

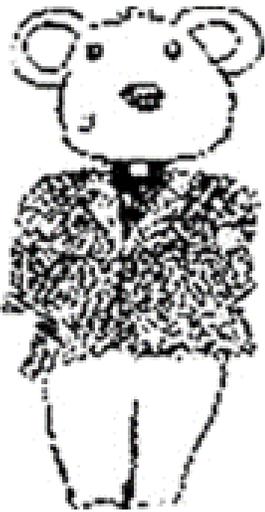


THE MESSENGER

Vermont Lutheran Church's Mission Statement:

Christians **A**ctively **R**eaching Out **E**xperiencing Christ and **S**preparing His Word

From Pastor Barry's Desk . . .



I hear a conversation the other day that led me to writing this month's article here. In the conversation (I tried not to be obvious that I was listening), I hear someone speaking about whether or not Jesus' last name was "Christ". I forget that this misunderstanding exists sometimes, and I know it is a popular question, so let me help put this to rest.

Back in Jesus' time, they did have last names. By identification, when explaining someone to about Jesus, they might have called him "Jen ben Joseph" (Jesus, son of Joseph), but unless you live in Nazareth where the family lived, that wouldn't tell you much, because there would be plenty of Josephs living in other cities. But most people lived in small villages separated by large areas of farmland. People rarely met those from other villages. Everyone knew everyone else in their village, so there wasn't really a need for last names. So Jesus would have been fine being Jesus ben Joseph.

Brian McLaren wrote, "Let's start by saying the obvious: *Christ* isn't Jesus's last name. It's a title, like *doctor, reverend, president, or governor*. It's the Greek translation for the Hebrew word for Messiah, and both words mean "smeared," as in smeared or anointed with oil. In ancient times, scented oils were smeared on people being honored, named, or recognized for a special role, much like placing an Olympic medal on an athlete, or giving an important person the keys to a city, or putting a crown on a prom queen. In passages like Isaiah 61, this oil of anointing was associated with the Spirit of God.

In the Jewish tradition, a powerful spiritual, theological, and political movement developed around the idea of the Messiah. For centuries, the Jewish people were oppressed and occupied by one foreign power after another, and they dreamed of a mighty liberator or freedom fighter who would unite them, rally them, and lead them into war to overthrow their oppressors so they would be free at last. Various would-be-messiahs arose and staged uprisings, but one after another were crushed. For some, the dream of a messiah died, but for many, with each defeat, the hope would become even more fervent."

So to try to help people, when I refer to Jesus as the Christ, I try really hard to say, "Jesus the Christ" to try to avoid any confusion. Does this make sense?

It seems so appropriate to speak about this now, because when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we celebrate that God chose to come to earth as a human being – with all of the questions, frustrations and curiosities that go along with experiencing this world in human form.

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continued From Pastor Barry's Desk . . .

On the plus side, this means that God got to experience first-hand what it means to feel pain and hunger, how it feels to get let down by a friend who is not faithful, to find out that some people seem bent on causing problems while others work so hard for peace.

Who would have thought that a conversation about whether Jesus had a last name would lead us to realize with even more clarity that Jesus was a human being who just wanted to fulfill the desires of his Father?

Pastor Barry

Highlights

Welcome to Vermont Lutheran Church in Holy Baptism:
Hannah Hurley (Parents: Janna & Sean Hurley) &



Kason Thronson (Parents: Ashley Rickey & Luke Thronson)



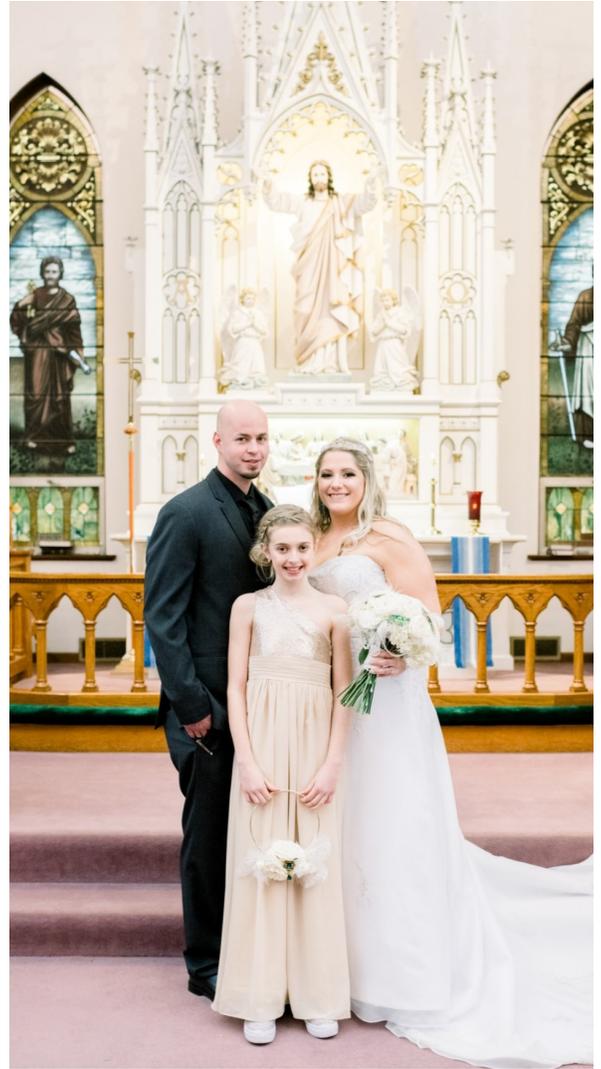
“and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also- not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 3:21

Highlights (continued)

Congratulations Nathan & Autumn (Patrick) McGree on their Wedding December 13, 2019

*Mr. &
Mrs.*

A large and very interested audience came to the Gathering Place on Sunday night, December 8th to listen to Bob Lindmeier, WKOW's meteorologist, present the scientific facts about climate change, discuss the consequences of human activity adding Greenhouse gases to our atmosphere and what steps we can take to minimize the changes going forward.



*Cabin
Fever
Relievers*

Highlights (continued)



Highlights (continued)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Breakfast Social

Wednesday, January 8th

We would like to invite all members to meet for breakfast.

When: On the second Wednesday of every month at 8:30AM

Where: Base Camp in Mazomanie



Cabin Fever Relievers in the Gathering Place.

Sunday, January 12th at 7pm



Join us in the Vermont Church Gathering Place to spend a cold January evening in the warmth of the desert southwest. Inspired by the movie “Cars,” Eric and Joanie Haugen take us down Route 66 from Amarillo to the Grand Canyon, stopping at classic roadside attractions like The Devil’s Rope Museum and The Blue Hole. Along the way visit many beautiful sites like The Painted Desert, Bandelier National Monument and Canyon de Chelly. And, we’ll stop for a night at the motel that inspired the “Cozy Cone”.

Popcorn and refreshments will be provided. Vermont Church is located mid-way between Black Earth and Mount Horeb just west of highway 78 at 9886 Vermont Church Road and is handicapped accessible.

Bible Study Group

Wednesday, January 15th

Who: We welcome newcomers and drop-ins. You are a drop-in if you want to come once in a while or are curious about one of the sessions.

What: *Wait, Watch and Create*— taken from the Gather Magazine. Bible Study materials can be found in the narthex on the table under the big bulletin board

When: 3rd Wednesday of every month at 9:30am in the Gathering Place.

Where: The Copies of the Bible study will be available in the narthex. We had a good discussion at our first meeting in September and look for more of you to join us. The study is taken from the Gather Magazine. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Barry, Klover Schafer or Marlene Ludolph.



UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)

Youth Group to Tyrol

Wednesday, January 15th

Ski/Snowboard & Tubing

from 4-9pm

Members may bring two guests. Come to Tyrol Basin anytime between 4pm and 9pm. Liz Herrling will be upstairs in the lodge/restaurant to give you your passes and help you with your rentals. A complimentary lesson will be given at 5:30pm for either snowboard or ski. Students will vote to see which one is offered. When you are tired of skiing/snowboarding, we can head over to the tubing hill.

Cost is free to members and/or season pass holders and \$15/non-member without a season pass. It includes a complimentary lesson (if needed), lift tickets, rentals and a complimentary Tubing Pass. PLEASE THANK Tyrol for this AWESOME DEAL - normal price is \$84.50.

RSVP to the church office for each person coming:

1. Do you have a season pass?
2. Do you want to ski or snowboard?
3. Do you need rentals?
4. Do you need a lesson?
5. Complete the waiver at <https://shop.tyrolbasin.com/forms>



Annual Congregation Meeting

JANUARY 27TH, 2019

All committees—please submit all reports to the church office ASAP.

All members— Your attendance is requested. The purpose of the annual meeting is to conduct the official business for the year. Members will read minutes, make and receive reports, vote on the budget and elect new officers and/or council members.

MEN'S MEATBALL DINNER

Mark your calendar! Everyone is invited to attend the annual Men's Meatball Dinner at Vermont Lutheran Church, **Sunday February 16, 2020**. This is a fund raiser for the ongoing mission of the congregation. There is one seating, at 11:30 AM, for 120 diners. The \$15 price includes a dinner of Norwegian meatballs, lefse, potatoes, beans, dessert and plenty of hospitality. Reservations should be made by calling Peter Antonie (767-2641) after 5PM.



WELCA News

JANUARY ALTAR DUTY

Bonnie Dauck & Sue Schaub

Meeting: On December 9, WELCA gathered in the Fellowship Hall to make our annual Christmas Baskets. This year we made 11 baskets and sent 3 Christmas greeting cards. A sincere thank you goes out to all of you who helped with donations, packing, writing, and delivering. We couldn't ask for a better crew.

We also held our annual meeting to discuss the budget. We were able to meet all of our budget items this year, which included our many missions. We discussed the 2020 budget and decided to keep it basically the same with only one or two changes. These will be further discussed in the annual report in January. Thank you WELCA members for a great year.

Share the gift of Boldcafe

12/03/2017 | [Monthly Topic](#)

by Elizabeth McBride

There's something pretty awesome about going to a cafe. Of course, there's coffee, but besides that, it's a welcoming space whether you are alone or with friends. It's comfortable. It's casual. It's a place for everyone.

Since 2003, Café (<http://boldcafe.org>), Women of the ELCA's on-line space for and with young adult women, has been not only a way for young women of faith to gather with other Lutheran women, it has also been a space for emerging women writers of faith to share their wisdom about life, relationships and more with the world.

As a result of this ministry, young women of faith have formed *Café* groups and joined the Women of the ELCA groups in their congregations. I've even heard of non-Lutheran women joining the church because of their involvement in a *Café* group. *Café* and its writers touch women's minds and spirits in a way nothing else does.

Last month, I was able to connect with the Young Women's Bible study on the campus of Clemson University. I met with Paula Sommerville who leads this group of bold women. She helps arrange weekly meetups. Every Monday evening they connect and share some laughs while discussing articles in *Café*. They especially like the articles on the topic of vocation. My visit with this group taught me two things. For one, Women of the ELCA provides opportunities for young women of faith to connect where they are. And second, students on college campuses and beyond are looking for community and that is something women's groups can help support.

Your generous gift today will help make it possible for Café to include an even wider variety of rising women writers. You can [donate](#) here.

Let us rejoice by sharing the gift of *Café* with all the women in our lives – with a sampling of some of Café's most popular articles, on the website boldcafe.org this month.





January 5

Jesus' Ministry Begun

Mark 1:21-45
Psalm 103:1-5

January 12

Jesus Heals and Teaches

Mark 2:1-22
Psalm 103:6-14

January 19

Parables in Mark

Mark 4:1-34
Psalm 126

January 26

**Jesus and the Gerasene
Demoniac**

Mark 5:1-20
Psalm 89:1-4

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jane	Mickelson	January 01
Henry	Olsen	January 01
Riley	Pappas	January 01
Shirley	Brandt	January 02
Earl	Brandt	January 05
Alex	Fitzgerald	January 05
Eric	Fitzgerald	January 05
Cora	Hanson	January 06
Gretchen	Dauck	January 08
Susan	Schaub	January 08
Ryan	Howery	January 12
Ryker	Aeschlimann	January 13
Richard	Johnson	January 14
Cara	Boebel	January 16
Joanie	Haugen	January 20
Sarah	Klemme	January 20
Ashlee	Adler	January 22
Janice	Cowan	January 23
Angela	Humphrey	January 23
Candy	Severson	January 23
Amanda	Hefty	January 24
Bob	Duhr	January 25
Reed	Adler	January 26
Jane	Field	January 27
Gregory	Herrling	January 28
Charlotte	McGree	January 29
Kristin	Antonie	January 31



VERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH Council Minutes
December 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Paul Dybdahl

Attendance: Paul Dybdahl, Pastor Barry, Steve Holzheuter, Ellie Boebel, Riley Lynch, Peter Antonie, Klover Schafer, Larry Ziemer, Guest Attendee – Leonard Schaub

Devotions: Pastor Barry led us in devotions based on the word “Amen.” A word Christians take for granted, but what is its real meaning? Its Hebrew definition is, “This is certainly true.” We use it as an affirmation at the end of our prayers. So we basically are proclaiming the truth of our prayers at their conclusion. Or as Luther promoted in his Small Catechism, “This is most certainly true!”

Pastor’s Report: Approved online

Secretary’s Report: Approved online

Treasurer’s Report: Approved online. Steve provided more detail to the report. Our recent positive trend of Vermont’s financial picture is continuing. While our expenses continue to be above budget, our contributions are also ahead of what we received last year by mid December. As we recall we needed an intensive year end fund drive in 2018 to meet our budget and we curtailed our Mission Commitments for 2019. Again a final determination of that decision will be made in early January as final year end figures are reviewed. \$4850 of Endowment Funds is the distribution amount for this year. Approx. \$11,000 profit from the Lutefisk Dinner will be transferred to our General Fund. Steve stated that an optimistic goal would be to go into 2020 with a reserve fund that would take some pressure off of the lighter contribution months to meet our expenses.

Vision and Mission:

Participation: Two Baptisms on one Sunday in December was an amazing event for Vermont.

Visibility: An update on the Highway 78 Vermont Lutheran sign was not available.

The Cabin Fever Reliever presentation on Climate Change by Meteorologist Bob Lindmeier on 12/8 was well received with about 40 attendees. About 1/3 were non members which speaks well of the outreach for this presentation.

Youth: The Christmas Program on 12/15 was again an excellent program with a full representation of the young folks of the Congregation showing off their talent on stage and behind the scenes. All of this was being ably directed by Liz Herrling! Our THANKS go out to her for her time and effort in putting this production together for our enjoyment. Some older folks also participated with thanks to the Gaila Olson Quartet, The Violin Trio and The Bible Study Players!

Committee Report:

Property: Thank You to Rich and Carol Johnson for again providing a huge Christmas tree and for the help of the decorating elves to beautify the Sanctuary.

A discussion of the Gathering Place chairs as to their comfort and some fade appearance was talked about. Feedback will be welcome from those who use the chairs! The property committee will select faded or worn chairs and retain them for back up use.

Old Business:

Legacy Fund: A thank you note of appreciation to Avis Fischer for her contribution.

Non Budgeted Expense : These have Spending limits as per our Constitution. If we wish to change these limits and how it would be done will continue to be explored

Annual Meeting: Scheduled for January 26, 2020, the fourth Sunday of the month.

New Business:

Council Member Nominations: Contact has been made with three members to fill three vacant seats in 2020. We are looking forward to their positive response!

2020 Spending Plan: A preview was offered by Steve with final determinations yet to be made as final financial numbers become clearer.

Care For Creation: As a result of the Climate Change presentation, Peter began a discussion of the ELCA initiative of Care For Creation (CFC) and The Synods team of CFC. The next step would be for Vermont Lutheran to form our own CFC committee to begin fact finding as to how we could become better stewards of our environment through a variety of programs. Information will begin to be provided through printouts in our bulletins.

Food Pantry: Ellie announced that beginning in 2020 Greater Heights Pantry will determine geographic boundaries where they will serve residents. Mazomanie Food Pantry continues to serve its community effectively with a regular staff plus local Church Volunteers on a monthly basis. Vermont Lutheran participates in both of these Food Pantries.

At 7:10 Peter made a motion to adjourn, Riley seconded, all voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

We closed with The Lord's Prayer

Next meeting January 15, 2020, 6 PM

Submitted by Larry Ziemer, Secretary



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

Financials: Year to Date December 2019

Operating Contributions:	\$	Coming at the
Total Operating Expenses:	\$	Congregational
Difference:	\$	Meeting



Attendance Matters

December 2019

1st	61
8th	Not Recorded
15th	91
22nd	56
29th	TBD

Church Council Meeting December 19, 2019
Pastor's Report

Baptisms: 2 on 12/08: Hannah Hurley (Janna & Sean Hurley),
Kason Thronson (Ashley Rickey & Luke Thronson)
Weddings: 1 on 12/13: Nathan & Autumn (Patrick) McGree
Shut-In Visits: 6 Hospital Visits: 3
Funerals: 2: 12/08: Ethel Skalet, and on 12/ 12: Howard Field
West Dane Text Study: 4; Area Narrative Study Group: 0; Mt. Horeb Ecumenical Clergy:
4
Nursing Home Worship: 1 at Milestone in Cross Plains; 0 at Heartland Village

Wow; what a month! It must be December...

The Christmas Program for another year dazzled the congregation once again. Liz Herrling did a dynamite job of corralling the kids and putting together a fine program! The music was great (thank you Choir, Gaila & quartet, and three wonderful adult-armature violinists!), the Sunday School and Confirmation children were their marvelously-entertaining selves, the Sunday Bible Study group's skit was delightful, the tree was festive and fragrant (thank you to the Johnsons), and once again the story of the Nativity shone through loud and clear! Phew! What fun!!

It was difficult saying good-bye to Ethel Skalet, and it was nice to bring Howard Field back home for his final resting. Funerals are always a mixed-bag of sorts... sad to see them go, but the memories will live on and continue to influence generations to come.

Members Tom Wilkins and Burnett Severson are not doing well at all; please keep them in your prayers. But with be going to nursing homes as soon as places can be found for them to go to.

The third Wednesday of the month Bible Study has met three times so far, and our number of attendees is growing. We've been studying lessons from the "Gather" magazine (ELCA's women's magazine), and they have provided for some great discussions.

A special thank you to everyone who has been so supportive as Ingrid has gone through her Immuno-therapy treatments. She has finished her treatments, and the doctor says she should regain her strength and stamina in 3-4 weeks.

Things seem chaotic and frantic, but I cannot think of anything else to report.

Have a Merry Christmas, everyone!

Pastor Barry

Synod News



BISHOP ELECTION PROCESS BEGINS – PAY ATTENTION TO TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Your Voice Matters!

We encourage broad participation in Town Hall Meetings that will take place across our synod. Attend the Town Hall Meeting in your conference. We will have conversations around two questions:

What are the strengths and challenges of this synod and what makes this synod unique, what is it facing at this moment in history and from that snapshot . . .

What skills and characteristics would serve us well in the person of the next bishop?

A team will condense those comments into a profile of the synod and a profile of the bishop we seek.

FORUM DATES AND LOCATIONS

Please try to attend the forum in your conference. Forums are 90 minutes in length

Click on the link below to find which conference your congregation is in.

<https://scsw-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019-Synod-Conference-Group.pdf>

Sunday, January 5 – 2:00 pm / Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 120 Faith Drive, Columbus, WI
Conference: NE Dane/N. Madison Conference

Sunday, January 12 – 2:00 pm / Location: Hope Lutheran, 3702 County Rd AB, McFarland, WI
Conference: Southeast Dane/East Madison

Saturday, January 18 – 10:00 am / Location: St. James Lutheran, 427 S. Main Street, Verona, WI
Conference: Central/West Madison/West Dane

Sunday, January 19 – 2:00 pm / Location: Faith Lutheran, 2116 Mineral Point Ave, Janesville, WI
S. Jefferson/Walworth/N. Rock/S. Rock

Saturday, February 1 – 10:00 am / Location: Grace Lutheran, 1105 N. Bequette Street, Dodgeville, WI
Conference: Iowa/Richland/Grant/W. Green/Lafayette

Sunday, February 9 – 2:00 pm / Location: St. John's Lutheran, 100 Oak Street, Prairie du Sac, WI
Conference: Sauk/Columbia

Frequently Asked Questions About the Bishop Election Process

Why are we making changes to the process of electing a bishop? It's not the first time. For the first several elections, there was no pre-work at all, only a nominating ballot at the assembly. Later we followed what several other synods had done, which was to identify nominees beforehand and hold forums for those willing to be in the election. We continue to seek improvement.

Are the changes at this time because of our track record? Yes and no. Many synods tinker with changes to the process. In our case, we recognize that only two of our six bishops have left office at the conclusion of a term. There's no one single reason, but it does suggest we could make changes that would allow for more thought and consideration to candidates prior to the election.

What are the key differences being introduced this year? There are several:

Town Hall meetings will draw on broad input from around the synod to describe the synod and what we need in the person elected to be the bishop. We'll develop a "bishop profile," that should guide our thinking about who best could serve.

Conferences will be asked to convene and discuss possible nominees. Names may still be put forward by individual persons or congregations but would need to be supported by a conference to be sent on

Synod News (continued)

further into the process.

A Bishop Call Committee will do the work similar to a Congregational Call Committee – gather personal and background information, do interviews, and pass on to the synod as a whole 4-6 names of persons they consider the best fit for the synod's needs. By the time nominees are presented to the synod assembly, there will have been thorough vetting and support.

Who will be on the Bishop Call Committee? The members of this committee will be appointed by the Synod Council in January. It will be separate from the existing Bishop Election Task Force, which deals only with the process. Deans are invited to suggest persons to serve by December 10.

Isn't every synod supposed to use an "ecclesiastical ballot?" The model constitution for synods describes an election process via the "ecclesiastical ballot," which means the first ballot is a nominating ballot. But it is not a required provision, and the constitution of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin states "The Synod Council shall be responsible for determining the process to be used in the election of a bishop." (\$9.04.01)

Have other synods used a process like this? Yes. To cite some neighbors: The La Crosse Area Synod begins the process by involving assembly voting members at a "conference nominating caucus," that raises up nominees; no further nominations are allowed at the Synod Assembly. Northeast Iowa elected its current bishop using a Synod Call Committee that gathered nominations, did work similar to that which we propose, and forwarded five names to their assembly. In recent elections, both Northwest Washington and Eastern Washington-Idaho synods had a pre-nomination process and no floor nominations. These are only a few examples.

Doesn't this call for much more involvement by people throughout the synod? Yes. Especially if you are a rostered leader or a lay member identified as a voting member of the synod assembly. You should plan on participating in (a) a Town Hall meeting; (b) a Conference Nominating Caucus; (c) two synod assemblies (the regular May 1-2 Assembly, and the one-day June 20 election assembly); and (d) a forum in your area to become familiar with nominees.

LINKS TO MATERIALS TO DISTRIBUTE IN YOUR CONGREGATIONS

Summary of Proposed Bishop Election Process & Timeline: <https://scsw-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Bishop-Election-Process-and-Timeline-as-Approved.pdf>

Town Hall Forums Bulletin Insert B/W: <https://scsw-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Bishop-Election-Forums-Revised.pdf>

Town Hall Forums Bulletin Insert Color: <https://scsw-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Bishop-Election-Forums-Color-Revised.pdf>



ST. OLAF CHOIR
ANTON ARMSTRONG - CONDUCTOR

Wednesday, January 29 • 8 P.M.
Luther Memorial Church
1021 University Ave. • Madison, Wisconsin

For \$3 dollars off, enter promo code CLASSIC at checkout.
\$30 ADULTS • \$10 STUDENTS • TICKETS: stolaf.edu/tickets OR 800-363-5487

St. Olaf Choir to Perform – January 29 – 8 pm
Luther Memorial
1021 University Avenue, Madison

Join the St. Olaf Choir, conducted by Anton Armstrong, for a performance at Luther Memorial Church on January 29 at 8 p.m. The St. Olaf Choir, with 75 mixed voices, is one of the premier a cappella choirs in the United States, and for more than a century has set the standard of choral excellence and remained at the forefront of choral artistry.

The 2020 St. Olaf Choir tour marks the 100th anniversary of the choir's first East Coast tour in 1920 (which included their first performance at Carnegie Hall), along with Dr. Armstrong's 30th anniversary of leading the ensemble. During this past century, touring has played an important role in the St. Olaf Choir sharing its artistry and beauty of sound with audiences around the world. This year, the St. Olaf Choir has adjusted its ticket pricing structure to promote greater accessibility, including \$10 tickets for all students. \$30 adults, \$3 discount by entering promo code CLASSIC at checkout.

Tickets are available at stolaf.edu/tickets and
By calling: 1-800-363-5487.

ELCA World Hunger

"I have a future"

MALAWI
ELCA.org/hunger



Gustin was born and raised in Beni, a village in the Dowa district of Malawi, where he spent much of his life working as a pig farmer, village leader and community development volunteer. From sunup to sundown, he could be found out on the land – if not at his own farm, then at those of his neighbors. Volunteering his time, he would demonstrate new techniques and introduce new crop varieties to help others increase their yields and avoid the hungry season known to creep up on the community between harvests.

He was 57 when he got sick. The day started like any other, but working in the field, Gustin was overcome with muscle pain. Too weak to walk, he was helped by a fellow community volunteer, who hired a bicycle to bring them to the nearest clinic, 12 miles away. It was there that Gustin learned he was HIV-positive.

He returned home, fearing the worst but determined to fight. Thanks to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi,

he knew where to turn for support. He met with a community health counselor whose training was provided by the ELCM and supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Gustin received access to treatment, health education, a listening ear and a companion for each long journey to the health clinic or hospital. His counselor walked with him to every clinic visit – 12 miles each way. You helped him get the medical care he needs.

Now 69, Gustin stands tall and strong, with a face of warmth and wisdom. He may work a little less in the field, but he has not reduced his commitment to helping others – not one bit. Now he's focused on health care, actively counseling others who live with HIV/AIDS. This work is especially important in a country where the disease affects 9.6% of people ages 15 to 49.

"If it wasn't for the church, I wouldn't be alive," Gustin said. "But now I know my life is not over, and I have a future."

WHF19

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States.

Will you help with your gift today?

YES! I would like to support ELCA World Hunger (WHG0038).

- I have enclosed my gift of \$100.
 I have enclosed my gift of \$250.
 Other \$ _____

Mail Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to:

ELCA
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online ELCA.org/hunger/donate

Phone 800-638-3522



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Call or email

PRAYER

REQUEST to

Jan Cowan - 767-4616 - jancowan@tds.net
Kay Rettenmund - 767-2328 - rett@tds.net.

It is our time to build a legacy

Become a member of the Legacy Fund. Members of the Legacy Fund come from all walks of life and are united by a desire to preserve our beautiful Church and Cemetery.

Vermont Lutheran Church owns and maintains a cemetery, historic church building and Gathering Place with a hilltop viewscape. Christian stewardship involves the faithful management of all the gifts God has given us, including accumulated, inherited and appreciated resources. Therefore, we created the Legacy Fund to encourage, receive and administer these gifts.

Our goal is to generate a Legacy Fund of \$1 Million dollars, or more.

Through receipt of bequests, grants and/or gifts, contributions to the Legacy Fund and investment growth will serve two very important purposes now and into the future:

- To purchase neighboring land for expansion of the cemetery; and/or
- Provide funds for future maintenance of the cemetery and/or building and grounds needs of the Church.

Any legacy member whose contribution totals \$1,000 or more will be recognized with a brass plate on a prominently displayed plaque. Annual meeting reports will include all the names of those individuals who made a contribution of any amount that year.

December Newsletter
articles are due
January 24th

to Elizabeth Herrling at
vermont_church@tds.net

Vermont **L**UTHERAN **C**hurch
9886 Vermont Church Road
Black Earth, WI 53515
Telephone (608) 767-3312

E-mail address: Vermont_Church@tds.net
Website: vermontlutheran.org

Visit Vermont's Website:

www.vermontlutheran.org

Password: God'sWork

**Log on to see all Vermont
news and pictures!**

