

# THE VIEW

November 2019

vol. 63 NO. 11

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



It's already November?!?

We have come to the end of the church calendar, and we are on the verge of starting anew. The last days of the church year are pregnant with the expectation of Christ's return as our righteous Judge. And unless he comes before the month is out we will soon begin another season of anticipation as we look to the first advent of our Lord that brings our redemption from sin, death, and the devil, which assures us that he will fulfill

his promise of a second advent and the gathering of all his people to eternal joy. Our church year begins and ends with the hope of Christ's return.

Yet even though we expect his coming to be imminent, we are never lax in the commission he has entrusted to us. "Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age'" (Matt. 28:18-20). This is why the final month of the church year, where we reflect upon the completion that Christ will bring on the Last Day, is also the time of year when we make plans for how we will faithfully serve God and our neighbor in the upcoming year. We do this with our election of church leadership and also with our commitment to using that which God has entrusted to us for His service and His glory.

November is stewardship month, which carries the spirit of the apocryphal adage attributed to Luther: "If I knew that tomorrow was the end of the world, I would plant an apple tree today." Sadly, it is quite unlikely that Luther actually said this, but it is the essence of our life as Christians at the end of the church year. With equal fervor we pray for our Lord's return on the Last Day and for guidance in how we can serve Him best in the upcoming year.

As Christians we are always living in the "now and the not yet". We see this in how we are declared saints and yet still struggle with sin; we already have eternal life in Christ and yet face our own mortality; we are victorious in the cross of Christ and yet daily need to vest in the full armor of God as we stand

firm against Satan's attacks as the church militant. Therefore, as faithful Christians we live in the now and the not yet. We rejoice in the assurance of Jesus' return—confident that it is a "done" deal and that he will be here any minute—while also taking inventory of the resources given to us to keep fighting the good fight.

So as we wholeheartedly look for our Lord's appearing, I encourage you to use this month of November to also take stock of the time, talent, and treasures that God has bestowed upon you for service to Him and to your neighbor. But as you do so, don't approach this as a stingy miser who is overly concerned with rationing (speaking as one who greatly embodies this tendency by nature). God's gifts are overflowing in abundance. Do not doubt His generosity, for the jar of oil will not run dry.

You may not have another mite to contribute to the ministry of Christ's church or to give in loving charity, but you may have the time to make the occasional phone call or visit to encourage your brother or sister. Can you take the time to have a simple conversation with an unchurched friend about Jesus? Would you be willing to lend your mind and voice to a board or committee at church? Are your hands free enough from daily labor to help the church or community? Can you spend a few more minutes a day in prayer for those in need? In your stewardship, can you do a little more?

May God bless you in your contemplations on stewardship as our church year ends and starts anew. And let us pray that God will send us new opportunities and means to joyfully serve Him as we eagerly look for His coming.

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## Working with Difficult Emotions in Caregiving

*This article is from the Concordia Publishing House Blog and is an adaptation from Kim Marxhausen's newest book, Weary Joy.*



Dorris's son, her doctor, and I determined that the car keys needed to be taken away. I drove to her house and began the conversation with the insistence on safety. The conversation went in circles for more than an hour. Throughout the argument, Dorris maintained that she had not killed anyone yet. But after I patiently repeated my arguments, the conversation ended, and I went home with the car

keys in my pocket. In a last show of defiance, Dorris reminded me that she had enough money to buy herself a new car. "Good," I said, on the edge of my patience. "Look for something with heated seats because the next car I take away will become mine."

### Expression of Difficult Emotions

The unfortunate side of denial is the process that allows us to ignore the facts in front of us in favor of what we want to believe. Dorris was in denial regarding her reduced mental capacities. Driving is so automatic and the skills involved are so intuitive that it is easy to miss when a person no longer has the mental capacity to drive safely. When it happened to Dorris, my only recourse was to stay calm and remain firm. I admit that I heavily referred to her primary health-care provider's concerns. I feel confident that this kind of blame is something most doctors would encourage.

Coping with the denial involved in the grief of loss is one thing. Anger is another story. Anger admits to the loss and assumes someone is to blame. One of the most challenging truths about caregiving is that the person closest is often the target of the anger. As a caregiver, you are a safe and convenient target. Much as an infant in child care will save up distress until the parent returns, a care receiver may save the expressions of anger and frustration for the most relied-upon person, typically the person showing the most love and sacrifice. Unjust anger is entirely unfair, discouraging, and demoralizing. You are doing everything to help, and while you probably don't expect gratitude, you do not expect rage or resentment.

### Reframing

Those who are most successful at applying emotional labor and keeping it from increasing their stress load are those who engage in *reframing*. In the act of reframing, you step away from the emotions to see the situation from several sides. Then you can understand things in a new way. Emotional reframing allows you to choose the appropriate emotional response.

When you are in the middle of a difficult emotional situation, your strength to use emotional labor comes only from the Creator of emotions. It is best if, in describing the situation, you take out personal pronouns and replace them with the name of God. Doing this helps you remember that the control over the situation is not yours. Here are some examples of reframing by remembering God:

No matter what I try, I can't do anything right. *No matter what, God has control over the situation, and He can make it right.* I say it again and again, but I can't get through the denial. *God forgives again and again. His patience is endless.*

I am so tired, and I don't know if I can do this anymore. *God is faithful. My weakness allows me to feel His strength.*

The work of reframing is made easier with input from others. Feedback from someone who understands can help you see your role and God's role in a difficult situation. God designed us to be in fellowship with one another, and this fellowship involves feedback as well as love and service. It is understandable that we avoid sharing our thinking with others because in difficult situations, the last thing we want is criticism or simplistic advice. However, our brain is good at building a wall of excuses around our wrong thinking. A new perspective can help us climb over that wall. The truth and perspective we hear from others is one reason why participating in a support group, spending time in counseling, and finding a good friend who will be honest all make a positive difference for caregivers.

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We give thanks to God for the salvation and life everlasting with which He has blessed our loved ones who have been called to rest from their labors. It is also a time to reflect upon their witness to the faith. Yet this time is difficult for many who are still mourning the separation we endure until reunited in God's Kingdom. Please pray for those who are grieving and reassure them of the hope that is ours in Christ Jesus.

## SERVING IN NOVEMBER

USHERS			LECTORS	
8:00 AM		10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
11/03	Lydia Cassidy Bill Kruse	Leah Ryel, Harold Zell Jim Wing, John Frost Marion Miller	Rick Sanborn	Linda Licht
11/10	Rudy Eidam Bob Morin	Jim Wing—Shirley Wing Bill Jaeger—Jerri Creech	Jerry Kaufman	Kathy Kirchoefer
11/17	Bob Morin Rick Sanborn	Vivian Armstrong—Leah Ryel Harold Sell—Steve Leyrer	Vicki Amato	Lois Schweinler
11/24	Jen Stickney Mike Ebanks	Adell Keeney—John Zagone Debbie Zagone—David White	Paul Mincer	Jim Wing
11/28	10:00 am only			

*Birthday Blessings*

11/01 Yvonne McLellan	11/13 Carol Heaphy	11/25 Lily Emerson
11/03 Vivian Armstrong	11/17 David Hawthorne	11/25 David Marquardt
11/06 Robert Armstrong	11/17 Ann Cheadle	11/25 Herb Spies
11/07 Alan Clancy	11/17 Dietrich Fabricius	11/25 Kathleen Weege
11/09 Paul Mincer	11/20 Craig Escude`	11/28 Nancy Stang
11/11 Philip Anderson	11/21 Ed Bertram	11/29 Gary Amato
11/11 Margi McLain	11/24 Bob Morin	11/30 Peter Kawa

# Prayers and Concerns

## Surgeries and Illness

Nancy Bargar  
Buddy Harrison (Fry)  
Mary Hill  
Joann Kapugi  
Brandon Wilson (Rappley)  
Yvonne McLellan  
Ann, Ace & William (Ryel)  
Judy Fuchs

Ed Bertram  
Vicki Rutland (Berryman)  
Neil Motyka (Fry)  
Grant Germain (McLellan)  
April Thomas & baby Judah  
Mike & Delilah (Perkins)  
Betty Ude  
Ed Jenkins (Biddle)

Brian Keeney  
David Pellman  
Marshall Hunt (Fry)  
Carol Walters  
Maureen Duemig  
Wiley Ilowit (Fry)  
Dailyn Rappley  
Dean Glossop

## Homebound

Joan Ginter  
Lee Marquardt  
Ann Cheadle  
Geri Ellerson  
Kathleen Fox  
Gerald Ormsby

Jan Nelson  
Suzi Karnatz  
Dorothy Lehman  
Mike Lohr  
Dianne Luecke

Dave Marquardt  
Glenn Karnatz  
Millie Freese  
Ivalee Rymer  
Eleney Selius

## Other Prayers and Concerns

Our Preschool Staff, Children & Families  
Evangelical Lutheran Church & School Laotchikit, Haiti

Please remember the missionaries and seminarian that we support.

While the financial assistance helps them, it is our prayers that they truly need.

Rev. Dan & Kathy Conrad who serve in Mexico City.

Rev. Dr. Dan & Dr. Joan Jastram who serve in Japan.

Rev. Dale & Suzanne Kaster who serve in the Czech Republic.

Rev. Delwyn & Lenita Campbell who serve in Gary, IN.

Benjamin McCrimmon, our seminarian in Fort Wayne, IN.

**"CART SMART RECYCLING"**  
City of Hendersonville

Recycling is a longstanding method of reducing waste in our local landfills while conserving our natural resources. Curbside recycling pickup is FREE for city residents. Those customers who actively recycle are eligible to receive a deduction on the garbage bill.

For efficient recycling:

- Place empty cans, bottles, paper and cardboard in the recycling cart
- Do not bag your recyclable items
- Do not put plastic bags, cords, hoses and other string like items in the cart
- Avoid recycling batteries, needles, sharp objects and food residue
- Do not put Styrofoam cups and containers in cart

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT. For more information visit

[www.hendersonvillenc.gov/recycling](http://www.hendersonvillenc.gov/recycling).

## COMMUNITY CONCERN OF THE MONTH

### **The Storehouse, Hendersonville, NC**

The Storehouse was founded in May 2000 with the purpose of providing food and hygiene products to people with limited financial resources and, often, limited life skill sets. Over the years we have added Blessings in Boxes, providing Christmas clothing and toys to children in need and The Coat Closet, providing coats, hats, gloves and blankets to those in need (often the homeless in our community). We are currently working to develop additional life skills education programs.

Ladies Guild is collecting "large" cans of vegetables and fruit in the month of November. There will be a box across from the bulletin board for your donations.

We will be preparing treat bags to give the children after church on Christmas Eve. We want to make certain that everyone is included. If you will be bringing any family or friends to church, that have young children, please let the church office or myself know. You can call me at 693-8062. Thank you for your help.

Diane Sanborn

## A Prayer for Our Preschool

Would you please for our preschool as this is a significant ministry outreach of Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church?

Heavenly Father,

We Praise You for the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with 75 families in Hendersonville. Open our hearts in the congregation to prayerfully support the ministry of Christian education. Open our eyes to see the needs and hurts of our families and to minister to all of them in their trials.

Bring us godly teachers, staff and volunteers who love the Lord and want to serve You through this ministry. Bring your peace to every troubled parent who comes in these doors. Fill every child with love for You, with all their hearts, souls, and minds so they will witness to their parents at home and when they grow up, will not depart from loving You with their whole heart. Put Your shield of protection around their hearts, minds and bodies. Guard them from the evil one.

Let Your peace and Your favor rest upon this church and school forevermore.

All this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Mark 10:14

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# Camp Linn Haven





September 23, 2019

Dear Partners in Mission of  Mount Pisgah Lutheran Church,

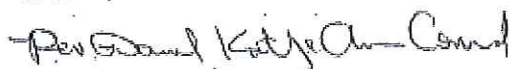
Greetings in the name of the Risen Lord. Here in Mexico the fall semester of our pastoral training program is underway, and it is keeping Dan very busy. He is teaching future pastors that hail from: Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Chile, Peru, México, and Venezuela. We give thanks to God for these future pastors who will serve the Lord throughout Latin America. One of our vicars, Neftali García, is serving the three congregations that we have here in Mexico City. Our other vicar, Guillermo Leyva, is serving at Iglesia Luterana Santísima Trinidad, in Matamoros México. (Matamoros shares its border with Brownsville, Texas) Both of our vicars are doing a great job and will finish up their vicarages at the end of May.

Our daughter Ana has been suffering from recurring migraines for some time. We are seeing a specialist and hopefully we will have some answers soon. Overall things are going fine for us as a family as we continue to serve the Lord in Mexico. The hurricanes that have been hitting the west coast of Mexico have not hit Mexico City directly, but they are sending a tremendous amount of rain our way.

Besides his teaching duties Dan continues to help at Iglesia Luterana San Pablo as Pastor Alvaro Lopez continues to recover from his first back surgery. Please keep Pastor Lopez in your prayers as he is scheduled to have his second surgery on the first of October. The Lord exhorts us saying, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38) We thank you for your partnership with the mission in Mexico. We pray for your continued partnership that makes the training of the laborers for the harvest in Latin America possible.

Please find enclosed our prayer card and a picture of Dan, Vicar Neftali García, and Pastor Alvaro Lopez. Your prayers and donations provide training and materials for Neftali as he prepares for the pastorate. God's richest blessings!

In Christ,



Rev. Daniel, Kathy, and Ana Conrad

## How Christian Education Changes Lives for Eternity



Protestors fill the streets of Port-au-Prince blocking all traffic. Rioting continues for over six weeks virtually shutting down all commerce and schools across the nation of Haiti.

This picture posted on social media went viral in Haiti. It sparked the protests against decades of government abuse without accountability. It says in Creole, "Where is the Petro Caribe money?"



The situation in Haiti has gone from poor living conditions, to a horrible continuous nightmare. The country of 10,000,000 people is in utter chaos with rioting mobs ruling the streets. Government policies based on corruption created huge inflation rates and fuel shortages. Without gasoline, food staples such as rice and beans cannot be distributed. Due to drought and no government supervision, there is little safe drinking water. People are hungry. People are thirsty. People are angry. **Now the corrupt practices of the past three Haitian presidents have come to a head causing an even greater humanitarian crisis.**

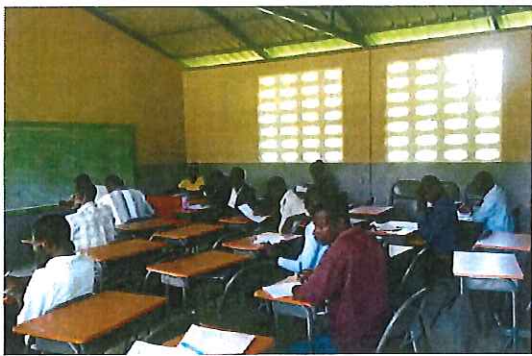
Years ago, the government of Venezuela worked out a deal with Haiti to sell them gasoline at a cheap price. The Haitian

government would pay for the gas over the next 25 years. Now \$4 BILLION dollars from the gasoline sale is missing. People are angry over the gasoline embezzlement but also over years of government corruption at the highest levels which have gone unpunished. People are starving and their leaders are stealing \$4 BILLION dollars. No wonder people are angry. Their anger is displayed in nationwide protests which began in major cities and expanded into towns across the country. Protesters are demanding the resignation of the current president who refuses to leave office. The riots began over six weeks ago. Protestors drop light poles across streets, set tires and garbage on fire and literally fill the streets with people. No one can pass and it is not safe to be in the streets during protests. The protestors want to display solidarity, so anyone, who is seen on the streets but does not join the protestors, is attacked. Schools across the nation have been closed for over six weeks. Buildings are burned and two weeks ago protestors turned on some of the Lutheran schools in the Central Plateau, throwing rocks at the schools. The

teachers quickly sent the children running home for their safety. Rumors of attacks to Laotchikot caused the school to close out of safety for the children. Only the small schools in very remote villages have remained open. Life in Haiti has gone from very bad to an unending nightmare from which no one can escape.

When the riots end, when life in Haiti returns to normal, the Lutheran schools will open again. Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduates will attend middle school in Laotchikit and our older students will walk to high school in Hinche, two hours away. What these students learn in school is the only social ladder they have out of the vicious cycle of overpopulation, starvation, disease, and death. By teaching students French, English, Spanish, Science, and Social Studies, we are changing Haiti's future for the better. By teaching Christian Education and Ethics, we make positive changes toward honest government and fight corruption in Haiti. Through Christian Education students learn of grace, forgiveness, and hope for eternal life.

Please join us in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. God tells us to 'pray continually' (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Pray a peaceful solution can be found and Haitians will one day experience a stable government which provides basic human rights and protection to their citizens.



Students in the Lutheran Seminary in Laotchikit take an exam on Christology on October 12, 2019.



[Praise Report](#)



Brian Clercius being confirmed.



Brian Clercius pictured with his parents Pastor Walta Clercius and Dafné Gilet at his confirmation in Canada.

Praise God - Even though riots continue, the Evangelical Lutheran School of Laotchikit reopened on Monday, October 21, 2019. Praise God - The Lutheran Seminary held at the school in Laotchikit has continued to meet every Saturday throughout the turmoil.

Praise God - Pastor Walta is in Canada for his son's First Communion and Confirmation. Join us on Sunday, November 17, 2019 after second service for a fundraiser to provide **scholarships for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.**

These students will attend Middle School in Laotchikit. Cost for one year is \$120 per student. This will provide tuition, books and uniform for a student. There are approximately 30 students who need scholarships to continue school.

The cost for the meal is a \$5 donation per person. Children eat free. Please sign up in the narthex. Freewill donations are gratefully accepted to fund scholarships for middle school students. Please prayerfully support this mission.

October 7 2019

Dear sponsor

At the least we greet in the name of Jesus christ.

We write you this short letter just for express our hope because God gives you the opportunity to send a lot of money to help us to go to school. We write you just to say you this is an interesting program and we like it so much. We pray for you every day. We ask God to bless you, your family and bless your job.

We thank you for your help  
May God bless you, stay safe, friends.

Name: Jazemal Widelene

# November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM AA 7 PM Choir practice	4	5 Cards 6:30PM	6 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Mission Board 11 Prayer Shawl 1 Evening Bible Study 6:30 PM	7 Men's Bible Study 8 AM Quilter's Ministry 9 AM Council Meeting 7pm	8	9
10 Worship 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Worship 10:45 AM Congregational Meeting AA 7 PM Choir practice	11 Ladies Guild 1 PM	12 Elder's Meeting 7PM	13 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 6:30PM	14 Men's Bible Study 8 AM	15	16
17 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM Haiti Fundraiser AA 7 PM Choir practice	18	19	20 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 6:30 PM	21 Men's Bible Study 8 AM Quilter's Ministry 9AM Pastor Circuit	22	23
24 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM AA 7 PM Choir practice	25	26	27 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 6:30 PM	28 <b>Thanksgiving Worship 10 AM</b> Church office and preschool closed	29 Church office and preschool closed	30