

NOTES and NEWS

First German Ev. Lutheran School

www.firstgerman.org

November 13, 2009

Christian Parent Organization -

This week we are going to take half of our time to go through our Bible Study of Relationships and spend the other half of our time talking about the idea of a time change in our school. I will go through what the proposal entails and I am very interested to see what everyone thinks of the issue.

Food for November:

15th : Wendt, Ronski

22nd : Strzyzewski, Bellin

29th : Knutson, Lindemann

PARISH ASSISTANCE

As most of you know our congregation is involved in a Parish Assistance Program in conjunction with our Synod. The purpose of this program is to get an outside look at our congregation and to give us ideas on how we can better serve the Lord Jesus here at First German. Many of you were part of the surveys that were given. Many of you were part of the interviews that the three men from our synod led, and many of you were here for the summary informational meeting we had a month or so ago.

A complete 83 page packet has been put together by these gentlemen and it has all the findings the interviews and surveys produced. We are putting together condensed versions for school families to read. This would include aspects of their findings that relate specifically to the school. Please take time to read the information in the packet and give feedback about it.

A very important next step to the program is coming up on December 4th and 5th and we want everyone to be here for these dates. On Friday, the 4th of December (6:30 p.m.) there will be a Question and Answer format held here. Pastor Kelm (the lead pastor in the program) will be here to field questions and make any corrections that we have about the findings in the report. It is going to be an opportunity to really put a lot of this into perspective. We will be providing childcare for both days here at school, with lots of activities to keep the children busy.

On Saturday, the 5th of December from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., the next phase of the process will be introduced. Phase III - the "Preparing for the future" seminar - is scheduled. Again childcare will be provided so you can attend this important seminar.

These meetings are important for us to work together and be will informed as we continue to build up our church with the tools and direction to move ahead in the future in a way that we can be more effective in sharing the Word of God to all people. There are some serious issues that are laid out in this report that need to be addressed as a congregation. Your presence and information is very much needed.

For families of our school that attend Grace, we care about your input about our school. This is your school also and if you have any feelings about the "school packet" please share that with Mr. Leckwee or the teacher of your children and we will make sure that voice is heard also.

THRIVENT MATCHING GIFTS

FG needs you!!! If you are a Thrivent member, please stop in and talk to Mr. Leckwee about how to best go about using the Thrivent Giving-Plus program.



We are still facing serious financial issues and every dollar that we can get matched will help continue our ministry here at First German. This is going to be the last year for that program. The format of the program is going to change, but I don't know how at this time. So if you haven't used your matching funds yet, try to do it before December ends.

VETERANS' DAY PRESENTATION

Thank you again to all of the people who helped put the presentation together. Especially the children! It was a wonderful thing to be a part of and great to show our appreciation for so many of our members who graciously sacrificed for our country.

A huge apology to anyone we may have missed on our list of veterans. We want to thank you also for your dedication to our country.

MISSION STATEMENT

The staff and the Board for Lutheran Schools is working on a Mission Statement for First German Lutheran Schools. The purpose of this mission statement is to guide all those associated with the school an understanding of what our purpose and goals are. The mission statement would be publicized so anyone interested in our school would immediately know what we are all about. As you will see the most important aspect of our school is the Christ-centered focus. Of course where this is publicized there will also be academic points that show how well our students score nationally and their success after their First German years.

This is something the staff and BLS have put together and presented to both the Parish Planning Committee and the Voters of the church. If you have any thoughts about it please feel free to let Mr. Leckwee, the staff, or a board member know your thoughts.

Mission of First German Lutheran School

Our purpose is to reach out equally to both members and nonmembers with the good news that “God in Christ Jesus has forgiven your sins,” and to help children appreciate the joy of living for God now and with him forever in heaven.

Again, this is something that is a bit different than our current enrollment policies (ie opening our enrollment nonmembers) which will require some adjustments to the current handbook. It isn't a major adjustment, but it is a change non the less. If you are unfamiliar with the current wording you can see it in the handbook under the Enrollment Policies section. All of that needs to go before the Board for Lutheran School, PPC, and voters assembly. Our purpose is to get input on it so everyone is aware and can voice their thoughts.

BASKETBALL DATE ADJUSTMENTS

The first game for the Spartans against Newtonburg is changed to Thursday the 3rd of December instead of Friday the 4th. We moved the date to compensate for our Parish Assistance Question and Answer meeting on the 4th.

We are also planning on changing the format to be the Girls B - Boys B - Girls A - Boys A. The games will begin at 5:00 p.m. so plan accordingly. We are going to try to get all of the games to be in this format to allow a bit of a break for any girls that are playing on the B and A team.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

A sign up register for the 10th Annual Thanksgiving dinner is on the table by the water fountain in the church lobby. Please let us know if you are able to attend, can donate a dessert, are able to help prepare, serve or clean up after the dinner. Please do so by Monday, November 23rd. Thank you for your cooperation.

MLHS HOT LUNCH

Our congregation is in charge of preparing and serving hot lunch at MLHS on Tuesday, November 17th. The time is from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you can help out for any amount of time on this day, please call Sara Spencer at 682-0674. Also, if you have a student attending Lutheran High, please send a 9 x 13 cake, cut into 20 pieces, along with him/her that day.

CPO CRAFT & BAKE SALE

A sign-up sheet has been sent home today. Please fill it out and return it to the school library by Wednesday, November 25th. *The success of this event depend on everyone's help.* The money raised will be put into the CPO fund to be used later.

BOOKS ARE FUN

There is a display set up in the school entry. Please take the time to look at the items displayed. These items are sold at a reduced rate for school families and they really make excellent gifts. The display will be available until Wednesday, November 18th.

BAND AND INSTRUMENT LESSONS

There will not be lessons on Thursday, November 12th. Mrs. Schmill has given the kids plenty to work on in the meantime. There will still be SATURDAY BAND on November 14th. She will provide subs for that.

CAMPBELL'S LABELS

At the end of December we will be sending in a shipment of Campbell's Soup labels. If we send in a total of 2500 labels, we will receive 2500 labels as a bonus. As of now, we are 1000 labels short of that total. If you have any labels waiting to be dropped of at church or school, please do so soon so we can receive our bonus labels. Remember, we do need the entire label.



ANNUAL COOKIE BAKE-OFF

On Saturday, November 21st, the Lutheran Pioneers will be having their Annual Cookie Bake-off. The activities will take place here at First German beginning at 9:00 a.m. for the older children and 1:00 p.m. for the younger children. Adult help would be greatly appreciated.

Donations of chocolate chips, coconut flakes, Hershey kisses or dipping chocolates, flour, sugar and butter would also be greatly appreciated. We would like all of the items dropped off at church by Sunday, November 15th. Please call the Schwarks (684-5892) for more information or to offer your assistance. Anyone who would like to make cookies at home may do so and bring them to the kitchen that morning.

All cookies are donated to Calvary Academy home office in Milwaukee. The Ladies Auxiliary sells them and proceeds go to Calvary Academy in Florida. Calvary offers a Christ-centered ministry of assistance to families whose children are experiencing behavioral difficulties.

LUTHERAN PIONEERS

Monday, November 16th - Regular Meeting Night - Sunbeam / Buckaroo will be working on their Christmas gifts and greeting cards. Lutheran Girl Pioneers will make cookie dough to be used at the cookie bake-off benefitting Calvary Academy; Boy Pioneers will be working on a Reindeer Cardholder as their Christmas project.

Friday, November 20th - Lock in Cookie Bake-off for the Lutheran Girl Pioneers begins at 4:00 p.m. Grades 3 and up.

Saturday, November 21st - Great Annual Cookie Bake-off begins at 9:00 a.m. Girl Pioneers and any interested adults will be making and making cookies and candies. The Sunbeams and Buckeroos will come at 1:00 p.m. to frost and decorate the cut out sugar cookies. All the cookies are donated to Calvary Academy's huge bake sale. Anyone wishing to make additional cookies or candies at home can bring them Friday evening or anytime on Saturday. All help for the Calvary Academy fund is greatly appreciated. Lunch will be provided for all helpers. Boy Pioneers will be working on the float from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 25th - Lakeshore Holiday Parade. All children should meet at school by 5:45 p.m.

STILL SAVING

Just a reminder that we are still collecting milk caps from Golden Guernsey, Morning Glory, Kemps and Kwik Trip (also Bag tops). The entire label from Campbell products. Pull tabs from aluminum cans. Used toner and ink cartridges. Used greeting cards and

cancelled stamps are also collected. Any of these items can be dropped off in the collection containers in the church lobby, school entry or in the school library.

MANITOWOC LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

"The Canterbury Tales."– MLHS students will be presenting this classic November 13th - 15th. Tickets are just \$3 at the door. Show times are 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

"Lancer Singers - Culvers Night Out" – November 17th. Make it a date night and head out to dinner! 10% of all sales generated at Culvers between 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. will be donated back to MLHS to defer the cost of the Lancer Singers attending the WELS Choral Festival in April. Dine-in, To-Go, and Drive-Thru orders all qualify, so eat up!

Fine Arts Work Day – The MLHS Fine Arts Department (Music, Drama, & Art) needs some helping hands to re-locate and organize costumes, stage sets, art equipment, materials, etc. Many hands make light work, and this is a great way to join together in helping MLHS make the best use of the equipment it has been blessed with. Mark the date of November 21st from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

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| 11/13-14 | -MLHS Student Drama Production "The Canterbury Tales". (7:00 p.m.) |
| Sat., 11/14 | -MLHS Federation Meeting (9:00 a.m.) |
| Sun., 11/15 | -MLHS Sunday @ St. Paul, Algoma (8:00 & 10:00 a.m.) -MLHS Student Drama Production "The Canterbury Tales". (2:00 p.m.) |
| Tue., 11/17 | -Lancer Singers -Culvers Night Out Fundraiser (5:00 - 8:00 p.m.) |
| Wed., 11/25 | -Manitowoc Holiday Parade |
| Sat., 11/28 | -Two Rivers Holiday Parade |

CLASSROOM NEWS

Sonshine Preschool Notes from Mrs. Schaller

For the week of November 16th - 20th, the Bible Story is "God Leads His People." The 3's will be continuing with their Thanksgiving theme until after Thanksgiving. The 4's will be starting on the letter G. It's a Great time to Give thanks for all God's Goodness.

Kindergarten Notes from Mrs. Fischer

God does not want us to worry about food or clothes or anything else. He wants us to trust him to take care of us. In Matthew 7:7, he tells us, “*Ask and it will be given to you.*” In the Bible lesson, *Jesus Teaches Us Not to Worry*, God reminds us how much He loves us. His love for us is so great that he took away our biggest worry. He sent Jesus to die on the cross to take away our sins.

In Math, the children are practicing number words, ordinal numbers, identifying missing numbers and counting pennies. They practiced counting pennies on the smart board. I put a picture of a penny on the board and clicked infinite cloner. Then, when I told them to show 10 cents with pennies, all they had to do was keep touching the penny until there were 10 showing on the board.

The children started Letter Book L on Wednesday which brought about a change in the Reading Centers. In the Writing Center, the children will be hearing facts about ladybugs. They will choose one of those facts to write about. In the Art Center, they are making ladybugs out of Model Magic. In the Reading Center, they are using letter tiles to practice word case and popcorn words. In the Listening Center, they are enjoying the book *Chewy Louie*. And in the Computer Center, they are unscrambling stories.

Remember on **Monday, November 16th**, we will be going on an 11:00 a.m. tour to the fire station. The children will need their **car seats**.

Over the weekend, I hope the children will be able to help Lemony Lion. You will be receiving the sad story about how he lost all his mane. The good news is that your child can help Lemony get his mane back. He or she will bring home some orange strips of paper (Lemony’s mane). Your child should print one word that begins with *l* on each strip. Please make sure the print is dark enough so everyone can see the word. I will put it back on Lemony’s head. When he has all his mane back, Lemony said he would like to share his lollipop with all those who helped. Let’s change Lemony’s frown to a smile. Thank you!

Mrs. Fischer

1st and 2nd Grade Notes from Mrs. Korte

Thank you to **everyone** who helped make our **Veterans’ Day Program** a success. We had parents bringing juice, bars, cookies, muffins, helping set up, and helping put everything away at the end. Thank

you, Thank you, Thank you! I also want to thank the 7th and 8th grade Mentors who helped my 1st and 2nd grade students put together the flags to be given out to all of the Veterans. We worked a couple of weeks on this project, but it was fun. The great thing was seeing the older students helping out the younger students making the project. What an opportunity for my students to get to know the older students and to work together. We will be doing this mentoring program throughout the school year.

Thank you for getting the report card slip back to me. It’s the only way of letting me know that you have seen the report card. Everyone did very well.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Fri., 11/20** -Spelling test
- Thurs., 11/26** -Thanksgiving Day Service (9:00 a.m.)
- Fri., 11/27** -No school
- Fri., 12/4** -Parish Assistance Assembly
- Sat., 12/5** -Parish Assistance Assembly
(note to follow)

Mrs. Korte

3rd and 4th Grade Notes from Miss Wordell

Look for **Science** notes being sent home today. The **test** is on Monday!

Look for new **book report** information being sent home today! As always, thank you for monitoring your child’s reading log minutes. Help them plan when they will be getting their reading sessions in each week. Remember those reading log minutes can be included on the **4 Seasons Reading Challenge** log sheet. Minutes spent reading for book reports can also be included on the weekly reading log and the 4 Seasons reading log.

Students should try and recite the **New Testament Books of the Bible by November 25th**. Please find the list in the home study folder, and have your child try to recite this list from memory.

If any of you have **metal lids** that are still used on some frozen juice concentrate cans, please save them for me. At anytime, you could drop them off in my classroom or leave them in the lobby with my name on the container. Thank you!!

We hope you enjoyed the Veterans’ Recognition of last Sunday. We have heard a lot of positive feedback. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Nickels even brought in treats for the school children as a way to show their appreciation! Mmmmm! Thanks! The M&Ms were tasty!

Yeupheng Kue was able to visit us on November 5th. The kids had an enjoyable afternoon doing Math, Art, Recess, and a Science video. Please continue to keep him and his family in your prayers. Each student was given a group picture from that afternoon. We await with trusting hearts to see God's future plans. What a comfort to know that no matter what—God's decisions are for the best of all involved. Don't worry about tomorrow. God is already there.

When the MLHS Lancers were in the semi-final playoff game last Friday, we tracked the scores on the HTR blog. Even though we didn't have a live picture, the 3rd and 4th graders were doing the Wave and cheering our girls on. Later, during the afternoon devotion, we were talking about how God is always with you, how he picks you up when you are down. When posed with the question of "How do you think the Lancer girls are feeling right now? Probably kind of sad and down," one of the boys piped up "Wow, these devotion passages *always* seem to fit something that is going on in our lives!" Yes, they do.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Mon., 11/16** -Return Reading Log #10
 -Science Test
Fri., 11/20 -Spelling Test #9
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- Wed., 11/25** -Deadline: Recite the New Testament Bible Books

5th and 6th Grade Notes from Mr. Siegler

We sing this Sunday. Check Mr. Menk's note on the matter. (That's like the cross references we've been studying.)

For the first time in 30 years, I've had all the report card slips returned in two days. Way to go! A new record has been set. Normally, returning slips requires a few weeks and more than a few threats. I'll just hang on to the threats until next time; they don't spoil.

Tests and quizzes for 11 - 16 to 11 - 20

- Mon.** Social studies test chpt 7
 Spelling test
Tue. Catechism quiz pages 72 - 73
 Math test
 Reading test
Wed. Social studies test Unit 3
 Reading test
 Spelling test
Thur. Science test chpt 6
Fri. Catechism test Comm 3

GRADES 5-8 SING THIS WEEKEND

Students in grades 5-8 will be singing in the **8:00 A.M. service** this weekend. We will meet in the balcony before church begins. After we sing in between the readings, students will be excused to sit with their families. Thank you for your efforts in having your child(ren) there.

Please remember that we also sing **next weekend in both services**. We will sing in between the readings in both of those services as well.

GRADES 5-8 SINGING INVITATION

Grades 5-8 have been invited to sing and ring at our sister congregation, Grace Lutheran, on the northwest side of Manitowoc. Because several of our school families are members there, they seldom hear our children sing. We would like to take a group of volunteers in grades 5-8 and the handbell choir to ring and sing on December 13th in their 10:30 a.m. service. We would perform during the service. Please complete the attached note so we know who is able to attend. Thank you.

7th & 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Menk

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Wed., 11/18** -spelling test 11
Thurs., 11/19 -Asia map quiz
Fri., 11/20 -hymn 469:1-3 due
Fri., 11/20 -spelling test 11
Mon., 11/23 -animal book report due
Tue., 11/24 -spelling test 12
Wed., 11/25 -spelling test 12

7th & 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Leckwee

Our study of the American Colonies is moving into the Revolutionary stage. We will be having a Science test on Tuesday of next week. In our Church History class the students are learning about the different departments of our Synod and the different organizations our Synod has to reach out and help our fellow Christians.

VETERANS DAY THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who made the veterans day presentation special. Students, you did an excellent job of singing and of letting the veterans know you appreciated them. Well done.

Parents, be sure you check out the extra publicity for our school in last week Sunday's and this week Wednesday's issue of *The Lakeshore Chronicle*. Our students were featured in the O Tannenbaum and Community sections. We thank Miss Wordell for submitting the pictures and articles and Pat Pankratz for making sure they appeared in the paper