



St. John's Newsletter

June 2019



Continue in God's Word

As for you, continue in the things you have learned and about which you have become convinced. You know from whom you learned them and that from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, well equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:14-17 – EHV)

I don't care what anyone else says—summer is the best season of the year. The weather is finally nice outside; the days are longer, and best of all—no school! Not that school is bad, of course, but it's nice to get a break, to let the mind rest a little bit, to recharge the batteries for a while. This way the children (not to mention, teachers) can come back in the fall fully ready to learn and grow in their knowledge of God's wonderful creation.

Sadly, however, many get the same impression when it comes to God and his Word. It seems that many of us take a break from God's Word during the summer months—not just in our study of God's Word, but worship attendance also suffers in the summer months. We may think that this isn't a big deal, but the problem is that when we aren't in the Word on a regular basis, we become weaker in our faith and we open ourselves up to attacks from the devil. While it's true that things do slow down a bit at St. John over the summer—confirmation class, Sunday School, and most of our Bible studies aren't active during this time—yet that doesn't mean that we are to take a break from God and his Word. The study of God's Word is not an academic institution—as if we would receive a benefit if we took a break from it.

No, in the verses above the Lord tells us to continue in what we have learned—to continue in the Holy Scriptures. And he gives us a number of great reasons to do so: First of all, it is God's Word, making them the most important words ever written. The Holy Spirit led the writers of the Bible to write what they did and so the Bible can rightfully be called God's Word—making it true and right in everything it says; no other book can claim this. Secondly, it is through the Word that we are saved. It is only in the Word that we learn about Jesus—who he is and all that he has done to save us. The Holy Spirit works through gospel to bring us to faith and keep us in that one true faith. And it is faith that receives the blessings—including salvation—that Christ won for us. Third, the Bible is useful for many other things (listed in the last sentence of our passage above). Through Scripture we are able to teach, to lead, to point out sin and forgive. In short, through the Word we become more spiritually mature; as our knowledge of God's Word expands we are moved to love and serve him by obeying his commands.

Therefore, I pray, that you make the most of the opportunities we have this summer—worship, VBS, Sunday mornings on non-communion Sundays—to let the Lord strengthen your faith through the gospel so that you may be wise for salvation and well-equipped for every good work.

Pastor Andrew Frey

June 2019

ALTAR GUILD

Nancy Bruhn 739-5852
Ginger Kobussen 739-7227
Lynn Ziegert 585-4434

GREETERS

8:00	Dennis & Kristine Neumann	6/2
10:00	Phyllis Gresens & Sheryll Techlin	
8:00	Cathy Puls & Pat Schabo	6/9
10:00	Charlie & Rose Miller	
8:00	Bill & Katie Rickert	6/16
10:00	Betty Randall & Diane Schabo	
8:00	Gary & Kathy Schabo	6/23
10:00	Janice Bates & Sheryl Hill	
8:00	Gordon & Jean Schroeder	6/30
10:00	Nancy Bruhn & Eileen Defferding	

WITH THE LORD Our sister in Christ, Claire Beyer entered eternal life with her Savior on Saturday, May 4, 2019. A private graveside service was held at Community Lutheran Cemetery, Freedom on Tuesday, May 7, 2019.

Our sister in Christ, Jean Schleis entered eternal life with her Savior on Saturday, May 18, 2019. A Christian funeral service was held at St. John on Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

"I am the resurrection and the life." John 11:25.

BAPTISM Beau Lawrence Siquiefeld, son of Tyler and Kaylin (Bluma) Siquiefeld was baptized April 20, 2019 at St. John. ***"Be baptized and wash away your sins."*** Acts 22:16

WELS APPLE VALLEY FOOD PANTRY The pantry collection will be Sunday, June 2. Items needed include household cleaning products, chunky soups, canned fruit, pasta in a can, all canned meats such as ham, salmon & beef, hamburger helper, jam/jelly, rice, boxed potatoes, cake mix & frosting, all crackers, toilet paper and paper toweling.

Because shelves are often near empty in the summer, the WELS Apple Valley Food Pantry is having a spring food drive. Just take a flyer and grocery bag from the entryway in church and bring it back to church with your donation before June 9. Please NO perishable, frozen or expired food.

SUMMER WORSHIP Our summer worship schedule runs from Sunday, May 26 through Labor Day, September 2. Worship is at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. Monday worship will remain at 6:30 p.m.

SUMMER SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY New this summer we will be offering a family type Bible Study on all non-Communion Sundays beginning Sunday June 9th. The study is entitled, "The ABC's of Worship — Lutheran Customs and Practices." It is our prayer that through this study God will lead us to grow in our appreciation of the Gospel as it is reflected in the way we worship. This class is intended for members of all ages so everyone can join us.

There is a booklet that accompanies this study which you may purchase to guide you in your study. (A sample copy is on the back counter to look at — Please don't take this copy!) Please sign up if you would like one of these booklets. The cost will be around \$3.00.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS Jesus says to each of us ***"Go and make disciples of all nations"***. Here again is an opportunity to invite a friend, neighbor or co-worker or family member to hear the Good News of forgiveness and life through Jesus Christ. This class is for everyone but especially for those who are not members but would like to know what we teach. Go and invite! Come yourself!

We plan to have our next Bible Information Class (BIC—or Adult Instruction Class) begin mid-June. If you or someone you know are interested, please speak to Pastor Gartner.

WOMEN OF FAITH We are going to meet each month this summer for Bible study and LWMS updates. You are invited to a cookout on Tuesday, June 11 at 12:00 pm at the home of Gary and Kathy Schabo, W3989 Wege Road, Appleton. Bring your family with you. Come for food, fellowship and Bible study. Let us know if you plan to come; a sign-up sheet is on the counter in the back of church.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY All men of the congregation are invited to join us on Tuesday, June 18 at 9:00 am for Bible study.

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EHV PRE-ORDER The entire Bible of the Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV) translation of the Bible which is a translation produced by the Wartburg Project, a group of WELS and ELS pastors and professors, is now complete and will be published this summer. You now have an opportunity to preorder this Bible at a discounted bulk-rate price (around \$17.00). There is no need to pay right away. Once we receive the Bibles we will inform those who have signed-up and how to pay for their order. There is a sign-up sheet on the back counter if you wish to order a new EHV. There are also pamphlets on the back for more information on this new translation. **The deadline to sign up is May 31.** For more information, please talk to one of the Pastors.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held the week of July 29-August 2 from 9:00-11:30 am. VBS is for all children from 3K-6th grade. Please bring your children (3K-6th grades) to hear the Word of God and use this as another opportunity to invite others to hear the Good News of the forgiveness of sins through Jesus. Registration sheets are available in the entryway.

If you want to help with VBS, please sign-up on the sheet in the back of Church. A pre-VBS meeting will be held toward the end of June.

CHURCH PICNIC Mark your calendars. The church picnic will be on Sunday, August 18 at Plamann Park. Plan to join us for food, fun and fellowship.

CHURCH SOFTBALL St. John has a team in the Appleton church softball league. Come out and cheer the team on at Appleton Memorial Park on Wednesday evenings. The schedule for June:

June 5	9:00 p.m.	Field 3
June 12	7:00 p.m.	Field 1
June 19	7:00 p.m.	Field 4
June 26	6:00 p.m.	Field 3

TIMBER RATTLER GAME Come and join fellow members for the Timber Rattler game on Saturday, August 3. Game starts at 6:35 pm. We have reserved 50 tickets behind home plate. After the game there will be a fireworks show, and the kids can run the bases. It is also Storybook Princess Night 2. Elsa, Anna, Jasmine, Rapunzel, and Snow White will be at the ballpark to say "hi" throughout the game. The first 500 princesses and princes age 12 and under receive a tiara. The cost is \$9 per ticket if 20 tickets or more are sold. A sign-up sheet is on the counter in the entryway; sign up by Monday, July 15.

