

Maranatha Free Lutheran Church
101 Foundation Ave
PO Box 94
Glyndon, MN 56547-0094

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GLYNDON MN 56547

Glyndon:

Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck
Senior Pastor @ Glyndon

Pastor Ryan Tonneson
*Associate Pastor of Youth,
Young Adults & Families @ Glyndon*

Glyndon Office: 218-498-2808
Fax 218-498-2129
mflc@maranathafreelutheran.com
www.maranathafreelutheran.com

Ulen:

Pastor Peter Ward
Pastor @ Ulen
Ulen Office: 218-596-8580

October 2023 Newsletter



... "where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom." II Corinthians 3:17

Members of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations



OCTOBER 2023 @ ULEN



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00am - Worship Service / Communion 10:15am - Sunday School	2 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	3	4	5 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	6	7 9:00am - WMF District Rally at Ortonville, MN
8 Pastor Appreciation 9:00am - Worship Service 10:15am - Sunday School 11:30am - Pot Blessing Lunch in honor of Pastor Peter	9 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	10	11 9:00—11:00am - MOPS 1:00pm - WMF	12 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	13	14
15 9:00am - Worship Service 10:15am - Sunday School Council Meeting following Sunday School	16 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	17	18	19 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	20	21
22 9:00am - Worship Service with Sunday School singing 10:15am - Sunday School	23 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	24	25	26 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	27	28
29 9:00am - Worship Service 10:15am - Sunday School	30 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	31	1	2 9:30-10:30am - Bone Builders	3	4



OCTOBER 2023 @ GLYNDON



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am - Worship Service / Communion 10:45am - Sunday School 7:00pm Young Adults	2	3	4 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30pm Kids Club 6:45pm Friendship Club 6:45pm Men's Study 7:00pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm SaltTeens	5 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson's home	6	7 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:00am WMF District Rally at Ortonville, MN
AFLC Pastor's Conference at the ARC ~ 3rd - 5th						
8 9:30am - Worship Service 10:45am - Sunday School 7:00pm Young Adults	9	10 10:30am Morning WMF at church	11 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30pm Kids Club 6:45pm Friendship Club 6:45pm Men's Study 7:00pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm SaltTeens 8:00pm Church Council	12 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson's home	13	14 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
15 Pastor Appreciation 9:30am - Worship Service 10:45am - Sunday School 11:30am - Potluck Dinner 7:00pm Young Adults	16	17 10:00am-3:00pm Quilting at the church 7:00pm Evening WMF at Melody Okke's home	18 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30pm Kids Club 6:45pm Friendship Club 6:45pm Men's Study 7:00pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm SaltTeens	19 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson's home	20	21 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
FLBC Up Close ~ 19 - 20						
22 9:30am - Worship Service 10:45am - Sunday School 7:00pm Young Adults	23	24	25 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30pm Kids Club 6:45pm Friendship Club 6:45pm Men's Study 7:00pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm SaltTeens	26 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson's home	27	28 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
29 8:00am - Youth Ministry Board meeting 9:30am - Worship Service 10:45am - Sunday School 7:00pm Young Adults	30	31	1 5:00-6:30pm Supper 5:45pm Confirmation 6:30pm Kids Club 6:45pm Friendship Club 6:45pm Men's Study 7:00pm Adult Bible Study 7:00pm SaltTeens	2 7:00pm Bible Study at Pat Johnson's home	3	4 7:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Puzzles & Games

The Parable of the Talents

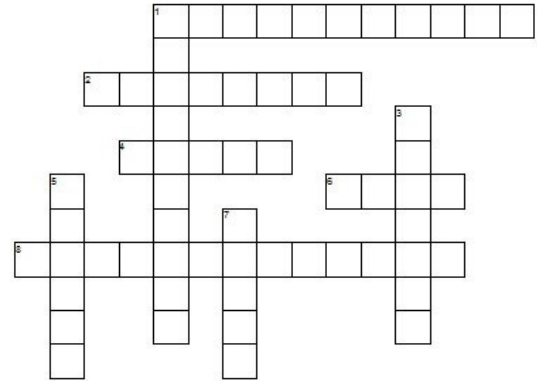
But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Matthew 25:18
Based on Matthew 25:14-30 (NIV)



W O R T H L E S S T R E S N R
W I C K E D U J R E M N X N U
K G O S C E M J T S H T Q F A
T A Z I L H Z S P H A R E Q X
F I Q S W K A F P I P U F I L
A N M B E M A H E P P S Q F A
I E O J E R A B I L I T Y J Z
T D N I P C V U Y K N E S Q Y
H R E P I L S A Y P E D N E T
F X Y D N N H N N R S W N N L
U Q C J G W A Y Q T S R E O X
L Z G Z G N R C J N U L Q M D
R Z D M E F E N E O A T W S K
P R O P E R T Y J T W G F X K
W G L E U E H I K B G N R Y U

JOURNEY	WORTHLESS	TALENT	MASTER
SERVANT	PROPERTY	SHARE	MONEY
ABILITY	WICKED	FAITHFUL	WEEPING
GAINED	HAPPINESS	LAZY	ENTRUSTED

Beatitudes



www.churchhousepuzzles.com © 2011

ACROSS

- Blessed are the _____: for they shall be called the children of God
- Blessed are the _____: for they shall obtain mercy
- Blessed are the pure in _____: for they shall see God
- Blessed are the _____: for they shall inherit the earth
- Blessed are those that hunger and thirst after _____: for they shall be filled

DOWN

- Blessed are they which are _____ for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
- _____ are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
- Blessed are the poor in _____: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
- Blessed are they that _____: for they shall be comforted

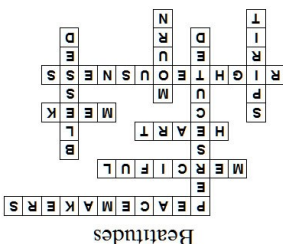
WORD BANK: Blessed, heart, meek, merciful, mourn, peacemakers, persecuted, righteousness, spirit.

Bible Cryptogram #1

RLAHP CABH LHPERBHPR GV DPEIPV... ZDPHP
LDPC ZGSS KP REXP XHAO LDGPIPR.
ZDPHPIPH CABH LHPERBHP GR, LDPHP CABH
DPEHL EVQ LDABUDLR ZGSS ESRA KP.
---XHAO OELLDZPZ RGT

Bible Cryptogram #2

UNFYO CNF FAALOYY UNO AFFL DJYETU
UNODL GQHOL, XEU UNFYO CNF NOTA UNO
AFFL NFJFL NDG.
---SLFG UNO XFFH FS ALFZOLXY



Cryptogram Solutions:
#1- Store your treasures in heaven...where they will be safe from thieves.
Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be.
--from Matthew six
#2 - Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker, but those who help the poor honor Him.
--from the Book of Proverbs

Are you 65 or older?
(or approaching that age?)

Do you have questions or need help with Medicare or Supplemental Insurance?

We have a licensed agent in our congregation that you can reach out to for answers!

Jennifer Rickford is with Health Markets and can be reached at: 701-446-6782 or email her at: jrickford@HealthMarkets.com

A reminder open enrollment is from October 15 - December 7.

**Maranatha Free Lutheran Church
Glyndon, MN**

Financial Snapshot - Maranatha Glyndon			
as of 08-31-23			
General Fund			
		Current Month	Year to Date
Contributions		\$17,710.00	\$200,479
Expenditures		-\$30,267.00	-\$229,491
Surplus / (Shortfall)			\$ (29,012)

	8/31/2023
GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$17,710
Deacons	-\$17,227
Education	-\$1,686
Finance	-\$3,343
Trustees	-\$7,429
Worship & Music	-\$582
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	-\$30,267
Other Income (Rent, Interest, etc)	\$281
General Fund Balance Change	-\$12,276

GENERAL FUND BALANCE			\$44,340
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Target is \$60,000

<u>Special Funds</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Building Fund			\$ 19,094
Building Improvement Fund		-2296.32	\$ 10,624
Christmas Eve			\$ -
Cookbook Sales for Missions			\$ 210
Designated Donations			\$ 420
Good Samaritan Fund	15		\$ 2,330
Holiday Baskets			\$ 1,442
Lent Offering			\$ -
Memorial Fund	635		\$ 9,083
Men's Fellowship			\$ 1,922
Men's Fraternity			\$ -
Outreach Ministries			\$ 166
Sunday Fellowship Fund			\$ 467
Sunday School Missions			\$ 290
Trails End Ranch			\$ -
VBS Blanket Project	30	-450.13	\$ 515
Wedding Fund			\$ -
Wednesday Suppers			\$ 2,450
World Missions Fund	5	0	\$ 7,792
Youth Activities Fund	551	-2	\$ 4,934
Youth FLY Fund	181	-7520	\$ 3,929
Special Funds Balance			\$ 65,670
General Fund Balance			\$ 44,340
CHECKBOOK BALANCE			\$ 109,990
PETTY CASH BALANCE			\$ 20

*Detailed expense reports are available in the Glyndon office.
Questions can be directed to Kristine Quanbeck - Treasurer
treasurer@maranathafreelutheran.com
218-498-2808*

2023 Monthly Financial Summary(AutoRecovered)

October ~ Happy Birthday!

Joy Adrian	October 02
Sue Koehler	October 02
Patrick Mosloff	October 03
Dilene Spielman	October 03
Lila Ebner	October 05
Kallie Quanbeck	October 05
Nora Schmitke	October 05
Mary Ann Schneidermann	October 05
Daisy Dahl	October 06
Jordan Ness	October 07
Charlene Oberg	October 08
Luke Quanbeck	October 08
Baxter Rickford	October 08
Janet Boe	October 09
Nikki Fischer	October 09
CoCo Geray	October 09
Ryan Buchfink	October 10
Kody Chromey	October 10
Rachelle Gilbert	October 10
Payton Johnson	October 12
Dwight Fevig	October 13
William Schmitke	October 14
Tammy Erickson	October 15
Elias Gaukler	October 15
Glennys Sivertson	October 15
Stan Sivertson	October 15
Roger Wright	October 15
Sylvie Boehrsen	October 17
Casey Macziewski	October 17
Annabelle Trautmann	October 17
Jake Pender	October 19
Corey Trick	October 19
Marie Tweten	October 21
Preston Johnson	October 22
Bettie Buchfink	October 23
Cris Finstrom	October 23
Kathy Fuglie	October 25
Ardis Johnson Haarstad	October 26
Danette Trautmann	October 26
Carol Johnson	October 28
Sally Johnson	October 29
Betty Menholt	October 30
Matt Okke	October 31



October ~ Happy Anniversary!

Jason & Sue Krueger	October 02
Jerome & Leane Trautmann	October 16
Gary & Debi Langerud	October 21
Mike & Michal Schmidt	October 23
Elijah & Ciara Dillon	October 24
Russell & Charlene Oberg	October 29



Military Personnel

Thankful for those who serve our country!

Kally Anderson, granddaughter of Vonnie Anderson
Levi Dahl, grandson of Harvey & Dianne Dahl
Cody Dravland, son of Todd & Sara Dravland
Trevor Dufault, son of Todd & Sara Dravland
Makalia England, niece of Joyce Johnson & Lila Ebner
Jonathan Eastvold, nephew of Joyce Johnson & Lila Ebner
Brody Erickson, grand nephew of Glennys Sivertson
Kyle Johnson, son-in-law of Gary & Debi Langerud
Layne Johnson, grandson of Ardis Johnson
Hunter Macziewski, son of Doug & Tiffany Macziewski
Sierra Northridge, member of Ulen congregation
Andrew Quanbeck, son of Pastor Lloyd & Jean
Josiah Quanbeck, son of Pastor Lloyd & Jean
Jakob Rolf, grandson of Jim & Mary Rolf
Ethen Vind, grandson of Art & Dolores Welle

Community Outreach & Events



Jail Chaplains Annual Dessert Social Fundraiser, "No Inmate Walks Alone", is Thursday, October 5th. Tickets are \$50 each or Table Sponsor (8 seats) for \$500. Go to jailchaplains.com for more information or to purchase tickets.



Valley Christian Leadership Association is hosting Tierce Green of the 33 Series - Authentic Manhood as part of the Harvest Leadership Prayer Breakfast and Evening Banquet. This event will be in Fargo Saturday, October 21,

The Prayer Breakfast is 9:00am-10:30am (advance tickets—\$20; at the door—\$25)

The Evening Banquet is at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$30 at the door.

We have sponsored a table for this event. Contact Glenn Urlacher if you have questions or want more information.



Heart of Clay's *Sweet Freedom* Dessert Social & Fundraiser is Tuesday, October 17th. Ticket prices are \$25 per seat or a table sponsor of \$300 (10 seats). Go to Heart of Clay's website for more info and purchasing tickets - heartofclay.org



Looking ahead: **Operation Christmas Child** is just around the corner! Boxes for you to fill will be available to pick up starting October 29 at the church. Drop off your boxes the first couple weeks of November with a deadline of November 19th. Watch for more details in the bulletins this month. See Janet Boe for questions.

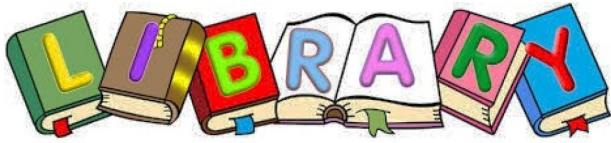


LADIES BUS TRIP Friday, October 27th

Leave church at 5:00 for a fun night of crafts! We will be going to Studio 4:13 in Ada where we can make 1 or more mosaic or ceramic items.

Limit of 20 can attend.

Watch for more info and sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall



GLYNDON LIBRARY—

BOOK SUGGESTIONS FOR OCTOBER:

For Kids:

“We Chose You”, by Tony & Lauren Dungy, is about the different ways in which God forms families.

For Adults:

Lisa T. Bergren’s Grand Tour Series includes the books:

- #1 - Glamorous Illusions
- #2 - Grave Consequences
- #3 - Glittering Promises

This series takes place in the early 1900’s and is a “grand tour” through Europe.



SALT + TEENS

This fall, we've started a five-week series from Dare2Share called *Hard Questions*. We're exploring topics such as God's Love Story, God's Design, Love & Truth, and True Identity! Come at 7:00p each Wednesday for fun, games, activities, and Bible Study.



Fall CleanUp is here! Again, the SaltTeens would love to help clean some yards for you! Weather permitting, we're hoping to be out on *Wednesday, October 11, from 5:45 to 7:15* (dark). After that, SaltTeens, we will return to church and have smores! Parents of SaltTeens, if you can help drive, we would love it! Let Pastor Ryan know.



Do you have family visiting?

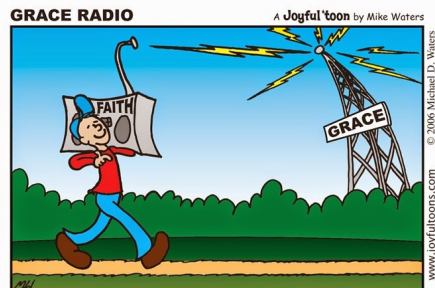
Are you wearing matching clothes?

Having a good hair day?

Currently decorated for fall, this new **PHOTO BACKDROP** will be great for your pictures for Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, scrap-books, etc.



High School Juniors & Seniors! If you are going to FLBC’s UpClose, please meet at the church at 10am on *Thursday, October 19*. We’ll stop for lunch on the way to the Cities. We will be back by 6pm on Friday night, October 20.



For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — EPHESIANS 2:8-9



WMF NOTES

(Women's Missionary Federation)

Glyndon Morning

Morning WMF met on September 12, 2023, with 12 ladies present.

Joan Pake opened in prayer and led the Bible Study "Ruth (part 2) Determined Faithfulness, a lesson in God's Rest".

Secretary and Treasurer reports were read and approved. (Diane Wolla read the treasure report)

Old Business: None

New Business:

District Rally is October 7th at Ortonville, MN Cris will drive if anyone wants to ride with her.

Discussion on a women's retreat. Cris suggested going to the ARC in Wisconsin, for their retreat.

A motion made and approved to give \$100 to the WMF general fund.

Discussion to have ladies Christmas party together with the evening women.

We closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lila Ebner, Secretary

Glyndon Evening WMF

Evening WMF met on September 19th at the church, there were 7 lovely ladies in attendance. Vickie Haverkamp hosted with a delicious meal she provided. Vicki also led our study of Ruth part 2. A lesson in God's rest. Janet called our meeting to order with prayer. Secretary and Treasure report were read and approved.

Old Business:

- Purchased gift will be given for the Heart of Clay auction on October 17th.
- Operation Christmas Child gift ideas were given out and decided on. We will be putting them together on October 29th at the church after Sunday School.

New Business:

- \$50.00 was approved for the WMF General Fund.
- 6 Bible covers were approved to be purchased for new confirmation kids.
- WMF Christmas party was discussed.

Prayer requests were shared and prayed over. Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be on October 17th at Melody Okke's home.

Respectfully submitted by Coco Geray

Ulen WMF

Ulen WMF met Wednesday, September 13th at 1:00pm at Viking Manor Nursing Home with 8 ladies present, this included Emelyn & Darlene joining us. MaryAnn S. led us in our bible study on Ruth.

Following the study we held a short business meeting. The Secretary & Treasurer's Reports were approved as read. The Brunch served on August 19th for the class reunions went very well. Thank you to those that brought food and helped with the serving.

Our project offering of \$50 this month goes to the WMF General Fund.

Thinking ahead to our ladies Christmas Party—should we have it on a Sunday or midweek? We will have further discussion about this next month.

Pastor Appreciation Sunday was mentioned and the Worship & Music Committee will be meeting with Pastor Peter later today and will decide on a date in October.

Our next meeting and bible study will be Wednesday, October 11th at 1:00pm at the church.

We closed with several prayer requests and the Lord's Prayer.

We enjoyed coffee and cookies provided by the nursing home.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Zillmer, Secretary

West Central Minnesota District WMF Rally **Saturday, October 7, 2023**

Abiding Faith Free Lutheran Church

433 Crestview Ave, Ortonville, MN 56278

Registration & Coffee 9am-10am
\$10 includes lunch

Speakers: Pastor Brian - Bible Study
Leeanna Lunn - Parish Education

RSVP by October 1st to Ronda Maas (320)305-1307 or
Email - rondamaas1307@gmail.com

Nursery available: Please RSVP number and ages

SERVING GROUP 3 ~ Glyndon

Attention: Ladies of Serving Group 3. We will be responsible for **servicing the months of October, November & December**. A sign-up sheet is posted in the kitchen — please take time to check the date or dates that you would be willing to serve goodies after church on Sunday mornings.

We will also be responsible for servicing other events that come up—lunches, special events, wedding receptions, and funerals. Thank you for your willingness to serve our Lord & our church family—it is much appreciated. If you have any questions, contact Ruth Larson or Kim Jensen. Thank you.

Ulen Church Council
Sunday, September 17th, 2023
Next Meeting - 10/8/23 after Sunday School

Present: Greg, Gary N, Megan, Ben, Jessie, Bob, John,
Pastor Ward

Call to order – Greg

Devotions & Prayer – Gary N. Next meeting - Gary N.

Minutes read from last meeting - Jessie

*Applicants that were awarded scholarships were Wesley Carley & Lydia Gregory (corrected from previous minutes)

*Jessie will make a binder with previous meeting minutes in it for reference and hang one on the bulletin board.

- We'll discuss next meeting whether to publish minutes in newsletter or not and alternative options if we don't.

Motion to accept minutes by John, 2nd by Bob, motion carried.

Treasure's Report – Megan

* Starting a new account for MOPS supplies

Motion to accept Treasure's Report by Gary, 2nd by John, motion carried.

Deacons report – Gary N

* Gary went over books that will be added to the library

Trustees report – John

* Back parking lot and sidewalk fixing were discussed for 2024

Christian Ed – Ellen

* Rally Sunday went well

- Picnic lunch served and no balloon launch for environmental concerns

Worship & Music – Greg

* They are meeting today

- Discussing possibly changing schedule for Church/SS

Pastor Report – Pastor Ward

* Pastor Ward met with Music & worship

- Discussed ways to improve service (musically)

Special Reports –Greg

* Music or youth leader

* Need more volunteers for things we already have

- MOPS

Old Business – none

New Business – Greg

* Motion for men's fellowship to sponsor a table

Motion made by Bob, 2nd by Ben, motion carried.

* Display case will be made for Nativity set as a memorial for Walt

Adjourn – John Motioned , Bob 2nd.

Bob closed in prayer Bob.

Respectfully submitted by Jessie Zillmer



TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY!

Little Billy's mother asked him how he liked his new Sunday School class, after he had been attending for several weeks. "It's great," he replied, "but our teacher sure has a poor memory."

"What makes you think that?" his mother asked.

"Well every Sunday she asks us what last week's lesson was about."

* * * * *

There was a Midwestern phone company that was going to hire one team of utility pole installers, and the boss had to choose between a team of 2 Norwegian guys and a team of 2 Irish guys.

So the boss met with both teams and said: "Here's what we'll do. Each team will be installing poles out on the new road for a day. The team that installs the most utility poles will get the job."

Both teams headed right out. At the end of the shift, Pat and Mike, the Irish guys, came back and the boss asked how many they installed? They said that it was tough going, but they'd put in twelve.

45 minutes later, Ole & Sven, the Norwegian guys, came back in and were totally exhausted. The boss asked, "Well, how many poles did you guys install?"

Ole, the team leader, wiped his brow and sighed, "Sven and me, we got three in."

The boss gasped, "Three? Those 2 Irish guys put in twelve!"

"Yeah," said Ole, "but you should see how much they left stickin' out of the ground."

**PASTOR APPRECIATION
SUNDAY in ULEN
OCTOBER 8th
Pot Blessing Dinner at 11:30**

Maranatha Free Lutheran Church – Glyndon

Council Meeting

September 13th, 2023 7:00pm

Present: Chad Johnson, Todd Rasmussen, Jeff Ehrichs, Glenn Urlacher, Sheila Smith, Bruce Smith, Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck, Kristine Quanbeck, and Alyssa Johnson

Glenn opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's report of June meeting minutes was read by Alyssa. Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Chad; motion carried.

Treasurer's report was given by Kristine. Reported August 2023 income as \$17,710 and expenses of \$30,267. Boards to review budgets, due 10/22. A motion was made by Sheila to approve the financial report, seconded by Jeff; motion carried.

Board Reports:

Finance – Todd

* Request to sponsor table at the evening banquet of the Valley Christian Leadership Event 10/21 6:30pm– speaker Tierce Green of The 33 Series – Authentic Manhood. A motion was made by Chad to sponsor a table, and \$250 table fee to come out of Men's Fellowship fund, seconded by Sheila; motion carried

* Maranatha currently sponsoring Heart of Clay and Jail Chaplains, so will not be sponsoring tables. Flyers for upcoming banquets posted on bulletin board

* Annual raises are approved annually at January Congregational meeting after the first of year. A motion was made by Todd for annual raises to start February 1st, seconded by Chad; motion carries

* Updating credit card information

* Congregational meeting date set for 11/15/2023 at 7pm

Trustees – Jeff

* Snow removal discussions

* Bathroom fixtures tuned-up

* Motion-sensing light switches installed

* Sanctuary painting completed, outlets for TVs installed – waiting for Electrician to complete electrical work

* Cry room sound system to be updated

* Southeast Sunday school room designated as flexible space for meetings

* Obtaining carpet cleaning estimates

* Updating outdoor Maranatha sign with LED lights

* Jack Olek and Ryan Buchfink donated time/supplies for new landscaping

Education – No updates

Worship & Music – Sheila

* 10/15 Pastor appreciation – potluck, Worship Board to provide pies

* 10/29 Gathering non-perishable items for UC Hope

* 11/12 Movie night – LifeMark

Deacons – Chad

* Good participation with Ministry Opportunity Survey

* Glenn will continue with Mens33

* Discussion about Operation Christmas Child box purchases – follow- up with Education Board

Pastor Report – Pastor Lloyd

* Weddings this summer:

- Jack and Emily Olek

- Wyatt and Adrian Ladwig

* I Peter Series – study guide available

* Confirmation meeting 9/13 – 14 students this year

* Good attendance at Wilderness Camp weekend – approximately 60 attendees at camp service

Old Business:

* Considerations for Boards when reviewing budgets for next year:

- AFLBS tuition increasing next year, look into possibly increasing Maranatha scholarship – Finance Board to review

- Lutheran Ambassador magazine is a free will offering, current budget is \$1000 – Finance Board to review

* Nominating committee to meet

New Business:

* Early in year the Wedding fund was dissolved. Found this summer, there are miscellaneous fees and would like to reestablish the fund. A motion was made by Todd to reestablish the Wedding fund, move \$500 out of general fund into new Wedding fund - to start January 2024, seconded by Chad; motion carries

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chad, seconded by Sheila; motion carried.

Pastor Lloyd closed meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Alyssa Johnson

**PASTOR A
PPRECIATION
SUNDAY in GLYNDON
OCTOBER 15th**

Pot Blessing Dinner at 11:30

Worship & Music Board will be providing
pies for dessert.



Maranatha News

OCTOBER 2023

FROM PASTOR LLOYD...

... like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord. (1 Peter 2:2-3 NASB)

Dear Folks at Maranatha,

For this preacher, there are times when the hours of preparation, as well as the actual preaching of a passage of God's Word, leaves an unshakeable impression on my own heart. Such has been the case with the above couple of verses that I recently shared with you folks at Maranatha.

In light of what Peter has told us in the verses just previous:

That the Word of God is an imperishable seed planted in our hearts, that resulted in our spiritual life (personal faith in Jesus Christ).

That it is not merely a human book, but is living, because the Holy Spirit lives within it.

That it contains not fleeting words of mere humans, but the abiding Word of the eternal God.

That longing for it and feeding on it results in nourishment of our souls and spiritual growth.

In light of those things, why would I (and why would we), not desire to make it a priority to feed on this living and abiding Word of God? And yet this easily gets pushed aside by the busyness of daily life, and we neglect to feed our souls.

A recent study of people ages 8-80, found that for people who read their Bible at least four times a week, loneliness dropped 30%, anger went down 32%, alcoholism was down 47%, and bitterness down 43%. I cannot verify details of this study, but it certainly does affirm the value of feeding on God's Word.

Back in 1675, Jacob Spener, a pastor in Germany, wrote a book titled *Pia Desideria*. It was subtitled: Heartfelt Desire for a God-pleasing Reform of the true Evangelical Church, Together with Several Simple Christian Proposals Looking toward this End.

As Spener looked at the Lutheran Church in Germany in his day, he was concerned that the ministry of the church was crippled by a lack of knowledge of the Scriptures and very limited feeding on it. And so he proposed: *Thought should be given to a more extensive use of the Word of God among us..... It should therefore be considered whether the church would not be well advised to introduce the people to the Scripture in still other ways than through the customary sermons on the appointed lessons.*

Spener held up the high value of the preaching the Word of God in public worship. But he encouraged that his parishioners not be limited to that as their only meal of the Word each week. He encouraged solitary reading of the Bible at home, as well as heads of households reading from it a bit each day. However, he also proposed "reintroducing the ancient and apostolic kind of meetings." His explanation of this sounds a lot like a typical small group Bible study format today: *Take up the Holy Scriptures read aloud from them, and fraternally discuss each verse in order to discover it's simple meaning and whatever may be useful for edification of all.*

As your Pastor, I want to encourage you in the value of feeding on God's Word personally, and also having a regular pattern of coming together regularly with other believers in a setting where there is opportunity to interact about God's Word, in a way that helps all grow in understanding and application of His Word to our daily lives. I end with this simple prayer from my daily devotional resource.

*O, make your Word a swift Word,
passing from the ear to the heart,
from the heart to the lip and conversation;
that, as the rain returns not empty,
so neither may your Word,
but accomplish that for which it is given. Amen*

In Christ,
Pastor Lloyd