



WEEKLY BULLETIN

OCTOBER 8TH, 2023

livelife
together

THE SPIEL



FRIENDSHIP+

GRANT KAFKA

Leadership Board

Grant is the Chair of the Church Leadership Board. Grant joined the Board in 2020, and also serves on the Lawn Care Team. He currently works as a business analyst at Quartz, and enjoys exercise, traveling, and officiating high school basketball.

As we've engaged with our mission of connecting people to life in Jesus, you may have noticed a theme - a heavy focus on relationships with others. These relationships, no matter the length or depth, allow our message a greater chance of taking hold.

Over the past weeks, months, and years, we've stressed the fundamental importance of relationships in our mission. We've taken deep dives into Household WELLS. We've answered the question, "Who is my neighbor?" (Hint: Everyone.) There's another sphere of influence to cover: friendship. Friendship+ is one of our strategic values at the Church. Why is that? Per our website, "because friendships infused with Jesus expand the reach of true community."

1 Thessalonians 2:8 states "*We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too.*" *By this measure, friendship and faith go hand-in-hand. We're not simply speaking God's Good News at someone, we're sharing it with them. And relationships with friends can be super-charged with love when we include God.*

Before we go any further, let's address the elephant in the room (his name is Biff). "Biff," you may say, "who is my friend?" Biff just kind of looks at you and snorts, because he is an elephant. But the point is, we're looking for an out. We have our church friends and our LifeGroup friends, and they're wonderful people. But we also have our friends that aren't Christ followers. Sometimes they may even be outright hostile toward religion. This compartmentalization seems that it would be easier to share our faith with complete strangers than some of our friends. That way, at least



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any rejections or disagreements would be short-lived. At the very least, those conversations could be awkward.

I don't claim to be the authority on overcoming this. I struggle with it myself - how do I ever put in a word for God when those around me are so involved in discussing city zoning regulations, Taylor Swift's discography, or teams that are not the Packers? A good place to start is with our other four missional values:

- **Ordinary+:** Ordinary in the sense that your relationship with God is normal for you. It's a regular part of your life. Nothing to be ashamed of.
- **Step+:** One step at a time. We don't have to give a 20-minute sermon. One simple question can be all it takes to start a conversation.
- **Generosity+:** Your friends know that you're willing to lend a hand, an ear, or anything else that is needed. Remember that you're modeling Christ's love.
- **Home+:** Adrian touched on this last month - it all starts at home.

God wants us to include Him in our friendships. Not only will our friendships serve as an opportunity to share God, God's involvement can strengthen the friendship itself. And then maybe those friends are emboldened to share with some of their other friends, and those friends with their friends, and...you see where this is going. That's where being a friend, being a neighbor, and being a Household WELL can lead.

For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them. (Matthew 18:20)

CHECK OUT MORE  OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE



HIGHER GROUND

equipping our youth with life-long skills to be followers of Jesus.

COMING UP FOR YOUTH:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH: 6:30PM-8PM

Join us for session 3 of Finding Truth, snacks and catching up with friends.
Don't forget your bible.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH: 5PM-6:30PM

We are starting out our year talking about the first petition of the Lord's Prayer. Bring your Bible and catechism and get ready for a fun year of diving into God's Word.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT EMILY POWERS: EPowers@LIVELIFETOGETHER.COM



Our Adopt a School Partner is:

LEOPOLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

WAYS TO SERVE:

If you want to volunteer at Leopold in the classroom you will need to go to this website and follow the steps necessary. They are in need of people to read with students and help with classroom celebrations.

Leopold has received a Fresh Fruits and Vegetable Grant so they receive those daily and are in need of someone from **8:30 - 9:30am Tuesday - Friday** to help sort and count out the amount needed for each class. Even if you could take one of those days it would be greatly appreciated.

October 18th, 1:15pm Leopold Community Walk

This is a great way to meet people and join in with the students and staff and walk through the neighborhood. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BAEA922A5FB6-leopold2#/>

Questions? Contact Amy Meyer: ameyer@livelifetogether.com

Kids **CONNECTION**

Kids Connection is for children 4th grade and under, and their parents. Kids learn bible stories through games, crafts and songs. Kids build strong relationships with each other while learning truths about Jesus. 5th and 6th grade students are invited to attend this class as junior helpers. Contact Emily Powers at epowers@livelifetogether.com.

OCTOBER 8TH: 10:15AM-11:30AM

We are meeting in the Fellowship Hall to continue our adventure into God's Story.
Join us for crafts, stories and songs.

MESSAGE & NOTES

DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?

John 5:1-6

Focus: Duh. The answer is so obvious. Or, is it? The answer from this desperate man gives us a glimpse into the human condition and the heart of God!

lifeLINES

UNEXPECTED: QUESTIONS DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?

WORD

Read Matthew 8:23-27

What is unexpected about this question that Jesus asks his disciples?

Share a time when you have been afraid.

What is underlying his question?

Is there something you are afraid of now that you can turn over and trust Jesus with it?

PRAY

Lift up any fears that were shared and ask God to increase our faith and trust in Him. Praise God that even the wind and waves obey him. Ask Him to fill you with his perfect peace.

LOVE

Find one way to show love to those you live with, and those you work with.

CALENDAR & EVENTS



UPCOMING:

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH: 9AM WORSHIP

Join us for our in-person and online worship on Sunday at 9am. Join us online at lifelifetogether.com/thisweek. You will find the livestream, the bulletin, the link for 2*22, the lifeLines and all that you need for the week, on this page. We look forward to worshipping together.

WEDNESDAYS, 9AM CHECK-IN, 9:30AM DISCUSSION MOM TO MOM

We are a group of moms who gather together weekly to support each other, share struggles and joys, pray, and learn what God has to say about our role as moms. Starting September 13th we will dive into a Right Now Media video series that covers topics such as comparison, burnout, self-care, and mom guilt. Children are welcome! We hope to see you there. Questions? Contact Amy Meyer ameyer@lifelifetogether.com.

*SUNDAYS THROUGH DECEMBER 10TH: AFTER WORSHIP 2*22: THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION*

We're kicking off 2*22 for the fall on October 1st. We'll be diving into the Right Now Media Series called *The 7 Churches of Revelation*. One of the most complex and most mysterious books of the Bible, the text addresses seven churches located in what is now modern-day Turkey, who each received a personal letter from the risen Christ. Who were these churches and what did they represent? What can they teach us about the history of our civilization? What do they have to say to Christians of today and those who live in the 21st century? Could the prophecies of Revelation still be relevant today? We'll watch the video and have some discussion time afterward.

OCTOBER STORY TOPIC: QUESTIONS

What Question is God asking you right now?

We are collecting stories as a way to inspire and encourage others. We'd love to hear from you! It can be anything, big or small. You can write on our story wall in the Welcome Area or you can email your story to Jess at jomalley@lifelifeogether.com.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH: 12PM-2PM PASTOR APPRECIATION CELEBRATION

WISCONSIN BREWING COMPANY [1079 AMERICAN WAY, VERONA]

Please join us to celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month as well as Jeff's 25th year leading our congregation and Matt's 10th year as a pastor. This event will take place at Wisconsin Brewing Company (1079 American Way, Verona) on Sunday, October 8th from noon - 2 PM (after 2:22). Lunch will be provided by members of the board and elders, a cash bar is available and there will be activities for the kids to participate in. Hope to see you there!

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19TH: 1:15PM COMMUNITY WALK AT LEOPOLD ELEMENTARY

This is a great way to meet people and join in with the students and staff and walk through the neighborhood. Sign up HERE: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BAEA922A5FB6-leopold2#/>.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH AFTER WORSHIP WELL CONNECTED GATHERING

Our blessings are many! We have been gifted with time, talent and resources to use for God's glory. Join us for Well Connected in October as we discover practical ways that our households can recognize and use those blessings.

SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES



CHECK OUT UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES ONLINE



PRAYERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS & CELEBRATIONS//



SCAN THE CODE TO CONNECT
TO OUR YOUTH MINISTRY!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
CONNECT WITH US!



BIRTHDAYS

10/10 Brennan Conrad
10/10 Graeme Yogerst
10/15 John Fisher

ANNIVERSARIES

10/8—46 years
Roger & Kathy Dechamps

10/10—24 years
Rick & Jenni Nowak

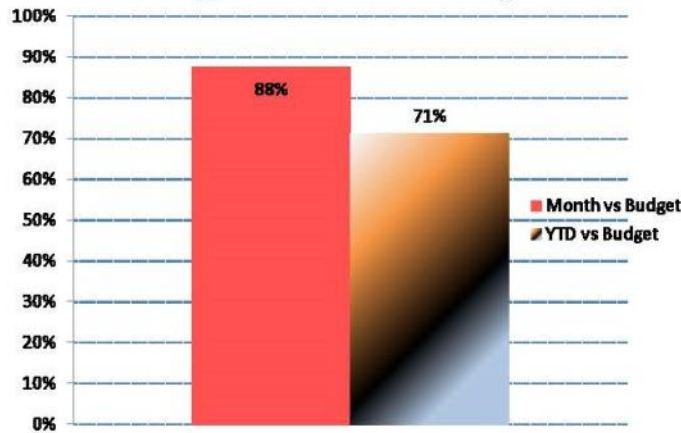
10/11—43 years
Bob & Pamela Schmied

Birthdays and Anniversaries for this week! If your special day does not appear,
please contact the church office to update your records.

GLANCE *at the* FINANCE



Offerings: Month and YTD vs. Budget



Tithes and Offerings as of September 28th, 2023			
September Received	\$ 38,152	2023 Received	\$ 437,192
September Goal MTD	40,675	2023 Goal thru September 14	433,045
September Monthly Goal	43,581	Total 2023 Goal	612,376
Left to Reach Month Goal	5,429	Left to Reach Annual Goal	175,184
September Total Last Year	39,492	This Year Surplus/(Deficit)	4,147
		2022 Total	661,724

Additional Information as of September 28th, 2023			
Line of Credit Balance	ZERO	2022 Loan Balance	\$ 80,838
		Last paid 8/25/23	

Church and Preschool Finances for August 2023				
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Church Rev.	424,305	453,878	Preschool Rev.	97,767
Church Exp.	467,886	508,432	Preschool Exp.	88,830
Net Income	(43,582)	(54,554)	Net Income	8,937
YOY Difference	10,972		YOY Difference	(2,042)

COMMUNION

If you're a guest, you're welcome to attend the Lord's Supper with us this morning. We only ask of you what God asks of us all - that you can answer 'yes' to the following questions:

- ◆ Have I been baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
- ◆ Do I believe that I am a sinful human being without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
- ◆ Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
- ◆ Do I believe that Jesus' true body and blood are present in the bread and wine?
- ◆ Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

If you have questions, please feel free to speak with a Pastor, a Worship Assistant, or someone sitting near you.

SERVICE TIMES:

the Church
2833 Raritan Rd.
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Combined Traditional & Exalt Worship
9:00AM [In-Person & Online]

UNEXPECTED...Questions: Do You Want To Get Well? [October 8th, 2023]