



The Lutheran Beacon

June 2022 | Monthly Newsletter of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

A Message from the Pastor

John 3:14

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

What is the biggest problem you're facing right now in your life? We've all got a Top Ten list of problems, don't we? Or at least a Top Three. Between health problems, responsibilities that need to be taken care of, and concern for our loved ones, if we all took a couple minutes to think about it, we could probably come up with a pretty clearly delineated list, ranked by priority.

Mark Your Calendar

June 4

Men's Group Meeting

June 5

Pentecost

June 7

Von Bora Circle Meeting

June 13

Evangelism Meeting

June 16

Worship and Music Committee

June 19

Father's Day

June 21

Church Council

June 25

Confession and Absolution

June 28

Red Cross Blood Drive

From God's perspective, every human being has one singular problem that stands at the top of our list: the problem of death and sin. Now, when we hear or read a statement like that, unfortunately our brains might quickly slip into what you might call "religious-dormant mode." That is, we might nod our heads, mumble a quiet "amen" (of course, it would have to be a quiet one, we are Lutherans after all), meanwhile attaching no real emotional significance to the matter. But here's the thing—if God says, "The biggest problem for any individual human is death and sin," and you inwardly are saying, "Eh, maybe, I guess," or "I'm not so sure," which one of you is more likely to be right? You? Or God? Or, put differently, who has the better perspective for determining which problem is the biggest one?

So, the biggest problem any individual human is facing at any given moment is the problem of death and sin. And "sin" not in the weaker sense of particular infractions, i.e. that time I stole the cookie from the cookie jar and so on. But "sin" in the stronger sense, i.e. our inward self-obsession, rebellion against God, and disregard of Him. Sin, not just "sins," results in our death, our being cut off from God, the source of life.

Nicodemus, when he comes to Jesus at night in John's third chapter, doesn't seem to understand this as being the biggest problem. Of course, in fairness, very few people, if any, seem to have understood this until after Jesus accomplished all which the Father sent Him to accomplish. Nicodemus knows something is going on with this Jesus guy, but he's not quite sure what. It doesn't

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VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Communion</u>
June 5	Joe Householder	Jim Funk	<i>Not reported</i>	<i>Not needed at this time</i>
June 12	Abby Householder	OPEN		
June 19	Colin Smith	Fran Funk		
June 26	Colin Smith	The Libbens		

Altar Care: Carl and Nancy Thomas

Lay Readers: 8:30am - NEEDED / 10:15am - NEEDED

A Message from the Pastor, cont'd

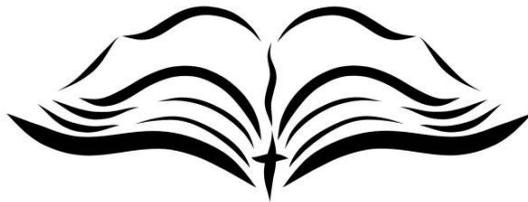
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look like what he thinks it should look like. When he basically says as much, Jesus asks him, “You are the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?”

This is where all the Scriptures had been heading, since chapter one verse one, but especially since Genesis’ third chapter. From that moment, God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, initiated a plan to solve the biggest problem every human faces. The whole of the Old Testament Scriptures had been the story of God preparing the way to fully reveal that solution.

Now, in Christ, lifted up like the serpent in the wilderness, God gives you that solution. By looking to Him, by believing in Jesus, you now are reunited to God. The sin which cuts you off from God is now paid for and another’s righteousness is credited to you. You now are reconnected to the life of God, eternal life, and may live as His child forever. The biggest problem on your list has been taken care of.

This doesn’t mean that all the other problems on your list go away, of course, as you well know. But it does transform, and often realign, them. Now, even the most difficult, and even most horrifying ones you might face, you may face now as God’s own child. You face them as a child of the One who brings life out of death and transformed the world’s darkest moment into His own most beautiful gift.



June Worship Service Readings

June 5: Gen. 11:1-9; Psalm 143; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:15-31

June 12: Isaiah 6:1-7; Psalm 29; Romans 11:33-36; John 3:1-21

June 19: Gen. 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; 1 John 4:16-21; Luke 16:19-31

June 26: Mal. 3:1-4; Psalm 141; Acts 13:13-26; Luke 1:5-25 and 57-80

Von Bora Group News

Submitted by Marilyn Stewart

THIS IS OUR PURPOSE! To support the women's ministry of congregations of the North American Lutheran Church, with the goal of mutual support and encouragement as a community of faith, hope, and love. To assist congregational women's ministries in mission, study of God's Word, fellowship, and service in Christ's name. And to provide guidance to congregations of the NALC who are forming new women's ministries.

What's new with the Women's Group? Something big! Something exciting! The Women's Group now has a name! At our May meeting, after discussion of three possibilities, the group voted to name our group the Von Bora group. I'm sure you are wondering where in the Bible can you find this name? Actually, it is not in the Bible, but it is the maiden name of Martin Luther's wife, Catherine. This is not as new or unusual a name as you might think. In the history of our church, this has commonly been used for the name of women's groups. So, we look forward to continuing the history of groups named Von Bora.

Also, at our May meeting, Pastor Scott led the Von Bora group in a study of Exodus, ch. 2-3, which tells the story of Moses and the burning bush, and God's new mission for Moses. Next month, we will read and discuss Exodus, ch. 5-6.

Ladies from the group gathered together to package up 42 health care kits and 56 elementary and high school backpacks. On May 5, these were delivered to the NALC warehouse in Caldwell. Mary Bates was thrilled to receive the shipment, because of the great need of the families and churches they are serving. We'd like to thank Jerry Tatman and Frank Stewart for their help in delivering the boxes.

Birthdays

June 1	Crystal Patton
June 2	Kevin Risch
June 7	Frances Funk
June 8	Patricia Anderson
June 11	Lillian McKee
June 12	Mary Frances Sigler Megan Weiland
June 16	John Risch
June 17	Jim Funk
June 25	Laura Hopstetter Susan Rauber
June 26	Sara (Magle) Johnson Robert Johnson
June 27	Kendra Weiland

Remember in prayer...

Patty Anderson, Kathy Bibby, Linda Brown, Kristie Freireich, Rosemary Hampton, Angie Land, Jim Monk, Bonnie O'Conner, Helen Ricketts, Debbie Scaparrotti, Michele Scaparrotti, and Jim Skinner.

Also, remember those in military service, especially Annie Funk, Dustin Garner, Luke High, Katie Landers, Caleb Matheny, Clay Morgan, and Clay Risch.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 7, at 10am. We'd love to see new faces in June to join us for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer.

Men's Group Update

At the meeting on May 7, the Men's Group decided to meet on the first Saturday of the month. Locations may change, but on June 4, we will meet at 9am, at Burger King. We discussed evangelism and maybe starting up the ice cream social the Sunday of the Hocking County Fair. Men, please come to the next meeting. And if it does not fit your schedule, we can discuss a different day and time. Pastor Scott Aaron Smith opened and closed the meeting with prayer.

Christian Bootcamp Returns!

Beginning Sunday, June 12, Pastor Scott will be leading a new “Christian Bootcamp” class on Sundays at 7pm. If you never had Confirmation, think of it like Confirmation for adults. If you did have Confirmation, think of it like a refresher course. Any and all who are interested are welcome.

Lay Reader Meeting

On Sunday, June 12, between services, Pastor Scott would like to meet with anyone who has been or would like to be a lay reader for worship services. Hopefully, together, we can come up with a plan for scheduling readers for the rest of the Church year, and discuss any questions you have about reading the lessons.

Movie Night and Cook Out on July 1

Mark your calendars! A family movie night/cook out is being planned for July 1 (rain date is July 2). Bring your own lawn chairs and enjoy the fun! More information will be coming soon!

Volunteers Needed for Church Cleaning

Volunteers are needed to help with a serious deep cleaning of the Sanctuary and other areas of the church on June 10 and 11. Hand-held vacuums with crevice tools and extension cords will be needed to clean the pew cushions. Rags and other cleaning supplies will be needed to work on the wood. Other areas that will need “Spring Cleaning” will include: kitchen, Luther Room, bathrooms, and nursery. Any questions, please contact Joyce at 931-933-0539 or Christy at 740-385-2754.

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Kroger offers a program which benefits local organizations through shopper rewards. If you have a Kroger shopping card, you can sign up to have rewards sent to St. Matthew at no cost to you! We currently have 15 households participating in the program, and Kroger has donated \$99.88 to St. Matthew for the period of February 1 to April 30. A full report of the recent rewards is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. You can find directions for signing up for this program on the table in the fellowship hall.

Sunday Services

8:30 am Early Worship Service
9:15 am Adult Sunday School/Coffee Hour
10:15 am Worship Service

*Our worship service is broadcast weekly on
98.3 FM in Logan, Ohio*

Newsletter Submissions: Angie Boelk -
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Contact Information

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June 2022

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
(740) 385-2272

[Every Sunday at St. Matthew:](#) Early Worship Service at 8:30am; Adult Education, Confirmation Class, and Coffee Hour at 9:15am; Worship Service at 10:15am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 Pentecost No 8:30am service	6	7 Von Bora Circle 10am	1 Pastor Scott on vacation through June 9	2	3	4 Men's Group at Burger King 9am
12 Lay Reader Meeting between services Christian Bootcamp 7pm	13 Evangelism Meeting 7pm	14	8 Bible Study 11am Book Study 7pm	9 Worship and Music Committee 3pm	10 Church Cleaning	11 Church Cleaning
19 Father's Day Christian Bootcamp 7pm	20 Deadline for July Beacon	21 Church Council 7pm	15 Bible Study 11am Book Study 7pm	16	17	18
26 Christian Bootcamp 7pm	27	28 Red Cross Blood Drive 11am-5pm	22 Bible Study 11am Book Study 7pm	23	24	25 Confession and Absolution 10am-noon
			29 Bible Study 11am Book Study 7pm	30		

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
258 East Hunter Street
Logan, Ohio 43138



The Lutheran Beacon

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Logan, Ohio

June 2022

We, St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Logan, Ohio, as followers of Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit, celebrate the gift of God's Grace. We reach out and welcome everyone to join us in sharing God's Love.