



This is an excerpt from a wonderful article I read recently (the website is shared below, if you would like to read the entire article). ~Crystal

Seven “Other” Effective Prayers for the Sick besides Asking for Healing

Here are a few ways you can focus on God’s redemptive purposes in the life of a suffering person. Pray:

- That God’s name would be glorified in and through your friend’s circumstances.
- For perseverance to have its perfect work in them.
- For opportunities for them to minister and testify to others (doctors, nurses, other patients, etc.).
- That their faith would not falter but rather increase because of adversity.
- That their physical limitations would open up time and space for a deeper relationship with God.
- For daily moments of joy.
- For fresh hope when the journey makes them weary.

This list is not comprehensive; it’s just meant to launch you into new realms of faith-filled prayer.

<https://samaritanministries.org/blog/7-other-effective-prayers-for-the-sick-besides-asking-for-healing>

Council Meeting
 Tuesday, April 3
 at 7 p.m.

*Christ
 is
 Risen!*

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that donated items and money, worked and supported the Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast. The Ladies made around \$600, and it will be used to help send our youth to Luther Park Bible Camp.

Easter Peace - Easter Wounds

In both the gospels of Luke and John, Jesus appears to his disciples on Easter and says, **“Peace be with you.”** Then he shows them his wounds; his hands, his feet and his side saying to them, **“Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”** Then he asked them for something to eat and they give Jesus a piece of broiled fish which he ate in their presence.

The Risen Christ returns to them on Easter day and says, “peace be with you”. Not “Hi!”, not “I’m back!”, just, **“Peace be with you!”** Then, Jesus shows them his wounds. Somehow, showing them his wounds, begins in them the joy and wonderment of Easter. While they still don’t fully understand until Jesus opens their minds to the scripture and sends his Holy Spirit upon them, they have in them that spark of joy and wonder of Easter.

Peace and wounds – they seem to go together. Suddenly, out of the darkness of the grave, Jesus steps with the Light of grace and salvation so that they can set aside quarrelling and conflict to enjoy the peace that only Christ can give. This is a deep abiding peace and harmony that heals divisions, roots out violence, and brings the fullness of life with God.

The last two months have been a whirl wind of anxiety, stress, emotional upheaval and grief as my family faced once again the return of cancer within Ben that has now claimed his breath and life from us. We were hoping for at least a couple more months and maybe more, but on Sunday, March 4th, God called him home and we feel wounded and broken from his presence and love among us.

Yet, there is comfort; not only from so many of you who have held us in your thoughts and prayers, but also from the joy and wonder that comes from hearing the story of Holy Week that conveys God’s great love for us through the beloved son Jesus. From his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to his promise to be with us when we eat the bread and drink the wine, to his sacrifice on the cross so that we are freed from sin, brokenness and death, to the stone rolled away from the tomb that is empty, Jesus Christ brings healing and new life for all who believe in him as the savior of the world. We have peace and hope for the life that will come when we join the great cloud of witnesses which now includes our son, Ben.

The peace that only Christ can give is more than surrendering ourselves to suffering and loss. The peace of Christ helps us to actively unite our wounds to the wounds of Christ’s hands and feet, and side. The crucified Christ brings healing and wholeness. Although it can be difficult to remain at peace while we are suffering, it is through our woundedness that we appreciate the healing peace of Christ.

We all need the Easter peace that comes through the presence of the Risen Christ; this Eastertime peace that calls for healing amidst all despair and woundedness; for a grace that heals even after death steals a loved one away. Of course, this healing peace has come at a cost. There is no Easter without Good Friday, no Resurrection without the cross, no healing but for the wounding. Easter peace is costly. It cost Jesus his life.

Yet, even after he has paid the ultimate price for our salvation, Christ does not hold

this debt over our heads. Rather, he shows us his wounds and offers us his peace. He does not force us to accept him, but he offers forgiveness and mercy and sends us out to extend that same forgiveness and mercy to others.

“Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

(Lk.24:46-48)

Pr. Ahles

March 6, 2018 Congregational Council Meeting **(Unapproved)**

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Steve Ebert. Members present were Steve Ebert, Linda Odness, Brandi Berg, Jan Berg, Lynn Nelson, Jim Odness, Keith Nelson, Bruce Thompson, Tom Johnson and Tim Radatz

Linda led us in prayer and devotion with a reading from Romans.

Treasurer's Report provided and presented by Brandi Berg

- Checking Account - \$13,754.34
- Building Fund Checking - \$9,543.91
- 2020 General Fund - \$30,290.34
- Building Fund CD 2 – account closed
- Church Savings- \$19,308.91
- Memorial Fund - \$3,542.52

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Jim; 2nd Bruce; motion approved.

Secretary's report for the January Congregational Council Meeting was read by Linda Odness; with changes made, motion to approve as amended made by Keith, 2nd by Tim; motion carried.

Pastor's Report

- No Report

WELCA

- Lutfisk dinner was a great success
- Ladies will be providing a memorial to Ahles-Iverson family and Pastor Ahles family for Ben
- Ladies (Martha Group) will be hosting the Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday. The proceeds will be used to help defray the cost for children of the congregation to attend Luther Park Summer Bible Camp.
- Ladies were asking if the congregation would still be doing God's Work Our Hands this fall.

Parish Secretary Update

- No Report

Parish Council

- No report

Old Business

1. Jim contacted will contact Travis Electric to check on the safety lights
2. Parsonage bathroom plumbing has been completed
3. Looking into the cost of replacing the garage door on the parsonage, this is ongoing, planning for spring/summer installation.
4. New overhead lights have been installed in the church will install new one in parsonage soon.
5. Immanuel is current with all bills.
6. Jim Odness has contacted some folks regarding the Church Usage Plan, will plan to meet soon.
7. Steve will contact Halama Flooring regarding the aisle carpet.
8. Brandi spoke with Fred Ackley regarding the increase in the Workman's Compensation Insurance. He asked for some documentation and she will be sending it to him. She also spoke with Liz at the Synod and she mentioned we may want to shop around a little as we may be able to find cheaper Workman's Compensation Insurance.
9. New memorial plaque is being ordered will wait to move existing ones until new one arrives.
10. Steve will be checking with Immanuel to change the current format of Pastor's payment for the cable at the parsonage,

New Business

1. Septic was pumped and it was recommended that we replace the filter in it as it is quite corroded.
2. Linda will be contacting Tammy Danenberg to see if could provide clavinova training so more members could help when Becky is gone.
3. Bruce made a motion to provide 1099's for all independent positions of the church; janitor, organist and church secretary. Lynn 2nd the motion, motion carried.
4. Linda made a motion to purchase a plant arrangement for Ben Ahles-Iverson, Keith seconded the motion, motion carried.
5. Tim made a motion to give a \$250.00 memorial for Ben Ahles-Iverson, second by Jan, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn made by Tom, 2nd by Jan; Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:36. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Odness, Recording Secretary.

SHREK THE MUSICAL

Presented by Whitehall School District

Wed, April 4 @ 12:30 (tickets \$5),

Thursday(4/5)-Saturday(4/7) @ 7:30 pm (tickets \$7)

A Memorial Celebration of Life for Reverend Ben Ahles-Iverson (son of Pastor Ahles and Pastor Iverson) was held at 11 am on March 13 at Taylor Lutheran Church (Taylor, WI). Visitation was from 4-7 pm on March 12 at the Taylor Community Center and again from 10 am until services March 13. Memorials, per Ben's request, can be made to Wartburg Theological Seminary or Luther Park Bible Camp, Chetek, WI.

"O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" (Ps. 118:1)

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! For all the love, prayers, and kind words of sympathy that the Immanuel-Elk Creek United Lutheran Parish members have expressed during this difficult time of losing our son Ben. Our hearts are strengthened by the comfort and hope that you have extended to us through these days. Because God's steadfast love endures forever, Easter is coming!

"O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good ;his steadfast love endures forever!" (Ps. 118:29)

Pr. Ahles & Pr. Iverson

KING'S VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

LEFSE & MEATBALL SUPPER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11 -- SERVING BEGINS AT 4 PM

CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE!

ADULTS \$10, KIDS 5-12 \$4, UNDER 5 FREE-WILL DONATION

Elk Creek WELCA meeting

3/11/18 @9:10 am

Meeting opened by President Berg with Theme and Verse. Secretary's report read, motion to approve Crystal, 2nd Arleen. Report placed on file. Treasurer report: Profit from Lutefisk dinner \$5361.67

Checking Balance \$10,448.21

Max Rate \$ 4,431.23

Seminary Fund \$10,226.40

Expenses \$ 5,887.00 Majority of expenses for Lutefisk Dinner

Treasurer's report was placed on file. Sunshine fund in the amount of \$23.70 (plus stamps) will be put into checking account.

Old Business:

Prayer Breakfast March 14th (9:30am) at Strum.

There are 6 planning to go at this time.

Lynn shared a letter from our compassion child, Lindsey volunteered to write a letter back.

Sew and Sew's will take care of a Quilt for Luther Park.

New Business:

Discussed a gift for Pastor and Christine in memory of their son. Motion by Linda, 2nd by Becky to give Wind chimes with Broken Circle poem. Funeral and visitation times and location given. Discussion on sending a check in a few weeks along with Quilts for Elizabeth and Mara for any needs they may have. Motion by Linda 2nd by Lindsey to send \$500.00.

Stephanie brought forward some things from the WELCA website; International Women's Day – supporting women in becoming leaders in the church (Isaiah 1:17)

Gods Work, Our Hands is September 17 on the website, will not work for us since this day is also Sunday School rally at Elk Creek. Cemetery cleanup was brought forward as a good project, but also any community needs. Other things to look into –

Seeds Monthly and Café have inspirational articles. Women and Social justice. In April is a March to End Racism.

Morning of Renewal is April 18th in Black River. We will need a delegate to go, Linda Odness volunteered to be the delegate (paid registration). All others going should give money to Lynn, she will send in registration for all at one time. Registration due by 4/11/18.

Discussed having a booth at Lake Martha Days to sell cookbooks and Quilt raffle tickets. Motion by Becky, 2nd by Rosanne to have a booth.

Pancake Breakfast to help pay for youth going to Luther Bible Camp. Stephanie has applied for \$250.00 Thrivent grant to assist with costs. 25 lbs. of sausage will be ordered from Strum Locker. Sign-up sheets for donations also have been put out.

Linda will check into her niece getting diapers for the Diaper Program in Whitehall. \$250.00 approved if able to get them this year.

Discussion of what to give to children going to Luther Park programs this summer. Cost ranges from \$25 a day to \$395.00 varying by age and length of stay. Motion by Deb to give 50% of the cost to any child going by Deb, 2nd by Rosanne. Motion passed. May possibly be able to draw from the youth fund if there are a large number of children going.

Discussion to make the \$10,000 approved for the parking lot project available when needed. Motion by Brandi, 2nd by Stephanie to transfer funds when needed by the council, also after discussions on obligations, included approval to draw from the Max rate account if needed to meet the \$10,000.

Meeting closed with Offering and Lord's Prayer. 10:00 am

Respectfully, Barb Fischer, Sec

Lines from LaVerne... Many men claimed that they were gods, or bore messages from God; Jesus was pre-announced. His coming was not unexpected, because of the Old Testament. The reason for the coming of Jesus was for him to die on the cross for all of our sins. His birth has been the only life in the world that was ever lived backward. It was as if the cross was first, and cast its shadow back to His birth. He was a Samaritan and a friend to sinners. He was born in Bethlehem, which meant, "House of Bread." Creation is the work of God. God writes His name on the soul of every man. Reason and conscience are the God within us. The one who made the world should be at home in it, but no, the Son of God was invited to enter His own world through a back door. The manger and the cross are the two extremities of the Savior's life. He was born in a manger because there was no room in the inn and Jesus accepted the cross because men said, "We will not have this man for our king." He was laid in a stranger's stable at the beginning and a stranger's grave at the end. His crib surrounded by an ox and an ass at Bethlehem and two thieves were to flank His cross at Calvary. He was wrapped in swaddling bands in His manger. He was laid in swaddling clothes in His tomb. He was already bearing a cross of poverty, exile and limitations. Two classes of people found the baby Jesus. The shepherds and the wise men, the simple and the learned. Those who knew not much and those who knew they did not know everything. The humble ones. Not even God can tell the proud anything! Only the humble find God. The shadow of the cross fell on the cradle of Jesus. This was "His Father's business". A blessed and happy Easter to every one of you. Don't forget what Jesus did for all of us. Seek Him always and thank and praise Him.

Your Lay Minister,
LaVerne

LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP - dates for the various camps have been announced! There are camp options for Kindergarten - Seniors. Additional funding for camp will be available thru our Women's group.



JOGGING FOR JESUS

The members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Youth Group will be hosting our 2nd Annual **Jogging for Jesus** 5K Run 3K Run/Walk. This year's event will be held on Saturday, April 14th @ 11 am (Race check-in time is 10 – 10:45) at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church—36197 Main Street, Whitehall, WI.

This year we are adding the **Church Challenge** to the event. When the runners/walkers register for the event, they can fill in your church name on the registration form and the five fastest times from your church will be grouped as a "team", and ranked against other church's teams in both the 3K and 5K events. Are you the fastest church?

The \$20 registration fee includes: an event t-shirt (if registered by March 28th), a chance to win local door prizes, and post race refreshments.

Proceeds from this trip will be used to help Our Saviour's Youth to go to the Youth Gathering in Houston, TX this June.