



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

www.pilgrimkenmorecms.org

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

JULY 2025

PASTOR: Rev. David Walsh

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 6:00 PM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM





July and August are wonderful months for the Church, especially in the LCMS. The reason is that the church is receiving men into the office of the Holy Ministry or simply put its ordination season. For myself that day was July 2nd, 2017, on which my brothers placed their hands on me, pronounced words of blessings and encouragement and my then District President, President Don Fondow ordained me and gave me the charge to care for the Lord's church. On Sunday July 13 at 4 PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Gowanda, we will be welcoming another brother into the Holy Ministry before he heads to North Dakota to serve. I encourage you all to attend the ordination.

For this article, let us look at the ordination rite. First, the rite takes place during a divine service; this way the new Pastor can lead the prayers of the church and administer the Sacrament of the Altar for the first time, with the rite occurring after the sermon and before the prayers of the church. As we do in a Baptism, confirmation, wedding, and funerals we have an address given to state why we are here and what the Lord has called that person or persons to. In this case, the Lord, through the means of the church at large, has called that man into the office of the Ministry. While the candidate is brought forth, there is an option to sing some alleluias and hymn 498 "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest" followed by prayers for the purpose of recognizing the Holy Spirit's work through the Pastor.

What follows is a series of readings from Scripture, read by the Pastors who attend the ordination service. They outline several aspects of the ministry: The Institution of the Office of the Holy Ministry, The Responsibilities of the Office of the Holy Ministry, and The Strength and Promise in the Office of the Holy Ministry. There are a total of 16 readings ranging from a single verse to 5 verses. Not all of them are read, it is dependent upon how many Pastors are there.

What follows is the presiding minister, typically the Bishop or District President, then calls the candidate to make several promises regarding his discharging of the office. They are the recognition that the Lord has called him into the office of the ministry, that the books of the Old and New Testament are the inspired Word of God and the only "infallible rule of faith and practice", that he believes and confesses the creeds to be from Scripture and that he rejects the

errors they condemn, that he confesses the 7 documents of the Book of Concord to be a faithful exhibition of doctrine in the Lutheran church and as being faithful to Scriptures, that he promises to perform the duties of Pastor in accordance with the confessions which includes preaching, teaching, and administering the Sacraments, that he will faithfully teach the young and the old, that he will guide souls to repentance and forgiveness, that he will never divulge sins confessed to him, and finally that he will devote himself to the ongoing instruction in the faith that he may preach and teach better.

The presiding minister then lays his hands on him and gives him the charge of John 20: 21-23 “Peace be to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” The presiding minister then ordains him into the office of the Holy Ministry. This is then followed by the other Pastors laying their hands on him and each one reads a verse that they have selected as an encouragement and reminder of their charge. I like John 20: 30-31 “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name”. The presiding minister then turns back to the congregation and asks them as representatives of the church at large, if they will welcome the new man as Pastor. The rite ends with a prayer for and in thanksgiving for the new Pastor.

Again, this service is beautiful, and it is a reminder that the Lord hears the prayers of the church to provide servants for the church. So, join us July 13th in Gowanda for this wonderful occasion.

Think of us in this way,
as servants of Christ
and stewards of
God's mysteries.



1 Corinthians 4:1



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE JULY 2025

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

| WEEKEND OF | July 5, 6 | July 12,13 | July 19,20 | July 26,27 | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| READER (Sat/Sun) | Pastor/ Donna Vogel | Rhonda Mohr/Rich Loster | Pastor/ Sue Holway | Rhonda Mohr/Mary Werth | |
| USHERS | Tim McGuan/Jim Hartz | Jim Hartz/ Melody Keef | Ed Walsh/Eric Fellner | Eric Fellner/ TBD | |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANT | Mike Wuerch | Ed Walsh | Mike Wuerch | Jim Hartz | |

(If you cannot serve on the day scheduled, please notify **Tim McGuan (716) 418-5484, **Ed Walsh** (585) 747-1503 or **Dan Griebel** (716) 259-9704. ALSO, PLEASE CALL AMBER SO SHE CAN CORRECTLY PUT THE CHANGE IN THE BULLETIN. Thank you.)**



COUNTERS

(IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COUNT THE DATE YOU ARE ASSIGNED, PLEASE LET JIM HARTZ KNOW.)

| July 6 | July 13 | July 20 | July 27 | |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--|
| Carolyn Alessi | Sue Holway | Pioneer Picnic | Jim Hartz | |
| Janice Vogel | Ruth Whitmer | | Donna Vogel | |



Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month!

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Abigail Size | Jul. 1 |
| Janice Vogel | Jul. 6 |
| Stephen Gempko | Jul. 9 |
| Delores Zeeb | Jul. 17 |
| Sharon McGuan | Jul. 22 |

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| Jul. 2 | Rev. David & Margaret Walsh |
| Jul. 12 | Rod & Rhonda Mohr |
| Jul. 24 | Greg & Diane Jakubowski |
| Jul. 25 | Jim & Kathy Rodgers |
| Jul. 27 | George & Jennie Alessi |

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY



| | |
|--------|---------------------|
| Jul. 2 | Rev. David J. Walsh |
|--------|---------------------|



ESTHER CIRCLE

This month's meeting will be on Monday, July 14th, at 12:30 pm. at church. All women of Pilgrim are welcome to attend. Please note the flyer on the picnic at Pioneer on The Lake on Sunday, July 13. It's an opportunity to fellowship with our "sister" congregations in the area and enjoy the natural beauty along the lakeshore. Please RSVP to Sharon McGuan by July 6th. Carpooling will be arranged.

Save the date! On Saturday, August 16th, we will be hosting a Bake Sale at the church from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Think about what baked good item you would like to donate. We will have a sign-up sheet posted by the first of August. The proceeds from this will go to the various mission outreach projects the Esther Circle supports.

REMINDER: Dash's receipts go to Sue Holway; mites to Karen Smith (note there is a drop box at the back of the church) and cancelled stamps with a half inch border go to Sharon McGuan. Thank you!

We will be discussing chapters 5 - 8 in the book "The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe" after the business meeting.

Summer is here! The Lord has been giving us hot & sunny weather. Safe travels and stay hydrated. Give thanks to our Lord for each new day! God Bless!

Carol Obot



A man's dog is missing, and he is frantic. His wife says, "Why don't you put an ad in the paper?" He does, but two weeks later the dog is still missing. "What did you put in the paper?" his wife asks. "Here boy!" he replies.

A man went to the vet with his goldfish. "I think it's got epilepsy," he told the vet. The vet took a look and said, "It seems calm enough to me." The man said, "Wait, I haven't taken him out of the bowl yet."



**Esther Circle will be selling the following
during Fellowship until they are gone.**

Milk Chocolate Pecans - \$14.00
Nut & Fruit Mix – \$12.00
Sweet & Salty Trail Mix - \$12.00
Honey Roasted Cashews - \$14.00

All profits are used to support local charities such as Ken -Ton Meals on
Wheels, Local Church Food Pantries, Lutheran Bible Translators,
Lutheran Hour Ministries plus many others.
Please help us support them. Thank you!



Summer VBS at Camp Pioneer

All children, three years old (must be potty trained) through children entering 6th grade are invited to attend a free Vacation Bible School ***EPIC Australian Adventure*** at **Pioneer on the Lake** in Angola, NY from July 7th to the 11th from 9:00 am to 12 pm. The registration LINK is vbspro.events/p/pioneervbs. Participants will be encouraged to dive deeper into God's Word for a better understanding that Jesus is a friend who never leaves! Come join us on the beautiful shores of Lake Erie for music, games, beach activities, crafts, snacks, Bible stories, and more! Please call the Pioneer office at 716-383-6157, or talk to Margaret Walsh or Sharon and Tim McGuan, Pilgrim's VBS volunteers, if you have any questions about the program or if you would like to volunteer. **(Please see the flyer in this issue.)**



Our July Sunday school will take place on Sunday, July 20th at the Pilgrim Church Picnic, again at Pioneer on the Lake, directly after the 11:00 am service, during the time the picnic will be set up. The mini lesson will be a surprise. Come and join us for a special time with Jesus, just for kids, at camp.



Complete joy

Because Jesus came to do such serious work, we often imagine him straight-faced. Yet Jesus also enjoyed fun times, such as the wedding celebration at Cana. When the wine ran out, Jesus miraculously produced more.

Jesus also warmly welcomed children. Picture him lifting an infant into the air or tickling a giggling youngster while another child, grinning, climbs on his back.

Summer usually allows more time for fun and play. So use these months to teach the kids in your life — and to remind yourself — that Jesus came so our “joy may be complete” (John 15:11). Laughing, playing, having fun, relaxing and enjoying life are part of living and loving as faithful disciples.



A Voters Meeting was held on June 8th after the service. The congregation has been notified of a \$20,000 bequest from the Estate of Kurt Kaufmann which should be received very soon.

No one has asked for a permit to park in our lot. Notices have been placed on a few cars each week and that has apparently acted as a deterrent so far.

PLEASE do NOT park in the driveway. That causes difficulty when cars are entering and leaving at the same time.

We are holding a Car Insurance Reduction Class, which may qualify participants for a discount from their insurance provider. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board. This is not a commitment, just a way for us to see how many people might be interested. The class will be held in October. Cost is \$30.00.

Building and Grounds: Our AED will be installed soon and there are step-by-step instructions in the box. The piano downstairs will be removed. Please let friends and relatives know because it will either be sold, given away or junked. One of the stained glass windows on the Chapel road side needs repair by the top edge. Elevator lights and an outside light need to be replaced. The room under the stairs will be cleaned out.

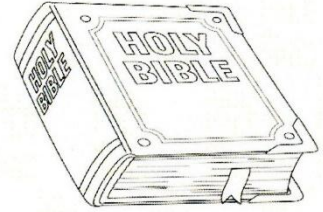
We voted to accept Rich Loster as a member. Welcome to your new church family!

Our Church Picnic will be held on July 20th at Camp Pioneer. See the flyer in this issue.

Don't forget about Camp Joy at Our Savior on New Brunswick. See flyer in this issue.

VBS at Pioneer – see information and flyer in this issue.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 14th. We adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Catechesis page: We encourage you to put this on your fridge and learn God's Word and things that help us better understand it together.

July 2025

Did you know? We are in the second half of the Church year. This half has a lot fewer major festivals, although there are smaller celebrations to be had. The next many weeks are called the weeks after Pentecost (or the weeks after Trinity for those churches on the 1 year lectionary).

Bible verse of the month: "And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." -Matthew 28:18

Catechism: The Seventh commandment and it's explanation:

What is the Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal.

What does this mean?: We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Liturgical seasons and colors (look on the altar and pastor) for June: Weeks after Pentecost-green

Christian symbol of the month: The symbol to the right is tongs holding a burning coal. As you see under Church festivals July 6th is Isaiah's Saint Day. In Isaiah 6 Isaiah sees into heaven and realizes he is unclean, specifically his lips are unclean. One of the seraphim (a type of angel) takes a fiery coal with tongs and touches Isaiah's lips with it. His lips are made clean and he is commissioned to be a prophet to the people of God. Many of his prophecies clearly point forward to Christ. Isaiah lived 700 years before Jesus.



Hymn of the month: (definitely check out the other verses in the hymnal, for the sake of space we have v. 1 only here) Oh, Blest the House-LSB #862

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,

Where Jesus Christ is all in all!

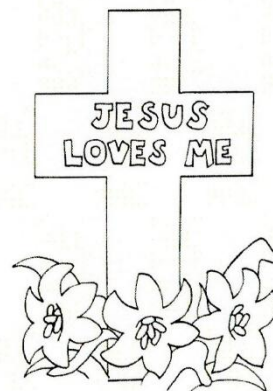
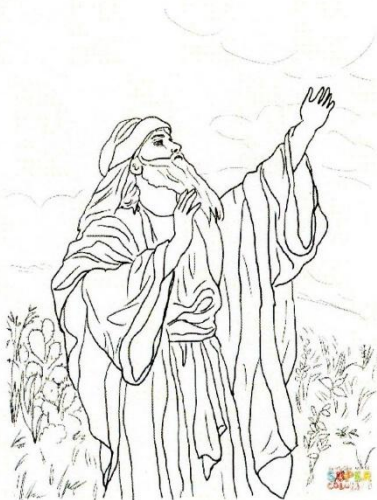
A home that is not wholly His

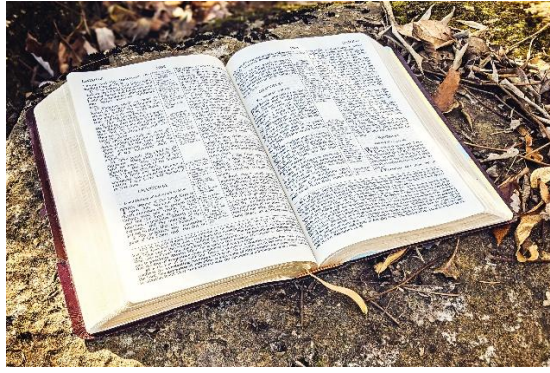
How sad and poor and dark it is.

Church festivals, observances, Saint Days in July:

6th-Isaiah (prophet) 16th-Ruth 20th-Elijah (prophet) 21st-Ezekiel (prophet) 22nd-Mary Magdalene

25th-St. James the Elder (Apostle) 28th-Johann Sebastian Bach (Kantor)





This month we continue our journey through the Psalms.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| July 1 – Ps. 89:38-52 | July 9 – Psalm 96 | July 17 – Ps. 102:23-28 | July 25 – Ps. 106:1-15 |
| July 2 – Psalm 90 | July 10 – Psalm 97 | July 18 – Psalm 103 | July 26 – Ps. 106:16-33 |
| July 3 – Psalm 91 | July 11 – Psalm 98 | July 19 – Ps. 104:1-13 | July 27 – Ps. 106:34-47 |
| July 4 – Psalm 92 | July 12 – Psalm 99 | July 20 – Ps. 104:14-26 | July 28 – Ps. 107:1-16 |
| July 5 – Psalm 93 | July 13 – Psalm 100 | July 21 – Ps. 104:27-35 | July 29 – Ps. 107:17-32 |
| July 6 – Ps. 94:1-15 | July 14 – Psalm 101 | July 22 – Ps. 105:1-11 | July 30 – Ps. 107:33-43 |
| July 7 – Ps. 94:16-23 | July 15 – Ps. 102:1-11 | July 23 – Ps. 105:12-25 | July 31 – Psalm 108 |
| July 8 – Psalm 95 | July 16 – Ps. 102:12-22 | July 24 – Ps. 105:26-45 | |



The gift of the Bible

Certain parts of the Bible are hard to understand — and even harder to explain to children. But the late Rachel Held Evans made a start, and then coauthor Matthew Paul Turner completed *What Is the Bible?* This picture book can help adults as well as kids receive the gift of Scripture.

The Bible is often described as a library of books. Held and Turner explain that it's also many different kinds of writing: stories, poems, wise sayings, songs, letters. Scripture tells of Creation, good and evil rulers, miraculous events, animals that spoke or brought food to hungry people, even monsters!

The best part, the authors write, is that “in the Bible we meet Jesus, who teaches us new things about God, faith, and ourselves” — above all, that God loves us. “And if a story in [Scripture] is confusing or scary or sad, we can imagine how Jesus, who loves us, might tell us that story.”

Bible scholars call this “the canon within the canon.” As Christians, we read all other parts of Scripture through the lens of the Gospels, where we meet God *in person*, as Jesus. Similarly, 500 years ago Martin Luther called the Bible “the cradle that holds the Christ.” That’s a word-picture even children can grasp!

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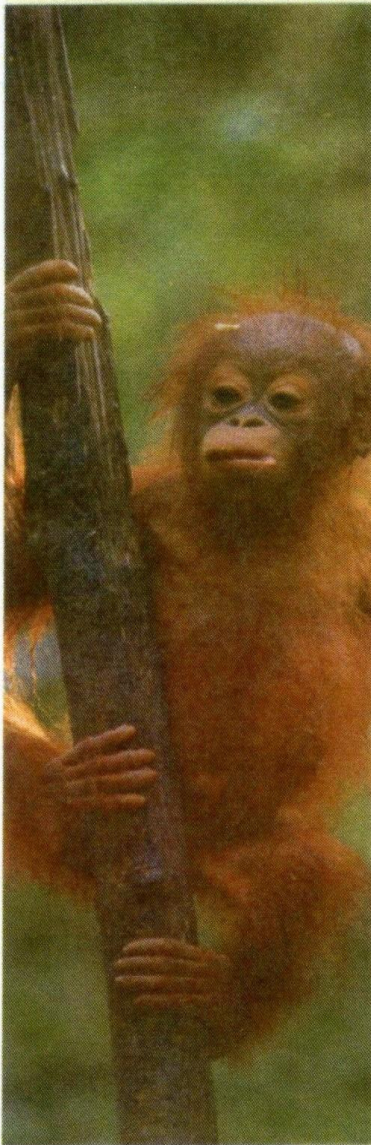
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Letter to my sponsor



Tanggal [Date] "\$ me, 12.0-2..S.

Yang tersayang Friends apa kabar? saya berharap sehat dan baik-baik saja ya di sana! saya senang sekali menulis surat lagi untuk teman-teman. saya sangat bersyukur bisa merayakan paskah bersama di gereja dengan penuh sukacita dan penuh bahagia. apakah teman-teman juga merayakan paskah di sana? oh ya di tempat saya sekarang musim hujan, di tempat Friends sedang musim apa? saya berdoa semoga teman-teman dalam perlindungan Tuhan. doakan saya juga semoga senantiasa hidup taat kepada Tuhan dan menjadi berkat bagi orang lain. sekian surat dan Aril salam manis.

Translation

May 3, 2025. Dear Friends, How are you doing? I hope that you are healthy and well over there. I am very happy to be able to write again. I am very grateful to celebrate Easter together at church with joy and happiness. Do you also celebrate Easter there? It is the rainy season here. What season is it there? I pray that you remain under God's protection. Please pray for me as well, so that I live in obedience to God and become a blessing to others. That is all from me. Sweet regards, Aril.



ARIL WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WRITING TO HIM, PLEASE CONTACT
CAROLYN ALESSI OR DIANNE WUERCH.**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO MIKE AND DIANNE WUERCH ON THE BIRTH OF
THEIR FIRST GRANDCHILD!**

**SAY HELLO TO CALEB MICHAEL STARR, BORN ON MAY 27TH, 2025. HE
WEIGHED 6 LB, 14 OZ. AND MEASURED 19 ³/₄ INCHES LONG.**

**WE PRAISE GOD FOR THIS PRECIOUS GIFT OF LIFE. PLEASE KEEP THE
FAMILY IN YOUR PRAYERS AS THEY BEGIN THIS NEW AND EXCITING
CHAPTER.**



Cyber Corner for July

Last month I started to talk about a couple of ways scammers/hackers look to steal your information. In this article I want to go into that a bit further and look at ways to protect your information. I want to explain why your information is so important to scammers, and how it might be used.

By now you might be thinking Ed you're just paranoid, and to that I say "why yes I am" thank you for noticing. You see, I have known people that had their bank accounts hit, and I have had scammers try to open cards in my name (about 4 times now) or make purchases that I had to get taken off on my accounts, just to name a few; so, this is real to me. In fact, as I am writing this article, I have just received an alert on one of my accounts that I am looking into; and sure enough, I found out that someone is trying to open an account in my name; so, I will use this as an example here. Saturday night, I got an alert that a hard inquiry has been made on my credit card account, and it is on the weekend. Well first they usually will not do a hard check unless I am opening a new credit card. Second, it looks suspicious to me that it was done on the weekend; for if it were the credit card company, they would probably be doing this during the week. So, in calling the credit card company I was connected to several different departments, including the fraud department, I was told it is probably just the company looking to increase my credit limit. I will not except maybe it is this or that, so I was finally referred to the applications department, and sure enough when they checked, they told me that a new card was being processed in my name over the weekend. So, I was able to have them stop that from going through. I will also call the credit bureau that this went through and report it there too. This is one of the keys to protecting yourself here. Set up any alerts with your credit card/bank that they offer. Here you will want to set alerts for any new accounts being opened, national and international purchases, and anything else they may offer. I would also suggest setting up accounts with Credit Karma and Experian just to start. These are free and they will let you know anything that is occurring with your accounts as well as let you know where your credit score is. I do all this because I have found you cannot get enough notices. Because I get these notices when they happen, I have been fortunate and was able to stop, and get things reversed or stopped.

I have heard stories where people were not so fortunate and lost a lot of money and the financial institutions were not willing to help. In some cases, it was because they could not be sure that person did not make purchase or the money that was withdrawn. That is why the sooner you know about something that is happening the sooner you can stop it. I mentioned earlier about the credit bureaus, so let me explain a few things here. If you set up an account with them (Equifax, Experian, and Transunion) they each have a way to freeze/lock your credit reports. This will stop anyone from being able to check your credit; and if they cannot check your credit, they should not be able to open a card

in your name. Again, I will say again that I do not believe anything is a 100% guarantee, but this is the best I know that you can do at this time. This includes you as well, so when you do open an account, you will have to go into the apps. and unfreeze it. Now each of these do have a monthly fee if you want monitoring too, but I think if you want just to freeze your accounts it is free. You also can get a free yearly credit report, and you should do this as well to see what is happening; incase something was missed.

I began here talking about the importance of keeping your information safe. It is just for the reasons above that you should do this. You see hackers will hack into business for a lot of reasons, but one main one is to get data on people. They try to get any information they can get on as many people anywhere they can. They then will put together as much as they can to get enough information on people to sell it on the Dark Web. This is so in demand that there are actual brokers that sell your information, and it is big bucks for them. The people who buy it are the scammers that will then use it in Phishing attacks, open accounts and make purchases that you get charged for. And while we are on the subject, you also want to keep anything regarding your medical information safe. I have heard of them getting a hold of a person's medical insurance number, and getting free medical treatment or medications, that the actual user had to pay for. And good luck getting that reversed.

Another way they use your information is in a scam called Sim Swapping. Here they call your phone carrier, pretending to be you, and convince them that you have lost your phone and need them to transfer your current sim card information to a new phone (and its sim card) that they have. To convince the phone company that they are you, they must have a fair amount of information on you; and as I mentioned above it is not hard. Once they have this, the first thing that they will do is lock you out of the account. Now if they have, for example, your username and password they can get into say your bank account, even if the company sends a verification code to your phone, which they now have. One way to prevent this is to set up a pin, so that the phone company will not do this without the pin. I would also set multifactor authentication as well. In fact, I do this for all my accounts. You also can go into your phone account, on the phone app, and set a setting to have this frozen/locked; so again, that they cannot transfer the sim unless you go in, with your pin, and turn this off. You will have to check with your company to see how to do this for your phone service; and I would suggest doing all this, because you cannot do too much.



Bill and Doug needed a break from their computer programming jobs, so they decided to try duck hunting. On the first day, they sat in the duck blind all morning.

"I just don't understand it," Doug finally said to Bill. "We've been here since dawn. Why aren't we getting any ducks?"

Bill replied, "I keep telling you, I just don't think we're throwing the dog high enough."



Summer Picnic and More

Sunday, July 13, 2025

Pioneer on the Lake

Hosted by: St. John's Angola and Trinity Erie

Worship Service: 11:00am (Outdoor service weather permitting.)

Picnic follows!

Provided: meat, table service, beverages and dessert. Please bring a side dish to share.

GOD IS SO GOOD!

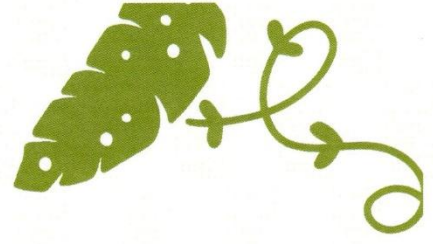


WE ARE ALSO CELEBRATING SUSAN KNOWES AS SHE HAS ACCEPTED A CALL TO FORT WAYNE SEMINARY.

You won't want to miss out on an afternoon of Christian fellowship, time for relaxation or a quiet walk on the beach alone or with friends. Come alone if you must OR better yet, get your church ladies group to join in all the festivities!

RSVP to Sharon McGuan salmcg23@gmail.com by Sunday, July 6th

SHHHH, you could bring your husband or a friend. Just bring a bigger dish to pass!!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
**AUSTRALIAN
ADVENTURE
VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL AT PIONEER
ON THE LAKE**



JULY 7-11, 2025

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
EACH DAY

HOSTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST. JOHN ANGOLA
JOIN US FOR A WEEK OF OUTBACK ADVENTURES,
EXCITING BIBLE STORIES, FUN GAMES, MUSIC, CRAFTS,
AND TASTY TREATS — ALL WITH AN AUSSIE TWIST!

FOR GRADES PRESCHOOL-6TH

FREE REGISTRATION — RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!





I've got that
JOY, JOY, JOY, JOY
Down in my heart! YOU DO??!!



Then I have a way you can share it with kids!
CAMP JOY SUMMER PROGRAM

Since its inception, **Camp J.O.Y.** has played a significant role in the transformation of children with unproductive and unsupervised time - into children with real life experiences and creative interactivity during and after Camp **J.O. Y.**

The acronym for **JOY** is **J**esus, **O**thers, **Y**ou!

Where: Our Savior Lutheran Church
26 Brunswick Blvd.
Buffalo, New York

When: July 7, 2025 through August 15, 2025
Monday through Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm

FORGET IT, THAT'S TOO MUCH TIME FOR ME TO VOLUNTEER!

WRONG.... COULD YOU GIVE JUST 1 HOUR IN THAT 6 WEEK CAMP??

CAMP JOY is looking for high school students to active senior citizens that would like to help as few or as many hours as possible. Help relieve the staff doing 6 weeks and 8 hours a day. HOW? One hour of teaching any activity you enjoy now. Recreational games, music hour, arts and crafts, helping children in academic needs: reading, writing and math too. Monetary donations are always appreciated for a very small budgeted program. Always appreciate prayers for a successful Christian Program.

You pick the day, the hour and the activity!!! All that is needed is for you to care enough for our future generations of young people hearing **GOD'S WORD**, and being witnessed to by real Christians, giving and sharing the talents God gave you!

CONTACT DIRECTOR: BARBARA GLOVER - CELL 716-310-7297

EMAIL: bdq12948@gmail.com

God bless this JOY SUMMER CAMP and keep you always in his care!



Sunday
July 20
2025

4th Annual Pioneer Fest

We are thrilled to invite you to an amazing day at Pioneer on the Lake as we celebrate 80 years of Christian ministry! Enjoy lake breezes, sunshine, hot dogs/hamburgers, ice cream, bounce houses, face painting, tractor train rides, worship music, and so much more. Come, join us for a great FREE day on the lake and be refreshed at Pioneer!

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES BY:



The Good News
Band
@ 1PM



Five14 Band
@ 2PM



The Brothers
McClurg
@ 3:30PM



Randy Stonehill
@ 4:45PM



Steven Curtis
Chapman
@ 6PM

Come
celebrate
80 years of
Camp
Pioneer at
this FREE
event!

716-383-6157

9324 Lake Shore Road
Angola, NY 14006

PIONEER
ON THE LAKE
CHRISTIAN CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Contact the Pioneer office for further
information and/or to reserve your spot.

PIONEERONTHELAKE.COM



660 MASON RIDGE CENTER DRIVE

ST. LOUIS, MO 63141-8557

1-800-876-9880

Making Connections, Touching Lives: Hispanic Online Ministry in Action

Coming alongside people in their daily walk with help and hope centered in Christ is what Para el Camino and Sentido Latino do. These LHM Hispanic ministry resources are distinct in content and complementary in purpose. Para el Camino offers daily and seasonal devotions, inspired comments on living, topical and children's booklets, and much more. Sentido Latino is a podcast featuring Rev. Luciano Vega-Ayala and daughter Deaconess Noemí Guerra. The website includes comments and audio messages that speak about life issues and making sound choices.

Sentido Latino connects with people through its podcast and social media posts in the U.S. and abroad. In 2024 it had more than 200,000 audio reproductions and 2 million-plus social media reaches. The podcast's father-daughter exchanges create a strong chemistry for listeners. "This makes our audience feel like they are home, with family, maybe in the kitchen, having a healthy conversation about daily life," says Rev. Germán Novelli, LHM Hispanic ministry director. "Our hosts know the realities, challenges, and afflictions in our communities, and how the love of Jesus can heal the wounds of sin," he adds.

Likewise, Para el Camino continues to make inroads into people's lives who are hurting. Such was the case of a man in Mexico battling alcohol. After the staff at LHM's ministry center prayed for him and shared resources on alcoholism and addiction, the man replied how he had been spending time with God using LHM's Daily Devotions in the mobile CPTLN app. "This Sunday I went to church, and I think I will go again with God's favor. It's already two weeks of sobriety tomorrow. Thank you to our Heavenly Father. God bless you today and always in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen," he says.

This encounter led to an on-the-ground connection, too. "We were also able to refer him to our CPTLN director in Mexico City for further guidance and support. We are in awe of how God has used His Word across digital platforms to transform lives. All glory belongs to Him!" says Christina Lopez-Robin, U.S. Hispanic ministry social media manager and marketing specialist.

Additionally, LHM's Hispanic outreach is served by vivenciar.net in Latin America with a team of volunteers engaging Spanish and Portuguese speakers. Volunteers listen to and accompany people going through difficulties, giving them support and guidance. The website also offers articles, courses, booklets, and a blog.

For more information on all these programs, go to lhm.org/hispanicministry.

2023–2025 Mission Grant #21

Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church

Lutheran Family Services, U.S.

About This Mission Grant

God directs the church to care for those He calls to serve in ministry. Church workers and their families regularly face unprecedented stress, challenges, and suffering which affects their physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual well-being. There is an urgent need for the church to support and care for church workers.

Lutheran Family Services is responding to this need by launching a campaign to fund expansion of their services to support church workers and their families beyond Iowa and into the greater Midwest. These professional services are provided on an ability-to-pay basis through support of individuals and congregations without funding from the Synod or government funding to not limit their Christ-centered ministry.

This grant will help increase their ministry team of masters-level, licensed therapists who will provide marriage and family counseling that is Christ-centered.



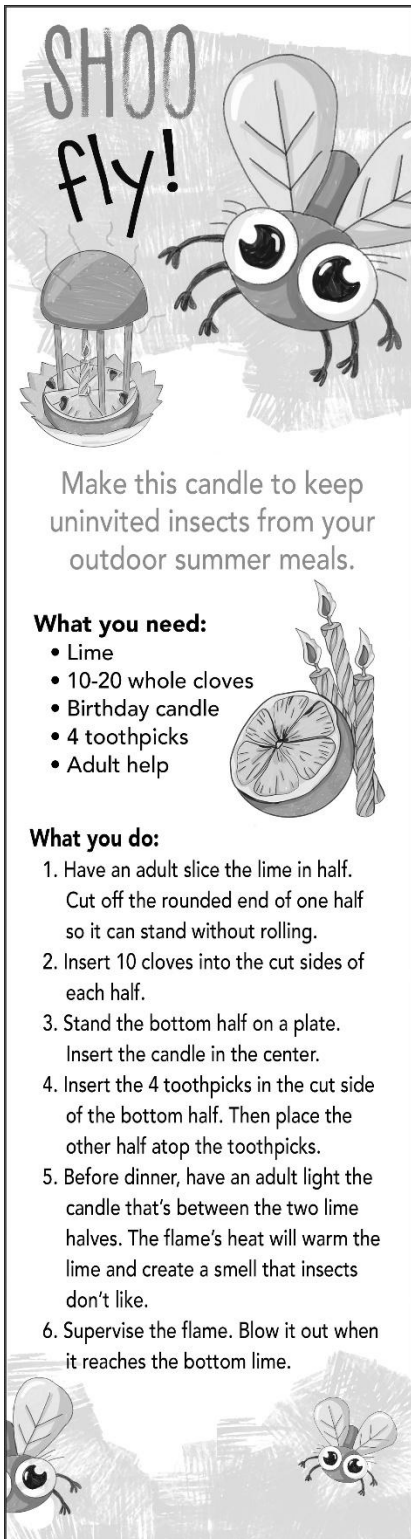
Launched at the Iowa District West Convention in the summer of 2022, Rev. Dr. Jim Lamb shares a personal testimony of his struggle as a young pastor and how he was helped by an LFS counselor who brought professional support and the love of Jesus to him at a time when he was at a point of potential ministry burnout. Dr. Lamb reminded the group that he — and most pastors — are really good at hiding their pain.



The Healthy Together: Healthy Workers-Healthy Church campaign will increase the number of theologically trained men and women who are cross-trained to serve as mental health counselors. Pastor Nathan Grewe is the first pastor called and supported through the campaign to train as a master's prepared mental health counselor. He will soon serve the church fulltime as a licensed counselor, uniquely equipped to support fellow church workers experiencing family, marital or mental health crisis.



Progress is being made in South Dakota where Lutheran Family Service has already added several professionally trained counselors who are now serving LCMS church workers and their members. Newly added counselors serving in South Dakota include Rev. Dave Gunderson, PLMFT, Lindy Hinckley, PLMFT, and Cathy VanderBraak, MSW, pictured here with LFS' Director of Congregational Services, Rev. Michael Wolfram and a guest at the Lutheran Family Service booth at the South Dakota LWML Convention in 2022.



TINY TEAMWORK

The focused teamwork of ants is astounding! How can we learn from them?

Directions: Answer the clues. Then write the words in order below to complete Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV.

This 6-legged arthropod can carry 20 times its own weight. _____

A sleepy, sloth-like and slow-moving person. _____

Having deep understanding and sound judgment. _____

A person in charge of military troops. _____

A person in authority. _____

The season when daylight hours are longest. _____

A substance you eat for nutrition. _____

When farmers reap the rewards of hard work. _____



Go to the _____, you _____;

consider its ways and be _____!

It has no _____, no overseer or _____,

yet it stores its provisions in _____

and gathers its _____ at _____.

Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV



Answers: ant, slugard, wise, commander, ruler, summer, food, harvest; Go to the ant, you slugard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE AUGUST NEWSLETTER IS JULY 24TH.