

People of The Way

One day Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” The reputation about him, the word on the street, was that Jesus was John the Baptist back from the dead, the prophet Elijah returned from heaven, or simply one of the prophets.

Who do people say that I am? What’s my reputation? What are people saying about me? It’s a curious question. One message we are constantly trying to teach the Rasner children (and constantly trying to remind ourselves!) is to not worry about what other people think about you, just be yourself. Even still, it is a curious question that Jesus asks: Who do people say that I am?

I wonder: Who do people say you are?

As a church, what is your reputation? What are others saying about you? Now that’s a curious question! I digress.

Of course the story continues with Jesus asking the disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter’s bold confession indicates the truth concerning Jesus, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” There are so many layers to the confession: ‘Messiah’ implies kingship, Jesus the King; ‘Son of the living God’ implies intimate relationship with the God of all creation; ‘Son of the *living* God’ implies the reality that God is not dead but very much alive, and Jesus the King is in close communion with *living God* who is very much active and working right now. So many layers!

I wonder: Who do people say you are?

The first followers of Christ were never referred to as Christians . . . did you know that? The first people who were jumping on board with the Jesus movement were never referred to as Christians, nor Jesus’ people, nor even Jesus’ followers. The first followers of Christ were referred to as “people belonging to The Way,” according to the book of Acts.

Who do people say you are? You are people of The Way.

People of The Way! I am struck by the language: people of The Way. Immediately, the image of a journey comes to my mind, and then the image of a way of being comes next. It is like saying Jesus is moving and we are on that journey with him. It is like saying Jesus has a particular way of being and way of living, and we have a particular way of being and living along with him.

Who do people say you are, as a church and as individuals?

Are you people who follow a particular way of life that is consistent with Jesus the King? Are you a people who follow Jesus on the path toward who knows what end, but always leads into the lives of other people? Are you a church that says, “This is how Jesus is, and so this is how we will be too”? Are you a church that says, “We don’t know where Jesus is leading us now, but we are going to follow him and shape our way of being so it is consistent with his teaching and his leading. And we are going to go wherever Jesus goes because we trust him and know he leads to real life.”

Who do people say that you are? The bible says you are people belonging to The Way, and Peter’s bold confession concerning the One who is The Way is all the more potent. Jesus is The Way. Jesus is the Messiah, the King, and the King is leading us on a journey with a particular way of living. Jesus is the Son of the living God, who, by his own life, embodies and espouses absolutely everything that is in the heart of the living, active, breathing, moving God of all creation. Consequently, you, by your own living and being, embody the heart of the God of all creation as well! Who do people say that you are?

You are people belonging to The Way!





Council Updates:

We just want to say thank you for the support on getting our roof bid approved. The contractor hopes to start in mid June. During our May meeting, it was again decided to hold off on having, the coffee hour before church. We will start having a movie night for those that took part in that previously, a soft opening. There are a couple of items we would like some input on: 1. The eternal candle was brought up on possibly being extinguished during the week, per Pastor DJ, Lutherans do not have a strict policy on this procedure. 2. Pastor replacement. During this last year we have had to endure many things. Of course there has been Covid but, also, we lost our Pastor. We have had to be quite creative for our worship services. This has led us to think creatively about our future Pastoral care. We have given some thought to full time vs part time; Seminary student; shared ministry either with another Lutheran church vs Presbyterian church. We continue to work on pastor options and welcome some input from you, the members. We will also be reimplementing ushers. Please sign up if you are interested to help us out. We are asking the ushers to please make sure all lights are off and all doors are locked before you leave. As the Covid 19 numbers decrease and more people are vaccinated we hope to gradually open up the church more and have soft singing (with mask). Your safety is still a concern, please continue the 6 feet physical distancing. We are excited with the positive changes happening. Hope to see many of you in the near future.

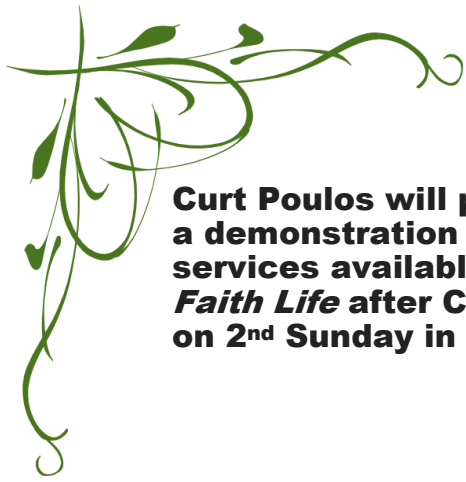
Sowing seeds of grace; growing faith in Christ.

Sincerely,
Tracey Nelson, President

Rise up
and
Pray

- LUKE 22 :46-





**Curt Poulos will provide
a demonstration on
services available with
Faith Life after Church
on 2nd Sunday in June**

*thank
you*



Graduation quilts were
lovingly made by
First Lutheran Quilters



Seanna Stine and Dayle Kemppainen are members of the Wycon track team that won Regionals.

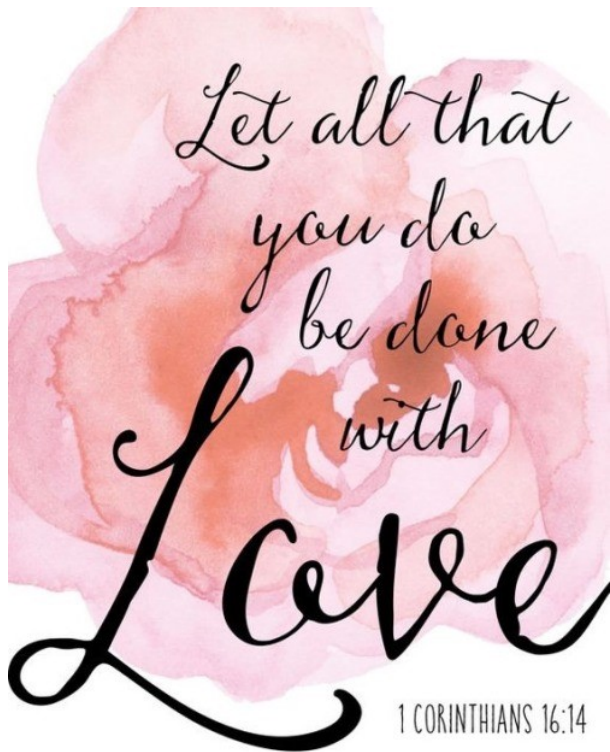
*cling to
what is
good*

- ROMANS 12:9



Blaze Rybicki playing tuba and Seanna Stine playing violin are part of the Symphony Orchestra that gave a concert at the Windsor Auditorium on May 6, 2021.





Remember:
Donations are still
being accepted for the
roofing fund!



Surprise for Myrna Cook! Four generations attending Easter Sunday service. Congrats!



WELCA News

On 5/10 the Women of the ELCA held their monthly meeting. We all are hoping to be able to serve meals again soon. In anticipation of this, the group began cleaning and reorganizing the kitchen. Thanks to all the cleaners! Next meeting is 6-14-21 at 11:00AM in the Luther Room.



Men's Group
Work Bee
Friday, June 18th





With Heartfelt *Sympathy*



The family of Margaret Dzanbozoff

The family of Lynne Wilkins

Happy Birthday

Betty Petroski	June 4th
Abbie Grubbs	June 6th
Elaine Johnson	June 7th
Virginia Byczek	June 9th
Jay Barry	June 9th
Carol Tresseder	June 13th
Myrna Cook	June 15th
Lois Brozak	June 16th
Donna Lord	June 18th
Marcus Porier	June 20th
Geoffery Sitkoski	June 21st
Donna Ahlberg	June 26th

Happy Anniversary

Mike and Lois Brozak	June 6th
Daniel and Brenda Grubbs	June 6th
Davisd and Pam Barry	June 8th
Larry and Debbie Quarford	June 10th
Marcus and Alisa Porier	June 14th
Geoffrey and Deborah Sitkoski	June 18th
Jay and Kay Barry	June 24th
Paul and JoAnn Wedegartner	June 26th





HIGH SCHOOL

MADDIE ANDERSON

DAYLE KEMPPAINEN

LIVIA MAZUREK

BROOKE STINE



COLLEGE

MCKENNA CARLSON

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

BACHELORS OF ARTS IN CHEMISTRY

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

TRISTAN NELSON

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

MASTERS OF ARTS IN HISTORY

WITH HONORS

ERIK FROBLUM

CERTIFIED ELECTRICAL LINEMAN

WILL START A 4 YEAR

APPRENTICESHIP



Congratulations



June

		1 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Worship and Music	2	3	4	5
6 10:00 Service	7	8 9:00 Quilters 10:00 Finance 6:00 Council	9	10	11	12 
13 10:00 Service	14 11:00 WELCA 	15 9:00 Quilters	16	17	18 8:30 Men's Group	19
20 10:00 Service 	21	22 9:00 Quilters	23	24	25	26
27 10:00 Service	28	29 9:00 Quilters	30			

