



A publication of

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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**All Things
NEW**
Higher Things Conferences 2025

July 29—August 1

**Calvin University,
Grand Rapids, MI**

Many thanks to everyone who supported the work of The Barnabas Club. This provided the funding for our Youth to attend this very worthwhile Conference.

July 2025

THE LOGOS

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Responding with LOVE and JOY

Christian stewardship is a joyful undertaking. What greater news could there be than the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that Jesus laid down His life for us all? You and I, though poor, miserable sinners who have failed in our stewardship like our father Adam time and time again, we are nevertheless forgiven, redeemed, and restored by the blood of Jesus. We have been baptized into His death and resurrection. We are made sons and daughters of the King. We are members of Christ's Bride, the Church, and we are loved by Him. We are not our own. We belong to Him. This is a cause for great joy!

In the last two Logos articles, we've learned that everything we are and have belongs to the Lord. He is the Creator. We are His stewards. But God is not a distant Owner or a hard Taskmaster. He is our loving Father who delights to give good gifts to His children. Every breath we breathe, every meal on the table, every friend, every loved one, every moment of peace, every sermon, every baptism, every time we kneel at the altar and receive the Lord's body and blood for our forgiveness... every blessing flows from the hand of God. Praise God! Psalm 16:11 says, *"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."*

So, how do Christian stewards respond to such abundant love and mercy? With fear? With guilt? With anger? Obviously not! How does a bride respond when her husband brings her flowers? How does a child respond to a tree full of presents on Christmas morning? The Christian steward responds to God's grace with joy and with love. The Christian steward responds with faith toward God and fervent love toward our neighbor, especially with love for the Lord's Church. When we know that God has given us everything, we have no need to hold back our love, joy, and faithfulness. We are conformed to the image of Christ. We lay down our lives. We die to ourselves, and we give of ourselves with gladness and generosity.

If you want to grow in your love for the Lord's Church, if you want to improve in your stewardship of God's eternal blessings, here are a few things that you can do.

1. Go to Church Every Week

Make Sunday morning the anchor of your week. Not just a to-do list box to check, but a holy appointment with the living God. In the Divine Service, you receive things that you can't get anywhere else: the forgiveness of sins, nourishment for your faith, comfort in sorrow, and joy in your salvation. Your presence also encourages others, strengthens the whole congregation, and gives a powerful witness to your children, grandchildren, and to all your brothers and sisters in Christ.

2. Read God's Word and Pray at Home

The Christian steward lets the Word of Christ dwell in them richly! Take time for family devotions, personal Bible reading, and prayer. Open the catechism. Pray the Psalms. Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Bread of Life. "*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.*" (Matthew 4:4)

3. Get Involved in the activities of the Church

There are so many opportunities to serve your church. Some are public. Some are quiet. All are important! Our hymn of the month for July will be *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying* (LSB 826). The 4th stanza begins by saying, "*Let none hear you idly saying, 'there is nothing I can do...'*" Every single one of you has something valuable to offer! Whether you set the altar for communion, count the offering, participate in LWML, Men and Boys, or Homeschool Co-op. Whether you sing in a choir or sing with gusto in the pews. You can bring food for picnics, potlucks, and funeral luncheons. You can come to the Spring clean-up day or decorate your car for Trunk or Treat. You can even offer a powerful and effective prayer! You can do so much! The Church is a body, and when every part does its work, the whole body is healthy and grows together in faith and love.

Even if your schedule is full, ask yourself: What is one small thing that I could do this month to serve my church? How could I show my love for the body of Christ in my actions?

4. Support the Church Financially

In stewardship, we like to talk about time and talent, but we often groan and shudder when we have to talk about treasure. Dear Christian, the financial gifts we bring to the church are acts of worship. This is why we take an offering and place it on the altar in the Divine Service. Our financial offerings are expressions of joyful love and trust in God. They are sacrifices

of thanksgiving. They are confessions of faith. Jesus said, *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* (Matthew 6:21) Fear, love, and trust in God with your treasures.

Take time to consider: What portion of my income will I joyfully dedicate to the work of the Gospel? Traditionally, Christians offer a tithe (10%) of their income. This number is not a command of God for the New Testament Church, but it is a good starting point. If you can't make 10% work in your budget, figure out a number that does, and set a goal of increasing to 10%. If 10% is easy for you, consider raising your percentage. In the parable of the talents, Jesus told His faithful servants, *"Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."* (Matthew 25:21) Ask yourself: How am I helping to care for the church building, support the ministry, and advance the mission of the Church? I benefit tremendously from this congregation. My children are baptized, catechized and confirmed. I can be married here. I can be fed God's Word and Sacraments here. I receive encouragement from the body of Christ as we build each other up. I can receive pastoral counseling and be visited in the hospital. I can be commended to the Lord and receive a Christian burial. These things are valuable to me. How can I support this church?

Dear Christian, you are members of the Body of Christ. God is your Father and Christ is your Brother. You are members of the Family of God. You are citizens of His Kingdom. You are His Church. You are stewards of God's gifts, and by His grace, you are stewards of His love and joy.

*"Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into His presence with singing!
Know that the Lord, He is God!
It is He who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture."
– Psalm 100:2–3*

JULY'S HYMN OF THE MONTH

"Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying",
LSB #826, from the "Missions and Witness"
section of our hymnal

Prayer Concerns

Church Members

John Hollenbeck, Jeff Eager, Brenda Fifield, Bob Gaiser, Lela Gilroy,
Brian Westover, Ashton Jones, Carmen Kinney, Jerry Priebe,
Ellen Romosier, Neil Schaudt, Gus Schumacher, Kathy Tallieu,
Mike Wettstein, Virginia Woudstra, Mary Lou Champion, and Fran Clemens
We also remember the family of Pam Mutschler in our prayers



Extended Family and Friends

Lori Spencer—Randy Haas' mother
David Johnson—Wendy (Priebe) Johnson's father-in-law
Lennie Chronowski—young daughter of Earl & Gwen Hulett's friends
Nancy Higgins—Bob Stoick's sister
Karen Kobylak—a friend of Adam Ondrajka
Jack Stoick—Bob's cousin
Deborah Durham—Chris' step-mother
Scott & Carol McCready—friends of the McGarvie family
Mary Kay Bell —relative of Judy Fischer
Dennis Ondrajka—Adam's father
Donna Ferguson—Adam Ondrajka's grandmother
Mary Mitchell—sister of Lela Gilroy
Linda Fraley—Lela Gilroy's daughter
Meredith Stewart—cousin of Chris McGarvie
Glen Phillips—former employer of Adam Ondrajka
Danica Willis —a friend of Mary Brief
Joan Kuhne—Mary Brief's mother
Cathy Mutschler and Cathy Khoury—Pam Mutschler's sisters in law
Randy Kasdorf—Shauna Lester's Baptismal Sponsor
Ken and Pam Wood—parents of Kelly Ondrajka
Harvey Kaltz—Debie's husband
Family & Friends of Virginia Woudstra: Dennis Davis,
Robbie Kuechenmeister, Richard, Daniel, & David Glover, Dalton Randall,
Ruth Ann Lober, and Russel & Terri Strauchman

Please help us keep this list up to date. If you have a family member or friend listed here who is no longer in need of prayer, please call the church office and let us know. Give thanks too, to the Lord who answers prayer!

Serving the Lord in Gladness



July Elders

7/6 Chris Durham
7/13 Don Shank
7/20 *Unassigned*
7/27 Chris Durham

Altar Guild

Kathy Rachow

Service Music

7/6, 7/13, and 7/27 Caleb Storm/Sam Shank
7/20 Renea Lambert



Sunday Morning Greeters

7/6 *Open for volunteers*
7/13 Randy & Brianna Haas
7/20 Adam & Kelly Ondrajka
7/27 Bob & Jeannie Stoick

For a number of years, Jerry and Verna Priebe have been faithfully arranging to have Greeters every Sunday. They are now passing the torch to John & Janet Hollenbeck. To help them out, a sign-up sheet has been placed on the table in the church hall. Please consider adding your name to the list of Greeters. Thank you!

Acolytes

Carter and Jayson Shank



Church Council Report

From the meeting of June 19, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Adam Ondrajka at 7:37 p.m. Present were Chris Durham, Randy Haas, Tim Forsys, Karen Forsys, Kathy Talieu, Marty Brandt, Adam Ondrajka, Pastor Kern, and Renea Lambert.

The meeting began with a Devotion read by Pastor Kern from the book "To Live with Christ" written by Bo Giertz and based upon Acts 9:18.

The Treasurer's Reports from April and May were distributed and reviewed. The May report showed income of \$12,126.80 and expenses of \$12,062.22. A motion to accept the reports was made by Tim Forsys and seconded by Chris Durham. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Since the last report:

- 1 Baptism, 0 weddings, 5 Confirmations, 1 burial (Doris Ann Brief), 23 worship services plus 7 homeschool/co-op services and 8 VBS chapel services; 14 home/shut-in visits, 3 hospital visits, and no transfers in or out.
- Current Adult Bible Study: Lutheran Doctrine and Distinctives
- Pastor attended: The Philippans Conference, June Winkel, 2 Barnabas Club Meetings, 3 LLL Meetings, the Regional Pastors' Conference, Budget Committee meeting, 2 spring clean-up days, 2 Men & Boys Nights, and VBS week – "Journey to the Promised Land".

Future Planning:

- District Convention (June 22-24)
- Higher Things in late July
- Installation of Rev. Andrew Simpson at OSL, Bad Axe
- Picnic & Pie (July 14)
- Conley-Storm Wedding in October
- Pastor is planning to take July 20-26 as a Vacation week

Elder's Report – given by Chris Durham and Marty Brandt

- The Elders are working on a series of letters to Inactive members
- Plans are being considered for visits to inactive families

Board of Christian Education Report – given by Randy Haas

- VBS week concluded on June 19th
- Men & Boys Nights have gone well
- BYO 4th Sunday Picnic on June 22nd
- Co-Op will continue through the summer. Schedule to be determined by participants.
- Hanna Kern will seek a replacement teacher for her young student Sunday School class.

Council Report, continued

Facilities Trustees Report – given by Kathy Tallieu/Chris Durham

- Kitchen sink sprayer repaired
- Bathroom sinks caulked and new faucets installed
- The outdoor flag has been replaced
- Repair is needed on one of the electrical outlets in the school hallway. A new extension cord is also needed.

A motion to accept all Board Reports was made by Karen Forys, seconded by Randy Haas, and the motion carried.

Old Business

- Constitution Review Committee needs to meet.
- There was discussion on the ideas brought forward through Pastor's presentation at the last meeting on "Mercy/Witness/Life Together". Council members are asked to give their suggestions to Pastor and he will compile a list of these to be used in future planning.

New Business

- Kitchen Manager and Licensing: To keep our license to serve meals, someone needs to complete a "Serve Safe" course and become certified. Kathy Tallieu has offered to do this. A motion was made by Marty Brandt and seconded by Chris Durham to authorize Kathy to pursue certification.
- After discussion, it was decided that the Budget will be placed in member mailboxes with a note reminding members that they can speak with a Council member if they have questions, concerns, or suggestions.
- Plans were made to place a financial report in member mailboxes monthly as well.
- The July Council meeting date has been changed to July 10th.
- Voter's Assembly will be on Sunday, July 27th.

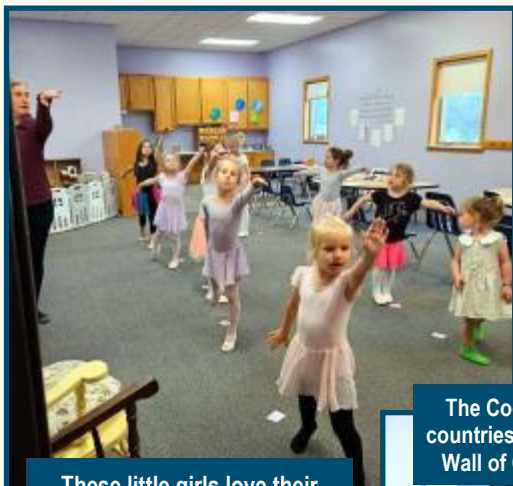
The Secretary's Report from this meeting was read back to Council. A motion to accept this as read was made by Chris Durham and seconded by Marty Brandt. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Karen Forys and seconded by Tim Forys. The meeting concluded with The Lord's Prayer at 8:50 p.m.

The next Council Meeting will be on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Renea Lambert, Secretary

Homeschool Co-Op Highlights



These little girls love their ballet class with Mrs. Storm!



*Children are a
heritage from
the Lord,
offspring a
reward from him.
Psalm 127:3*

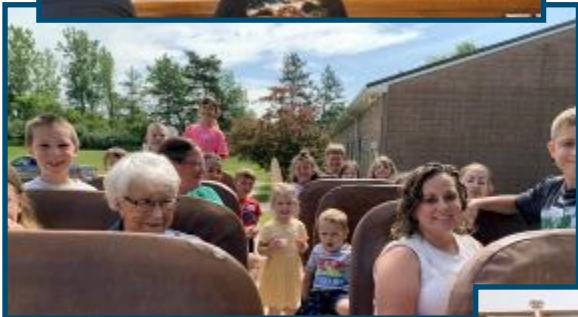
The Co-Op boys and girls have learned about countries of the world. Below, we see "The Great Wall of China" as constructed by the children.



On Sunday, June 22nd, several Co-Op students along with a few VBS children sang "We All Believe in One True God". It added a sweet note to our worship service.



VBS Week



These
smiles
speak for
themselves.
It was a
great week!



Thank You
Volunteers



In support of the Missions and Ministries at
Our Savior Lutheran Church in Marlette

The Barnabas Club

sponsors

Picnic & Pie

An evening of great family fun!

Monday, July 14th

Picnic starts at 5:00

The Pie Auction begins at 6:00

A "free will offering" is appreciated for the meal

Our Savior Lutheran

6770 Marlette Street | 989-635-7994



Picnic again on July 27th at 11:30!



4TH SUNDAY

B_{RING} Y_{OUR} O_{WN}

PICNIC

FAMILY * FELLOWSHIP * FOOD * FUN

Serving the Lord and our Congregation

Staff Directory and Board Members

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adam Ondrajka, President
Tim Forsys, Vice-President
Karen Forsys, Treasurer
Renea Lambert, Secretary
Bridget Storm, Financial Secretary

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Randy Haas
Chris Durham
Caleb Storm
Kathy Tallieu
Renea Lambert

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karrie Forsys
Kathy Tallieu
Katie Laur
Christopher Durham *
Tim Forsys
Caleb Storm
Randy Haas

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP

Hanna Kern, Superintendent
Nursery-Grade 1—Hanna Kern
Grades 2-6—Debie Kaltz
Youth Leader—Hannah Schank

BOARD OF ELDERS

Marty Brandt, Head Elder
John Hollenbeck
Jerry Priebe
Bob Stoick
Craig Storm
Chris Durham
Don Schank
Gus Schumacher
Chris McGarvie



* Chris Durham is a non-voting Trustee

Note: The School Board is no longer meeting regularly