



David's Star
Evangelical Lutheran Church

thegoodnews

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"WHY DON'T THEY COME?"

by Pastor Kurt Loescher

There is another person I haven't seen in church for quite a while. Should I say something? It's hard to know what to say because I just don't understand why they don't come. I could ask them why they don't come to worship. "It's been so busy. I have to work a lot." I know, I know... No, actually I don't know. I still don't know why they don't come to worship with us. They have little children and I know it is hard work bringing the little children to Jesus, but don't they understand that their children won't worship any more than they do unless their children learn from them to worship from young on? Then when they get older we will just have more people who don't come to worship the Lord with us.

I know these people love their Lord Jesus. Some I know even look for spiritual strength online, on the radio, TV and even in book stores. When it comes to preaching I sure can understand why they would want to listen to the winsome and insightful TV preaching from even some confessional, strong Lutheran preachers. I just hope they understand that TV church isn't all they need. I've yet to see a TV worship service where they can kneel down next to their brothers and sisters in Christ who struggle with sin just as they do. No TV church will be able to offer them the very body and blood of Christ in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to assure them of the forgiveness of their sins. And what TV church will give them the opportunity to pray alongside their brothers and sisters or to confess their faith with their like-minded loved ones in their church family? Why don't they come? Don't they understand?

Maybe we should be stronger about rebuking people for their sin of staying away from the Lord's house and disrespecting his sacrament. The Lord meant it when he said, "Don't give up meeting together as some are in

the habit of doing", didn't he? And the work of brothers and sisters in Christ is to correct, rebuke and encourage with all patience. But I want them to come and worship with us because they want to, not because they feel they have to.

That's it! That's why they don't come. Because they don't want to. It is the same reason why some days I don't feel like doing a text study for my sermon. I don't want to. My sinful flesh keeps telling me, "You have time yet. You can do something else." I have any number of excuses why, but the real honest reason is my sinful heart doesn't want to and has convinced me that I don't have to. The only way I can pull out of that vicious cycle of blocking God's grace from my heart is to confess my sin, and finally turn to his holy text. Once in the Word and struggling with his truths, his joy of loving forgiveness washes over my mind and heart and I say, "Why didn't I want to do this? I can't believe that I didn't want to do this? The Psalm rings from my soul, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. He forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases. He redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion."

Why don't they come? Oh, I think I know now. Oh, yes I do! I know firsthand why they don't come to worship. It's not just their problem. I struggle with it too even though I'm in church every Sunday. So, I guess my best first step of action is to pray for them. Pray that they see what they are despising as if it is something they don't need to do. Pray that they understand again the goodness of the Lord that waits for them among their fellow worshippers. Pray that they will once again be glad to worship.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord'" (Psalm 122:1).

*September
2014*

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SENIORS

Vincent Schneider...91 yrs. old 9/3/1923

Ursula Dorna 90 yrs. old 9/25/1924

Marie Janke...83 yrs. old 9/24/1931

Kamelia Bolha...91 yrs. old 9/27/1923



SEPTEMBER 2014 GREETERS

September 7, 2014 7:45 Andy & Colleen Loeffler
10:15 Rick & Rachel Kwiecinski

September 14, 2014 7:45 Mike & Regina Bublitz
10:15 David & Emily Zarling family

September 21, 2014 7:45 Joel & Linda Pless
10:15 Brian & Nola Zemlicka

September 28, 2014 7:45 Ray & Linda Liesener
10:15 Diane Kowalske &
Lorraine McCauley

UPDATED PHONE NUMBERS We have been finding that a lot of members are disconnecting their land line telephone numbers. With that in mind, if you have please let the church office know your cell phone number. You can e-mail church@davidsstar.org or call the office 262.677.2412. Thank you!

WOMEN NURTURING WOMEN THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We will meet in the multi-purpose room located behind the concession area. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday mornings of each month at 9:30. It is always uplifting and encouraging to be in God's Word together. We hope you can come. God's Word gives us great joy, strength and comfort, for every day. With questions call Beth Steinbrenner at 262.685.7420 or e-mail me at pbandkids@yahoo.com. Our focus will be on Psalm 23, John 10 and a book titled "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23." Bring your bibles and hymnals for our opening study. Hope to see you there!

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

at Jimmy's in Jackson meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 am. This group meets year-round.

BARNABAS

is the name of our small group bible studies. We took that name from an early disciple who was given that nickname because he was such an encourager. Our small group home bible studies are also intended for the encouragement of one another. The groups are ongoing, but anytime is a good time to get involved in a group. Call or email Pastor Loescher if you'd like to get involved 677.0919 or kurt.loescher@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets in the multi-purpose room of school at 10:00am.

FRIDAY MORNING DROP-OFF BIBLE CLASS

When you come to David's Star to drop off your children on Friday Mornings, stay a few minutes longer and discuss the truths of the Holy Scriptures and pray with other parents. Come in your work clothes, work-out clothes, even your pjs if you have to. No make-up? Unshaven? Uncombed hair? It's all good. You're dropping off your children, there are no high expectations. There will be the Holy Word of God and good encouragement to start off your day. If you have a toddler at your side, no problem—bring him or her along. We are all parents, we can cope with children in the room. This informal, start off your day Bible study will begin next Friday, September 5 from 8:30 to 8:50. Bring a bible, your own coffee, tea or whatever you drink to start your day.

COUNCIL CAPSULE SUMMARY OF THE AUGUST 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

David's Star Church Council Meeting Capsule August 12, 2014

Members in attendance: Pastor Woldt, Dennis Bell, Mike Willis, Tim Gustafson, Keith Rusch, Andy Loeffler, Pastor Loescher, Randy Matter, Dan Bolha, Brian Lee, Brandon Lehman.

Absent: Kurt Henning, Jim Korthals

The meeting was called to order by Brian Lee. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Woldt. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on July 15, 2014.

Committee Reports

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming: Williamson, Andrea
Adult Confirmation

Outgoing: Loescher, Andrew & Amy; Lydia
*Transfer to Shepherd of the Hills, Knoxville,
TN*

Vasarella, Jennifer; Grace
Release from membership

The following names are recommended for release for one or more of the following reasons:

1. *No current contact information*
2. *No response to contact attempts by phone and mail.*
3. *Moved outside our ministry area and have not requested a transfer to another WELS congregation*

A release from membership is not a judgment of individual faith, and membership can be reestablished if these individuals express a desire to be active in the ministry and mission of David's Star.

Cable, Carrie (Marc)
Carter, Kathleen
Coldewe, Curtis
Debroux, Kathryn (Cassandra Giebel)
French, Brian
French, Cynthia
Hafemeister, Dean
Marzinske, Andrew
(nee Marzinske), Lauren
Marzinske, Robert
Monosso, Lori (Jacob Fletcher)
Rusher, William
Thompson, Robert & Janet
Thompson, Alyssa
Tischer, David (Savannah)

Pastors' Report Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919 kloescher@davidstar.org & Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019 woldt@nconnect.net

Recent weeks have brought new worshippers to David's Star. Some are new WELS members who have recently moved to the Jackson area and are looking for a new church home. Please remember to greet people you do not recognize along with the friends you have come to know at David's Star. Pastor Woldt will not be in attendance at the Mission Festival service. He and his wife want to be present at the baptism of the granddaughter at St. Paul's in Green Bay. The teen group gathering last month had a good attendance. Please pray that this ministry grows to benefit more and more of our young people at David's Star. This year Pastor Woldt will have five 8th graders in public school confirmation class. The majority of these students come from families who recently joined David's Star and have not taken advantage of the fulltime Christian education we offer here. While we are thankful for the opportunity to bring God's Word to these students, we still encourage all of our families to consider the blessings of fulltime Christian education.

President's Report Brian Lee, Telephone # 262.377.9419 brianandpam1@att.net

The Board of Education is recommending Jeff McCoy to fill their vacant position until the voter's meeting in January. There is nothing new to report regarding the subpoena. Now that the demolition of the parish center has been completed, Randy Matter will follow up regarding removing the parish center from our insurance.

Board for Buildings and Grounds Kurt Henning 262.677.2797 klhrconst@gmail.com

No written report. Four trees were taken down north of the parsonage

Board for Elementary Education Mike Willis, mike.willis@sial.com Principal Tim Gustafson Telephone # 338-3992 tgustafson@davidstar.org

Enrollment is currently at 129. Colleen Loeffler accepted the call as extended learning teacher. Mrs. Bintz requested that the cubbies be moved to the hallway to free up space in the classroom. A different repair company was called in to repair the lift. They felt it wasn't necessary to replace the lift, and that we should be able to continue to use the repaired lift. Their repair work has a 90 day warranty.

Board of Elders

Dennis Bell, 262.677.2248
dandmbell55@yahoo.com

Parish nurses have been approved to take a door collection for the Doctor Albrecht Free Clinic. There was some preliminary discussion by the elders about the visitation pastor position. Paul Steinbrenner reported that the called worker care committee is meeting with our called workers, and the meetings are going well. Pastor Woldt reported on a meeting that was held with the Tech Committee to begin the streaming of the services via the web. There are some logistics that have to be worked out as well as cost implications and licensing. This is still in the planning stages.

Evangelism Committee

Brandon Lehman, Telephone #262.894.6110
Brandon.m.Lehman@gmail.com

The committee is looking at ideas for two more events for the year. The church pictorial directory is ready for distribution. The Cedarburg Outreach Committee is meeting tomorrow. They are looking at ways to promote the Koine outdoor event that will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cedarburg.

Stewardship Committee

Jim Korthals, Telephone # 262.242.8143
korthalj@wls.wels.net

Professor Korthals provided a copy of the bulletin insert for the upcoming stewardship Bible classes.

Spiritual Growth Committee

Andy Loeffler, Telephone #262.677.2319
2046home@gmail.com

Bible classes between the church services begin on Sunday September 7.

Treasurer's Report

Randy Matter, Telephone # 262.376.1585
rmattercpa@gmail.com

The printed report for July was presented. The YTD operating fund balance has a deficit in the amount of \$105,259.64. The YTD offerings to our WELS missions are currently at 92.76% of budget. The YTD offerings to the KMLHS operating fund are at 98.73% of budget.

Vice President Report

(Dan Bolha, Telephone # 677-3485
dbolha@ymail.com)

52 people attended the OWLS outing to the Milwaukee Brewers game. Those who wish to volunteer to help with our Mission Festival can put their name on the signup sheets in the narthex.

A motion was made and carried to accept the reports.

Old Business

Hiring a new bookkeeper – Randy will continue to look for candidates for this position.

New Business

Buechs Insurance Proceeds – Randy mentioned that there is a church council policy regarding how undesignated gifts such as this are handled when they exceed a specific amount. Before action is taken, the council will find and review that council resolution.

Mission Festival – There was some discussion about using the woods for Mission Festival. If the mosquitoes or the weather are a problem, the contingency plan is to hold Mission Festival indoors using the gym.

Board of Education Member Appointment – A motion was made and carried to approve the appointment of Jeff McCoy to fill the vacant position on the Board of Education until the next voters' meeting.

Next month's meeting is **Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.**

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting was closed with a blessing.
Respectively submitted,

Keith Rusch, Recording Secretary
keith_rusch@yahoo.com

FRIENDS OF THE SEMINARY DAY

On Saturday, October 4, the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Auxiliary will host Friends of the Seminary Day. This annual event provides WELS members an opportunity to visit the beautiful seminary campus and gain information about the seminary's work. The day begins with fellowship and breakfast snacks at 8:00 am; worship follows at 9:00am. Activities include presentations by students and faculty members, guided tours of the campus, and a noon meal. To reserve a place at this year's event send \$10 to Friends of the Seminary Day, 11831 North Seminary Drive, Mequon, WI 53092. For more information call (262) 242-8104.

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we are stewards of many things that God has entrusted into our care – our body, our mind, our physical and emotional health, our family and other relationships, our church, our job, business or career, our time, our talents, and, yes, our money. But the most important thing you and I are stewards of is our faith. Faith in Jesus Christ is a gift from God. By faith we are forgiven, justified, saved, and given eternal life. Faith is something God wants us to treasure, to nourish, and to grow throughout our life. And faith is something God wants us to pass on to others. That is the mission of our church, and that is also the mission of our personal lives.

Soon our congregation will be exploring God's message to us by means of a three-week



stewardship program with a spiritual growth emphasis. **Stewards of our faith - PASS IT ON!** will offer us an opportunity to be encouraged in our stewardship of our faith, and to PASS IT

ON – in our family, in our church, and through our lives in the world.

As always, please join us as we open our hearts to Him in our worship and study of His Word.

WELCOME MRS. LOEFFLER The school would like to welcome Mrs. Colleen Loeffler to the faculty at David's Star. After Mrs. Krause accepted a call to run the Learning Center at KML, Mrs. Loeffler accepted our call to run the Extended Learning Center and teach two classes in the 8th grade room. When you have a chance, please welcome Mrs. Loeffler to our faculty.

Ladies Aid is an organization at David's Star that is open to all women of our congregation. The organization provides an opportunity for fellowship at monthly meetings and specially planned events. We provide a variety of services at David's Star including serving meals at funerals, funding special projects, informing members about LWMS, coordinating the Harvest Home celebration, decorating the church for Easter, and many others. Please consider joining us for our first meeting of the year on **Thursday, Sept. 11 at 7pm**. We meet in the Multi-purpose Room in school. Light refreshments to follow. For more information or questions please contact Colleen Loeffler, [262-677-2319](tel:262-677-2319).

A sincere thank-you to all who participated in this year's **Mission Festival!** We appreciated Pastor Hein's message, the music of Koine', our group of willing volunteers, our ladies who brought flowers, desserts and potatoes, Jennifer Miller who made the sauce for our famous potato salad and Chris Rose who guided her. A special thanks to Chris who has coordinated the potato salad effort for many years! We served 259 people for lunch and enjoyed the fellowship together after worship. It was great to have the option of an indoor Mission Festival after considering our muddy woods and questionable weather!

Yours in Christ,
Dan Bolha
Council Vice President



PARISH NURSE NEWS

COPE HOTLINE - Help yourself to the caring connection

People in crisis look to family, church and community resources for help. In addition to their church and families, they may call the COPE Hotline, a 24-hour listening and referral service. These services are maintained by a large staff of trained anonymous, volunteer listeners without whom COPE could not function.

COPE is in need of interested, caring volunteers for the fall training session. They will be interviewing candidates between now and September 19, 2014.

Help someone get through the day or find some needed information by volunteering as a trained listener on the COPE Hotline. Volunteers are needed to maintain a caring connection with someone in crisis. If you are 18 years and older, would like to help someone in need, and have 2-4 hours of time a week, please call COPE Business Office, 262-377-1477 to schedule an informative interview. Training begins in September 2014.

Want to get involved in helping a family in crisis, right here in our own congregation? There are multiple needs right here, right now! Needs for a meal to relieve weary caregivers. Needs for companionship, giving a caregiver the chance to run an errand or get a haircut. Needs for someone to mow lawn or make minor house repairs. These are short term commitments that can make all the difference to a family! One of our members delivered a meal recently only to be given a big hug with the comment, "Thanks! Our Church family sure has come through for us!" Let me know if you want to join our great group of willing helpers!

Another ***GREAT BIG THANK YOU!*** The final numbers are in...a record number of 54 families participated in the New Beginnings - Baby Bottle fund raiser donating a total of \$1,066.76!

Get ready for another opportunity to be a witness in our community! This fall we'll be taking up another collection of "Over-the-Counter" items for the Albrecht Free Clinic. We'll start collecting September 7th and finish up at the Harvest Festival. Watch for more information in the bulletin!

We are blessed to be a blessing,

Sue Bolha, RN
David's Star Parish Nurse
parishnurse@david'sstar.org
262-677-3485

PS. Need the COPE Hotline number? 377-2673 or 377-COPE! Sue has business cards in the Health Office for you to take with you