

## ***CHURCH IN THE BARN***



*Plan to join us as we worship together in the BARN!*

*Sunday, August 12 at 10:30 am*

*Dinner to follow.*



*Drive your tractor, if you wish! There will be a tractor drive following the service.*

*Johnson Party Barn, N44866 County Road E, Osseo.*

*Vacation Bible School at Immanuel in Strum will be August 5-9. Sunday, the 5<sup>th</sup> it will be 5:30-8pm and Monday-Thursday it will run from 3:30-8pm and supper will be provided. Students K-6 are invited to attend. There may be a small cost to participate. All questions can be directed to Michelle at Immanuel 715.695.3511.*



### **Upcoming Event @ Elk Creek!**

*Saturday, September 22, we will be hosting the Synodical Women's Organization meeting for our region. We will need helpers as well as salads for the day. Mark your calendars ☺*

**Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 7**  
**at 7 p.m.**

### **CHRIST IN OUR HOME**

**The July/August/September edition of the daily devotionals are available in the Narthex. Please help yourself or take one for someone who would enjoy it! Large-print copes are also available.**



Many of you have heard that Pastor Valerian and Christine have lost another son unexpectedly. As a church family we are grieving for their losses, and we ask that you lift them up in prayer, as well as their family and friends who are grieving.

Aaron Peter Ahles-Iverson, 40, child of God, died Friday July 13, 2018. He was born February 20, 1978 to Valerian Ahles and Christine Iverson.

Aaron grew up in many places but went to high school in Atchison, Kansas where he graduated in 1996. He then went to college at Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph Missouri, graduating with a degree in instrumental music education. He then served as director of bands at Chilicothe, Missouri for two years. After that, he worked with a college friend in the then new business Prolific Technologies of St. Joseph, becoming the manager.

Through all of this, music has been and continued to be a large and important part of his life. In high school, he went for three years to Lutheran Summer Music Academy (LSM). As a senior, he received the John Phillip Sousa award for outstanding musicianship and leadership. During college, he was active in bands, jazz, orchestra, and chamber music. It was also then, that he began arranging music, including for marching band shows. He was a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, serving as president of the chapter. He was a long time member of the St. Joseph Symphony, as bassoonist. He also played in the Northwinds Symphonic Band of Kansas City and the Cameron Municipal Band. He played many instruments in many ensembles, being able to pick up almost any wind instrument and play at a performance level.

Aaron and his brother were inseparable almost from Ben's birth. They shared their mutual love of music, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, baseball, and discussion of theological and current events. Along with friends, they made epic journeys visiting baseball fields across the country. Aaron loved space, astronomy, and NASA, following the space program even as a young child. He believed in God and the exploration of the universe: his faith gave him a sense of awe and amazement, which fueled his love of science.

The brightest sunshine in his life recently, was his niece Elizabeth. Aaron was so proud, not only to be her uncle, but her godfather as well. He loved her greatly and became even more protective of her since his brother's death in March. It is no coincidence that Aaron died four months to the day of his brother's funeral.

Aaron was preceded in death by his grandparents Elizabeth and Valentine Ahles (Cold Spring, MN) and Mildred and Alvin Iverson (Spring Valley, WI) and his brother the Rev. Benjamin Ahles-Iverson (Taylor, WI). He is survived by his parents, Rev. Valerian Ahles and Rev. Christine Iverson, his sister Phoebe (and Nathan) Schwabe, sister-in-law Rev. Mara Ahles-Iverson, and niece Elizabeth Kay Ahles-Iverson.

Memorials are to be given to the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) World Hunger Program, and the St. Joseph Symphony.



**DOVE Healthcare in Osseo has a Senior Meal Site from 11:45-12:45 Monday-Friday at their beautiful NEW facility on Highway 10 in Osseo.**

**To sign up for a meal just call DOVE at 715-597-2493. Meal cost is a suggested donation of \$3.75.**

**If you do need transportation to the meal site you can contact the Aging & Disability Resource Center at 715-538-2001.**

## Lines from LaVerne...

Have you ever found yourself talking to yourself? When you talk to yourself, you're guaranteed an audience that's sympathetic. You find that you're a person, who by golly, thinks the same as you do. How does a conversation get better than that? People who talk to themselves are considered sort of strange. But a certain amount of self-chat aids daily sanity retention. Talking to ourselves helps us navigate our days. A sense of control, no matter how it gives us confidence and the will to go on. Hearing something said out loud, even if you said it yourself can plant a reminder in your brain. I talk to myself at times and straighten my thinking out too sometimes. Who else would I listen to? Ha! Talking to yourself can help you regain your focus after interruptions. You can talk yourself back on track. Usually, number one question asked is, "What was I doing?" followed closely by "Why did I come in here?" or "What did I need?" Can you remember anyone in the old days who shook their fist at the TV and argued with the newscaster? They seem to believe that Walter Cronkite could hear them! Even to this day, arguing with the news broadcaster seems popular. Great-grandpa simply was ahead of his time. I'm doing my part to continue the tradition. I spend all day talking to myself through work and play. No one is around to hear, but I'm my own audience. Of that, I'm certain. We are to enjoy each day because that day will no be repeated. Retirement provides new opportunities to share your faith seven days a week, 365 days a year. Are your priorities to the Lord Jesus Christ, God, family and country? I believe it and try to do it and I'm sure you do too. And then we as grandparents and parents spend a lot of time teaching and instructing our grandchildren and children: "Don't slouch!", "Eat your peas.", "Stand still." roll quickly from our lips. We become so busy guiding and shaping our children that we forget that teaching is a two-way street. We are learning as much from them as they are from us. There was a story about a dust bowl community. Most of the townspeople has been measuring the rainfall for some months. So they gathered together to pray for rain. Many clergy showed up. One little girl came late and interrupted the praying. She was late because she had gone home to get her umbrella; no one else had thought to bring one. Put that story alongside the one in the Bible about the boy who gave up his lunch at the feeding of the 5,000. What can one expect from a child? As we get older we want to be so realistic. After all, how can you really know what will happen if you pray for rain and give your lunch away? You might end up thirstier and hungrier than before. Let's revive our child's heart and our child-like faith as we go through our journey of life. Let's try to be like the innocent little children and laugh more and enjoy life each and every day. And to expect miracles! Our minister was recently talking about dandelions. All the little ones would gather them when they had the pretty yellow flowers for a bouquet for mother. So we put them in a vase with water and later they turned white and full of seeds. Then the wind blew all the seeds all over and next year we had more dandelions. We are to be like those seeds and tell others how wonderful Jesus is. God wants us to be disciples. We need to be like the children and see beauty in everything. Stop acting your age. The best way to live your faith just might require child-like approach. P.S. Rejoice each day, for this day will never be repeated!

Your Lay Minister,      LaVerne



### **July 11, 2018 Congregational Council Meeting (Unapproved)**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Steve Ebert. Members present were Steve Ebert, Brandi Berg, Jan Berg, Lynn Nelson, Jim Odness, Keith Nelson, Tom Johnson and Pastor Ahles

Pastor led us in prayer and devotion. "Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden."

**Treasurer's Report** provided and presented by Brandi Berg

- Checking Account - \$15,477.77                      Building Fund Checking - \$10,534.28
- 2020 General Fund - \$35,335.26                      Parking Lot Fund \$5332.43
- Church Savings- \$19,335.03                      Memorial Fund - \$3,639.31

**Secretary's report** for the June Congregational Council Meeting was read by Jim Odness; motion to approve as presented was made by Jan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lynn; motion carried.

### **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor Ahles shared it has been a hard week with funerals and such. He needed to shorten his vacation, so well be on vacation starting 7/12 – 7/15/2018. He will get a supply pastor for 7/15 service.

### **WELCA**

- Church in the barn at Johnson's on August 12, at 10:00
- Flyers for the service in the barn are being developed with plans to be distributed by members, and visitors do not need to bring anything.

### **Parish Secretary Update**

- No report

### **Parish Council**

- No report.

### **Old Business**

1. Nate Rongstad will do the apron at the Parsonage during the week of 7/23/2018 to be ready for driveway black top.
2. Ouim provided a bid for black topping the Parsonage \$2090 and will replace drive way at parsonage around time of parking lot.
3. Jim reported, that Osseo Plastic will complete kitchen floor in dishwasher room by the end of July.
4. Linda and Roseanne Thompson, will be meeting with Crystal in early August to discuss duties for filling in while she is on maternity leave.
5. Fire extinguishers will be filled at the same time the town has them filled
6. Update on windows, Danny Gray presented an estimate of \$810 to replace the windows in the breezeway at the parsonage. He will plan to move forward with the instillation.
7. Beacker Glass of Osseo will replace glass on window in office area free of charge. Thank you to Beacker Glass.

### **New Business**

1. Extensive discussion of AC/Heating unit for the offices used by pastor and secretary. Keith made a motion to table the decision until after the parking lot project is complete, Brandi 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn made by Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom, motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Odness, Recording Secretary.