

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

A Devotional Thought: The Lamb Opens the Scroll

Don't you sometimes wish you could see into the future? The Lord is blessing the ministry of Riverview in many exciting ways right now, but that also brings with it important discussions and decisions. What will our expanded facility and the ministry that happens in it and from it look like? How will our school ministry continue to grow? What pastor(s) will the Lord provide for his church in the future, and how will they lead, serve, and equip us?

Sometimes those questions can be exciting, as we think about what could be with the Lord's blessing. But sometimes those questions can be scary, because we simply don't know exactly what the future will look like.

In a vision that God gave to the apostle John in Revelation 5, there was a scroll on which details about the future were written. But the scroll was sealed, and no one was worthy to open it and read it. No one, that is, but one. And that was the Lamb of God – the one who was slain for the sins of the world, was raised to life, and now rules in eternity for our benefit. By shedding his blood for us, he proved himself worthy (Rev 5:7-10). He showed a heart perfectly aligned with his Father's and filled with selfless, forgiving love for you and me.

Jesus, the Lamb on heaven's throne, is the one who holds the future, who rules all things. He guides and blesses Christians and Christian congregations in perfect wisdom and love. There is no one else we would want holding our future in his hands!

Take time to read Revelation 5. We rejoice over the blessings the risen Lamb has given to and through us here at Riverview. We pray that he would continue to bless us, as we commit every decision into those powerful hands that still bear the nail-scars as proof of his love. And we join the saints and angels around heaven's throne in singing, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" (Rev 5:13)



Yours in Christ,

Pastor Tim Wagner

Building Expansion Update

The Building Committee has worked with Keller Builds on proposed plans for interior finishing and renovation. The committee will be receiving detailed price estimates at its next meeting, on May 5.

An informational flyer will be mailed to all members the first week of May.

Informational meetings have been scheduled for the following dates:

- Wednesday, May 18 (6:00 pm)
- Thursday, May 19 (6:00 pm)
- Sunday, May 22 (11:45 am)
- Tuesday, May 24 (10:00 am)

All members are encouraged to attend to learn more about the proposed building expansion and to have your questions answered.

Members will then be asked to complete a survey about the proposed building expansion.

Summer Worship Hours

Beginning Sunday, May 29, our Sunday worship times will change to 8:00 and 10:00 am.

Monday night worship will resume at 6:30 pm on Monday, June 6.

Retirement Announcement

On April 24, Pastor Belter announced he will be retiring from Riverview, as of Wednesday, August 31, 2022. He will preach his last sermon as pastor here on Sunday, August 28. If you would like to join the retirement celebration planning committee please contact the church office for details. Watch for information regarding plans for future pastoral staffing.

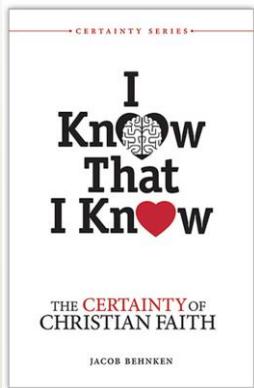


Library Corner

As we seek to share our faith, we may often run into objections. How can we respond with gentleness and respect? Our church library has several books that help us understand the world around us and how to defend the truth of Scripture in a hostile world, including *Quick to Listen*, *Clearing a Path for the Gospel*, *I Know that I Know*, and others.

Browse our entire library catalog at www.librarything.com/catalog/RLC-Appleton.

Contact Linda Zwieg with questions or suggestions.



Confirmation

Eleven young adults will be confirmed in the Christian faith on Sunday, May 1, at the 10:30 am service. Please keep these confirmands in prayer.

God's Blessings to the 2022 Confirmation Class: Tessa Block, Seth Brooks, Braeden Capual, Aiden Feltz, Elizabeth Gentz, Emily Hesse, Caleb Johnson, Riley Lindell, Brenna Rades, Kendall Schewe, and Grant Shea.

May Door Offering

New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, provides a loving and supportive place for single mothers to start a new life. This Christian-based residential setting is designed to help new mothers become responsible parents – by raising their new babies in a caring environment. New Beginnings enables a single mother to live away from potentially dangerous or harmful influences and nurture her baby in a positive environment. They provide a unique opportunity for generationally poor mothers to grow in their confidence and independence while being supported in raising their child.

This program is completely funded by donations. More information about this ministry is on the church bulletin board or at

www.homeformothers.com



NEW BEGINNINGS
A HOME FOR MOTHERS

LWMS News

LWMS ladies will be serving coffee and refreshments between services on May 8, Mother's Day. We will also have a basket available to collect NEW, unused 4oz or 8oz baby bottles, baby hats, onesies, blankets, and gowns for the moms to be sent to the Central African Medical Mission (CAMM). Please consider this opportunity to let the moms in Africa know that their WELS Sisters in Christ here in Appleton, Wisconsin, care for them!

Easter Season Worship Series

To the world, he seemed like a defeated man: opposed and killed by his enemies, his followers scattered in fear. Yet, three days after Jesus' death, he rose victorious from the dead. Nothing would ever be the same. The rest of eternity is now a victory march for the risen Christ. During Easter, we should not think of ourselves as passive observers in Christ's victory. We are more than fans cheering for our favorite athlete! Rather, we are active participants in Christ's triumph. Just as his death was our death, so also his life is our life. Buried with Christ in baptism, our life is now hidden with him on high. The victory is ours, now and forever.

Easter is more than a day. It is an entire joyful season. The six solemn weeks of Lent are eclipsed by seven weeks of unbridled joy. These seven weeks correspond to the period of fifty days on the Jewish calendar between Passover and Pentecost. The Church reserves its highest praise for the Easter season. We do not merely watch from the sidelines as Christ marches in victory over sin, death, Satan, and hell. We join in the festal procession! Join us for worship, as we continue the Easter celebration under the theme "Victorious" throughout the month of May!

Riverview Summer Camps

This summer, Riverview will host three summer camps in the same week to try to share Jesus with our own students and members and reach out to the unchurched. All camps will be July 18-21, from 9:00-11:30 am.

- A Bible Camp will be offered for those entering PreK-Grade 2.
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and Art Camps will be offered for those entering Grades 3-6.

Watch for opportunities to volunteer, to register your children, and to invite friends and neighbors!



Celebrate Victory With Us

Board Updates

Board of Lay Ministry Notes

- Many contacts were attempted with inactive members leading up to Holy Week, and follow-up contacts are being made.
- Preliminary discussions began concerning pastoral staffing needs.
- The summer Sunday worship schedule (8:00 & 10:00 am) begins May 29, with Monday evening services beginning June 6 at 6:30 pm.

Board of Spiritual Growth Notes

- Eleven young people will be confirmed on May 1.
- A cross-generational bible study is being planned, to be held between services during the summer months.
- Graduating seniors are reminded to contact the church office with your updated contact information, so that we can help you stay connected.

Board of Church Properties Notes

- Thank you to those who have signed up to join a lawn crew. The schedule will be sent shortly.

Board of Evangelism Notes

- Over 150 Children attended Easter for Kids.
- We will hold three camps the week of July 18-21: Bible camp for those entering 4K – Grade 2; STEM and Art camps for those entering Grades 3-6. Volunteers are needed.

Board of Stewardship

- Approved 2023 offering envelopes.
- Approved healthy policies and procedures for 2023
- Reviewed financing options for current and possible future mortgage debt.

Board of Education Notes

- Reviewed prespective enrollment numbers for 2022-2023.
- Reviewed, updated, and approved the MVO (mission vision objectives)
- Approved the use of i-Ready standerized testing for 2022-2023

Riverview School Calendar April Highlights

May 1- 6 – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 6 – RLS Chapel (8:10 am)

May 6 – Kindergarten -4 grade plays at (6:00 pm)

May 8-10 – VEX IQ Worlds in Dallas Texas

May 13 – RLS Chapel (8:10 am)

May 15 – 3-4 grade sing at 8am service

May 19 – Preschool Play and Ice Cream Social (6:00 pm)

May 20 – RLS Chapel (8:10 am)

May 20 – 7/8 grade play (6:30 pm)

May 26 – School Picnic **at Fritsch Park** 1651 Sandys Ln, Menasha, WI 54952

9 am drop off Noon pick up (9 am – 12:00pm)

May 26 – 8th grade Graduation (6:30) Whole school sings



RLS Robotics Teams at World Championships

Riverview Lutheran School will have TWO teams participating in the VEX IQ Robotics World Championships in Dallas, TX from May 8-10.

Team 10851C - In Progress (8th graders Seth and Josh) will be competing in the Middle School Science Division

Team 10851D - Recharge Needed (7th graders Dylan, Jackson, Evan, and Gabe) will be competing in the Middle School Engineering Division.

The links below will take you to a live stream feed of the competition on Monday and Tuesday. There will likely be a long time span between our teams' matches. We'll put out a tentative schedule for each of the teams once that has been set.

Science Division links:

Monday 5/9: <https://www.vexworlds.tv/#/viewer/?broadcast=tsdkntcxup9tcckfnwa1>

Tuesday 5/10: <https://www.vexworlds.tv/#/viewer/?broadcast=oqruuldzarhwjix9lhbe>

Engineering Division links:

Monday 5/9: <https://www.vexworlds.tv/#/viewer/?broadcast=yzsqpppyrax9p4coc1h8>

Tuesday 5/10: <https://www.vexworlds.tv/#/viewer/?broadcast=ojzj0av2x2a6r4oex94a>

Stewardship of God's Blessings

Average Weekly Attendance

	Worship		Bible Study	Sunday School
	In Person	Online		
January	194	55	64	19
February	245	30	70	20
March	220	27	73	21
April	325	27	52	22

Year to Date Offerings (Jul 1–March 31)

	Actual	Budget	Difference
General	\$475,740.65	\$450,000.00	+\$25,740.65
Building	\$90,879.80	\$90,000.00	+\$879.80
Synod	\$33,555.76	\$24,750.00	+\$8,805.76
FVL	\$16,185.64	\$15,750.00	+\$435.64
TOTAL	\$616,361.85	\$580,500.00	\$35,861.85

Serving in May

Greeters:

- May 1 – 8:00 – Lehmann; Shaw families
10:30 – Zimmermann; J. Theimer
- May 8– 8:00 – D. VandenHeuvel; Kusserow
10:30 – Doran
- May 15– 8:00 – E. VanDenHeuvel
10:30 – Wenberg
- May 22– 8:00 – Wing; Winsor
10:30 – Katalinick; Prah
- May 29– 8:00 – Kuepper; Kelley
10:00 – D. Miller; Gagnon

Ushers:

- 8:00 – Dan Vanden Heuvel
10:30 – Jerry Glaze

Communion Assistants:

- May 8 – 8:00 – Peter Wolfgramm
10:30 – Todd Behm
- May 22– 8:00 – Jim Vandenberg
10:30 – Seth Zimmermann
- May 29– 8:00 – Kevin Wundrow
10:30 – Mike Melso

Powerpoint Assistants:

- May 1 – 8:00 – Anna Wagner
10:30 – Hayden Hesse
- May 8 – 8:00 – Levi Wolfgramm
10:30 – Talian Doran
- May 15 – 8:00 – Rachel Somers
10:30 – Greta Nolte
- May 22 – 8:00 – Liam Kelley
10:30– Lydia Walker
- May 26 - **6:30 pm – (open)**
- May 29 – 8:00 – Micaiah Wagner
10:00 – (open)

Celebrate MLC Day 2022

Wednesday, May 4 is MLC DAY 22. Join thousands of friends of Martin Luther College across the globe. What You Can Do: **Pray** for our students, faculty, and staff, and for our mission of training the next generation of called workers to share the gospel with the world. **Share** a message of support or gratitude. Record

short video with your message and share it on our MLC Day Kudoboards, or post it on Facebook/Instagram using #MLCDAY22 or **Give** a gift to MLC. Your donation will directly assist MLC students by helping us fund the Congregational Partner Grant Program. A generous donor is matching all donations up to \$50,000 to help us reach our \$100,000 goal.

Forward in Christ

The May 2022 issue of FIC is now available in the church entryway. Pick up your copy and take one for a friend. Here are a few highlights:

- Don't miss this month's 'confessions of faith' article which shows how God used a young woman's love to travel to connect her with a young man across the world who needed answers to lifelong questions about God and faith (p. 7).
- Read about a mother's hope and her sons' unbridled joy in Jesus following a devastating accident (ps. 18).

WELS Women's Ministry Conference

The WELS Women's Ministry Conference will be July 21-23, 2022, at Luther Preparatory School, Watertown, Wis. Registration is now open. Join women from every walk of life to study Ephesians and learn to cultivate unity that begins with grace for ourselves and for others. When we start here, we can identify barriers that get in the way, stand firm on Scripture in the face of conflict, and extend grace in our everyday relationships. Learn more and register at wels.net/wmconference.

