

Leganger Lutheran Church
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Address Box

Applying Bible Principles:

The vast majority of people like to excel at something. Most of us like to do what we do in a manner that is truly first-class. Whether we are involved in one of the trades, or whether we are working in a profession, we like to excel in what we do.

Similarly, in the Christian life, most of us like to demonstrate our love for the Lord in ways that will reflect properly on Him and that will bring honor to Him. As His servants, we take great care that our Christian service is of such quality that what we do for His sake is first-class. Thus, whether we sing a solo in a worship service at church, prepare a meal for someone who is a shut-in, or teach a Bible class, we strive to do what we do for God in the very best way possible.

The Apostle Paul indicates we are also to excel in the grace of giving. “Now as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you — so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking” (2 Cor. 8:7). In other words, just as we might seek to excel in other ways which demonstrate our Christian faith in action, we are also to excel in the grace of giving.

In the context of the verse, we just read, Paul commends the Macedonian Christians for giving as much as they were able and more. When we follow their example, we experience “grace giving” in action, not only giving as we are able, but also, giving beyond our ability. This is possible only as we demonstrate the fruit of the Christian life by the power of the Holy Spirit within us. As we step out by faith (which is one of the signs of a Spirit-controlled life), we are able to give in ways which might seem improbable or impossible at first. The Spirit of God thereby motivates us and compels us to excel in the grace of giving!

One anonymous writer penned these powerful words: “God has a storehouse of blessings. Prayer is the key to that storehouse. But faith both turns the key and unlocks the door.”

Say, are you excelling in the grace of giving? If not, why not take God at His Word — by faith — and begin today?

Katie's Korner

1st Kings: Per the title, there is the first hint of what this book is all about. Under Saul, David, and Solomon, the kingdom is united. But as Solomon died, his son Rehoboam took over the kingship, only to secede from Israel and rule in the region of Judah alone. Throughout the ups and downs, that roller coaster going again, there is an intriguing story of a prophet. In a time when people are falling from God, this prophet shows just how powerful God really is.

The same pattern we see in Judges is the pattern that the people of God experience under the earthly kings that God calls to rule. As we read through this historical book that outlines these kings' time as rulers, we find that the human pattern - that roller coaster up and down, twist and turn - continues even as time changes. In this book of the bible, we also get a glimpse of a perfect King through the worldly kings that make up the genealogical line to Jesus.

If you read 1 Kings 3, you will see God giving king Solomon a wise and discerning heart. Then as you continue in that reading, you see this put to use. In one instance, prostitutes come to him fighting over a baby boy. Both women had sons that were born three days apart, but unfortunately, one of the boys died. The mother of the dead child took the living boy and claimed it as her own. What else could the real mother do, but fight to reclaim her child. Solomon heard the fight and decided then - quite horridly - to take up a sword and cut the living baby in two so both mothers could have the son. Of course, reasonably, the real mother of the son denied then that the baby was hers so that the child would not be harmed. Solomon then knew that she was the real mother.

Now, though this case presented before this wise king is far from something that we may experience in small town Toronto, SD, it does give us a glimpse of a God given gift of true wisdom. It is a God given and God reflective gift. This early story in 1 Kings teaches us that God too is a wise God. He is a God that sees into the hard situations we find ourselves in. Then, even in these ups and downs, twists and turns, God gives us the best outcomes. For this child it was

Katie's Korner Continued:

a life with its rightful mother. For you, it is continual forgiveness from and life with God, your rightful father.

A Prayer: Father, thank you for the wisdom you pour out into the world. Help us to see how that wisdom is from you and that you are acting in wisdom on our behalf too. Amen.

Quick Notes from Pastor: Though the baby's due date (September 26th) is quickly approaching, I am here. I've been yearning for more conversations, so feel free to stop by as you need, or even just to say hello! Also, more details about my maternity leave will be provided soon. I am really looking forward to the opportunities that I have been working to curate for you during my time away with baby!!

Ladies of Leganger Notes

The Leganger Women of the ELCA met for Bible Study only during the months of June, July, and August. The hostess for June was Meg; for July was Betty; and for August was Lori. The next meeting will be September 4th at 2 pm for Bible Study and regular business meeting.

Ruth Lenning, secretary

ATTENTION!

Please consider volunteering your time and talents to the Sunday School program. There is a dire need for teachers. With enough volunteers, it would not be necessary to teach every Sunday.

Dates to Remember:

- 8/17 – Joint family funeral for Janice Bergjord and Susan Dykema.
- 8/28 – Acolyte Orientation 4:00pm.
- 9/4 – Leganger Ladies 2:00pm.
- 9/4 - Council Meeting; Boards 8:00pm, Council 8:30pm.
- 9/7 - Community Men's Fellowship Group. 9:00am. Coffee and food items provided.
- 9/8 – Sunday School Rally Day with food and fun!
- 9/15 – First day of Sunday School.
- 9/21 – Roelofsen/Bergstadt wedding.
- 9/22 – Hendricks Nursing Home worship at 2:00pm.
- 12/4 – Tentative date to attend services at St. Dysmas. More information to come.



Caring and Sharing

*Reminder - weekly cleaning, serving coffee fellowship and ushering.

August Caring and Sharing Group 3: *Ruth Lenning and Holly Lunden chairs* Harlan and Ruth Lenning, Troy and Betsy Lenning, Warren and Holly Lunden, Haley Lunden, Hannah Lunden, Josh and Jackee Lunden, Jordan and Kelsey Monnier, Christopher and Nicole Monnier, Riley Monnier, Todd Hanna, Linda Grimlie, Kelli Franken, Kristen and Jeremy Hunter, Betty Steinmetz, Anita and Steve Knutson, Ross Quail, Jaimee and Erick Froiland, Johnny Roelofsen, Carly Bergstadt, Jenna and Kevin Petersen, Janell Milton.

September Caring and Sharing Group 1: *Lori Jorenby chair.* Lori Jorenby, Mark Jorenby, Karen Jorenby, Gary and Tracy Bandemer, Mason and Ryleigh Bandemer, Daniel and Gayla McKibben, Scot Rymerson, Nick and Laura Kuntz, Carie Knutson, JoAnn Horner, Barb Mohror, Arlene Bird, Jim and Lynn Slaney, Tony Knutson, Logan and Haley Jurens, Kelly and Katie Sieve, Cory and Heather Quail, Lonni Potts, Tammy Morris, Stacy Collins.

Council Minutes

The Leganger Lutheran Church Council met Wednesday August 7, 2024. Members present: Pastor Katie, Seth, Jesse, Todd, Dennis, Troy, Carie, Tracy, Stacy, Kelsey, and Gay (interim secretary). Tracy led with scripture and prayer. Gay read the minutes from the prior meeting. No additions or corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports were reviewed. Income was \$6896.48, monthly expenses were \$7336.57. The month ended with a deficit of **-\$454.59**.

Deacons Report: A tentative date for Baby Pauly's baptism is November 10th. This will be followed by a congregational meal and baby shower!

Pastor Report: Pastor provided a report of her July, August, and September activities. A schedule of pulpit supply and emergency contacts during Pastor's upcoming maternity leave was provided. This information will be shared with church members in the near future. Pastor discussed the ELCA Human Sexuality Social Statement. When Pastor returns from maternity leave, she will begin further discussion regarding ELCA's Social Statement changes. There is fear and tension amongst synod members that can come from misinformation. It's important that Leganger members receive the facts regarding any effects this may or may not have on the congregation.

Trustees Report. The north door project is in process.

Board of Education: Plans for Rally Sunday are underway. There are serious concerns regarding the lack of available Sunday School personnel. This is jeopardizing the continuation of Sunday School. *Congregation members, please prayerfully consider volunteering for this important ministry.* Kelsey also announced she is resigning from the Board. The Council thanked Kelsey for her service to the education of our youth.

Council Minutes continued...

Old Business: The iPad purchase discussed last month has been tabled. Further research into future needs should be completed first. Regarding the Leganger Cemetery, Todd reported that he has contacted third parties and should receive some quotes soon.

New Business: None.

Next meeting September 4th. Boards 8:00 pm, Council 8:30 pm. Todd made a motion to adjourn; Jesse seconded. All stood and prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Gay Evenson

July Treasurer's Report

Income was \$6896.48, monthly expenses were \$7336.57. This includes a transfer of \$14.50 from the Sunday School Offering to the Sunday School Offering Mission Fund.

The month ended with a deficit of **-\$454.59**.

Thanks to all who are utilizing the Online Giving tool.

Propane Account balance to date is \$1861.32. Anyone wishing to designate funds for the coming purchase of propane can note that on your giving envelope. Anyone that is using the Online Giving Tool, who wish to designate funds to the Propane Account, please contact Anita with the amount once you have given using the tool.

In God's Love,
Anita Knutson, Treasurer

Celebrate National Make-A-Will Month with LPGSD

Each of us is called to play an active role in the stewardship of our time, talents, and resources as we journey with Christ. Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD, a ministry of the South Dakota Synod, recently introduced a **new will-writing tool** at www.lpgsd.org

- **What is Make-A-Will Month?** This month is designated in recognition of the importance of making a will as an act of faithful stewardship.
- **How can I participate?** In thanks for your support of the ministry partners of LPGSD, we're offering an online tool to make it simple, accessible, and 100% free to create a will, powers of attorney and funeral directives.
- **Why does it matter?** Most adults don't have a will, missing an opportunity to protect their loved ones and their blessings. This month is the perfect time for everyone to complete this important process. It only takes a few minutes to complete – visit www.lpgsd.org today.

We are called to protect the family, finances, and faith God has entrusted to our care. **We hope you'll take this step during Make-A-Will Month and put your faith into action.**

Kathy McHenry
Executive Director and Generosity Coach
Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD
kmchenry@sdsynod.org
605.274.5030 www.lpgsd.org

Reminder:

Please contact us if any of your information changes. Notify the church office by calling 794-2601 and leaving a message or email leganger@itctel.com. We want to keep in touch with you!



On August 11th, some Leganger members enjoyed a gathering at *Good Roots*, (rural Brookings), for games, devotions, and supper.

Supper included pizza, baked in wood burning ovens!

2024

CALENDAR YEAR

AUGUST

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

Pastor's Schedule and Church Events

FIRST DAY OF WEEK Office hours vary, but Pastor Katie will be in her office from 9-4 Tuesday and Thursday, Wednesday from 10-7. Any variance is due to visitation, errands, text studies, and meetings. She is available on Friday's too, but works from home.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|--|---|--------|--|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 01 | 02 | 03 Community Men's Fellowship Group 9:00am |
| 04 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship 10:30 | 05 | 06 Pastor Katie attending Faith Leaders event in Sioux Falls through the 8th. | 07 Women's Circle 2:00 Council Meeting 8:00 boards, 8:30 Council | 08 | 09 | 10 |
| 11 Community Worship at the park 10:30 Good Roots Outing 3:00 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 Joint Funeral for Susan Dykema and Janice Bergjord |
| 18 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship 10:30 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Hendricks Nursing Home Worship 2:00 pm | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Worship 10:30 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
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