

# MARTYR MONTHLY

## OCTOBER 2024



**Worship at SSM**  
**Saturday at 5:00pm**  
**Sunday at 9:30am\***  
**Sunday School 9:30am**

*\*Indicates worship services streamed on Zoom,  
for Zoom information please contact the church office.*

# Pastor's Page

Dear Friends,

In October we celebrate the church Reformation, a day that protestants generally, and Lutherans specifically, have been observing for over 500 years. On this festival day, two youth will affirm their faith as part of our confirmation service, 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will receive Bibles and first communion will be received.

In past Reformation Day celebrations, perhaps the emphasis has been more on what divides rather than what unites. In celebrations of the Reformation, Lutherans retold their story of their beginnings in order to justify their existence-which always included a critique of the Roman Catholic Church. Catholics, for their part, accused Lutherans of causing a tragic schism in the church. Even "*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*," has been called the battle hymn of the Reformation, suggesting an anti-Catholic bias.

After more than fifty years of dialogue between Lutherans and Catholics we can proclaim that there is more that unites us than divides us.

The Reformation is dated to October 31, 1517 when Martin Luther allegedly nailed 95 theses to a church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Yet in 1999 Lutherans and Catholics published a joint declaration of the doctrine of justification, saying that there is no longer disagreement over the very thing that divided us 500 years ago. Catholics and Lutherans both declare that we are justified by faith and through grace.

In our current world and national scene, where there is much that divides us, I encourage you to look at what unites us as brothers and sisters in faith. How can we more deeply listen to one another? How can we continue to serve our neighbors in need?

Peace,

Pastor Brian



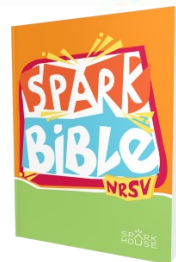


## October Events

### St Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church

6101 S 51st St  
Greendale WI

**3rd Grade and up Bibles:** If you have a child in Sunday School who is either in 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th grade who has not yet received a bible from SSM you and your child(ren) are invited to attend the Bible Instruction Class which will be held on Sunday October 6 and 13th immediately following worship. This class will be led by Eric Sanders. On Sunday, October 27th, as part of our Reformation celebration, parents will be invited to present their child with their own copy of the bible on behalf of St. Stephen the Martyr.



**First Communion:** If you have a child who you feel is ready to receive First Communion, Pastor will lead a class on Sunday, October 20th immediately following worship for parents (guardians) and children to discuss Communion. Children will then receive their First Communion as part of our Reformation celebration on October 27th.

If you have questions, or if you would like to have your child(ren) participate in either of these two special events, please leave a message at the office by either phone (414-421-3543) or email [office@ssmelca.org](mailto:office@ssmelca.org).



### Blessing of the ANIMALS

Blessing of the Animals will take place on Saturday, October 5th at 1:00pm in the Prayer Garden. Bring your dogs, cats, birds, turtles, hamsters and pets of all kinds to receive a blessing.



Trunk or Treat, will take place on October 19th between 1:00 and 3:00pm in the SSM parking lot in front of the church. There will be treats, games, activities and decorated trunks full of goodies for the children to visit. Trinkets will be available for those with food allergies. Invite your neighbors, friends and all of the kiddos you know to join in the fun.

# Human Concerns

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Food donations for October will be donated to Unity Lutheran Church. Once again, please consider purchasing some non-perishable food items that can be opened without the use of a can opener for “the campers.” As always, any canned goods are appreciated. Monetary donations are always appreciated and allow the food pantries to purchase items at reduced cost. Please remember to add a note that your donation is for *Food Pantries*. Thank you for your continued support of these ministries.



## Winter Coat Collection

As you begin shopping for new winter coats, please consider donating your **clean, gently used** winter coats to the Bay View Community Center. Only coats will be collected at SSM and donated to BVCC. Watch for more information.

**School Bags and Quilts** will be sent off this month to Lutheran World Relief. The quilters will continue working toward next year’s batch of quilts - save these dates:

October 3 - Cut & Sew

October 21 - Layering

November 7 - Cut & Sew

November 18 - Layering



All sessions are from 1 to 3 pm. There is no need to be able to sew, although sewers are absolutely welcome. There is plenty to do besides sew and there are plenty of quilters to help you learn the process.

Cash donations for either of these two worthy causes are always welcome. They help defray the cost of shipping and supplies. Be sure to mark your donations “school bags” or “quilts”.

The Human Concerns Committee would like to send a very big “thank you” to everyone who contributed to either of these causes. Once we know the total number of quilts and school bags sent we will let you know.



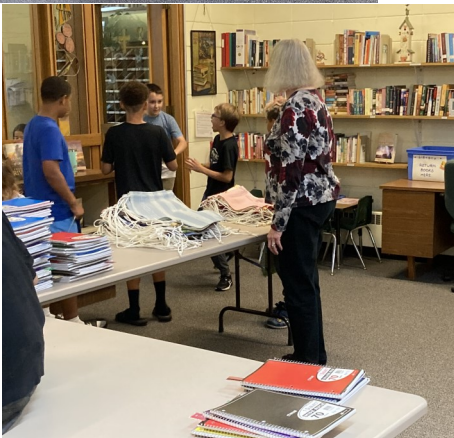
# School Bags



Getting Ready



Filling the bags  
during Sunday  
School on Sept.  
22nd



# News from Mbasseny

Pastor Nnko sent greetings from Mbaaseny parish in late August. Heavy rains in June and July made for a weak harvest. Our partners are looking for a period of dry weather to plant again.

The Parish and Relationship committee at Mbaaseny met to review the progress of students.

The group would like to educate 2 new evangelists (lay leaders to assist at each parish) and one kindergarten teacher.

While Pastor Nnko did not specifically ask for contributions to these students, please consider making an impactful donation to prepare 3 people for meaningful positions. The US cost for these programs is:

- Mwika Bible School (Evangelists) - \$800/year with 3 years of schooling required per student
- Montessori College (Kindergarten teacher) - \$500/year with 2 years of schooling required per student

Sponsored student Victoria has completed secondary school studies and will begin study in Arusha at a hotel college in early October. Mbaasany assisted with tuition funding for English and computer studies.

Our support of the Mbaaseny Education Fund is making a difference.

Thank-you for continuing to support this fund. Please direct any questions to Julie Starks, [jastarks39@gmail.com](mailto:jastarks39@gmail.com)



# News the Meru Partnership Committee



**Greater Milwaukee Synod Meru Partnership Committee** is sharing a School Spotlight Series on the Partners with Meru Facebook page as well as on the PartnerswithMeru.org website. Each week one Diocese School is highlighted. This series will continue into November.

On September 14, a joint prayer service was held via Zoom. People from the Greater Milwaukee Synod as well as the Diocese of Meru

shared prayers based on requested topics including: partnership, elections, health concerns, weather, education, food security and economic development. A link to a recording of this 30 min. service is available on the PartnerswithMeru.org website.

## Games = Cans



Football season is in full swing and the Brewers are doing well. Are the beverages flowing during all these games? Remember to save the aluminum cans to help our food pantries. Bags left at the church garage are brought inside and when there are enough for a load,

they are taken to the salvage yard. Crushing or folding means more can be taken per trip. Thanks!!! You CAN help!  
Bob and Karen Rasmussen – Coordinators







# October 2024



<b>Tuesday, 10/1</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Mega Meeting
<b>Wednesday, 10/2</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Men's Bible Study
	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, 10/3</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Quilting - Cut & Sew - until 3pm
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Confirmation Class
<b>20th Weekend after Pentecost</b>		
<b>Saturday, 10/5</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Blessing of the Animals
	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 10/6</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship
		Sunday School
	<b>10:45am</b>	3rd Grade Bible Class
		Coffee Hour
<b>Monday, 10/7</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Bible Study
<b>Tuesday, 10/8</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday, 10/9</b>	<b>10:15am</b>	Women's Bible Study
	<b>12:00pm</b>	Loose Ends Lunch
	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>21st Weekend after Pentecost</b>		
<b>Saturday, 10/12</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 10/13</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship
		Sunday School
	<b>10:45am</b>	3rd Grade Bible Class





<b>Wednesday, 10/16</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Men's Bible Study
	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, 10/17</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Confirmation Class
<b>22nd Weekend after Pentecost</b>		
<b>Saturday, 10/19</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Trunk or Treat - until 3pm
	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 10/20</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship
		Sunday School
	<b>10:45am</b>	First Communion Class
		Coffee Hour/Krause Funeral Planning Presentation*
<b>Monday, 10/21</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Quilting - Layering - until 3pm
<b>Wednesday, 10/22</b>	<b>10:15am</b>	Women's Bible Study
	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Reformation</b>		
<b>Saturday, 10/26</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 10/27</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship - <b>Confirmation/First Communion/</b> <b>Presentation of Bibles to 3rd Graders</b>
		Sunday School
<b>Wednesday, 10/30</b>	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal



\*On Sunday, October 20th, during Coffee Hour a representative from Krause Funeral Home will be here provide a short 20 minute presentation. Provide peace of mind for yourself and your loved ones by attending this seminar about advanced funeral planning to learn everything you need to know about your funeral preparations and what you can do in advance.



Penny Dowling	01
Saul Ortega	05
Vincent Ortega	07
Scott Ziegert	09
Jenny Anderson	09
Thomas Zuleger	11
Shelly Rosenstock	13
Adalyn Kopplin	15
Brian Hooper	16
Ryan Flohr	16
Jacob Stuedemann	17
Amy Billman	21

Maren Hooper	21
Jackie Lentz	22
Nora Burmeister	22
Carol Mueller	23
Lauren Revers	26
Hadley Kreiter	26
David Birk	27
Diane Sundquist	27
John Drover	27
Jenny Resterhouse	27
Emily Kling	27
Carol Kucharski	28
Adam Woerpel	28
Mary Rockstad	29
Vanessa Weber	30
Gunnar Raasch	30
Judy Merritt	31
Carol Malinowski	31
Kelsey Nehring	31

## Loose Ends Lunch

The October Loose Ends Lunch will be held on October 9th at noon at the Applebee's located at 7135 S



13th Street (at Rawson). Please notify Karen Hoffman or the church office if you plan to attend so that reservations can be made.



# Stewardship

We Give The but thine own, Where're the gift may be.  
All that We have is thine along, a trust, Oh Lord from thee.

It is not easy to remember that God is the giver of all gifts; in fact, it is difficult to remember that all we have is from God. Those of us who are retired worked all our lives for our Social Security. Those who are still working for their paycheck definitely worked for it. We feel that we earned what we have. It belongs to us as the product of our hard labor. Where does God fit into that?



God loves giving  
and gives lovingly

Pondering these ideas opens the possibility that our money may be something more than a *financial matter*. Perhaps our finances fit more accurately into the category of a *Spiritual matter*. The very idea of stewardship implies that ownership belongs elsewhere, and that stewards are those who are given the management of what we have. It is like that moment when we ponder the universe and realize our place in the grandeur of that vastness; when we come to the moment of realizing that there is one who is greater than we are – one who loves us beyond

words and asks us for not rent but to love one another as God loves us.

I am inviting you to your stewardship journey. What gifts has God given you and how have you used those gifts in the building of God's Kingdom among us. What joys have you seen born out of those gifts.

Our annual pledge card will come to you in late October and we ask that you begin turning them the first Sunday of November.

God Bless!

Rev. Kipp W. Zimmermann, Stewardship



# Graphic Designer Needed

Graphic Designer: Is there a graphic designer in the congregation? We are looking into the possibility of putting together a postcard that would provide details of December church events/worship. Please contact the church office if you are interested.



Are you enjoying the new sound system?



Perhaps you would consider making a contribution to help cover the cost.



Designate your contributions via cash, check or Vanco app for "Sound System" and watch the number on the sign in the narthex grow.

## WELCA Cookie Sale



Once again this year you will be invited to participate in the Holiday Cookie Sale. This will be the 3rd annual sale. Watch for more details and dates. Again this year you will be invited to bring in a batch of your favorite holiday or other cookies or candy. All goodies received will be sorted into variety 1 pound boxes and will be available for sale on a Saturday and Sunday in December, both before and after services. As has been the custom, proceeds will be divided between several local, national

and international worthy causes. Begin thinking about what your contribution will be this year.



# Trunk or Treat

**Saturday  
October 19  
1 – 3pm**

**In the church  
parking lot**

**Games, activities, treats  
and refreshments**

**(allergy free items or  
trinkets will be available  
for those who have food  
allergies)**



**Age limit = none**

**Admission = \$ 0**

**Cost for treats = \$0**

**Cost for food = \$ 0**

**Time with family = priceless!**



**Congratulations  
To Our Confirmands  
Ben Hooper and  
Annika Tanke**



# Council Minutes, August 13

**Present:** Denise Sanders, Lorin Schuchardt, John Muroi, Sandy Wesolowski, Kristy Knipple, Shelly Rosenstock, Kipp Zimmermann, Eric Sanders, Jane Miller, Alex Dollar, Keri Whitmore, Pastor Brian Hooper, Carol Jackett

**The meeting was called to order by Denise Sanders at 6:30 pm.**

Lorin Schuchardt shared a devotion.

The meeting minutes for June were reviewed and approved.



## **Financial Report:**

Jane Miller presented the June and July Financial Secretary's Report. YTD General Offerings are about \$5,000 over budget due to some parishioners making their full 2024 donation early. YTD Building Offerings are about \$1,500 behind budget. There were \$6,500 of special donations to the Prayer Garden and Prayer Garden railings.



John Muroi reported that cash accounts are in decent shape. Some accounts show as negative simply because of how money is accounted for when reconciling. John is looking at other insurance options since premiums are increasing.

The Financial Reports were approved.



## **Pastor Brian's August Report**

Completed UnClobber book study at the end of June. Attended Youth Gathering July 16-20. A presentation on the event was held during worship.

Funding of the event will be ready for review by next month.

## **Rally Day Planning – September 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Alex Dollar volunteered to lead this activity. Kristy Knipple also volunteered. Lorin Schuchardt volunteered to do the grilling outside during the morning service.

The food will need to be purchased and will be the same as previous years - hot dogs and hamburgers. The food will be served inside the church.

## **Brainstorming Volunteer Recruitment:**

Denise Sanders stated volunteers are needed for the following activities and committees: Sunday School, Property Chair, Sabbatical Leave Policy, Tech Streaming Team

The Council brainstormed individuals to see if they are interested in volunteering for a position. Council Members have been assigned to contact all potential individuals to see if they are willing to volunteer. A list of potential volunteers and contacts was created. This will be updated at the next meeting.



# Council Minutes, August 13, Con't.

## Sound System Fund Raising and Awareness

The Sound System is now completed but additional funds of \$40,000 are still needed. What to do with the old equipment also needs to be decided. It was also noted that the Sound System includes hearing assistance devices. The Council discussed ways to raise awareness for additional donations and funds needed. Displaying posters around the church is one idea. Communicating availability of hearing assistance devices could also promote the need for donations. John Muroi will write an article for the newsletter explaining the funding needs.

## Building Security/keys

There is a need to locate and document who is in possession of church keys and develop a procedure for accountability when given a key. Bonnie Zimmermann is working on identifying all individuals that currently have keys to the church. There was a discussion on the feasibility of changing locks or going to a key fob system. The cost of those options needs to be explored and what advantages (if any) there would be for taking that action.



## Other Items

All agreed that the carpet leftover from the installation in church will be put in the Sunday School Rooms.



## Committee Reports

Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00. Alex Dollar is leading this activity again. Candy donations and volunteer “trunks” are needed.

School bags - Spiral notebooks, rulers or cash donations are still needed.

The next food bank is at Faith Santa Fe. Items needed include lentils, beans, and canned tomatoes

Lorin brought up the idea of having a Garage Church Rummage Sale. The money could go to the church. Volunteers would be needed. More discussion is needed.

Kipp Zimmermann will check on a good date for Pledge cards that works with the budgeting process.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:55**

**The next Council Meeting is Tuesday September 10, 2024**

Respectfully submitted, Carol Jackett – Secret



## OFFICE HOURS

9:00-2:00 Mon - Th

9:00-12:00 Fri

## SSM STAFF

Brian Hooper, Pastor

[pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com)

Tabitha Moldenhauer, Music Director

Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician

Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry Assistant

SSM Website: [www.ssmelca.org](http://www.ssmelca.org)

Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/SSMELCA/>

Email: [office@ssmelca.org](mailto:office@ssmelca.org)

Phone: 414-421-3543

Sunday School email:

[sundayschool@ssmelca.org](mailto:sundayschool@ssmelca.org)

**WORSHIP AT SSM**  
**SATURDAY AT 5:00PM**  
**SUNDAY AT 9:30AM\***  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM**

*\*INDICATES WORSHIP SERVICES STREAMED ON ZOOM,  
FOR ZOOM INFORMATION PLEASE  
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.*



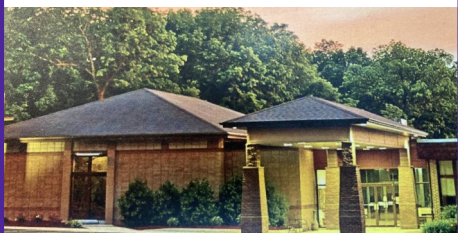
## St Stephen the Martyr ELCA

6101 S. 51st Street

Greendale WI 53129

(414) 421-3543

## October 2024



*Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others*