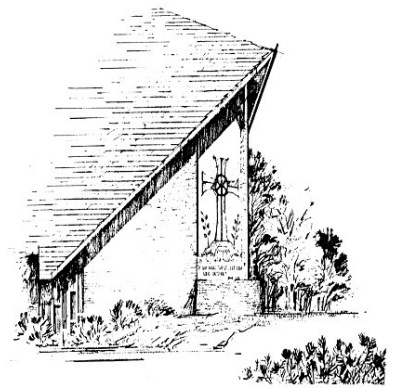


# St. Matthew's NEWS



October, 2009

## Share the Snow

*As the rain and snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it without watering the earth  
and making it bud and grow...*

*so is my Word that goes out from my mouth:  
It will not return to me empty,  
but will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*

*(Isaiah 55:10-11)*

Dear Fellow Missionaries for the Lord Jesus Christ

The pastor had given up. For months he had shared God's Word with the lady, only to be rebuffed by her. Then weeks after giving up, the phone rang. It was the woman asking him how to join the church. What he couldn't do, the Lord Jesus had done. That young pastor learned a valuable lesson. His job was to share the Word. The Savior's job was to make it work in the human heart.

The Lord God, who gave us the Word, promised that he would make it work just as he does with the snow. But just as he decides where and when the snow will fall, so he determines where and when his Word will bring sin-dead hearts to faith. If only we could see the Holy Spirit at work through that powerful Word – Law and Gospel – we would be more encouraged in our attempts to share it with as many people as we can. Since we cannot, we need to always remember this unchanging truth: Our job is to share the snow, not to make it grow!

**SO LET IT SNOW!!** On our relatives, our neighbors, our friends, our co-workers, our fellow students – on whomever and whenever the Lord presents us with a opportunity! They need the life-giving message of their only Savior and their only Deliverer from death. Into our hands he has placed his Word. In his hands rest the results he has promised. As we celebrate another Mission Festival at St. Matthew's October 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, may our Lord Jesus continue to bless us with hearts that will give generously so that the Gospel may snow upon many in places far away from Janesville. And may our Lord Jesus continue to bless us with lips that will eagerly want to share that powerful Gospel with whomever we can. We trust that in his hands rest the results he has promised!

In the name of Him whom together we all serve,  
Pastor Mark P. Lindner and Vicar Jordan Ertl

His job was to  
share the  
Word. The  
Savior's job  
was to make  
it work in the  
human heart.

### **St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church – WELS**

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Arden Wentzel, Staff Minister

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Website:

[www.stmatthewsjanesville.org/](http://www.stmatthewsjanesville.org/)

### **Worship times**

Sundays 8 & 10:30 a.m.

Mondays 6:30 p.m.

### **Sunday School & Bible Class**

Sundays 9:15 a.m.

### **Newsletter Deadline:**

Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009

### **Newsletter Coordinator:**

Beth Stirmel

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## Pastor's Notes

### Special Upcoming Worship Services

#### Mission Festival

**Sunday/Monday, October 11-12<sup>th</sup>**

Pastor Mark Johnston, our former world missionary in Malawi, will be our guest preacher. Pastor Johnston, together with his wife Jane, will also conduct the Sunday Bible Study as he shares with us the story of our Savior's blessings upon mission work which continues to go on in Central Africa. There will also be a pot-luck Mission Festival meal after the 10:30 service in our church fellowship hall.

#### Luther Prep Singers

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

They will be with us in both worship services that day as they bring us God's Word in song. A free-will offering will be gathered to present to the school in appreciation for how our Savior continues to richly bless our Synod through LPS with his gifts to the church of confessional Lutheran pastors and teachers.

#### Area Reformation Service

**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

Lakeside Lutheran  
High School at 4:00 PM



#### Reformation Festival

**Sunday/Monday,  
November 1-2<sup>nd</sup>**

All three worship  
services at St. Matthew's

#### Stewardship Sunday/Mondays

**"Encourage One Another!"**

**November 8-9<sup>th</sup>** – "Encouraged By Grace!"

**November 15-16<sup>th</sup>** – "Encouraged With the  
Word!"

**November 22-23<sup>rd</sup>** – "Encouraged To Respond!"

Time again for the strengthening of our Christian faith through searching the Scriptures and worship services! Opportunities for all of us to grow in the grace of Christian giving! Challenges presented to us serve our Lord Jesus as a congregation and as a Synod! As always, we confidently await our Savior's blessings on this endeavor done in his name and for his glory!

### New Sunday Morning Bible Class

We're three weeks into our new Bible study on Abraham. The Lord has been blessing us with a full basement of Christians eager to study the Word. There's still room for you! While this Bible Study may be about one of the Old Testament patriarchs, its main character is the L-O-R-D - the Hebrew word for the Savior! Join us for this important study!

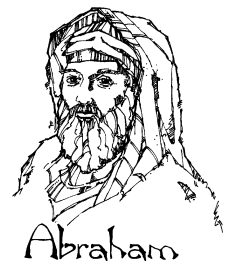
#### "Abraham – The Father Of All Believers"

Part 3 – "The LORD Trains Abraham  
To Trust His Promise Of  
Offspring!"

Part 4 – "The LORD Guides  
Abraham's Prayer Life –  
Especially For Sodom And  
Gomorrah!"

Part 5 – "The LORD Brings  
Abraham's Training In Faith  
To A Climax!"

Part 6 – "The LORD Ends Abraham's Earthly  
Life In The Calm Contentment Of  
Faith!"



### Council Corner Missing Usher Tags

We are missing six of the USHER nametags from the box in the Narthex. Please check your pockets dressers etc. at home and see if you have any. If you happen to find one PLEASE bring it back and put it back in the box. These are expensive to replace and we would like to get them back as soon as possible.



## Staff Minister's Notes Sunday School Update

The fall quarter of our Sunday School classes began on September 13<sup>th</sup>, meeting at 9:15 in the church for devotion and music, and continuing in the various classes with the day's lesson until about 10:10. Our Bible lessons are from the Old Testament this year, following God's plan of salvation up to the time of Jesus' birth. We will also be starting to learn Christmas anthems for the Sunday School service on December 29<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for more students to join our Sunday studies. We now have about 40 students enrolled. Have the youngsters join our Sunday classes, preschool through grade 8, while the teens attend the teen Bible study and the adults attend the Bible discussions in the fellowship hall.

We are grateful for the 10 Sunday School teachers/leaders and also our class aides, five helpers who assist the teachers each Sunday.

## Tapes/Bulletins/Printed Sermons

The services are taped each week for those who cannot attend the regular service. We are very happy to deliver this audiotape, bulletin and sermon copy to all those who have this need. If interested, please call the church office and we will add you to our weekly list and deliver these items to your house.

## Shut-ins

Pastor Lindner, Vicar Ertl and Staff Minister Wentzel regularly visit and commune between 15-20 of our folks who cannot attend regular services. These folks would certainly also enjoy a visit or occasional greeting from other members of the congregation. For a list of these folks with addresses/phone numbers just contact the church office.

## Weekly Bible Studies

Besides having a Bible study suited for all adults, teens and children every Sunday between services, there are the following opportunities during the week:

- ✠ Tuesday Evening, 6:30-7:30
  - ✠ Wednesday Morning Women's Study, 9:30-10:30
  - ✠ Wednesday Evening BIC (Bible Information Class), 6:30
  - ✠ Saturday Morning Men's Study, 7:30-8:30
- Come and join us and enjoy the group discussions. The blessings are yours!  
A. Wentzel, Staff Minister

## L W M S (Lutheran Women's Missionary Society)

### The Son Shines in Mexico

It's an exciting time to be in Mexico. The Mexican Lutheran Church, known as the Iglesia Evangelica Luterana Confesional (Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Church), is a sister synod to WELS. It operates in many of the same ways that WELS does but on a smaller scale.

The IELC has grown in recent years. In 1999 it had only 400 baptized souls; today that number is up to 700. In 1999 there was one Mexican pastor. Today there are five pastors and six students enrolled in the seminary. These figures reflect important growth. Having more workers means that more souls can be reached. In 2000 there were just five congregations. Now there are ten congregations and 20 preaching stations. Wow! God is certainly good.

The three WELS missionaries serving in Mexico help our sister synod to grow and mature. Most of the Mexican pastors are adult converts and don't share the 150-plus year history of WELS. Our missionaries have the blessing of that background and can share it with their brothers here in Mexico. The Mexican church holds an annual convention every July. Leaders meet to discuss church plans and finances. They also issue assignments to the seminary graduates and vicars. The missionaries attend to help guide the leaders through these decisions.

Through God's grace the good news of Jesus has spread to more parts in Mexico. And as more students graduate, even more people will learn of him. May God continue to let his Son shine down on Mexico.

*Rachel Hartman and her husband  
Missionary Michael Hartman serve in Torreón,  
Mexico.*

### Mission Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to always look to you to supply our needs, especially in times of adversity. Calm our fears and remove our doubts. Give us a love for the lost and a desire to demonstrate that love through our donations, prayers, and service. Give us eyes that look to heaven, ears attentive to your Word, hands ready to serve, and feet quick to carry the gospel message. We thank you, Lord, for your rich blessings, especially for your grace. We praise you for your almighty wisdom and power. We look forward to your return.  
Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

## Potluck Section

### News about Thrivent Thrivent Members

Let Thrivent's Giving Plus® program match your gifts and offerings to the school. Thrivent will contribute \$1 for every \$2 gift to the school. The maximum Thrivent match is \$300 for a gift of \$600 or more plus an additional \$25 for 25 hours of volunteer work on behalf of the school. In order to qualify for the match, your check must be made out to **St. Matthew's Lutheran School**. Gift forms are available on the counter in the Narthex. Thrivent will match gifts to two Lutheran educational institutions for each member.

### Last Chance for Thrivent Giving Plus®

**2009 is the last year Thrivent will offer Giving Plus®.** Only 5% of Lutheran congregations currently participate in Giving Plus®. Thrivent is also discontinuing matching fund raising activities. They will be replaced around mid 2010 with a program that Thrivent feels will gain greater participation for Thrivent members. Since the Giving Plus® program will end this year, Thrivent anticipates there will be a surge to take advantage of available funding for 2009. If you plan to make a gift to the school this year, please do so as soon as possible before the funding is exhausted.

### Luther Prep Open House Families Of 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders

- ✘ Learn about our school's purpose and programs
- ✘ Tour the campus, dorm, and facilities
- ✘ Meet & talk to the President, Deans, LPS parents and students
- ✘ Enjoy a complimentary meal in our cafeteria
- ✘ Attend a sporting, drama, or musical event

There is no cost. Each Open House will last between 1½ to 2 hours, not including the school event. Please RSVP 3-4 days before the Open House of your choice with the number attending.

(Email: [info@lps.wels.net](mailto:info@lps.wels.net), phone: 1-800-577-9357 or 920-261-4352.)

### Open House Dates

- Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m.***  
(Soccer 4:30 p.m./Varsity Volleyball vs. Poynette at 6:30 p.m.)
- Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.***  
(Varsity Football vs. Lake Mills at 7:00 p.m.)
- Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:45 p.m.***  
(Varsity Volleyball vs. Lakeside at 6:30 p.m.)
- Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.***  
(Fall Play at 7:00 p.m.)



### Teachers Conference

On *October 29th & 30th*, there will be no school. The teachers will be in Milwaukee at a teachers' conference. These conferences are very beneficial in providing new teaching ideas for our teachers.

### Fine Arts

A fine arts presentation will be held on *Tuesday, October 13, at 9:45 a.m.* in the gym. The program is entitled "Mime Time." Come & enjoy!



### Parent/Teacher Conferences No School

Parents please note that all students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 5. Please make the proper arrangements.

Parent/teacher conferences will be held on *Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>* starting at 12:30, and also on *Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>* during the morning hours. Parent/teacher conference slips will be sent home on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. More information will follow at a later date.

Report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, November 4.

### Forensics Help Needed

A new Forensics season is underway and 8 students are participating! Students will be practicing on Tuesdays after lunch. This year's preliminary meet is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 28 at St. John's in Waterloo at 6:00 p.m. The regional tournament is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6 at Luther Prep in Watertown. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Heidi Christianson at 755-1069. We thank all those parents who volunteered to help run this program.



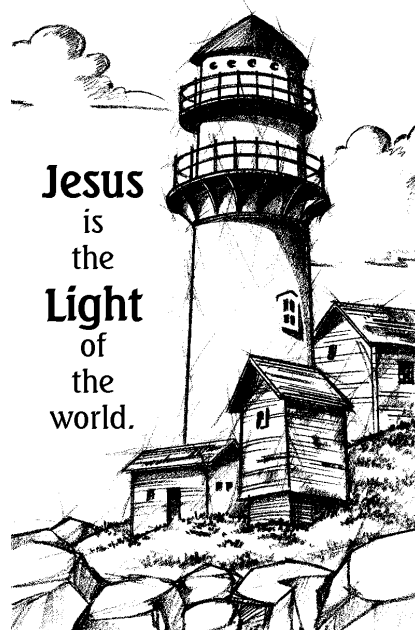
### Athletic Update

Concessions and score table volunteers will be needed during the basketball season. Please watch for an upcoming note. For your information the Annual Mustang Invitational Tournaments will be held January 9-10, 2010 (boys) and January 23-24 2010 (girls). Other tournament dates include:



January 16-17, 2010      Girls A at Lakeside  
February 25-28, 2010    Boys A at Ixonia  
March 5-7, 2010    Boys & Girls A at Lakeside

There will be sign-up sheets for cheerleading and basketball posted upstairs toward the beginning of October. These are located on the second floor and are placed on the athletic bulletin board.



**Lakeside Lutheran High School**

Principal's Update

October, 2009

**School year opens.** Lakeside's school year began on August 19 for freshmen and on August 20 for all students. 85 freshmen became "Warriors" during Freshmen Orientation. In addition to transitioning these students into high school, a number of get-acquainted activities made them familiar with their classmates and the building. 420 students are enrolled for the 2009-2010 school year.

**ACT scores jump.** Lakeside was notified of the scores of its students who wrote the ACT last school year. There was a sizeable increase in the scores from the previous year.

	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
<b>Lakeside's 2009 scores</b>	24.7	25.3	25.1	23.8	24.9
<b>Increase from previous year</b>	+0.8	+0.7	+0.9	+0.5	+0.8
<b>State average</b>	21.7	22.2	22.6	22.3	22.3
<b>National average</b>	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.9	21.1

Not only did Lakeside students do exceedingly well on the ACT in 2009, but as a group they scored well above both the state and national averages. The ACT also measures readiness for students to meet the rigors of college coursework. In all four subject areas, our students did well, scoring above the benchmark scores, as well as surpassing the state and national average scores.

**In-service held.** The faculty held its in-service meetings on August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> to review school policy and procedure for the teachers. President Matt Crass of Luther Preparatory School addressed us on the topic *Confidence in Christ*.

**New faculty arrives.** Miss Jacqueline Colletta arrived mid-summer and assumed her duties as a Spanish teacher at Lakeside. Miss Colletta, a native of San Jose, California, is a 2008 graduate of Martin Luther College. She taught in the Dominican Republic this past school year. She was installed into her office as a Lakeside Spanish instructor at the Opening Service on August 23.

**Music.** Both the band and choir are busily preparing for upcoming appearances. The A Cappella Choir will sing in 19 congregations during 2009-2010. Here is a summary of those services through the end of October:

Date	Congregation	Service time
October 4	St. Paul, Ixonia	7:45 & 10:15 a.m.
October 11	Zion, Columbus	7:45 & 10:30
October 18	St. Peter, Helenville	8:00 & 10:15

LLHS Principal's Update (cont'd.)

**Board of Regents elections.** The General Board recently held its annual meeting. Part of this meeting included the election of new members to the Board of Regents. The newest Regents are Tim Probst (Christus, Delevan) and Pastor Paul Stratman (St. Stephen, Beaver Dam). Both will serve on the BOR's Strategic Planning Committee. Regents who were reelected in the meeting were Mark Eternick (St. John, Waterloo), LaVern Georgson (St. John, Jefferson), and Brian Zastrow (St. Mark, Watertown). Mr. Georgson remains as the Chairman of the board. Leaving the Board of Regents are Bill Poston (Our Redeemer, Madison) and Pastor James Werner (St. Mark, Watertown).

**Lakeside students help with outreach.** Earlier in summer, Lakeside students helped members of St. John Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, with that congregation's outreach efforts. The students helped canvass over 150 blocks in northeast part of the city by knocking on doors and giving families a personal invitation to come and attend the congregation's Vacation Bible School. Pastor Daniel Lindner wrote, "It was a real joy for me to see their confidence grow with talking to complete strangers. Then as we began our week of VBS they were able to serve alongside our members as teachers." In addition to the canvassing and teaching, the Lakeside students also had time attend a Twins game, tour some local attractions, and rest and relax. Pastor Lindner noted that God blest the students' work and a door to new families in the community was opened. The Lakeside students were sophomores from Pastor Clark Schultz's religion classes.

**Sports.** Here is the schedule of home events for the fall sports teams through mid-October:

Varsity Football	Volleyball	Varsity Soccer
October 9, Lodi (Homecoming)	October 6, Lodi	October 8, Luther Prep
	October 13, Columbus	

Varsity football games begin at 7 p.m.  
 Volleyball matches begin at 5:15 p.m. with freshman and junior varsity matches.  
 Varsity matches follow.  
 Varsity soccer matches begin at 4:45 p.m.

- Upcoming events at Lakeside.** Other events of interest at Lakeside include:
- Wednesday, October 7      Warrior Welcome, arrival begins at 8:45 a.m.
  - Friday, October 9          Homecoming football game, 7 p.m.
  - Wednesday, October 21      Grandparent Day, 8-11 a.m.
  - Thursday, November 5      Blood drive, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
  - Friday, November 6          Veterans Day observance, 8:15-10 a.m.

