

# September 2024



## The Mountain Top Messenger

September 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>Elders:</b> Sept. 1 Scott Sept. 4 Doug Sept. 8 Randy Sept. 11 JohnP Sept 15 JohnS Sept. 18 Darrel Sept. 22 Scott Sept. 25 Andy Sept. 29 Andy Oct. 2 Doug						
<b>1</b> 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study 2:00pm LGP	<b>2</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b>  <b>Offices Closed</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  6:30pm Worship Service	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study	<b>9</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>10</b> 1:00pm Sewing Circle	<b>11</b> 6:30pm Worship Service	<b>12</b> 9:30am LFOJ Chapel	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study	<b>16</b> 10:00am Bible Study  5:30pm Council Mtg	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 1:00pm Hospice Group Gathering  6:30pm Worship Service	<b>19</b> 9:00am Winkel Ramsey	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study 2:00pm LGP	<b>23</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>24</b> 1:00pm Sewing Circle	<b>25</b> 6:30pm Worship Service	<b>26</b> 1:00pm Hospice Group Gathering	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Bible Study	<b>30</b> 10:00am Bible Study	<b>September Altar Guild</b> Jule Jarvela 715-682-0385 Tami Thimm 715-682-4817 <b>Transfer to Zion</b> Linda and John Thompson 08-11-2024 from Trinity Glidden, WI LCMS <b>Deaths</b> Diane Beiersdorff 7-31-2024				

Welcome to September, here we are heading into fall. Been a very quick summer, and I guess it is really too early to tell, it seems this upcoming week is still pretty summer like. I have noticed in my travels lately, in particular the road leading to Little Girls Point, that some of the leaves are beginning to change, especially the maple trees. They are already taking on some very bright reds. Oh well, it is inevitable after all we do live in a land of four seasons.

Speaking of inevitable, it appears that in the week following my sermon message about invitations and how we have become skeptical about some of those we receive in the mail, email, and in text messages. The scammers have attempted to get members of Zion to fall for a scam and they are using my name to do it. Earlier today I have received messages from several members saying they had received a text from me asking for assistance. Interestingly enough a short while later I got a text from me asking me for assistance. First let me clarify, the person claiming to be me is texting from a phone number that is not mine, it is a number originating in the 262-area code. According to Google that area code covers the suburbs of Milwaukee and Chicago. I have a 715-area code on my cell phone. Here is what the message says:

*Hi (Your Name), kindly respond to my message when you receive it. I have a favor to ask. ~Pastor Richard "Rick" Williams Grace and Peace.*

Now if you respond to this message, they will reply telling you that I am in a meeting and cannot be disturbed but could you please go out and purchase some sort of gift cards, (last time it was Apple). And then they let you know where to send them. They also say that I need the gift cards to give to some women who are battling breast cancer.

To the best of my knowledge, no one has sent them anything as of yet, please help me keep it that way. I have also reported the number as a scam and had it blocked. I also talked to Verizon and again reported the number. Last time it was a 414 area code number, again from the Milwaukee area which was also reported. The last time they tried this was on July 31, so it didn't take them long to try again. We are unsure of where they are getting their information. They are texting people by name, but some of the names have been for people I do not have in my contact list or on my phone. We also checked the church records to make sure they weren't hacking into the church system and found that a number of the people called were not in the church system. For example we had one person's home phone number but not their cell number and they had been contacted on their cell phone. We will continue to see if we can find the source but in the meantime, please remember, I will never, never, text you and ask you to send money or gift cards to anyone regardless of the circumstance. If you have any questions or concerns in regard to this matter please feel free to contact me any time. If you have any thoughts or ideas that might help us put a stop to it I would love to hear them. I am kind of hoping there is in eternity a special place for those people, particularly the ones that try and use other people and their trust to steal.

(Continued on next page)

I got so focused on the above matter I don't really have a bunch of other stuff. I do want to talk about a few upcoming things. First Sunday School and Confirmation will start the first Sunday of October, the 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Fall Harvest Dinner and Music Festival will be held on Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. About the middle of this month signup sheets for helping out and bringing food will be posted. If you would like to participate musically please contact either Tiffany Darling or myself.

And finally, the triannual LCMS National Youth gathering will be taking place from July 19-23 in New Orleans, LA we have a number of youths who have shown an interest in going. We need to get a head count and have them registered by the end of November for the best rates. If you or anyone you know would like to go please let myself of the office know. We will begin fund raising very shortly and I looking at possible traveling jointly with one or more other churches in the North Wisconsin District to help defer costs. Again if you know of anyone who might be interested please let me know. To attend young people must be 14 years of age or entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade through the age of 19. I can not express in words what a wonderful experience this is for all of those who attend. Again any questions, comments, or interest in going please see me.

There that is enough for now. Thank you for all of your help in all that we do in serving the Lord.

God Bless you all!

The Lord Bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Pastor Rick



**It's time to reinstate again having ushers helping with passing the offering plate across the pews and with guidance during communion. This will start Sunday, September 1st.**

**If you (men or women) would be interested in helping out, please tell one of the Elders.**



### Information About Grief Support

Grief is what we call that set of feelings that arise from change and loss. So much of how we define ourselves and what gives our lives meaning is a reflection of the people we deeply love. We question who we are without them and struggle to find meaning and purpose. There is no right way to grieve and many factors affect how we grieve. Regional Hospice understands that grief is a process, and that this process is different for everyone.



Regional Hospice offers Grief Support Groups across our service area for those looking for support as they struggle with the loss of a loved one. Our confidential meetings offer understanding, education, support, and suggestions for coping. The groups are open to anyone in the community who has experienced loss. We meet in a comfortable setting with no registration required, and it is free of charge.

**Ongoing Monthly Group**  
**Third Wednesday of every month**

**1:00pm – 2:30pm**

**Zion Lutheran Church 1111-11th Ave. W Ashland, WI**

**6 Week Education / Support Groups**  
**September 18 - October 23**

**10:00am – 11:30am**

**Washburn Public Library 307 Washington Ave. Washburn, WI**



### A real doll

"I work at an amusement park, and when another Barbara joined the team, I changed my name tag from 'Barb' to 'Barbie.' It was funny to see how small kids related to me differently. 'Is she really Barbie?' they asked. I changed it at my other job too, and began answering the phone, 'This is Barbie, how can I help you?' Ninety percent of callers now respond with my name: 'Barbie, can you tell me...' Pronouncing that long 'e' sound forces your mouth into a smile. But I've found the smile is usually returned voluntarily." —*Barbie Bosco, Latrobe,*



### Ahead of the times

"We pre-sort silverware in the dishwasher. It takes no extra time loading and makes emptying much easier. We always smile when our kids, now adults, introduce friends to 'Spoonland' and 'Forkland.'" —*Kathleen Luck, North Olmsted, Ohio*



... said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the LORD took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'"

Have you ever looked at your life and said, "God, I'm not the right person to be handling this?" I wonder if Amos said that to God. After all, He didn't go through seminary and learn how to be a prophet, the way normal people did it. He was a country man, someone who watched sheep and did a little tree care on the side.

And then one day God barged into his life and took him away to do something else—a different kind of shepherding, with much more ornery sheep. He sent him to speak God's message to the people of Israel, who had gone far away from the Lord and were doing all kinds of wickedness. As Amos put it, "they sell the righteous for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals ... [they] trample the head of the poor into the dust" (Amos 2:6b-7a). I bet there were days Amos wished he was back with the four-legged sheep!

You might feel that way too, if God has set a challenge before you—whether it's in your family or in your work or something to do with the community in which you live. Because God has a habit of choosing the last person you'd expect for the job. I think He does it so we know how much we need His help. If we're aware of our weakness, we're going to lean on Jesus with all our weight—because we're desperate, and we have no other way to get through. Joshua 1:9 - (God said) "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

When I was a little boy, my bedroom was paneled with knotty pine. In the twilight, with the room lights out and the summer sun sliding over the horizon, those knots and stained shapes took on all kinds of strange monster faces—at least in the mind's eye of a four-year-old boy.

In the winter, when the snow reflected the moon's light, those shadows came alive. Today, I'm an old man, but those memories are still very much with me.

Just as vivid is the time when my father came to my bedside and asked, "Son, you don't have to be afraid since you've said your prayers. You do say your prayers at night, don't you?"

I assured him I did.

His next question was this: "And you do say your prayers in the morning, too? Right?"

I replied, "No, Dad, I don't have to. I'm not scared in the morning."

Now that I've grown up, I realize talking to God is not a once-a-day experience. The loving Lord most certainly wants to hear from me when I'm scared, but He also wants me to check in when things are going smoothly.

It's a sad thing, but many people still think of God as a refuge only when they're in trouble. They only speak to Him when their lives are filled with monster faces, terrific terrors, and they are frightened beyond imagination.

If you're one of these folks, may I, from my own experience, remind you that God hears you when your heart is filled with fear and trepidation (see Psalm 94:19; Philippians 4:6-7). But He wants to hear from you at other times, too—even in the morning when you're not scared anymore.

Today, I encourage you to talk to the Savior who gave His life so you might live and so you might not be afraid. Jesus understands the things that bother and unsettle you.

He wants you to lean on Him. In fact, He tells each of us plainly, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid" (John 14:27).

From childhood to old age, in darkness or daylight, Jesus is always with us.

**WE PRAY:** Lord Jesus, thank You for being with me in times of joy as well as times of anxiety and uncertainty. You are concerned about my simplest needs and worries. In Your Name. Amen.

- 1.The answer to this [math riddle](#) on the Mensa IQ test is 1,155.
- 2.The answer is Jane's daughter (Jane's mother's husband is Jane's father, his daughter is Jane and Jill is her daughter).
- 3.Cherries (Tabitha only likes food with two syllables).



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1111-11TH AVE WEST**  
**ASHLAND, WI 54806**

**Sunday Worship Service 9:00am** live streamed  
**Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm**  
**Sunday School - 1st – 7th grade** Sunday 8:45am (Sept.-May)  
**Bible Studies**  
Sunday 10:15am Monday 10:00am (Sept.-May)

**Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479**  
**Office Hours: M /Th 9-5 Tues. off Wed. 12-8 Fri. 9-1**  
Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor.  
**Office Secretary Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075** Office Hours M/T/Wed 8:30-2:30  
Days and times may change.  
**Church President:** John Pruss 715-292-4825 **Head Elder:** Darryl Warren 715-492-0488  
**Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center:** 715-682-5185  
**LFOJ Administrator:** JoAnn Martkonis 715-682-6075  
**Website** [www.zionashland.org](http://www.zionashland.org) **E-mail** [secretary@zionlutheranashland.com](mailto:secretary@zionlutheranashland.com)

**PRAYERS for Home-bound, Assisted Living, Nursing Home**

Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them.

Ingrid Pocernich  
Arlene Zimmerman  
Violet Basina

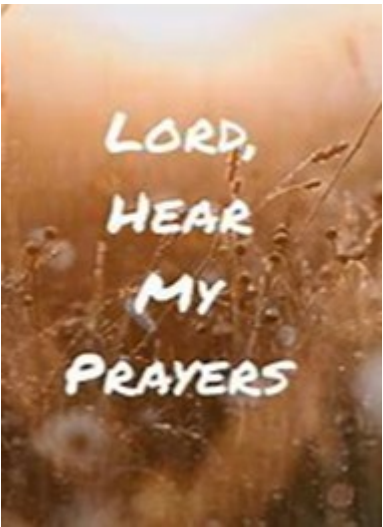
**PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION**

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families.

David Wright  
Jordan Thimm  
Andrew Pruss

**PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING**

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:



Brad Prill	Riley Bretting
Vi Basina	Mike Trimble
James Fletcher	Jamie Klema
Sheryl Hildebrandt	Mike Ariens
Harold Larson	Karen Piff
Linda Stenroos	Molly Colgrove
Steve Key	Linda Parrish
Tim Erickson	Chuck Sandor
Patty Hmielewski	Carl Kubley
Jean Wickman	Chuck
Janet Houle	Mary Dahl
Pam Ekholm	Sandy Bosma
Sheila Sukanen	Denise Solle
Karen	and those in our hearts
Wayne	

**Dear Lord, "We come to You today with heavy hearts, as we lift up those who are in need of prayer. We ask that You would bring healing and restoration to their body, mind, and spirit" Amen.**



# DATES TO REMEMBER

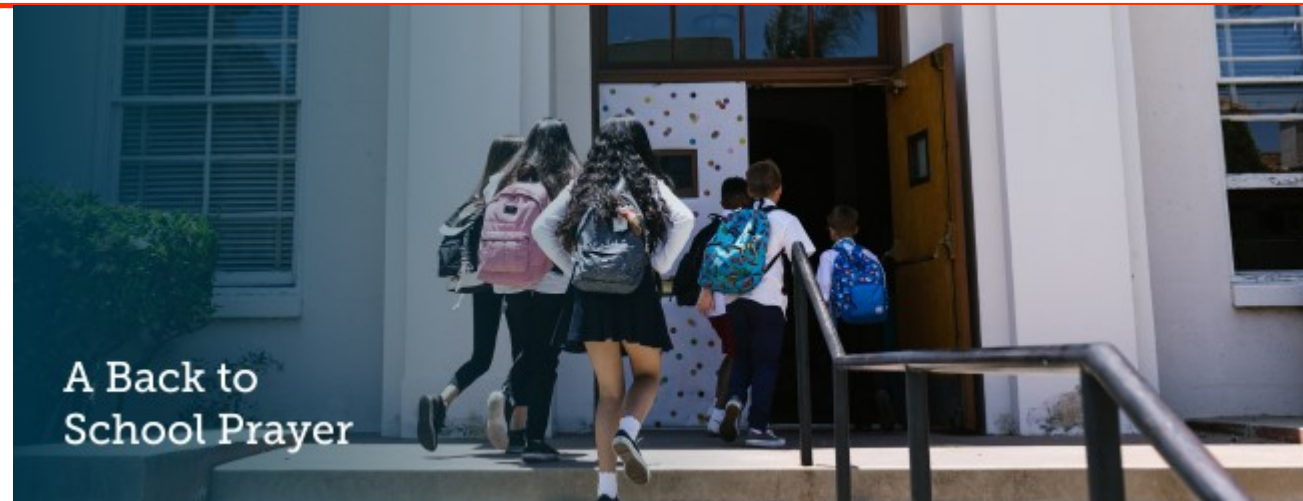
## Fall LWML Rally

For your September calendar:

The Fall LWML Rally will be held at Trinity Glidden on Saturday, October 5 with registration from 9-9:30. We encourage all ladies to join us! God bless you. Jean

**Fall Harvest Dinner and Music Festival** will be held on Sat. October 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm

**The triannual LCMS National Youth Gathering** will be taking place from July 19-23 in New Orleans, LA we have a number of youths who have shown an interest in going. Let Pastor know if your child is interested in going 9:th grade - (2024) - 12th grade (2024)



Heavenly Father, be with students, parents, teachers, staff, and administrators as a new school year begins. Give them joy in their vocations, peace in the middle of activity and chaos, and strength and perseverance when things get hard. Keep them safe.

And for all of us, even those who aren't affected by the start of a new school year, give us these same things—joy, peace, strength and perseverance. Keep us all safe from evil. Remind us to be life-long learners, to seek opportunities to grow as your disciples. May we continue to look to You, the source of true Wisdom and our salvation.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Sunday School and Confirmation will be starting Sunday, October 6th. Sunday School 8:45am, Confirmation 9:56am (right after communion).



## "I Think God is a Quilter"

I think God is a quilter  
Who takes His needle and thread  
To piece our world from nothingness  
And give it form instead.

I think God is a quilter  
And everything I see  
Are pieces from His careful hand  
From tree to bumblebee.

I think we see God's stitches  
His texture everywhere:  
The velvet moss, the grainy sand,  
The silky strands of hair.

I think God is a quilter  
Stitching tight and tiny rows  
Adding to my scraps and pieces  
Seaming everything He knows.

I think he cuts the pattern  
From what I'd throw away.  
He shows me how to use each scrap  
In His redeeming way.

I think God quilts a pattern  
From everything I live;  
But He can only stitch the quilt  
From what I choose to give.

I think God is a Quilter  
Stitching strength where I am weak.  
Showing me that life He touches  
Embraces everything I seek.

I think God is a Quilter  
From the patience in each thread;  
Proving length of time no barrier;  
Treating time a gift, instead.

I think quilts are lessons  
God uses just to teach  
That our pieces and our remnants  
Have kaleidoscopic reach.

So, in the life I'm living  
With pieces everywhere  
I'll give them to the Quilter  
To stitch with loving care.

I'll give them to the Quilter  
Unwanted though they be  
And with his work of quilting  
He'll make a quilt of me.

- Author Unknown



“OR” as we are known as:

## The Sewing Circle

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays  
of each month, usually  
September through  
May, 1:00pm to 3:00pm.



We have plenty of tasks  
for non-sewers, so all  
are welcome.

We have a wonderful time and you  
won't want to miss it.

The first gathering will be Tuesday,  
September 14th.





## ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST LUTHERAN HYMNALS 500 YEARS

### INTRODUCTION

In 1523, Martin Luther wrote to Georg Spalatin (1484–1545), private secretary to Elector Frederick III (“the Wise”) of Saxony. With his superb humanist education, Spalatin was sought by Luther as one skilled in the German language and capable of writing German hymns based on psalms. Thus, by 1523—a mere six years after the posting of the Ninety-Five Theses—Luther was committed to providing German-language hymns for the people to sing and was actively seeking gifted poets to work with him on this project. This work led to the publication of the first Lutheran hymnals in 1524 for which we now mark the five hundredth anniversary.



This is the first line of “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” as found in a 1524 hymnal.

The first Lutheran hymnal, *Etlich Cristlich lider*, sometimes referred to as the “Achtliederbuch” (literally, the “eight-hymn book”), was published in Nürnberg in 1524. Shortly thereafter, two competing publishers in Erfurt published booklets entitled *Enchiridion*, containing additional texts and melodies. Later that year, the earliest polyphonic settings of chorales appeared in the *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn* of Johann Walter (1496–1570), published in Wittenberg, marking the beginning of Lutheran choral music.

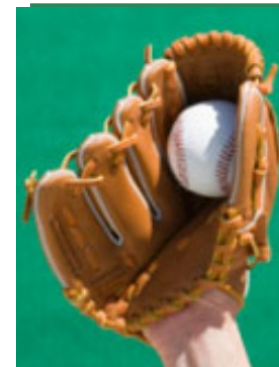
Luther’s hymn “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice” was the first hymn in that first collection. This ten-stanza hymn was followed by Paul Speratus’s (1484–1551) fourteen-stanza “Salvation unto Us Has Come.” Both hymns clearly distinguish Law and Gospel and proclaim that the sinner is justified by God’s grace through faith. Thus, what is noteworthy about this first Lutheran hymnal is the choice and prominent placement of these two hymns, both of which—in a concise, poetic manner—encapsulate the doctrine and teaching at the heart of the Lutheran Reformation.

The following list contains a selection of hymns that first appeared in one of the 1524 collections. Consider emphasizing some of these hymns in the coming months or using them in connection with the celebration of the Lutheran Reformation. Some accompanying CPH resources are also suggested.

**Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord** LSB 497  
**Salvation unto Us Has Come** LSB 555  
**From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee** LSB 607  
**Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior** LSB 627  
**To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray** LSB 768  
**In Peace and Joy I Now Depart** LSB 938

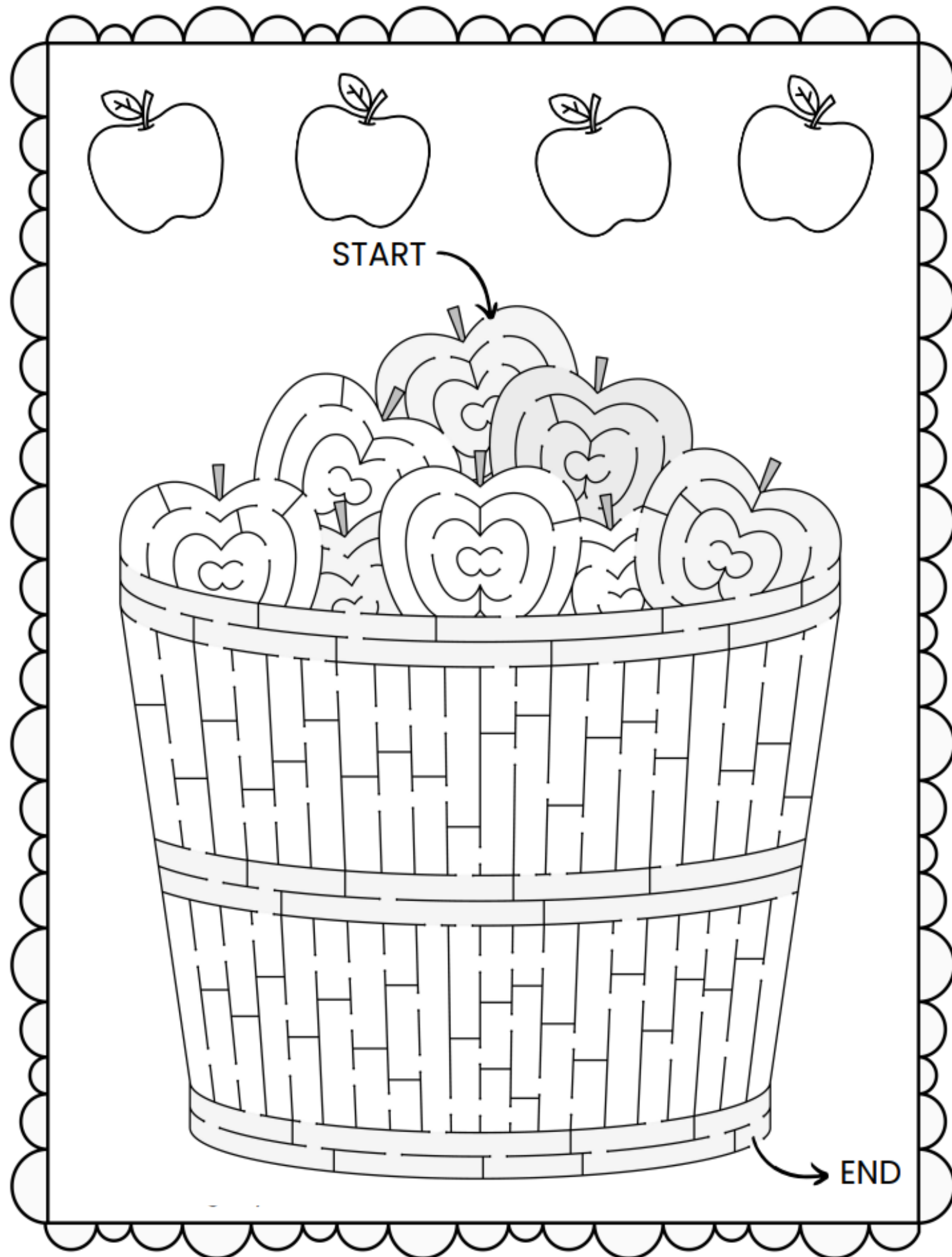
**Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay** LSB 505  
**Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice** LSB 556  
**O Lord, We Praise Thee** LSB 617  
**In the Very Midst of Life** LSB 755  
**May God Bestow on Us His Grace** LSB 823  
**We All Believe in One True God** LSB 954

*We sing many of these hymns during our services. Just think, they were written 500 years ago and still are sung today. How many songs written today will be sung in 500 years?*



### Stepping up to the plate

I coached my son’s Little League team. We lost every game until the last. In the final inning, we were in the field, ahead by one, with no outs and the bases loaded. The batter hit a line drive right to our third baseman. She stuck out her glove with one hand and covered her eyes with the other. The ball landed in her glove. She jumped up and down, stomping on third base to make the second out. Then she stuck out her glove to show me the ball, tagging the runner coming in—an unassisted triple play! Our team ran to the pitcher’s mound in celebration as if it were the World Series. —Robert Drozel, Exton, PA





While we are on the subject of hymns and we have a pages about apples, I searched for any hymns pertaining to apples. There weren't any I could find until fairly recent ones. But, when I wanted to print the lyrics I came across an article that told about the song long ago.

**Jesus Christ the Apple Tree** (also known as **Apple Tree** and, in its early publications, as **Christ Compared to an Apple-tree**) is a poem, possibly intended for use as a carol, written in the 18th century. It has been set to music by a number of composers, including Jeremiah Ingalls (1764–1838), Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987) and John Rutter.

The first known publication, beginning **The Tree of Life My Soul Hath Seen**, was in London's *Spiritual Magazine* in August, 1761. This credits "R.H." as the submitter and presumed author. R.H. has been shown most likely to refer to Rev. Richard Hutchins, a Calvinist Baptist clergyman then in Long Buckby, Northamptonshire. Another early printing, which cannot be dated and could be earlier, is an English broadsheet. This broadsheet uses the term "Methodists," which certainly places it after about 1730, when the term first came into use at Oxford University, and probably substantially later, when the religious movement had spread.

The hymn's first known appearance in a hymnal, and in America, was in 1784 in *Divine Hymns, or Spiritual Songs: for the use of Religious Assemblies and Private Christians* compiled by Joshua Smith, a lay Baptist minister from New Hampshire. It became prevalent in American publications but not English ones. Consequently, American authorship was sometimes assumed despite the lack of evidence.

The song may be an allusion to both the apple tree in Song of Solomon 2:3 which has been interpreted as a metaphor representing Jesus, and to his description of his life as a tree of life in Luke 13:18–19 and elsewhere in the New Testament including Revelation 22:1–2 and within the Old Testament in Genesis. Apple trees were commonly grown in England and there was an old English tradition of wassailing or wishing health to apple trees on Christmas Eve. The song is now performed by choirs around the world, especially during the Christmas season as a Christmas carol.<sup>[5]</sup>

Another motivation of the song may have been to Christianize old English winter season songs used in wassailing the apple orchards — pouring out libations or engaging in similar ceremonies to seek fertility of the trees.

[Bob Bennett 1997 Small Graces Jesus Christ The Apple Tree \(youtube.com\)](#) He has some additional lines to each verse.

[Jesus Christ the Apple TreeBronn Journey](#) This is a nice recording with a harp

There are many other recordings you can find on the computer.

**Jesus Christ the Apple Tree**    Lyrics

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green;  
The trees of nature fruitless be,  
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,  
By faith I know but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see,  
In Jesus Christ the Appletree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought;  
I missed of all but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the Appletree.

I'm weary with my former toil -  
Here I will sit and rest awhile,  
Under the shadow I will be,  
Of Jesus Christ the Appletree.

With great delight I'll make my stay,  
There's none shall fright my soul away;  
Among the sons of men I see  
There's none like Christ the Appletree.

I'll sit and eat this fruit divine,  
It cheers my heart like spirit'al wine;  
And now this fruit is sweet to me,  
That grows on Christ the Appletree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the Appletree.



For more than 30 years, **Samaritan's Purse** has been bringing great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to millions of children across the globe through its Operation Christmas Child project. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received. Samaritan's Purse partners with local churches worldwide to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need and to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Samaritan's Purse has collected and delivered over 220 million shoebox gifts to children in more than 170 countries and territories. *2023—11.3 million shoebox gifts and 10 million of these came from the USA, 11 nations received shoeboxes—Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States*

As you prayerfully prepare to pack your shoebox gift, please remember that your shoebox gift will be an expression of God's love to a child. In fact, it may be the only gift the child receives. So, plan to pack quality items that will last, and don't forget to make it FUN!

Shoe boxes are available on the table in the Narthex. Or you can use regular shoe boxes. There will be ideas of what to purchase on the table too.

**Who's on first?** (From Guideposts)

Trying to keep my Little Leaguers settled in the dugout was quite the task. I explained that the next batter up is called "on deck." The batter after that is "in the hole." If they weren't on deck or in the hole, they had to sit down. One player kept asking what the batter after "in the hole" is called. I kept saying there was no name for that. He called those batters "IN THE WAY!" It was so funny, and that's what we called it for the rest of the season. —*Cheryl Stetz Bamert, Parsippany, NJ*

**A Hail Mary play**

When no one else stepped up, my husband volunteered to coach our son's soccer team, despite having no knowledge of the sport. The boys went the entire season without scoring. Before the final game, one player told my husband, "At Sunday school this morning, I prayed to score a goal." That game, the team scored their first goal ever! But they still lost 2–1. That same player said after the game, "I guess I should've prayed to win." —*Nancy Beasley, Portage, WI*



# NUMBER FIND 3 DIGITS

345	231	558	606	854
689	908	982	141	905
765	739	160	167	503

0	0	6	8	6	0	0	5	7	4
6	0	6	2	8	3	0	4	5	7
5	9	9	3	5	4	4	7	6	8
1	6	0	1	4	5	0	3	9	1
0	8	8	7	9	8	2	3	0	6
9	9	5	3	0	9	7	3	8	7
1	8	3	9	5	4	9	0	4	8
1	4	1	7	7	5	5	8	6	3
7	6	5	5	4	8	4	5	4	0
1	9	8	6	4	8	0	7	5	9

These are supposedly practice mensa questions - - - - -

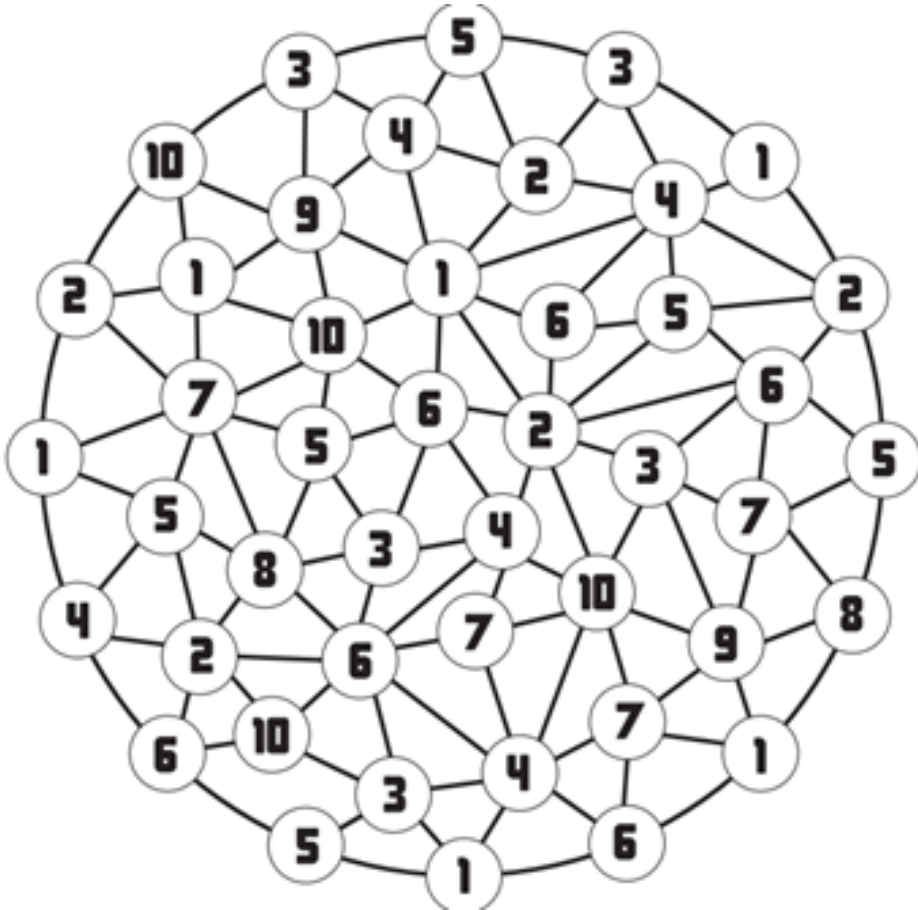
- 1.What is the 4-digit number in which the first digit is one-fifth of the last, and the second and third digits are the last digit multiplied by 3?
- 2.This one is a long riddle, so read it carefully. Jane went to visit Jill. Jill is Jane's only husband's mother-in-law's only husband's only daughter's only daughter. What relation is Jill to Jane?
- 3,Tabitha likes cookies but not cake. She likes mutton but not lamb, and she likes okra but not squash. Following the same rule, will she like cherries or pears?

## WOULD YOU RATHER QUESTIONS ABOUT APPLES

Here are five questions to spark conversation. Would you rather...

- Eat a sour green apple or a sweet red apple?
- Pick apples from a tree or buy them from a store?
- Drink apple juice or eat apple slices? (with cinnamon and sugar?)
- Make or eat an apple pie or an apple crisp?
- Visit an apple orchard or a pumpkin patch?

Draw a path connecting the numbers 1 through 10 in sequential order.



## AUGUST LFOJ NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and guardians,  
Happy International Pirate Month!

We are nearing the beginning of the school year and looking forward to cooler weather.



### TOTVILLE NEWS: Greetings from the Infant Room.

This month, the children have listened to the Bible stories of Joseph and his brothers, The wind that obeyed, The man who said thank you, and Food from Heaven.

Welcome to our newest friends, Reagan and Lainey. We are happy to have them and are looking forward to getting to know them.

Summer is winding down quickly. Please provide extra clothes for your child, as the weather changes this time of year mean shorts one day and a sweater the next!

"Let the little children come to me." Matthew 19:14

-Denise and Nikki

### TODDLER TIDBITS: Happy August from the Toddler Room!

We welcomed Florence and Josie and are looking forward to getting to know them!

We have been playing a lot, enjoying the beautiful sunshine, and learning about God's amazing love for each and every one of us!

This month, we have been working on our ABC's, colors, and encouraging how to share and use our manners.

We have all been taking huge steps and have come to learn from and teach each other.

With a heavy heart, I have given up my full-time position as lead Toddler teacher for the time being. I would like to welcome Cheyenne, and I know the kids will grow and enjoy having her as their teacher. I love each one of my little tots, and I hope there will be room for me again here at LFOJ.

-Desiree

### LEARNER LANE: Hello from the Learners!

Our themes this month have included: the beach, Disney, Zoo and Transportation.

The Bible stories we have been reading included: Breakfast on the Beach, Jesus can make our dreams come true, The Floating Zoo and Road to Emmaus.

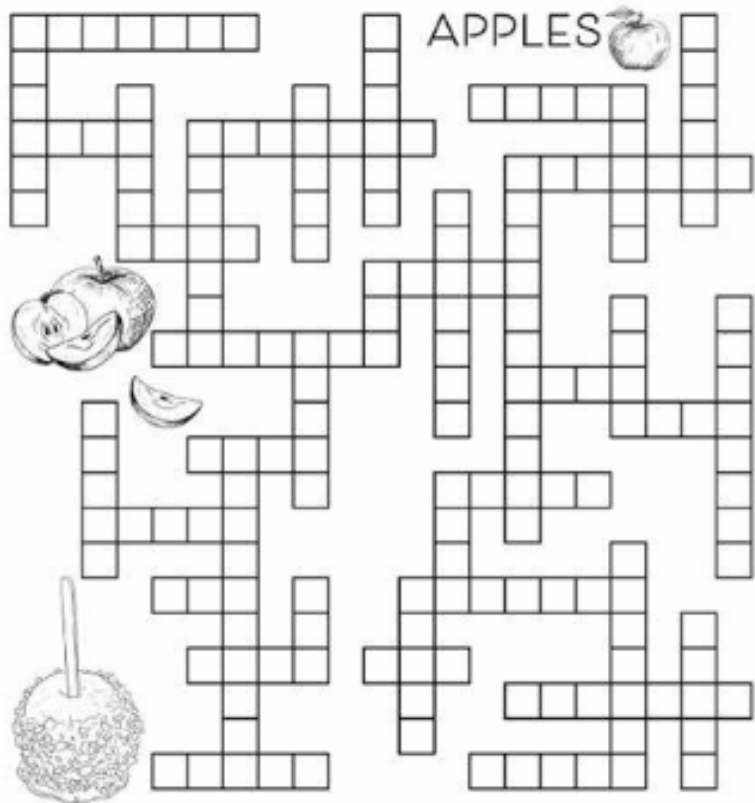
It has been a big month! With school starting up soon, we are soaking up all of the time we have left with our school aged friends. I am going to miss them so much, but I am so excited for them to start this new adventure! We will also be gaining a few new friends down in the Learner room once the school year starts!

-Hanna

God Bless, |Tressa Groom, LFOJ Director

JoAnn Martikonis, LFOJ Administrator





APPLE SAUCE	CRUNCHY	PULP
BRUISED	EAT	RED
BUTTER	FRESH	SEEDS
CANDY APPLES	FRITTER	SHOES
CARAMEL	FRUIT	SKIN
CIDER	GREEN	SNACK
CINNAMON	HARD	STRUDEL
COBBLER	JUICE	SWEET
CORE	JUICY	TART
CRISP	PECTIN	TREES
CRUMBLE	PEELS	VARIETY
	PIE	VINEGAR
	PIGS	YUM

Did you know “apple” is mentioned in the Bible?

As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. Solomon 2:3

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver. Proverbs 25:11

Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, Psalm 17:8

“He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. Deuteronomy 32:10

Keep my commandments and live; keep my teaching as the apple of your eye; Proverbs 7:2



“Apples are a healthy snack, but I like 'em anyway.”

## GREAT NEWS!

**For the month of September the church will have another silent auction. Up for auction will be 12-13 new items donated by church members, The money will go toward the roof. We need a 9 more new items to be donated for the auction. As of now we have a TV, leaf blower, and a Fieldcrest 51x54 wool blanket. Please contact Sue Spangle 715-681-1093 or Eleanor Munson 715-682-8155 if you would like to donate something.**

John 6:35-40, 43-47 - Jesus said to them, "I am the Bread of Life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I should lose nothing of all that He has given Me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." ... Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws Him. And I will raise Him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me—not that anyone has seen the Father except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life."

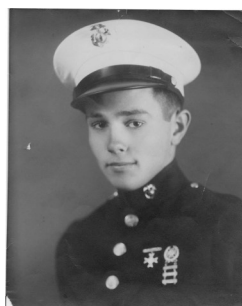
About the scariest thing I can think of is that someday, somehow, I might lose my faith in Christ. That idea terrifies me. Go away from the One who loved me so much that He died for me, and then rose again? Lose the love and joy and peace that I have in Him? Dear God, let it never happen!

That might be why Jesus is so quick to assure us that God protects us when we belong to Jesus. Jesus says, "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will *never* cast out .... And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that I should lose *nothing* of all that He has given Me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of My Father, that *everyone* who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

Notice those words: "never," "nothing," "everyone." Jesus will *never* cast us out, He will lose *nothing* God has trusted to Him. And *everyone* who trusts in Him will have life.

Our safety doesn't lie in our own hands. It lies in the will of God the Father, who brought us to Jesus in the first place. It lies in Jesus' commission from the Father, to lose nothing and nobody of all that God has given Him, but to keep us all safe till the Last Day when He returns to earth. Jesus will not fail. He has already gone to the cross for us, already risen from the dead for our sake. How could He desert us now?

**WE PRAY:** Lord, keep me safely in Your faith forever. Amen.



**Veterans' Day - November 11, 2024** The clock is clicking for you to find your enlistment picture when you enlisted. Or, one when you were at camp, in the field, etc.. I have the list of everyone 20+ veterans. I would like to include in November's newsletter a page (or two or three) of our veterans. Please include, name, time of duty, which force, different places you were at. All that interesting stuff. I would like this by the end of September. It will take time to get it put together. Thanks, Lynn