



# *Holy Cross Lutheran Church*

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*Making peace by the blood of his cross – Colossians 1:15-20*

Grace, peace, and mercy to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

For much of John Milton's life, he worked in government in Britain. He helped steward England in that brief period of the Commonwealth when there was neither king nor queen. When the monarchy was restored in 1660, Milton was not just out of a job. He had lost his sight. He related to Samson from the book of Judges, a Jewish hero who also ended up blind and captive (Judges 16:23-31). In those last verses of Samson's history, Samson had been brought out to be mocked by the Philistine lords. Samson asked the Lord to return his strength to give him vengeance. When Samson's strength returned, he knocked over the pillars of the Philistine palace, collapsing the building. "So, the dead whom he killed at his death were more than those whom he had killed during his life" (Judges 16:30).

Thankfully, Milton's exile from public life was more productive. He finished many of his great works of poetry, including *Paradise Lost*, an epic poem. Where previous epics showed men waging war against other men with the help of the pagan gods, Milton depicted the rebellion of Satan and the fallen angels against the one, true God. Milton said he wanted to "justify the ways of God to men."

And yet, for many readers, the hero of Milton's poem is controversial. Milton's depiction of Satan is so vivid and compelling that more than a few have suggested the rebel angel is the real hero. To be sure, the Bible itself teaches the fallen angel to be attractive to men (2 Corinthians 11:14). But Milton seems to give all the best lines to Satan, like, "Better to reign in hell, than serve in heaven."

English scholars can patiently go through Milton's poem and point to how the poet depicts Satan as wrong, doubly wrong, damnably wrong. Satan says things that are internally inconsistent. He's proved a liar. His "reign" does no one any good. C.S. Lewis, who was an English scholar of renown before he was a Christian apologist and novelist of renown, even makes a compelling case that Milton intends for us to laugh at Satan's foolery.

Martin Luther, who lived through an uprising trying to overthrow the government, may explain this phenomenon. Luther had tried to reason with angry citizens to bring them to peaceful solutions. Even with Luther's heroic standing and rhetorical power, he could not move them. Later, he explained that once the spirit of rebellion overtakes us, there's no reasoning with it. In other words, Milton scholars can quote line after line, and it will not convince. It's like trying to reason with a wild bronco.

The point for us is not to talk through an old poem. The point is the spirit of rebellion is precisely what's attractive to us. We like spitting in the eye of someone we think is misusing authority. And when we're captivated by that rebellion, we're not interested in talking it out (Hebrews 3:15). When we catch wind of that spirit, may the Holy Spirit bring us directly to humble repentance.

The younger Samson was a romantic figure, one moment killing Philistines with a jawbone, the next moment drinking with them and telling tales. The older Samson, however, had been humbled. No longer depending on his own strength, he asks the Lord for strength. Vengeance belongs to the Lord.

The scene is instructive. While one defeated Samson is whispering his feeble prayer, he is surrounded by thousands chanting to the false Philistine god. The outnumbering of the worshippers did not count. Only the true God answered. He gave his wayward servant strength to finally accomplish the task Samson had long before been called and authorized to do.

There is no reigning in hell. Rebellion leads to Paradise being lost. Who in hell would submit to any authority? The Lord Almighty's reign is unlimited. He reigns even in Philistia's temples to Dagon. All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Him- not because He overthrew others to receive it. All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Jesus because He submitted to death, even death on a cross (Philippians 2:5-11). Finally, to Him, every knee will bow and tongue confess, "Jesus is Lord!"

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Guagenti



### BIRTHDAYS

- 2- Terry Conder
- 2- A. Isaac Guagenti
- 2- Colleen Skellie
- 7- Pastor Guagenti
- 8- Nancy Guagenti
- 12- Rita Whitehouse
- 14- Jason VanEvera
- 15- Jeff Wilson
- 16- Branden Nelson
- 16- Ricky Spreitzer
- 18- Alexander Lee
- 18- Skylar Branson
- 19- Lori Franke
- 19- Sandy Jager
- 21- Elijah Smith
- 22- Richard Spreitzer
- 29- Maxwell Themer
- 29- Mary Carnes

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 3- Bill & Judy Chapman, 1983
- 4- Fred & Debbie Wilbur, 1971
- 9- Don & Donna Saltzman 1992
- 9- Brian & Cathy Gehrman, 1994
- 18- Jim & Dottie Weed, 1953
- 28- Rick & Carol Spreitzer, 1991
- 29- Daniel & Ann Amyx, 2012

### RESURRECTION INSTALLATION SERVICE: SEPTEMBER 12

For the Installation Service at 2pm on September 12, all CDC recommendations will be followed for the service. A reception for Pastor Hallock and his family will be held outdoors immediately following the service.

### Attention: Boomers and Betters and a few GenXers for good measure.

There is interest in having a seniors group focused on devotion, topics/discussion, and ministry projects. As Boomers tend to be goal oriented, we are planning in mid/late September to decide a day, time, frequency, to meet. Pastor Andy has offered to lead our devotions. The date will be announced via our Sunday bulletin. Please be ready to share topics and ideas of interest.

Contact Brenda Moody, 502-321-5616, for questions. Peace to all.

### Holy Cross Hike

We are looking at Sunday, October 10 for a Holy Cross hike. Three options are Bernheim Forest, Clifty Falls, and the Louisville Loop. If interested in going please see Pastor Guagenti.

### Adult Bible Study

We are doing three-week adult Bible class this Sunday at 9:45 AM on Philippians. Paul begins, "I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Throughout Philippians there is that sense of not yet being where we want to be, of aching lack. (Paul, after all, writes from prison!) While for some, that sense of incompleteness can lead to grumbling and argument, for Paul the humbling experience ties us into Jesus and into hope and into joy.

### LADIES LUNCH OUT: SEPTEMBER 16

The ladies lunch out will be September 16 at Jim's Seafood House in Frankfort. Meet at Holy Cross at 11:00 and we'll carpool together.

### VOTERS' MEETING: SEPTEMBER 19

We will have our quarterly voter's meeting on Sunday, September 19, 2021, following church.

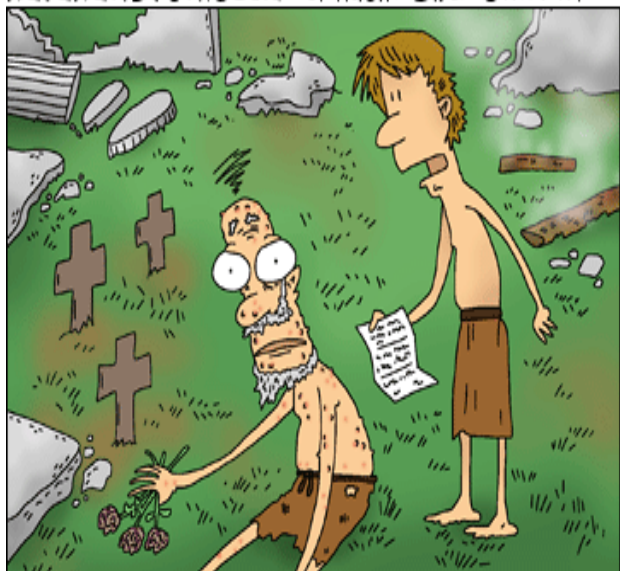


### HOLY CROSS RUMMAGE SALE: SEPTEMBER 18

The Holy Cross Rummage sale is set for September 18 from 8am-12pm. We will need help the week prior for setting up and pricing, working the day of the rummage sale, and afterwards with cleaning and boxing up the unsold items. A sign up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board at the back of the church. We appreciate any donations for the sale! Proceeds from the sale will go towards the storage building. For more information please see Kathy or Merrie.



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(See Job 1)

09-27-2013

HEY JOB IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE JURY DUTY TOMORROW

### YOU KNOW YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN IF...

- Your biggest fund-raisers are bake sales.
- You can't have a meeting without having a meal.
- Sharing the peace during the service takes more time than the sermon.

### KFUO.ORG RADIO

Listen to Worldwide KFuo.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFuo.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUOradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

### LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nation—and the Nations to Church*. Lutheran Hour Ministries produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast, as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries. LHM's flagship program **The Lutheran Hour**, is the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It airs Sundays at 9am on 102.7FM. For information, visit [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) (<http://www.lhm.org>)

### LUTHERAN HOUR PROJECT CONNECT

The booklets we have on the turning display are on-line, several of them in audio format so you can listen while doing other things. It's a great way to get solid Bible-based content in a digital way. There are the adult-focused booklets we're familiar with as well as content for children, too.



## Issues, Etc.

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

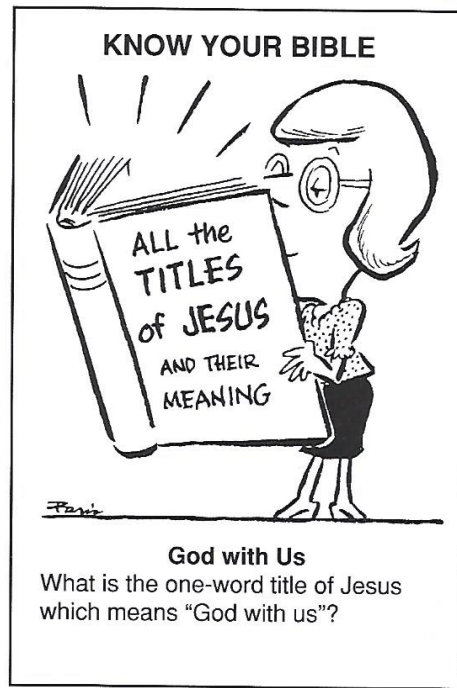
### EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen on-demand at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

### LIFE QUOTES

"Gospel-motivated means we tell how Almighty God creates every human life as special, and that we treat them with that sanctity. It means we declare how He redeems every human life as precious, and that we demonstrate it to them. It means we proclaim how He calls every human life His own priceless treasure from fertilization to forever, and that we put it into practice."

*Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry,  
Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



Look for the answer in the October's Newsletter  
August's Answer: Jehu (see 2 Kings 9:20)

### VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	ACOLYTE	READER	USHERS	CLEAN	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD	MOWING
Sept 5	Zoe Shreve	Charlie Moody	Don Saltzman Bob Myers	Charlie Adams	Anita Themer	Brenda Moody Rita Whitehouse	Greg Rutledge Pastor Guagenti Sept 8-11
Sept 12	Eden Guagenti	Dave Themer	Charlie Moody Rita Whitehouse	Franke family	Suzanne Rutledge	No communion	Dave Franke Max Themer Sept 15-18
Sept 19	Brenyn Botkins	Nancy Kovach	Alex VanPelt Charlie Adams	Sandy Runner	Danielle Themer	Jennifer Harrod Rita Whitehouse	Alex VanPelt Mike Carlson Sept 22-25
Sept 26	Gabriel Guagenti	David Franke	Corrie Brian Greg Rutledge	Bob Myers Don Williams	Brenda Moody	No communion	Jeremy Botkins Charlie Schufer Sept 29-Oct 2
Oct 3	Zoe Shreve	Jeff Wilson	Cindy Alvano John Feole	Theresa Tippet Jennifer Harrod	Merrie Feole	Rita Whitehouse Cindy Alvano	Dave Pontius Jack Bink Oct 6-9
Oct 10	Eden Guagenti	Charlie Moody	Don Saltzman Bob Myers	Roxanne Pontius Guagenti family	Suzanne Rutledge	No communion	Dave Themer Brian Gehrman Oct 13-16

**IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON THE APPOINTED DAY, PLEASE CALL SOMEONE TO SERVE IN YOUR PLACE.**

# **The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**

## **LCMS Stewardship Ministry**

### **Newsletter article – September 2021**

At the end of the first of his chapters on the virtue of faith in *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis provides a helpful reminder, by way of analogy, for the foundation of stewardship. He wrote:

“Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already. So then, when we talk of a man doing anything for God or giving anything to God, I will tell you what it is really like. It is like a small child going to its father and saying, ‘Daddy, give me sixpence to buy you a birthday present.’ Of course, the father does, and he is pleased with the child’s present. It is all very nice and proper, but only an idiot would think that the father is sixpence to the good on the transaction. When a man has made these two discoveries God can really get to work. It is after this that real life begins. (128–129).”

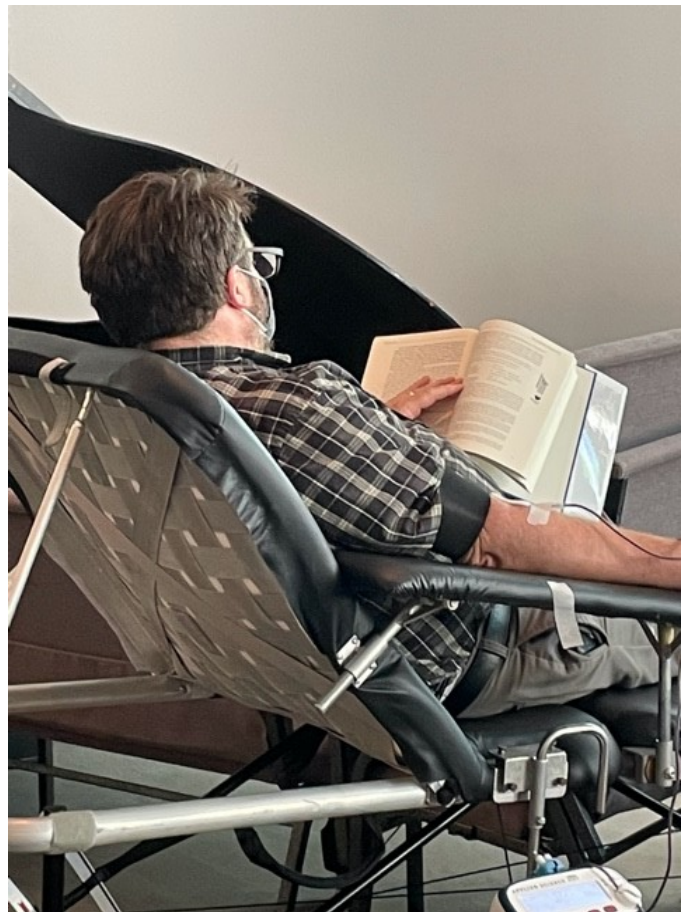
This is the first thing we are given to confess about stewardship, and it has to do with ownership. God owns everything, and we are simply managers – stewards – acting on His behalf. This is true not only of all that we have in this life (Deut. 8:17–18) but also all that we are in this life (1 Cor. 6:20).

The rest flows from here. Since we are stewards, or managers, of what belongs to God, entrusted to make use of it according to His will, there is an expectation of responsibility and accountability. For the Lord said, “Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more” (Luke 12:48b). And from this comes blessing and reward: “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matt. 25:21).

We have everything we need to support this body and life from our God’s fatherly divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in us. We have everything we need for our spiritual life also from His merciful hands. On account of the sacrifice of His Son,



# Battle of the Badges Blood Drive September 18th



Please join us as we kick off the Sunday School year with a

# Summer Splash!

Food • Inflatable • Slip 'n' Slide • Dunk Tank • Activity Booths

**Sunday, September 12**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11 a.m. Divine Service

With food & fun to follow!

Children are welcome to wear a modest swimsuit and cover-up and bring a towel since the day will involve lots of water activities!

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**SHARING THE POWERFUL GOSPEL!**

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EVERY SUNDAY  
BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:45AM  
DIVINE SERVICE-11:00AM

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2021

Summer  
Splash!

Rally Day- September 12, 2021