

#### First Lutheran Church 521 N. 8th Street Manitowoc WI 54220 USA

# Messenger

October 2023

#### The Simple Things

The ground is full of fallen leaves, Seems fall I in the air; The beauty of God' scenery, Is present everywhere

Though there's beauty all around us, Like colors on a tree; Those sweet, loving acts of kindness, Sometimes our eyes don't see!

The perfect rose with fragrance rare Is Mother Nature's gift; But acts of kindness done with love, Can give your heart a lift!

Not only is there beauty in Those trees of red and gold; But in that hug or friendly smile, Or arm you gently hold!

There's beauty in the simple things, How precious they can be; But love of family, caring friends— That's beautiful to me!

Elaine Kestly 2013



#### Highlights From FLC's Council Meeting

September 19, 2023



#### Pastor's Report:

- I am exploring the possibility of producing our own newsletter. This would dramatically shorten our lead time and allow us to disseminate news in a more timely fashion.
- Eight people will join the church on Sunday, October 1st and a reception will be held in the Fireside Room following church.
- Sadly, we had to let go of our custodian. We will contract a cleaning service rather than hire another custodian.

#### **Old Business:**

- The retrofit lighting elements for the pendant lights in our sanctuary are still on track to ship in mid October. We have contacted an electrician to install a new light switch which will control all of the lights in the sanctuary.
- A Council Strategic Planning Session is planned for Saturday, November 11th. A staff member from the synod will facilitate the half day meeting.

#### **New Business:**

• A motion was passed to authorize the Boards of Finance and Personnel to spend up to \$15,000 to contract an outside accounting firm to review and clean up our finances.

**Please Note:** All are welcome to listen in at the church council meetings which are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30, except in July. If you have concerns, questions and comments, please reach out to our council president, Tyler Fellows, Pastor Andy or other council members. A complete copy of the minutes, once approved at the following month's meeting, will be available on the bulletin board in the Fireside Room or in the church office.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Greene, Council Secretary





#### Contact Us: First Lutheran Church 920-682-7742 office@flcmanitowoc.org

Pastor: <u>PastorAndy@flcmanitowoc.org</u> Ext.104 Pastor Andy Wendle can also be reached for Pastoral support on his cell phone # 541-490-6703.

Connie Dorner: Faith Formation Director, Ext.106 cdorner@flcmanitowoc.org

#### Stay in Touch with us!

Not getting any of our correspondence? Call or Email us to make sure our records are updated so you wont miss out.



#### THE STAFF

#### **Pastor Andy Wendle**

**Connie Dorner** Faith Formation Director

Stephanie Bowman Contemp. Music Coor.

Rebecca Konik Church Secretary

Brenda Leick Church Secretary

Patricia Nickels Bookkeeper

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Pres.: Tyler Fellows 901-2273 V.P.: Yolanda VanHaren 860-5053 Treas: David Bowman 629-5487 Sec.: Patty Greene 246-4476

#### **BOARD' REPRESENTATIVES**

Christian Education Nichole Rabitz

Christian Fellowship Karin Jaeger

Christian Outreach/Servanthood

Patty Greene, Conrad Sonneman Teresa Laham

Christian Stewardship David Bowman, Karin Jaeger, Jean Olson

> Congregational Care Harry O'Connell

**Finance** David Bowman, Nick Port

Music & Worship Linda Jurgens, Lorene Jakel

> **Personnel** Yolanda Van Haren

**Property** Karyl Rommelfanger

Youth Ministries Nichole Rabitz, Ned Jerabek

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**Missionaries in Japan** Rev. James & Carol Sack



# FROM THE PASTOR

#### OCTOBER 2023

Grace and peace to you in the name of our living and loving Savior, Jesus the Christ!

At the end of this month we will mark the 506<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. I know, I know, 506 doesn't quite have the ring to it that 500, does but anniversaries being yearly sorts of things invites us to ever renew what it means to be the people of the church. How do we do that? What does that look like?

A few years ago, when it was the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary, there was a plethora of bumper stickers, t-shirts and other forms of commercialized "renewal" of being Lutheran. I'll confess, I am not much interested in buying bumper stickers or t-shirts; I have too many already. I'm also not much interested in owning a new version of the 95 Theses with "authentic" nail holes from where they would've been nailed to the door in Wittenberg back in 1517. I'm being a little silly here but for me some of these things aren't quite what I think we need to be about.

Instead, what I am interested in, is the continued **re-form-ation** that we are doing right here, right now. What are we nailing to our doors today? Is it God-centered, faithful expositions that commit us to our neighbor, to God's world? Or are we living into excesses and misinterpretations of God's will in our world as the Catholic Church of Luther's day was doing?

I am interested in the ways that we are ever seeking to expand the circle of faith today as Luther sought to do with his small catechism in his day. This was a tool which he sought to give to the people so that faith could be something that could be taught in the homes as much if not more than it was being taught in the church. And yet today, as in the days after Luther, that teaching and expanding of the circle of faith needs continued focus, energy and effort.

Finally, I am also interested in new ways of celebrating this legacy and heritage of our faith that help propel us into new relationships of love and caring for our world rather than just having parties or eating the right foods. Don't get me wrong, I love my lefse (which is Norwegian not German, I know) and I love a good bratwurst but I want to do more than just eat my way through Reformation remembrances. I want to be able to reach new people and establish new ways of relating and caring that do more than a one-time celebration can accomplish.

Which I guess is all to say that I am hereby inviting you, our Lutheran members and saints of light at First Lutheran, to help us all dream up new ways of celebrating the Reformation. Is there something you've been wanting to do, to engage in, a way to galvanize us in helping us move forward in mission? What ideas can we dream of to find new path ways of being God's presence here on the shores of Lake Michigan? What can we do that helps propel us forward in faithful sharing of the good news of Jesus Christ rather than just commemorating an event with those we already know?

Put on your thinking caps and let me know. I'm interested in hearing from you!

In Peace, Pastor Andy

# Living by Faith

# September Scriptures

Oct. 1	First Psalm Second Gospel	Philippians 2:1-13
Oct. 8		80:7-15 Philippians 3:4b-14
Oct. 15	Psalm	Philippians 4:1-9
Oct.22		96:1-9 [10-13] 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Oct.29		96:1-9 [10-13] 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10



# Woman's Fall Retreat

Our retreat weekend at Imago Dei is almost here! If you are attending, please let me know as soon as possible – I spoke with some ladies earlier in the summer but I'd like to double check the attendance to give Crossways a final count. There is some paperwork you'll have to fill out as well. The cost for this retreat is \$175. Please write a check to First Lutheran Church – you can give the check to me or bring it to the office. We will plan on car pooling on Friday evening around 4 or

5pm (whenever it suits more people). All meals will be provided by Crossways. Each camper will bring their own bedding and towels. We will return home around noon on Sunday.



### Grief Support Group Friday's at 9-10:30am First Lutheran Lounge

First Lutheran's <u>Grief Support Group</u> will meet on Fridays 9-10:30am for six weeks through Nov. 3rd .

Grief comes not only with the death of a loved one, but can also include divorce, job loss, health crises, personal catastrophe and other situations.

For more info please contact: Karyl Rommelfanger at 920-905-4911 or email <u>karylr.lr@gmail.com</u>



Sue Bryntesen Greg & Kathleen Delsman Anna Diefenthaler Emma Ernstes Lori Ernstes Gail Ream Krista Schieldt



Reminder: Tis the season to stop the spread of germs. If you are experiencing Cold, Flu, or Covid like symptoms, we encourage you to stay home and rest.







A special "Thank You" for all who participated in the outside work for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. Great Job! Bd. of Property

#### **Our Fellowship Coffee Hour**

Everyone is welcome to come down and join the Fellowship Coffee hour after the service!

#### Wednesday Morning Bible Study 9:30am-11am

Everyone's invited! (non members too) to our Wednesday Morning Bible Study at 9:30am. Join us for a great morning of good news based on the upcoming week's scripture readings.

#### First Lutheran Prayer Chain

To join prayer chain or leave a prayer request please call Mary Gammelin (682-2250) or email <u>mgammelin@lsol.net.</u> You can also leave a prayer request by email to Betsie Auchter <u>eauchter@comcast.net</u>



## HOW CAN I GIVE?

Dontt

Sales

The Confirmation

students will begin

selling Kwik Trip Donuts every Sunday

during the fellowship hour after church

beginning in October. The donuts will sell

for \$1.50 and the proceeds will go towards

a special event or youth room goal decided

by our youth. We will try to offer a variety

of different kinds every week as they run

different specials or have sales. So please

be sure to stop down for a cup of coffee

and a yummy treat!

*Four (4) ways to give!* We now have four (4) safe and secure options available.

- You can continue to mail your check;
- Instruct your bank to mail a check through online banking;
- Call the church office to set up electronic giving through your bank account.
- You can now also give by credit card, if it's easier for you.

We use <u>tithe.ly</u>, an ELCA-preferred and secure vendor. Just click the green "Give" button on our homepage: www.flcmanitowoc.org.

Ministry continues, and we are grateful for your generosity.

#### **FIRST LUTHERAN MINISTRIES\***

- [ ] Rev. Sack Mission Fund \$40
- Altar Flowers \$25 vase/\$50 two vases
- [ ] Prayer Shawl Ministry \$25
- [ ] Radio Broadcast [Sunday on WOMT]

full sponsor= \$450 (1/2 sponsor= \$225) \*Monetary gifts of any amount are welcome.

Your gift sponsorships can be acknowledged in our weekly 'Life at First' insert - <u>Deadline for</u> <u>announcements is 10AM Tuesday</u> prior to the Sunday of choice. Forms are also found in/or phone the office, 920-682-7742. As of September 12, 2023

Regular Giving	\$198,383.74
Total Receipts	\$256,296.27
Total Expenses	\$329,110.32
<u>2022</u>	
2022 Reg Giving	\$192,842.41
2022 Total Receipts	\$229,066.91
2022 Total Expenses	\$223,904.42
-Patricia Nickels	

#### Sunday of Sponsorship:\_\_\_\_

Message:

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Sunday October 15

A Blessing of the Prayer Shawls will be part of the Sunday 9:00am worship service on October 15

#### What is a Prayer Shawl?

Throughout the ages, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. Since the inception of the Prayer Shawl Ministry in 1998, the members of this ecumenical organization have lovingly donated their time and talents by creating handknitted and crocheted shawls for those in need. What started as a grass-roots movement has quickly grown into an international cause, with countless numbers of shawls being given to grateful recipients around the globe.



#### First Lutheran's Prayer Shawl Ministry

is part of this important outreach ministry that has received many, many thank you cards from those whose lives 'felt' comfort, peace, calmness, uplifted, loved, stilled, stronger, etc., the list goes on-as it is different for everyone, depending on the purpose. Check out our bulletin board in the Fireside Room where some of the thank you cards are displayed.

#### Do you knit or crochet?

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry welcomes any volunteer who would like to make shawls to be given by our congregation at times of grief and/or critical illness. Yarn & pattern are provided, and you can do this at your own leisure...

Please call Deanne Vollendorf

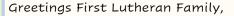
684-7134

Name & Phone:

# FAITH FORMATION UPDATE

Sunday School, Confirmation and High School Faith Formation Connie Dorner, Faith Formation Director First Lutheran Church 682-7742 ext:106 <u>cdorner@flcmanitowoc.org</u> Cell phone: (920) 901-2584

PROVERBS 24: 13, 14. MY CHILD, EAT HONEY, FOR IT IS GOOD, AND THE DRIP-PINGS OF THE HONEYCOMB ARE SWEET TO YOUR TASTE. KNOW THAT WISDOM IS SUCH TO YOUR SOUL; IF YOU FIND IT, YOU WILL FIND A FUTURE, AND YOUR HOPE WILL NOT BE CUT OFF.



Here we are in October, and I hope you are enjoying all of the great things this season has to bring. For me that's cooler weather and football season!

Last month, we started anew with our Sunday School and Confirmation classes. I continue to be so grateful for our families and children as well as our teachers and those who are always willing to help with all things youth related. Spark and Youth Groups have resumed once more and our kids here continue to delight me with stories of school, friendships, sporting events and work – all are so busy and I'm proud for them, that they choose to spend their precious time together here in fellowship with one another.

I would like to thank everyone who helped and participated in God's Work, Our Hands Day a few weeks ago. It was such a wonderful time working together and sharing His love through our many projects and activities. We also continue to build momentum towards our 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering next July. We have seven young people joining Pastor Andy, myself, and other adult chaperones. Please stay tuned for fun events planned throughout the year to support this goal! Exciting times ahead!

Make sure to take note of the upcoming dates for Spark Group, Youth Group and other special events on this page – there is always something special going on in "Youth Land!" I'll close with this Autumn Prayer (author anonymous):

May I let go of any emotional baggage I have accumulated this year.

May I accept the new season with grace.

As the trees transform with acceptance and faith, so will I.

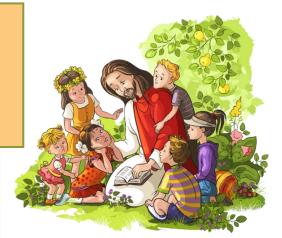
I know all changes have purpose.

May I be showered with new blessings as I let go of the old.

I release who I was. I am ready to become.

Cheerfully in Christ,

Connie





Congratulations to these young people who celebrate their birthdays in October!

Oct. 3
Oct. 7
Oct. 10
Oct. 12
Oct. 19
Oct. 24



#### **Baptismal Anniversaries**

Blessings to the following babies, Sunday School Students & Youth who are celebrating their Baptismal birthdays in October

Finnian Port Gwen Stryzewski Reid Stryzewski 10/05/14 10/08/06 10/26/08





Sunday, October 1:
Wednesday, Oct. 4
Sunday, October 8:
Wednesday, Oct. 11
Sat. Sun., Oct. 14–15
Sunday, October 15

#### **NO** Confirmation Class this evening

7 – 9 Grade Youth Group 6:30 – 7:30pm Confirmation Class 4 – 5:30 pm 4 – 6 Grade Spark Group 4 – 5:15pm Cardboard City Event 4pm – 7am Confirmation Class 4 – 5:30pm

Youth Group 5:30 - 6:30pm

- Sunday, October 22
  Wednesday, Oct. 25
  Sunday, October 29
- Confirmation Class 4 5:30pm Spark Group 4 – 5:15pm **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Day!** No afternoon class





# Youth Group/ Spark Times

Youth Group (Gr 7 - 12): 3rd Sunday of each month from 5:30 - 6:30 pm 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Spark Group: (Gr 4 – 6): 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 4 – 5:15 pm



These will always be listed in the monthly calendar. I will try to notify parents/students if any changes are needed. Thanks for your understanding.



# Family Photo Fundraiser!

Smile and say, "Cheese!" Would you like an updated family photo? I'm happy to announce that Jennifer Wells from 'You've Been Captured' photography is teaming with our Board of Youth for one of our 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering fundraisers. Jen will donate 10% of all First Lutheran Church family photos towards our trip to New Orleans next summer! She will accept all bookings through June 1, 2024. Here are further details:

MINI-SESSIONS \$150 packages include:

25 minute session

15+ Digital images

Print release upon request

Groups of 6 or less (pets are welcome)

\$50 non-refundable deposit is due at booking

\$25 traveling fee applies if more than 25 minutes from Valders.

Please consider contacting Jennifer to schedule a session for your family and mention that you are with First Lutheran Church so that we may receive a percentage back. See Connie for business cards or you may contact her through text at (920) 901-0121, via a Facebook message or on her website jen@youvebeencaptured.com

Thank you for your consideration! Connie



### HELP US OUT....

#### "Taking Faith Home"

is a weekly faith formation flyer that is in your weekly bulletin. We are looking at different ways to continue this daily devotional tool in the future. Please let the Office know if this is something you use. Thank You!



# Halloween Word Search

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Afraid Bats Beware Bewitched Black Cat Boo Broomstick Cobwebs Candy Clowns Coffin Eyeballs Dracula Fangs Fog Frankenstein Ghosts Goblins Graveyard Grim Reaper Halloween Haunted House Hocus Pocus Jack O Lantern Monsters Mummies October Poltergeist Potions Pumpkins RIP Skeleton Spells Spook Spirits Trick or Treat Vampire Warlock Werewolves Witches

#### What you need:

- <sup>1</sup>/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice

\*Irail Mix\*

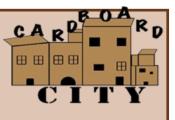
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

#### What you do:

- 1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
- 2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
- 3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
- 4. Store in airtight container.



# <u>Please Join</u> IN



Confirmation students, Youth in Grades 10 – 12, families: please

consider participating in this event which helps support Hope House, The Haven and Habitat for Humanity and helps to bring awareness to homelessness in our community.

The event begins at 4pm on Saturday, **October 14** and ends at 7am **October 15**(sleep outside overnight in a cardboard box home, a tent or in your car at First Presbyterian).

Collect pledges to raise funds.

If you'd like to participate, see Connie for information, and/or pledge forms and parental agreement forms.

I'm going to participate - who's going to join me?!



#### LWR (Lutheran World Relief)

Confirmation students will help with packing/ carrying quilts and packing school bags on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> during regular class time. **The Ladies Snip & Sew are also requesting fathers**,

sons (and other strong people) to help load the quilts up on the truck on a Saturday morning (see MaryAnn Peaslee for the exact date). If you are available to help, please let us know. Thank you in advance.

### FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION Next collection: OCTOBER 1!

Pick up some Black Cloth bags printed with "First Lutheran Church - Gather, Grow, Go..." (part of our mission statement) that are available in the lobby near the office,

to use to bring back your donation on First Sunday. And remember that if you wish to have your donations picked up, just call or leave a message for Harry at 920-242-2489.

<u>Updated Pantry needs</u>: Peanut butter, jelly/jam, any pasta, pasta sauces, canned fruits and veggies (not green beans), hamburger helper type boxed meals, mac & cheese, cereal (and oatmeal), canned soups, canned/pouched meats, 100% fruit juice, rice, condiments

and spices, crackers. We are happy to accept fresh produce from gardeners who may still have excess (this need obviously is short lived – maybe into Oct.). Most of the other needs remain consistent as the commodity food we are getting in is not very plentiful and the need has increased significantly the last several months.

Thank you for your continued support!



# Hope House <u>Manitowoc County</u>

Hope House 1000 S. 35th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220 (920)686-1436 hopehousemc.org

First Lutheran's Host week is Oct 15-Oct 21



# SUBWAY Donation! Thank you to our

local Subway for reaching out to us when they had extra sub bread. They donated a huge box of bread for our families! With 26 people and 19 of them children, the loaves were gone in less than 2 days. **THANK YOU!!!** 

## Penny Wars with a TWIST

A penny war is a friendly competition that can be a great way to learn both the value of money and the importance of fundraising. The goal is for your team to have the most pennies by the end of the competition.

Faith Church adds some fun extras with their competition. They use a balance scale to compare their pennies, and it's boys vs. girls. Our Executive Director, Abby, talked to the group on opening night explaining that their pennies will help our families with



things that they need, like soap, towels, food, and more. *The winning team also avoided being slimed!* If the boys win, the female group leader gets slimed, and if the girls win, a designated member from the boy's team gets slimed.

Faith Church made it a fun way to raise money for us. We received a check from them this week for **\$1,071.59**. That's a lot of pennies & a lot of FUN! Thank you!

#### **OUR WISH LIST** for our Guests...

- Size 6 diapers
- Baby Wipes
- Floor cleaner
- 13-gallon garbage bags
- WalMart Gift Cards
- Kwik Trip Gas Cards (\$10 or \$20 increments. Guests use these to get to appointments, interviews and look at housing)

Thank you for the continued support of donations!

#### Follow us on Facebook Learn more about us at Hope House (hopehousemc.org)

Hope House is a United Way Funds Recipient 9



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Worship Trad-HC 10:10 Sunday School First Sunday Food Collection New Member Reception	2 1p Snip n'Sew 10:3 Pastor Txt Study 6p Handbells	<b>3</b> 9:3 Staff Mtg 9:3 Snip n' Sew	4 9:3a Bible Study 5-Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:3-7:3 YG	5	6 9-10:3 Grief Support Group	7 RUTH RECYCLE PARKIING LOT 10am-1pm
8 9am Worship Trad—HC 10:10 Sunday School 10:15-Fellowship Coffee 4-5:3—Confirm. Classes	9 1p Snip n'Sew 10:3 Pastor Txt Study 6p Handbells	10 9:3 Staff Mtg 9:3a Snip n' Sew 5:3 Bd Outreach 6p Bd Music/Worship 6p Bd Youth/Chris Ed.	11 9a Ruth Mtg 9:3a Bible Study 4-5:15 \$₽ARK 5-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12	13 9-10:3 Grief Support Group	14 CARDENARD CITY 4pm to 7am Sunday @First Presbyterian
15Prayer Shawl Sunday 9am Worship CC-HC Baptism 10:10 Sunday School 10:15-Fellowship Coffee 4-5:3—Confirm. Classes & LWR Packing 5:3-6:3 YG	16 1p Snip n'Sew 6p Handbells Messenger Deadline for November	17 9:3 Staff Mtg 9:3a Snip n'Sew	18 9:3a Bible Study 5-Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6p Exec. Comm. 6:3p Council 6:3-7:3 YG	19	20 9-10:3 Grief Support Group Woman's Fi 20th-22nd Imago Del V	
22 9am Worship Trad–HC Handbell Choir 10:10 Sunday School 10:15-Fellowship Coffee 4-5:3—Confirm. Classes	23 1p Snip n'Sew 10:3 Pastor Txt Study 6p Handbells	24 9:3 Staff Mtg 9:3a Snip n'Sew 5:3 Bd Outreach 7p Bd Fellowship	25 9:3a Bible Study 4-5:15 \$₽ARK 5-Chancel Choir Rehearsal	26	27 9-10:3 Grief Support Group	28
29 Reformation Sunday 9am Worship Trad–HC Confirmation Sunday Chancel Choir 10:15-Fellowship Coffee	30 1p Snip n'Sew 10:3 Pastor Txt Study 6p Handbells	31 9:3 Staff Mtg 9:3a Snip n'Sew		FB= Facéb	onal in Current ch rary @ Communion m ook fo	ay arise after print- g. Always double eck the weekly "Life First" announce- ents , Emails, etc.– r updates, cancela- ons, etc.

# FIRST LUTHERAN



521 N. 8th Street Manitowoc WI 54220

Phone: 920-682-7742 Web: FLCmanitowoc.org E-Mail: Office@flcmanitowoc.org

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2023

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To:

#### FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Pastor Andy Wendle



#### Sunday services at 9am

WOMT 1240AM/107.9FM, <u>womtradio.com</u> YouTube, Facebook Live www.facebook.com/ FLCManty521

Holy Communion – Every Sunday

#### 10:10 Sunday School (Sept.-May)

Church Office Hours Mon-Thurs: 10:00-3:00 Friday: 9:00-12noon

920-682-7742 Email: Office@flcmanitowoc.org Web: FLCmanitowoc.org

Our God-given mission is to ...

Gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Grow in faith and love, Go out to serve and invite others to faith in Christ.

