



thegoodnews

David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

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175 Years, A Milestone Year Ahead

by Pastor Kurt Loescher

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Looking back at the 175 years of God's story among the faithful at David's Star, the milestones of our history stand out. They are etched with the history of our congregation's struggle to be a gathering of believers and even division that threatened the gathering of ourselves together. These milestones also speak of the power of God guiding us and motivating us to service through his Gospel.

The 50 year milestone seems most significant recalling the arrival of the immigrants from Pomerania. You see the clearing of land, building of homes and church. There is the halting of construction of our stone church when our first pastor died unexpectedly; the splitting of the congregation over doctrinal concerns and synodical affiliations ending. But finally, in the 49th year, we found stability in membership with the Wisconsin Synod.

The 100 year milestone recalls a time of unity and blessing. The most major discussions centered around repairing, building and calling pastors and teachers from a pool of well trained ministers. This all happened as society was rapidly changing making the unchanging Law and Gospel of Holy Scriptures critical for our guidance and strength against a dark and changing world.

Now 75 years later we have arrived at another milestone that remembers significant, unavoidable change. The rural farming families that founded this congregation followed our Lord's guidance through over 100 years of struggle and growth. Now over the past few decades we have become a blend of charter families and many new families. Families came to our area to make homes on what was once farmland. These new families had very different backgrounds and worked in factories and offices, in small businesses and government. But they blended well because all are united by the same faith in the Holy Word

of God and all find their comfort from the pure Gospel.

Now we go forward into this milestone year with praise on our hearts and lips. This congregation will sing the same praises we have sung for 175 years. We will worship Jesus who is the same yesterday, today and forever, just as we have for 175 years. We will take several opportunities to glorify his name for what he has done among us for these 175 years. You will find a detailed schedule of events in this newsletter. Please make it a point to rejoice with us as often as you can.

It cannot be that our Lord God would have brought us along to this milestone for no purpose. We are here to accomplish his holy will on earth just as it is in heaven. And what is God's will? "God our Savior wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). Milestones are not final destinations. This milestone year will be another opportunity to reach out with the Gospel to our community and our world. A special collection is being gathered to support Multi-language Publications. This is an arm of our world missions that translates literature like our Word of God curriculum called "Christ Light", the Catechism, etc. into languages of people who are hungry to learn of their salvation through Jesus Christ. This is a year that will see continued efforts to reach out to our communities in nursing homes, inner-city outreach, and events where we can invite our neighbors to hear the Gospel message of freedom from their sins through Jesus Christ.

175 years, what a blessing from God that we have by his grace reached this milestone! May it allow us to shine his glory in order to encourage each other, reach and comfort the straying, and gather the lost. 175 years, a time to remember, to rejoice, and to reach out.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
SENIORS**



Helen Kannenberg (1/1)
Delores Heimerl (1/8)
Barbara Thompson (1/15)
Dietrich Schnappup (1/22)

JANUARY 2018 GREETERS

Jan. 7, 2018 7:45: No one signed up
 10:15: No one signed up

Jan. 14, 2018 7:45: No one signed up
 10:15: No one signed up

Jan. 21, 2018 7:45: No one signed up
 10:15: Brian & Pam Lee

Jan. 28, 2018 7:45: No one signed up
 10:15: No one signed up

BIBLE STUDY OPORTUNITY

Beginning January 8th we will offer another Bible instruction class for adults. It's called New Life in Christ and it covers the basic teachings of the Bible. This class is intended for anyone who wishes to brush up on the Bible teachings or wants to come to understand them for the first time. This course will give a full understanding of what the Bible teaches and what we teach as a congregation. Upon completion, nonmembers may choose to join our fellowship. The class will be held in the multi-purpose room of the school on Monday evenings from 7pm to 8pm.



**REGISTRATION 2018-19
FOR 3K & 4K PRESCHOOL
AND 5K KINDERGARTEN**

Listed below are the registration days for each of our classes.
Invitations will be going out in the mail at the end of December.
Parents are asked to stay to fill out the registration forms in the concessions area while your child is in the classroom.

Please enter through the south doors off of Spring Valley Road.

3K Preschool: Fri., Jan. 26th 8:30-10am

Children must be 3 years old by September 1st. Children will be able to attend an abbreviated preschool day. Our 3K Preschool Program is 2 days/week on Tuesday and Thursday. Child care will be available when they are not in class.

4K Kindergarten Thurs., Jan. 25th 8:30-10am

Children must be 4 years old by September 1st. Children will be able to attend an abbreviated 4K kindergarten day. Our 4K Kindergarten Program is 3 days/week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Child care will be available when they are not in class.

5K Kindergarten Fri., Jan. 26, 8:30-11:30am

Children must be 5 years old by September 1st. Children will be able to attend an abbreviated kindergarten day. Our 5K Kindergarten Program is 5 full days/week.

R.S.V.P to: SCHOOL@DAVIDSSTAR.ORG or call 262-677-2412

175th SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 13,14, 2018

Regular worship services at David's Star will kick off our 175th Anniversary year. Pastor Steve Ehlke will preach for the services. (Sat: 5:00pm, Sun: 7:45 & 10:15am) A kick off breakfast will be served between services from 8:30 - 10am on Sunday, January 14th.

April 29, 2018

We will have one worship service held at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School. Sunday, April 29th at 10:15am. There will be a fellowship meal to follow, along with a presentation by the school children. Our focus will be on the blessings of Christian education. WELS BME Administrator Paul Prange will preach for this service.

June 16, 2018

Picnic Celebration! An old fashioned picnic will be held on the church grounds Saturday, June 16th starting at 11:00 am. There will be food, games, and entertainment!

July 1, 2018

Outdoor Worship in Church Woods will be held Sunday, July 1st, at 9:30am. Pastor Rich Gurgel will preach for this service.

August 26, 2018

Mission Festival in Church Woods. An outdoor worship service held on Sunday, August 26th, at 9:30 am. Lunch will follow along with special mission displays. Pastor Dave Kehl will preach for this service.

October 14, 2018

Special Celebration Service at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School on Sunday October 14th, at 10:15am with lunch to follow on David's Star campus. WELS President Mark Schroeder will preach for this service.

**COUNCIL CAPSULE
HIGHLIGHTS OF
THE DECEMBER 2017 COUNCIL**

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming:

None

Outgoing:

Knight, Matthew; *Transfer to St. John, Wauwatosa, WI*

Mueller, Jeff & Pam; *Released from membership*

Pastors' Report

Jennifer Miller continues to work in the church office. Advent/Christmas/New Year worship gives us all an opportunity to connect with our brothers and sisters, and also invite others to share in the joy of the Christ child. With thanks to the Lord, we remember the blessings this congregation received through the ministry of Pastor Martin Janke. We pray that we continue to serve the Lord with that same spirit of faithfulness to the gospel.

President's Report

Paul Steinbrenner

No report.

Board for Buildings and Grounds

Kurt Henning

Waiting for forester on church woods for plan to select cut and clear cut some pine trees. Need price we would get for logs but haven't received pricing yet. Need to take this to Voters. Hoping for a late spring project if we will proceed. Goal is to improve church woods and generate some revenue. Repaving included in budget - \$15,000 in 2018 and \$15,000 for 2019. Also need new roof on building in church woods which is also included in 2018 budget.

Board for Elementary Education

Mike Willis, Principal Tim Gustafson

Approved \$50 increase in tuition. 3K tuition stays the same. The old copy machine is out and we have a new one. Mrs. Washburn has announced her retirement at the end of the school year. Request for a call will come from the school board including teaching assignment and any additional duties. Will discuss at next board meeting.

Board of Elders

Dennis Bell

The pastors request that the elders reconsider the Thursday night service perhaps beginning with the Memorial Day weekend and ending with the Labor Day weekend due to declining attendance and the scheduling issues it causes. Terry Hansen reported that we have 84 followers and we average 19 views per service and 4 views for Bible Class via "Live Stream". Michael Loescher is also helping with the recording. Jim Siebers has volunteered to work with Pastor Loescher in trying to develop another way of communicating with inactive members.

Evangelism Committee

Nelson Erdman

Postcard mailing for nearly 5000 postcards printed and mailed in December. Working on winter registration card for January 3K-5K Registration dates and Easter Egg Hunt.

Stewardship Committee

David Zarling

2018 envelope changes are complete. Specially printed envelope for the 175th anniversary along with a letter. Budgets will be covered under old business.

Spiritual Growth Committee

Jon Kruse

No report.

Anniversary Committee Report

Pastor Woldt

Working on getting kickoff event planned for January 14, 2018

Treasurer's Report

Josh Boeldt

2017 November Operating Budget Financial Update

Now thank we all our God! The total offerings for November were \$81,812, which is about 7% lower than the budgeted offerings. This includes Thanksgiving offerings being only about half of the budgeted amount. The total income for the month was also 7% lower than budgeted and is now below budget by about .3% for the year to date. The actual expenses for November were about 1.2% higher than the budgeted amount but are about 1.7% lower than the budget for the year to date. Looking at the chart below, the actual net profit for the month was \$8,055 lower than the anticipated budgeted profit for the month. The overall fund balance at the end of November shows a deficit of \$50,811.

2017 November Ministries Beyond our Congregation Financial Update

The remittances in November for the WELS mission were 20% higher than budgeted for, while the KMLHS operating mission remittances were about 74% more than the budgeted amount—part of this increase was a special memorial that went towards our committed mission offering. The KML Joyful Noise remittances were about 26% more than the amount budgeted for. The total amount remitted for all missions was about 1.8% lower than the amount budgeted for the year to date.

2017 November Building Fund Update

The mortgage loan balance as of November 2017 is \$1,175,730. The council's objective is to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in the building fund debt account—our balance at 11/30/17 was \$83,056. This balance is down about 4% from October.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the reports. Motion carried.

Old Business

Ministry Plan (Budgets)

Compensation committee met and preliminary budget has been prepared. The preliminary budget was reviewed with final budget prepared for January, 2018 meeting.

Elections

There was a discussion on potential candidates for open positions. Good start on open positions.

New Business

Tuition – Motion for school tuition for 2018/2019: 3k stays the same at \$900, 4k through 8th grade from \$1,300 to \$1,350, non-member from \$4,100 to \$4,150. Motion carried.

Dinner costs for Pastor Janke's funeral – Motion in honor of Pastor Jahnke's lengthy service at David's Star to cover first \$500 of meal expense coming from fellowship meal expense. Motion carried.

Items for Annual 2018 Voters' Meeting - Set for Thursday, January 18, 2018

1. David's Star Gift Trust Fund
2. Undesignated Gift Policy
3. Ministry Plan (Budget)
4. Elections
5. Tuition Increase
6. Voter's Approval to Set up Call Meeting

Next Council Meeting: (7pm; January 9, 2018)

Pastor Loescher closed with the Blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Todd Backus—Vice President



Parish Nurse News

JANUARY is [National Blood Donor Month](#). There are fewer donors during the winter months due to inclement weather, illness, and the busy holiday season.

Blood facts

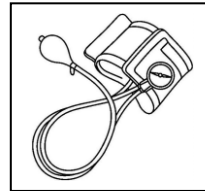
- Summer and holiday donations decrease by 20%.
- Every three seconds, someone in the US needs blood. There is no substitute.
- Blood Center of Wisconsin strives to see 800 donors a day, 6 days a week, to collect the blood needed in more than 50 hospitals with which we partner.
- The average adult has about 10 to 11 pints of blood. During a whole blood donation, about one pint is drawn.
- A unit of whole blood can impact the lives of up to three people because it can be separated into three distinct products, each of which has a different function and can be used in concentrated doses depending on patient need.
- To donate blood you must weigh at least 110 lbs. and in general good health.
- You must be at least 17 years old (16 with signed parental consent).
- Less than 5% of the eligible population donates.
- One in three people will need a blood transfusion in his/her lifetime.
- Someone in our area receives a blood transfusion every four minutes.
- You are eligible to donate whole blood again 56 days after your donation.
- People with O negative blood type are universal donors. This means their red blood cells can be transfused to patients with any blood type.

In as little as one hour, you can become someone's unnamed, unknown, but all-important hero. Saving a life is noble work that starts very simply and easily.

This last fall the Parents Group sponsored a blood drive here at David's Star and a record

number of donors came forward! Those who donated are now eligible to donate again. Go to [Blood Center of Wisconsin](#) to search for area blood drives and schedule an appointment!

Together in Christ,
Sue Bolha RN, 677-3485
parishnurse@davidstar.org



2018 BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING SCHEDULE

Screenings take place in the nurses office located off of the gathering space between services. Dates are subject to change.

- Sunday, January 28th
- Sunday, February 25th
- Sunday, April 22th
- Sunday, June 24th
- Sunday, July 22th
- Sunday, September 23rd
- Sunday, October 28th
- Sunday, November 25th

THE "LITTLE ONES" GATHERING meets Saturday, January 6th, 2018 from 9:30am to 10:30am. Please enter through the gathering space (west side) doors of church. This program is designed to be a Christ-centered, nurturing and encouragement group for young children and their mothers, fathers, grandparents, or caregivers. Children from infancy to preschool are welcome to attend with a parent/grandparent or caregiver. "Little Ones" is not designed to be a drop off program. "Little Ones" activities will include circle time, simple Bible lessons, Christian songs, dancing, art/craft time, and snacks. Please feel free to contact Jessica at jc.schumacher@gmail.com with any questions you may have about the program.

BIBLE HOUR NURSERY

Do you have kids that are too young for Sunday School, but still you want to attend Bible Class? Soon there will be a remedy for that! A nursery will soon be started on Sunday mornings between early and late services. If you're interested in helping this program get up and running, contact Jennifer Mueller at 414-331-5347. A Sign-up sheet is in the gathering space.

MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE

The 9th annual Men Of His Word Conference will be held at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh on **Saturday, February 24, 2018**. The world attacks our Christian values from every direction on a daily basis. To counter these attacks, the MOHW Conference provides opportunities and resources for men to grow spiritually, using God's Word to empower and equip men to carry out their God-given mission in their homes, churches, communities and the world. This year's theme is "GET OUT OF THE BOAT." Whether you attend for the keynote speaker (Pastor Jared Oldenburg from Eternal Rock in Castle Rock, Colorado), the relevant, thought-provoking breakout sessions (19 to choose from), or the worship experience with 600 other men (with Koine', the worship band), God's Word will speak to you. Additional details and online registration are available at www.menofhisword.org for the first 650 men (\$50 by February 11th; \$60 from February 12th - 18th). Please join us for a day of fellowship in God's Word that you will not soon forget!