

## From Pastor Dan

"Best of all he loved the fall. The leaves yellow on the cottonwoods, leaves floating on the trout streams, and above the hills the high blue windless skies...Now he will be a part of them forever."

Ernest Hemingway wrote those words as a eulogy to a friend. But they could just as easily apply to himself. As a matter of fact, they are now part of a memorial to Hemingway which stands along Trail Creek in Sun Valley, Idaho. Hemingway had a home in nearby Ketchum and in later years, divided his time between there and homes in Key West and Cuba.

Well, I love the fall too. Many of you probably do as well. Temperatures are mild, the sun shines more, and the colors in this neck of the woods are enlivening. It is a time of positive, hopeful change. Even though I know winter is the next step in the seasonal process, fall does this magical thing which allows me to drop my guard a bit and let more of life in.

You see, even when we know change may portend difficult times, as fall does winter's long nights and cold days, it can still be a very good thing. At its best, change in our lives provides the opportunity to live more completely by seeing and doing things in a new way. Stability and assurance are fine qualities. But when change stirs the pot, the aromas and flavors of life are released that otherwise may have remained trapped below the surface.

So, what does this have to do with Jesus? Heck, I don't know, except that Jesus was really all about change. In his life, he changed how we think about others; in his death, he changed the way we think about ourselves; and in his resurrection, he changed the way we think about the possibilities of life. Jesus was all about change and I think he would love this time of year. Maybe, just maybe, Hemingway's poem of promise could even have been written about him, "Best of all he loved the fall. The leaves yellow on the cottonwoods, leaves floating on the trout streams, and above the hills the high blue windless skies...Now he will be a part of them forever."

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Dan

### **Council Corner”**

I will discuss money, something we don't typically talk about in our church, but as Treasurer of the church I think it is my job to discuss it. This congregation has done an excellent job over its 151 year history coming up with the necessary money for its various projects. I am sure we now will do it again. Some of the financial details of the current parking lot expansion project included in the following

The church is now receiving the bills for the work as it gets completed, thus far we have received a bill for \$26,423 for the asphalt/and prep work . We will be receiving additional bills for the resurfacing and stripes once they are completed.

We have done a good job and started saving for the project, as of mid-September the congregation had given \$5325 of the expected \$32000 needed for the completed project. Exactly one sixth of the needed money was collected before the work had even begun, Great job everyone!!

Since we will be paying interest on the borrowed money balance and we can pay any amount without penalty it is advantageous to pay as much as possible initially to lower the total interest expense.

Of course when everyone is donating for the parking lot, remember to continue to donate to our regular monthly needs so we can continue to pay: the pastor, keep the lights on and get the snow plowed as these costs do not go away.

It has been a pleasure to be associated with a church which has been so successful in raising the moneys as needed but diligent in keeping costs under control.

Any questions feel free to call me,

*Curt*

Curtis Cooley

Cell 715-571-4057

Home 715-675-8566 (You will actually get Sue as I never answer the phone nor have control of the TV remote control.)

**Council Members.** Here is a list of Council Members. Please contact them with any concerns or issues you may have. Council meets once a month and welcomes input from the congregation.

President: Randy Knapp – 715-581-5558; rknapp@eojohnson.com  
Vice President: Sue Cooley – 715-675-8566; cooley1512@outlook.com  
Treasurer: Curt Cooley – 715-675-8566; usfcool@gmail.com  
Secretary: Tammi Smith – 715-581-3892; tammism79@gmail.com;  
tammism@aspirus.org  
Trustees: Lee Sillars – 715-218-5041; lsillars@aol.com  
Don Voelker – 715-675-7062; midmainefarms@hotmail.com  
Evangelism: Duane Askew – 715-675-4111; daskew@airrun.net  
Fellowship: John Marquardt – 715-675-3300; johnnym54401@gmail.com  
Education: Connie Nowak – 715-675-1577; bcdenowak@gmail.com  
Worship: Jan Mueller – 715-675-9558; dmjm5455.wau@gmail.com

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**Mission Statement:** “We are called to serve God; serve each other; serve the community; serve the wider church.”

**Serve God** through worship, prayer, and the dedication of our lives to His kingdom.  
**Serve Each Other** by mutual care and support to encourage everyone to fulfill their God-given potential. **Serve the Community** by making known the good news about Jesus and the love of God by word and deed. **Serve the Wider Church** through prayer and practical support to help spread the good news about Jesus throughout the world.

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***Worship Schedule***

**9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings**

**6:30 p.m. Thursday Evenings from Sept. 7 through Nov. 2**

***Please join us as we worship our Lord!***

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**Homebound Parishioners.** The following parishioners are no longer able to consistently attend worship services. I visit them to remind them that they are loved by God and loved by their community of faith, St. John. Sometimes it is helpful to hear those reminders from someone in addition to me.

Ann Kieckhafer  
1347 Crystal Avenue  
Room 236-1  
Naperville, IL 60563

Ellen Kruit  
1821 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Room 215  
Wausau, WI 54401

Harriet Wanner  
1240 Merrill Ave.  
Apt. 2  
Wausau, WI 54401

**Daylight Savings Time Ends –  
November 5!**

**POLKA SERVICE – CHILI DINNER/RAFFLE**  
**October 15, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.**

Mark your calendars! The polka worship service with Gene Lettau & the II Edition Band will be on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. (note time change!), followed immediately by our annual Chili Dinner and Raffle. Chili tickets will be \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 4 through 10, with those 3 or younger free. Proceeds from chili sales will go to the Youth Fund.

Sign up in the narthex to donate items for the chili dinner. We need people to help set up, serve and clean up afterward. Sign up or call John Marquardt at 715-675-3300.

We also need donations of large and small raffle items. Raffle sales will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Please bring items to Pastor Dan's office. For questions regarding the raffle, contact Linda Graveen at 715-675-7739. Proceeds from raffle ticket sales will go to the parking lot fund.

**Readings for October:**

October 1: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

October 8: Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 15: Isaiah 25:1-9; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

October 22: Isaiah 45:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

October 29: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

**COMING SOON TO A PARISH HALL NEAR YOU!**

Beginning Sunday, September 24, a new adult forum class will begin. In recognition of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, we will start off this year with a 7-part series on Luther's Small Catechism. Each session will include a short video and class discussion on an element of the catechism which includes: The Ten Commandments, The Apostles Creed, The Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Communion, and Daily Prayer. The class sessions will begin after fellowship time at 10:45 a.m. and will conclude after 30 minutes at 11:15 a.m. Join us to learn more about your Lutheran heritage.

**Reminder!** If you are in the hospital and would like Pastor Dan to visit, **PLEASE CALL** and let him know. Because of privacy issues, the hospital will not notify him or the church that you are there.

**Food Pantry.** The food items collected for the food pantry in October will be donated to The Women's Community Center. Your donations are appreciated. If you are able to help out with delivering these items to the local organizations, please contact the church office.

**Council Meeting Minutes.** Copies of the minutes from the most recently held Council meeting are by the mailboxes. Please feel free to pick up a copy. If more are needed, please contact the church office.

**Announcements.** If you would like to have an announcement included in our weekly bulletin or newsletter, please submit the information in writing and put it in either Pastor Dan's mailbox or the administrative assistant's mailbox located in the narthex. If it is more convenient for you, you can submit your announcements via e-mail to [stjohnwausau@msn.com](mailto:stjohnwausau@msn.com). The deadline for submitting announcements for the Sunday bulletin is the Thursday before by 9:00 a.m. The deadline for the newsletter is indicated on the monthly calendar.

### **October Birthdays**

10-1 Kurt Guralski  
10-2 Kari Heil  
10-2 Jeanne Klinger  
10-2 Keegan Tesch  
10-3 Josh Howe  
10-5 Logan Hoeft  
10-8 Kim Landwehr  
10-9 Jake Boehm  
10-9 Sophie Seubert  
10-10 Terry Kopplin  
10-10 Rod Treu  
10-10 Mike Woodmansee  
10-11 Dawn Detert  
10-13 Pat Poeske  
10-13 Cindy Preisig  
10-13 Melissa Thurs  
10-17 Draxton Howe  
10-18 Curt Cooley  
10-21 Megan Eno  
10-22 Brooke Howe  
10-23 Paul Gauger  
10-23 David Howe  
10-23 Rylee Sulin  
10-24 Sophia Kohl  
10-24 Kylee Pasholk  
10-25 Lucas Linzmeyer  
10-27 Keith Koenig  
10-29 Julie Schuster

### **October Anniversaries**

10-2 Steve & Pam Zahn  
10-4 David & Rebecca Voelker  
10-5 Vern & Marlene Bahr  
10-7 Guy & Nancy Frostman  
10-8 Randy & Linda Graveen  
10-8 Pete & Kelly Hirn  
10-9 Jim & Loretta Nolan  
10-12 Tom & Betty Ann Tabaka  
10-13 Nathan & Karrissa Fitzke  
10-19 Aaron & Laura Kudronowicz  
10-20 Doug & Christine Doede  
10-20 DJ & Autumn Tesch  
10-23 Mike & Sara Stubbe  
10-27 Ron & Julie Schuster

*Birthdays and  
Anniversaries!*

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