
Tabor Lutheran News

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Monthly Newsletter

To the Saints

Over the course of the next few months the newsletter articles will deal with Stewardship; how we use God's money, or more specifically, "God's Word on how we use his gifts."

What is Stewardship?

Christian stewardship is the faithful management of our financial resources and all we have. It begins with the understanding that all we have is God's (Ps. 24:1 "The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it") and that "we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world" (1 Tim 6:7). Since all we have is God's, we should use it for His purposes. God's purpose for us in our lives is expressed in the various vocations, or callings, that we have. So, for example, a father and mother use their income to feed, clothe, and protect their children.

Besides the vocations that each of us have in our family life and in society, we are also all Christians and members of this parish. How do we use our income faithfully in regard to this vocation? To learn this we must look to God's Word.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18: (17) You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." (18) But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

Luke 16:13: Jesus said, "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

Matthew 6:19-21: Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Malachi 3:8-9: "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. (9) You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me.

2 Corinthians 8:7, 9:6-8: But just as you excel in everything--in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us--see that you also excel in this grace of giving. . . . The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything.

What does this mean?

Your heart always goes where you put God's money. Stewardship is not an optional subcategory of the Christian life; it is the living out of a Christian's dependence on God. As such, faith and finances are inseparable. True joy is found not in storing up the things of this world, for the things of this world won't last. True joy is found in clinging to Christ who poured out His life for you on the cross and now gives you His Life in Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord's Supper. The things of this world are temporarily given to us by God to see, and we will be called to account for how we manage the Owner's things (Rom. 14:10-12, 2 Cor. 5:10).

In this month and the months to come, prayerfully consider your giving to God's work in His Church. Are you faithfully giving a first-fruits tithe (10%) of your income to the work of God? Are you, as St. Paul says, "excelling in this grace of giving"? If not, why not? In next month's newsletter we'll consider more of what God says about Stewardship--specifically more about tithing (the Biblical practice of giving a tenth of our income to God's work in the Church)--and provide steps for planning your giving for this year and next year.

Together on the Way!
Pastor Stoll

February Birthdays

- 2 Sandra McCarthy
- 3 Earl Kahler
- 10 Deanna Tachick
Lois Kahler
Sonya Schultz
- 18 Erin Moede
- 22 Glen Seering
- 24 Lisa Buchert
Gail Bahr
- 26 Tasha Urban

February Counters

- 4 Donna Tetzlaff and Sandy Sandri
- 11 Bill and Tracy Brooks
- 18 Eugene and Mark Krueger
- 25 Orv and Bette Quandt

February Ushers

- 4 Brian and Diane Fitzpatrick
- 11 Arnie Bubolz and Gary Keschull
- 18 Eugene and Mark Krueger
- 25 Jim and Cheryl Jawort

February Altar Committee

February--Brenda Urban and Bette Quandt
March--Janet Strobusch and Diane Fitzpatrick

February Elder on Call

Rick Gipp (920) 595-0989

Life Quotes for Lutherans

February 4: "Please rejoice in knowing prayer works and keep praying for the states who still haven't banned abortions and for those states trying to ward off those who want to bring it back. We are not done praying and never will be. God is on our side, and He has a plan. We need to stand firm and with faith never give up praying. God controls the power of prayer, and He is amazing." Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

February 11: "We live dripping with the promise of Baptism. We live fueled by the fire of God's Word. We live created on the sixth day and recreated by God's grace to be followers of Jesus seven days of the week until that great eighth day, called eternity, when we will sing praise in His presence forever. We live and we love and we are loved in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, sin forgiven, shame erased, status: all very good." Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

February 18: "The state can punish offenders, but it can't give birth to law-abiding citizens. The state cannot love or nurture a child. It takes a family. A radical thought, that, but off limits in our public conversations swept clean of moral discourse. Pray that this will change." James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

February 25: "Our Heavenly Father remains active and almighty, especially in the difficult circumstances that life issues involve. In joining Himself to us with His incarnation, wisdom, power, atonement, and resurrection, Jesus makes every human life blessed—and a blessing! He lovingly and ably handles decisions about welfare and affliction, life and death, so that we don't have to do it on our own." Pastor Michael Salemink – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Grateful Appreciation

Paula and I have been so blessed in the time we have been here. Your presence and devotion, faithfulness and love have only been superseded by your generosity to us. We thank and praise God for you, and we thank you for all the gifts you have shared with us over the past couple of months for Pastor appreciation, birthday and Christmas. We rejoice with you always as we wait together in worship for Jesus to return for us. God's blessing of peace and joy that comes in the birth of the Prince of Peace be with you all.

Together on the way! Pastor and Paula Stoll

God's Bounty

Mom's Nutmeg Logs (from Nancy Krueger)

- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 egg
- 1 cup soft butter
- 2 teaspoon rum
- 3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon

Cream sugar and butter until light and fluffy. Add vanilla, rum, and egg. Gradually stir in flour and nutmeg. Mix well.

Divide dough into six equal parts. On a lightly floured board, roll each part into a rope (1/2 diameter). Cut each rope into three inch pieces. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees 8-10 minutes or until set. Cool

Frosting

- 2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 teaspoon rum
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Beat all ingredients together until spreading consistency. Start with a couple of tablespoons of milk and then add more if needed. Frost the cookies. Sprinkle with nutmeg.

Makes 42-48 cookies.

Lutheran Hour, February 2024

February 4

"Nature Abhors a Vacuum"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Ephesians 4:32)

February 11

"TBD"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

February 18

"TBD"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

February 25

"TBD"

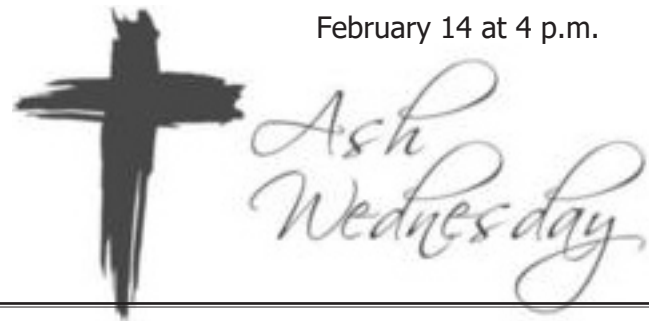
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes

As of the printing of this newsletter, this was the only information given for the sermons. If you are interested in all



the sermons for the rest of the month, go to this web page:
<https://www.lutheranhour.org/programguide.asp>.

February 14 at 4 p.m.



Radio Broadcasts					
Station	City, State	Freq	Band	Day	Time
WRVM	Powers, MI	98.9	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WRVM	Appleton, WI	101.7	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WRVM	Ellison Bay, WI	103.1	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	6:30 AM
WRVM	North Fond du Lac, WI	88.5	FM	Sun	10:00 AM
WJMQ	Shawano, WI	92.3	FM	Sun	7:30 AM
WTCH	Shawano, WI	960	AM	Sun	7:30 AM
WRVM	Sturgeon Bay, WI	103.3	FM	Sun	10:00 AM

Tabor Lutheran Church Special Funds - December 2023

Acct #	Name	Beg. Balance	Deposit	Interest	Withdrawals	End. Balance
	Flower Fund**	904.09			40.00	864.09
	(not included in totals)					
6961	Scholarship Fund	\$ 2,323.61	\$ 59.00	\$ 1.25		\$ 2,383.86
9486	Winter Savings	1,809.39		0.96		1,810.35
8722	General Fund	6,458.75		3.43		6,462.18
7894	Parsonage Improvements	4,138.24	300.00	2.46		4,740.70
7906	Church Building/Maintenance	4,965.02	195.00	2.02	2,013.71	3,148.33
	Decorating--In Above	3,666.00				
7759	Bequest Fund	4,492.38		2.38		4,494.76
8298	CD 40 Month Fixed 4%	11,569.48		218.46		11,787.94
5736	CD General	15,327.48		154.53		15,482.01
5714	Winter	7,763.75		77.27		7,741.02
5702	Bequest	15,327.48		154.53		15,482.01
5725	Scholarship	7,663.75		77.27		7,741.02
	TOTAL ALL SPECIAL FUNDS	\$82,039.33	\$554.00	\$694.56	2,013.71	\$81,274.18

**In checking account

At the Well

Tim and Lisa Beckendorf, LBT' missionaries in Botswana

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

John 4:13, 14 (NIV)

Typesetting

While in the States, Lisa and I were able to attend a workshop on typesetting. You are probably thinking about the activity of typesetting and how all the characters and spaces and layout were arranged by hand before going to the press. Of course, that is all done now by computer, but the process is rather complex, and this workshop focused on teaching us how to use one of the programs for typesetting. Prior to this workshop, I couldn't understand why it took so long to initially typeset our Khwedam Bible; however, I now have much better insight and am very grateful for the professionals working on our Bible.

The goal of attending the workshop was not so that we



Lisa and Tim at the typesetting workshop

could cut out the professional typesetter and do all of our printing work in-house, but so that we can make interim publications of individual books/stories of the Bible for the language communities we work with to use early on in the translation process. Not only would this give people the opportunity to engage with God's Word early on, but it would also allow the people to

start considering all the decisions about how their Bible should ultimately look.

We are thankful for the opportunity to learn more skills and pray that we will grow in those skills in order to help others engage with God's Word.

Typing

Because the Khwedam alphabet has special characters to represent click sounds, several years ago we asked a young man in the States to make a keyboard app for us so the Khwe could type Khwedam on the phone. It was very popular, but now it is out of date and newer phones can't use it. I tried a number of times to contact the original developer but had no success. So, I asked Aaron if he could create a new one. Over the course of several Sunday afternoons, Aaron designed and completed the new keyboard app and Splash, and I tested it out. It works great!



The translation team enjoying the keyboard app

A couple of days later, I was working with Splash, and we decided to go visit a group of guys working on translating a neighboring San language to see how they

were doing. They were frustrated by a few computer challenges, and we were able to show them some things to make the work easier. It was a really good visit which encouraged both Splash and the other translators. Then I showed the other translators the Khwedam keyboard on my phone, and they were immediately interested; they wanted it on their phones as well, even though they need a few more characters to indicate tone. In a matter of minutes, they all had it installed on their phones and were using it to show off to their friends.

I went back to Aaron, and he made modifications to the keyboard to include tone marking so that all the San languages can use it. Having the ability to communicate in your own language on digital media is something most of us take for granted, but for those that don't have that option it is a real need. It not only elevates the status of the language and the people, but makes communication clear and natural.

We are so thankful to have the opportunity to serve the people whom we know here and for all of your support that enables us to do so.

In the Tank

A Slice of Life

Every year around September a certain species of fish becomes active in our river, which in turn initiates a feeding frenzy of other fish (and birds by the river). This stirs up all of the silt in the river and the water turns brown. We pump water from the river and store it in tanks for use in our house. A lot of the crud settles to the bottom in the tanks so that the water coming into the house, though brown, isn't as bad as it could be. So, once a year, usually after the fish feeding frenzy, we clean out our tanks. It is not a pleasant job, as it is always quite hot in the tanks. This year, however, Andrew offered to climb into the tanks and clean them out. Boy was I thankful for his offer!



Andrew emerges from cleaning the water tank

We are so thankful for where we live where the boys have the opportunity to experience life "in the bush". We pray that the experiences and skills they learn will be a blessing to them throughout their lives.

Your servants in Christ,

Tim, Lisa, Aaron, and Andrew Beckendorf

Correspondence and Support Information

You may support this ministry with gifts payable to Lutheran Bible Translators and indicate that they are for the Beckendorf Ministry. They may be mailed to:

*Lutheran Bible Translators
PO Box 789
Concordia, MO 64020*

You may also contribute online through LBT's secure website: www.LBT.org/give

Additionally, you may also support our ministry by using electronic fund transfer. Please call LBT@1-800-532-4253 for details.

*You may contact us at:
e-mail: Tim.Beckendorf@LBT.org
website: <http://www.LBT.org/beckendorf>*

One beautiful Sunday morning, the pastor decided to take the day off, and go play golf, so he called in sick, and headed off to the course. He had a wonderful round of golf, topped off with a **hole in one**.

Gabriel and God had been watching, and Gabriel sputtered to God. "How could you reward him for skipping out with such a prize?" "Who is he gonna tell?" replied God.

Pardon Me, Um ...

The bride was Lutheran, a member of my congregation; the groom, Roman Catholic. At the post wedding reception dinner, one of the waiters, evidently Catholic, came by with a tray of drinks.

"Will you have one, Father?" he asked me. Then he noticed my wife, seated next to me. "Uh, pardon me, how about you--um, uh--Mrs. Father?"

The Rev. William Nolting, Stratford, Ontario, Canada

Tabor Lutheran Church Income/Expense Report - December 2023

Beginning Balance 12/01/23	3,378.88
December Income:	
General Income.....	11,389.99
Loose	2,583.00
Missions.....	100.00
Church Maintenance	25.00
Thrivent.....	86.00
From Emmanuel	2,926.75
Flowers.....	100.00
Flower Fund.....	1,267.00
WRLHS Scholarship	20.00
From Bldg Fund.....	2,013.71
Advent.....	<u>685.01</u>
Total December Income	21,196.46
December Expenses:	
1 - District Budgeted.....	1,133.67
12 - Pastor's Salary.....	6,077.20
13 - Pastor's Health Insurance/Pension	2,645.95
16 - Pastor's Mileage Reimbursement	404.79
17 - Parsonage Utilities	196.34
2 - Mission Designated.....	100.00
21 - Church Phone/Internet	144.21
24 - Subscription/Pub/Dues.....	211.42
27 - State Withholding/Dept of Rev	425.20
28 - Fed Tax/Social Security	1,184.47
30 - Custodian Wages.....	135.06
31 - Church Utilities	274.83
33 - General Maintenance/Repair Church	2,013.71
36 - To LCEF Church Bldg/Maintenance Fund	1,378.00
37 - To Parsonage Improvement Budgeted	300.00
4 - Guest Pastor	85.00
41 - Flower Fund	40.00
42 - Gifts	100.00
46A - Groundskeeping Snow	450.00
47 - Parsonage Expense Miscellaneous	3,232.15
48 - To Scholarship Fund	20.00
5 - Organist	405.31
52 - Website/Domain Maintenance	151.25
54 - Administrator Wages	668.60
55 - Guest Pastor Mileage	49.13
5A - Organist/Buttons	137.52
6 - Workshop Supplies	<u>151.90</u>
Total December Expenses	(22,115.71)
Ending Balance 12/31/23	2,459.63

Financial Status Compared to Adopted Budget

Income	January	\$11,531.75	
	February	11,882.75	Does not include \$9,000.00 from Special Funds
	March	15,649.76	
	April	15,862.75	Includes \$2,737.00 from Door Fund
	May	14,505.87	Includes \$3,000.00 from Gen Fund
	June	11,272.75	
	July	14,770.75	Brat Fry \$1,442.00
	August	12,468.50	
	September	13,366.75	
	October	19,778.25	
	November	14,130.52	9,541.86
	December	21,196.46	3,511.71
Total			
Funds Needed for Adopted Budget		\$175,416.85	\$15,063.73 each month
Funds Shortfall		(38,700.32)	

FEBruary 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01	02	03
				9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor		
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Quilting	4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class and WASP	9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor	9:00 a.m. Board Meeting	Ruby's Pantry @ Gillett HS
11	12	14	14	15	16	17
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion Mites Collected	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Meeting Quilting after Meeting	ASH WEDNESDAY 4:00 p.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion @ Tabor 7:00 p.m. @ Emmanuel	9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor 1:00 p.m. Worship @ Lakewood Assisted Living Center		
16	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Quilting	4:00 p.m.** Divine Service w/ Holy Communion @ Tabor 7:00 p.m. @ Emmanuel	9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor		
25	26	27	28	29		
8:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion WRLHS Offering	PASTOR'S DAY OFF	9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ladies Aid Quilting	4:00 p.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion @ Tabor 7:00 p.m. @ Emmanuel	9:00 a.m. Bible Study @ Tabor	**9:30 a.m. Worship @ The Bay in Suring 1:00 p.m. Worship @ Serenity Gardens in Gillett	
Wednesdays: 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class and WASP						

Lutheran Heritage Foundation

Thanks so much, Pastor Stoll, and all the saints of Tabor and Emmanuel Lutheran for your missions partnership. Your \$420 special mission gift is gratefully received on November 8, 2023.

That eternal gospel which we share on Reformation Day, and throughout the year, reminds us of our sinful nature and God's mercy to us in Christ Jesus our

Lord. It is a mercy which Martin Luther "rediscovered" as he focused upon God's Word and not simply church tradition. The comfort of God's forgiveness to us "poor, miserable sinners" and salvation through Jesus alone is what the Lutheran Heritage Foundation proclaims in 96 countries and more than 150 languages. Thank you for your partnership with LHF.

Rev. Dr. Matthew Heise, Executive Director of LHF