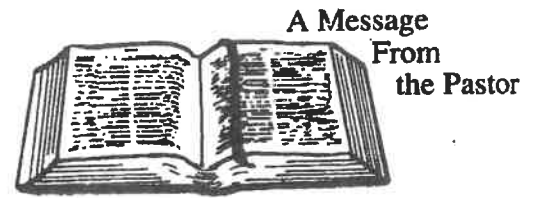




*'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'*



## THE ROCK

A little boy was spending his Saturday morning playing in his sandbox. He had with him his box of cars and trucks, his plastic pail, and a shiny, red plastic shovel. In the process of creating roads and tunnels in the soft sand, he discovered a large rock in the middle of the sandbox. The boy dug around the rock, managing to dislodge it from the dirt. With a little bit of struggle, he pushed and nudged the rock across the sandbox by using his feet. (He was a very small boy and the rock was very large.)

When the boy got the rock to the edge of the sandbox, however, he found that he couldn't roll it up and over the little wall. Determined, the little boy shoved, pushed, and pried, but every time he thought he had made some progress, the rock tipped and then fell back into the sandbox. The little boy grunted, struggled, pushed and shoved; but his only reward was to have the rock roll back, smashing his chubby fingers. Finally he burst into tears of frustration. All this time the boy's father watched from his living room window as the drama unfolded. At the moment the tears fell, a large shadow fell across the boy and the sandbox. It was the boy's father.

Gently, but firmly, he said, "Son, why didn't you use all the strength that you had available? Defeated, the boy sobbed back, "But I did, Daddy, I did! I used all the strength that I had!"

"No, son," corrected the father kindly. "You didn't use all the strength you had. You didn't ask me." With that the father reached down, picked up the rock and removed it from the sandbox.

Do you have "rocks" in your life that need to be removed? Are you discovering that you don't have what it takes to lift them? There is One who is always available to us and willing to give us the strength we need. Isn't it funny how we try so hard to do things ourselves. Sadly, many adults who have been Christians for years are trying to do everything themselves and only turning to God as a last resort.

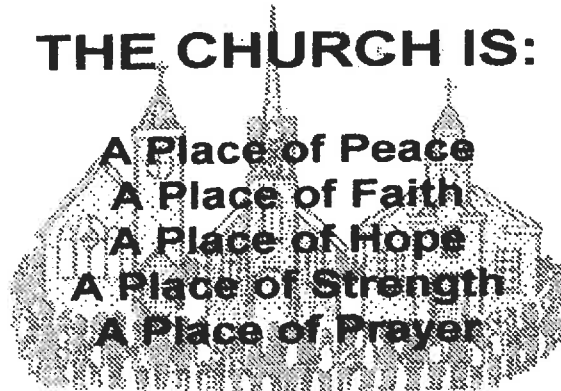
God wants to be your first resort. Let Him help you with your trials, tribulations and temperament. Jesus says: "What is impossible with men is possible with God." (Lk. 18:27) He loves you so much all He wants you to do is ask Him to help. When you are DOWN to nothing . . . God is UP to something!!!

*"Now to him (God) who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." (Eph. 3:20-21)*

Together with you, under God in all things,

Pastor Jeff G. Gavin

# THE CHURCH IS:



## A Place of Peace

*Through Worship we find:*

- ◆ Communion with God
- ◆ Quietness and reflection
- ◆ Spiritual Renewal

*"Perfect love casts out fear."  
I John 4: 18*



## A Place of Faith

*Through Worship we:*

- ◆ Acknowledge Christ as Lord
- ◆ Share the Scriptures
- ◆ Relate our faith to daily living

*"This is the victory that overcomes  
the world, even our faith." I John 5: 4*



## A Place of Hope

*Through Worship we:*

- ◆ Receive the assurance of God's concern
- ◆ Experience God's redeeming love
- ◆ Open our hearts to the Holy Spirit

*"Now the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace  
in believing, that you may abound in hope, through  
the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15: 13*



## A Place of Strength

*Through Worship we have:*

- ◆ FELLOWSHIP with those seeking to do God's will
- ◆ OPPORTUNITY to deepen our personal dedication
- ◆ RESOLUTION to follow Christ

*"I can do all things through Christ,  
which strengthens me." Philippians 4: 13*

## A Place of Prayer

*Through Worship we express our  
concerns by praying for:*

- ◆ Personal needs
- ◆ Family needs
- ◆ Neighbor's needs
- ◆ Community's needs

*"Pray without ceasing."  
I Thessalonians 5: 17*

## WHAT ABOUT YOU?

A humorous story from some years ago is about a Pastor who came and visited one of his congregational families. Not expecting the Pastor, yet wanting to impress him, the mother said to her young son, "Jimmy, give that book that I read every day to Pastor, I want him to see it. Now the mother was expecting her son to reach for the Bible that was sitting under the coffee-table. Instead, he reached for and gave the Pastor the TV Guide. Mortified, the mother reached for and gave the Bible to the Pastor. He took it, blew off the dust and said, "Yes, very nice."

The TV Guide isn't used much by people anymore. But then, neither is the Bible.

Hardly a Sunday goes by when I don't mention reading the Bible in my sermon. And except for the two months of summer, I personally invite you to come to one of our Bible classes. Why do I do this? I will let the Bible itself answer that question.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.  
2 Timothy 3:16-17

But these words are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:31

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

Your word is a lamp for my feet, and a light on my path. Psalm 119:105

These are but a few of the verses from the Bible which speaks to us of the benefits and blessing of God's Word, the Bible.

Now I ask that you read the following statements, and ponder them in your heart.

1. I already know everything there is to know that's in the Bible.
2. I don't need to study the Bible, I got Confirmed years ago.
3. I go to church often, so I hear the Bible spoken in church.
4. I'm too busy for Bible class, even if I am retired.

We are resuming our Sunday Bible class and our Mid-week Bible class in September. I am inviting you to join us for: open forum discussions, studies on a variety of topics, supplemental video media, and the guarantee that you will learn things you never knew in the Bible, never were taught in Confirmation, more in-depth information than can be taught during a church service, and the opportunity to share some of your busy time, even in retirement, with the Word of your Lord.

So...WHAT ABOUT YOU? Will we see you in Bible class?

Pastor Jeff

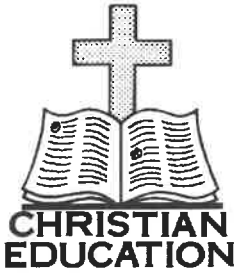
# September

# BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

|                   |              |                 |              |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Martha Hengels    | September 3  | Jennifer Franz  | September 17 |
| Henny Neggers     | September 4  | Erich Franz     | September 17 |
| Robbie Fiorito    | September 4  | Tayler Petersen | September 18 |
| Kathleen Graves   | September 4  | Sydney Klatka   | September 23 |
| Logan Schoo       | September 10 | Laurel Marin    | September 24 |
| Dorothy Halvorsen | September 11 | Jon Tertel      | September 24 |
| Tracy Galla       | September 16 | Kevin Petersen  | September 25 |

*If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office for a correction... Thank You!*

*May God Bless You on Your Birthday*



**Beginning Sunday, September 15** . . . we hope you will come and join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM** for our **ADULT Sunday Bible Class** in the lower level of the school building . . . **open question forum.**

**Beginning Wednesday, September 25** . . . please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building.

**PASTOR** . . . has resumed taking Fridays as his "Day Off". Even though he may sometimes be in his office, he is scheduling no work; so Please do not Visit him, or Phone him on Fridays. If there is a true Emergency, call him on his Cell: (630) 776-2382. Thank you.

### **ALTAR FLOWERS** . . .

**DUE TO NEW FLOWER PRICES...ALTAR FLOWERS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$20.**

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, **(or confirm your "standing order")** please contact please call the **CHURCH OFFICE** at **(847) 593-7670** or email Pastor at [jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net) **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**



**Please Note:** When you donate flowers for our worship services, you are welcome to bring the flowers home after the 10:30 service.



### **OUR WELCOME PICTURES**

Each Sunday you are now welcomed with a slide show of pictures on our large screen monitor.

We hope you do look at these pictures; as they are not just random images, but carefully selected images that reveal the theme of the day, and are designed to depict and enhance the spoken content of the day's sermon.



### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Along with "Birthday Greetings", we also wish a "Happy Anniversary" to those couples who were married during each month by printing their marriage date.

If you are unsure if we might have a record of your wedding date . . . please contact the church office (847-593-7670, ext 1) with this information. We would like to include all of our married couples and wish to them . . . **"Happy Anniversary"**:

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Bill & Marnie Franz    | September 1  |
| Joseph & Karon Ordower | September 1  |
| Jon & Joanne Tertel    | September 12 |
| Marius & Carmen Hetrea | September 30 |

# September 2024

## St. John Lutheran Church

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday                                 | Thursday  | Friday                     | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|---|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| <b>1</b><br>WORSHIP SERVICE<br>9:15 AM<br><i>Bible Class on hiatus</i>           | <b>2</b><br><b>LABOR DAY</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED | <b>3</b><br>Church Council 7 PM  | <b>4</b><br><i>Bible Class on hiatus</i>  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br>COMMUNION WORSHIP<br>8:00 & 10:30 AM<br><i>Bible Class on hiatus</i> | <b>9</b>                                      | <b>10</b><br>Mt. Prospect Senior<br>Living Devotion -<br>1:30 PM<br>Brd. Elders 7 PM | <b>11</b><br><i>Bible Class on hiatus</i> | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b><br>WORSHIP SERVICE<br>8:00 & 10:30<br>Adult Bible Class 9:15 AM        | <b>16</b>                                     | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br><i>Bible Class on hiatus</i> | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b><br>COMMUNION WORSHIP<br>8:00 & 10:30 AM<br>Adult Bible Class 9:15 AM   | <b>23</b>                                     | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b><br><i>Bible Class 10 AM</i>     | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b><br>OFFICE CLOSED | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b><br>WORSHIP SERVICE<br>8:00 & 10:30<br>Adult Bible Class 9:15 AM        | <b>30</b>                                     |  |   |           |                            |           |

| August |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S      | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|        |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4      | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11     | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18     | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25     | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| October |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S       | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|         | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |    |
| 6       | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13      | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20      | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27      | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |