Lakeview Lutheran Church

October 2020

## THE BEACON

### Weekly Worship

Weekly in-person worship opportunities will continue to be offered on Saturday at 5 and Sunday at 8 and 9, followed by all-ages education. All services are in the sanctuary and accessible entry is through the glass door at the front of the sanctuary. If you attend, please refrain from using other parts of the building. The restroom off the narthex will be available. All protocols will remain in place. If 50 people have come to a worship service, no one else will be let into the building. Please consider attending alternative services---*not everyone has to come at 9 am.* But please note, if the incidents of Covid-19 continue to skyrocket and threaten safety, in-person worship could be canceled at any time with little notice. If this happens, a Realm notice will be sent to the congregation via email. A note will also be put on the church voice mail. At this time, you may Zoom into the service at 9:00 am and you will still be able to view the service on our Facebook page or YouTube, once Terry puts the service up later in the day or early in the week.

## Food Pantry

The weekly food pantry has been seeing increased participation. Recently they broke the previous record of 43 households and served 44 households on a single Monday evening. The pantry will continue as a drive-through pantry this fall and winter. Thank you to Gretchen Macht, who efficiently organizes and leads the pantry crew of very fine volunteers. Your financial gifts to the pantry have been appreciated. At this time, the pantry has a very solid supply of money. Therefore, your gifts would serve better purpose if directed to the general budget of the congregation. Remember, we would not be able to support and operate this pantry ministry if the congregation were not able to meet the budget. Costs for staff, utilities, custodial care, etc. necessary to operate the pantry all come from the general budget. The pantry continues to accept brown paper grocery bags. Your donations may be placed in the plastic bin outside the west entrance to the church office.

#### **Blood Drive**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent blood drive. It was a very successful drive, which is important during this time when many drives have been canceled due to the virus. The goal of our drive was 50 units of blood and 60 units were received. This is an example of living out the gospel of Christ's compassion. Thank you to Terry Warnke, who has diligently led the quarterly blood drive for many, many years.

#### **Food Donations**

Recently, someone left food donations for the pantry outside on the step near the office. Pastor Dean found these donations on a Saturday afternoon. They included fresh vegetables and packaged raw thawed meat. Unfortunately, no one contacted the church to let us know how long those things had sat on the step and therefore had to be thrown away. It was hard to throw beef tenderloin and fresh spinach and peppers in the garbage. So, please, if you are going to leave things outside, contact the church office before you do that. As you know, hours are not as predictable during the pandemic as they were in the past and the building is kept locked.

### **Video Recording Worship**

Many thanks to Terry and Sue Warnke for diligently attending weekend worship and recording the service. Then, thank you to Terry for editing the service and making it available to all of us on the church Facebook page and YouTube. If you are grateful for this, you are encouraged to give a shout out to Terry and Sue in some way to thank them.

## Weekly Bible Study

The weekly Bible study on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 has been successful and has felt safe as we wear masks and physically distance in the room. This group will continue to meet every week, but will move from East Hall to the church sanctuary. If you wish to participate, park on the north side of the building when you come. Plan to wear your mask. Enter the sanctuary through the single glass door (same one you use for worship). Then give yourself a shot of hand sanitizer before you select your seat. Participants should bring their own Bible. When we finish the book of James, we will continue to study 1, 2, and 3 John and then Jude. You can also continue to Zoom into this study. The zoom link is sent out every week.

#### **Book Club**

The read for October is 'This Tender Land' by William Kent Krueger. We will be meeting in person on Monday, Oct. 4 at 6:30pm in East Hall for discussion. Masks required.

## Reaffirmation of Baptism-Rite of Confirmation

Because this is an unusual year and situation, students who will reaffirm their baptismal vows through the Rite of Confirmation will individually select the service that they would like this to happen. At the service they select, they will present their faith paper and then be confirmed. They also get to say the Apostle's Creed from memory! We are doing this hoping that by spreading things out, the student will be able to invite some guests to attend the service. On Saturday, October 17, we will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation at 5:00 pm with Matthew Heggeland. Matthew is the son of Dan and Dana Heggeland. Keep Matthew in your prayers and give him a "high five" or other form of congratulatory note.

## Brown Bagging it With Chris

In October, the noon brown bag lunch and discussion led by Chris Anders, Ministry Coordinator, will be held on Tuesday, Oct 27 in East Hall. If you wish to attend, please make a reservation through the church office on or before Sunday, Oct 24. We must limit this event to 12 individuals so that we can physically distance around tables in East Hall. The topic for informal discussion in October will be joint replacements. If you have had a replacement or if you will be having one or if you are just curious, join us. Or if you are just looking for a safe way to get out of the house and be around other people---make a reservation. Bring your lunch/beverage. Enter through the south entrance. Use the hand sanitizer before selecting your seat. Wear your mask except while eating.

## Financial Update

Throughout the summer, giving for the Lakeview budget remained stable. At the recent council meeting it was learned that we have slowed giving. As of the middle of September, we were \$6456 or 3.17% behind in our budget giving. It would be good if we could make this up in the upcoming months. We also had lower than typical expenditures through mid-September which means that all our bills were paid in a timely manner. Low in-person worship attendance, due to the pandemic, could be a contributing factor in our giving. So, the council would like to encourage you to review your giving and consider sending a check, dropping one off at the office or going to the Give+ link on the church web site to make a contribution with check or credit card. All giving has been greatly appreciated so that some ministry of the congregation can continue during the pandemic.

## **Recent Repairs**

During the early summer, the water heater for the entire building was replaced. Many folks donated to that repair but there were still \$933 that had to be taken from the budget. Right now, the electrical lines are being repaired in the upper parking lot around the chapel. This is being done so that the lights around this lot will once again work (they have not worked for numerous years.) Having those lights back on will be good for security and will assist us to see during the dark in the chapel parking lot and the lot on the north side of the building. This cost is \$2400 and will be covered by undesignated chapel gifts that are currently being held in the endowment. In September, the new boiler system and thermostats were installed in East Hall and the Sanctuary. We look forward to consistent heat this winter. The cost of this project was \$50,000. The congregation raised \$39,000 for this project meaning that the final amount had to be taken

from the general budget. This is also the year that we should be patching cracks and resurfacing the parking lots which generally costs about \$9000. While the council is going to get bids to do this, they are not hopeful that we can afford to complete this project at this time, which is unfortunate. And of course, all the carpet in the entire building is due for professional cleaning. This is also something that will likely not get done right now.

#### Thank You from Laura

Thank you to everyone who sent or dropped off cards and gifts in celebration of Colin's and my wedding on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. I know many attended virtually and I'm glad you were able to join us that way, though I know the sound was not ideal. We would have loved to have had you all in person, but the care and wishes from you surrounded us with your love on that day and for that we are truly grateful!

#### **Council Members**

Here is just a reminder of who you elected to serve on the church council, since we are not seeing one another in worship the way that we would like to.

Gregg Steinhauer President
Amy Luebke Vice President
Patty Manier Secretary
Linda Schaack Treasurer

Mario Sanders Director of Outreach Cody Castillo Director of Strategic

Planning

Tara Hoff Director of Properties

Taryn Lantz Director of Faith

Formation

## Congratulations Sterling Lynk

Sterling Lynk, a member of our congregation, has completed his seminary education and recently graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Luther is one of the ELCA's

seminaries. Sterling has been assigned to the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin (that is the synod our congregation is in). Soon he will be working with the bishop's office and will interview for a call to a congregation. It is an exciting time for him. We are grateful for Sterling's accomplishments and wish him well as he now begins the call process to be ordained and serve the church. Way to go Sterling! Feel free to send warm wishes, congratulatory gifts and cards, happy emails etc. to Sterling at this time.

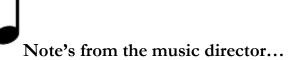
## Lakeview Polling Place

On November 3, Lakeview will serve as a polling place. Warner Park Community Center cannot be used at this time because it serves as the Porchlight Men's Shelter. So, our council has agreed to provide East Hall as an alternative facility. The council wants to be sure that all people can vote in a safe, accessible and comfortable environment, even

during the pandemic. So, if you vote at Warner Park, you will vote at Lakeview this time. We will be taking several precautions to block off the building on that day, thanks to our Director of Properties. Also, the staff will not be present in the building on that day. The only people who enter the building on Nov 3 should be those associated with voting. Please do not bring any sort of donations to the building on that day.

#### **Drive-Thru Dinner**

Pastor Dean misses cooking for senior lunches and special events. And, sadly, we won't be able to host our usual community Thanksgiving dinner this year. So, we've come up with a creative solution in Covid times. Reserve your free lasagna dinner (though donations are welcome), cooked by Pastor Dean, through the church office and come pick it up on November 17<sup>th</sup>. More details below.



I want to thank you all for your support during my hip surgery/recovery. I am moving around pretty well and driving my standard-shift car, so I'm very pleased with how everything turned out. All of the get-well cards, gift cards, food (including Cheetos-how did you know?) were very much appreciated. I am so lucky to be part of such a caring community at Lakeview.

I would like to thank the singers who have volunteered to share their talents during services throughout the summer and going forward. I dearly miss the choir being together in person, but these soloists have allowed us to have some vocal music every week in spite of the virus. Choir members, we continue to "meet" on Thursdays at 7:00 on Zoom for fellowship, minus singing. Join us! The meeting ID is 846 2432 8292, the meeting passcode is 117908.

#### Welcome Bishop Elect Joy Mortensen-Wiebe

In the virtual synod assembly held on August 29 the voting members of our synod (*Taryn and Michael Lantz from Lakeview*) elected the next bishop to serve our synod.

Joy Mortensen-Wiebe was elected on the 3<sup>rd</sup> ballot with 166 votes. The Rev. Stacie Fidlar, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church Rock Island, IL received 165 votes.

While The Rev. Mortensen-Wieibe is not the first female to be elected bishop of this synod, the election is historic on another level. This is the first time an election for this synod has taken place in which all the gathered were not assembled in person. While normally held at a venue in Madison or the Wisconsin Dells, this year's assembly due to the pandemic was held virtually via videoconference. Over 350 voting members connected using Zoom and Lumi interactive technologies to elect new leadership of the synod and vote on important matters pertaining to the future of its ministry.

The bishop elect currently serves as pastor of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Slinger, Wisconsin. She formerly served the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin as interim Director for Evangelical Mission, and as pastor of Living Hope Lutheran Church in Saukville, Wisconsin. From 2004 to 2014, Bishop-Elect Mortensen-Weibe served as an Associate to the Bishop in the East Central Synod of Wisconsin.

The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin cordially invites you to attend the Worship Celebration and Installation Service for Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe

Sunday, the Eleventh of October
Two thousand twenty
at 1:00 in the afternoon

We will gather as the body of Christ for this Service of the Word.

During this time of social distancing due to the pandemic, this service will be held via live stream which will be able to be found on www.scsw-elca.org beginning at 12:30 pm on October 11.



#### A WORD FROM PASTOR DEAN

Dear Friends,

Soon, you and I will go to the polls or return absentee ballots. It is my hope that all of us will vote on November 3. Remember, for this election, if you regularly vote at Warner Park, you will be voting in the East Hall at Lakeview Lutheran Church.

When we enter the polling booth, we take our whole selves with us. We take our history, tradition, ethnicity, personal desires, prejudices, bias', dreams, and values. For faith-based people, that means we also take our faith and the principals and values that guide our faith and impact what we uphold to be true. Even though we strongly support the separation of religion and government, you can't do that personally when you cast a ballot. So, as Christians, we take the biblical word, the commandants of God, the ministry and mission of Jesus, the gift of the Holy Spirit and our call to be Disciples of Christ with us. If we are serious about all that, then making a decision about candidates will not be easy. You may have already learned that there are no perfect candidates—EVER.

I think it's important to look at and understand the entirety of the candidates' persona and platforms and not just a small part of what they stand for. Yep, this is hard. It has always been difficult. And unlike the Roman Catholic priest in Lacrosse or some television evangelists, we here in the ELCA will not tell you who to vote for. This church is for all people; Democrats, Republicans, Independents, Green, and even Kanye West's Birthday Party (which is not on the ballot in Wisconsin).

So, what are some of those guiding principles of our faith? Foundationally, we uphold the greatest commandment given to us by God and reiterated by Jesus. That is to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We are called to pray for those who persecute us. We are guided by the equality in creation; male and female (and any other gender) were created in the image of God and given the responsibility to care for the rest of creation-air, water, soil, animals and people. We remember that women were the first to proclaim the risen Christ. We are called by Christ to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, visit the sick and imprisoned, give water to the thirsty, and welcome the stranger because when we have done it to the least of these, we have done it to Jesus. We uplift the call of the Hebrew prophets like Amos and Hosea to uphold justice on the earth and we hold dearly to the words of Micah to "Love kindness, do justice and walk humbly with God." We remember Jesus' love and acceptance of children, the Samaritan woman at the well, the Ethiopian eunuch, the widow in the temple, and the cast out lepers. We remember that Jesus' first disciples were tax-collectors and other sinners and that even on the cross, Jesus asked God to forgive the Roman soldiers who had hung him there.

So, go to the polls. Exercise your civic duty to vote. And don't be ashamed to take your faith and the principals on which it stands with you as you sort through all the candidates to decide which one will reflect those principals in the leadership of this nation and our nation's relationship with the world. It's not an easy task. May God's spirit be with you on November 3.

Peace,

Pastor DEAN

### FREE HOMEMADE DRIVE-THRU DINNER!



Where: Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001 Mandrake Rd.

When: Tuesday, November 17, 4:30-6:00pm

What:

Lasagna-meat (pasta, sauce, mozzarella, provolone & cheddar, hamburger, Italian sausage)

or vegetarian (pasta, sauce, mozzarella, provolone & cheddar, spinach, grated carrot,

mushrooms, green pepper, onion)

**Salad** (greens, cucumber, tomato, red onion, croutons, oil & vinegar Italian dressing)

**2 slices sourdough bread** (provided by Just Bakery)

**Sugar cookie** (provided by Just Bakery)

How: Call the church at 608.244.6181 and tell us a name, # of meals & phone # by Friday 11/13

## LAKEVIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH ON MADISON'S NORTH SIDE. A WARM AND CARING COMMUNITY SINCE 1856.

# The Beacon October 2020

## Newsletter of Lakeview Lutheran Church

www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org

Dean M. Kirst, Pastor, pastordean@lakeviewlutheranmail.org
Laura Jasiczek, Office Administrator, office@lakeviewlutheranmail.org
Chris Anders, Ministry Coordinator, coordinator@lakeviewlutheranmail.org
Lynn Najem, Pianist/Choir Director; Gary Cragin, Custodian

#### Fall Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8-5, Friday: Closed

#### **Service Schedule:**

5:00pm Saturday, 8:00am and 9:00am Sunday, followed by all-ages education