**Shepherd of the Ridge Lutheran Church and Preschool**

**34555 Center Ridge Road**

**North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039**

**Church:** 440-327-7321

[www.shepherdoftheridge.org](http://www.shepherdoftheridge.org)

**Preschool:**  440-327-1032

<https://www.preschoolshepherdoftheridge.com>

**Worship Schedule:** Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

**Spiritual Growth:** Sunday at 9:30 a.m.





Standing Firm in the Faith

**“Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures and by clear reason, I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted.  My conscience is captive to the Word of God.  I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience.  Here I stand.  God help me!  Amen.”  - Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms**

What does it mean to stand firm in the faith?  Martin Luther gives us an example of this as he stood before Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, at the Diet of Worms.

The Diet of Worms (January-May 1521) was an assembly convened by Charles, to address the works of Martin Luther.  Charles believed Luther was a heretic, whose writings and teachings must be condemned at all costs, because Luther wrote against the abuses happening in the Catholic Church, including the selling of indulgences, and the Catholic Church’s insistence that good works were necessary for salvation.  This belief that good works were necessary for salvation was condemned by Luther as unscriptural and against the very nature of the Christian faith.

On April 18th, 1521, Emperor Charles V had laid out on a table all of the books Luther had written.  Charles asked Luther if the books were his and whether or not he would recant (take back) what he had written in them.

Some of the books were devotional material Luther had written.  Others were books about morals and values.  But many of them rejected the Catholic Church’s false teachings on a variety of subjects, including the selling of indulgences.  The Catholic Church taught that these indulgences were a way for people to pay their way into heaven.  Luther taught, in accordance with the Scriptures, that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, on account of Christ alone.  Good works are NOT necessary for salvation, but are rather a result of our salvation.  We don’t do good works in order to be saved.  We do good works BECAUSE we are saved.

When Luther was asked if he would recant his writings, he spoke what is written above.  He said unless he was convinced by Scripture and clear reason that what he had written was wrong, he would not recant his teachings.  His conscience was bound, not by what the Catholic Church taught, but rather by God’s Word.

When Luther said, “Here, I stand.  God, help me!”  He was putting his foot down firmly in the faith.  He could only stand on God’s Word alone, nothing else.

Luther’s response caused an uproar at the Diet of Worms.  Some cheered him on.  Others jeered at him.  Some people even demanded his death saying, “To the fire with him!”  That’s right.  People called for Luther to be burned at the stake for the faith he was confessing.

As we celebrate the 505th anniversary of the Reformation this October, we pray that we would be as bold as Luther, to confess our faith, despite what the rest of the world might do to us.

The author of Hebrews puts it this way, **“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.” - Hebrews 10:23**

As Christians, you and I are called to hold fast to the confession of our faith and hope in Christ, without wavering.  Because the God who has given us the gift of faith doesn’t waver.  He, who has promised us eternal life and salvation, is faithful to us.  He always keeps His promises for us.

The world around us mocks Christianity.  Most outsiders look down on Christians as gullible sheep.  But we are anything but gullible.  Like Luther, we use God’s Word and clear reason to believe what God has done for us in Jesus.  We are faithfully following our Lord, who has given everything, including His own life, to rescue and redeem us from our sins.

When the world calls us to change what we believe, to change the words of Scripture, or to confess a faith that isn’t biblical, we are called to stand firm in the faith, much like Luther did at the Diet of Worms.

Our conscience is not held captive by the world’s demands.  Rather, our conscience is formed and held captive by God’s Word of Law and Gospel, found in the pages of Holy Scripture.

May we boldly confess our faith and say, **“Here I stand.  God, help me!  Amen!”**

In Christ,

Pastor Paul Pater



Shepherd of the Ridge Preschool is still accepting new enrollments for the 2022-2023 school year.

Thanks to donations made by our students on Chapel Day, the preschool was able to donate $50 to North Ridgeville Community Care.

Our annual Little Caesars Pizza fundraiser will take place October 10th through November 9th. Preschool families will be selling "Make-Your-Own" Little Caesars pizza kits.



**September 11, 2022**

Members Present: Pastor, Lisa Hanes, Wendy Burson, Nick Jones, David Chase, Deb

Noga, Glenna Greenwald (absent due to the position being put on hold for a period),

Barry Glass, Gayle Schoerverth, Marsha Glass, and Denise Manke.

Opening Devotion by Pastor:

Pastor opened the meeting with the Psalm 122 verse 1 that deals with the

opportunity to serve. He then said a prayer.

Review of Minutes from last meeting:

 The minutes from the May and July meetings were sent via email to all members

 to read over prior to today’s meeting. The motion for approval of both minutes to

 be approved was made by Wendy and was seconded by Marsha.

**Agenda items:**

Urgent Issues/Previous Agenda:

 None

President:

 None

Vice President:

 WIX/UCD app-Pastor and Wendy met to discuss Wendy administering to the

 both the web side and to the UCD app. She is trying to get them to communicate

 with each other so that there is more information available to anyone visiting the

 website. They also checked into online giving. It would cost us $25 per month

 and it was decided not to go with this due the cost.

Secretary:

 None

Financial Secretary:

 We received a note from Darla thanking us for the gift card that she was given for

 her many years of service teaching in the preschool.

Treasurer:

 Profit and Loss Statements- printer is not working currently, our budget is getting

 tighter. Net income is currently $8,226.26. Our checking account is currently at

 $3,4904.53. Our money market account is currently $33,070.38. The Mortgage

 balance is currently$ 13,0549.97.

 PPP Loan – had one forgiven and we had another sitting out there and the

 second loan has also been forgiven.

 Church Mutual sent us a letter saying that our policy is being not renewed in

 December of 2022. We need to renew our policy, and someone will check with

 them. Our payment is currently due, and we decided that we would like to make

 4 payments over the course of the year.

Council Advisor:

 None

Director of Church Ministries/DCM:

 New Bible study began on September 4th on the book of Revelation. So far it is

 going extremely well. There are currently 5 people participating in this study. It

 has not cost the church anything since David Chase paid for the curriculum and

 Gayle picked up the remaining cost for another resource. Anyone is welcome to

 come to this class.

 Lay Reader List was updated adding Dakota Jones. She has done a good job

 reading. She will be reading the last Sunday in September. Gayle said that she

 has a group of consistent readers. Anyone who would like to do this, needs to

 contact Gayle and she will give them the class which takes about an hour.

 Pastor’s Bible study started this past week and is going well. He just started

 with the Gospel of Matthew

Business Manager:

 Church siding- concerned about what has caused the rotting of the wood. It was

 decided to check with an exterminator. We have previously used Allied

 exterminator. It was also questioned if we should do this for pastor’s office or if it

 is a HVAC issue. If needed, we will call Gidich to repair the problem with pastor’s

 office.

 Church roof- we decided to check with the people who put the roof on the

 parsonage to see if they can correct the roof vent problem on the roof. LG Home

 Improvement will be called to give us an estimate.

 Matt King they are trying to get a hold of to see if he can install the remaining

 windows in the parsonage and if he will give us an estimate of what it will cost.

 We will ask him for an estimate for the siding as well.

Garage Paint-Paint is currently chipping and flaking. We will do this on our own.

Preschool:

 None

Elders:

 David stopped at the Renaissance in Olmsted Falls and visited with Sharon

 Oberhaus and she is doing well but is confined to a wheelchair due to not being

 able to walk.

 Barb Cahill is doing okay. She has her good days and her bad days according to

 Pastor. She is currently at O’Neil of North Ridgeville in room 507.

 David has tried to get a hold of the man for the church sign but he has not heard

 from him recently. He will continue to see if he can get in touch with him.

Pastor:

 There is a Baptism is coming up next Sunday for Noelle Evilsizer. This has taken

 awhile and is finally going to take place.

 Circuit forum- our circuit needs to get together hopefully on October 16, 2022 to

 vote for who we want to represent our circuit in Milwaukee, July 29,30,31, August

 1,2,3 of 2023. Pastor and attendee cannot be from the same church to attend.

 We need to nominate one person to attend from our dual parish. It is a week long

 8 hours a day voter’s meeting. We need someone who is willing to go. Harold

 from Hope was voted on as our candidate to be voted on by the forum.

Next Meeting/Agenda:

 Next Church Council meeting will be on October 23,2022 at 12 PM in the

 conference room.

Closing Prayer: Pastor closed the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.



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| **Sunday 3 PM** | Ladies Bible Study | Cancelled until further notice | Whitman House-Elyria, OH |
| **Sunday 9:30 AM** | Gayle Schoerverth | Overview of the Bible | Church Conference Room |
| **Thurs. 10:00 AM** | Pastor Pater | The Gospel of Matthew | Church Conference Room |



**October 20 – Rich & Wendy Burson**

 

**October 4-Pastor Pater**

**October 4-Bob Pater**

**October 5-Griffin Olah**

**October 7-Gene Heck**

**October 18-Elijah Olah**

**October 23-Jack Quisenberry**

**As of 10-1-2022**

**Sick or Hospitalized:**

Those affected by Covid - especially the Thompson family

Those struggling with anxiety and depression and suicidal thoughts

Angie

Barb Cahill - stroke

Betty Durisek - heart

Bjorn - Yhosila and Julian’s son - viral infection

Brian Schroeder - constant pain

Carol Pennington - recovering from hip surgery

Debbie Chase

Greg Manke

Jackie - Brain cancer; hip replacement; shoulder

Janet McCombs - cancer

Jeff Schroeder

Jeff - Deb Chase’s brother-in-law - blood clots in lungs

John - Glenna’s brother - pneumonia

Katie Anne

Kathleen Joyce - friend of Pastor Paul’s - stroke

Linda - Pat’s daughter-in-law - cancer

Lois Wildauer

Pastor Jim - kidney failure from chemo

Pastor Paul Pater

Paul Durisek

Richard - Carol Pennington’s brother - needs a kidney transplant

Rita Hutchinson

Shannon Pater - lupus

Sharon Norris - heart

Sharon Oberhaus

Steve Arendt - friend of Marcia and Barry – cancer

Sue Cartwright - broken shoulder

Susan - Sharon Oberhaus’ daughter - cancer

Tom Murrin - Joan’s son-in-law - cancer

Wayne McKenzie from Hope - heart attack

Wendy Burson

Whitman House Ladies

Ohio District President Kevin Wilson - recovering from heart attack

**Yhosila and Bjorn - in Indonesia**

**For the people of Ukraine and Russia - peace; to end the war**

**For Annabelle - God’s protection and safety over her**

**For unbelievers, that they might come to faith in Christ**

**Pastor Paul Pater** **1-920-296-****9630** **pastor.pater@gmail.com**

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| October Png, Transparent Png, Transparent PNG | 1 | 2  | 1 |
| 2 17th S. a. PentecostWorld Communion Sunday. What Is Communion?**Green** | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | **8** |
| 918th S. a. PentecostGreen | 10Office Closed for Columbus Day - San Juan Water District | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 1619th S. a. Pentecost**Green**  | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 20th S. a. Pentecost30Reformation Day | 24\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_31**Happy Halloween**When is Halloween 2019 and what day of the week will it fall on? | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28National Chocolate Day in 2020/2021 - When, Where, Why, How is Celebrated? | 29  |

**Our vision statement: Connecting people in our community to Christ’s love through compassionate kindness**

**Email: churchofficesotr@gmail.com Pastor Paul Pater** **1-920-296-****9630** **pastor.pater@gmail.com**

**October 2022 - Services of Daily Prayer**

**Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

**in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.**

My mouth is filled with Your praise,

**and with Your glory all the day.**

O Lord, open my lips,

**and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**



**The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Prayer During an Epidemic**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of illness and distress. In mercy, put an end to the epidemic that afflicts us. Grant relief to those who suffer, and comfort all who mourn. Sustain all medical personnel in their labors, and cause Your people ever to serve You in righteousness and holiness. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Prayers for Each Day of the Week**

**Sunday:** For the joy of the resurrection; for faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.

**Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

**Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and the oppressed; for those struggling with sin

**Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods

**Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.

**Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying

**Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts

**Prayers For Others and Ourselves**

**Concluding Prayers:**

Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore You to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands, I**

**commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**