

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018



St. Luke's  
Oakfield



# Notes & News

Christ centered education since 1975.

[www.stlukesoakfield.com](http://www.stlukesoakfield.com)

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## **INTRODUCTION**

[Luke 21:25-28](#)

You may not believe it, but some people are afraid of Christmas. There's even a fancy-sounding name for this. It's called: "festivalisophobia." A fear of festivals.

You might be wondering, "Why would people be afraid of Christmas?" For some, it may be Christmas trees or flashing Christmas lights. More serious are those who are afraid of the message of Christmas. Think about it: If you don't understand who this holiday is about and why his birth is such a big deal, Christmas and everything that accompanies it can be confusing, even scary!

If Christmas celebrates Jesus' first coming into our world; can you imagine how afraid those same people might be at Jesus' second coming on the Last Day? Jesus' words are startling and scary: "Nations will be in anguish and perplexity... People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world" (vv. 26-27).

But Jesus encourages a very different kind of reaction to the signs of his second coming: "When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads." (v. 28). Jesus doesn't want us cowering, but confident. He doesn't want us afraid, but anticipating and ready! Why? "Because your redemption is drawing near" (v. 28).

When you know who Jesus is and how his blood made amends for you sins, there is absolutely nothing to fear, and certainly not Christmas! Not even the scary-sounding events described at the end of this age! Jesus gives us hope in the face of fears! – [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

## **DIVINE CALL – MESSAGE FROM MR. BUCH**

A divine call was extended to me from Christ Lutheran Church and School in Big Bend, Wisconsin. The call opportunity is to serve as the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, along with serving as the principal. There are also opportunities for coaching and music if I would desire that. Christ Lutheran School has 78 students this year. If you have more questions or discussion about the roles and responsibilities of the call to Christ Lutheran or the call I am currently serving at St. Luke's, feel free to reach out to me. My cell phone number is 920-973-0439 and my email is [principal.buch@stlukesoakfield.com](mailto:principal.buch@stlukesoakfield.com). Please keep my family and me in your prayers as we deliberate where best to serve God's people.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE VOSS FAMILY**

On behalf of our family, I would like to say a farewell to our St. Luke's Church and School. As we all know this is not a "good-bye" but rather an "until we meet again." It has been a blessing to be part of the St. Luke's family; and we will miss you all dearly! Thank you to all the families that have entrusted their children in my care over the years in the Continued Care Program. Each of your children will hold a special place in my heart. Also, a huge thank you to all the teachers, helpers, Principal Buch, and Pastor Schwartz for showering God's love on our children. We are off to North Mankato on December 13<sup>th</sup> to join Nathan in serving the Lord at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. May God continue to bless you all here at St. Luke's!

-The Voss Family

## **COOKIES & CAROLING**

The Outreach Committee is inviting all to help decorate Christmas cookies on Monday, December 10 from 5-6p in the commons and then deliver the cookies while caroling on Tuesday, December 11 from 6-7p (or longer). We will then return to school for hot chocolate and hot apple cider. **Sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If there isn't at least 10 people signed-up for each date by Sunday, December 9 after the late service, it will be cancelled (Michele Wix will call those who signed-up if cancelled).**

## **EATON'S PIZZA COUPONS**

Thank you to those who sold pizza coupons for St. Luke's. We will be getting our total profit soon. What a blessing to see so many of you serving in this way. St. Luke's will be able to do more ministry with these dollars. Go Eagles!

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

The Children's Christmas Service schedule is set! There will be two mass practices with Sunday School and LES students on December 9<sup>th</sup> between services and Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. The Children's Christmas Service at St. Luke's will be December 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. The Children's Christmas Service at St. Paul's will be on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 A.M. We encourage all of our St. Luke's students to join the St. Paul's Sunday School students on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. If family/travel conflicts prevent that from happening, please contact your child's teacher. Thank you!

## **BASKETBALL**

The Eagles started their game schedule last Friday night with games against Grace. The B-Team was victorious but the A-Team fell to a very strong Grace Wildcat team. The B-Team gets back at it this weekend with a full slate of games. The B-Team plays two games Friday night, one against Faith at 4:00 P.M., and one at 6:00 P.M. against St. John's, Lomira. The C-Team plays at 8:00, 8:45, and 10:15 A.M. on Saturday morning. All 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to play in the C-Team games. The Kindergarteners are in training for next year! Go Eagles!

## **GIVING TREE**

This year the St. Luke's classrooms will be participating in a giving tree. Requests for the various classrooms will be added to the tree in the school entry hallway. Take an ornament off the tree, place the money into the envelope provided and deposit it into the lock box on the opposite side of the hallway by the fire alarm. Last year, the students benefitted from glitter glue, decorating jewels, baby dolls, a 3 hole punch, rechargeable batteries, classroom pet supplies, headphones, beads, pipe cleaners, card stock, and party/art supplies. Those were just some of the items that were on the giving tree. There will also be a tree at St. Paul's, Brownsville. The students of St. Luke's thank you!!!

## **SCHOOL CLEANING**

This is your friendly reminder each week of who is on for school cleaning. If it is your first time cleaning, don't hesitate to ask a teacher or Mr. Buch what to do. Please ask Mr. Buch for the school cleaning keys prior to your time to clean. Cleaning checklists will be found in the cleaning supply closet.

- December 3-9 – Birschbach
- December 10-16 – OPEN
- December 17-23 – Cleaning Service

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- December 7<sup>th</sup> – Home B-Team Basketball vs. Faith 4pm, Lomira 6pm
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – C-Team Basketball @ 8:00 A.M., 8:45 A.M.
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – B-Team Basketball tournament @ St. John's, Lomira
- December 9<sup>th</sup> – Children's Christmas Practice Between Services
- December 15<sup>th</sup> – Children's Christmas Practice – 9:00 A.M.
- December 16<sup>th</sup> – Children's Christmas Service @ St. Luke's 8:00 & 10:00 A.M.
- December 23<sup>rd</sup> – Children's Christmas Service @ St. Paul's 9:00 A.M.

### 3K – 4K Notes from Mrs. Russ

This week in Bible History we talked about 2 miracles that Jesus did while He was here on earth. The Feeding of the 5000 was a true example of how Jesus provides for us until our blessings are overflowing. We tried a little miracle of our own with pancake powder and water. Not exactly a miracle but amazing to see our little chefs creating something wonderful out of what seemed like nothing. In our second story, Jesus was walking on the water. Peter's faith was not very strong and he almost drown in the waves. Sometimes the waves of this life can test our faith, but our Savior pulls us right back up out of our troubles.

This week we continued our unit on the four seasons. We read "What Makes the Weather" and "Grasshopper and the Ants". We have some really neat snowmen hanging in the hall. We were able to use some of our new craft supplies to make them look extra special. We certainly have felt the change of the season this week. Our December book orders have many great books that follow this "seasons" theme. Please place your orders by Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, and they will be back before Christmas. Thanks to the Pitzens for bringing snack this week and next week.

Pizza Hut has had a "Give Me 20" challenge going on for the last 8 weeks. It is for preschools who have at least 20 minutes of reading in their classrooms 5 days a week. Since we meet that criteria, I entered our class 2 months ago. Now that we have completed the challenge, we must wait to see if we win a prize. The chances are slim, but the prizes are many! Look for more information to follow. In the meantime, 4K should keep working hard on their December Book-It forms.

Willy Worm had us wiggling this week. In an art project, we colored some wagon wheel pasta to make cool pictures. Next week, we will only be reviewing the letters that we have learned that are in our names. I would ask that each child in the 4K come to school next week knowing how to spell their whole name. YIKES! The children have really shown that they have a pretty good grasp of the letters that we have already learned. Please continue to reinforce those letters when you have a few minutes at home. (S,T,O,P,X,U,Y,W)

**On December 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, all 3K and 4K students are asked to attend the mass practice at 9 am on each of the 2 dates.** Please make sure to mark your calendars for **December 16<sup>th</sup>** when we will have the Children's Christmas Service at 8 and 10 am. All students are asked to join together to spread the Christmas message! **On December 21<sup>st</sup> all 3K and 4K students are asked to be at school for our Christmas party!** We will be playing games, eating snacks, and opening our exchange gifts. If you would like to organize some games, provide some snacks or if you have any questions about the schedule please let me know.

### Kindergarten – 2nd Grade Notes from Ms. Hankemeier

Advent has hit our classroom. Stand next to our door during most times of the day and you'll feel the excitement of the coming of Christmas. Stand and listen and you'll likely hear at least one child singing a Christmas hymn. Peek in and see at least one child drawing a Christmas picture. Speak with all the children and I pray that their focus is not on the earthly joys of the season, but on the treasure that came and awaits them in heaven. Our multiple advent calendars, Christmas service practices, and our long story of the week, "The Legend of the Candy Cane" are all helping us stay focused on the Savior born for us.

During our moments of relative calm we have been studying adding "ed" to words and the sounds that makes along with blending multiple letters together to form all sorts of new words. Our friend, "magic e" has really brought some words to life for many of us and we can't wait to discover more!

We also began a discussion on The Great Depression and The Dust Bowl when we started talking about our natural resources and caring for our blessings. I'm looking forward to seeing where this discussion takes us. Stay tuned!

I can't thank you enough for your support for our classroom in your prayers, thoughts, and generous donations to the Giving Tree! I'm blown away by your generosity! I have had to think outside of the box because we are simply so blessed here!

Parents - please remember to pick up a \$7-\$10 gift for either a boy or girl depending on your child's gender. Wrapped gifts labeled who are they are from and whether it is for a boy or a girl are welcome anytime! Thank you!

## **2nd - 4th Grade Notes from Mrs. Kuske**

Hard to believe that we are less than twenty days from Christmas. Kids are working hard at memorizing our Christmas material. Looking forward to sharing the wonderful news of our Savior's birth with many people in a little over a week!

I am in the process of working out a day we can go give our time to help some wonderful volunteers at Second Impressions in Fond du Lac. The class and I talked about ways we can show our love to Him. Pray and go to church were popular answers along with helping people. Gave me a thought that we should do just that and help all the people who volunteer at Second Impressions! Please look for a permission slip on School Cues next week!

We played a new game in gym class called Monster Ball- it was a success! We have been doing a great job in phonics and spelling- this week the 3rd graders got homophones which are tricky! 4th graders were glad to have suffix **-ed** and **-ing** when added to verbs.

This Friday we are having a "states and capitals" quiz on the Midwest states, and next week a test in English. I am hoping to get a test in before Christmas in English for the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders so we can move on to something new in 2019! Have a wonderful weekend and good luck to our basketball teams!

## **5th – 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Buch**

The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students submitted their papers and they are slowly but surely being graded. The students worked to create 3 page informational papers on any topic of their choice. We have topics from the Great Barrier Reef to Fortnite. It is exciting to read papers that the students themselves are excited to write. While this is an introductory step to writing, it is valuable to get the experience of putting together thoughts down on paper.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science lessons continue to study matter, energy, gravity, and Newtons. Isaac, strawberry, and fig are some of my personal favorites. We took an abstract approach to some of the concepts on gravity. We also studied the difference between mass and weight, although the two are easily confused because gravity (weight) is constant on earth for a given mass. We actually should be weighed in Newtons not pounds. One newton is equal to about 100g, or a small apple as the book described, which is funny because they don't seem the same when I eat them.

We have been preparing a song to enter into the Sunny 97.7 Christmas Idol contest. We will be submitting it on Friday. Thanks to Andrew Hill for preparing our backing track (it is really cool). When the time comes, please vote for your singing Eagles! Voting usually takes place right around Christmas time.

If your child asks for badminton equipment for Christmas, you can blame the last few days in our classroom. Blind badminton has taken the classroom by storm. Red mats are set up as the "net" and players cannot see the other side of the court. We have had a blast playing during PE the last few days.

We are finally back with football picks for this week. We will see how the week goes or if our picks would be rusty. Just a reminder that the Bears are in first place in the division.