

PASTOR'S PAGE

This is from the resources page of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. The Council of Nicaea occurred 1700 years ago in 325 +AD+. It is the first Christian council after Emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Milan that ended official Christian persecution by the Roman Empire. I am giving this space to this article because it does a good job of letting us know what we are commemorating this year. The official commemoration happens on June 12th. ~Pastor Johnson

In the course of his earthly ministry, Jesus put this hard question to his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" He wasn't asking for the opinions of the crowds. He wanted a confession of faith.

In reality, this confession is no different than the confession of sins. In both, we acknowledge that what God has said is true. When we confess our sins, we acknowledge the truth that God speaks about us — that we are sinners. When we confess the faith of the church in the creed, our confession speaks about God — who he is and what he has done.

In every age, the same question is put to the church: who do you say that I am? As we open our mouths and begin, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty ...," we confess a profound truth that has passed over the lips of Christians in every generation.

This confession of the Triune God is the property of no single individual, but of the whole church, including the whole company of heaven. There are more than a few saints and martyrs who put their lives on the line as they defended the truths that we confess in the creeds.

Think of Athanasius, that faithful fourth-century pastor and confessor, who was exiled numerous times for his defense of the truth against the false teachers of his day. Or Luther, who stood firm against the combined might of the Roman Church and the Holy Roman Empire.

In our own day, there are faithful Christians who risk their lives — and sometimes die — to confess these truths.

In the Revelation to St. John, we find confession going on in heaven. Just listen to the snippets of the grand confession that swirls around God's throne:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come! (4:8b)

Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created (4:11).

Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth (5:9-10).

In the same way, as we stand on holy ground where Jesus comes in his Word and Sacraments, we join that noble company of saints and martyrs, confessing these holy truths concerning the Triune God.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Everyone has heard of "Christmas in July", right? Is there such a thing as "Thanksgiving in June"? Because I have a lot of thanks to give this month!

First, I'd like to start by thanking everyone who attended the voter's meeting on May 18th, where we unanimously voted to call Pastor Kelly Smith Jr. as our next pastor! We emailed him the call papers later that day and he has since replied with a letter confirming receipt of our call. In case you missed it last Sunday, I read Pastor Smith's letter to the congregation, where he stated that he received, not only our call, but a call from a church in Arlington, TX as well (which upon speaking to Pastor Smith later last week, I found out he received both calls on the same day!) Please keep Pastor Smith in your prayers, as he has a very hard decision ahead of him. We pray that the Lord gives him the wisdom and guidance he needs to choose the mission God has planned for him.

Next, I'd like to thank Sue Prange and Lynn Luebke for refinishing some of the exterior doors at church! They spent a lot of time sanding, staining, and sealing 3 sets of doors and they turned out great! Fantastic job, ladies!

I would also like to extend a big thank you to Doug Luecke, who coordinated getting some shingles donated for the new garage roof! I understand the shingles have already been delivered and the work will commence in the coming weeks.

Last, but not least, I'd like to thank Dan Fibiger for donating the two new trees that you see on the north side of the church lawn, as well as Noah Fibiger for helping plant them! They look great and I hope, someday, they grow to the size of the last trees we had out there!

It's really great to see the pride our congregation takes in keeping our church looking nice. Thank you all again for generously donating your time and materials to these projects! It is a blessing to us all!

Yours in Christ,
Andy Fibiger

MAY/JUNE CHARITY OF THE MONTH – Vernacular Video Mission International (VVMi)

Vernacular Video Mission International partners with individuals, congregations, and ministries that communicate the Gospel through multimedia in ethnic cultural communities (vernacular groups). Our intent is that these partnerships will bring people into a relationship with Jesus Christ, making an eternal difference in the lives of people of many cultures where God leads us throughout the world. We can help by giving our gifts to the May and June Charity of the Month. Our donations will be used to help purchase Bibles which have been translated and are printed in vernacular (heart) languages. Christian videos which have been dubbed into "heart" languages are also used to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please be generous as you share in this important project.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6-3: Jack O'Keefe
Norm Giertz
6-4: Rachel O'Keefe
6-7: Lynn Luebke
6-8: Austin Madden
6-10: Victor Hazen
Pat Stangel



6-16: KaoKalia Yang
6-17: Betty Hahn
Eli Johnson
6-19: Barbara Kaeppler
6-20: Nancy Froh

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



6-1: Ryan & Kandice Brooks
6-2: David & Tamra O'Keefe
6-15: Jim & Mary Madden
6-17: Steve & Juanita Hazen
Todd & Dori Matte
6-22: Kevin & Sharon Werner
6-24: Lee & Barbara Gumm
6-26: Bob & Sandy Kuehlmann
6-30: John & Peggy Keller

God's blessings to all that are celebrating this month!

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

BETHANY'S 2025 GRADUATES



Ella Albert – Ella is graduating from Kohler High School and plans to attend UW La Crosse in the fall majoring in marketing.

Zane Willadsen – Zane is graduating from Kohler High School and plans to attend Edgewood College in Wisconsin to pursue a Business/Engineering degree. Zane will also be playing basketball for the Edgewood Eagles!

Congratulations and Good Luck to Ella and Zane!!



NEW CHURCH MEMBERSHIP SOFTWARE

About three months ago, we implemented a new membership software that Pastor Johnson brought to our Council. One of the features this new software has is that the Elders can keep attendance from their iPad. We can then make reports that show when congregation members have missed a few weeks in a row or if visitors came so we can reach out. This is a duty that the Elders and all congregation members (our church family) share in reaching out to other members when you notice someone has been missing.

The software will also allow us to confidentially report giving in aggregate by age demographic. In the near future the Board of Finance will share information from the reports with the congregation. We're hopeful that these efforts will help us to be more educated and connected with our congregation.



LOVE INC

Blessings as we celebrate 10 years of service to our neighbors struggling in Sheboygan County. Facing a growing crisis – more families than ever are struggling with housing insecurity, food shortages, and financial instability. At Love INC, we are committed to serving the most vulnerable members of our community, providing immediate assistance, but most importantly equipping them with the tools needed to achieve long-term stability.

REFUGEE MINISTRY UPDATE

Reflections on the refugee ministry before the government put it on hold to evaluate all programs due to illegal immigration – Love INC became the local refugee resettlement agency as an affiliate of Episcopal Migration Ministries in March 2024. As part of this ministry, we mobilized over **90 volunteers** and coordinated **7 Support Teams** from **10 partner churches** who walked beside our new neighbors and welcomed them into our community. All **20 of our families** are fully housed with **14 households employed** and self-sufficient.

Households Resettled

20 households with 62 individuals (41 adults and 21 minors)

Countries of Origin

Burma (Myanmar): 22

Colombia: 5

Syria: 1

Venezuela: 34

\$10K FOR 10 YEARS FUNDRAISER

Love INC of Sheboygan County is celebrating a decade of transforming lives and strengthening the community with their 10-Year Anniversary campaign - **\$10K for 10 Years**. Would you prayerfully consider donating to our fundraiser and help us showcase the love to those in need? Donation information can be found below. As always, thank you for your support of Love in the Name of Christ in Sheboygan County!

Donate
now!



Contact Us
920.783.6701



DONATE ONLINE
loveincsheboygancounty.org/donate

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THE MONTH OF JUNE 2025

Sunday, June 1
10:00 a.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elder:	Gerry Luebke
Ushers:	Steve & Alaric Hazen
Altar Guild:	Barb & Lee Gumm
Scripture Reader:	Todd Matte
Door Locker:	Dan Fibiger
Streaming:	Brianna Meyer

Sunday, June 8
10:00 a.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elder:	Lee Gumm
Ushers:	Mattes
Altar Guild:	Lynn & Gerry Luebke
Scripture Reader:	Mary Ann Fibiger
Door Locker:	Diane Marotz
Streaming:	Steve Perry

Sunday, June 15
10:00 a.m.
w/ Holy Communion

Elder:	Gerry Luebke
Ushers:	Jerry Sabrowsky, Dan Fibiger
Altar Guild:	Gina & Andy Fibiger
Scripture Reader:	Steve Hazen
Door Locker:	Ken Thompson
Streaming:	Madison Fibiger

Sunday, June 22
10:00 a.m.

Elder:	Steve Hazen
Ushers:	Dave & Sue Prange
Altar Guild:	Julie Steele & Rachel Johnson
Scripture Reader:	Sharon Werner
Door Locker:	Steve Marotz
Streaming:	Andy Fibiger

Sunday, June 29
10:00 a.m.
w/ Holy Communion

Elder:	Shua Yang
Ushers:	Ray & Shirley Ottman
Altar Guild:	Shirley & Ray Ottman
Scripture Reader:	Lee Gumm
Door Locker:	Andy Fibiger
Streaming:	Noah Fibiger

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am Worship w/HC (Pastor Blas)	2	3 6pm Elder Meeting	4	5	6	7
8 10am Worship w/HC (Pastor King) Pentecost	9	10 6:15pm Board of Finance 7pm Church Council	11	12	13	14
15 10am Worship w/HC (Pastor Scheblein) Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 10am Worship (Pastor Blas)	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 10am Worship w/HC (Pastor King)	30					