



Volume 25

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## A message from Pastor Quinn

### The Minor Prophets: Haggai

“Give careful thought to your ways.” This is the message of Haggai to the self-seeking children of Israel who had returned to the Promised Land from the Babylonian Captivity. Haggai’s message is very applicable to us as we face one of the besetting sins of our day—materialism.

The name Haggai means “festal.” Some think this is because he was born during one of the chief pilgrim feasts or festivals established for God’s Old Testament people (Feast of Unleavened Bread, Feast of Weeks, Feast of Tabernacles). Haggai is one of three prophets who belonged to the period after the return from captivity. We will introduce the other two, Zechariah and Malachi, in the next two months. Haggai and Zechariah were coworkers in their service to God’s people. Haggai is assumed to be older than Zechariah, perhaps old enough to have seen Solomon’s Temple which would make him over seventy years old during his ministry.

When the Babylonian Captivity—God’s punishment on his rebellious people—was complete, God raised up Cyrus the Great, king of the Persian Empire to let his people return from their exile. In 536 BC Cyrus issued a decree allowing the Jews to go and rebuild God’s Temple in Jerusalem. Only a small remnant of the people, less than 50,000, returned to Jerusalem under Joshua, the high priest, and Zerubbabel, the governor. The people immediately began work on restoring the city of Jerusalem and rebuilding the destroyed Temple, as God had commanded them (2 Chronicles 36:22,23; Ezra 1). When the foundations of the new temple were being laid the older priests and Levites, who had seen the former temple, wept because of the miserable circumstances under which the people took to their work (Ezra 3:12,13). The rebuilding had just begun when the people were

stopped by the hostile Samaritans who lived in the area. For almost 15 years nothing was done to rebuild the temple. Instead, the people spent time building their own homes, leaving God’s house in a shambles. The book of Ezra provides us with the immediate historical setting for the work of Haggai. While that historical book focuses on the outward reasons for ending the rebuilding project, Haggai shows us that the people’s sin was more to blame for the sluggishness than the opposition they faced.

Haggai encouraged the people to “give careful thought to their ways” when it came to how they spent their time and money. Were their actions in line with God’s will or their own selfish ambitions? The Lord refused to let the people use their outward circumstances as an excuse to allow his house to remain a ruin. The struggles the people faced in their daily lives were a direct result of not putting God first. The message of God’s law, delivered by Haggai, hit its mark. All the people listened, and Haggai was quick to comfort them with God’s gospel promise—the Lord would be with them. To those who wept because they feared that this temple was not as magnificent as Solomon’s Haggai spoke another gospel promise. “This is what the LORD Almighty says...I will shake all nations, and the desired of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory...the glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house...and in this place I will grant peace” (Haggai 2:6-9). While the new temple would not have all of the same adornments as Solomon’s, Jesus Christ, the desired of all nations, would walk in this temple. He would teach in this temple. He would reveal God’s plan of salvation to the people who worshiped at this temple. He is the one who would bring peace to God’s people and glory to God by his life, death, and resurrection, to forgive the sins of the world once and for all.

The “desired of all nations” is that which all people

treasure. Jesus is the only true priceless treasure this world has ever seen, and he is ours by faith. That changes the way God's 21<sup>st</sup> century people think about the things and money and stuff of this life too. The material blessings God has given us serve many purposes. They give us a way to show our love for God by returning to him a generous portion of what he has given to us. They give us a way to provide for our families, to help those in need, and to enjoy God-pleasing activities. The money God has given to us through the ability to work and gifts serve many wonderful purposes in our lives. Don't become servants of the gifts. Don't make the accumulation of earthly treasure your ultimate goal in life. Keep on serving the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Remember that your treasure is in heaven, stored there for you by a Savior who won it for you. Haggai's message reminds us of how rich we are because we have our Savior God. He also guides us in how to use the blessings God entrusts to us. Take the time to read through this book. The short time it takes will reap eternal benefits.

### **Coming in October:**

- October 3      Breakfast at Tim Horton's 8 AM  
                   Outside/Inside Cleaning Day 9 AM
- October 17    LWMS Rally, Tawas City 10:30 AM
- October 20    Voters' Assembly 7 PM
- October 24    Ladies Shopping Trip—Thumb Area

### **Outside/Inside Cleaning Day**

Saturday, October 3rd has been chosen for our regular fall Outside/Inside Cleaning Day to begin at 9 AM at Good Shepherd. Breakfast at Tim Horton's at 8 AM will start the day off. Please mark the date on your calendar. We can always use all the help we can get!

### **Shopping Trip**

Joanne Atkinson is our special travel agent and plans spring and fall trips for any of the ladies at Good Shepherd who want a day of shopping and eating out. This fall the date selected is Saturday, October 24th and the area to be explored will be the Thumb area of Michigan. If you've never gone a shopping trip with Joanne, try this one. Please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

### **Ron Daniel's Address**

Ron Daniel, a member of our congregation is serving his country at the current time and is stationed in Afghanistan. His address is available at the church office.

### **LWMS Rally October 17**

The October LWMS Rally will be held at Emanuel in Tawas City, Michigan on Saturday, October 17 with Registration beginning at 10:30 AM. Everyone is invited to attend. You do not have to be a member of Ladies Guild to attend any of the LWMS meetings

Questions? Please contact Joanne Atkinson or the church office.

### **Voters' Assembly**

The October Voters' Assembly will be held on Tuesday, October 20th beginning at 7 PM. Voters of Good Shepherd have quarterly meetings during the calendar year plus a special December Voters' Assembly to elect officers to serve for the coming year. If you are a voting member you are encouraged to attend because it is at the Voters' Assembly that financial reports, reports from the various boards and other business pertinent to keeping God's house in order are decided. If you cannot attend a meeting, please let either President Mike Krueger, Secretary Steven Umphrey, Pastor Seifert or Pastor Quinn know

## Scripture Readings for October

### October 4 Pentecost 18

Jeremiah 11:18-20  
James 3:13-18  
Mark 9:30-37  
Psalm 31

### October 11 Pentecost 19

Numbers 11:16, 24-29  
James 4:7-12  
Mark 9:38-50  
Psalm 51b

### October 18 Pentecost 20

Genesis 2:18-24  
Hebrews 2:9-11  
Mark 10:2-26  
Psalm 139b

### October 25 Pentecost 21

Amos 5:6, 7, 10-15  
Hebrews 3:1-6  
Mark 10:17-27  
Psalm 90

**We serve others in love.**

## Our shut-ins

We have several members who are shut-ins. Please call the church office for information about them, or see your copy of this newsletter, which was put in your mailbox on Sunday, September 27.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries in October

Each month we print birthdays and anniversaries coming up. If you have the time and would like to make someone's day by sending a card, please feel free to do so.

### Birthdays in October

October 10	Kate Hocquard
October 11	Tom Ross
October 11	Jessica Riggs
October 12	Cheyenne Lehman
October 13	Carrie Hennig
October 15	Amy Lindesmith
October 15	Marianne Perry
October 18	Evan Schwab
October 20	Nathan Butler
October 23	Carol Arbury
October 28	Kiley Brandt

### Anniversaries in October

October 20	Melissa and Dan Lehman
October 23	Kriss and Carol Arbury

## 2009 Wisconsin Lutheran

### Seminary

### Food Bank Drive

Once again we have the wonderful opportunity to provide items for the Food Bank at our *Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary* in Mequon, Wisconsin.

The Food Bank is run to assist the married students at WLS. These students work part-time jobs around their classes and their intensive studying and preparation, as they try to make ends meet to provide for their families.

The donations provided by the congregations in our Michigan District are greatly appreciated by these future pastors and their families.

On the reverse side of this insert you will find a list of needed items. Please do not bring any items that are expired, damaged, dented or rusted. If possible, bring your donations in a sturdy box that can be closed to make loading easier and transportation safer. Monetary gifts are also welcomed (*checks made payable to Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary*). These gifts are used to purchase grocery store gift certificates, basic food supplies, paper products and diapers.

Monetary donations are also welcome to help St. Paul's in Saginaw cover the cost of the rental truck and gas. *Those checks should be made out to St. Paul's.* For more information, please speak with Pastor.

## **Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Food Bank**

### **Suggested Non-Perishable Food List**

- ◆ Cereal (hot & cold)
- ◆ Boxed Dinners (such as macaroni & cheese)
- ◆ Spaghetti Sauce
- ◆ Peanut Butter
- ◆ Pasta & Rice
- ◆ Flour
- ◆ Sugar (granulated, powdered & brown)
- ◆ Laundry detergent
- ◆ Canned Fruit Juices
- ◆ Canned Fruit (*but not canned vegetables*)
- ◆ Canned Meats (such as tuna)
- ◆ Canned & Dry Packaged Soups
- ◆ Toilet paper
- ◆ Facial Tissue
- ◆ Baby diapers and Baby formula

### **Choir**

Choir is now meeting each Thursday evening beginning at 7 PM. New members are always welcome to join the choir. Using your talents to sing praises to God is one way of thanking him and the choir always brings much joy to the congregation. Please see Amy Lindesmith, our choir director, if you are interested.

### **Spending Time with God**

A poet once said, "The world is too much with us, both late and soon." This was written a hundred years ago. Think of how much faster our world is today! That's why it's such a relief to take a few minutes out of each day to spend it reading the Bible. Each month we put out Daily Bible Readings with

passages for each day. The pamphlet called Meditations is also available if you want to order a subscription. Meditations is published quarterly and if you order a copy, it will be put in your mailbox.

We spend hours working, going to school, reading the paper, watching television and watching movies. Can you spend ten minutes each day connecting with God through his written word?

Michigan Lutheran Seminary welcomes  
you to attend Homecoming activities as  
we celebrate our  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **Friday, October 2, 2009**

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 5:00 P.M.  
Pep Rally 7:00 P.M.

### **Saturday, October 3, 2009**

MLS Foundation Tailgate Party 11:00 A.M.  
Alumni Honored 12:30 P.M.  
Football Game vs Ithaca 1:00 P.M.  
Blood Drive 11:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Reservations are required for the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at 989-793-1041.

The Tailgate Party featuring a pig roast requires tickets at 989-793-7511 or (866) MLS-WELS.

Visit the MLS website at [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org) for more details.

### **Bible Classes Beginning**

**October 6, Tuesday 2 pm** Bible class at Riverside will begin.

**October 7, 8:30 AM** Our Midweek Bible classes will resume. We hope to see the regular attendees and that we'll see some new faces. This class gives you the opportunity to ask questions and study the Bible in depth.

## Little Lambs Bible School

The Little Lambs Bible School will begin at Good Shepherd on Thursday, October 1st and will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from that date on. The children will meet with Mrs. Kim Schuette from 9 to 11 on those days for a Bible story, a craft project, singing and snacks. Children from the age of two years to young five's are welcome to attend this new program.

With the closing of our Preschool, the Board of Education and the pastors thought that there should be something for small children so they may learn about God before they begin LES. Each Tuesday and Thursday there will be a bible story with a craft and singing that will tie in with the bible study for that day. Snacks will also be provided. Children from the age of 2 to young 5's are cordially invited to attend. There is no charge for this new program.

If you know someone who has small children you might pass the word along about our Little Lambs bible School. Please contact Kim Schuette or the church office for more information.

## Science Announces a New Device: Built -in Orderly Organized Knowledge (BOOK)

The BOOK is a revolutionary breakthrough in technology. It needs no wires, no electric circuits, no batteries, nothing to be connected or switched on. It's so easy to use that even a child can operate it. Just lift its cover!

Compact and portable, it can be used anywhere—even sitting in an armchair by the fire. Here's how it works... Each BOOK is constructed of sequentially numbered sheets of paper, each capable of holding thousands of bits of information. These pages are locked together with a custom-fit device called a binder which keeps the sheets in their correct sequence. Opaque Paper Technology (OPT) allows manufacturers to use both sides of the sheet, doubling the information and cutting costs in half.

Each sheet is scanned optically, registering information directly into your brain. A flick of the finger takes you to the next sheet. The BOOK never crashes and never needs

rebooting. The "browse" feature allows you to move instantly to any sheet and move forward or backward as you wish. You can make personal notes in the BOOK with a tool called the Portable Erasable Nib Cryptic Intercommunication Language Stylus (PENCILS).

Portable, durable and affordable the BOOK is being hailed as the entertainment wave of the future. Look for it!

## School News

**No School:** October 7-9 the faculty will be attending the Michigan District Teachers' Conference, which is being held at Emanuel Lutheran School in Lansing, MI. This is an opportunity for our teachers to take part in beneficial workshops and continued study with the other teachers of our district. The students will have no school on those days.

**School Pictures:** Thursday, October 29 is school picture day at Good Shepherd. Hicks Studios will be here at 8:00 AM to begin taking photos of our students and faculty.

## Forgive Us, Lord

Forgive us Lord, for shallow thankfulness,  
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,  
For songs of praise for worldly wealthiness,  
While of your richer gifts we're unaware.

Teach us too thank you, Lord, for love and grace,  
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,  
For Christ, your son, and for each human face  
That shows y our message ever new and near.

Forgive us Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,  
For words that speak at variance with deeds.  
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways,  
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs.

Open our eyes to see your love's intent,  
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height,  
Let thankful days in loving labor spent  
Reflect the truly Christ-like life and light.

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