

NEWS AND NOTES for July 4 & 7, 2024

Sanctuary Renovations will begin July 8th!! Divine Service will be held in the Fellowship Hall during construction. Time frame for construction is July 8th - November 15th. During this time, we highly encourage using the West and Fellowship Hall doors. There will also be no livestream. Please bear with us as we navigate a different normal for the time being.



Building on the Cornerstone Campaign

\$2.5 Million Matching Goal:

Commitments and Gifts:	\$ 2,595,332
Gifts Received:	\$ 2,322,736
Remaining Commitment Amount:	\$ 177,264

Many Thanks! I have certainly been blessed to be a part of a congregation that cares for its people. I was encouraged and heartened by all the prayers, cards, phone calls, food and well wishes, before, during and after my surgery. God has been good to me and given me good doctors, nurses, technicians, and medicines to see me through. I still face some uphill challenges but I know that "my help comes from the Lord." You will never know how much it meant to me to have Christian friends praying and comforting me in my time of need. Again, MANY THANKS to our Savior Jesus Christ and to YOU God's people! Sincerely in Christ, *Pastor Hagenow*

Below are the General Fund Income and Expense numbers, as well as others, for the prior months and the current fiscal year to date. We hope that these numbers provide a clear picture of our operating status.

	April 2024	May 2024	2023-24 Fiscal Year-to-Date
General Fund Income	\$92,680.88	\$87,365.77	\$ 1,408,157.07
General Fund Expenses	\$ 138,175.08	\$ 118,377.37	\$ 1,391,575.19
Gain or (Deficit)	\$ (45,494.20)	\$ (31,011.60)	\$ 16,581.88
Building on the Cornerstone Fund	\$143,830.00	\$47,132.00	\$ 2,874,071.72
Missions (Goal: \$35,000)	\$1,951.00	\$1,643.00	\$ 34,625.00

Church Attendance Last Week: 202 (67-135); Communion: 149

Summer Church Office Hours: M-Th 9am-3pm, Fr 9am-1pm

Sympathies to Rene Allison and family upon the death of her daughter, **Kelli Evans**.

Celebrate the Savior VBS I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude for the support that made this year's Vacation Bible School a resounding success. Over the course of the week, 78 children took part in celebrating our Savior! Your commitment to spreading God's love and teachings through this special program has truly made a difference in the lives of our children and the community. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated volunteers and supporters in our congregation. Thank you to all who donated supplies. And, thanks to *Glenn Hubbell, Ron Dashkevicz, Andy and Susan Neuenfeldt, Katie Fehn, Harry Claus, Max and Laura Kopplin, Brian Heinlein, Gary and Jennifer Hahn, Mitch Hingston, Maryn Hyatt, and Dean Thomas*, for their time and talents. Thank you all for being shining examples of faith and love in action. - *Deaconess Shirley*

The Lutheran Hour is broadcast Sundays on WSAM 1400AM Saginaw at 8:30am and XM 131 at 10:30am. It can also be heard on-line at www.lhm.org. Next Sunday, July 14th, Guest Speaker *Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola's* sermon is titled, "Words if Grace Build Us Up". The gracious words of God change our lives for the better, tell us of our inheritance, and remind us that we are part of a much larger family.

Community News:

❖ **School Therapist Wanted** - Wellspring Lutheran Services is seeking a School Therapist to support students in 8 Great Lakes Bay area Lutheran Schools as they address their mental health and wellness. The position will begin in August, 2024. Required qualifications, additional information, and application can be found at the following: <https://wellspringcareers.ttcportals.com/jobs/14518400-school-therapist>

Ushers for next week: Thursday: Brad Smith, Corey Harry Sunday: Ben Wardin, Matt Stavelly

Videographer for next week: Sheila Bauer

A LifeQuote from Lutherans for Life of Michigan

"Know that you too have been called to serve on behalf of life at such a time as this. God continually equips you, and you will be in awe of what He is able to do in and through you. The best part is He had it planned in the beginning (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:16; Ephesians 2:10). May you be blessed as you continue to serve life in His image!"

- *Jordan Killinger is President of Rice for Life*

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ezekiel 2:1–5
2 Corinthians 12:1–10
Mark 6:1–13

The Ministers of Christ Are Sent with His Authority to Forgive Sins and Give Life

The prophet Ezekiel was raised up by the Spirit of the Lord and sent to speak an unpopular Word to the rebellious house of Israel. As a prophet, he was not to speak his own word, but to preach the Law and the Gospel: “*Thus says the Lord GOD,*” whether the people “*hear or refuse to hear*” (Ezek. 2:4–5). So, too, in the footsteps of the prophets before Him, the Lord Jesus “*went about among the villages teaching*” (Mark 6:6). In

His hometown, as elsewhere, “*many who heard him were astonished,*” marveling at His wisdom and at the “*mighty works done by his hands,*” and yet “*they took offense at him*” (Mark 6:2–3). The offense culminates in His cross, which is, ironically, the heart and center of His “*authority over the unclean spirits*” (Mark 6:7). It is by that authority of His cross that those He sends preach repentance, “*cast out many demons*” and heal the sick (Mark 6:12–13). Thus, the apostle Paul boasts in the cross of Christ and in his own weaknesses, knowing that God’s grace is sufficient and that the power of Christ “*is made perfect in weakness*” (2 Cor. 12:8–9).