

August 18, 2024

UNSEARCHABLE RICHES

There's a legendary treasure trove on an island off the south shore of Nova Scotia. Centuries of treasure questers probing possibilities of new discoveries even spawned a reality television series. Theories and speculations of massive pirate stashes, rare artifacts, original manuscripts of Shakespeare, and the Ark of the Covenant have driven fortune seekers to pursue endless expeditions. Some coins and jewels and ship remnants have been uncovered, but explorers keep searching. Why do they persevere? Why do they keep digging for unfound treasure? Because they are determined there is more to be known and more to be found. But not everyone has equal rights to this buried treasure since the island is privately owned. Not everyone has access to the untapped riches.

But everyone has access to far greater riches. The Apostle Paul calls them "unsearchable" in Ephesians 3:8 (cf. Romans 11:33). Our first impression might be that unsearchable treasure is not able to be searched for or impossible to find. But in these verses, a clearer meaning of something unsearchable is that it is impossible to discover the end of it. The unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ are never-ending for all who will receive them. In Christ, the storehouse of God's grace is limitless, the repository of His mercy is infinite. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us" (Ephesians 1:7-8a NASB). Christ has given public access. These riches are for all who come to Jesus in faith. "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ . . . For by grace you have been saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:4-9).

God's unsearchable riches are for YOU! There is more to be known in Christ, and there are more treasures to be found in His Word. When you dig, you will not find the end of the treasure. So whether you are young or old, short or tall, large or small, keep digging. Keep studying. Keep learning. Keep memorizing Scripture. Keep writing God's Word on your mind and heart. Keep growing in your faith. Then you can say with the psalmist, "I rejoice at Your word as one who finds great treasure" (Psalm 119:162 NKJV).

Mrs. Marian Christopherson
AFLC Parish Education Director
Plymouth, Minnesota

AFLC Promotion for August is Parish Education



Helmar Lutheran Church
Newark, IL
Sunday, August 18th, 2024
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Prelude

Welcome

Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Scripture reading: Isaiah 66:1,2

II Corinthians 5:1-11

Pastoral Prayer

Praise Team: “Made for More”

“Come Jesus Come”

“It Is Well”

Children’s Church dismissed

Sermon: “The Two Kingdoms of the Sovereign God, pt. 1”

Matthew 16:13-20

Benediction

Hymn: “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Postlude

Wed. 6:30am Men’s Bible Study @ Southern Belle’s
7-9pm Youth Group BYBS @ Rich & Rhoda Niles’

Sun: 9:30am Fellowship
10am Worship **in the FLC**
6:00pm GriefShare

Welcome and thank you for attending our church service today. If you are new to Helmar and are interested in finding out more about us, please stop at the Welcome Center and talk with Jeff and Kathy. We have a gift bag for you.

Sign up sheets for the upcoming **Ladies’ Bible Studies** are available at the Welcome Center. Please note the time correction for the evening study.

*We are looking for volunteers to help with childcare for the mothers attending the evening study, September 12-November 21, 7:00-8:30 pm. Call Rich 630-212-1725.

Bulletin Art by Madison Carty

Helmarpalooza 2024 is in the books and we appreciate each of you who volunteered to make the day possible. Official count was 3400-3600 ticketed attendees, plus walk-ins. It was truly a wonderful day and we thank God for providing beautiful weather, funding, protection, and the many voices who lifted high the name of Jesus all evening. Please pray that He would continue to move in the hearts of all who were there!

The Helmar Quilters will be starting a new season with a breakfast on August 28th at 9am in the lower level. Please see Myrtle Duvick for details.

Ladies’ Prayer Hour begins on September 6th at 9am in the Fireside Room.



August 18th, 2024

“The Two Kingdoms of the Sovereign God:
The Spiritual, Right Hand”
Matthew 16:13-20

I. The _____ v. 15

II. The _____ v. 16

III. The _____ v. 18a

IV. The _____ v. 18b

Helmar Lutheran Church

(815) 201-3789 email: helmarlutheran@gmail.com

website: helmarlutheranchurch.com

Guest Wifi password: Helmar21

Helmar exists to be a:

***Soul-Winning, Disciple-Making,
Burden-Bearing Church***

Pastor— Steven Lombardo

217-621-2949 Email scbardo64@gmail.com

Pastor—Alex Woodworth

630-414-6460 Email pr.alex.woodworth@gmail.com

Children’s Ministry Director- Kristen Mathre

815-762-5320 Email helmarkids@gmail.com

Music Director-Treva Mathre

Email treva.mathre@aol.com 815-600-4469

Secretary—Stacy Christian 630-251-6733

Email helmarlutheran@gmail.com

Rally Day—Our Sunday School and Fall schedule will launch on September 8th. Please be in prayer for the teachers as they prepare for the new classes. Plan to join us for a picnic following the worship service that day. More details to come.

Are you in the Helmar Directory?

This is your quarterly reminder to keep your family’s directory entry up-to-date! Have you moved? Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Changed your phone number?

Updates can be submitted anytime by e-mail to Dana Cryder or completed on the Instant Church Directory website for her approval.

If you are new to Helmar but have attended regularly for 3+ months, please notify Dana if you would like to be added to the directory. Directions for accessing the online program & smartphone application will be provided upon request. All inquiries should be emailed to helmardirectory@gmail.com.