

Our Mission: Growing in Faith and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with All People

A Devotional Thought: Freed to Live, Freed to Love

This weekend, Americans celebrate the principles of freedom and justice upon which our nation was founded. For many people, that celebration will be a little more joyful this year because, on June 24, the US Supreme Court decided that abortion is not a constitutionally protected right. This opens the door for states to make laws against some or all abortions.

The Scriptures, not human laws, permissions, or opinions, define what is right or wrong. The Lord says that the right to give and take life belongs to him alone: “There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life” (Dt 32:29); “You shall not murder” (Ex 20:13).

And the Scriptures confess that life begins at conception. We confess with David, “You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb” (Ps 139:13). We also confess, “Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived *me*” (Ps 51:5).

Remember that important truth. We are *all* sinful at birth. Sin dwells in the heart of that abortion-minded mother and in the heart of her pre-born child. Sin dwells in my heart and yours. Sin shows itself in *all* of our decisions to deal with difficulties in ungodly ways. It shows in self-righteous, judgmental attitudes toward fellow sinners and in selfish blindness or apathy toward the needs of those around us. And my sin deserves God’s punishment just as much as anyone else’s.

No law – human or divine – will change my sinful heart or the heart of any mother or child. But we sinners know the One who is sinless. We know Jesus, who, compelled by nothing more than his perfect love, gave up his rights and laid down his life for us and for every sinner. We know him who was filled with compassion for sinners and who showed that compassion in everything he did.

Knowing him and his love now sets us free (Jn 8:32; Gal 5:13) – free to live our lives as God intended: free to hear and share God’s word of forgiveness and love, free to serve God and those around us in compassionate love. Let’s use our freedom to show and share God’s love to everyone in everything we do.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tim Wagner



Building Closed

The school is closed July 4 to July 11. The new cleaning company, JanPro will be waxing the floors that week. Please do not enter the school building.

Summer Worship Hours

Sundays 8:00 & 10:00 am (9:15 am Cross-Generational Bible Study) Monday 6:30 pm

Devine Call Extended

On Sunday, June 26, our congregation extended a call to Pastor Stephen Schmiel to serve as Associate Pastor for Youth and Outreach. Pastor Schmiel currently serves at Faith in Prior Lake, Minnesota. He is married to Carin and has two children. Please keep them in your prayers, as he determines where best to use his gifts.

Church Picture Directory

Just a reminder to sign up to have your picture taken for our new church directory that will be printed late Fall. You should have found a letter regarding the dates, times and instructions on how to sign up online in your church mailbox. If you didn't please stop in the office or call and Jo will get you scheduled. Unique Church Solutions will be here taking family pictures August 15-17 and September 22-24. Every family that has their picture taken will receive a complimentary directory and 8 x 10 family portrait. Simply go to www.ucdir.com click on photography appointment for opportunities to sign up for a time slot. If you are willing to assist with the picture days or the directory, contact Jo Theimer in the church office.

Membership Changes

+ Child Baptism

- Liam Joseph, son of Trevor & Mindi Hansmann

+ Transferred Out

- Jared & Nicole Dorn & Abigail to Bethlehem, Hortonville.

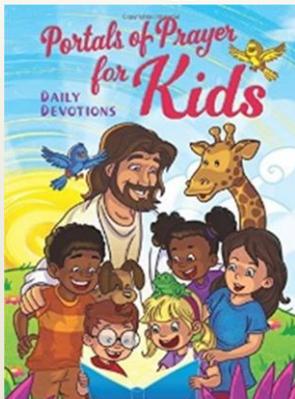
+ Eternal Life

Sharon Glasel

Library Corner

God gives parents the important role of training their children in God's Word. Our Riverview church library has several books that can help. We have books of Bible stories for various age levels, Arch Books, and children's devotions and prayer books. Come, peruse the selections, or ask the pastor for help in choosing one that is a good fit for your family. Browse our entire library catalog at www.librarything.com/catalog/RLC-Appleton.

Contact Linda Zwieg with questions or suggestions.



Building Expansion Update

The James Company recommends that Riverview Lutheran Church is in a good position to conduct a capital campaign at this time and the first postcard as mailed to members. The Building Committee will be meeting in August to discuss the next steps. Watch for more details soon!

Scrip

Please remember Scrip is available to purchase on Sunday between first and second service. If you are needing to buy scrip during the week please call the office between 9am -1pm.

Upcoming Special Services

We have several special worship emphases in the upcoming weeks. Make plans to be here to join us!

- July 3-4 – Independence Day
 - We give thanks for God's blessings on our nation and for the blessings we have as Americans, and we pray that he would preserve the freedoms we enjoy.
- July 21- Bible Camp Closing Ceremony 11:30-12:00pm

Later this summer:

- August 21 – Mr. Patrick Loroff will be installed as our 4th grade teacher and athletic director in the 10:00 am service.
- August 28 – Pastor Belter preaches his last sermon as pastor at Riverview before his retirement. (A meal and celebration are currently being planned.)

Board Updates

Board of Church Properties Notes

- The Loroffs are here! Thank you to those who helped with their move.
- JanPro has been hired to clean our building.

Board of Lay Ministry Notes

- Plans are being made for filling ministry needs during the upcoming pastoral vacancies.
- There will not be a church picnic in July. A retirement celebration for Pastor Belter is being planned for August 28. We thank Mr. Alan Nolte for serving on the board for the past several years, and we welcome Mr. Brian Shaw and Mr. Roy Dumke to the board.

Board of Spiritual Growth Notes

- We thank Mr. Nathan Nolte for serving on the board for the past several years.
- We have several vacancies on the board. Those interested in serving should contact Pastor Wagner.

- Sunday morning (9:15 am) cross-generational bible study and Monday afternoon (1:00 pm) continue.

Board of Evangelism Notes

- Our three summer camps are coming up the week of July 18.
- Invite an unchurched friend to get together with you for dinner or to attend a local event this summer. Show genuine love, and watch for chances to share your Savior.

Board of Stewardship

- Received and reviewed CLA Report on Office Support and Organization.
- Direct Deposit for full-time and part-time regular workers is on hold until further notice.

Board of Education Notes

- Reviewed and discussed dress code.
- Preparing for a great 2022-2023 school year.
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Riverview School Highlights

Mr. and Mrs. Loroff have arrived!

See you in August! Go Runners!



Stewardship of God's Blessings

Average Weekly Attendance

	Worship		Bible Study	Sunday School
	In Person	Online		
April	325	27	52	22
May	220	27	73	21
June	203	26		

Year to Date Offerings (Jul 1-April 30)

	Actual	Budget	Difference
General	\$573,168.79	\$550,000.00	+\$23,168.79
Synod	\$37,077.76	\$30,250.00	+\$6,827.76
FVL	\$18,172.36	\$19,250.00	-\$1077.64
TOTAL	\$628,418.91	\$599,500.00	\$28,918.91

Serving in July

Greeters: *** We are in need of Greeters

July 3 – 8:00 & 10:00 Dennis Prah/Earl Semrow

July 10 – 8:00 – Tom & Kay Marohn/
Steve & Betty Lehman
10:00 – Gary & Diane Cox

July 17 – 8:00 – Scott & Susan Hesse Family
Dan & Diane Vanden Heuvel
10:00 – Jim & June Vandenberg
Chad & Paula Krueger

July 24– 8:00 – Ben & Susie Jaeger & Family
10:00 – Mike & Heather Geer Family

July 31 – 8:00- Patrick & Becca Loroff
10:00- Janet & Todd Behm

Ushers:

8:00 – Don Eichsteadt, Steve Lehmann, Levi Wolfgramm, Will Toshner, Henry Verfuertth

10:30 – Aaron Melso, Ethan Melso, Ryan Melso Rob Walker, Lucas Walker, Reagan Walker

Communion Assistants:

July 10 – 8:00 – Dave Spielbauer
10:00 – Todd Behm
July 24– 8:00 – Jim Vandenberg
10:00 – Seth Zimmermann

Powerpoint Assistants:

July 3 – 8:00 & 10:00 – Open
July 10 – 8:00 – Levi Wolfgramm
10:00 – Seth Brooks
July 17– 8:00 – Micaiah Wagner
10:00 – Dylan Krueger
July 24 – 8:00 – Rach Somers
10:00– Noah Nolte
July 31 – 8:00 – Henry Jaeger
10:00 – Talian Doran

Lawn Mowing:

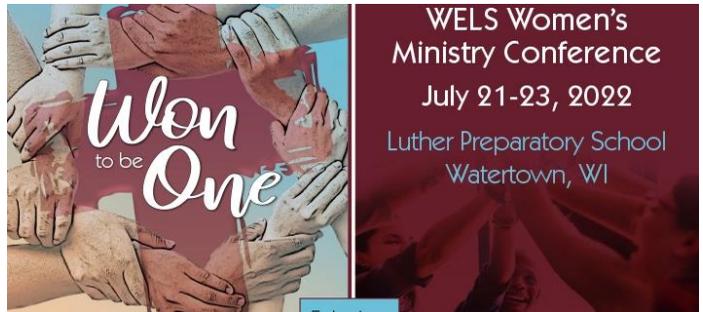
July 6 – Keith Patchett/
Scott Schewe/
Spencer Brooks
July 13– Steve & Cheryl Schmidt
July 20 – BJ Witte
July 27- Tim Blob and Todd Blobe
August 3- Wayne Somers/
Ben Jaeger/
Peters Wolfgramm

WELS Night With the Brewers

We are excited to announce that WELS Night at the Brewers is back for 2022. Mark your calendars and plan to join thousands of WELS members for an evening at the ballpark on Friday, July 8, to watch the Brewers take on the Pirates. Tickets for WELS members and guests are discounted up to 50% and are reserved all together in a block. Tickets can be purchased online at brewers.com/wels. TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE!

2022 WELS Women's Ministry Conference July 21-23, 2022

Plan now to join us for the WELS Women's Ministry Conference at Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI on July 21-23, 2022. We will dig into Ephesians and learn about the richness of God's grace. Grace that moved Jesus Christ to the cross and won us by his blood. Grace that reconciled us with our heavenly Father. Grace that now unites us as one body to serve Him by the power of the Holy Spirit. We have been won to be one! Find out how that truth shapes and impacts us as women in the church, home, and workplace.



Financial assistance for future called workers

MLC has set a goal that no students will need to take on loans for their first year of college. The plan includes a strong partnership with incoming students and their families—everyone will pay what they can. One reason that MLC can confidently plan to meet that goal in the future is the annual funding it gets from the WELS Ministerial Education Endowment Fund—about \$485,000 a year.

Contributions to that fund provide WELS' four ministerial education schools with ongoing financial support since the endowment is designed to make steady annual distributions that increase as the fund grows. Learn more about WELS endowment funds at wels.net/foundation.



Going Off to College or the Military?

Those who are heading off (or back) to college or to serve in the US military are asked to share your updated contact information (address/phone/email) with the church office, so that we can continue to serve you. Please also share your contact information with WELS Campus Ministry or Military Services at www.wels.net/refer. ? Don't leave your faith life at home! Sign up with WELS Campus Ministry to get connected with the local campus pastor near your school and to receive free copies of Meditations devotions and Forward in Christ magazine. Sign up at wels.net/college.

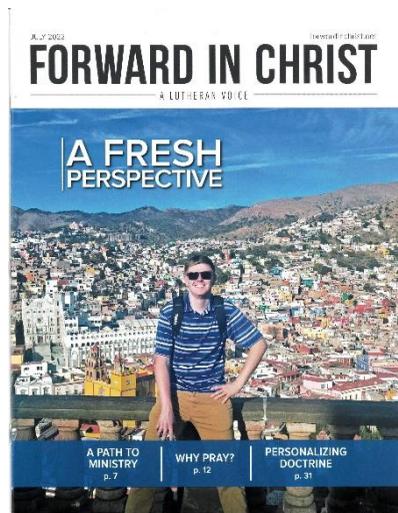
July 2022 Issue of Forward In Christ

Every called worker has a unique path into the ministry. This month, Jacob Shepherd, who graduated just one gear ago from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, shares his story of becoming a pastor and how his experiences prepared him CIS he serves his first call at St. Paul, Round Lake Park, ILL. (pp. 7-9).

More than 150 new called workers received their assignments in Mag. Graduates from Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., are pictured on pp. 18-27 along with a report of where they will begin their full-time ministries.

While these new graduates will fill some of the current vacancies in WELS' churches and schools, WELS President Mark Schroeder notes that workers still are few for the ministry opportunities God has placed before us. He offers some thoughts on the current vacancies in WELS and what we all can do to help (p. 6). Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary President Earle Triptow also explores the blessings of a vacancy in a congregation (p. 10).

Finally, don't miss a new Bible study starting this month (p. 31). In "What does this mean for me?", Greg Lyon will be looking at a number of familiar doctrines and discussing how to apply these well-known truths to *your* personal life.



Riverview 2022 Summer Camps

Riverview Lutheran Church is excited to offer three free camps in one fun-filled, faith-enriching week this summer. We invite you to join in the fun, as we learn and grow together.

Space is limited, and pre-registration is required, so sign up early at www.RiverviewLutheran.org/camps to reserve your spot. Think of an unchurched friend whom you can invite to join you!

Hay Day Summer Bible Camp

for children entering 4K – grade 2

July 18-21, 2022

9:00-11:30 am



S.T.E.M. Camp

for children entering grades 3-6

July 18-21, 2022

9:00-11:30 am



Art Camp

for children entering grades 3-6

July 18-21, 2022

9:00-11:30 am



Volunteers are needed to help out with our camps. If you can help one or more days, contact one of the coordinators:

Bible Camp: Melissa Nolte (mnolte@riverviewlutheran.org)

STEM Camp: BJ Witte (bwitte@riverviewlutheran.org)

Art Camp: Jenise Nolte (jnolte@riverviewlutheran.org)