

**Mission: We are called to be Christ's Light...in all things we are committed to seeking & following God's will and not our own. Believe It! Live It! Come to it!**



## Ladies

Our Rooted With Purpose Women's Group  
has planned a night of  
relaxation & fellowship at  
**Bailey's Run Vineyard, New Glarus**  
**Friday, October 1st**

We will meet at the church parking lot at 5:45pm to carpool to the vineyard.

The Transition Team thanks you for your participation with online surveys and the paper surveys you answered on Sept. 12th. On Sept. 19th, the team met to review your responses and used your feedback to answer various sections of BLC's Ministry Site Profile (MSP). Here are some of the results:

The top five ministry tasks: The five most critical tasks required of your settled pastor.

1. Innovation / Creativity
2. Pastoral Care and Visitation
3. Youth and Family Ministry
4. Building a Sense of Community
5. Preaching / Worship

The five gifts essential for your settled pastor, and five that are very helpful.

### Essential

1. Help people develop their spiritual life.
2. Build a sense of community among the people with whom he/she works.
3. Be an effective communicator.
4. Be effective working with youth.
5. Bring joy and good humor to relationships.

### Helpful

1. Help people develop their spiritual life.
2. Be an effective communicator.
3. Bring joy and good humor to relationships
4. Be able to share leadership and work in a team.
5. Be creative and innovative about his or her tasks.

## Pastor's Pen

Certain numbers in the Bible signify completion or represent wholeness; these include 7, 12, and 40. In Genesis we hear how God creates in six days and rests on the seventh day. Noah takes seven pairs of every clean animal onto the ark before enduring 40 days and nights of earth covering rain (See Genesis 7:2-4). The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years before entering the Promised Land. Jonah told the Ninevites they had forty days before God would overthrow the city (the city repented and God had a change of heart). Jesus faced temptation for forty days in the wilderness. Jacob had twelve sons, there were twelve tribes of Israel, and Jesus called twelve disciples. Twelve isn't a very big number, but in the Bible it's a complete number. Jesus was able to take twelve disciples from ordinary walks of life and do extraordinary ministry through them. While twelve may have been a perfect number, a symbol of completeness, the disciples were far from perfect! Before his death, Jesus' closest followers would betray, deny, and desert him; but after Christ's resurrection, they would spread the Good News of God's love through Jesus to all nations.

Some weeks ago, I handed out an article titled: "*Will the Congregation Come Back? Should not be our biggest concern (6 Better Questions)*" by Karl Vaters (you can read his blog entry at: <https://karlvaters.com/will-the-congregation-come-back/>). Pastor Vaters has some follow up blog posts which elaborate on this theme. I highly recommend reading them: "*7 Reasons Some People Might Not Come Back To Church*" and "*7 Ways To Reach The People Who Aren't Coming Back To Church*" (you can also read these online at: <https://karlvaters.com/not-come-back-to-church/> and <https://karlvaters.com/arent-coming-back-to-church/> respectively. I can also make paper copies available.

It's understandable for us to be worried when we see numbers declining in the church; whether we're looking at people in attendance or financial giving. But ultimately church isn't about numbers (other than the One God who comes to us in three persons)! At the heart of the concern with declining numbers, is the overall health and wellbeing of the congregation. It's reasonable to conclude: declining numbers = declining health; which eventually ends in death. The church is experiencing a paradigm shift as we live through a pandemic; it will be forever changed. Change can be scary; it means the death of former things and stepping into an unknown and uncertain future. But the church is no stranger to death AND resurrection. We followers of Christ, know that death is not the end, but a part of the process which leads to new life!

So, is there anything practical a church can do, as it lives in uncertain times and with lower numbers? Yes. (See the above articles for some good recommendations). All churches can always work on spiritual growth. Growth is not limited (nor primarily) about quantity, but includes quality. Every person of faith can always grow more rooted in their faith. Prayer, Bible study, devotional reading, and other spiritual practices always benefit the collective body of Christ. I highly recommend a book by Presbyterian pastor, N. Graham Standish, titled *Becoming A Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence, and Power* (I quoted from his 2nd edition last newsletter). Here's another quote:

"The focus of a blessed church is on doing what God is calling us to do, having the confidence to know that God is in our midst, and relying upon God's power to get results. This focus may not lead to numerical growth, but it does lead to health. In other words, by focusing on leading people to spiritual encounters and experiences of God, the church and its members end up forming healthier and more vibrant relationships with each other, relationships that emerge out of a deep spiritual connection with the Trinity and each other. The more the church focuses on grounding its ministry and mission in a dynamic relationship with the Trinity, the more its members and other participants engage confidently in ministry and mission that make a difference in the local community and in the world, if only in a small way. As the church grows in its relationship with God, the members become increasingly aware of God's power in their lives. In short, becoming a blessed church means becoming a place where God is present and God is experienced. Lives are thereby healed." (p. 21)

God has blessed, and will continue to bless, BLC through our ever-changing times. All who follow Jesus Christ, have been blessed by God, through Jesus, to be a blessing for others.

May God continue to bless you with more blessings than you can ever count!

God's blessings upon you all this October!  
Pr. Erich

The **2021-2022 Sunday School** program starts on  
**October 3rd!**

We are looking forward to being back in-person and growing in our faith together!!

Sunday School will continue to be held Sunday mornings during BLC's 9:00 am worship. We will meet following communion until around 10:15/10:30 am on scheduled days.



A tentative schedule has been emailed to registered families and posted to the BLC's website.

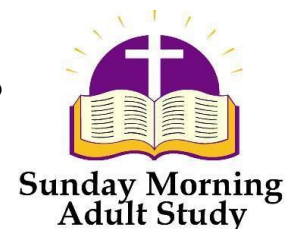
We are looking forward to being back in-person and growing in our faith together! BLC's Church Council and COVID Response Team are following the Barneveld School District's masking policy for faith formation classes. **This means masks will need to be worn when inside the classroom.**

If your family received a bible to use during last year's Sunday School @ Home! programming, please **RETURN** it to church so we can use these again this year.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Megan Mieden at [mkschlimgen@hotmail.com](mailto:mkschlimgen@hotmail.com).

## ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

The Faith In Action Committee is offering an opportunity for all of us to explore our faith. In these troubling times, it just makes sense to reconnect and recharge our spiritual energy.



### “MAKING SENSE OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH”

by David J. Lose is a series of videos/ readings/discussions intended to reawaken our faith in order to more fully live it and work it.

- ◆ This course will consist of 8 sessions, 45 - 60 minutes long
- ◆ We will begin on **Sunday October 3** and hopefully conclude the Sunday before Thanksgiving
- ◆ We will meet right after church and daycare will be provided
- ◆ There will be a slight charge of \$7 to cover the cost of the book
- ◆ The course will be taught by Pastor Erich
- ◆ **We have books available if you still want to join the class.**



FREE Blood Pressure Checks are offered after worship on the 2nd Sunday of each month courtesy of the Health Ministry Team.

**October 10**

### Health Tip

from Ronda Bowe, Health Ministry Team

Rise and shine at the same time:

As the sun goes down earlier, it can throw off your natural circadian rhythm. Try to maintain a sleep schedule of at least seven hours and keep your normal bedtime and waking hours the same as the rest of the year.

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

from Ronda Bowe

#### Apple Dip

##### Ingredients

8 ounces cream cheese, softened

3/4 cup brown sugar

1/4 cup white sugar

2 teaspoons vanilla



##### Instructions

1. Mix all ingredients in a bowl. I use a handheld electric mixer to make the dip soft and fluffy, but you can just mix it really well with a wooden spoon or whisk.
2. Serve with sliced apples for dipping. Enjoy!

### Job Opening Available

#### Barneveld Lutheran Administrative Assistant transition position

which can lead to a permanent part time position.

- 20-25 hours per week, can be flexible with hours
- \$12.00 - \$15.00 per hour depending on work experience.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality
- Self starter with positive attitude and friendly personality
- Must be knowledgeable using computer software and with Microsoft Office and Word
- Knowledge of office equipment/willingness to learn how to operate it, order supplies, perform user service tasks and organize service/repairs
- Ability to work in a team ministry setting and interface with all personality types.
- Organized with good follow through on commitments and projects
- Telephone Skills: comfortable calling and following up on activities and office duties
- Organizational Skills: can identify, organize and monitor tasks for self and office support groups.

If you are interested or know someone who is interested please contact the church office for a full job description and application.



Thanks to everyone for sending birthday cards, birthday wishes and emails for my card shower.

Pauline Dimpfl

BLC LIVE streams Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 am through our Facebook page. You can see the most recent service as well as weekday videos using this link (no account needed to view videos):

<https://www.facebook.com/BarneveldLutheranChurch/>

## October Worship Volunteers

	October 3	October 10	October 17	October 24	October 31
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Becky Stauffer	Earlene Laudin	Joni Cleary	Jeff Ziegler	Peg Jones
<b>Reader</b>	Melissa Lease	Dave Baumgarten	Jeff Ziegler	Dave Baumgarten	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Henrietta Parks and Carla Leuzinger				

## Barneveld Lutheran Church October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>Ladies Outing at Baileys Winery</i>	2
3 9:00am Worship Sunday School Adult Study 10am	4 Pastor's day off	5	6 Food Pantry 9:30-3:30  <b>6 - 7:15pm Bridge &amp; Confirmation Class</b>	7	8	9
10 9:00 am Worship Sunday School Adult Study 10am B/P checks	11 Pastor's Day Off	12	13 Food Pantry 9:30-3:30  <b>6 - 7:15pm Bridge &amp; Confirmation Class</b>	14	15 9:30—12noon Game Day	16
17 9:00am Worship Sunday School Adult Study 10 am Council mtg 10am	18 Pastor's Day Off	19	20 Food Pantry 9:30-3:30  <b>Trick or Treat for the Hungry by Bridge and Confirmation</b>	21	22	23
24 9:00am Worship Sunday School Adult Study 10am	25 Pastor's Day Off	26	27 Food Pantry 9:30-3:30  Confirmation Leaders Huddle	28	29	30
<b>31</b> 9:00am Worship Sunday School Adult Study 10am						

Barneveld Lutheran Church  
 505 Swiss Lane  
 Barneveld, WI 53507

Non-Profit Organization  
 US Postage Paid  
 Barneveld, WI  
 Permit No. 4

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Dated Material:

September 27, 2021



**Barneveld Lutheran Church**

Join us for Worship on Sundays at 9:00am

**Office Phone: 608-924-8621**

*Tuesdays 9:00am - 4:00pm*

*Wednesdays 9:00am - 4:00pm*

*Thursdays 9:00am - 11:30pm*

*or as needed.*

**barneveldlutheran505@gmail.com**

**Pastor Erich** is available in the office most days

**Except for MONDAY his day OFF**

erichh24@hotmail.com

608-924-8621 or 608-445-7152