

Praying

MORE WORKERS Pray ... earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few ... (Luke 10:2, ESV)

PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS Seeking a new beginning, Eun-Young escaped the brutal conditions of North Korea. But she often feared repatriation: being forcefully sent back to possibly face imprisonment or execution. Pray for believers who escape North Korea. Ask God to protect them from harm and ease their fears of return..

PUBLIC SERVICE

- Our president, governor, federal and state representatives, mayor, city and county representatives
- Law Enforcement Officers and Judges

HEALING

Those involved with the Israel & Russia-Ukraine Conflict, Juniper Power, Bryan Fevold, Jennie Stutsman & Hugo Sanchez (Angela's friends), Chris Schaffer (Rodney's friend), Rachel Meuchel, Danette Odenbach Welsh (Marlene's daughter), Brandon Kindred, Cole Houska (Jesse's nephew's son), Matt & Christina Smith family, Pat Rusk (Barb's friend), Harold Dragseth, Chris Beard (Bonny's niece), Christy Hoffman (Lindsay's sister), Cattleya

FAMILY

Jesse, Anna & Leah Garcia, Lynn, Tanya, Evan, Braden & Halie Heiser, Tanner Henderson

SISTER CONGREGATIONS

Bethesda Lutheran Brethren Church- Pastor Paul Tjelts, Westby, Wisconsin



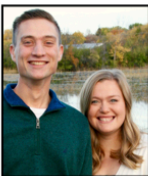
Faculty & Staff Dr. Nate Larsen, Professor of Practical Theology
Students Seth Vander Ley (Arianna & Lincoln)



Ben and Sara Hosch, along with their 5 kids, have been in Taiwan since fall of 2018. In 2021 they moved to Taichang City to work alongside Taichang Victory Church. They plan to do ministry with students at a nearby university as well as outreach to grassroots families in their community.



Carl and Emily are church planting in Lincoln, ND, a community next door to Bismarck. It is one of the fastest growing communities in the state, made up largely of young families who need to hear the good news of salvation in Jesus. A successful children's ministry has been the major focus. Pray that the Lord will add dedicated members to the launch team as they prepare to begin having weekly worship services in the near future and that he will provide resources to embark on a building program.



Growing & Serving



TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

- 5:00 PM Elders Meeting
- 7:00 PM Trustee Meeting
- 7:30 PM Church Council Meeting

NO CLASSES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

- 3:00 PM Board of Christian Education Meeting

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

- 9:30 AM Morning Prayer
- 10:00 AM Worship Service

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 1	Kent Pedersen	Jan 2	Wesley Kindel
Jan 3	Justin Smith	Jan 3	Duane Tretter
Jan 8	Odin Jellesed	Jan 10	Rylee Kirkland
Jan 11	Starla Marmon	Jan 13	Barb Quale
Jan 15	Timothy Kindel	Jan 18	Kelli Walvatne
Jan 19	Meghan Jellesed	Jan 24	Jamie Jellesed
Jan 25	Danielle Klamm	Jan 27	Mabel Muri
Jan 29	Vernon Muri		

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 14 Annual Meeting
- January 20 Bedrock Youth Group Ice Games & Fishing



Welcome!

The First Sunday after Christmas • December 31, 2023

We're glad you're here to worship with us. If you're visiting with us today, we hope you'll stick around for a bit after the service. We'd love to get acquainted with you. If you'd like us to contact you, please scan our QR code on the back of the bulletin, or fill out a visitor card at our Welcome Center.

BIBLE CENTERED Through God's saving Word we have been adopted into God's Family and share in the saving work of Jesus Christ.

FAMILY FOCUSED As brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, we serve each other and worship, learn and work together.

MISSION DRIVEN We are engaged in Jesus' disciple-making mission - winning souls for Christ by the preaching of the Word and personal witnessing, and strengthening believers through Christian fellowship in the Word and Sacraments.



Order of Worship

Gathering Song *

Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer

Songs of Praise

Old Testament Reading

Epistle Reading

The Apostles' Creed

Children's Message

Prayers of the Church

Tithes and Offerings

Hymn

Gospel Reading

Sermon

Hymn

Benediction

Doxology

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Psalm 90:1-12

Here I Am to Worship

Behold Him

Isaiah 30:8-17

Romans 8:31b-39

Speak O Lord

Luke 12:35-40

Luke 2:40-52

All Glory Be to Christ

Ready for the Future

* If you are able, please stand for elements of the service noted in bold.



Next Sunday's Readings: Psalm 29, Genesis 1:1-5, Romans 6:1-11, Mark 1:4-11



HOME TALK

Making Disciples in the Middle of Everyday Life Mt 28:20a

Talking about The Third Article of the Creed Sanctification

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, My Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the one true faith, in which Christian church he daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will grant everlasting life to me and all who believe in Christ. This is most certainly true.



237 What does it mean to gather the whole Christian Church?

The Holy Spirit gathers the whole Christian Church when He calls people one by one into fellowship with Christ and makes of them one family before God.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 "For just as the body is one and has many

members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit."

238 What is the Holy Christian Church?

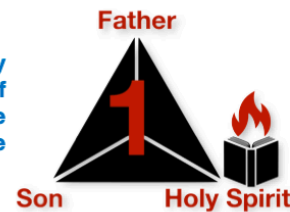
The holy Christian Church is the communion of saints, that is, all believers in Christ, since all believers, and only believers, are members of this Church.

Ephesians 2:19-22 "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit."

Romans 12:4-5 "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

Romans 8:9b "Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him."

Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version



The Lord's Supper

Who may participate?

This sacrament is meant for believers in Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). It is the way that God unites His church, sustains the church and grows faith, hope and love as the church participates in this shared grace together. Communion is God's way of delivering assurance of the forgiveness of sins to the flock.

What is received?

Christ gives to the communicants His body and blood - in, with, and under the bread and wine. He declares the forgiveness of sin to all believers, and strengthens their faith.

I feel I'm unworthy to receive

Being unworthy of Jesus' body and blood is the primary reason to receive the forgiveness of sins promised in communion. But it is possible to receive communion with an unworthy attitude. Therefore, self-examination is called for (1 Corinthians 11:28, 31).

I do well to ask myself:

1. Do I believe Jesus' promises?

"Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6).

2. Do I recognize Jesus' presence?

"Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Cor. 11:27, 29).

3. Am I reconciled with my fellow believers?

If we do not value reconciliation with others, we put ourselves in a place where we are distancing ourselves from God's will for us. We are living in rebellion.

4. Do I recognize my sinfulness

and that it will be the death of me? (1 John 1:5-10)

5. Is my hope in Jesus alone as the one who can give me eternal life?

We invite those who confess Jesus as their Savior from sin and death to receive the gift of forgiveness of sins offered and gifted in this sacrament.

A Note for Parents

Because communion requires time for self-examination, we do not encourage communion for children until they are old enough to be taught and old enough for self-examination. Through teaching they will appreciate its significance. Catechism Classes provide an opportunity to learn about the Lord's Supper. These classes are taught with the use of Luther's Small Catechism ... If you would like a copy of the Small Catechism for personal instruction or to instruct your children please contact the Pastor or the church office.

- adapted from We Believe, Rev. Tim Yazbeck, (Faith and Fellowship Press, 2009)

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Arianna Vander Ley

USHERING

Jesse Johnson

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Rodney Sampsel - audio
Pieter Buckle - livestream
Emily Kindel - projection

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