

August Newsletter 2016



Ebenezer Mission Society Dinner, Sunday, August 28

Ebenezer Lutheran Church – Port Hudson
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
9100 Highway YY Leslie, Missouri
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From the Pastor's Desk:

Thanks Be to God for His Inexpressible Gift

“Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift” (2 Cor. 9:15)! This is St. Paul’s exclamation upon hearing the Corinthian church’s response to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his request for support for the Church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and received God’s mercy in Christ, and they responded to St. Paul’s call to support Christians in Jerusalem with a collection. The Corinthian’s joy filled Jerusalem’s need.

This is the reality of stewardship. Because of God’s generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? Everything. All that we are and all that we have is the Lord’s. He is the creator and the giver. We are His creatures and those who receive what He gives.

It sounds easy. And it is. But then again it isn’t. Stewardship is easy because it God’s work. Through what God gives, we give to others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the church for the life of the world. He gives; we receive. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as His children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others.

But stewardship is also difficult. That is because it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine to do what I want with. This is our sinful nature. It is our selfishness and our greed. How can we who have been given everything—life, food, clothing, house, home, forgiveness, divine sonship, an eternal inheritance—be so stingy with what we give to the church, the place where we hear about and receive all that God gives us and does for us?

We are all guilty of this kind of thinking. And the only godly response is to repent and trust in the Gospel.

For if God has given you His own Son, will He not give you all things? Yes. He will. This is His sure and certain promise. God provides for His people. He provides everything we need for this body and life and for the life that is to come.

The church is a mercy place. It's a place where God's mercy in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, is given and received. For we who believe in Christ, it means forgiveness, life, and salvation in the face of sin, death, and the power of the devil. Here in the church we inhale God's mercy in Word and Sacrament, and exhale this same mercy in love and service to our neighbor. And that is an enduring, joyful thing to do. Our joy fills our neighbor's need because His joy filled ours (Heb. 12:2). Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!

Lutheran Family and Children's Services Dinner

Emily Thoenen, representing Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri – Union Office will be speaking about the vital mission of LFCS to our community. This will take place Sunday, August 28th. Their offices are located across the street from the old Courthouse next to Willard's Barber Shop. Emily will speak during the church service. Ebenezer Lutheran Mission Society will have a dinner after the Divine Service and a free will offering will be taken to support the Union office of the Lutheran Family and Children's Services.

Menu will be ham, cheesy potatoes, slaw, green beans, and corn. Desserts will be provided by Ladies Aid and Ebenezer Mission Society.

Rev. Edward Engelbrecht to hold Services at Port Hudson

Rev. Ed Engelbrecht, former member of Ebenezer Lutheran Church, will be conducting services for Pastor Zastrow on September 3 and 4 and again on October 8 and 9. Pastor Engelbrecht was an editor for Concordia Publishing House for many years and loves to come back to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with his dear friends.

On August 29th Pastor and Margaret will be traveling to Minnesota visiting Pastor's family. This past July Pastor's mother turned 97. She is doing well at the Good Samaritan Lutheran Home in Minnesota Lake. Pastor and Margaret will also be vacationing in Northern Minnesota for a week of relaxation. Pastor and Margaret will return to Port Hudson on Thursday, September 8th.

The weekend of October 8 and 9 will be Mary Beth's and Nate Hiatt's wedding at Ebenezer. There will be many activities for Pastor Zastrow and for this reason Pastor invited Pastor Engelbrecht to do services that weekend.

Note about the wedding. The Wedding will be at 2:00 PM at our church on October 8th. A reception for Mary Beth and Nate will be here at church immediately following the ceremony. **THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED TO ATTEND.** More information will be coming out as the day approaches.

We thank Pastor Engelbrecht for being available during the absence of Pastor Zastrow for Divine Worship.

Highlights of the Quarterly Voter's Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President, Paul Brune with 12 members present.

Pastor opened the meeting with a devotion based on Mary and Martha – God's only Son has come to feed the world.

Pastor's report included three Baptisms, six Confirmations, no Marriages, no Funerals, no Transfers to or from Ebenezer this past quarter.

After Vacation Bible School another Bible Study Class will be held.

Pastor and Margaret will be going to Minnesota for a vacation.

Pastor announced that he has four adults taking Confirmation instructions.

Elder, Tom Anderson and Pastor Erhard are attending the 66th Synodical Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin as the Washington Circuit Delegates

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the April 18th meeting were read and approved. A Special Voter's Meeting was held after Church on May 8th to discuss having a picnic again this year. It was decided to again have a picnic on the second Sunday of June.

There were no new members present.

The Treasurer's Report was given and approved. A profit of \$5,000 was given to our Church from the picnic funds. Approximately 1/3 came from silent auction items. We still have some chicken in the freezer. Please leave a donation.

Elder's Report – Pastor reported that the Elders are meeting regularly.

Trustee's Report – They are still waiting on an insurance report from Boeuf & Berger Ins. Co.

The organ is scheduled to be tuned again by Wicks Organ Co.

The new Church signs have been put up at the corner of Hwy 185 and YY and another at Hwy C and Hwy YY.

Stewardship Report – No report was given.

Sunday School Teachers/Education Committee – reported that Vacation Bible School is going to be held July 25 – 29. We are getting more registrations. Food and personal items are really needed for Otis’ Ministry.

Evangelism Report - The Evangelism Committee also gave the report about Vacation Bible School.

Other Business – A motion was made and seconded to have a Pork Sausage Dinner again this year.

The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer and singing the Doxology.

Beginning checking balance	\$12,340.51
Receipts	\$6,401.80
Disbursements	\$11,599.89
Ending checking balance	\$7,142.42
LCEF savings balance	\$35,314.25
Thrivent FPDA balance	\$21,028.67
Pledged to Missouri District for year	\$4,800.00
Paid to Missouri District this year-to-date	\$2,400
Year-to-date income less expenses	-\$16,256.67

Blessings From The Table Cookbooks

We still have a number of Cookbooks with recipes from our members or relatives available for \$15.00. These would make excellent Christmas gifts. There is a sample on the table at the back of Church. See Nancy Quinn if you’d like to purchase one of these Cookbooks!

August Birthdays

Doug Eckelkamp	8-1
Yvonne Gleitz	8-1
Renee Hellmann	8-1
Mary Wesche	8-3
Keith Wettling	8-4
Jon King	8-4
Dale Gerding	8-5
Jenise Southerland	8-5
Aurora Hilkerbaumer	8-5
Heidi Bunge	8-7
Evan Roewe	8-7
Abigail Rose Gilbert	8-8
Mikayla Glosemeyer	8-8
Sarah Eckelkamp	8-9
Kevin Hoemann	8-14
Karon Herring	8-14
Lois Thurman	8-17
Abraham Wesselschmidt	8-17
Karen Scheer	8-18
Leola Deppermann	8-19
William Zastrow	8-20
Joan Menke	8-20
Dane Brune	8-20
Mildred Althage	8-21
Brian Koch	8-22
Ed Svancara	8-22
Jillian Huellinghoff	8-25
Wanda Kassebaum	8-26
John Wesche	8-28
Paul Creek	8-29

*If your birthday or
anniversary is not
listed correctly, please
let Mary know.*

August Anniversaries

Jerry and Barb Gilbert	8-7
David and Debbie Brune	8-7

Usher Schedule for August

1: Elmer Kellmann
2: Paul Brune
3: Adam Brune
4: Eugene Scheer
5: Matt Kassebaum
Alternate: Albert Bade
Head Usher: Lee Kassebaum

Acolyte Schedule for August

August 7

Tyler Kasmann
Kayleigh Crego
Cierra Donatti

Bell Ringer
Jeff Hohlt

August 14

Danielle Gerding
Trent Huellinghoff
Paige Thurmond

Cody Adams

August 21

Ava Monzyk
Tyler Kasmann
Cierra Donatti

Corey Adams

August 28

Trent Huellinghoff
Paige Thurmond
Danielle Gerding

Tyler Kasmann

Altar Guild for August

Kathy Scheer and Karen Scheer

Holy Habits for Hope-Full Health

Here are some HOLY HABIT questions to enable you to hopefully REST more this summer. Discuss these questions with other

people. Use them to refresh your own mind regarding your own RESTing patterns and needs.

1. How do you find REST these days?
2. What makes you feel RESTfull?
3. How can other people help create a RESTful spirit within you?
4. When someone says, “Get some REST,” how do you respond to their suggestion?
5. Do you feel more RESTed by doing things or by just sitting and relaxing? Remember Satchel Paige’s quote, “Sometimes I sit and think and other times I just sit!”
6. How can you encourage others to REST?
7. Discuss with others the importance of using mind, body and spirit in our RESTing activities.
8. Do you REST better while you are alone or while you are traveling or with others? Why?
9. What other questions and activities will help you to REST more?
10. Free one: “...so on the seventh day God rested”!

What a great idea, as we all REST assured in God’s love!

This came from a booklet entitled “Hope-Full Living” “Daily Devotions for Living Life to the Fullest”. By Lutheran Senior Services.

A Project to Keep in Mind

If you have used glasses that you don’t need anymore, please consider donating them to MOST Ministries. This is a group that provides many supplies to various parts of the world. These glasses are taken to Immanuel in Washington to be sent off to MOST Ministries. MOST Ministries collects, recycles, and dispenses approximately 10,000 pairs of eyeglasses each year in some of the poorest countries around the world. There is a box for this collection located on the table at the back of Church. Thank you for your help and support.

A Request from Lutheran Family and Children's Services

Lutheran Family & Children's Services accepts donations of gently used cars, vans and pickups. The process is simple. The proceeds of your donation benefit our programs in your area and you are allowed a deduction on your federal taxes. Call (314) 754-2790 or (866) 326-5327 for information or to make a donation.

Monthly Treasurer's Summary

June 2016

T-Shirts Are Coming

The Ebenezer Lutheran Ladies Aid has ordered T-shirts that are personalized with our Church's name with a cross and a logo "I Love My Church". A picture is on the back bulletin board in Church. We will be taking orders after our initial order is received. The prices will be between \$8.00 and \$12.00 depending on the size: child through adult 5x. They are navy blue.

Cutlery Available

Our Ladies Aid has received a number of RADA Cutlery catalogs for you to look at. If you would like to look at the catalog, please take one. You can place your order using the forms in the catalog and then give it to Nancy Quinn or Margaret Zastrow. These items make wonderful gifts! If you have any questions about these items, please see Nancy Quinn.

**PLEASE READ THE UPCOMING BULLETINS FOR
2016 VBS "Barnyard Roundup" REPORT**

August 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Elders 7:00 PM	3	4	5 Ladies Aid 1:30 PM	6 Worship 5:00 PM With Holy Communion
7 Sunday School 9:00PM Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:00 PM	8	9	10	11	12	13 Worship 5:00 PM
14 Sunday School 9:00PM Worship 10:00 PM	15 Mission Society 7:30 PM	16	17 Circuit Pastor's Meeting at Freedom, MO 8:30 AM	18	19	20 Cub Scout Bike Rally Dining Hall Reserved Worship 5:00 PM With Holy Communion
21 Sunday School 9:00PM Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:00 PM	22	23	24	25 Education & Sunday School Teachers 7:00 PM	26 Wedding Rehearsal	27 Meyer/Graddey Wedding 2:00 PM Worship 5:00 PM
28 Sunday School 9:00PM Worship 10:00 PM LFCS Dinner by Mission Society Free Will Offering	29 Pastor & Margaret Vacation to MN	30 Pastor & Margaret Vacation to MN	31 Pastor & Margaret Vacation to MN			