



Of Pentecost Lutheran Church

www.pentecost-racine.org

As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.

Vacancy Update

On Sunday, October 29th, 2023 the voters assembly of Pentecost Lutheran Church voted unanimously on the first ballot to extend a Call to Rev. Brady Retzlaff to be our next pastor.

Pastor Brady is the pastor of Living Hope Lutheran Church in Racine, and has served as our full-time vacancy pastor since September 2022, along with assisting with vacancy duties since July 2021. The proposed call is for Pastor Brady to become Pentecost's sole pastor as of January 1st, 2024. The Living Hope congregation intends to dissolve, with their members joining Pentecost.

Call documents have been delivered to Pastor Brady and our District President's office.

Please pray for Pastor Brady and his family, and the congregations of Pentecost and Living Hope, as Pastor Brady considers our Call.

DECEMBER

Birthdays

Joyce Hasko – 12/02 Sue Hasko – 12/29
 Carrie Schurrer – 12/08 Tom Hasko – 12/29
 Bekah Smith – 12/09 Jonathan Lisowski – 12/29
 Jay LeGath – 12/17 Mike Mueller – 12/30
 Debbie Honore – 12/20 Adam Hernandez Jr – 12/31
 Elizabeth Lisowski-12/21

DECEMBER

Anniversaries

Noah & Tyler Barclay
 4 years – December 14th

Pastor & Karen Luchterhand
 42 years – December 19th



POINSETTIAS - If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the Christmas services, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Each plant is \$9. We are in need of 13 plants to fill our wooden cross. Place your money in the offering plate labeled “poinsettia”.

Kwik Trip

Kwik Trip gift cards make great Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers! You will also be donating to Pentecost when you purchase. The church purchases Kwik Trip cards at a discounted rate and sells them to you at face value! We are now offering “grocery only” Kwik Trip cards. Pentecost can buy these at a 15% discount and sell them at face value to you! If you would like to purchase gift cards, please see Tim Hasko after Saturday night services, or Tom Hasko after Sunday morning services.



We are still collecting any and all church-related photos for this year’s calendar! Please submit photos by Tuesday December 5th. Are you interested in ordering a calendar this year? Please either sign up on the sheet in the narthex, or let Jenna King or Joyce Hasko know.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY



We will be hosting our Pentecost Living Hope Youth Group Christmas Party on Sunday, December 17th from 4 to 7pm at the Parish House. Back by popular demand will be our White Elephant Gift Exchange to go with food, games, fellowship, and some Christmas TV specials. Please RSVP to Kyle Jacob in person, via email (jacobk47@yahoo.com), or via text at 262-456-8021.



We aren’t throwing in the towel – but we hope you will! Missions & Evangelism is hosting a collection of new towels and new washcloths for Halo the entire month of December. Look for those department store deals and fill the hampers! If you have any questions – please contact Katy Wagner, Sharon Boehme, or Kathy McGregor. Thank you in advance for your generosity and compassion.



Missions & Evangelism is hosting a Family Board Game Night Out on Saturday, January 20th – 2024 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. There will be dinner available for a free-will offering and all monies donated will be going to help our youth and chaperones attend the “Endure” 2025 LCMS National Youth Gathering to be held in New Orleans, LA. Let’s have some food, some fun, and help this group to have a meaningful, God-led experience. Please bring your favorite game or come as you are – we will have plenty of games available for all ages. If you have any questions – please contact Katy Wagner, Sharon Boehme, or Kathy McGregor.

Stewardship Corner

2024 Offering envelopes will be in your church mailboxes mid to late December.

Remember that Noisy Offering we did back in September for new candles? Thanks to Dave Wagner, they're here! Dave and John Boehme put them in the candelabra and we made it through a whole service without a single candle going out. Thanks Dave and John!

GREAT JOB!

Did You Ever Wonder???

Did you ever wonder why our communion wafers taste so much better than the ones you can buy? It's because they are specially made.

Making Oplatky (Christmas Wafers) is a Slovak tradition brought to our church by the Slovak immigrants who started the church over 100 years ago. Each wafer is individually made and often there would be some that broke. Rather than throw out the broken ones, a special "cookie" cutter was made that was the size of a communion wafer and the broken pieces were cut into wafers to be used for communion.

For many years, the women would make the batter, trim the edges of the wafers, and put them in packages of 6 or 12 for members of the congregation who requested them. Since the iron, which is kind of like a waffle iron with a long handle, is quite heavy, it was the men's job to hold it over the burner on the stove as the wafer baked. Over the years, the Oplatky Crew has changed.



When it seemed that we might have to discontinue the tradition as crew members could no longer handle it, Tom Hasko stepped in and became the coordinator. He said they aren't breaking very many now so often special batches have to be made during the year to cut into communion wafers. Children of some of the old Slovak members still request wafers which Tom and Sue package and send to many different states.



You may not recognize this young lady cutting communion wafers. Today you're just as apt to see her driving a police car. Over the years members of all ages have been part of the Oplatky Crew.

1 Corinthians 16:2



When you attend the **Inspired by Ryan Art Fair** at the Union Grove Elementary School on April 20th, be sure to check out the mosaic in the hallway. The part Sofia Luxem is pointing to is what she made for the mosaic.



All proceeds from the fair benefit the MACC Fund for research of childhood cancer and other related blood disorders. If you wish to donate something for the fair, see Amy Luxem.



Book Club celebrates reading of 200th book.

Kenya Mission Kenya info from Diane Kosmala

As we join our churches together, a mission project that will be new for us is the Kenya Mission which Living Hope has been doing. Our VBS children used it as their project this year. Here is some information that will help us learn about this important mission.



The Lutheran Church in Kenya is a vibrant church. It is in fellowship with us in the LCMS.

I met Hyline on the Lutheran Ladies Lounge site during Covid. Her husband, Pastor Joseph, had just been consecrated as Bishop of many congregations. They have 10 children.....6 are adopted. ...they were abandoned by parents too poor to care for them....during Covid they had no food as Pastors don't receive salaries.

As our friendship had grown, I suggested our congregation could send money for food. From there we began a ministry we call **Two Women on their phones**. Hyline sends pictures and we can show them on our screen. The great part of this ministry is that 100 percent of what we send goes directly to someone in need, so we get to help in their ministries. I can forward any offerings directly to them thru an app called Sendwave. The money reaches them in a matter of minutes!

To date we have been able to help grandmother's raising children, sending money for chickens – (one dollar buys a chicken)....20 ladies came to church to receive a chicken....helping children go to school....it costs a lot...tuition and uniforms.....we have helped several.....food for a huge deaf fellowship that Hyline has welcomed to the church, where she signs the service for them.....medical expenses for all kinds of issues... also much work with homeless children., widows, and orphanage

Helping people one by one....money from here goes very far there.....no gift is too small.... For instance 35 dollars from us is worth 5,320 dollars in Kenya! The people are very thankful and constantly pray for our congregation and families!

