

February, 2012



Trinity Lutheran Church

Arkdale, Wisconsin

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From the Pastor's Pen

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I was reading in a magazine called, *Uncover*, fall 2011 edition, and a survey by the American Bible society shows that 86% of adults consider the Bible holy and sacred, but not all were engaged with it in the same way.

✦ 20% were found to be engaged, loving the Holy Word, having an average of 7 Bibles in their household, believing the Bible is the actual Word of God and read it on average, 4 times a week, if not daily.

✦ 45% were friendly with the Bible, also believing it to be the actual Word of God, having on average 4 Bibles per household, but read it less than 4 times a week.

✦ 25% were pretty much neutral or indifferent to the Bible, yet having on average 3 Bibles in the home, believing it to be inspired with errors, some feeling it not inspired by God, but only the writer's understanding of the ways of God.

✦ 10% are considered antagonistic, not liking the Bible, believing it to be just another book of teachings with stories and advice, and yet on average have 2 bibles in the household.

This is sad. David Kinnaman once said, "*We talk about the Bible as an owner's manual and life's instruction book. But who reads the owner's manual to anything?*" I found this statement to be true. AND when do we read manuals? When all else fails, and it's not working or going our way. Just like when most turn to God – when all else fails. It shouldn't be this way, though I am glad we can turn to God in those moments. But wouldn't it be even better if we could go to God in every moment, for every occasion? And how much better it would be, if we knew our God not just on the most basic level, but at an intimate level?

There is only one way to know more – read more from the Bible. Those of you who have a smartphone download a Bible app to your phone. Got internet? There are oodles of choices to have daily, weekly devotions sent to your e-mail. Got one of those

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book readers? Well guess what you can get on one of those? Or you could get to know God better by just reading your actual Bible. Don't know where to start? The books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, known as the Gospels, record what Jesus said and did. I would start with one of these books in the Bible.

Why Not? The Bible has within it what God wants us to know about Him and about the people and their interactions, and His promises to us; it also has words of advice how to live, and examples of what and what not to do. The book of James is pretty blunt on this front. If you like history read the book of Numbers, stories - read Exodus. If you like futuristic stuff read Revelations, the last book; romantic stuff - read the Song of Songs, also known as the Book of Solomon.

No one in their right mind of humility should ever say I know enough, or worse yet, I have complete knowledge of the Bible and of God. This arrogance would seem to put oneself higher than God, breaking the very first commandment. The Bible is sacred and holy. It may be a passage you have memorized, but it seems passages will strike us differently as we mature. I'm constantly finding passages that I had forgotten or are new to me. And that's exciting!! Ask yourself honestly, 'What is the role of the Bible in my life?'

"For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." Prov. 2:6

Challenge: read all of chapter 2 in Proverbs.

The Lord is with you,

Pastor Skildum



Bad Weather

In case the weather is bad, check with Channel 9 news out of Wausau and the church answering machine, #564-7920. Please, don't be afraid to call Pastor Terri at her home before setting out, #339-6536. If in doubt, be safe and stay home.

MISSING CLAVINOVA MANUAL!

Please help our keyboard players find the user's manual for our clavinova which has disappeared from the choir loft! It is a paperback, about the size of a large catalog, soft red coloring on the cover. If you have borrowed it, know where it is, or happen to find it as you move about the church, please return it to the organ bench.

Thank you!.

Hannah Circle -

The next meeting will be held February 21st at Donna Olson's home at 7:00 pm. Any women who would be interested in Bible Study and sharing with other woman, are welcome.

Council Meeting -

The next meeting is Monday, February 6th at 5:30 pm.

Sunday w/ Friends

The next get-together is February 12th.

“A Buck a Chick”

Beginning Ash Wednesday, February 22nd through Easter April 8th you will have an opportunity to purchase a chick for \$1.00 and provide a family living in poverty with a little chick. A dollar is all it takes! Soon enough, the chick begins producing eggs. Its eggs make nutritious, protein-rich meals, and can be sold at the marketplace for income – helping a family escape hunger for good. Keep your “peepers” open in the narthex for the chicks. There will be a bucket to place your buck in and a chick to write your name on. To date, ELCA congregations have raised over \$85,000!

HELP WANTED: Assistance with Lutheran World Relief quilt project!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! Flexible work hours! Great working conditions (your own home or the church fellowship hall)! No qualifications required, however, the ability to thread a needle, tie a knot, cut a piece of cloth, measure and piece together pieces of cloth into a top, use a sewing machine to sew tops or to sew tops and bottoms together would be helpful. Free training available if needed, and all materials provided! Salary nonexistent, however, compensation package includes the **GOOD** feeling that comes from helping others less fortunate than you, the enjoyment of spending time with other quilt project volunteers, and the occasional sharing of treats and coffee! For more information, especially about the work-at-home option, contact Norma Riese (564-7936) or Kathy Laskowski (339-7247)! Or, just come to the fellowship hall any Tuesday morning, weather permitting, between 8 & 9 AM. Stay for an hour or two--whatever fits your schedule! Norma and Kathy are waiting for your calls right now!!! Pick up the phone and get involved!

Soup-R Bowl!

Our youth will be collecting money for the Adams County Food Pantry on February 5th. Keep your eyes open for the soup pots and help keep the local pantry stocked.

Need a break from winter?

Crossways Camp has many retreats from quilting, scrapbooking, crafting, family, youth and adults! For more information please contact: 920-882-0023 or visit their website at: www.CrosswaysCamps.org

Special service times this month

February 22nd—Ash Wednesday 5:30 - 6:30 pm Soup 'N Sandwich dinner, worship at 7:00 pm

February 29th—Lenten service 7:00 pm

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for volunteers for Lenten services. We are in need of two ushers and a lector for February 29th, March 7, 14, 21, and 28th.

February 5th – 8:00 am

Ushers: Randy & Mary DeMunck
Liturgist: Mike Kuss
Lector: Tom Guzman
Greeters: Allen & Grace Hendrickson
Acolyte: Caleb Dehmlow
Comm. Bearers: Ed & Jeanne Heideman

February 12th – 8:00 am

Ushers: Ed & Jeanne Heideman
Liturgist: Paul Brown
Lector: Ruth Check
Greeters: Randy & Mary DeMunck
Acolyte: Kyler Bork
Comm. Bearers: John & Audrey Stormoen

February 19th – 8:00 am

Ushers: Lloyd Hovorka & Allen Hendrickson
Liturgist: Tom Guzman
Lector: Peggy Groshek
Greeters: Jeanne Heideman & Dale Malm
Acolyte: Stacey DeMunck
Comm. Bearers: Joe & Myrna Baumel

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 22nd - 7:00 pm

Ushers: Scott & Karen Soley
Liturgist: Darlene Hovorka
Lector: Sandy Pheiffer
Greeters: Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka
Acolyte: Rachel Dehmlow
Comm. Bearers: Bud & Judy Hatlevig

February 26th – 8:00 am

Ushers: John & Jim Stormoen
Liturgist: Karen Soley
Lector: June Hillert
Greeters: Scott & Karen Soley
Acolyte: Zach Kuchta
Comm. Bearers: Ray & Karen Groskinsky

February 5th – 10:15 am

Ushers: Glenn and Bryan Quinnell
Comm. Asst.: Dave Bassan
Lector: Sharon Volkening
Greeters: Lianna Glavin and Debbie Hagen
Acolyte: Braedyn Quinnell
Comm. Bearers: Seth & Lenna Hamilton

February 12th – 10:15 am

Ushers: Seth Hamilton & Hank Sauer
Comm. Asst.: Lianna Glavin
Lector: Barb Volkening
Greeters: Louise Thomas & Dave Bassan
Acolyte: Kinsey Glavin
Comm. Bearers: John & Joyce Pavelec

February 19th – 10:15 am

Ushers: John Pavelec & Craig Irely
Comm. Asst.: Brenda Chamberlain
Lector: Peter Larson
Greeters: Craig & Roxanne Irely
Acolyte: Brandon Easterly
Comm. Bearers: Craig & Roxanne Irely

February 26th – 10:15 am

Ushers: Larry & Sam Warren
Comm. Assist.: Roxanne Irely
Lector: Brenda Chamberlain
Greeters: Darrell & Tammy Renner
Acolyte: Troy Banovec
Comm. Bearers: Louise Thomas & Dave Bassan

If you are unable to be here when you are scheduled, please find your own replacement and call the office at 564-7920 with the changes.
Bulletins are printed Wednesday afternoons. Thank you.

KFC - Kids For Christ

- Road Trip! There is a concert in Madison on Saturday, Feb. 4th Mercy Me, Tenth Avenue North, LeCrae Hawk Nelson, Disciple and Sidewalk Prophets will be performing. Speaker will be Bart Millard! Cost is \$10!! Concert at 6pm at the Coliseum at the Alliant Energy Center. Call Pastor ASAP! Let's Rock and Worship!!
- Sunday School! Our next topic is The Widow's Offering, Feb. 5, 12 and 19. Sign up sheet for teachers is in the Narthex with Materials.
- Memory verses: Mark 12:44: "They gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on." *Younger version:* "The woman who was poor gave all she had to live on." AND Matt. 10:8 "Freely you have received, freely give."
- Month's Activity: Make a duck tape project! Sticky fun!! There is a direction sheet in the narthex to help make a duck tape tote bag, which can be used to carry things to grandma's or even for the grocery store. On the Web you can google many more projects. Places like Ace have a wide variety of colors & patterned tape. This helps save on plastic and paper bags and is 'Earth Friendly', and that means we are helping God's creation!
- 5th graders: First Communion – Our last class is on Feb. 5.
- Super Bowl Sunday: Youth will collect monies in soup pots for the Food Pantry, Feb. 5. Volunteers are needed for this Soup-er-Bowl Sunday! Talk with Pastor.

Bible Moment:

Read Mark 12:38-44 (New Testament)

1. If you found a 100 dollar bill in a parking lot, would it be hard for you to turn it in? Give it to someone else?

2. Are you trying to find excuses to keep it or to give it away?

After all it wasn't yours to begin with, and yet it is an extra blessing, and yet it was someone else's loss... Here's an easier question...

3. Would you rather be like the rich man or the widow in this reading?

This widow gave all she had, and I often wonder what happened to her afterwards. The copper coins she gave up weren't worth much to begin with. How did she eat the next day? Pay her taxes? Was she sick? We don't know.

4. This really isn't about if you are rich or poor; what is it about?

Yep, how you give. We are to give with a heart of generosity, not out of guilt or out of pride in what we can give, but because we want to. What we have, all of it, is from God. In gratitude we give some back for a good cause – The Gospel of Christ.

Present: Monica Wallendal, Peter Larson, David Bassan, Ruth Check, Larry Warren, Roxie Ireys and Karen Soley **Excused:** Garrett Gould **Unexcused:** Joyce Pavelec

- ❖ Meeting called to order by President Peter Larson
- ❖ December 5, 2011 Treasurer's Report Roxie/David Passed
- ❖ December 5, 2011 Council Minutes Ruth/David Passed
- ❖ No Pastor's Report
- ❖ Next council meeting will be Monday, February 6, 2012 at 5:30 pm.
- ❖ Discussed new computers, and next step in process.
- ❖ Budget Review by line item.
- ❖ Ruth made motion to recommend spending \$1430.00 to clean pews and chairs in sanctuary under package B (from Steam Away) using Du Pont Teflon protector. Roxie seconded. Passed
- ❖ Audit Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 10th.
- ❖ Did not set date for tailgate brunch at this time.
- ❖ Advent dinner results – Served approximately 60 people.
- ❖ Reviewed council members and committees they serve.
- ❖ Discussed possible members to replace Don Peterson, as he will be resigning from council January 1st. Executive Committee will look at possible replacement members.

- ❖ Committee Reports
 - Education – David is waiting to hear on suggestions for Sunday school. Will plan a meeting to discuss next year's program.
 - Worship – Did not meet in December
 - Property –Did not meet in December
 - Older Adult Ministry – Ruth and Gib are giving a presentation this Sunday.
 - Outreach – Nothing to report
- ❖ Motion to adjourn Larry/Ruth passed
- ❖ Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Karen Soley

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>6:00 pm Choir and Confirmation</i>	2	3	4 <i>Madison Concert</i>
5 <i>8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 9:15 am Education 10:15 am Worship Youth collecting for the food pantry</i>	6 <i>5:30 pm Council</i>	7 <i>8:00 am Quilting 10:00 am SWF mtg.</i>	8 <i>6:00 pm Choir and Confirmation</i>	9	10	11
12 <i>8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 9:15 am Education 10:15 am Worship 12:00 pm SWF</i>	13 <i>6:15 am Worship com. @ Friendship Cafe</i>	14 <i>8:00 Quilting</i>	15 <i>6:00 pm Choir and Confirmation</i>	16	17	18
19 <i>8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 9:15 am Education 10:15 am Worship</i>	20 <i>President's Day 1:00-Dorcas Circle</i>	21 <i>8:00 Quilting 12:00 News- letter Articles Due—7:00 Hannah Circle</i>	22 - 5:30- <i>6:30 Soup-n- sandwich dinner 7:00 pm Ash Wed. Service</i>	23	24	25
26 <i>8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 9:15 am Education 10:15 am Worship</i>	27 <i>6:00 pm Mutual Ministry</i>	28 <i>8:00 am Quilting</i>	29 <i>5:30 Choir 6:00 Confirm. 7:00 Worship</i>			
Office Hours Are:	Monday thru Thursday	9:00 am - 2:30 pm				

Lent

Jonah...for Lent? Sounds fishy, but it's a natural fit. When the people asked Jesus for a sign, he said, "I will give you only the sign of Jonah." During the 40 days of Lent we will explore the meaning of this sign and what we can learn from Jonah's journey.



Ash Wednesday
Soup 'N Sandwich
February 22
5:30-6:30 pm

Youth Trip Fund Raiser



Come Hungry!

***“Claimed by Christ, we are called and empowered to
make Christ known
through worship, education, and service both locally
and to the world.”***