The joy of parenting brings with it many fears and questions. Each generation seems to face ever-increasing challenges for raising children in a world distorted by sin. Books on parenting offer a variety of how-tos on the subject. But one almost needs a how-to book to choose the right how-to book, some of which are nearly one thousand pages long! Isn’t there something simpler?

At the risk of oversimplifying a complex issue—yes! There is something simpler. The best way for a Christian to parent a child is to remember that he or she is a child: God’s child. The Fatherhood of God and His Law-and-Gospel ways with His children will motivate and guide them to be better parents.

Children of God

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are” (1 Jn 3:1). Parenting begins with parents remembering that they live in God’s kingdom ruled by God’s lavish love in Christ. The Gospel is the basis for parenting, not some how-to book with a list of rules. God’s undeserved love in Christ reminds parents that having a child is not a right but a blessing. Parents do not merely produce children (as an industry produces a product). They are entrusted with a child as a gift from God. All parenting flows from this gift of the heavenly Father.

The Gospel also becomes the goal of parenting. Parents can feel proud of their children’s accomplishments in sports or academics. The ultimate goal is to bring their children to Jesus and have the Gospel become the basis of their life. “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord” (Eph 6:4). Christian parents bring their children to Jesus in the waters of Holy Baptism. They bring their children to Jesus by instructing them in God’s Word and modeling the Lord’s ways (Law and Gospel) in the home. The ultimate goal of Christian parents is to see their children in heaven, not the “Hall of Fame.”

The Law Still Applies

Life begins at conception, and so does sinfulness (Ps 51:5). Parents need to use the Law to point out sin and curb sinful behavior. Boundaries and limits protect children and give them the security that someone is in charge. Love uses the Law to train and discipline. “This is for your own good” may not make sense to a four-year-old, and “You’ll thank me when you’re older” makes teenage eyes roll, yet such discipline reflects how our Father disciplines us.

My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by Him. For the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and chastises every son whom He receives…. All discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Heb 12:5–6, 11)

Children need clear rules and consistent discipline appropriate to their sin. They need parents who follow through on the consequences. Scripture says, “[God] disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness” (Heb 12:10). God’s ultimate goal for His children is that they would be with Him in heaven someday. God works in and through our mistakes and the unpleasant results they bring. He does so for our ultimate good. Parents are working for their child’s ultimate good when they apply godly discipline.

Applying Law and Gospel as Parents

Law and Gospel help parents discern what to do in a discipline situation. One of the principles of Law and Gospel is that the Law is used with unrepentant sinners and the Gospel is used with repentant sinners. Let’s take spilling milk as an example. Most of the time, spilling milk is simply an accident. No violation of rules is involved. There is no need for the accusation of the Law: “Look what you have done!” What may be needed is some
loving reassurance: “It’s okay. Accidents happen.” On the other hand, if Joey spills the milk while attempting to throw a dinner roll at Suzie, an infraction has been committed! Then the Law is needed! Joey must be called to account for his actions. However, when Joey confesses his guilt and expresses genuine sorrow, there is no need for further accusation. There may be consequences to his actions, like apologizing to his sister and helping clean up, but the Gospel of Christ’s forgiveness can now be applied.

Godly discipline comes about when Law and Gospel are rightly and faithfully applied. Encourage your children to say “I’m sorry” and “I forgive you” to one another. (Do not settle for expressions like “That’s okay,” “No big deal,” or “Whatever.”)

Back to the Basics

How-to books are not enough. Certainly consult them and also seek the counsel of experienced parents. But real help for parenting comes from understanding the Law and Gospel of God’s Word. Parenting does not consist of constant screaming and yelling; nor does it avoid all conflict for the sake of peace. Return to the Gospel daily. Remember how God has lavished His love upon you and made you His child. Remember that your child is a gift from Him. Remember how He disciplines you in love. He desires, above all else, that you be with Him in heaven someday. Instruct your children in the ways of the Lord. Discipline them in love, and do not shy away from using the Law when it is needed to set limits and boundaries and to convict of wrongdoing. Be always ready and generous with the Gospel! Teach Christ’s forgiveness by forgiving your children. Teach Christ’s forgiveness by admitting your mistakes and asking your children to forgive you.

Finally, cling to the Gospel for your own sake. Mistakes you make in parenting, things you should not have done, things you should have done better, a child who has gone astray—none of these separate you from God’s love in Christ Jesus. You are a parent, but you are also a child, a child of God. And the heavenly Father never forsakes His children.

(The above article is in The Lutheran Study Bible, p. 2025.)

Current Sermon Series

Pastor Pries

The book of Ephesians is an incredibly practical book for Christians at every stage of life. Here we see what the Christian life looks like, and what it doesn’t look like. In our current sermon series we are exploring Paul’s letter to the Ephesians as if we were paging through a family photo album. We’ll see how we were adopted as God’s children (baby photos), how we are united as one family (the group family picture), we’ll also page through graduation pictures, wedding photos, a military ID, and more. This is your life! Yet, thankfully, because we’re all in this together – this is OUR life.

August 5—Ephesians 4:17-24—Modeling
August 12—Ephesians 4:30-5:2—Imitating
August 19—Ephesians 5:15-20—Following
August 26—Ephesians 5:21-31—Loved
September 2—Ephesians 6:10-20—Equipped

Fall Worship Schedule

Pastor Pries

On Sunday, September 9, we will return to our fall worship schedule, allowing time for our Sunday School & Adult & Youth Bible Study (9:25am-10:25am) in between. The worship times will be: Sundays: 8:00am & 10:45am
Mondays: 6:30pm

(Continued on page 3)
Adult Choir Begins Soon

Dave Sawall

We are currently in the process of selecting choir music for the 2017-18 season. Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 12, at 6:30pm.

The choir sings for both Sunday services about once a month, as well as for special occasions such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. The director is Dave Sawall. The music we rehearse and sing is inspiring, and Dave makes our rehearsals both fun and productive. Please consider joining us this year!

Praise in the Park

Pastor Backus

Don’t come to 1011 E. Midway Rd. for worship on Aug. 12, unless it’s raining. Why? We will be having our Praise in the Park that day at 10 am. That means one service together at Darboy Park.

Plan to bring your own lawn chairs and hats and sunglasses, or sit in the folding chairs provided for you under the pavilion. We will worship at 10 am, then enjoy a picnic and socialization/games. There will be time for us to enjoy the outdoors and each others’ company.

We hope you can invite a friend or family member for this more casual worship setting. This is designed to be both a fellowship and an outreach event. So come to the park that day eager to serve and meet someone new.

As last year, the church budget will provide the meat, drinks, and plates and plasticware.

Would you bring potato salad, chips, fruit and vegetable platters, or desserts? That would round out our menu.

We will also need some help with: Set up, clean up, and sharing your love and kindness as you showcase a guest -first attitude.

Remember: If the forecast for 10:00am indicates rain or storms, everything stays the same except the location. We will hold the event at church!

If you’re able and willing to help us make this special event happen with excellence, please speak with Bob Broehm, our fellowship director and coordinator of our Praise in the Park or contact the church office.

Why are We Expanding the Chapel?

Pastor Balza, Funding Committee Chairman

As you know, the new plan for our building expansion project includes a large amount of remodeling and expansion to our current chapel. Since we are not experiencing crowded conditions in our worship services right now, why do we need to do this? You may be wondering why this is the right time to expand our current chapel.

Actually, there are many reasons for us to undertake renovations and expansion to our chapel right now. Here are a few:

- Overflow Seating: We need overflow seating for special services such as Easter and Christmas Eve. To enable us to grow and have enough space for the worshipers we wish to attract to hear the Gospel, we need to add more space for such occasions. Typically those services are crammed with chairs to a dangerous point. We installed a video system and screen in the fellowship hall to provide overflow space, but it is not the best situation to watch a candlelight service on video in another room. Overflow seating for 40-50 people is critical to our mission to reach our community for Christ.

- Outdated and Inadequate Restrooms: National church surveys have revealed that spacious, modern, clean and easily accessible restrooms are of high importance to people who visit churches. Inadequate restroom facilities are all too common in church buildings, and churches that are growing know that...
they must improve these facilities. Our restrooms are easily accessible and clean, but look outdated now. They are also small for the number of people who now use our church building. We have a need for larger, more modern restroom facilities to serve our members and guests.

- Deteriorating Heating Systems: A few years ago we began to notice white stuff blowing up from the underground heat ducts in the chapel. Some of our church leaders bravely crawled into the underground ducts to examine them, and discovered large chalky patches and some deterioration in the ductwork. Our furnaces are 26 years old, and our entire chapel heating system is deteriorating. Our proposed expansion would address this situation by constructing a new, more adequate, and more easily maintained heating/cooling system.

- Inadequate Tech Booth: Use of audio and visual technology for worship has become an expectation at Eternal Love. We need good sound for the message we proclaim, and we enhance that message with beautiful visuals. All of this requires modern equipment and one or more operators for every worship service. Our current worship tech space was built in the only space we had available in the room back in 2004. It is too small for our current set of equipment and can only accommodate one operator. Some equipment is hard to reach, and there is no room to space things properly. It is especially awkward to try to control the lights (which are in back of the operator) at the same time that we need to control the visuals (which are in front of the operator). We have a current need for a larger space for this important part of our worship ministry.

- Mother’s Room/Nursery: When we remodeled the east portion of the chapel in 2013, we lost our nursery/mother’s room. We have tried to re-create a space for infant care in the fellowship hall, using the screen to help parents, but this is difficult because those spaces are also used for Sunday School and fellowship. Since we want to attract and retain young families, such a space is critical for our worship ministry. This need must be addressed as we go forward. We have no satisfactory solution in our current facility.

Our church’s mission to reach the lost and retain our members depends on adequate worship facilities. We want to glorify God and maintain excellence in worship, and the remodeled and expanded facilities will help us carry out our mission.

We ask you to consider these needs and give your support to our proposed solution to expanding our mission of love. God bless you.
Shipwrecked VBS 2018

Amy Monigal, VBS Coordinator

Eternal Love hosted yet another Vacation Bible School in July- this year, nearly 120 kids plus over 50 staff and teen volunteers came together to make a memorable week ‘Shipwrecked’ together on an island. The weather was beautiful, the music was loud, and the smiles were large all over the church grounds as the kids sang, danced, crafted, and played. Each day they were introduced to a different story from the Bible, and participated in activities that centered on the Bible point of the day. At each station the Bible point was reinforced-kids learned that Jesus Rescues us in all circumstances.

The church was decorated to reflect the theme of a Shipwrecked Island with the hall becoming an ocean of jellyfish leading to our preschool ‘tidepool.’ There were palm trees, a waterfall, tiki torches, and even a tattered raft that shipwrecked our good friend “Jane” (Brianna Neuberger) on the ‘island.’ Even the office was transformed into a hut with vines!

The kids were divided into Crews, or groups of about 7, and traveled around the church visiting different learning stations. Each group was led by a Crew Leader-these were young people from our congregation who did an outstanding job of teaching and assisting the kids in their crew, all while witnessing to them about Jesus.

The stations were each staffed by Eternal Love members who planned and then presented activities based on the Shipwrecked theme.

- Coral’s Tidepool Preschool was led by Kara Krull and her team of preschool leaders- Greta Backus, Clarissa Fenske, Erica Rodman, and Cathy Tiede, as well as several teens.
- There was a Castaway Sing and Play in the chapel, where Kara Wittluhn and Anne Jungwirth introduced the story of the day and taught the kids some great songs.
- We had an Imagination Station where the kids put together a new craft creation each day under the direction of Julie Krause.
- Under the tent, the kids enjoyed Ship Rec Games with Sarah Ferge, Tommy Jungwirth, Jonah Krause, Jake Jungwirth, and Beth Flatau.
- We all enjoyed the creative snacks from Tropical treats, made by crews with the assistance of Steve Schultz and Lori Marzahl.
- Bible Adventure was a station where the Bible story of the day was brought to life by Johanna Funk, Grant Colling, Pastor Backus, and Pastor Pries.
- At KidVid Cinema the kids watched a video that introduced them to a real kid who was learning to rely on Jesus’ love. Sandy Schultz led this station.
- Finally, at our Sailaway Sendoff, everything came together with a puppet show led by our Hands 2 Grow team of Dave Payne, Cassie Payne, Steve Funk, and Kirsten Rusch.

In addition to the station leaders, we had several VBS staff members who handled everything behind the scenes, and during the day from registration to decorating; from coordinating materials to running the sound booth. Our decorating team of Kirsten Krows and Amy Monigal, with the help of many, many others transformed the church. Becky Atkinson was a whiz with all things technology, coordinated the printing of new crew leader t-shirts, and handled a very busy couple months of registration, ordering, printing, budgeting, and too many other critical tasks to list! Thank you! Nicole LaBarge coordinated the crew leaders and kept everything running smoothly, and Laura Zimmerman and Rae Scherschel rocked the registration table, among many other things. Lindsay Neubauer enjoyed photographing many of the staff and daily activities. Jayne Brett spent hours counting cutting, sorting, and labeling items for the kids. This was definitely a labor of love for many members of Eternal Love, and the week couldn’t have happened without the dedication and hard work of every one of them. We also had materials, supplies, and even tents donated by Eternal Love members, The McVeys - VBS could not have happened without these donations!

Each year the kids in VBS participate in a mission project- this is an opportunity for them to reach out to others with the love of Jesus. This year, we collected backpacks and school supplies for the Outagamie County Backpack program.

At the end of Friday’s stations, all of the VBS staff, kids, and families gathered one last time for a closing program. There was a recap of the weeks’ activities by ‘Captain Dave’ and our favorite puppets, and the kids sang several of the great songs they had learned. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a cool treat and socializing on the church lawn. Miraculously, the rain held off all morning! Jesus truly does rescue!

There are few experiences that are as joyous and rewarding as Vacation Bible School- if you haven’t had the pleasure, check it out next year!
Sunday School Registration  
*Pastor Backus*

The opening day of Sunday School will be Sunday, September 9, at 9:25am.

We encourage all potty-trained children ages 3 and up to register. Look for registration forms to be available soon!

Women’s Bible Study  
*Christine Heckmann*

What does the good and bad stuff in my life tell me about my relationship with God? Why does God let this happen to me? Is it possible for me to have a more tenacious faith?

Join your sisters in faith as God speaks to us in a study of Job which will begin in September. Our group is open to all women and we meet each Wednesday at 1:00.

There is no cost for this study which will take about 11 weeks. Please consider joining and come when you are able.

Please contact Christine Heckmann: 920-574-3920, cbheckmann@gmail.com or Laura Zimmermann: 920-915-8741, laura.zimmermann.rd@gmail.com

Congregational Assistant Program (CAP)  
*Pastor David Pries*

I am excited to introduce you to the Congregation Assistant Program or CAP for short. First let me share with you what this is.

**What is a Congregational Assistant?**

A Congregation Assistant is a called worker who works within his or her own congregation assisting the congregation and its pastors in various areas of service.

There are many areas of service to which an assistant can be called. The work an assistant may do mainly depends on the needs of the congregation and the talents of the worker. Some of the areas of service that assistants have been called to include outreach and evangelism, senior ministry, youth and family ministry, adult spiritual growth, assimilation, visitation ministry, and mentoring and coordinating volunteers.

An assistant call could take the form of a volunteer position, a part-time salaried position, or a full-time salaried position. Because calling bodies may find needs for assistants of either gender, the program is open to men and women alike.

**The Congregational Assistant Program Mission Statement**

“The mission of the Congregational Assistant Program, under the guidance of Martin Luther College, is to assist pastors and staff ministers in training qualified and confident leaders in their Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) congregations. CAP provides a range of biblical and practical courses available to all WELS members to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. CAP also encourages and supports WELS members as they discover and develop their God-given talents and abilities to serve others and to glorify God in the church, community, and the world.”

**Relationship with other WELS Training Programs**

Nine of the twenty assistant courses are taken from the former WELS Curriculum for Congregational Service and Outreach. These courses are useful training for all congregational leaders. Taking these courses may also increase a leader’s desire to serve in the public ministry as a congregational assistant, staff minister or pastor. If a student begins taking the courses with a desire to become an evangelist, it is strongly encouraged that the practical courses in evangelism also be started from the very beginning so that it can be seen whether the Lord has given the necessary gifts for outreach. The sample charts give scenarios for completing the program in three years, four years, and five years.

**Training**

The majority of the courses are taught by the student’s local pastor or called worker, and they are often scheduled as part of the congregation’s offerings for adult spiritual growth; this minimizes the additional work of the called worker and expands the variety of opportunities for nurture within the congregation. Where there are interested individuals and congregations in geographic proximity, pastors are able to take turns and share the teaching load of the courses. Some of the courses can also be taught by an outside instructor as weekend seminar.

The final component of the program, the only element that is not offered locally, is a 10-day CAPstone Session split between New Ulm, Minnesota and Mequon, Wisconsin. Students typically participate in CAPstone after completing the other program.

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requirements over a three or four year period.

**Program Curriculum:**
- Life of Christ,
- New Testament Overview
- Old Testament Overview
- Small Catechism,
- Life of Luther
- Law and Gospel
- The Christian Family
- Christian Leadership
- Biblical Worship
- Evangelism (3 Modules)
- Teaching (2 Modules)
- Christian Doctrine
- Other Churches and Religions

**Capstone Courses:**
- WELS History and Structure
- Basics of Culture
- Bible Interpretation.

So far, we have four people interested in starting the training for this program. If you have any interest in diving deep into serious Biblical training, or if you would like to equip yourself for more specific service in God’s Kingdom at your church, please pray about this opportunity and think about it. Training will begin here at Eternal Love this Fall. We are considering meeting from 7:30—8:30 pm on Monday nights. For more information please speak with one of pastors.

**Church Council Update**

*Pastor Pries*

The Church Council typically takes the month of July off, but on July 12, the council met with the funding committee and the building committee to review the latest information concerning our building expansion project.

- Pete Neuberger recommended the addition of Petr Eliseev to the Building Committee.
- It was suggested to avoid the major holidays of Christmas and Easter and to break ground after Easter of 2019. A spring start means that the bulk of the construction is done when preschool not in session. Some footings work could be done before Easter without disturbing the shell of the building.

- A spring ground breaking schedule allows Builders For Christ to participate in this project. We are going to apply for their services, thinking that they could do the bulk of the work on the south education wing.
- We have a list of WELS affiliated sub contractors. We hope to reach out to them and have them added to the bidding process. This could potentially save us up to $50,000, Pete thought that Builders for Christ could potentially save us another $50,000. Builders For Christ meets in the first week in September to plan their projects for the following year. That gives us enough time to ask them to consider our project.
- We had discussion on breaking the project into several phases. When we do this, we are most likely adding 10%-20% to the overall cost. It’s just a guess, a phasing breakdown might look like this: south wing $600,000, parking lot $100,000 and out of scope maybe $20,000. So potential first phase with parking $740,000. 2nd North phase would be about $700,000. Total $1.44M.
- The council plans to recommend to the voters to boldly move forward with the full plan, with the hope of reducing the cost with WELS sub contractors and possibly not expanding the parking lot right away. The parking lot is something we can do on our own at any time.
- The church council along with the Building and Funding committees recommend to voters to approve a construction budget of $1,243,390 with construction to begin after March 1, 2019, following the revised Keller plan presented at the June 2018 voters meeting with a mortgage not to exceed $700,000. Motion carried by majority voice vote.
August News
Mrs. Kara Krull, Director/Teacher

I cannot believe I am writing the August Newsletter already. Time has been flying by this summer. As I write this article, I am excited to announce that with the addition of some new spots we were able to open in our program, we currently only have 2 open spots available. We have one Monday/Wednesday spot and one Tuesday - Thursday still available. What a great opportunity we will have to teach and witness to these 20 children and families. Thank you to everyone for helping spread the word about our program! We truly have been blessed and we look forward to the possible growth we may have in the future.

The preschool room will be "HOPPING" this year! Our overall theme will be frogs. We will use the acronym F.R.O.G. (Fully Rely On God). I can’t wait to start getting the room all set up and start visiting the families.

We will be inviting the Wee Love families to join us for the Church Picnic as well as other activities throughout the year, please take the time to introduce yourself and your family to make them feel welcome.

No C.L.I.C.K. in the months of August, and September. Watch in fall for our new updated C.L.I.C.K. schedule for the 2018-2019 school year!

Want to know more?
Contact Kara at
preschooldirector@eternal-love.org

“Like” us on Facebook
Follow us on Pinterest

wee-love.org
L.W.M.S.
Joyce Payne
Dear Sisters of Eternal Love,

If you have a heart for mission work, would you please consider taking on the role of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary Society Reporter for our congregation? Your enthusiasm and drive to promote the work of WELS missionaries and the spread of the Gospel is greatly needed!

I have been serving in this capacity because I have the interest but I lack the carry-through in sharing the news and promoting the LWMS projects and mission. A small committee of women to take on this responsibility: to make it fun and informative for our congregation in reaching out to those who have not heard the Gospel and in supporting those who share the Gospel in our stead, would be ideal.

If you are interested in learning more about the LWMS and/or the role of the Reporter to our congregation, please check out www.LWMS.org on the web. Or contact me at 427-9723 to talk, text or leave a message. You can also snag me after church or between services!

Thank you for considering this important position in serving Christ’s kingdom.

Your sister in Christ.

Christmas Toys for Mission to the Children
Glenn and Lois Erdmann, Bethan Lutheran Church

Greetings fellow WELS Lutherans,

This year's collection for the Mission to the Children of northern Mexico from NE Wisconsin WELS members is for small Christmas toys for the children. As in the past, our friends from area WELS congregations and LWMS societies can make the collections from now until October 1st and then get them to us by mid-October when we'll drive them to Tucson AZ. In Tucson the kids toys will be gift bagged and labeled with the names of the more than 1,000 individual children. Below is the suggested wording for your newsletter and bulletin communications.

We're also asked to mention that the mission's inventory of quilts, blankets and shawls is overflowing from past collections and that we're not accepting them this year so consider other missions for these items. Also, since this is the last year that we'll be driving a vehicle to Arizona we're looking for someone to take this project over in 2019.

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Christmas Toys for Mission to the Children Kids
Mission to the Children of northern Mexico exists to make disciples for Christ and is solely supported by the thoughtful donations from individuals, congregations, LWMS societies and church groups and works in cooperation with approved mission activities of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

This year's collection for the mission from northeastern WI WELS members is for small Christmas toys for children. They should be new unwrapped items for children ages 0-15 valued less than $10 and no larger than a football. No play guns or weapons of any kind! We also do not recommend battery run items because the people there cannot afford new batteries. Action figures are okay as are books in Spanish, jewelry and watches for older children, craft and art kits, stuffed toys, outdoor toys such as balls, Frisbees, deflated soccer balls, gloves; cars and trucks for the younger kids; dolls, etc. We also will take Walmart and Target gift cards to send Tucson shoppers out to buy toys to save on space in getting things there.

Questions can be directed to Glenn and Lois Erdmann, glennlois2317@yahoo.com or 920 213-3204.
Off to College?

Pastor Backus

*WELS Campus Ministry* seeks to serve as a blessing and an encouragement to all of our members who are attending a college or university at the graduate or under-graduate level.

Through *WELS Campus Ministry*, we’re happy to hook up our college students with complimentary subscriptions to *Meditations, Forward In Christ*, and *Lightsource*, by sharing their contact info with *WELS Campus Ministry*. This will give our collegians the opportunity to be served with the means of grace when they can’t be here at Eternal Love. Maybe there is an active Campus Ministry at your place of higher learning. Or, maybe there is a local congregation that will show you support in Eternal Love’s stead.

So, we ask collegians and/or their parents to keep us in the loop as to current contact info so we can continue to serve them as best we can whether near or far from home.

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Book Club

Steve Schultz

**Join our Book Club Discussion for a Real Mystery!** Our Eternal Love Book Club has chosen its book for the August 7 meeting. It is called *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz. Here is a brief description of this book:

This fiendishly brilliant, riveting thriller weaves a classic whodunit worthy of Agatha Christie into a chilling, ingeniously original modern-day mystery.

When editor Susan Ryeland is given the manuscript of Alan Conway’s latest novel, she has no reason to think it will be much different from any of his others. After working with the bestselling crime writer for years, she’s intimately familiar with his detective, Atticus Pünd, who solves mysteries disturbing sleepy English villages. An homage to queens of classic British crime such as Agatha Christie and Dorothy Sayers, Alan’s traditional formula has proved hugely successful. So successful that Susan must continue to put up with his troubling behavior if she wants to keep her job.

Conway’s latest tale has Atticus Pünd investigating a murder at Pye Hall, a local manor house. Yes, there are dead bodies and a host of intriguing suspects, but the more Susan reads, the more she’s convinced that there is another story hidden in the pages of the manuscript: one of real-life jealousy, greed, ruthless ambition, and murder.

Masterful, clever, and relentlessly suspenseful, *Magpie Murders* is a deviously dark take on vintage English crime fiction in which the reader becomes the detective.

**Join us at 6:30pm to discuss this book.** Gretchen will lead the discussion. Sandy and Kirsten will provide snacks.

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Book Club Celebrates Milestone!

Steve Schultz

We are busy preparing for our December Book Club. Why? It will be the 100th book that we will read! Can you imagine when our book club started back in 2001 that we would reach this milestone? We are going to invite our spinoff book club members to join us for this special celebration. We have inspired 4 other congregations to start similar book clubs in the Appleton area and in Florida and Alaska. Do you have an idea for what our 100th book should be? If so, send me an email at gardenmasterguy@aol.com
Senior Summer Picnic

Eileen Weeks

Tuesday, August 14th at NOON. It’s time for our WELS seniors to gather for fellowship and enjoy a summer potluck picnic. We look forward to having you join us at 1,000 Island Environmental Center at Beulien Court just off County Z in Kaukauna. An indoor room has been reserved for our meeting.

Please bring your favorite dish to share for the potluck meal at noon. Also bring your own tableware and your choice of beverage.

The guest speaker will be Jean Lang Manteufel, Post Crescent columnist and author. She will share stories and ideas of how to deal with the life-time of "treasures" in our homes. "I Need Help With My Stuff" is her topic.

OWLS Chapter 42 invites all to attend. You do not need to be an OWLS member to join us.

Why the “Weeds”? 

Steve Schultz

There have been some good questions about the “weeds” near the church entrance. Let me explain why we haven’t pulled them.

The monarch butterfly is a vital pollinator across much of North America. But the species is facing some of the same environmental pressures afflicting other insect pollinators, and the number of monarchs overwintering at sites in Mexico is declining precipitously. Severe weather, logging, pesticide use and other factors all contribute to the decline in monarch numbers.

The species requires a very specific form of habitat in the form of various milkweed plants, an essential component of the butterflies’ development.

People in Wisconsin can take steps to bolster monarch numbers, with growing milkweed chief among them. (A U.S. Geological Survey study published in February 2017 found that around 1.8 billion more milkweed plant stems are needed across the Eastern monarch butterfly's North Central range in the United States to restore the population to sustainable numbers and forestall its extinction.

So, that is why the milkweed is around our building! We didn’t plant it. It just naturally popped up and we’ve left it alone. We have seen monarchs fluttering among our milkweed buffet and hope to see caterpillars soon! Keep a watch on this patch and watch some of these beautiful creatures when you attend worship of our Creator!

Questions? Contact Steve Schultz.