

### 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!

What marks for you the changing of the seasons? Is it the weather, this time when we can leave both air and heat off and enjoy crisp fall air? Is it the food, the harvest of winter squash, apples, Octoberfest, and warm spices? Is it visual, the changing of the leaves, the Lord painting in oranges and yellows? Is it football tailgating, November elections, kids in school? Or is it all of the above, the sweep of a full-season change?

Martin Luther caught the changing of the seasons in Germany—not only the annual march from spring to winter. Luther recognized the longer seasons of God planting His Word, raising harvests, and pruning back, the season of dying and rising again. To the councilmen of Germany, he wrote a letter, urging the establishment of schools for the teaching of both the faith and the arts.

He said.

Let us remember our former misery, and the darkness in which we dwelt. Germany, I am sure, has never before heard so much of God's word as it is hearing today; certainly we read nothing of it in history. If we let it just slip by without thanks and honor, I fear we shall suffer a still more dreadful darkness and plague. O my beloved Germans, buy while the market is at your door; gather in the harvest while there is sunshine and fair weather; make use of God's grace and word while it is there! For you should know that God's word and grace is like a passing shower of rain which does not return where it has once been. It has been with the Jews, but when it's gone it's gone, and now they have nothing. Paul brought it to the Greeks; but again when it's gone it's gone, and now they have the Turk. Rome and the Latins also had it; but when it's gone it's gone, and now they have the pope. And you Germans need not think that you will have it forever, for ingratitude and contempt will not make it stay. Therefore, seize it and hold it fast, whoever can; for lazy hands are bound to have a lean year. (LW 45:352)

The Gospel's 16th-century resurgence in Germany was "like a passing shower of rain," a moment of grace for us to "seize it and hold it fast, whoever can." There are ways in which we can read the season in our own time and place and see leanness. Some estimates suggest that church attendance around the country is down post-pandemic by as much as a quarter. Many churches have laid aside preaching the eternal Gospel and taken up political messages, which are more fleeting than the seasons. Religious schools which generations of American Lutherans supported are now struggling to make their budgets.

Luther recognized that these institutions are much harder to stand up than to maintain. He sought to bank the overflow of Gospel richness they were receiving, to build institutions which would sustain later

generations through lean years. "When it's gone it's gone," Luther repeated, warning not only those German councilmen but us as well.

Seeing present leanness is one interpretation of our season, but it is not the only one. In some ways, we have more resources to read the Bible, teach our children, and share with our neighbors than any generation prior. All we lack is people to engage these resources, people who choose to prize the Gospel's refreshing rain over the choking demands of the world.

We need to sacrifice worldly distractions to shore up the institutions of God's Word, schools, congregations, and ministries. We want to pass on as much of this as we can, knowing lean times come to every land.

For me, the autumn season reaches its pinnacle with our celebrations of Reformation Day and All Saints Day. First, we remember God's work in renewing the Gospel, then His sanctifying work for all the saints who have gone before us. We are privileged to inherit their work in the kingdom. We give thanks that the same Mighty Fortress who protected them still stands strong around us today. The rains that come and go are not faceless forces of a relentless Mother Nature. Our heavenly Father knows our needs and hears our prayers. He brings us through challenges and gives relief to those who ask.

This October, we have the opportunity to hear the preaching of a brother Lutheran from a land where the rains of the Gospel are pouring fresh and strong. The Archbishop of the Kenyan Lutheran Church, Rev. Joseph Ochola Omolo, is preaching at the Louisville Reformation Service at Our Savior Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 30 at 3 p.m. I hope and expect our Louisville congregations will be encouraged by his message. May we share in their harvest, planting new seeds for the next season's harvest in our own lands. All praise to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! He who began a good work in us and will bring it to completion. Amen.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Guagenti



### **CELEBRATIONS IN OCTOBER**

### **BIRTHDAYS**

- 1- Eden Guagenti
- 2- Masyn Botkins
- 3- Debbie Wilbur
- 4- Michael Boardman
- 7- Dee Dee Conder
- 7- Jim Weed
- 8- Phillip Hailey
- 11- Zoe Shreve
- 13- Don Saltzman
- 13- Michael Rutledge
- 25- Annette Semeniuk
- 25- Angela Bowles
- 26- Christopher Anderson
- 27- Marilyn Murray

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 7- John & Joni Skellie, 1995
- 13- Jamie & Debbie Lee, 2002
- 20- Joshua & Madeline Botkins, 2010

### **VICTORIOUS IN THE LORD**

Sandy Kingery, mother of Corrie Brian who visited Holy Cross often, passed away on September 27, 2022. May our risen Lord comfort those who mourn.

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." John 11:25

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

The Sunday morning adult class will be studying "God's Favorite

Words." Each week, we will look at one of the top 100 words used most often throughout the Bible. How do we translate those words? How does their meaning develop through the Bi-

### **TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

ble? Why is this word used so often?

Hybrid Zoom-In-Person Bible Study Tackles Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians. Our hybrid Zoom class also meets at Pastor Andy and Nancy Guagenti's house. We are reading together some of Paul's earliest epistles, his two letters to Thessalonica. Join us either in person or through the zoom link Tuesdays at 7pm.

The Guagenti's address is 207 Old Spring Drive, Shelbyville.

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76255818359? pwd=WZI8ISH-i4wOMKxDe14gkulQchxkHe.1

### **LUTHERANISM 101: WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

Lutheranism 101 covers the basics and history of the Bible, the church, Jesus' teachings and why Lutherans are Lutheran. Classes are Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. Please let Pastor know if you want in on Lutheranism 101.

### **DAY-TIMERS: OCTOBER 12**

Day-Timers will meet on Wednesday, October 12 at 9:30am. For more information please see Charlie Moody.

### **CHURCH LIBRARY**

I am in the process of organizing the church library. If you have books to donate to the church library please drop them off in the church office. Thank you, Merrie

### **CAKE AUCTION**

Fellowship is planning a cake auction mid October. Date TBD. Watch bulletins for date.

### **SYNOD CONVENTION**

At the September 18 Circuits convocation, Pastor Daniel Guagenti was elected to serve as the pastoral representative to the 2023 Synod Convention in Milwaukee.

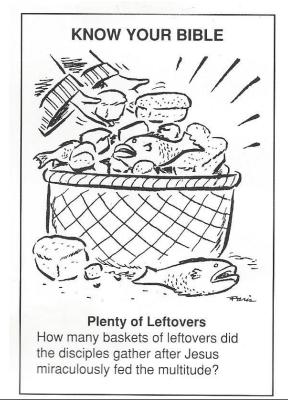


### **LIFE QUOTES**

"While we are on this side of eternity, the chance to serve and love our country and our neighbor and our community is as depthless as the Lord's love for us. Engaging is a good, right, and humbling call."

Timothy S. Goeglein, vice president of government and external relations at Focus on the Family in Washington, D.C. –

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org





Look for the answer in the November's Newsletter September's answer: Their water turned to blood (see Ex. 7:19-21)

### **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY	ACOLYTE	READER	USHERS	CLEAN	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD	MOWING
October 2	Nathaniel Guagenti	Nancy Kovach	Charlie Moody R. Whitehouse	Franke family	Merrie Feole	Jennifer Harrod Cindy Alvano	Mike Semeniuk Max Semeniuk Oct 5-8
October 9	Masyn Botkins	David Franke	Alex VanPelt Charlie Adams	Roxanna Pontius Guagenti family	Anita Themer	No Communion	Dave Themer Brian Gehrman Oct 12-15
October 16	Nathaniel Semeniuk	Charlie Moody	Corrie Brian Zoe shreve	Don Saltzman	Suzanne Rutledge	Brenda Moody Cindy Alvano	John Feole Anthony Ewers Oct 19-22
October 23	Eden Guagenti	Dave Themer	Cindy Alvano John Feole	Charlie Adams	Danielle Themer	No Communion	Thank You
October 30	Brenyn Botkins	Nancy Kovach	Don Saltzman Greg Rutledge	Franke family	Merrie Feole	Rita Whitehouse Cindy Alvano	Mowers!!

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

### AWAKE MINISTRIES MEALS NEEDED

The Day-Timers group takes a meal once a month to the Awake Ministries Women's residence on College Street. The ladies are so appreciative of "home-cooked" food. There are 8 -10 women in residence. The meal includes an entrée, salad, bread, dessert and drinks. If anyone in the congregation would wish to provide a part of the meal, please see or call Brenda Moody at 747-0142 or text 502-321-5616. Thank you.

### **HOLY CROSS FOOD BOX**

The food box in our driveway is the result of an idea from the Day-Timers group. This is an outreach to the community



that all the members of Holy Cross can share and participate in.

Several have been very generous in stocking the box but we continue to need help. There is a list of items on the kitchen door that are suggestions for donations.

However, the food box is getting low. We need canned tuna and chicken, beef stew, ravioli, spaghetti o's, soups, fruit cups, jello, pudding cups, mac & cheese, spaghetti, tomato sauce, vegetables, peanut butter and jelly. Money donations, or if those of you who have the Thrivent card would like to share, that too would be appreciated. Thanks to all who are helping and we look forward to future donations. Day-Timers Group

### COMMUNITY FESTIVAL AND HEALTH FAIR

Redeemer Lutheran Church invites you to join us on October 1st from 10 am - 3 pm for a time of fun, prizes, fellowship, and many free health services. We are thrilled to have the Ron Jones Quartet and the River City Drum Corps in the afternoon. Also, free food and giveaways. 3640 River Park Drive, Louisville, KY. Hope to see you then!

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

- You think a meeting isn't legitimate unless it's at least three hours long.
- Peas in your tuna noodle hotdish add too much color.

### **OKTOBERFEST AT RISEN LORD: OCTOBER 8**

Risen Lord Lutheran Church is having their annual Oktoberfest Pig Roast with traditional sides on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to



7:00pm. Adults \$15 - Youth (6-12) \$5, Children 5 & under Free with paid Adult. (Beer will be sold separately) There will be a Silent Auction and a Classic Car Display. Risen Lord Lutheran located at 5138 Taylorsville Rd, Taylorsville, Ky (across the road from the Elk Creek Gas Station & Fire Department).

### **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

It has been wonderful to have Sunday School back in session after the summer break! We began on August 21 with a room full of smiling faces, eager to learn, and we will keep that energy going with new learning activities, projects and a new curriculum!

We've begun a three year program called "Enduring Faith" from Concordia Publishing. Year one is a survey of the entire Bible, so to date we are moving rapidly through Genesis. Next year, will focus with more detail on the Old Testament. Year three that same focus will be on the New Testament.

Please keep all the teachers and students in prayer as seek Christ to build up the next generation of believers!



I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE

DON'T LET YOUR WORRIES GET THE BEST OF YOU; REMEMBER, MOSES STARTED OUT AS A BASKET CASE.

# REFORDIATION SERVICE

## Kentuckiana LCMS Celebration

Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Louisville, KY



## Guest Preacher:

Rev. Dr. Joseph Ochola Omolo Archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya



Rev. Ochola Omolo is coming overseas to share the Gospel with us, as well as to strengthen the Swahili-speaking immigrants who gather at Faith Lutheran Church in Louis ville.

Our Savior Lutheran Church is located at 8305 Nottingham Parkway, east of Oxmoor Center

Refreshments will follow Divine Service.

### The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – October 2022

### "WE ARE ALL BEGGARS"

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. Before that happened, the hand that hammered the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, penned its final words: "We are all beggars. This is true." And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free.

Ironic, isn't it? In order to be free, you must be a beggar. You must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't like being in someone's debt like that.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. And we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

If we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for his undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything. Forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This isn't because of any worthiness or merit in us. It is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace. On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the lifeblood of the Christian Church. God justifies us and declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This isn't because of our works but because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther pointed us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled "We are all beggars. This is true." We are beggars, but we are beggars of the God who does not ignore us and who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – still in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace. The riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism, and in Holy Communion – are so inexhaustible that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are inexhaustibly satisfied, and we have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: <u>lcms.org/stewardship</u>



### We Need Trunks!

And volunteers.

A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

The Holy Cross "Trunk or Treat" has been scheduled for Saturday, October 29 from 3 to 5pm

Decorate your trunks and hand out candy to the trick or treaters.

Trophy for "Best Decorated Trunk"!

Hot Dogs & Chips

Costume Contest

Children's Crafts

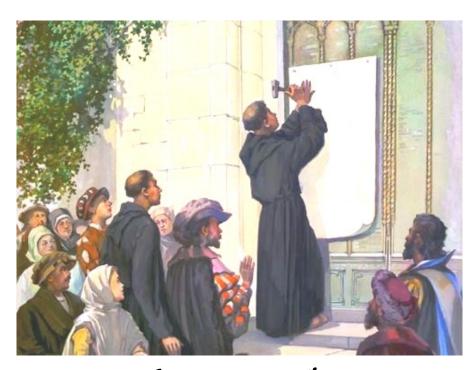


### **SHARING THE POWERFUL GOSPEL!**

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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EVERY SUNDAY
BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE-11:00AM

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2022



Reformation Day Sunday, October 30