

PASTOR'S PAGE

Satan or Adam

Who sinned first Satan or Adam? You might be thinking "What about Eve?" Yes, Eve sinned but who was responsible for her? ADAM! God gave Eve to Adam because he was all alone so God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him...So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man....After seeing Eve for the first time, he created a poem. (You know such poems. Your spouses wrote them about you when you were dating) "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." (Gen. 2:18-24)

Back to the original question: Ezekiel 28:12b13:15-17 "Thus says the Lord God: "You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God...You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you. In the abundance of your trade you were filled with violence in your midst, and you sinned; so I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O guardian cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground...

Isaiah 14:12-14 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

Both of these texts describe Satan's sin, His sin was pride in his beauty (Ezekiel)...and in trying to ascend to be like God while in heaven (Isaiah). Satan was not tempted from the outside like Satan tempted Adam and Eve. His sin was self-created. However, there is one more thing that is revealed to us by the author of Hebrews 1 and 2. Adam and Eve were made in the image of God. Like Son of God, prior coming to earth, had a higher status than the angels. Adam and Eve, prior to Sin, were created higher than the angels. Satan, being an angel, was jealous of what God had done. Pride, power, and jealousy sent Satan packing.

Even though Satan corrupted himself, his corruption did not destroy creation. After being expelled from heaven he went after God's precious creation. He went after the image of God in tempting Eve and then Adam to sin. In so doing, all of creation had been corrupted by sin.

Adam failed at his responsibility, he should of have stopped his wife from eating, since he was right there to observe exactly what she was about to eat (Gen. 3:6). Instead of correcting the words spoken by Eve and Satan (Gen 3:17)...he listens to her and ate while not being deceived (1 Timothy 2:14). Eve was deceived Adam was not. Furthermore, Adam had the God given power to stop Satan from deceiving Eve, but failed. Even though he was made in the image of God; he, too, fell because he wanted to be like God to know "good and evil". Sadly, every human being conceived inherits the sin of Adam and Eve. We call it "original sin". Thanks be to God because he defeated Satan, sin and death by sending his Son into the world. Defeated this unholy alliance that affect us by dying for our sins and rising on the 3rd day.

This Catechetical moment was brought to you by:

Pastor Steele

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

January, albeit cold, was still lingering of Christmas in the first weeks. Now the decorations are down and the focus is getting used to saying Two-Thousand-Eighteen.

The first Council Meeting of the year was on Monday, January 15th and was prefaced with an Orientation Meeting for the new officers/elders/board members. For those who missed it, I will pass along information that will fill you in the contents of that session.

On January 21, the Installation of all Officers, Elders and other Board Members took place. This is a short, but meaningful ceremony that Pastor Steele performs annually. It is a way to ask for the Lord's blessings on those who serve and the congregation's support of them during the year. I look forward to working with those who are returning and to those who are new in service to Bethany. Your time and talents are greatly appreciated.

Yesterday was also a day of joy as the Music Department has gained another organist, Paulette Krueger. Pastor Steele introduced her after the service along with her husband, Paul. They are Kohler residents. Paulette will be in the rotation with Jeanne Mueller and LuAnn Roman. Julie Steele will still be helping out, but concentrating more on other parts of our music programming. All of this is good for our church as we will experience some variety as all of these talented musicians perform. Welcome Paulette!

This year when you mark your calendars for Valentine's Day, remember that day is also Ash Wednesday. Pastor Steele will be part of a "Round-Robin of Pastors" again this year during Lent. This is a good way for us to see and hear other local LCMS pastors and for them to get to know other churches in the area. I encourage all of you to be part of the Lenten Season as we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter here at Bethany.



God's Blessings to you all,

Lee Gumm
President, Bethany Lutheran Church

Jesus asks, Be Mine Forever?

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2-03: Elsie Reinbacher
2-05: Richard Johnson
Lois Schmideler
2-07: Peggy Keller
2-12: Lynn Baus
2-14: Thomas Yang
2-15: Andrew Kraus
Mylo Kovacs



2-17: Steve Perry
2-19: Angela Sjolund
2-22: Chad Gauthier
Lynn Litt
2-23: David Prange
Noah Fibiger
2-25: Joe Wychesit
2-26: Jeremy Barthels
2-28: Madison Fibiger

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

2-1: Brant & Nicole Koci
2 - 8: James & Barbara Herzog
2 -15: Ken & Liz Buesing

If we missed a member's birthday or anniversary, please contact the church office and let us know

JANUARY/FEBRUARY CHARITY OF THE MONTH – Orphan Grain Train

During the months of January and February, all money collected from your "Designated Offerings" contribution envelopes will go **Orphan Grain Train**. Orphan Grain Train is a Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. For more information, visit their website at www.ogt.org

LENT AND EASTER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday	February 14	6:00 pm w/Holy Communion
Lent Services	February 21, 28 March 7, 14, 21	6:00 pm
Palm Sunday	March 25	10:00 am w/Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	March 29	6:00 pm w/Holy Communion
Good Friday	March 30	1:00 pm and 6:00 pm
Easter	April 1	10:00 am w/Holy Communion



✠ GIFTS GIVEN TO BETHANY

In memory of Neil Mueller: Memorial Fund gifts were given by Bob Parnitzke, Cheryl Prepster, Rayola Madson, Bob & LuEva Nytes, and Pat & Joanne Stangel. Endowment Fund gifts were given by Roger & Barbara Strenger and Lee & Barb Gumm.

If you would like to give a memorial gift in memory or in honor of someone, cards can be found on the counter outside Pastor's office as well as in the back of church.

LOVE BOWLS

Please join us for our 18th Annual Love Bowls event benefitting Fresh Meals On Wheels of Sheboygan County. The event will be held at Sheboygan South High School on Sunday, February 18 from 10am – 3pm. Sample soups from nearly 70 local restaurants and enjoy live entertainment and an energetic atmosphere all while giving back to the community! Tickets can be purchased at the door the day of the event for \$25 per person. Please call (920) 451-7011 for more information or visit www.freshmealsonwheels.org

Family Dinner/Movie Night

Bethany Lutheran Church
Friday, February 2 at 5:30 pm



We will be enjoying pizza and root beer floats followed by popcorn
and two movies choices!

"Veggie Tales" double feature OR
"Christmas With a Capital C"



Bring your bean bags, blankets and pillows
Anyone can come and bring a friend!

Sign up in the lower narthex to let us know you can make it.

VALENTINE BREAKFAST FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN

On Sunday, February 4, the Sunday School children will be enjoying a breakfast prepared by the Sunday School teachers and Board of Education while they create Valentine cards that will be given to Bethany's shut ins.



*****THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS*****

All Thrivent members at Bethany please remember to direct your "Thrivent Choice Dollars" to Bethany Lutheran Church if you have not already done so.

MARCH 31st IS THE DEADLINE TO DIRECT YOUR CHOICE DOLLARS FROM 2017, OTHERWISE THESE FUNDS WILL BE LOST.

Thrivent cards on the shelf near Pastors office will help guide you. If you are unsure if you have funds available to direct just call 1-800-847-4836 to check. Any questions please see Lynn Luebke, Dave Prange, Mary Madden or Karl Kaepler and they would help you also.

Thanks to those who have already directed their dollars. These dollars help fund programs, events and missions for Bethany as you can see outlined in the 2017 Annual Report.

FEBRUARY MITE BOX

The Large LWML Mite Box will be out in the back of church on Sunday, February 25th. This month's grant is designated for Refuge Renovation at the "Place of Refuge Ministries" which is located in Milwaukee. There is a need to renovate two emergency exit stairs and repair 2nd floor overhang and roof overhang. This grant will provide secure and safe lodging for single mothers and their children, as well as expectant mothers. Please help make these improvements a reality as this ministry also shares the Gospel message of faith in Christ our Lord and Savior.

CHURH CANCELLATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the case of bad weather this winter, please check TODAY'S TMJ4 TV station for church cancellations. You can also go online to tmj4.com or 620WTMJ on the radio.



DAYBREAK DEVOTIONS

Tune in to 1420AM "The Breeze" radio station to hear daily devotions given by local Pastors. They play Monday through Friday at 7:25am.

Jan 30 – Feb 3	Rev. Robert Steele	Bethany Lutheran, Kohler
February 6 – 10	Rev. Tom Fleischmann	Chaplaincy, Plymouth
February 13 – 17	Rev. Christopher Seifferlein	Emmanuel Lutheran, Adell
February 20 – 24	Rev. Richard Bidinger	St. Paul Lutheran, Cascade
Feb 27 – Mar 3	Rev. Peter Peitsch	Grace Lutheran, Elkhart Lake

PINE HAVEN MEN'S CHORUS

The following are the dates, times and locations of the Pine Haven Men's Chorus performances in February. If you can find their schedule for the whole year posted on the lower narthex bulleting board. Admission is always free and a free will offering is taken that benefits the residents of Pine Haven Christian Communities.

February 4 10:00 am	St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Cascade 509 Milwaukee Avenue, Cascade
February 11 9:00 am	St. John's Lutheran Church - Kewaskum N683 County Road S, Kewaskum
February 18 8:00 am & 10:30 am	Grace UCC - Two Rivers 2801 Garfield St., Two Rivers
February 25 10:00 am	St. John's UCC - New Holstein 2111 Church Street, New Holstein



LOVE INC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Do you have an eye for detail, basic computer skills, & freedom to serve for any length of time Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm? Please consider serving Christ within your community by becoming a:

Clearinghouse Data Entry Specialist

Love In the Name of Christ of Sheboygan County (Love INC) is currently seeking organized and self-starting individuals who can lend a hand by entering Neighbor In Need intake documents into the Love INC database! Training is provided, to learn more, please call or email Jenna at:

920-783-6701 ext. 103 or jenna@loveincsheboygancounty.org

Scheduling dates & times Monday-Friday are flexible.

Are you looking for a faith-filled opportunity to directly provide a hand-up to individuals and families that are struggling, throughout Sheboygan County? Please share a bit of time, your compassionate heart, your desire to see our communities positively transform, by becoming a:

Clearinghouse Intake Specialist

Love In the Name of Christ of Sheboygan County is currently seeking caring individuals who are ready and willing to lend their ear and share their love for Christ with our Neighbors In Need! Training is provided, to learn more, please call or email Jenna at: 920-783-6701 ext. 103 or jenna@loveincsheboygancounty.org

Time slots: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays

10:00am - 2:00pm



“Mobilizing local Christian churches to transform lives and communities through relationships, In the Name of Christ.”



THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday, February 4
10:00 a.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elders: Todd Matte, Nic Collins
Ushers: Group 6–Ray & Shirley Ottman, Derek MacKenzie
Acolyte: Isabella Hasler
Scripture Reader: Norm Giertz
Altar Guild: Liz & Ken Buesing
Bulletin Folder: Sue Prange

Sunday, February 11
10:00 a.m.

Elders: Brian Faucher
Ushers: Group 7–Jerry Sabrowsky, Andy & Austin Fibiger
Acolyte: Annalise Hasler
Scripture Reader: Gale Litt
Altar Guild: Barb Gumm, Rayola Madson
Bulletin Folder: Sue Prange

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14
6:00 p.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elders: Steve Hazen
Ushers: Group 1–Ben Marotz, Tom Schnettler, Ivan Hazen
Acolyte: Grace Matte
Altar Guild: Rachel Johnson, Gina Fibiger

Sunday, February 18
10:00 a.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elders: Gerry Luebke, Jim Madden
Ushers: Group 2 – John Keller, Aiden Faucher,
Brian Faucher, Dan Fibiger
Acolyte: Luke Matte
Scripture Reader: Lee Gumm
Altar Guild: Sue Prange, Cheryl Prepster, Lois Schmideler
Bulletin Folder: Sue Prange

Wednesday, February 21
6:00 p.m.

Elders: Todd Matte
Ushers: Group 3 – Doug Luecke, Ken Thompson,
Karl Rademacher, Ron Hummitzsch
Acolyte: Noah Fibiger


Sunday, February 25
10:00 a.m.

Elders: Nic Collins, Steve Hazen
Ushers: Group 4 – Dave & Sue Prange, Lexie Matte
Acolyte: Thomas Yang
Scripture Reader: Sharon Werner
Altar Guild: Gale & Lynn Litt
Bulletin Folder: Sue Prange

Wednesday, February 28
6:00 p.m.

Elders: Gerry Luebke
Ushers: Group 5–Lee Gumm, Steve Marotz, Victor Hazen
Acolyte: Isabella Hasler

February 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 7:15pm Dartball Bethany @ Trinity	2 5:30pm Movie Night	3
4 8:45am Bible Study Sunday School 10am Worship w/HC	5 3:30pm Confirmation 5/6 grade	6 8am Men's Bible Study 6pm Jubilate Ringers	7 3:15pm Confirmation 7/8 grade 6pm Joy Choir	8 7:15pm Dartball Bethany @ St. Luke	9	10
11 8:45am Bible Study Sunday School 10am Worship	12 3:30pm Confirmation 5/6 grade 6:30 Elders	13 8am Men's Bible Study 6pm Jubilate Ringers	14 3:15pm Confirmation 6pm Ash Wed. w/HC 7pm Joy Choir	15 7:15pm Dartball Immanuel @ Bethany	16	17
18 8:45am Bible Study Sunday School 10am Worship w/HC	19 3:30pm Confirmation 5/6 grade 5:45pm Bd of Ed 6:15pm Finance 7pm Council	20 8am Men's Bible Study 6pm Jubilate Ringers	21 3:15pm Confirmation 6pm Lenten Worship 7pm Joy Choir	22 7:15pm Dartball Bethany @ St. Paul, S.F.	23	24
25 8:45am Bible Study Sunday School 10am Worship	26 3:30pm Confirmation 5/6 grade	27 8am Men's Bible Study 6pm Jubilate Ringers	28 3:15pm Confirmation 6pm Lenten Worship 7pm Joy Choir			