



# The Buzz

October 5, 2023

## WALK WITH GOD-TALK WITH GOD

### Why Do We Pray At Meals?

*"When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you." -Deuteronomy 8:10*

*Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blest. O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good. His mercy endures forever.* Have you ever heard those words before? Maybe they sound familiar because we often use those two prayers before and after our meals. As God's children, many of us use the practice of saying grace or praying before and after every meal. The idea of thanking God for our food dates all the way back to the Bible. We can begin by paging back to Deuteronomy where it says, "When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you." Jewish families were used to saying thanks to God for his goodness at each meal.

Jesus was no exception. Do you know what Jesus did before he handed out the bread and fish at the miraculous feeding of the 5000? Matthew 14:19 says, "And [Jesus] directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves." The words that Jesus prayed were probably the same ones used by most Jews at that time. His prayer probably was much like this: "Blessed art Thou, Jehovah our God, King of the world, who causes to come forth bread from the earth." We also read when Jesus was about to celebrate the first Communion, the Bible says, "Jesus took bread, gave thanks, and broke it" (Matthew 26:16). The believers in the early Christian church kept up that wonderful practice. We read in Acts 27:35 that Paul "took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all."

We do well to continue the practice of praying before and after each meal. Usually before the meal we ask God to come and bless our food. That's when we often pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blest." That prayer is not found anywhere in the Bible. In fact, it seems that when we trace the words to that prayer, we notice that it dates back to the early Lutherans who enjoyed praying those words and passed them down to their children. Following the meal, we like to say thank you to God for giving us the blessings that we enjoyed. That's when we often say, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good. His mercy endures forever." Those words date all the way back to the book of 1 Chronicles when David said a prayer of thanks. But that's not the only place we find them. The exact same words are repeated in Psalms 107, 118, and 136. Certainly God never commands us to pray before and after meals, but it is a wonderful way for us to show our gratitude to God for being so good to us. Make it your practice as well!

In Christ,  
Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John's

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, Oct 5

B-Team VB Triangular @  
St. Paul, Menomonie  
4:00 & 5:00

### Sunday, Oct 8

Worship 9:00 am  
Sunday School 10:15 am  
Bible Class 10:15 am

### Monday, Oct 9

School Picture Day  
FB Games @ St. Mark  
4:00 and 5:00 Games

### Tuesday, Oct 10

Gr. K-8 Trip to Osseo  
VB Games @ St. Mark, Eau  
Claire  
B Team-4:00  
A Team-5:00

Worship 6:00 pm

### Wednesday, Oct 11

Chapel 8:20 am  
VB Games @ Home vs. St.  
Peter  
B Team-4:30  
A Team-5:30

### Thurs-Fri, Oct 12-13

Gr. 6-8 Camp Phillip Field  
Trip

### Thursday, Oct 12

Fire Department Visit  
No VB Practice

### Saturday, Oct 14

A Team VB Tournament at  
Northland High School

### Sunday, Oct 15

Worship 9:00 am  
Gr. 3K-8 sing  
Sunday School 10:15 am  
Mission Presentation  
10:15 am  
FSJ Fall Dinner 11:15 am

## Volleyball Away Games:

Today, October 5<sup>th</sup>: We will travel to St. Paul, Menomonie, for a B Team Triangular. We will play at 4:00 and again at 5:00.

*Drivers are needed. We will leave from school at 2:30.*

### Directions to St. Paul's Lutheran School, 1100 9<sup>th</sup> St. E, Menomonie

*Take US 10-W to Interstate 94-W. Take I-94 W for 35.8 miles. Take exit 52 for US-12/WI-29. Turn right onto US-12 W/WI-29 W for 9.5 miles. Turn left onto 9th St E. St. Paul's will be on the left.*

**School Pictures:** School picture day is Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Order envelopes have been sent home with the students. Those should be returned to school, with payment, on or before picture day. You can also order school pictures online by going to <https://interstate.com/order>.

Our order code is 79385ZA.

## Flag Football Away Games:

Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>: We will travel to St. Mark in Eau Claire. We will play two games: against St. Mark at 4:00 and against Messiah at 5:00.

*Drivers are needed! We will leave from school at 2:30.*

### Directions to St. Mark, 3307 State St, Eau Claire

*Take I-94 west. Take exit 68. Turn Right at WI-93. Take 1<sup>st</sup> Left onto Golf Rd. Take a slight right at E. Lowes Creek Rd. Turn Right at State Street.*

**Field Trip-Gr. K-3:** Grades K-3 will be going to Osseo to watch a play on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Please talk to your child's teacher for further details.

## Volleyball Home Games:

Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>: We will play at home against St. Peter. The B Team plays at 4:30, and the A Team plays at 5:30.

*Helpers for our concession stand are needed and welcome. Come and cheer for the Hornets!*

**Camp Phillip:** Grades 6-8 will be taking an overnight field trip to Camp Phillip next Thursday and Friday (10/12-10/13). Students need to return their forms and turn in payment. We also need a female chaperone.

**Fire Department Visit:** Members of the Neillsville Fire Department will be visiting us next Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, to give a fire safety presentation to the younger students.

**No VB Practice:** There is no volleyball practice next Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Singing Schedule:** Grades 3K-8 will be singing for our worship service on Sunday, October 15. All students are expected to be there. Church begins at 9:00 a.m. We hope many of you can join us. The children will be singing early in the service, so if some of you need to leave to attend your own church service, that will hopefully make it easier for your children to come here to sing.

**Northland A-Team VB Tournament:** We will be participating in a volleyball A-team tournament at Northland Lutheran High School on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Further information will be given out next week.

**Fall Dinner:** The Friends of St. John's is sponsoring their annual Fall Dinner on Sunday, October 15, from 11:00 to 1:00 in the school gym.

Proceeds from the free-will donations raised at the dinner will go toward whiteboards for the classrooms. All are invited to attend!

*If you would like to help out by providing food donations or working in the kitchen, please fill out and return the donation sheets that have been sent home with the children. Thanks!*

**Pioneers:** Our next Pioneer meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00. All boys and girls in grades K-8 are invited to come.

**Alternate Bus Routes-10/20:** The public school has the day off on Friday, Oct. 20. We will have school as normal. Buses will be running our alternate routes, as they did in August. Any questions about bus times, please contact the school office.

**Grandparents Program:** Grades 3K-1<sup>st</sup> will be putting on a program for grandparents (and aunts, uncles, parents, etc.) on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

We will have chapel at 9:00 that morning, and following chapel will continue with the activities being planned.

All grandparents and other relatives are invited to join us for chapel at 9:00 and for the activities/program, which will be done at 11:00.

**School Schedule 10/25-10/27:** Parents, please take note of the upcoming school schedule.

**Wed, 10/25:** We will dismiss at noon.

**Thurs, 10/26:** No School (3K-8<sup>th</sup>)

**Fri, 10/27:** No School (3K-8<sup>th</sup>)

Our teachers will be attending state teachers' conferences in Milwaukee on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. On the days we don't have school, the ELC will be open for childcare.

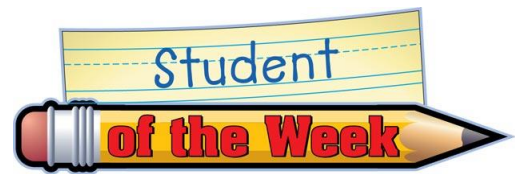
**Trunk or Treat:** Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 29, from 4:00-6:00. Children are encouraged to dress up in costumes if they wish.

We are in need of volunteers who would be willing to decorate their trunks and bring treats to be handed out. If you would like to participate or have questions, please contact Mrs. Shadrick at 715-897-0903.

**Walk to School:** We thank all who participated in Walk To School Day this past Wednesday. We especially thank our parent chaperones.



**St. John's Walk to School Crew**



### **Addie Allard**

The student of the week is Addie Allard. Addie is in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. She is working hard on not being so chatty, knows her memory work well, sets a good example, and is respectful and helpful.



***Congratulations Addie!***