

THE VIEW

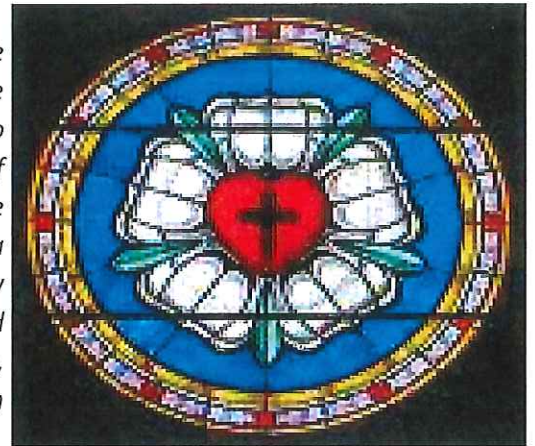
October 2019

vol. 63 NO. 10

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

The Problem of Sin

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus (Romans 3:21-26).



I am not perfect. Even in the year and a half my family and I have been here at Mt. Pisgah this should be blatantly (but hopefully not painfully) obvious. (As I write this, I can hear the voice of my wife, who is a better person than I will ever be, sighing an exasperated “Amen.”) But it is not

my wrinkly shirt, or my messy hair, or even my charismatic appeal that rivals watching paint dry that I am writing about today. I am a sinner, and by my own strength, I am without control or restraint. This is not an attempt to excuse or justify my shortcomings; rather it is an attempt to bring them into the light that they may be dealt with appropriately. Greater and more sinister than any of my personality flaws is the ever-present problem of sin.

Sin is a problem that plagues all mankind; St. Paul writes in the above passage from Romans, “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” When faced with the reality of our sinful condition, man has generally reacted in two ways: legalism or mitigation. Legalism demands a strict adherence to the law and even stricter consequences for violations in a vain attempt to curb wrong behavior; whereas mitigation denies the severity of sin and advocates a tolerance of sin or even an acceptance of wrong behavior. Each of these “solutions” to the sin problem have waxed and waned in popularity throughout history. Within our current culture, the pendulum has swung toward mitigation.

"That's just the way I am; deal with it." No one likes to be confronted with their sin; so when faced with the reality of our sinful and fallen nature our instinctual reaction is to deny and defend the wrong we have done. Sin breeds more sin as we even take Scripture out of context and wrongly apply it to justify our sinfulness—telling those who are typically just trying to help: "Don't judge lest ye be judged." (By the way, St. Paul clarifies those words of Jesus in fifth chapter of 1 Corinthians. We are not to judge those outside the Church because they are under God's jurisdiction, but we most certainly are to hold our brothers and sisters in Christ accountable for their own protection.)

Yet there is a third and better way to deal with sin: Repentance. "And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).'" Repentance is not just saying or feeling sorry for the sins we have committed; it is actively seeking to turn from them and live differently as a righteous child of God. Will we mess up? Yeah, we will. But thanks be to God that our righteousness is not measured by our adherence to the law. We are justified and declared righteous by God's grace through faith in Christ's sacrifice on the cross. For Jesus' sake, God freely offers forgiveness and reconciliation to those who repent.

The grave consequences of our sin (pun somewhat intended) must never be taken lightly, but how much greater is the love that God has for us. "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:6-8). St. Paul goes on to write:

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Even though we try to hide, mask, or deny the darkness of our sin, we should not fear bringing them into the light. Rather, we should confess and repent of our sins that we may receive forgiveness and be pronounced righteous by the blood of Christ. All glory, honor, and praise to our gracious Lord through Christ our Savior, who graciously gives this gift of redemption to all who believe. Even to sinners like you and me.



Join us for a

GERMAN-STYLE DINNER

Reformation Sunday, October 27th, after late service

Adults \$5, children free

ATTENTION—"THE LUTHERAN WITNESS"---RENEWAL

We are starting the process of updating "The Lutheran Witness" reorder for the new subscription year. Please review your name and address for correct mailing, the chart is located in the narthex. Should you wish to start receiving the "Lutheran Witness" please add your information to the list or email the church office. If you do not want to receive "The Lutheran Witness" please cross out with a single X--your name or email the church office with directions to change, update or delete any information. The last date for any additional information, corrections or deletions is October 13th.

REMEMBER : **T-SHIRTS** ARE ON SALE TO SHOW MT. PISGAH TO THE COMMUNITY WHETHER WE ARE MINGLING OR WORKING IN OUR COMMUNITY. \$10.00 BUYS YOU A **BRIGHT RED T-SHIRT!!!!**

As of September 11th—44 shirts have been sold (\$440.00)

USHERS needed

Six volunteers are needed to Usher. Anyone interested should contact

David Hawthorne at (828) 808-9277 or

david@davidhawthorne.com

SERVING IN OCTOBER

8:00 AM		10:45 AM		8:00 AM	10:45 AM
10/06	Lydia Cassidy Bill Kruse	Leah Ryel, Harold Zell Jim Wing, John Frost Laura Reinhold		Rick Sanborn	John Zagone
10/13	Rudy Eidam Bob Morin	Marion Miller, Bill Jaeger, Jerri Creech		Jerry Kaufman	Kathy Kirchoefer
10/20	Bob Morin Rick Sanborn	David Hawthorne, Leah Ryel Harold Zell, Steve Leyrer		Vicki Amato	Linda Licht
10/27	Jen Stickney Mike Ebanks			Paul Mincer	Jim Wing

Fourth of July Parade



The Maloney Family, (David, Wendy, Michelle, Tyler, Arianna, and Gracie) David Hawthorne and Garrett, Pastor Jon, Zoe and Remy, and Thanks to Adell and Brendan for the Firetruck ride.

COMMUNITY CONCERN OF THE MONTH

Blue Ridge Prison and Jail Ministries

The Blue Ridge Prison and Jail Ministries, Inc. was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on November 1, 1990. The ministry is supported solely by contributions from churches, businesses, and individuals. They take no Federal, State, or Local Government monies. The organization is a nondenominational, evangelical ministry with volunteers from 18 churches.

ANNUAL PICNIC WAS A GREAT TIME

The chef's were hard at work



While the Organist and Choir sang praises



A Giant "THANK YOU" to all who prepared, set up, cooked and cleaned up after for the picnic. It was a wonderful time for all. Kickball was the highlight to burn off all the calories.

THANK YOU QUILTER'S MINISTRY



Dear Marilyn, Lydia, Debbie, Judy, Rose, Marilyn B., Jan, and all the other ladies who sew,

What a joy to receive the quilts you all (or "y'all") made. They are so beautiful! The Indian people have always valued blankets. The tribes who live in the northern parts of the country use them for warmth, particularly the women and children. They are also used as gifts. Most tribes have a wake, or "give-away", upon the death of a family member. The family of the deceased is expected to give an offering to those who gather to mourn with the family and blankets are a prime gift.

Your blankets are on their way to the Flathead Reservation in Montana and will be used and greatly appreciated by Native people. Thank you, Mikki, for introducing your church family to FNM (we love you!) and thank you, Ladies, for your beautiful gift to these, the most neglected segment of our society.

Under the mercy,


Deborah Cline

LECTORS Needed

If anyone is interested in becoming a LECTOR, please see Mary Kaufman, or one of the Elders. Our current schedule runs through the end of the Church Year, and new assignments will be made prior to the beginning of Advent, for the next quarter, if you have questions call Mary Kaufman at 715-299-2900.

Birthday Blessings

10/01 Tyler Maloney	10/09 Ruth Mucko	10/18 David Walters
10/02 Roy Reinhold	10/10 Michael Luecke	10/18 Steve Kirchoefer
10/03 Judith Fuchs	10/14 Bruce Luecke	10/20 Tony Selius
10/03 Robert Hamerick	10/14 Shirley Wing	10/23 David Maloney
10/04 Alethea Gaston	10/16 Anna White	10/27 Jessica Luecke
10/07 Carol Wolfe	10/17 Ruth Kugler	

Prayers and Concerns

Surgeries and Illness

Nancy Bargar	Ed Bertram	Glenn Karnatz
Suzi Karnatz	Brian Keeney	Buddy Harrison (Fry)
Vicki Rutland (Berryman)	David Pellman	Eleney Selius
Carol Orsmbly	Mary Hill	Neil Motyka (Fry)
Marshall Hunt (Fry)	Joann Kapugi	Grant Germain (McLellan)
Brandon Wilson (Rappley)	April Thomas & baby Judah	Carol Walters
Kay & Matt -baby Charlotte	Maureen Duemig	Yvonne Mc Lellan
Beverly Ketsenburg	Wiley Ilowit (Fry)	Ann, Ace & William (Ryel)
June Ebanks (Mike's mom)		

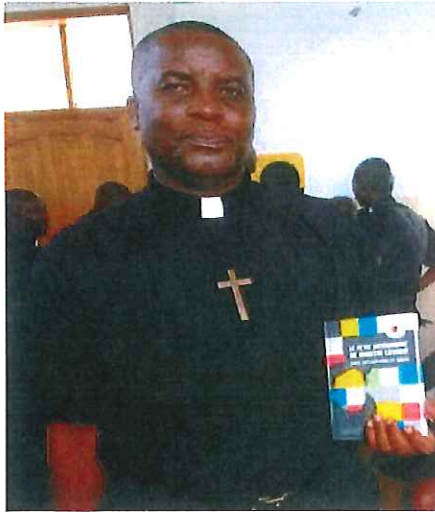
Homebound

Joan Ginter	Jan Nelson	
Ann Cheadle	Dorothy Lehman	Millie Freese
Geri Ellerson	Mike Lohr	Ivalee Rymer
Kathleen Fox	Dianne Luecke	Eleney Selius

Other Prayers and Concerns

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

September 12th, 2019



In the Resurrected One,
Pastor Walta Clercius

Dear brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am so glad to write you today. I pray that all is well this, no matter how things are turning around in this sinful world; and in Haiti. Words are not sufficient to express you my gratitude and thankfulness for all you are doing for us in Haiti.

Even in the midst of suffering and else, we continue to trust our God and believe in his promises. We continue to say: God is good all the time!

Yes, He is good. Of course, it is with a broken heart for all of us when we heard about the sudden death of our brother, Pastor Mura, 52 years old. God knows why he calls him now. But we know for sure that our brother is with our Savior rejoicing with the other saints in heaven crying Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

We really appreciate what you are doing for us in Haiti. In the name of the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Laotchikit and in my own, I thank you so much for all you do and especially for providing the necessary funds to cover totally the expenses for the medical care of Pastor Mura and his funerals. God will continue to bless you! He will continue to bless the Central-Plateau.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LAOTCHIKIT

Dear brothers and Sisters,

We thank God and we thank all of you for the blessings that you are sharing with us daily in Laotchikit, Haiti. God is good all the time, he continues to bless us.

Our churches are growing spiritually and physically. We have a goal for 2023. We will achieve this goal in 2021. God is good all the time.

We preached and evangelized in summer in other areas. So, we are blessed. There are 2 new churches with school: Nan Rocher.... 70 members/ Nan Tidjo.....48 members.

Today, we have 7 churches and 5 preaching stations in Central-Plateau.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Laotchikit—600 members, the Leader of Laotchikit:(Vacancy left by the death of Pastor Mura Supreme). We have the church building; Preschool, Primary school and 7th, 8th grade (More than 600 students); a clinic; feeding program; house of the children; (orphanage), Professional school Project (Sewing machine); Gardens/Goats project, They have books for 112 students.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Pas-Bonbon--The Leader is: **Brother Samuel Siméus**. The church (not built yet); 220 members, the school (not built yet), 231 children; feeding program, they have books for 134 students.

Rock Road Evangelical Lutheran Church in Larivye Milet--The church (not built yet): 193 members, the school (not built yet): 125 students, feeding program,

no books for the students.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Metivier—84 Members: no school, children stay home.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Savann Plate--The Leader is: **Pastor Almage Riche** (He is an ordained Lutheran Pastor), 143 members: Big School building (Built by an international organization for the area): 158 students, feeding program, no books for the students.

Preaching station in Savanne Haleine/ Maissade (Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church)-- 150 members, there is a primary state school who receive children at 7 years old, 84 preschool students, feeding program, no books for the students.

Preaching station in Marmont/ Lagwanm (Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church)--Preaching station, Ecole Communautaire Paul et Isabel Cote De Lagwanm : 533 students, feeding program, no books for the students

Preaching station in Los-Palis (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Los-Palis)--Preaching station, no Lutheran School in Los-Palis.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Thomonde--The Church (not built yet): 120 members, school building in progress: 360 children, feeding program, books for 159 children.

Preaching station in Hinche--No church building: 70 members, 94 students, feeding program, no books for the students.

Preaching Station in Nan Rocher--No church building: 70 members, 94 students, no feeding program yet, no books for the students.

Preaching Station in Tidjo--No church building: 48 members, 78 students, no feeding program yet, no books for the students.

ABOUT THE SEMINARY

We continue to teach theology in Central-Plateau. We continue to train 50 students. The leaders of our churches and preaching stations are in our Seminary in Laotchikit. We now have two ordained Pastors.

The bible says in Luke chapter 10: V 1-2

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

So, we are facing financial problems in the seminary, but by the money that we receive from you, we survive and we can continue to train the leaders in the area. The leaders cannot give if they do not have.

Also, we are so blessed by you, we will start to buy books for a Lutheran library in Laotchikit, in memory of Pastor Mura. As you know that we need more pastors to teach and guide the many believers throughout the area. This library will contribute to educating and equipping seminarians to do the work of the Lord. Thank you so much! This library will be inaugurated on January 2020.

We thank God. We thank all the churches in NC and SC for their past and continuing blessings. All our financial resources are from these churches. God is good all the time. We realize many things by their helps.

Brotherly yours in the Holy One,

Walta Clercius

“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.

A story of the Luther Trees

The “original” Oak Tree of Luther’s day grew in a very humble plot of the Land-the Wittenberg City Dump! This place is where medical and house waste was burned daily. On December 10, 1520, Luther chose this spot to burn the Papal Bull of Excommunication and other books he did not like.

During the Battle of Leipzig in 1813, Napoleon Bonaparte’s army cut down the Luther Tree for firewood. In 1820, a new Oak Tree was planted in honor of Dr. Martin Luther. The tree grew to be big and strong. In 1904, an evil perpetrator attacked the tree and tried to cut it down.

Fortunately, the “tree police” caught the evil perpetrator and strung that person up by the thumbs until they promised never to attempt such an act of terror again.

In September 2013, I was given the privilege of serving the Wittenberg English Ministry in Lutherstadt. One day I found myself meditating under “Luther’s Oak Tree”. I looked down and saw thousands of acorns. I took a handful back to Lake Oconee Georgia where I was serving. Six acorns sprouted, but only four survived. One is growing at a Lutheran Retirement Center in FL, one at Grace Lutheran Church in Woodbridge, VA, one in my yard, and one at Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church in Hendersonville, NC. Therefore, each of these trees is a direct descendant of the 1820 “Luther Tree.”

The Rev. Dr. James G. Stoltenberg

Where is the “Luther Tree”? In the front of the church where a large rock holds a marker with a nighttime illumination.

HENDERSON COUNTY HUNGER COALITION'S 37th ANNUAL HUNGER WALK

Thank you to all who helped Mount Pisgah's team for the 37nd Annual Hunger Walk at Jackson Park, on September 21. We are very thankful for those who walked and for the sponsors, and for those who planned to walk, but were side-swiped by scheduling conflicts. Those who signed up to walk were Pastor Jon, Sarah, Zoe, and Remy (& Gianni) Christensen, Vivian and Robert Armstrong, Mary Kaufman, Steve and Kathy Kirchoefer, Leah Ryel, Rick & Diane Sanborn, John & Debby Zagone & their dog, Sadie. As usual, there was a separate envelope for the Team. Mary's windmill hat caused quite a stir (or a breeze). Sadie was also quite entertaining.

Those who were unable to walk were: the Christensen family, Rick & Diane Sanborn, & John Zagone . This walk and our Mission of the Month envelopes benefit 11 local ministries for those in need. I took the donations from the Henderson County Hunger Coalition's Hunger Walk envelopes to Mud Creek Baptist Church on 9/23; that amount was \$979.00. Mary Rappley or Sylvia Gonzalez will be sending a separate amount to the Henderson County Hunger Coalition, for Mount Pisgah's September Mission of the Month.



October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1		1 Cards 6:30 PM	2 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Mission Board 11 AM Prayer Shawl 1 PM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	3 Men's Bible Study 8 AM Quilters Ministry 9 AM	4	5
6 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 Communion 10:45 AM AA 7 PM Choir practice	7	8 Elder's Meeting 7 PM	9 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	10 Men's Bible Study 8 AM	1	12
13 Worship 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Worship 10:45 AM AA 7 PM Choir practice	14 Ladies Guild 1 PM	15	16 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	17 Men's Bible Study 8 AM Quilters Ministry 9 AM Pastor Circuit Council 7 PM	18	19
20 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM AA 7 PM Choir practice	21	22	23 Women's Bible Study 10 AM Evening Bible Study 7 PM	24 Men's Bible Study 8 AM	25	26
27 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM German Dinner AA 7 PM Choir practice	28	29	30	31 Men's Bible Study 8 AM		