

Ripples

Stillwater Free Lutheran Church

“Sharing Jesus Christ with Our Neighbors”

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AUGUST

“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God”

John 1:12

NIV

From the Pastors Desk

Here we are, August already! I ask myself were have the days gone?
Sometimes I get so caught up in my routine, that I forget even what day it is! Have
you ever found yourself in that situation?

We tend to be creatures of habit – and that’s good, but sometimes the habit becomes
just something we do, and we forget why we are doing it.

Interestingly – this “problem” has been going on for a very long time! As a matter of
fact, the Israelites had the exact same problem!

You see, the Jews had the Temple, and their sacrificial system. They had their land
and cities. They had their King and alliances with the powerful nations around them,
and they were enjoying life!

The problem was, they had become complacent, and comfortable with the way things
were. They were going about and doing the things they were supposed to and
thought that they were doing OK.

After all – they were Gods chosen people, weren’t they? They had the Temple, that
God had THEM build. They had the sacrificial system that God had given to THEM,
and they were sort of following it!

And, to top it all off, the kingdom was thriving, showing that God was blessing them!
What could possibly be wrong!!!

But God sends the prophet Jeremiah to shake the people up. To get them out of their
rut, so to speak.

Jeremiah tells the people: Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah who
come through these gates to worship the LORD. This is what the LORD Almighty,
the God of Israel, says: Reform your ways and your actions, and I will let you live in
this place. Do not trust in deceptive words and say, "This is the temple of the LORD,
the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD! If you really change your ways and
your actions and deal with each other justly, if you do not oppress the alien, the
fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do

not follow other gods to your own harm, then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your forefathers for ever and ever.

God is telling the people; “Wake up! Get out of your complacent rut and look at what you are doing! If you change your ways - I will maintain and continue to bless you as a nation!

But if you continue the way you are going then I will lead you into captivity.”

And we all know what happened – God let the Jews go into captivity. Not once but three times, and the kingdom finally fell apart.

Now, I can almost hear you thinking ‘Yes Pastor,’ but that was the Old Testament and God was talking to the Jews. We are living under the Grace of Christ and we are free from the Condemnation of the Law, because we are new creations in Christ!
– so, what does that have to do with us?

And I’m glad you thought that! Let me ask you a few questions; Does your life reflect Christ? Are you a light to the world? Are you salt to those who know you? Does the fact that Christ died on the cross, rose from the dead, and now sits on the right hand of God, encourage you to live a better life – OR – do you think that your life is good enough? Are you constantly looking at ways to improve your walk with the Lord, or is it good enough? Do you think that since you are not as bad as your neighbor, that you are doing pretty good?

If we are “Good enough” in our daily walk, then we are literally living the way the Jews were.

You see, the Jews were satisfied with what was going on. They had the temple, and stuff, and said (probably to themselves) look at what we have done!
They were trusting in their own accomplishments, and not in God!

And, I think we sometimes find ourselves in the same situation. As a matter of fact – it’s easier to slide down this path than we would like to admit!

The writer of Hebrews tells us: If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?

The writer was telling the people in the first century (and us today) that we need to keep ourselves diligent, because just like the Jews – we can slip into complacency!

Back when I was in Seminary I was talking to a student at Bible School that had attended a Lutheran College for two years before attending AFLBS. She told me how amazed she was at the actions and attitudes of the students at the Lutheran college.

You would think – these are Christian Young Men and Women, I bet their actions show their faith! But this girl told me, they were worse than the Non-Christian friends she had! These “College students were more promiscuous, and involved in things they knew better, than the Non-Christians!

Then they would say – That’s OK I’ll go to church and communion on Sunday and be ok! Isn’t that what the Jews were doing in Jeremiah’s day?

So, as we step into this last month of Summer, let’s take some extra care and not take for granted the things God has done for us!

Let’s take a moment to look at the beauty of the mountains, and fields. Take a moment to enjoy the beautiful weather and sunshine.

And Remember to take some time and remember what God did for us – He sent His Son, Jesus to die for our sins – so we may live with Him! And when we do that remember there are others that haven’t heard about that and our vision is to Share Jesus Christ with our neighbors!

God Bless – and enjoy what God has created for us!

- Pastor Craig

Free Flyers Youth Group

The Free Flyers are committed to serve the community through our strength in Jesus Christ.



YOUTH SUMMER SCHEDULE

Aug. 8th - Youth group 6-7:30

Aug. 15th - 19th - Fair Week

Aug. 22nd - Youth group 6-7:30



This summer we are meeting twice a month. All of these are subject to change. If there is a change, I will contact everyone in advance. We may also change location week to week.

Summer Events:

-NW Montana Fair Aug. 15th-19th. We have youth involved at the fair, please go and support them

FLY Beyond report:

We had four youth attend the FLY Beyond camp in Osceola, WI. The camp was at our associations retreat center, better known as the ARC. The camp was about a week long. FLY Beyond happens every other year, and opposite our FLY convention in Colorado.

The theme this year was "Belong", belonging to Christ. This camp was structured to help equip youth in various ministry aspects. We had two morning Bible sessions and an evening session daily. After the evening session, we went with our assigned groups to short ministry electives. It was a great week! Our youth made new friends and had a little fun too!

Questions or concerns please contact Danny @ 261-8004

Proverbs 9

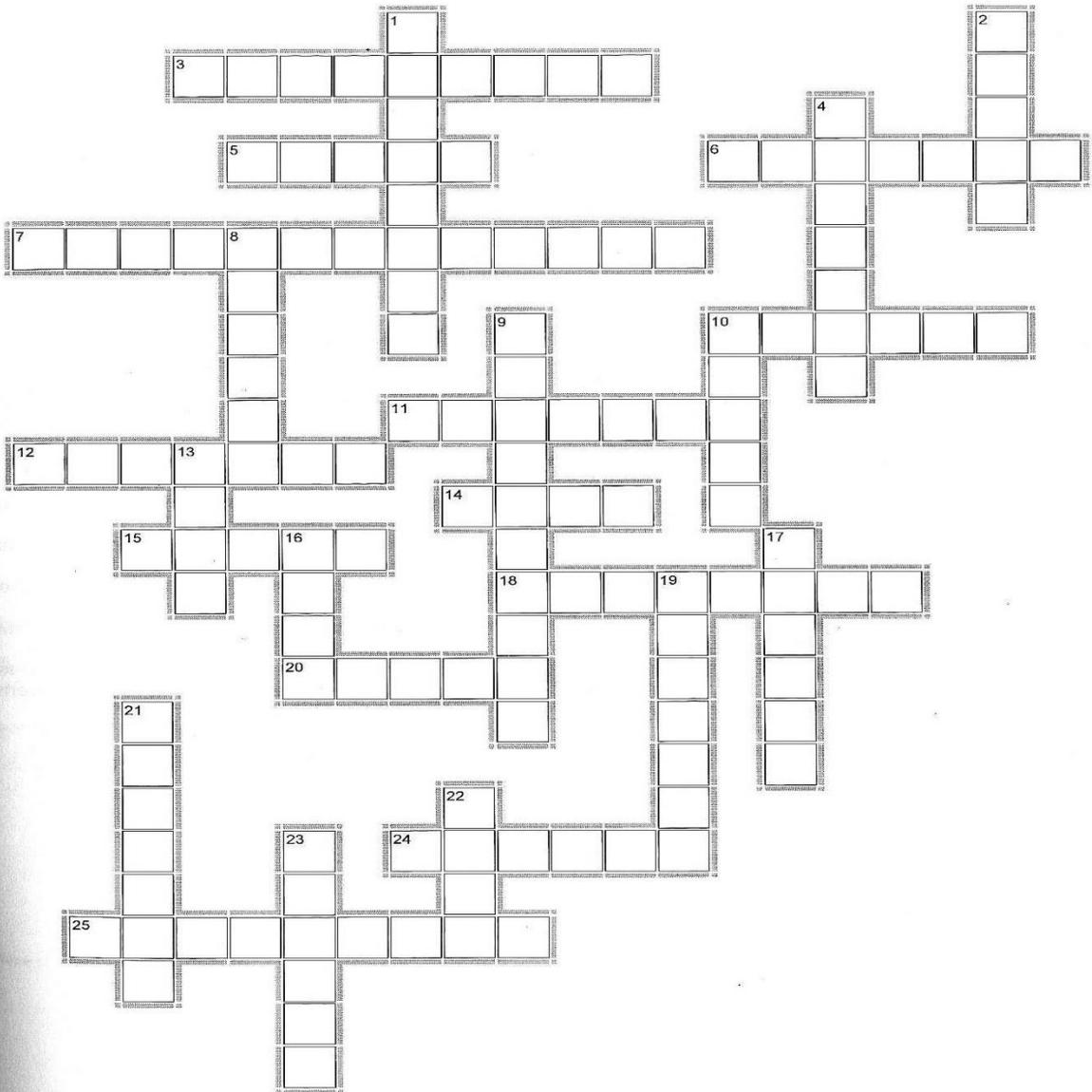
Across

3. the _____ of the holy is understanding (9:10)
5. Come, eat of my _____, and drink of the wine (9:5)
6. He that reproveth a _____ getteth to himself shame (9:7)
7. Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of _____ (9:6)
10. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of _____ (9:10)
11. she hath hewn out her seven _____ (9:1)
12. She hath sent forth her _____ (9:3)
14. she crieth upon the highest places of the _____ (9:3)
15. Wisdom hath builded her _____ (9:1)
18. teach a just man, and he will increase in _____ (9:9)
20. She hath killed her beasts; she hath mingled her wine; she hath also furnished her _____ (9:2)
24. Whoso is _____, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding (9:4)
25. the years of thy life shall be _____ (9:11)

Down

1. bread eaten in secret is _____ (9:17)
2. Stolen waters are _____ (9:17)
4. A _____ woman is clamorous (9:13)
8. _____ a wise man, and he will love thee (9:8)
9. For by me thy days shall be _____ (9:11)
10. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet _____ (9:9)
13. For she sitteth at the _____ of her house (9:14)
16. on a _____ in the high places of the city (9:14)
17. he that rebuketh a _____ man getteth himself a blot (9:7)
19. _____ not a scorner, lest he hate thee (9:8)
21. she is simple, and knoweth _____ (9:13)
22. drink of the _____ which I have mingled (9:5)
23. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her _____ are in the depths of hell (9:18)

Proverbs 9



Give more life!

Donate Blood!!

Blood Drive at Stillwater Free Lutheran Church

Wednesday, August 8th, 2018

12:30-5:30



**American
Red Cross**

Together, we can save a life

**To reserve your time or if you have any questions please contact Lori Switzer
at 406-407-7987**

*Please be trying to sell raffle tickets for the car!
The drawing for the car is August 26th, so please have all of your
tickets and money turned back into the church office by Sunday
August 19th!*

Name _____
Phone _____

Stillwater Free Lutheran Church Building Project Fundraiser
1973 Chevelle Laguna

\$20.00



***Need not
be present to win**

Rebuilt 454 motor, stock 350 auto tranny, new deep amethyst
(purple) paint, aluminum wheels, factory swivel seats. The
Interior is in excellent shape.



July 19th

We met at the church at 10:00 a.m. Present were Bonnie, Lavonne, Hattie, Linda M., Judy H. and Nicole. Lavonne opened with devotions and Bonnie led us in prayer.

We talked about where our offerings will go each month. This month some will go to Christian Education at the AFLC, we send \$15.00 each month to Wycliff Bible Translators for the Chesley's and our birthday money will go into the bank and be sent to a missionary wife at the end of the year. Jim Hanson and his family gave our church a generous donation this month for helping with the memorial luncheon for Ilene. The Building Fund, General Fund and WMF all received a designated amount.
Thank you so much Jim and family!

We have great news from Annual Conference about the National WMF Board.... Lavonne West is the new president!! Congratulations Lavonne, we are so honored to have you lead us! Please pray for Lavonne and the National WMF Board.

Women's Retreat will be September 7th & 8th this year. We will have the retreat at Early McWhorter's home. Friday evening, we will meet for supper together, games and fellowship. Saturday we will have a Bible Study, lunch and a craft lesson together before we go home. Mark your calendar and invite a friend. Watch for more information in the weekly bulletin.

Bonnie led us through Bible Study #7 titled "When Hope Wavers II."

Hattie and Linda served us an excellent lunch.

-Stillwater WMF

Building Committee Report

Over the next several weeks work will begin to move the pavilion. We are asking everyone to use caution when you are in the area of the pavilion, tent and playground.

The new location of the pavilion will be marked off and holes will be dug for the concrete sonotubes. The dirt from these holes will be piled in the area until this move is completed. There will no doubt be heavy equipment in the area also from time to time. PLEASE BE CAREFUL , ESPECIALLY WITH THE CHILDREN. WE DO NOT WANT ANY ACCIDENTS!

We hope to meet before the end of August as Ted Clarke and Roy Beekman have updated information they want to share with the committee. Look for date and time to be announced ASAP.

Stephanie continues her work on completing the COSA process and Miles and Jeff will begin their work on the new well connection soon we hope.

Contact me with any questions or concerns regarding our building project and as always, please keep this project and committee in your prayers.

Ed Van Scoten



Mark your calendars!!

September 7th & 8th

Early McWhorter's Home

SERIOUS JUJU SKATEBOARD MINISTRY

EST. 2007

FRIDAYS 5-9PM

INDOOR SKATEBOARDING, MEAL & THE WORD

707 WEST CENTER STREET, KALISPELL, MT 59901

River baptism:

Friday, August 17th 3pm

East shore across from the old steel bridge access

Thank you for praying or being there to support them!

Ways to get involved:

Become a monthly sustainer: at www.seriousjuju.com or mail checks to Serious JuJu: PO Box 705, Kalispell, MT 59901

Volunteer: Friday Nights 5-9pm, 707 w. Center St., Kalispell

Snacks: host snacks on a Friday night, email: jujukalispell@gmail.com

Friday meals: signup to make a meal for 40-70 kids, email: dpossin@gmail.com

Take home food bags: easy to make food items for the kids to take home to eat

Funds for shoes: payless gift cards help

Funds for skateboards: JuJu keeps some boards on hand for anyone to use, \$40 for a deck, \$100 for a full set-up.

Thank you for your support! God is on the move!

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