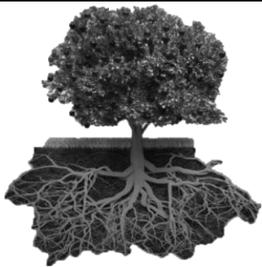


Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. Robert, MO



A Congregation of
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
981 Highway Z
573.336.4464



DEEP ROOTS
AND
ABUNDANT FRUIT
Theological Field Education



Ron Hinchman likes to tell the story of a very nervous serviceman preparing to enter his review board. Ron settled him down by asking him, "Are you wearing pants?" Answer: "Yes". "Well, each of those reviewers is wearing pants, too, and they put their pants on this morning the same way you did. One leg at a time."

I am a strong advocate of our Seminaries. They do a fantastic job of preparing men for Pastoral ministry, women for Diaconal ministry, and lay people for exceptional service in the church. Still, every pastor, deaconess, or lay theologian began their theological journey by learning the value of trust in the family homes as children. They either learned the power of trust because families faithfully celebrated that gift or learned its immense value because trust was missing.

We learn that salvation is "by grace through faith apart from works of the law" long before we are able to speak about the Lord, the ultimate object of our faith and the one who graciously declares us forgiven on account of Jesus. For the youngest children, parents and the Lord are indistinguishable. As a child grows up, she distinguishes more and more clearly between parents and family, the delivery system of the Lord's care and blessing, and the Lord Himself.

Theological education begins day one.

Serving you, Serving Jesus,

Pastor John Perling

The Pump

September 2020

Rev. John F. Perling
Pastor

Ron Hinchman
Executive Director
of the Congregation

Dennis Engstrom
Chairman, Board of Elders

Stephanie Mitchell
Church Secretary/
Newsletter Editor



facebook.com/felcstrobot

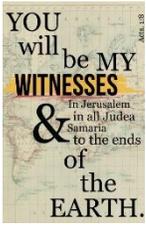
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Adult Christian Education Opportunities

New Bible Studies Beginning This Month

Sunday: The Acts of the Apostles



The Acts of the Apostles relates the ongoing work of Jesus Christ. At His Ascension, the work of Jesus did not stop, it moved to fill all creation both visible and invisible.



He promised to work with and through his disciples for the salvation of the world.

- How is the Lord working now?
- What are the Lord's priorities?
- Suffering and Success
- Starting/planting new ministries
- Learning from the Apostles how to describe Jesus in your own words together with the OT

Thursday Evening: Crossways!

The Crossways course surveys all 66 books of the Old & New Testaments. The focus of each book is Christ and His Salvation.



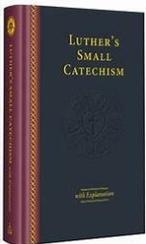
Enrolling in the course will give you the tools to describe how each book of the bible contributes to its overall message. Members will gain a working framework for understanding any scriptural text in light of the whole.

All of the promises of God find their "Yes!" in Christ.

More information, including enrollment information, regarding this course may be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

On-Going Studies You Can Join

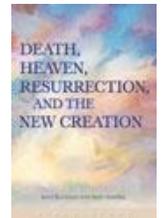
Luther's Small Catechism Wednesday 9am



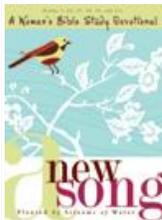
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod authorized preparation of a new edition of Luther's Small Catechism. The new edition was to recognize the need for adult education and family devotions. This 2017 edition is currently being used for our confirmation classes and the Crocker Bible Study is reading, marking, learning, and taking it to heart on Wednesday mornings. Written by Martin Luther in 1529, the Small Catechism provides a brief, clear summary of God's Word on the essentials of the Christian faith. In question-and-answer format, it explores the Six Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine and includes daily prayers, a table of duties for Christians in their various callings, and a guide for Christians as they prepare to receive Holy Communion.

Resurrection and New Creation Men's Club-September 12 & 26

Death wasn't part of God's original design for humanity, it's an unfortunate reality of living in a fallen world. It feels unnatural because it is. But Christ has conquered death; it has no hold over us. In death, Christ becomes our all in all as we live forever in communion with Him. In light of this promise that is sealed in our Baptism, we can live this impermanent life as an act of bold confession, trust, and hope. This six session Bible study examines the role the physical body plays in life and death, the experience of dying, and the nature of the new creation and our resurrected bodies.



A New Song: Planted by Streams of Water Tuesday Evenings 6:30pm



A New Song: Planted by Streams of Water will encourage and uplift you as you reflect on the life-giving stream that never floods, never dries up, a stream that always sings songs of God's wisdom, songs of our Savior's love. Each book in the series provides six weeks of stories—faith narratives—based on biblical psalms. Following each day's reading are questions that will facilitate your own reflection on the Bible. And at the end of each week are discussion starters for fruitful, meaningful conversation in your small group.

Each faith narrative was written by a real woman facing real-life issues. Just like you. Each author found help, encouragement, and direction for her life from God's Word and shares her stories in her words. These stories, new songs if you will, help you weave His Word into the unique melody of your life.

Preparing for the Divine Service

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



(6 September 2020)

Ezekiel 33:7–9
Romans 13:1–10
Matthew 18:1–20

Hymn Numbers: 614, 820, 578, 579, 609, 826

Living as Humble Little Children of the Father

True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, “*you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,*” but whoever is humbled like a little child will be “*the greatest in the kingdom of heaven*” (Matt. 18:3–4). Though in our sin we deserve to be “*drowned in the depth of the sea*” (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned (“buried”) with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7–9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which “*is the fulfilling of the law*” (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we “*pay to all what is owed to them*” (Rom. 13:7) and we “*owe no one anything, except to love each other*” (Rom. 13:8).

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



(13 September 2020)

Genesis 50:15–21
Romans 14:1–12
Matthew 18:21–35

Hymn Numbers: 760, 719, 758, 754, 788, 765

Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us

In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23–27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have “*mercy on your fellow servant*” and “*forgive your brother from your heart*” (Matt. 18:33, 35). By the Lord’s forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we “*are the Lord’s*” (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will “*stand before the judgment seat of God,*” we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also “*will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand*” (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends “*to bring it about that many people should be kept alive*” (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: “*I will provide for you and your little ones*” (Gen. 50:21).

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



(20 September 2020)

Isaiah 55:6–9
Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30
Matthew 20:1–16

Hymn Numbers: 720, 729, 557, 565, 612, 631

Disciples Live in Their Vocations by Grace through Faith in Christ

Those who are sent as “*laborers for his vineyard*” (Matt. 20:1) depict the wide diversity of vocations to which the disciples of Christ Jesus are called. Whatever our particular stations in life may be, we are called to live and serve by faith in His promises. Our labors do not merit anything before Him, for He is already generous to one and all without partiality. In mercy, He has chosen to bear “*the burden of the day and the scorching heat*” on our behalf, to make us equal to Himself and to give us what belongs to Him, that is, the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 20:12–15). This way of the Lord is foolishness to the world and foreign to our thoughts, but He draws near, so that “*he may be found*” (Is. 55:6), “*have compassion*” and “*abundantly pardon*” (Is. 55:7). So it is that we are found in Christ Jesus, and He is honored in our bodies, “*whether by life or by death*” (Phil. 1:20), by “*fruitful labor*” (Phil. 1:22) or by suffering. It is by faith in His forgiveness that our works are “*worthy of the gospel*” (Phil. 1:27).

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



(27 September 2020)

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32
Philippians 2:1–4 (5–13) 14–18
Matthew 21:23–27 (28–32)

Hymn Numbers: 613, 511, 614, 760, 579, 704

The Cross of Christ Opens to Us the Way of Repentance to Life with God

The way of the Lord is righteous and just: “*the soul who sins shall die*” (Ezek. 18:4). However, because the Lord has “*no pleasure in the death of anyone*” (Ezek. 18:32), He calls sinners to repentance and faith in His gracious forgiveness of sins. The man who is thus turned away from his wickedness, who henceforth lives by the grace of God, “*shall surely live; he shall not die*” (Ezek. 18:28). This way of repentance has been opened for us by the cross of Christ. In the righteousness of faith and love, “*he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death*” (Phil. 2:8), and He was vindicated in His resurrection from the dead. Indeed, “*God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name*” (Phil. 2:9). He has given us this name in our Baptism into Christ, in whom we now “*shine as lights in the world*” (Phil. 2:15). He uses the authority that He has received from His Father (Matt. 21:23–27) to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, by which even “*the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God*” (Matt. 21:31–32).

New Thursday Bible Study

**God has left a rather long message...
You deserve an explanation**



Think of your favorite childhood stories. It's likely many come from the Bible; Noah's Ark, Moses and the ten plagues, David and Goliath, Zacchaeus meets Jesus.

But the Bible is not about little stories. The biblical library of 66 books contains one huge story – a message about God's big plan for the world and humanity, revealed ultimately in Jesus the Messiah. Do you know that big story? Can you tell others about the key threads weaving through it?

Those who study Crossways learn what it means to walk through life in the presence of Jesus the Messiah as their forgiving Savior and Servant-Lord. Many experience what the two disciples experienced on the way to Emmaus, Luke 24.32. Their hearts are set on fire, and their lives are transformed!



The course equips people to grapple with the mind, manner, ministry, and mission of Jesus the Messiah, and to reflect Him in all they think, say and do. After all, Jesus does not call us to put Him *first* – but only. Christianity is not the most important *part* of life. It has to do with *all* of life.

Above all else, the goal is to help people understand the *grand finale* of the biblical narrative: the final rescue of God's people from the Real Enemy – the demonic – through the ministry of Jesus the Messiah. Throughout, the desire is not merely to provide students with *information*; it is to seek their *transformation*.

The Crossways Bible Study will begin Thursday, September 10th from 7pm-9pm.



Class will be in person in the church Fellowship Hall and live streamed on Zoom.

The cost for materials is \$40.

You can give payment to Mary Jones or put a marked envelope in the offering plate.

**Please contact the office with any questions:
573-336-4464 or office@felclcms.org**

FROM BEN'S PEN

You are invited to come with me on a journey!

We will together explore the
Good News of Jesus
as the Apostle John was inspired to write.
We will see through the eyes of Scripture,
the wondrous works of Jesus, the Son of God.
We will look for and find
the "nuggets of truth" spoken by Jesus
during His visible, public ministry on earth.
We will have a great time together!

**Our journey begins on
Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 3 pm.**

We will meet in Faith's library

OR....

you will be able to join us through Zoom.

With Joy in Jesus,

Ben Schumacher, Assistant Pastor

LADIES AID

Our September Ladies Aid meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 3, 2020. We will do the meeting online or in person in the Parish Hall with spacing and masks, if desired. A light lunch will be provided by the Ladies Aid officers. Pastor Perling will be presenting the Bible study. Meeting starts at 12:30 p.m. and it is usually done by 2:15 p.m. All ladies are invited to attend or Zoom in. Ask Pastor if you haven't Zoomed before & he will help you. There is still no refreshments after the Worship Service on the first Sunday. Be watching to see if and when we will be resuming our refreshments after the Worship Services.

At this meeting we will discuss many upcoming activities, to see if we will "go" with these in the coming months. So, do join us & put in your thoughts either through Zoom or in person. Your input is IMPORTANT! Make sure you have marked your calendars for our LWML Fall Rally which will be in Houston, MO on Saturday, October 17, 2020. The ladies at Houston are planning to welcome us & Pastor Morris will provide our special topic. Karen Boorum will have more info in her article about our Fall Rally. Don't forget our "Ladies of Faith" are still meeting on Zoom each Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. The Bulletin lists all our Bible studies, so join in for these special times to grow in God's Word.

Hopefully, you were able to join us at our Ladies Retreat on August 22, 2020. If not, there is still opportunity to share your mites. Bring your "mites" to the meeting on Sept. 3rd or bring them to church on Sunday and pass them to Donna Wogan. We are still collecting the "Best Choice" labels which you can pass onto Marion Munson OR cancelled stamps which you can place into the mailbox marked for "stamps" in the Narthex. The sale of these stamps adds money to "mites" which help all around our nation & our MO District. All of these items are appreciated!

As we make adjustments to our activities, we prayerfully ask you to join us and add your thoughts. May the Lord's guidance keep us on track & help us to join in fellowship and in service to Him.



LWML ROLLA ZONE SUMMER RETREAT

What a beautiful day God gave the 25 in attendance at the Summer Retreat! Thanks to the Individual LWML members who live at Kensington Parkway, the lovely and comfortable Clubhouse was a fantastic location for the Retreat. The day began with a light breakfast of rolls and breakfast snacks individually wrapped. Coffee, tea, and water were also available. A time of fellowship was enjoyed by all 25, which included 3 Pastors and one future Pastor, Dave Matthews, Jr. who is being supported by Holy Cross Lutheran at Houston, MO.

Pastor John Perling opened the Retreat with prayer. After distribution of a synopsis of his presentation, Pastor began the study of the Parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin and the Lost Son. He presented them in light of the view of the Middle Eastern country's lifestyle and attitudes. For example, when the son came back home with a speech all planned, his father ran to meet him. This father who thought his son was dead, RAN to meet him. In those days men wore long flowing robes, kept themselves erect and remained astute and rather pompous. That only shows the father as being very joyful to see his son. He did not concern himself with appearances, but the joy of a returning son.

The Ingathering for the day replenished the Food Cupboard at Redeemer – Rolla. 147 items were brought in to help that cause during this time of the Pandemic. MITES for Mission Grants of 2020-2022 were gathered and brought a total over \$381.00. God bless everyone and grant health and happiness until we meet again.

Put October 17 on your calendars! Come to Holy Cross in Houston for Fall Rally at 9:00.

Free Women's Center

FWC BANQUET

Besides a great speaker and great food, the Free Women's Center Banquet had some great results. 240 people attended with tremendous generous hearts. Pledges and donations came in to the Center before, during and after the Banquet, but the total at this time is \$57,667! That compares to \$45,000 in 2019 when more were in attendance.

The main goal of the FWC is to save babies. 58 babies were saved in the past year! 260 clients have visited the FWC and of those 229 are participating in the parenting classes and counseling services offered. 192 clients were given an ultrasound and of those 150 tested positive. A client may only receive an ultrasound if she is in her 14th week or less. Those who need maternity clothing may choose from a large selection of gently used clothes. All sizes of diapers and baby and toddler clothing are also available. Many other needs of babies, including formula are available for a once-a-month shopping bag full.

For more information you may speak to Pastor Perling who is currently serving on the FWC Board of Directors OR to Karen Boorum who was among the founders and a former Board Member.



Board of Young People

FAMILY, FUN, FELLOWSHIP



"It was awesome!!"
"We'll come back on the 25th when the parking lots are not all full!"
"We're coming back to Johnson's Shut-Ins again!"
"Let's come back here next year!"

Those were some of the comments made on Saturday, August 22. That will be a day for 5 Youth 8 adults and 4 children (including Timmy Bradford whom most of us have not seen except on ZOOM) will remember for a long time. The day was hot.



The drive to Elephant Rocks State Park and Johnson Shut-ins State Park was long (a bit over 100 miles), but everyone thought it was well worth it. Both State Parks are an unbelievable display of God's creation, although Johnson's Shut-Ins was altered by a major flood sometime in the past decade.

The Parks System did some rebuilding.

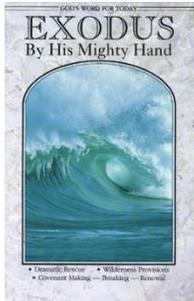


Stay tuned for future meetings, studies and events. Check the September calendar for our first get-together.

Widows of Faith



The Widows of Faith will begin meeting again on September 2 at 12:30 pm @ Culver's. For more, contact Liz Joyce at 573-336-7331.



Thursday Morning Bible Class

TIME is getting close for the Thursday Morning Bible Class to resume! Set your calendars for September 10!!!!

We will be studying the book of Exodus. Our first meeting will be on Zoom.

For more information, Contact Joan 573-765-2838

Men's Club

The Men's Club Bible Prayer Breakfast will meet on Saturday, September 12 & 26. Bible study and prayer begins at 9:00am in person at church and on Zoom. The Men's Club provides a venue for men to deeply consider the many hats they wear in the world and their desire to fulfill Christ's calling to lead in love through those vocations.

CHURCH PROPERTIES

1. If anyone is aware of something that may need attention, (leaky faucet, burned out lights, broken windows, etc.), drop a note in the Board of Church Properties mailbox.
2. Interested in lending a hand outside? Help is always appreciated for grass cutting, weed eating, spreading mulch, raking, etc.
3. Any ideas to improve outdoor landscaping around the sanctuary, parsonage, playground, etc., is most appreciated.
4. Working plans to upgrade our playground. Any ideas or suggestions? A helping hand to assemble new equipment/remove existing equipment is welcome.

Board of Stewardship

Thank you to everyone who has started utilizing our electronic giving options! You may always mail your offering in to the church office, but if you would like to give with a bank debit or credit card, please use this link:

<https://www.paypal.me/felcmo>

Or use our QR Code:



You can transfer funds from your personal PayPal account to the church's PayPal account without fees.



Hello, Choir!

Have you thought about joining choir but you're worried about the singing? Now is a great time to join our 'Choir side' chats at 4:30pm (through Zoom) and see what choir is all about! Pastor Ben will lead a devotion based on the hymn of the day (sermon hymn) for each weekend followed by fellowship. Everyone is welcome to join us.

In the meantime, stay tuned and stay in tune! 🎵
--Heidi Perling

Cook's Corner



Ground Turkey Stuffed Peppers

Ingredients

- 6 large bell peppers, any color
- 2 cups wild rice, cooked
- 1 lb. 93% Lean ground turkey
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 16 oz. jar crushed tomatoes
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 1/2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare your rice and set aside. You will need two cups of cooked rice.
2. Cut off the tops of the peppers remove the seeds, trim the bottoms to help them sit flat in the skillet and rinse thoroughly. In a large pan boil the peppers for 5 minutes, remove from water and turn upside down onto a paper towel to dry.
3. In a large skillet add the olive oil, garlic and onion, saute until tender. Add the turkey and brown until thoroughly cooked.
4. Add the crushed tomatoes, rice, Italian seasoning, salt, pepper and 1/2 cup of the shredded cheese and stir until blended.
5. Fill the peppers evenly with the mixture, place in a lightly greased 10 inch cast iron skillet, or baking dish of your choice. Bake uncovered for 25 to 30 minutes. Remove and add the remaining cheese to the top of peppers and bake for an additional 5 minutes or until the cheese is melted.

- Recipe courtesy of <https://dearcissy.com/ground-turkey-stuffed-peppers-recipe/>

If you would like to include a recipe to be printed in the PUMP, please place it in The Pump mailbox or email the church office at office@felclcms.org.





KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts!

Find us on social:
 @KFUOradio on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuo), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuo), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuo).

Monday to Friday Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer
 - 7:15 a.m. – Oratio {AM850 Sign On}**
 - 8:00 a.m. – Sharper Iron
 - 9:00 a.m. – The Coffee Hour {New Program!}
 - 9:30 a.m. – Law and Gospel
 - 10:00 a.m. – Daily Chapel from the LCMS International Center
 - 10:30 a.m. – Sacred Music
 - 11:00 a.m. – Thy Strong Word
 - 12:00 p.m. – Moments of Assurance
 - 1:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
 - 2:00 p.m. – Cross Edges
 - **Monday:** Cross Defense
 - **Tuesday:** Concord Matters
 - **Wednesday (2:00pm):** The Student Union
 - **Wednesday (2:30 p.m.):** World Lutheran News Digest
 - **3rd Wednesday of the month (2:30 p.m.):** Free to be Faithful
 - **Thursday:** Word & Work: An Intersection *(Presented by Concordia Seminary)*
 - **Friday:** Let's Talk! (The Pastor Is In)
 - 3:00 p.m. – Issues, Etc.
 - 5:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer
 - 6:00 p.m. – Sacred Music through the night
- **{AM850 Sign Off}

Saturday Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 7:45 a.m. – Moments of Assurance: Weekend Edition
- 8:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 9:05 a.m. – Wrestling with the Basics®
- 9:30 a.m. – World Lutheran News Digest
 - Weekend following the 3rd Wed. of the month: Free to be Faithful
- 10:00 a.m. – Concord Matters
- 11:00 a.m. – Lamplighter Theatre®
- 11:30 a.m. – White Horse Inn®
- 12:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 5:00 p.m. – **Worship Service**
- 6:00 p.m. – Sacred Music

Sunday Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 7:45 a.m. – Moments of Assurance: Weekend Edition
- 8:00* a.m. – **Worship Service**
- 9:30 a.m. – St. Paul's Des Peres Bible Study
- 10:30* a.m. – **Worship Service**
- 12:00 p.m. – Sing for Joy®
- 12:30 p.m. – The Lutheran Hour®
- 1:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 5:00 p.m. – The Lutheran Hour®
- 5:30 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 6:00 p.m. – **Worship Service**
- 7:00 p.m. – Sacred Music

Birthdays

- 1 Molly Perling
- 3 Henry Gordon
- 4 Adriane King
- 5 Michele Jones
- 7 Patrick Dunn
- 8 Christina Lentz
Marie Matthews
- 10 Jared Munson
Ingrid Ozee
- 12 Lee Phinney
- 13 Maria Candler
- 14 Lee Munson
- 18 Brett Jones
- 19 Trace Boerner
- 20 Richard Teague
- 21 Danielle Rogers
Kathleen Rogers
- 23 Nels Lund
- 25 Kayla Maassen
- 26 Sharon Wilson
- 27 Leroy Tronstad

Members & Friends



Baptisms

- 5 Justin Munson
- 6 Molly Perling
- 9 Dan Boorum
- 10 Jimmie Jones
- 17 Ingrid Ozee
- 28 David Lund
- 29 Brett Jones

Anniversaries

- 15, 1975 Allan & Erlinda Johannsen
19, 2008 Ray & Leola Crosby



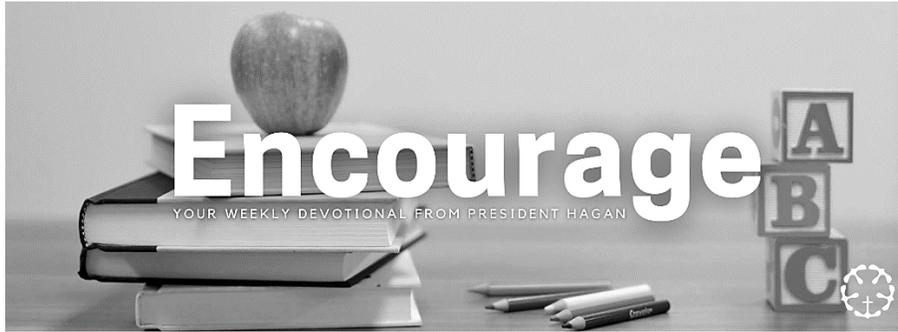
Around the Synod

After connecting with your Faith family for worship and Bible Studies check out these other LCMS churches and pastors offering online options for worship and study of God's Word:

- Missouri District LCMS Churches offering Facebook and/or YouTube livestreams can be found here: <https://mo.lcms.org/facebook-and-youtube-streaming/>
- St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas is posting virtual worship services on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVvwWXmDRGogt5nJXwdfyhA/featured>
- While Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller from Saint Paul Lutheran Church continues to heal from COVID, David Preus will fill in as the host of the "Worldwide Bible Class" Tuesdays at 10am on Zoom. The current topic is the book of Mark. <https://wolfmueller.co/bible/>
- In his new book, Pastor Wolfmueller explores Luther's understanding of faith that pushes through suffering and arrives, with joy, on the threshold of eternal life.

Martin Luther had a robust theology of martyrdom, calling it the "pattern of the true Christian life." Luther expected a martyr's death and was ready for such a death. This essay digs into Luther's theological understanding of Christian suffering and death, and preaches Christ to fainting hearts, so that we too would joyfully face persecution, suffering, and even death, knowing that Jesus waits for us.

Download the PDF for free here:



“At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.” Colossians 4:3-4

Lutheran schools across Missouri are opening! Such an announcement is simply expected in August during other years. However, 2020 is not like other years, and the work that has gone into having our schools ready to open this year is significant. As this school year begins for our Lutheran elementary schools, high schools and early childhood centers, your help is needed. Just as St. Paul enlisted the Colossians and other churches to which he wrote, I am inviting you to join us in praying for our Lutheran schools, principals, teachers, and students. From two-room schools in the country to schools with double grades at every level, the Missouri District is blessed to have schools across our state that are focused on the task of teaching students about the wonders of God’s creation.

The current COVID-19 crisis has presented many challenges, but it has also led to opportunities as well. Many of our Lutheran schools have seen increased enrollments due to public schools not offering in-person classes. We are entrusted with the care of children who may not have come to our schools without this crisis, but we are able to show them what makes our schools distinct as we offer Christ-centered education and prepare children for lives of service. Thanks be to God that this crisis has provided open doors for proclaiming the Gospel.

We also know that there are great challenges that are facing our school administrators and teachers, school boards and sponsoring congregations. From the cleaning of classrooms to the planning of activities, the present crisis has necessitated a rethinking of nearly everything associated with the school day. I invite you to pray for our schools each day. If your congregation operates a school, please pray specifically for that school. If there is not a school in your area, but you would like to pray for a specific school and principal this year, please contact Michelle Christ in the District office (michelle.christ@mo.lcms.org) and we will be happy to share with you one of our District schools which you can raise up to God in your daily prayers. Our prayer is that students, faculty, and staff will be preserved from illness and that this year will be a time of growing in knowledge and love for God and for one another. Our schools are a tremendous blessing and staffed by faithful and dedicated servants of Christ. These are trying times, but our schools are needed now more than ever. So, please pray for us!

Prayer – O God, source of all abiding knowledge, through Word and Spirit You both enlighten the minds and sanctify the lives of those whom you draw to Your service. Look with favor on the elementary, high schools, and early childhood programs of the Church, blessing those who teach and those who learn according to Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Fraternally in Christ,

President Lee Hagan



FELC FAMILY PRAYER PAGE

Virus: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)

Disease: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Servicemen and Missionaries we support

Please remember to pray for loved ones deployed on active duty: Franklin LaLonde † Chris MacMurray (Korea)

LCMS Missionaries: Rev. Dr. David Preus and his family (Dominican Republic)

Current Events

† Prayer for People to come to faith in Jesus

† Prayer for Residents of in the path of Hurricane Laura

Thanksgivings

† Stephanie Mitchell—Successful Appendectomy and healing

Immediate Needs

† Herb Houser – Ongoing health issues

† Joelle Jones – Recovering from shingles, also fatigue and headaches. Also managing her COPD

† Liz Joyce – Appointment at MO Vein Care September 1; ongoing back and hip pain

† Patricia King – Preparing for upcoming foot surgery

† Leonard Martin – He was in a rollover accident in a backhoe. Doubtful that he will walk again.

† Chris McCormick – Diagnosed with COVID. Being released from hospital 8/10. Submitted by Cheryl Hinchman.

† Clark Mullins – Fell, broken Wrist, successful surgery to repair the wrist 8/19

† Roberta Thornsberry – Recovering at home from Skin Cancer Surgery

† Ron Weaver – Accident, broke his neck and is paralyzed. Still in hospital and rehab (update from Joelle Jones 8-12-20)

Long Term Needs/Chronic Needs

† Inge Allen – Nursing Home in Texas (Alzheimer's) – Updated 8/26 by Cheryl Hinchman

† Tim Berrier – Cancer – Submitted 4/4/2017 by Mitzi Sparks

† The Boettger Family – Health and family issues

† Barb BonGiovanni – Prayer for a healthy spiritual life in Christ, prayer for Barb's children that they participate in church

† Ray Crosby – Health issues

† Maureen Drees – Pain throughout due to complications from lifelong diabetes

† Jerry and Janet Driscoll – Ongoing health issues

† Sharon Green – Fighting Cancer – Submitted 12/10/2017 by Cheryl Teague

† Mary Heimsoth – Family Issues, prayer for peace in Christ – Joelle Jones

† Bob Hogancamp

† Doug Isaac – Pain management – Submitted by Karen Boorum

† Mary Jones – backpain, Kidney treatment continues

† Marian Kubinski

† Don Major – Had a liver transplant. Has returned home. (Linda Keener/Cheryl Hinchman)

† Chris Malley – MRI results on her brain revealed 3 more tumors, is undergoing radiation treatments, CAT-Scan today 8/26, one vocal cord paralyzed due to the radiation treatments, taking chemotherapy orally

† Laine Martin – Awaiting Kidney transplant (2019) – Submitted by Mary Smith

- † Arik Matson and Family – Cop shot in line of duty, continuing with Physical Therapy and is just beginning to walk with assistance – Submitted 1/6/2020 by D. Matson
- † Jim and Marie Matthews
- † Ken Merrill – illness – Submitted 11/2013 by Mitzi Sparks
- † Sydney Merrill – illness – Submitted 10/17/2013 by Mitzi Sparks
- † Todd Meyer – Had Lymphoma mass removed, has begun Chemotherapy at the Mayo Clinic—will continue Chemo until November, will reevaluate treatment plan after that, medication, bone marrow transplant – Submitted 2/18/2020 by Karen Boorum
- † Jenny Miessler – Personal problems – Submitted 4/20/2016 by Bev Richard
- † Ed Pyatt – Had a stroke on 7/6, will be hospitalized for the foreseeable future
- † Dwayne Richard – Parkinson’s diagnosis (3-16) – Submitted by Bev Richard
- † Waldo Ruehs – Cancer, but it’s better – Submitted by Karen Boorum
- † Melvin and Joan Rust – Ongoing health issues
- † Belinda Schuler – Had a stroke recently, has a long recovery ahead. Still in nursing home (update by Joelle Jones 8-12-2020)
- † Ben Paul Schumacher for relief from any MS relapses
- † Smitty and Mary Smith – Ongoing health issues
- † Donna Thomas – Chronic Lung ailments, at risk for Covid-19 – Submitted by Dan Boorum
- † Tom Ulmer
- † John Vaughan
- † Becky Vogel-Systemic Ostioarthritis
- † Jerome Welliver – Submitted by Ron Hinchman
- † Lisa Weinhold – Systemic Rheumatoid Arthritis
- † Mike Wilson – Rheumatoid Arthritis/Sciatica/Carpal Tunnel
- † Donna Wogan
- † Christian Worth – has Cystic Fibrosis/frequently hospitalized – Submitted by M. Engstrom

Prayer for those near death and grieving the loss of loved ones

- † Lauren Nietubicz and two children grieving over the loss of Pastor Chris
- † Jessica Reed (Michael Jones’ Daughter) – She and her husband were expecting their first child this fall, but the pregnancy developed complications and the baby was lost this last month at 5 months.
- † Dennis Engstrom – comfort as he grieves Marlene’s loss
- † Houser Family – Chris Houser’s Mother in law, Nyona Erickson, passed away
- † Kathleen Martin died Wednesday afternoon in Peru, IL, prayer for Liz Joyce and her family mourning her passing
- † Inez Shirley – Inez died in the Lord Sunday 8/16, Funeral services were held 8/19
- † Peggy Walker’s mother, Effa Zens, just passed away, prayers for their family
- † Paul Zander – Passed away last weekend – Karen Boorum’s Brother

Pray for:

- † All members of the medical field
- † Teachers, Students, and Parents at home during this time
- † College Students



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WHOLLY CITIZENS: THINKING RIGHTLY ABOUT CHRISTIAN ENGAGEMENT WITH THE WORLD



DR. JOEL BIERMANN

Waldemar A. and June Schuette Professor
of Systematic Theology

Jesus is Lord. One of the simplest and earliest Christian creeds, it is the first confession of every follower of Christ.

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