



JUNE 2016

- Page 1 Pastor's Page
- Page 2 Stephen Ministry
- Page 2 Christian Ed.
- Page 3 Financial Summary
- Page 3 Summer Choir
- Page 4 LWML
- Page 4 Voters
- Page 5 Thrivent
- Page 5 Directory page

C'mon! Say "AMEN" already!

Amen. That's a strange way to begin an article, isn't it? That's how we end something rather than begin, right? Saying "amen" is kind of like adding a period to the end of a sentence. When we say it in church it's as if we're saying, "Okay, that's done, what's next?"

Except it's not.

Saying "amen" is so much more. In fact, saying "amen" is a bold confession of faith and trust.

The liturgy of the Church provides us many opportunities to say "amen." Maybe you haven't known how important this little word is to us in our life of faith.

The Divine Service begins with the Invocation. The name of God is spoken—the same name that was placed upon us in Holy Baptism. We are reminded that we are God's forgiven and beloved children and we respond.... "Amen." You say "amen" because you are confessing that you believe that what Jesus did in and through the waters of Holy Baptism is for you. You are confessing that you believe you are a forgiven and beloved child of God because Jesus has declared you to be so in the waters of Holy Baptism.

Then we kneel at the cross and confess our sin. We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We say "amen" to God's righteous verdict that we are sinful and deserve His present and eternal punishment. We don't deny it. We don't hide it away. We confess it and lay it at the foot of the cross. "Amen" means "Yes, this is true about me."

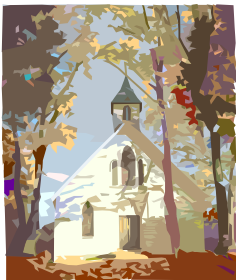
We then lift our eyes to see Jesus speak His absolving Word through His called and ordained servant. We hear that Jesus forgives all our sins. We hear the absolution pronounced to us as if Christ Himself speaks and we say gratefully "amen." It is true, by the grace of God, it is true, I am forgiven. "Amen."

We then join our hearts in prayer in the ancient words of the Kyrie, the Gloria in Excelsis and the Collect prayer and make those our prayers by saying "amen" at the end.

After hearing the Word of God read and preached we join in confessing the Christian Faith in the words of one of the ancient Creeds of the Church. We make that confession shared by countless Christians through the centuries our own confession today as we speak it and say "amen."

We join in the Prayers of the Church and pray for all the people of God and for all people in any need. We make the prayers spoken at the altar by the pastor our prayer as we say "amen."

When you kneel at the altar and the pastor says to you: "The true body of Christ, given for you" you say "amen" because you believe it! When the pastor says "The true blood of Christ, shed for you" you say "amen" because you believe Jesus did shed His blood for You. And you say "amen" because you believe that in the mystery of the Holy Supper you are receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus! When you are dismissed from the altar with the blessing and told to depart in peace, you say "amen" because you believe that you do have peace because God is at peace with you for Jesus' sake.



At the end of the Service the Benediction is spoken over you and you are again given peace—the peace that comes from knowing that you have been forgiven. The peace that comes from knowing that you are loved. The peace that comes from knowing that Jesus has done all things well for you and that you have been assured eternal life. You say "amen" because you believe the promises of God are for you because Jesus says so!

So, you see, that little word "amen" is not a throw away word. It is not a word that is simply the way we signal the end of a sentence. No! It is a bold word of confidence and trust. It is THE word of faith. Saying "amen" is like shouting "I trust what Jesus says is true! I believe this!"

Jesus says you are forgiven. Jesus says you are a part of the family of God. Jesus says you have eternal life. We may not always understand it. We may not have any special "spiritual" feelings. We may not grasp how the Lord can continue to be so gracious and merciful to sinners like us. But I believe it because Jesus has declared it so. Amen.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Peck

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Board of Christian Education....

To give our wonderful Sunday school teachers a break, we will not be having Sunday school during the summer months.

We will be having music during the Bible study time for Mini Choir and Youth Choir – 8:45-9:30, so there will be no practicing after worship service during the summer as well. Come sing your praises to God!!!

Don't forget our great Vacation Bible School coming June 20-24th. We will have so much fun. Be sure to tell your friends! Turn in your registration form to Sheila Fornall as soon as possible. Bring your friends and neighbors to learn all about "HEROES OF THE BIBLE!"

Looking ahead—our Sunday school Rally Day will be September 11th, and then our Sunday school will start up again September 18th.



“Christ Caring for People through People”

Is life more than you can handle alone right now? Are you adjusting to a new job, a change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move – or just experiencing a lonely or difficult time in your life? Could you benefit from having someone who would listen and care and walk with you through this difficult time?

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God’s love with you can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing. God does not intend for you to struggle alone.

There Is No Need To Struggle Alone!

Consider allowing a Stephen Minister to walk with you on your journey to wholeness. Contact one of our Stephen Leaders listed below. They can tell you more about our Stephen Ministry and how you can be matched with a Stephen Minister.

Judy Kugler –303-421-5408, Eady Broscheit- 303-424-4249 or Joe Broscheit- 303-424-4249.

Financial Summary January – April 2016

Looking at the numbers, we are seeing a trend that we have not seen in quite a while. The church has been coming out on the positive side when looking at income versus expenses for the last few years. However, the trend for this year is different. While the church pays some of its annual bills during the first quarter of the year, and with the understanding that it is tax time for most us, we still wanted to share the current trend with the members. We have provided the below comparisons of income versus expenses, of the first 4 months of 2016 with the first 4 months of 2015.

This time last year our financial outlook was as follows:

January 2015 – April 2015

Income: 67,615.42
Expenses: 62,521.17
Surplus: \$5,094.25

The same time frame for this year is as follows:

January 2016 – April 2016

Income: 53,593.85
Expenses: 63,618.46
Deficit: (10,024.61)

As you can see, our expenses are only \$1,097.29 dollars more this year over last year. However, our "Income" has a difference of \$14,021.57 from this year over last year.

Again, this is our effort to keep the church body aware of our current financial situation.

Thank you,
Joe & Eady Broscheit
Treasurers



Adult Choir Summer Schedule

Adult choir will be following a reduced schedule for the summer. Please check the church calendar and join us for some great summer music and fellowship! Choir Rocks!



Lutheran Women In Mission

Welcome to all women of the congregation!

Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVING OUR LORD IN MISSIONS

Come to our Diamond Dazzle Celebration at the 37th Biennial Convention | June 22-25, 2017 | Albuquerque, New Mexico

Be Ready to Share!

Waiting to board a plane, I heard a deep voice say, "What's LWML?" Turning, I saw a man looking at my LWML bag. It's time for my 'elevator talk'. I said, "It stands for Lutheran Women's Missionary League, an organization of mostly volunteers supporting mission work around the world through service and donations." I shared about the widow's mite from the Bible, how mites are used, my favorite grants, and how we have funded over \$100 million for grants.

Reaching the plane door, the man thanked me saying, "God bless you and the LWML" I replied, "And also with you."

– Edie Morris

*Always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.
(1 Peter 3:15b).*

MITE SUNDAY

Don't forget to bring your filled Mite Box to church on MITE SUNDAY – June 19

Your mite offerings along with the contributions of other LWML supporters across our country, will help to continue to fund the mission grants that have been selected at the District and National level. We will learn of the new Mission Grants to be voted on at the District Convention for 2016-2018. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!



The May meeting of the LWML of Wheat Ridge was held on May 14. The main order of business was the election of officers for the 2016-2017 year.

Officers elected are :

President: Shared Responsibility

Vice President: Carol Mathews

Secretary: Martha Broscheit

Treasurer: Judy Kugler

Thank you all for serving.

VOTERS MEETING

JUNE 5, 2016

11:30 AM

All communicant members of the congregation age 18 years and older are encouraged to attend. The order of business will include: election of Boards and Officers, distribution of the congregation's percentage of Endowment earnings, reports, and financial overview.



Even though he may be a senator, a salesman, an industrialist, a retiree, a man might make his most significant contribution by the kind of far-reaching but unsung job he does in his own home as a father. --Walter MacPeck

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Are YOU an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars® available to direct?

Each year, eligible Thrivent members are designated Choice Dollars based on their qualifying insurance premiums. If you're an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars available to designate, you can help strengthen our church by directing them to Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church.

This past year eligible Thrivent members directed over \$2,000.00 to our church. THANK YOU!

If you have not designated your Choice Dollars, please contact Martha Broscheit or Ray Bickner for more information.

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DIRECTORY CHANGES

A page of Directory Changes and Updates is available on the Desk in the Narthex. Please take one with you to include with your Winter 2015 Directory.

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HOW AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD SEES GOD

A church newsletter included this essay by Danny Dutton, age 8. His third grade Sunday school teacher had asked her students to explain God...

"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes these to put in the place of the ones that die so there will be enough people to take care of things here on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that up to the mothers and fathers. I think it works out pretty good.

"God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, cause some people, like preachers and things, pray other times besides bedtime, and Grandpas and Grandmas pray every time they eat (except for snacks). God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV on account of this. Cause God hears everything, not only prayers, there must be a terrible lot of noise going on in his ears unless he has thought of a way to turn it off. I think we should all be a little quieter. God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere. Which keeps him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time asking for things that aren't very important or go over your parents' heads and ask for something they already said you couldn't have."



ONE People Sharing Christ's LOVE

2016 LCMS National Offering

Gifts to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's National Offering — a special churchwide appeal launched every three years in conjunction with the LCMS national convention — will support a wide variety of programs and projects that relate to the church body's threefold emphasis of *Witness, Mercy, Life Together*. Contributions to the 2016 National Offering will impact the Synod's work of:

- *Witness* — planting new congregations in the United States, providing Bibles for LCMS Youth Gathering attendees this summer in New Orleans, equipping LCMS missionaries worldwide with evangelism and teaching resources, and more.
- *Mercy* — protecting life from conception to natural death, caring for disadvantaged children, improving living conditions among the poor, and more.
- *Life Together* — providing scholarships and training for church-work students in the LCMS and its overseas partner church bodies, revitalizing struggling U.S. congregations, and more.

Every contribution to the offering will be used to "empower ministry work" through the LCMS offices of National Mission, International Mission and Pastoral Education — none will go toward personnel or administrative costs.

wheat ridge evangelical lutheran church
will receive your LOVE offering in June