



The Messenger

November 2007

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Truly Worth Cheering For

I don't watch that much TV, but what I do watch is usually a sporting event like the Packers, Badgers, Bucks or Brewers. I have noticed a recent trend in TV sports and if you watch I'm sure you've noticed it, too. Extensive coverage. Talk. Analysis. Lots of talk. Lots of analysis. Lots of pre-game. Lots of post-game. A whole day's worth. Extensive coverage, indeed! Wives of the world join and weep.

No, this isn't going to be an article bashing the sports obsessed American culture in which we live, although I could have a field day on that. I'll admit that sometimes even a sports fan like me will get nauseated by the hyping and overhyping of NFL football in the media. On ESPN and the networks there are analysis shows galore featuring a host and a panel of former NFL players talking about the games and the matchups. I'll watch these shows for a while, but then get tired of the talk, talk, talk, and I turn it off. But there is a time when I can't get enough of this sort of thing. I think you'll probably agree. When my team does something awesome, and wins an incredible game, I lap up all the post-game coverage I can get. Last Monday night was a perfect example.

I thought the Packers were going to blow their second game of the year, but instead I got to behold another chapter in the Favre legend that maybe I can tell me grandkids someday. That moon-skimming touchdown bomb that dropped into the basket of Greg Jennings' hands in overtime was one of the most exciting plays I've seen. And even though the game ended late, I had no problem listening to Emmitt Smith and the other experts hashing and rehashing that game. I ate up every delicious bit of post-game coverage on

TV, read a raving article on the net, and listened to a few discussions of the game on the radio the next day. It was fun to hear the experts saying good things about the team. It was a way to feel the thrill of the victory even after it was over.

I think all sports fans do this sort of thing. When we're celebrating our team, we truly become social creatures. Just think of when you're watching a game with other people. What do you do right after your team makes the big touchdown to win the game? You jump from your seat and look for someone to high-five. And what is our most exciting victory to celebrate? By far – that our brother and Savior has risen from the dead.

So you see why public worship is so special.

Each weekend with our hymns and prayers we are high-fiving each other for the breathtaking feat that is as fresh and relevant as if it happened two seconds ago. Since we sin every minute, we're drawn back every minute to the clutch victory Christ won for our forgiveness on Good Friday.

And what sheer freedom we have to celebrate the victory. You can't overhype it. You don't have to feel guilty about devoting too much time thinking about it, because here is true substance. Unlike football, this is not just a game. This is life. Jesus *is* what life is made of. When we join together and celebrate him we're celebrating the eternal life we have in him, both now and in the heaven to come.

So go ahead and get excited about the Packers, but save your goosebumps for the thrill of the kingdom and the glory that is ours forever in the LORD.

PASTOR GREGORY POPE

VOTER' S MEETING UPDATE

The following items were brought before the voters at the October Quarterly Voters meeting:

- The voters granted a peaceful transfer of Mr. & Mrs. Ross Zimmermann and sons Matt and Dan and daughter to St John's, Newtonburg-Ross's home congregation.
- The voters approved up to \$650.00 dollars for the new Board for Evangelism members to attend a training seminar in Sturgeon Bay in January, 2008. This will cover the cost of the seminars, travel and lodging.
- The voters elected Wayne Petersen to the Board for Buildings and Grounds.
- Fred Wehausen was elected chairman of the Board for Spiritual Affairs. This will be for one year because Al Bonfigt needed to step down due to duties at work. Al has agreed to stay on the board and serve where needed.
- Jim Glaeser was elected to a second term as Recording Secretary.
- John Smith was elected to a second term as Congregational President.
- Dave Williamson stepped forward to accept the Treasurer's position. The voters accepted Dave with a unanimous vote.
- Jeff Kasten was elected to a second term as MLHS delegate and Jeff Knutson was elected to fill the vacancy of Ross Zimmermann.
- Larry Fischer was elected to the Board of Education.

The chairman of the Capital Campaign reported that there was a very good turn out for the informational meetings. There may be a makeup meeting for those not able to attend one of the four meetings.

John Smith, Congregational President

News from the WELS

Southern California fire update

It appears the property of all WELS churches and schools has been spared damage in the fires raging across Southern California this week, but the full impact upon members' homes is still unknown. No loss of life or serious injuries among WELS members have been reported, although numerous families were forced to evacuate.

Aaron Glaeske, pastor at Ascension, Escondido, Calif., reports at least two members there have lost their homes and possibly a third. He says, "We're still trying to figure out if everybody is okay." In speaking of the fires this week he says, "There's no English word to describe it. Surreal comes close, but it doesn't quite cut it."

Further north in Fallbrook, Rich Kogler, pastor at St. Stephen, says he's concerned about the home of one family in particular which was in the path of the fires. Authorities have blocked off many neighborhoods and so it's still too early to tell the extent of the damage.

Kogler himself evacuated to nearby Murrieta to stay with his daughter. He's hoping to get back to the church by noon Thursday. Flames came as close as a quarter of a mile from the property. "We're thankful. The Lord is so good," he says.

Fire crews used the church as a staging ground throughout the week. Kogler says the congregation is planning to set up a soup kitchen for the firefighters once members are given access to the building.

Rev. Paul Janke, president of the Arizona-California District, reports that WELS elementary schools in Carlsbad, Fallbrook, Escondido, and San Diego have all called off classes for the rest of the week because of the poor air quality. But a joint Reformation service this Sunday will be held as scheduled at Reformation in San Diego.

Rev. Phil Schupmann, chairman of WELS Committee on Relief, says he will await word from the congregations whose members have been impacted before deciding what aid the committee will offer. In the meantime, those wishing to make a donation to WELS Committee on Relief can do so at www.welsrelief.net.

Pastor Kogler says he appreciates all the prayers that have been offered synodwide on behalf of the congregations in Southern California. "It has been amazing how people in our fellowship have shown their concern. We can't thank people enough."

Conference of Presidents looks forward

From the office of President Mark Schroeder

The Conference of Presidents (COP) met last week for the first time since the synod convention. The COP is a leadership group comprised of the presidents of the twelve districts, the synod president and vice presidents, and the synod secretary. The COP meets three times each year (in addition to monthly phone teleconferences and meetings prior to assignment days at MLC and WLS).

Encouraging news on synod finances

The COP heard encouraging reports about the finances of the synod. For example, Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO) are up for the first three months of the new fiscal year about \$650,000 over last year—as a result of the COP's efforts last summer to respond to the financial difficulties facing us. Offerings from individuals in the Walking Together and Mission Partners efforts, and other gifts, were up by approximately \$650,000. Additional dollars have been received due to investment results and a more favorable foreign exchange rate.

Because it is still early in the fiscal year, because some of the increases are due to earlier receipt of some gifts than last year, and because a multitude of factors could still impact our financial picture, we must be cautious about these results. Still, these are blessings for which we first thank God, and for which we also thank all of the members and congregations of the synod.

Download the complete report from WELS' chief financial officer at www.wels.net/jump/financialreport.

Special debt retirement offering planned

The synod convention received reports on the synod's capital debt of \$22.4 million. The payments on this debt are budgeted at approximately \$3 million per year—money which could be used to fund missions and other important synodical programs. For that reason, the convention authorized the Conference of Presidents to plan a synod-wide debt retirement offering.

The COP has now approved plans for this effort. It is our prayer that we will all join together to completely eliminate this debt by the time of the synod convention in 2009. All congregations and members of the synod will join together in the "WELS Year of Jubilee" offering. The effort will be planned and coordinated by the Ministry of Christian Giving without the use of an outside consultant.

The specifics of the offering will be presented to the district conventions next summer. Materials and worship resources will be provided to congregations at that time. The plan is that all congregations will participate in this celebration of God's blessings, culminating in a month-long emphasis in late November and early December of 2008.

Congregations will be given a number of options for participation. Some may choose to carry out the celebration over a series of four weeks; others may choose a single day as an emphasis. Still other congregations will be given the option of beginning their efforts already in January 2008, using the entire year as a way to gather regular monthly offerings from their members. For congregations beginning the effort in November, members will be able to give one-time gifts or to spread their gifts over the following months. The offering will conclude with a celebration at the synod convention in 2009.

If God blesses us with the elimination of this debt, we will have \$3 million annually to use for the expanded mission and ministry efforts approved by the convention. Please ask God to bless our efforts as we respond joyfully and with commitment to the many blessings he has showered on us and on our synod.

Ever wonder what the Bible is?

This is a new section to the Messenger. What we will try to do is introduce different parts of the Bible each month. This month's is a general overview of the Bible.

NAMES FOR THE BIBLE

The word "Bible" comes originally from an ancient Phoenician city on the Mediterranean Sea in what is now the country of Lebanon. The name of the city was Byblos. The city of Byblos exported the paper on which ancient scrolls were written. "Biblia" became the Greek word for "books" or "scrolls." From the Greek word "biblia," comes our English word Bible. Strictly speaking, our Bible is not just one book but many books put together in one volume. There are 66 books altogether in our Bible. The Bible is also known by other names. We may call it the Scriptures or Holy Scripture. The word "scripture" comes from the Latin and refers to "writings." You may also hear the Bible called Holy Writ, the Book of Books, or the Word of God.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

As these various names for the Bible show, the Bible is not just an ordinary book like all the other millions of books in the world. The Bible is unique; it is one of a kind. It is indeed the Book of Books. There is no other book like it. What is it that sets the Bible apart as a book without equals? It is the fact that God himself is the real Author of the Bible. The Bible is the written word of God in which God reveals the true religion to us.

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

We have already mentioned that God is the real Author of the Bible. However, God did not simply drop the Bible down from the heavens and deliver it to man. God made use of human writers. The Old Testament portion of the Bible was written by Moses and the Prophets. The New Testament was written by the pens of the Evangelists and the Apostles. About 40 men were involved in writing the Bible. When we ask the question, "Who wrote the Bible?", we really have to give two answers. First we will answer that God wrote the Bible; and then we will answer that God used humans to write the Bible. As an exercise check these verses and see whether each speaks of (1) God being the Bible's Author (2) the human authors or (3) both the divine (Godly) and human authorship of the Bible:

[\[2 Timothy 3:16\]](#) [\[2 Peter 1:21\]](#) [\[1 Thessalonians 2:13\]](#) [\[Mark 7:10\]](#) [\[Mark 7:13\]](#)

THE LANGUAGES OF THE BIBLE

The Old Testament portion of the Bible was written originally in the Hebrew language. This is the same language as is spoken by the Jews today in the country of Israel. A very small portion of the Old Testament was written in Aramaic, a language very similar to Hebrew. Hebrew and Aramaic were the languages commonly understood by the people living in Israel during the Old Testament period. The New Testament was written originally in the Greek language. A very few words of Aramaic are also found in the New Testament. Greek and Aramaic were commonly understood by people living in the area of Israel during the time of Jesus. Greek was commonly understood throughout the Roman Empire that existed at Jesus' time.

HOW THE BIBLE IS DIVIDED

The Old Testament and the New Testament are the two general parts of the Bible. The Old Testament contains the 39 books that were written between the time of Moses (about BC 1500) and the time of Malachi (about BC 400). The New Testament contains the 27 books that were written at the time of Christ to about AD 100. You will notice that about 400 "silent years" come between the Old and New Testaments. The two testaments of the Bible together contain 66 books.

CHAPTERS AND VERSES

The books of the Bible originally had no chapter and verse divisions. The chapter divisions we use in our Bibles today were made by Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, who died in 1228. The verse divisions that we use today were done by Robert Stephanus, a printer in Paris, in 1551.

THE BIBLE'S TWO CHIEF DOCTRINES

Two doctrines stand out in the Bible like two mountain peaks. Those two doctrines are the LAW and the GOSPEL. The LAW is that part of the Bible in which God tells man what to do, what not to do, and how to be. The chief purpose of the Law is to show us our sin. Both Old and New Testaments contain Law. The GOSPEL is that part of the Bible that tells us the good news of our salvation in Jesus Christ. The word "gospel" is an old English word that means "good news." The purpose of the Gospel is to show us our Savior, bring us to faith in him, and keep us in the saving faith. Both the Old and New Testaments contain Gospel.

The LAW: tells us what to do, what not to do, and how to be; it shows our sin; it shows we are worthy of God's eternal punishment.

The GOSPEL: tells us the good news of our Savior Jesus Christ; gives us free salvation; keeps us in the faith; comforts us with God's love.

Announcements

NOVEMBER SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE



From the Sunday School...

It's that time of year again! Christmas Eve will be here before we know it. Christmas Eve programs were sent home with all of the children at Sunday School last week. If parents could please start going over the parts with your children so they all know their parts really well. Any children 3 years old - 8th grade, in Sunday School or attend day school at St. John's are welcome to be part of the Christmas Program. (They are welcome to start coming to Sunday School if not already enrolled). It's very important to have your children attend each Sunday from now until Christmas to insure the Christmas program runs smoothly. If you need a copy of the program or need help getting your children to Sunday School please contact Jessica Jungbluth 775-3912 or Anna Knutson 775-3803.

***Just a reminder the Sunday School children will be singing in church on November 18th.

***We also thank all the teachers & parents who helped to make the Fall Fest a success!!

Trinity Ladies Circle

About 20 ladies attended the October meeting. A chairperson was chosen for each committee: Decorating, MLHS, Missions, Funeral and Kitchen. If you are a member of TLC and would like to be a member of a particular committee please contact me.

Cathy Miller with the MLHS scrip program explained how we can purchase scrip and a portion of the earnings is applied to our church account. That account is used to help with tuition support for MLHS students from our congregation. The church account will be set up shortly. I will keep put a notice in the bulletin when that is completed.

At our next meeting we are going to stamp cards for the troops and decorate bags for the Christmas cookies.

Reminders:

November 20 @ 6pm bring decorations for Church Thanksgiving display

November 27 @ 6pm TLC meeting – making cards

December 1 @ 9am decorate Church for Christmas

December 9 bring one dozen Christmas cookies for the shut-ins to the New Member Welcome and Christmas Dinner

December 9 @ 8am set up for New Member Welcome and Christmas Dinner

The TLC will not have a December meeting.



New Member Welcome and Christmas Dinner

Mark Sunday, December 9th on your calendars. That day we are welcoming new members to our Trinity family and we are having our annual Christmas dinner. We will start serving at about 11am, just after the church service. Chicken and mashed potatoes are the main course. We are asking everyone (except new members) to please bring a dish to pass

Every successful event needs helping hands. If you are interested with helping please sign up on the sheet in the back of church. We need help setting up, decorating, serving food and cleaning up.

Troop Support

Thank you for supporting our troops. The box in back of church was overflowing with a great variety of items. We will have about 15 boxes to send out. Again, thank you very much for supporting this mission.

Food Pantry Collection

The Fellowship Committee is asking your help to support a food pantry. A collection box will be in the back of church for the entire month of November. We will take the food to the pantry December 3 in time for Christmas distribution. Please bring any food item that is not perishable.

MLHS News

* Many thanks to everyone who lent a hand with the MLHS' Fall Cleanup Day! Many outside projects were tackled, and plans are underway for another event in the spring.

* **MLHS Parent & Grandparent Day** is Tuesday, Nov. 13th. (Aunts & Uncles welcome, too!) Join your Lancer student to see what a day of Christian education is like, and enjoy lunch on MLHS!

* **Federation Meeting Re-Scheduled.** The quarterly MLHS Federation Delegate meeting has been rescheduled from 11/17 to 11/10, 9:00am. Information on the building project and capital appeal will be among the items presented.

MLHS UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE COME AND SEE THE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM YOUR CONGREGATION USING THEIR TALENTS!

Week of 11/5 – 11/11

Mon 11/5 MLHS Fall Concert; 7:00pm

Tue 11/6 MLHS Board of Control Mtg; 6:30pm

Wed 11/7 NHS Blood Drive @ MLHS

Fri – Sun 11/9-11 WELS Choral Festival @ Wisconsin Luth. H.S.

Sat 11/10 MLHS Federation Delegate Mtg (rescheduled from 11/17)

Sun 11/11 Repeat Performance Annual Meeting @ MLHS; 12:30pm

Week of 11/12 – 11/18

Tue 11/13 MLHS Parent & Grandparent Day (Aunts & Uncles, too!)

Sun 11/18 MLHS Sunday @ Calvary, Sheboygan; 9:00am

Week of 11/19 – 11/25

Tue 11/20 Boys' Basketball vs. Sheboygan Luth. (H)

Wed 11/21 Manitowoc Holiday Parade (Marching Band); 6:30pm

Sat 11/24 MLHS Alumni Basketball Tournament

Two Rivers Holiday Parade (Marching Band); 5:30pm

Week of 11/26 – 12/2

Tue 11/27 Boys' Basketball vs. Mishicot (A)

Thur 11/22 Girls' Basketball vs. Reedsville (A)

Wrestling vs. Reedsville (H)

Fri 11/23 Boys' Basketball vs. Reedsville (H); PARENTS' NIGHT

Sat 11/24 Wrestling @ Wisconsin Lutheran

Scott Reinhard, Development Director

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(920) 682-0215 x.103
sreinhard@mlhslancers.com***

Visit our website at www.mlhslancers.com!

*****Raise money for MLHS just by searching the Internet with GoodSearch - www.goodsearch.com - powered by Yahoo!**

Church Attendance for September



Saturday/Sunday = Total

October 2004

Week 1: 25/248=273

Week 2: 31/104=134

Week 3: 22/91=113

Week 4: 31/146=177

Week 5: 27/114=141

October 2006

Week 1: 37/109=146

Week 2: 47/108=155

Week 3: 41/113=154

Week 4: 37/224=261

Week5: 28/106=134

October 2005

Week 1: 33/122=155

Week 2: 39/120=159

Week 3: 21/96=117

Week 4: 35/251=276

Week 5: 28/122=150

October 2007

Week 1: 45/112=157

Week 2: 40/139=179

Week 3: 44/109=153

Week 4: 24/154=178

"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."



A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...

1/1 James Glaeser

11/1 Jim Krim

11/2 Lu Ann Luckow

11/7 Lillian Borgwardt

11/8 Grace Knutson

11/10 Karen Kiesow

11/11 Alexander Kasten

11/13 Harold Bratz

11/13 Brandon Ratsch

11/16 Brittany Hochkammer

11/17 Stacy Faber

11/18 Debbie Fitzgerald

11/19 Bonnie Wagner

11/20 Linda Wallander

11/22 Brett Glaeser

11/24 Allison Lutze

11/24 David Mellstrom

11/28 Michael Schreiber

Years & more of God's Glory!

11/7 Lillian Borgwardt – 84 Years Young!



Happy Anniversary To...

11/6 Jody & Jim Krim – 14 Years!

11/8 Chad & Karen Knutson – 4 Years!

11/10 Allen & Doris Reichardt - 45 Years!

11/11 Gary & Lu Ann Luckow – 18 Years!

11/24 David & Cindy Williamson-28 Years!

*If you have a November birthday or anniversary and it is not listed or your anniversary is listed incorrectly please let us know so we can update your information. Thanks!

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Ushers on Schedule:</u>
November 3 rd	Al Bonfigt, August Teesch
November 4 th	Dan Knutson, Jeff Knutson, Elwood Free, Jim Krim
November 10 th	Keith Petersen (Server), Warren Lutze (Server), Derrick Krey
November 11 th	James Glaeser (Server), David Schultz (Server), Eli Kenneke, A.J. Kenneke
November 17 th	Harold Bratz, Marty Kiesow
November 18 th	John Smith, Larry Hochkammer, Jeff Kasten, Alex Kasten

If you are unable to make your scheduled service, please call Brian Glaeser @ 775-3941.

Communion Liturgy: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for you for the remission of your sins.

May this strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting. Depart in peace; your sins are forgiven. Amen.

Altar Guild Schedule

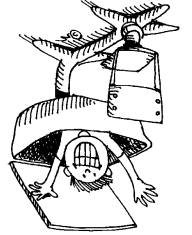
Group 3: Janet Matthias, Eunice Barnes, Janice Wehausen, Diane Smith

O u r G r e e t e r s F o r N o v e m b e r



November 4th 5th & 6th Grade Sunday School
November 11th Lori Schleis Family
November 18th Fred & Darlene Schnell
November 22nd Ed & Myrt Vetter
November 25th Gary & Lucille Vetter

Kids Corner



Bible Quiz – “Judges”

1. Who was the first judge mentioned in the book of Judges?
 - a. Ahab
 - b. Ehud
 - c. Othniel
 - d. Gideon
2. Who was instrumental in the downfall of Samson?
 - a. Tamar
 - b. Zerubabel
 - c. Jezebel
 - d. Delilah
3. Who was the fat king that Ehud killed?
 - a. Ekron
 - b. Eglon
 - c. Elah
 - d. Eker
4. Who was Jabin’s commander?
 - a. Sippai
 - b. Sisamai
 - c. Sisera
 - d. Sotai
5. Where was the battle fought where Jabin’s army was defeated?
 - a. River Kishon
 - b. River Jabbar
 - c. River Jordan
 - d. River Arnon

Answers: 1.) c [Judges 3:7-9] 2.) d [Judges 16:18-20] 3.) b [Judges 3:17] 4.) c [Judges 4:2] 5.) a [Judges 4:7]

Jesus the Bread of Life

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."
John 6:51 (NIV)



A I B H N L B S P F L N P R J
N M S E N G T Y C N A J L Q E
W N N R L E D C V W C T L L J
E H A X H I I K R O X V H I F
E E P P E L E F F R F U F E O
L V O S H I I V Y L V A A D R
T R E S D V I B E D N D E I E
P R E R M E K C P N S E H E V
T L U M L A Q K A B A S L D E
F H L T O A X M F B T E I O R
I J E Y H T S E H D E R F X B
M E Q A M P H T A F S T E N U
X S D B V D J E I L I S T E N
O U Y P B E R L R N K Z X I V
R S Z X V B N P T W G G N M M

bread
heaven
Jesus
father

mother
prophets
listen
learn

truth
believe
everlasting
life

ate
manna
desert
died

live
forever
flesh
world

GIVE THANKS



Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing
love and his wonderful deeds for men.

Psalm 107:8

