

# CrossTalk October 2021

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

41 E Possum Road. Springfield, Oh 45502

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## Church Office Staff

**Pastor**  
Brad Viken

**Office Manager**  
Celeste Whitehead

**Elders**  
Randy Schwarz  
Rob Hunt  
Philip Sears  
Gene Baumgardner  
David Arnold

**CrossTalk Publisher**  
Celeste Whitehead

## School Staff

**Administrator**  
Rebecca Reid

**Director of Records**  
Kathy Ackley

**Special Ed Director**  
Brittany Morgan

**Preschool Director**  
Karen Dunn

**Preschool Teacher**  
Corrine Brookins

**Kindergarten**  
Megan Ramsey

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher**  
Heidi Congleton

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher**  
Deb Rutledge

**Middle School Math**  
Jeff Parks

**MS English**  
Dawn Wells-Kitt

**MS Science**  
Justin Smith

**MS Social Studies**  
Rebecca Reid

**IDEA**  
Jacob Ford

**Before Care**  
Lillian Swain

**School Support Staff**  
Betty Ward  
Lisa Mulkey  
Alex Morgan

## Pastor Viken's Point of View

### Bombastic, Boastful, Braggadocios Believers

You shall **BE HOLY** to me, for **I THE LORD AM HOLY** and have **separated you** from the peoples, that you should be mine.

Leviticus 20:26 ESV

**I am a better Christian than so and so because.....**

**God loves me more than so and so because.....**

**I am HOLIER than so and so, because:.....**

**I voted for ..... I didn't vote for.....**  
**I give at least 10% of my earnings to the Lord,**  
**I spend many hours each week as a church or school volunteer,**  
**I don't own a gun, I own several guns,**  
**I don't dance or consume any alcohol or eat pork,**  
**I drive only American made cars,**  
**I went to a Lutheran college,**  
**I believe that Black Lives Matter, ... I believe that All Lives Matter**  
**I am pro life**  
**My bumper sticker says.....,**  
**I have been to the 'Holy Lands',**  
**At least I don't..... At least I do.....**  
**Etc.**

**If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.**  
**John 15:19**  
**ESV**



Perhaps some of these words make perfect sense to you. Perhaps other words on this list make you cringe. Perhaps you think or feel this way or know someone who does. Perhaps!!!!

**HOLY! HOLY! HOLY! That's me!**

**“Holiness”** – What is it? What does it look like? How do I live it? Can I live it? How does God assess this “holiness?” **To be holy literally means “to be set apart or to be set apart for a certain purpose.”** As we are called to be holy, we are called to be **“set apart,” “to be disconnected from” the rest of the world.** We are not called to go live in a cave or on an island somewhere, to avoid contact with “the unwashed, the heathen, the future hell-dwellers, etc.” We are called to live in the world, among the rest of humanity, but to be different from them. As Christians, we are to let the Holy Spirit lead and guide our words, thoughts, attitudes, and actions, so that we are noticeably different, WITHOUT being obnoxiously so.

Jesus says, **“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. “Matthew 6:1 ESV”**

**BE HOLY:** When we get to the point where we are leaning heavily on Jesus and His wisdom, when we are “working hard” to be “different” to “Be Holy” it is also quite important that we do not strut around with that “Holier than thou” attitude. We are simply called to be humble in our faith walk. Yes, we are to be noticed, but noticed in such a way that others would want to know Jesus more because of your faith and life. We are to glorify God in our lives, not seek after glory because we are “holier than the evil hoard.”

**BE HOLY:** This is a hard balance. I am to strive to be holy, but I cannot be holy. I am declared holy by God as He covers me in His grace. I do not need to struggle to attain perfection before God, because He already sees me as perfect, holy, saintly – Because of Jesus. Because I have faith in my heart, because I am connected to Christ’s righteousness, I am “holy.” Now, because I am seen as holy even though I am not, I want to strive to look the part. I want to live a holy life because God says that I am holy.



**Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (Galatians 6:14 ESV)**

**BE HOLY:** But I am unholy by birth and too often lean toward that unholy self within me. So, for me to navigate this holy road, I need, and you need the Holy Spirit’s power and guidance. It is a daily renewal, a daily starting again, realizing that today I still need the Holy Spirit, I still need Jesus, I still need to spend time with God in Worship, in Study and in prayer, because “I” cannot do it on my own. God says, “BE HOLY.” This is a command that leaves of condemned for our inability to comply. **BE HOLY:** This is also a declaration from God to those who are washed in Jesus – **BE HOLY.** God declares you to **BE HOLY,** therefore you are Holy.

**BE HOLY:** The Apostle Paul is guided by God’s Holy Spirit to give us this challenging guidance, **“Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 10:17 ESV)** As we daily encounter the world, we get to LIVE God’s way. We get to strive to be saints. We get to let the world see Jesus. We get to **BOAST!** But we get to **BOAST IN the LORD.**

**May you rejoice daily as you realize that you are indeed holy and as you BOAST IN THE LORD.**

**Pastor Brad**

# October Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 2 Richard Cremeans
- 3 Gabriel Kaiser
- Matthew Rutledge
- 4 Ben McKee
- Jody Rizzotte
- 9 Jim Mote
- Jeffery Parks
- 11 Kole Vollrath
- 14 Melvin Corron
- Kaiden Davis
- 16 Ruth Willfong
- 17 Ann Dobbins
- 18 Dylan Ackley
- 20 Jim Brueggeman
- 23 Robert Shepherd
- 26 Deb Rutledge
- 30 Beryl Boggess

- 5 Aaron Schwarz
- 7 Elaina Buck
- Kylee Schafer
- Noah Schafer
- 9 Chris Heilmann
- Veronica Heilmann
- Kyle Heilmann
- 11 Sharon Heilmann
- 15 Paul Bok
- 27 Susan Motter
- 30 Cora Kitt
- Lily Kitt



- 6 Bill & Beth Ervin
- 14 Jeffery & Caitlin Parks
- 17 Paul & Linda Bok
- 20 Jeff & Linda Kaiser
- 24 Jack & Phyllis Clark
- 30 Danny & Sandi Click

## Elders Article

Do you remember where you were about 20 years ago on September 11th? I was sitting in my office at work when one of my coworkers came in crying saying “Randy, we are being attacked and they are flying planes into our buildings!” A few moments later I received a call from Kathie who was sitting in a doctor’s waiting room with our little boys. I was scared, she was scared and there were many other Americans who were feeling the same way. We had never experienced something like this and I would imagine it was similar to Pearl Harbor being attacked, only with images of what was happening being held live right in front of our eyes. We didn’t know what to do except to sit and watch in horror.

The bad news is that we are being attacked by the “real” enemy every day. We are not fighting against humans. Ephesians 6:12- (NIV) ***“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”***

The good news is that we know what to do. Satan is at our doorstep every morning when we wake up. It is our decision on whether or not we let him in. It is a choice - do we let him in? We need to fall on our faith and trust God and His plan. Or do we let HIM in? Do we put on the full Armour of God? Jesus claimed to have all authority on earth and in heaven which means the enemy has none. But we also know that ***“because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”*** (1 John 4:4b NIV). We need to understand that satan is going to get into us by our feelings. We should also know that we are at war- we are soldiers in the army of God. We are not to fight evil with evil but are called to love our enemies. We are to put our trust in the One. Otherwise those feelings of doubt, fear, anger, anxiety, jealousy, insecurity, etc will continue to attack us and take over. So fight the good fight. Be in the word and know the words from God to use to fight the evil one. Remember anything not of God is not going to prosper, but doing good and loving others will have lasting implications.

May God give you the strength to defeat the evil in this world and to keep us strong enough in our faith to defeat evil and be that light that shines in the darkest of places. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 (NIV) states: ***“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the LORD, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day-and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”***

On that day in September 2001 Todd Beamer called 911, before he and the other passengers overtook the hijackers, and he prayed the Lord’s Prayer and Psalm 23 with the operator. Then he said “let’s roll.” Praise be to God - let’s roll.”

## Vice President Tidbits

### **Computer Server**

Our server has been relocated to the School Resource room 8 and upgraded thanks to efforts by Tom Mulkey and Johnny Bacevic. Memory has been greatly expanded with operator system updates. These changes allow flexibility for both church and school use. Many thanks to our IT Team.

### **Board of Directors**

The revised building use policy is under review. Our plan is to discuss at the October meeting for approval.

Improvements to our website continue. Updates are being accomplished on a routine basis with additions to the Announcements, Prayer requests and Calendar. Our church email system is now functional. You will receive information on the system shortly. All key functions within our congregation have their own unique email address that auto forwards to the responsible individual's email. This keeps personal email addresses private. You will note that on our website staff pages everyone has their email address listed below their photo. Emails sent are private and only can be accessed and read by the individual staff member. In addition, group emails are available... Board of Directors, Ministry Team, etc. Our congregation website information meeting will also cover details on email use. Let me know should you have questions.

We continue to discuss two worship services and find problems in arranging the necessary support. For example we only have three people available for the sound booth. We need at least eight to provide coverage at two worship services. There are only a few switches to learn. Training is quick and the first time at the controls you will have help until you are comfortable. Give it a try... you will enjoy being "in control". Ushers are another area where help is necessary as we go forward. None of these tasks are hard to accomplish and will aid us to provide the worship services you have requested. Please consider helping.

The 2022 budget details were reviewed. The Elders detail draft is the last remaining area and our goal is to complete discussions at our October meeting for approval to present to the November congregational meeting on Sunday the 21st. Everyone will get a copy of BOD recommended budget two weeks prior to meeting for your review.



**RISEN CHRIST**  
*Lutheran Church*

Yours in Christ,  
John Bacevic  
johnbacevicjr@msn.com  
937-882-4023

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## Church Membership Directory

If anyone has noted any corrections that need to be made to our recently mailed Church Membership Directory, please drop Celeste an e-mail with the changes required. She will make the requested change in her records.

We will communicate received change requests in our monthly Crosstalk so that you may update your personal copy. Periodically, we will review and make available a revised version of the Membership Directory so that it truly reflects current contact information.

We have received a request to make a correction to the Zip code for Marcella Caskey. Please change her Zip code to 45324

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### “By His Spirit”

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Gal. 5:25 ESV



**Dear Members and Friends of Risen Christ Lutheran Church and School,  
Saints for the sake of the Savior, Jesus, the Christ;**

As we come to the end of another challenging but exciting year, it is essential that we stop and assess our daily response to and management of God’s gracious gifts for body and soul.

October 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> will give us this opportunity, as we look at our lives as **Christian Stewards** of the many blessings of God. With the theme of **“By the Spirit”** we will look at what Paul says to us in the fifth chapter of Galatians as we are called to **“Walk by His Spirit.”**

These days will involve:

- **Bible study** (9:00 am to 9:45) Topic: **“Walking by the Spirit”**,
- **Daily Bible reading** from October 10-31,
- **Assessment** of our talents, skills, and Spiritual Gifts,
- **Testimonials** from members about aspects of their faith walk,
- **Assessment** of our worship and devotional practices,
- **Promises** made **to ourselves** to strive to step forward in growth,
- **Pledges** to God for our management of His gifts to us,
- **Reminders that all this is in response to His grace to us.**



Please know that your pledges will be confidential, as you will be given an envelope for your pledge to the Lord and it will be sealed by you and brought forward to be blessed, to be consecrated at the altar during the worship service on **October 17**. They will be kept at the church until halfway through the year, when will return them to you so that you can assess your progress.

**Plan to make an extra effort to join us on these two Sundays as we step forward and walk “By His Spirit.”**

*Pastor Brad*



# Risen Christ Lutheran Church and School

## Trunk or Treat

### Vehicle Registration

*We will have a best dressed vehicle contest for all registered vehicles!*

Name of adult responsible for the vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Plate # \_\_\_\_\_ Make/Model \_\_\_\_\_

Decorating your vehicle is optional. If you plan to decorate your vehicle, what is your theme? \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign below and return by 10/15/21

- All participating vehicles, decorated or undecorated, must be registered by 10/15/21
- A responsible adult must be with the vehicle at all times
- Only pre-packaged, wrapped candy or treats are allowed
- Displays and treats will be inspected before event begins
- No spooky or scary displays
- No electricity will be provided
- No political advertising is permitted
- Tobacco, alcohol, drugs, firearms, fireworks, loud music, foul language prohibited
- Risen Christ may use photos taken before and during the event for advertising purposes
- Event-October 29th 6:00pm - 8:00pm Participating vehicle set-up 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Form not valid unless signed below by the adult responsible for the vehicle.

Participation in this program may involve risk of injury. As a parent, guardian, or participant, I am aware of these hazards/risks and my ability to participate. In consideration for participation in the program listed above, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any and all claims of damage against Risen Christ Lutheran Church and School its successors and assigns, employees, agents and representatives for any and all kinds of injury, including but not limited to personal injury and/or property damage suffered by my child, or myself, or my ward, while participating in this activity.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





## Verse of the Month – October 2021

*You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

**1 Peter 2:5**



Risen Christ Out Reach Ministry and Sisters in Christ are combining forces to serve the Springfield community through the project “Sharing the Warmth” — providing coats, hats, and gloves to those in need. Plans are to have the collection to begin mid-October and items delivered the end of October (before the winter cold).

**Details will be available soon!**

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**INTERNET CHANGES:** As you have been hearing, the church is changing things with the church email system and the church web site usage. If all of this is confusing, or you would simply like to clarify, please plan to stay after worship for a few minutes on Sunday, October 10. Johnny Bacevic will be making a presentation at that time to show the Web site and to explain some of the changes and how to best interact with it and with our church email use for communication.

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The Pregnancy Resource Clinic sends its thanks to Risen Christ for the contributions through Blessings in a Bottle from this last year.

# October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>LWML Sunday 3</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am HC Worship  <b>Mite Box Sunday</b>	4	5  7 pm Ministry Team Leaders	6  9 am Chapel (PS-1) 9:30 am Chapel (2-6)	7  6:30 pm-7:30 pm Scout Pack Meeting	8	9
10 9 am Sunday School 10 am HC Worship	11	12 5 pm School Board	13 9 am Chapel (PS-1) 9:30 am Chapel (2-6)	14 6:30 pm-8:30 pm Scout "Roundtable" Leaders Meeting	15  <b>CrossTalk Articles Due</b>	16
Pastor gone for Pastor Conference						
17 9 am Sunday School 10 am HC Worship  <b>Commitment Sunday</b>	18	19  11 am-1 pm Food Pantry	20 9 am Chapel (PS-1) 9:30 am Chapel (2-6) 7 pm Board of Directors	21	22	23
27 9 am Sunday School 10 am HC Worship	25	26  7 pm Elders Meeting	27 9 am Chapel (PS-1) 9:30 am Chapel (2-6)	28	29	30  6:00-8:00 pm Trunk or Treat
<b>Reformation Day 31</b> 9 am Sunday School 10 am HC Worship  <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck</b>						

# Those serving October 2021

**10:00 am**

	<b>Elder</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Altar Care</b>	<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Counters</b>
<b>10/3</b>	Philip Sears	Patty Arnold Lillian Swain	Denna Johnson Lynn Petersen Kristina Vollrath Kelsey Vollrath Beryl Boggess	Sharon Perks Marti Brueggeman	Deb Rutledge	Duane Wiebeck	John Bacevic & Denna Johnson
<b>10/10</b>	Dave Arnold	Ruth Willfong	Denny Norden Keith Vollrath Dave Petersen	Duane Wiebeck	Deb Rutledge	Steve Rutledge	Dave Thomas & Dave Petersen
<b>10/17</b>	Gene Baumgardner	Patty Arnold	Greg Shrader Chuck Bern Ed Berg	Jo Baumgardner	Deb Rutledge	Bob Dahle	Beryl Boggess & Denny Norden
<b>10/24</b>	Philip Sears	Sara Hale	Steve Rutledge Sam McKee Dave Petersen	Sharon Perks	Deb Rutledge	Duane Wiebeck	Steve & Deb Rutledge
<b>10/31</b>	Randy Schwarz	Chandra Shrader	Chris Kitt Jim Brueggeman Homer Ryman	Marti Brueggeman	Deb Rutledge	Duane Wiebeck	John Bacevic & Denna Johnson