Nathan Duncan Family

25 – Marilynn Amundson

### September Ushers

**Duffy Anderson**

Nathan Duncan

Dale Bryan

Andrew Bryan

### September/October Leaders

Darlene Heil 715-637-5483

Jim Thalacker 715-859-2228

Jim & Lori Crawford 715-458-6080

Harvey Germanson 715-637-3890

Scot & Becky Hammann 715-637-0586

Dean & Kim Hanson 715-458-4262

Shirley Hehl 715-637-3586

Pastor & Emily Nielsen 715-537-3011

Joann Jaeger 715-924-3551

Brad & Carol Kuchera 715-837-1677

Joshua & Jennifer Millerman 715-837-1551

Pastor & Kathy Mueller 715-418-0050

Fred & Linda Riebe 715-637-5243

Herb & Deloris Zabel 715-637-5295

### September Elders

4 – Tim Dennis

11 – Don Duncan

18 – Stan Koenig

25 – Trevor Duncan



### Coffee Schedule

4 – MaryAnn Thompson

11 – Rally Sunday - Potluck



18 – Pastor and Emily Nielsen

25 – Metz and Koenig Family





# September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 11 am Bible Class	2	3
4 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks	5 7:00 pm Elders	6 7:30 am Bible Class 10:00 AM BACA @ Salem 7:00 pm Men's Club	7 9 am Childcare Chapel 4 pm Catechism 7:00 pm BOE Meeting	8 11 am Bible Class	9	10
11 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 Potluck Rally Day: Pastor blessing backpacks and handing out Bibles/Catechisms. <b>Rally Sunday!</b> 	12	13 7:30 am Bible Class 7:00pm Council  Winkel at Silver Creek	14 9 am Childcare Chapel 4 pm Catechism 7 pm YFM	15 11 am Bible Class	16	17
18 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Communion Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Sunday School	19	20 7:30 am Bible Class	21 9 am Childcare Chapel 4 pm Catechism	22 11 am Bible Class	23	24
25 <b>Green</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:00 Coffee/Snacks 10:15 Sunday School	26 4-7 pm Men's Club Pancake Supper 	27 7:30 am Bible Class	28 9 am Childcare Chapel 4 pm Catechism	29 11 am Bible Class	30	



# CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

P.O. Box 120 Almena WI 54805

September, 2022

...tell to the coming generations the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might and the wonders that he has done.

Psalm 78:4

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God has done, is doing and WILL DO great and mighty works among us. May the faithful never doubt what God is capable of doing through His Word and through you and me, the baptized, individually and powerfully together.

**“For nothing will be impossible with God.”** Luke 1:37.

The Christ Community School Board continues to persevere and march steadily forward towards the opening of a centrally located Lutheran School in Almena, Wisconsin. It is now time for us to focus more intently on securing congregational and individual support for a future Lutheran parochial school. Presently, the North Wisconsin District of the LC-MS, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, four congregations and several individuals have contributed to the start-up of Christ Community Lutheran School. We have only just begun! To God Be All the Glory!

## **Christ Community will:**

1. Be faithfully Lutheran as it forms young hearts and minds by boldly teaching the fullness of God's Word in Christ Jesus without compromise or reservation.
2. Provide a classical “back to the basics” education for grades K through 12<sup>th</sup>.
3. Be affordable for families of all sizes.
4. Be a gift driven school dependent on the faithful and joyful generosity of God's people.
5. Work to build a lasting endowment for generations by offering Legacy Planning to CCLS Patrons.
6. Open, if God so wills, as early as the Fall of 2024 and no later than the Fall of 2026.
7. Be accredited by the Consortium of Classical Lutheran Education and the National Lutheran School Accreditation

**Join us for a CCLS Update and Patron Legacy Planning Presentation  
at St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church, Almena WI,  
Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 1PM.**

Joyfully in Jesus - Christ Community Lutheran School Board,

Ken Koch - Christ, Pipe Lake

Jake Miels – St. Paul, Cumberland

Rev. Preston Paul – St. Matthew, Almena

Scott Petersen – Our Redeemer, Webster

Brian Scheps, St. Matthew, Almena

Shawn Schradle – Zion, Turtle Lake

John Steele – Salem, Barron

Donations to help get CCLS up and running should be made out to Christ Community or CCLS and mailed to P.O. Box 120, Almena, WI 54805. Please indicate your home congregation with your donation.

\*In the unfortunate (and unanticipated) event that CCLC fails to open by the fall of 2026 remaining funds will be distributed to circuit congregations according to the percentage of received donations for the use of Christian Education in the congregations.

**Rev. Quintin Buechner** – Silver Creek Lutheran, Circuit Visitor

Christian schools are an absolute need. There truly needs to be a reality based education that teaches what God has to say about how we got here and what it means to be Christian. We also need to teach the realities of what God has to say about our lives and the realities of history, science and mankind's purpose, as opposed to the fantasies of humanism and the present woke culture.

**Rev. John Miels** – St. Paul Lutheran, Cumberland

Since it is plain and obvious that the government schools are teaching religious beliefs of secularism and humanism, and has many instances of being biased against our Christian faith, we are long overdue for our own educational system in our area. We should repent for our lackluster faith when it comes to our responsibility of teaching the Christian faith to our children and making this available to our neighbor.

**Rev. Dr. Michael Nielsen** – Salem Lutheran, Barron

With the way of our current American culture and education system and the increase in the decline of respect and morality, and the knowledge that we are all uniquely created by God, the church of yesteryear had it right – “We need to operate schools.” There has been a decline in Christian schools, it’s time to plant schools, there is no time like the now for Lutheran Education to be right here in our area! It’s not just the job of the church to raise our young in the Christian faith though, it’s also the job of the home, the parents! Church and Home go together, with the school able to be an offshoot of both church and home.



**Rev. Tylan Dalrymple** – St. John Lutheran, Cameron & Christ Lutheran, Chetek

This is a chance to share something that will not perish. The opportunity to educate our children in the faith is one we will either look back on with regret for letting slip through our fingers or fulfillment for having pressed on toward the goal!

**Rev. Steve Miller** – Zion Lutheran, Turtle Lake & Pipe Lake Lutheran

"Back in the day" even non-church people understood the value and importance of the commandments and the Christian faith and our national heritage and roots in that faith. My dad's friend, former school superintendent and local businessman, Marty, said "I don't attend church, but I wouldn't want to live in a town that didn't have one." But sadly, such understanding is no longer prevailing in government, higher education and now even in local education. Increasingly "the system" has bred antagonism towards the Christian faith and values and even towards common sense. And it's getting worse. What can we do? Pray! Stand up for Jesus. Bring children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Establish a school...a small island of sanity and refuge...to teach the truth. What can one small school do? With God all things are possible! I thank God and pray for faithful teachers in the local systems. We need them! But I support Christ Community Lutheran School.

**Rev. Greg Becker** – Immanuel Lutheran, Clayton & Grace Lutheran, (Connersville) Boyceville

"When the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was formed, it became a requirement of Synodical membership that congregations would provide Christian education for their children. This was before public schools were available and before Sunday schools were popular. Thus a congregation was expected to operate a Lutheran School if it was to become a member of the Synod."( source: <https://www.luthed.org/about-lutheran-schools/>). Scripture tells us in Deuteronomy 11:19 You shall teach [God's word] to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. This certainly isn't happening in our public schools and because the majority of parents are separated from their children by their vocations, it is even more critical today that an education formed around the teachings and doctrines of our synod be available to them. We are called to bring God's children to Him. Let's do it.