

## Keep Alert! Watch!

*Jesus said, "Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back . . . If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'" (Mark 13:33-37)*

It's a hot time of the year, so ice cream trucks are out. Maybe you've heard their familiar jingle coming down your street.

If you have young children, ice cream trucks pose a couple of challenges. First, you must watch for the truck in your neighborhood, so you don't miss it and disappoint your kids. Second, you have to keep alert for the danger that the truck poses. If your child runs out into the street after an



ice cream truck, the results could be deadly. Keep alert! Watch!

God also tells us to keep watch. Once, Jesus told a story that explained the meaning of God's command to stay alert. He described a wealthy man heading away from his home on a journey. He has an order for the doorkeeper, "Stay alert!" The man at the gate must keep watching because he doesn't know when the owner of the house will return.

In the same way, we don't know when Jesus will come back from heaven. When he does, he is going to welcome those who are prepared for him. How do we prepare for his return? The one thing that prepares us for Jesus is faith. And faith comes by hearing and learning the good news of the salvation that Jesus accomplished for us.

Jesus came to die for the sinful things we have done. If you saw a neighbor's child zooming heedlessly into the street, would you send your son into the street to get in the way of the oncoming ice cream truck—dooming your son to save the other child?

What if that child had regularly disrespected you? Would you give up your own son for such a defiant one? God did. He had his holy Son die in place of those who have disobeyed him—all of us. When he successfully completed the work of salvation, Jesus returned to heaven. He promised that one day he will return to take all of his believers home with him.

Watch! Jesus is coming. To ignore his Word and live in unbelief will result in a horrid separation from God. Keep alert! Waiting for him in faith brings a luscious treat that couldn't be cooler or sweeter.

-WELS Outreach newsletter

## Congregational News



**VBS Day Camp - August 5-8** Yes, there is still room! If you have children from Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade in your family / friends / neighborhood circles, they are invited for a fun week of Vacation Bible School, starting August 5<sup>th</sup>. If you weren't sure about whether you could get your child(ren) here until recently, you're encouraged to come early on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> and register in person. If you have any last-minute questions, check the information on the bulletin board or the cabinets in the church entryway or contact Mallory Lindert ([dmlindert@yahoo.com](mailto:dmlindert@yahoo.com)) or Pastor Bode (262.483.0407 / [revsdb@aol.com](mailto:revsdb@aol.com)).

**Semi-annual Meeting** Agenda packets are available on the cabinets in the entryway for anyone who would like to see the reports given at our July 14<sup>th</sup> Semi-annual meeting.

**Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic** September 8<sup>th</sup> is the date for our

annual church picnic and outdoor worship service. Weather permitting, we'll worship at 9:45 a.m. under the tent outside. We'll follow with a



potluck picnic (please bring a dish to pass – meat and beverages will be provided). We'll have only one worship service that weekend (9:45 a.m. on Sunday) to give every member of Zion the opportunity to reacquaint themselves with all the members of Zion by joining together in worship and some fellowship.

**Sunday Schedule** September 8<sup>th</sup> marks a return to our regular fall Sunday worship schedule - 7:30 and 9:45 a.m. each Sunday morning. Thursday evening services are at 7 p.m. year – round and are a great alternative if you know you're not going to be around or have something planned for Sunday morning. If you have fallen out of that good habit of attending worship regularly this past summer, make this fall a new start!

**Sunday School** also begins that day, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m. in the church proper, running until 9:30 a.m. All Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade children are invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 8:30 in the church for Sunday School. The spiritual education of our children is a responsibility given to parents by God...may all of our parents take that responsibility seriously, make use of the help that our church gives (Sunday School and catechism classes) and then model the love for God's Word in our own lives as we "hear the Word of God and obey it."

**Adult Bible Study** The pastor is currently preparing the bible study schedule for this year. If you would like to study a specific book of the Bible, Bible teaching, or topic from a Christian perspective, please let him know and he'll try to work it into the schedule. The pastor is always open to a different time and / or place for bible study as well. If you have any suggestions, please contact him.

**Communion Protocol** From time to time, we include a couple reminders in our monthly newsletters concerning the reception of Holy Communion. Here are some good reminders...

- When receiving the bread, please open your hand so the pastor can place it in your hand. Don't try to grab it yourself.
- When receiving the common cup, you'll make it a lot easier for the pastor if you place your hand on the bottom of the chalice and tilt it until you receive the wine.
- If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform the pastor.
- If you would like the pastor to come down and give you Communion in the pew, please inform him before the service.

**Save the Date** Zion will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, from noon – 5:00 p.m. More information to come.

**Online Worship** If you want to be fed spiritually when you can't make it to church, you have a variety of options. One option that will keep you connected to your own church is viewing our worship services online. The recent update of our audio – visual capabilities now allow us to livestream our worship services. Here's how it works: go to our church website at [www.zionallenton.org](http://www.zionallenton.org), click on link to our youtube page, and, once you are there, click on the "subscribe" button. You should receive about the upcoming service and when to tune in on your device.



## Stewardship Segment

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10). This statement helped early church Christians know how to live so that their lives (both individually and collectively) would show the glory of God.



Do you consider yourself a faithful steward of everything God has provided to you for your daily life? When we think of being good stewards we often think of three words: our *Time, Talents and Treasures*. What about challenging yourself regarding your stewardship of things other than financial that God has given you?

As stewards, God has placed under your responsibility many things and many people, more than you realize. Have you prayed for the pastor of our congregation, for all of our leaders, or for your fellow members? Have you prayed for our church, our schools, our Synod, that our ministry might be successful in sharing the Gospel? Just as important, have you prayed for yourself, as your faith is another blessing of God that you are responsible for?

Be faithful in your role as God's steward in all areas of your life – and ask God to give you strength and to be with you, as he has promised he would.

-Bea Pamperin, Endowment / Stewardship committee

**Stewardship Emphasis** In August we'll begin a sermon series to review the 3 *T's* of stewardship. Our stewardship / endowment committee has planned a week for each of the next three months to focus on the *time* God gives us, the *talents* God gives us, the *treasures* God gives us, and how we are to use each of those blessing areas. Stewardship at its core means "the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care" (Merriam-Webster). We'll be encouraged to do just that: to be careful and responsible – faithful – because the Lord has entrusted much to our care and he expects us to use his gifts faithfully.

## KML Korner

**Annual Kettle Klomp** Join us on **Saturday, August 17**, for the 11<sup>th</sup> Kettle Klomp! The 5K race and 2K walk take place at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School (KML) on the cross country course. The course winds through the paths of KML's beautiful outdoor environmental classroom. This is the same course used for high school and grade school cross country meets.



Area runners and walkers of all ages, KML alumni, parents, and students; as well as area high school and grade school cross country runners are invited to participate. The 5k run and 2 mile walk begin at 9:00 a.m.

**Support KML Cheer** Enjoy a delicious brat, hamburger or hot dog at our Brat Hut/Grill (Piggly Wiggly in Jackson) Then stop by our car wash to get all those bugs off your bumper and enjoy a yummy homemade baked good while you wait! The day is **Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** from 10:30 – 2:30 p.m.



**KML Job Openings** Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School is looking to fill the position of Part-Time Cafeteria Custodian. 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. daily during the school year. This position consists of light clean up between lunch periods (wipe tables and microwaves, quick clean of the floor) and a full general clean after the lunch periods (clean and mop floors, wipe tables and chairs, and clean microwaves). Starting wage: \$17/hour. Interested? Questions? Contact Mr. Dave Murphy, Director of Operations (262.677.4051 x4094; [dave.murphy@kmlhs.org](mailto:dave.murphy@kmlhs.org).)

Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School is also looking to fill the position of **Food Service Assistant**. 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM daily when school is in session. Duties include assisting the Food Service Manager in: preparing food for students, controlling food and labor costs, helping with any of KML's special events food needs. Previous food service experience desired. Starting wage: \$16/hr. Interested? Questions? Contact Mr. Dave Murphy, Director of Operations (262.677.4051 x4094; [dave.murphy@kmlhs.org](mailto:dave.murphy@kmlhs.org)).

## News / Events / Invitations

**Travel with WELS Groups** Interested in traveling with other members of our WELS/ELS faith family where daily devotion and Christian fellowship are integral parts of the itinerary? The OWLS (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) is partnering with Father's World Tours to offer several trips in the coming months. Spend some time in Duluth and along the amazing Lake Superior shore in September. Embark on a 2-week trip to Texas via America's Heartland in November. Or, ring in the New Year on a



Caribbean cruise to visit and encourage our WELS missions in St Lucia, Grenada, and Antigua. All trips originate in MN (New Ulm or Twin Cities), have options to fly-in and meet the group, and are open to W/ELS members of all ages. Visit [www.fathersworldtours.com](http://www.fathersworldtours.com) or contact Steve Balza ([steve@fathersworldtours.com](mailto:steve@fathersworldtours.com) or 507-217-1731).

**Dodge County Fair Booth** The WELS booth committee is planning to staff the information booth again this year during the fair (**August 14-18**) and they are looking for volunteers for this outreach effort. The schedule / sign-up is posted on the bulletin board if you are interested.

**OWLS Meetings** The next meeting of the Dodge-Washington OWLS will take place **August 26<sup>th</sup>** at 10 a.m. at Peace in Hartford. Susan Willems, archivist for the WELS, will speak concerning the role of an archivist in helping to collect and organize WELS historical information. Everyone is invited to attend our gathering. A potluck meal will follow our business meeting. Please bring a dish to share. If you have any questions, please contact Richard Ash at [richardash46@gmail.com](mailto:richardash46@gmail.com) or 262-457-3000.

**Great Hymns of Faith** The WELS Historical Institute invites you to learn the history behind a number of the great hymns of our Christian musical heritage from the new hymnal. The presentation will be **September 7<sup>th</sup>** from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Salem Landmark Church & WELS Museum (6814 N 107<sup>th</sup> Street in Milwaukee). Learn about the history behind some of the great hymns of our Christian musical heritage and sing them too!

**Lutheran Convention for Seniors** You Are Welcome! Some people feel sidelined after they retire, reach a certain age, or become empty nesters.



Have you ever felt as though your life no longer has purpose? That's not how God sees his redeemed people. You are called to be a blessing to others. You're invited to an event for Lutheran seniors to learn more! The 2024 Lutheran Convention for Seniors (sponsored by the OWLS)

will be held **October 14-17** in Omaha, Nebraska at the Omaha Marriott Regency. The theme for this year's OWLS convention: "40 Years of Service."

### **Christ Through Us: A Pictorial History of the Wisconsin Synod, 1850-2025**

Filled with more than 250 pages of captivating images and fascinating stories, *Christ Through Us* will be a great addition to your church library, a thoughtful gift for WELS historians, or for people interested in the synod's history. It's also an incredible visual aid for Lutheran elementary and high school teachers! This limited edition book can be ordered until Sept. 30, 2024, for guaranteed availability. Take 20% off the cover price when you order your copy today! See the poster on the bulletin board.

**Save on the People's Bible** A number of our members have benefited from "The People's Bible" commentaries, located underneath the cabinets in the entryway. They're an excellent way to begin to study the Bible! From August 1-31, 2024, take 25% off the cover price of individual titles in the People's Bible series! Written by experienced pastors and professors, each of the 41 easy-to-read volumes in this popular NPH series helps enrich your study of the Bible and points you to its central focus—your Savior Jesus. And, until August 31, 2024, you can enter our free giveaway for your chance to win the Gospel Set (four books) of the People's Bible!

