



HOMETOWN LCMS MISSIONARY

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ, my name is Ashley Lehr. I am going to be serving the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Puerto Rico, based in Mayaguez. In my role as an outreach team member, I will help grow the ESL (English as a Second Language) program. This program is part of the ongoing disaster response and mission outreach efforts taking place in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria. I will also be assisting with short-term missionary teams serving in Puerto Rico.

My Hometown is Appleton, Wisconsin, where my home congregation, Faith Lutheran Church, is located. I graduated in May from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, where I received a bachelor's degree in social work, with a minor in communication. I worked at Ace Hardware during high school years. While in college, I served as a nanny, was a student manager in dining services and served as a peer minister at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Moorhead, Minnesota. I participated in two short-term mission trips to Haiti (2014) and Guatemala (2018) that led me to where I am today. Preparing to serve as a GEO (Globally Engaged in Outreach) Missionary for 2 years in Puerto Rico. My hobbies include bullet journaling, watching movies, playing cards and board games, and spending time with family and friends.

I will be sharing more about what I will be doing in Puerto Rico on Wednesday September 18th at your 7pm service. I am excited to be worshiping with you and I look forward to meeting you.

Your Sister in Christ,
Ashley Lehr



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Thanks to Richard Germain (See Matthew 14:24-33) 09-01-2008

**YOU GOTTA LEARN TO CRAWL ON WATER
BEFORE YOU CAN LEARN TO WALK**

2019 YOUTH LOCK-IN

Mark your calendars for the 2019 Youth Lock In and Service Day on Saturday, October 19th-20th!

Students currently in middle school and high school are invited to join Mr. and Mrs. Milner for an afternoon of service followed by an all-night hang out here at church. There will be games, movies, pizza, and all sorts of other shenanigans to enjoy. Then in the morning, we will cook up some breakfast and attend church together in our PJs.

This annual event has become a youth favorite, so join in the fun!

****Adults:** If anyone would like to help chaperone either the service project or some of the evening or morning of the lock-in, talk to Jenn Milner.

****Also,** if you would like the youth's help with leaf raking or other fall chores on Saturday the 19th, talk to Jenn. In the past we have done up to 2 yards in the afternoon.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL SCRIPTURE

Back-to-school time comes with a lot of preparation. To adequately prepare your child and YOU for that first day back, ponder upon scripture. Might make that first day and the rest of the school year go by a little easier.

- 1 Corinthians 10:13 *“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”*
- Psalm 56:11 *“In God I trust and am not afraid. What can man do to me?”*
- Isaiah 30:21 *“Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it.”*
- Isaiah 48:17 *“This is what the Lord says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: “I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.”*
- 1 Timothy 4:12 *“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”*
- Proverbs 3:5-6 *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”*

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING 2022



After our wonderful trip to Minnesota this summer for the 2019 NYG, we can now look forward to the next Youth Gathering. The 2022 Gathering will be held in Houston, TX!

As a reminder, if you will be between the ages of 14 and 18 by the date of the gathering, you are eligible to come on this wonderful trip. And, if you are a youth that will be 18 by the time of the Gathering, you can sign up to be a Young Adult Volunteer! (It will look great on a college application!)

JOIN ADULT CHOIR!

Adult choir will begin again on Wednesday, September 11th at 6:00pm. The choir meets every Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm from September – May. Everyone is welcome to join us as we raise our voices in song. The choir sings periodically throughout the church year and also on Christmas and Easter. See you soon!



MORE THAN MEALS

We are looking to start up a program where we bless people in need with a meal. Moms with new babies, people struggling with hospitalizations or surgery, or those recovering after the loss of a loved one.

This is a wonderful way to show the love of Christ, and people who have experienced this love remember and appreciate it.



Shelly Utecht will be in charge of coordinating with the families and taking notes of allergies, etc. We just need people who are willing to cook or deliver a meal or two when the time comes.

Look for a signup sheet in the coming weeks if you are willing to bring or make meals. Ideally, we will form a master list of people to call so we won't have to do a signup sheet every time we'd like to help out.

God bless!

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF!

Our first day of Sunday School will be Sunday, September 8th. We will celebrate the occasion with a special treat as we jump into our new curriculums.

This year, we will have four classes: Preschool, Early Elementary students, pre-Catechism, and Post-Catechism. High schoolers have the opportunity to join the adults upstairs for Bible Study or act as an assistant teacher in either the preschool or elementary classes.

Join us after the second service for a Sunday School kickoff picnic. Meat and soda will be provided. Bring a side or dessert to share.



HELP!! We are still looking for additional preschool and elementary teachers! Volunteers are so greatly appreciated. Team up with one of our teachers so you only commit to two Sundays a month.

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09-01-2005

THIS IS A TEST OF THE CALL TO WORSHIP
BELL ... IF THIS WERE AN ACTUAL CALL
TO WORSHIP YOU SHOULD HEAD TO YOUR
PEW IMMEDIATELY ... THIS IS ONLY A
TEST

LCMS STEWARDSHIP ARTICLE September 2019

What is a steward? Most people will say a steward is a manager.

That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner's property on the owner's behalf.

We are God's stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him:

"For we brought nothing into this world, and we cannot take anything out of the world" (1 Tim. 6:7)

Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner.



This is not only because He created all things; He is also the redeemer. He has redeemed – that is, purchased – and won all things. Therefore, it all belongs to Him.

We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God. What a privilege.

Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage his possessions on His behalf here on earth.

And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be

used. What a privilege indeed.

But what a responsibility!

"Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required" (Luke 12:48b).

We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what He desires and wills for His property.

How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God?

We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will is for all of His gifts. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls.

There is nothing we have that doesn't belong to Him.

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body” (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

God informs us of the big picture, the overarching policy, of how we as His stewards – managers and custodians – are to manage His property.

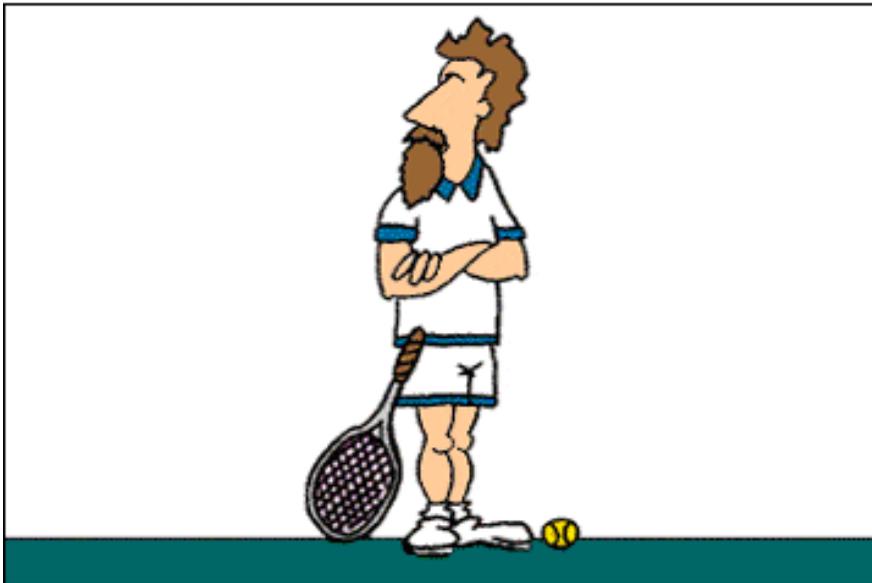
And that is stewardship. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us.

As St. Paul said,

“Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness” (Rom. 6:13).

So, let's dive into God's Word, and listen to what He desires from His stewards.

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Thanks to Jason Trommetter

09-03-2002

MOSES REFUSES TO SERVE IN PHARAOH'S COURT

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

Are you ready to see your daughter's dreams take flight? American Heritage Girls allows girls to experience new challenges, serve others, make new friends and have tons of fun, all in a safe, faith-filled environment. Whether your daughter wants to learn more about aviation, learn to paddle a canoe, or ice the perfect cake, AHG's program is ready to inspire her to new heights. Join us for our first meeting of the year!

A welcome and informational meeting for parents and girls will take place at St. Paul's on Thursday, September 19th at 6:00PM. AHG is open to girls ages 5 – 18. If you have a young girl in your life who you'd like to invite into a Christian scouting experience, please attend!

If you'd like to have a little taste of what we are all about, check out our booth at Amherst Riverfest on Saturday, September 7th. We will be toasting marshmallows as we let the community know "S'more" about AHG!



BEER, BRATS, & BRIDE

Saturday, September 21st, St. Paul's will be participating in a Lutheran tradition called Beer, Brats, & Bride. Each year on the 3rd Saturday of September people from all around the world gather to watch "The Princess Bride" while enjoying beer (or root beer) and brats. We will be making root beer floats, but guests are encouraged to bring whatever drink they'd like. Brats will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. Festivities will begin at 3PM!



CREATION: MORNING AND EVENING

Rev. Erik Rottmann, Trinity Lutheran, Cole Camp, MO

And there was evening and there was morning, the first day . . . the second day . . . the third day . . . the fourth day . . . the fifth day . . . the sixth day. (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31)

Cattle and swine do not voluntarily cooperate with the people who care for them. The animals must be herded into a chute and individually secured with a headgate before they can be safely vaccinated, treated, or tagged for identification. Chutes and headgates protect the animals both from themselves and from one another because they are all naturally inclined to fight and resist even the gentlest care.

In a similar way, we humans all share a natural inclination to fight and resist the Word and work of the Lord our God. Our Lutheran forefathers even used animal imagery to describe the inborn condition of our sin. Not only did they compare the heart of an unbeliever to “a wild, unmanageable beast” (FC SD II 19), but the forefathers also confessed, “The natural or fleshly free will . . . strives against God’s Law, even after regeneration” (FC SD II 18). Stated another way, there is a powerful, rebellious force of sin living inside every Christian that needs to be herded and subdued, like a bull in a chute or a hog

in a headgate.

God’s Word vividly describes each day of the creation as a twenty-four-hour period: “There was evening and there was morning.” These words give us a good chute or headgate, so to speak, especially with regard to the false and demonic claims of evolution. Many Christians feel tempted to take the words “There was evening and there was morning” as a figure of speech. They want these words to indicate not twenty-four hours, but rather a large time span of many years.

This temptation might seem to have good intentions. For example, if we could think of each day as an epoch, rather than a twenty-four-hour period, then creation and evolution will not seem quite so diametrically opposed, and perhaps we could all get along. However, good intentions save no one. The old adage rightly states, “The road to hell is paved with good intentions.” The devil’s temptations to Eve in the Garden of Eden also seemed, at least initially, to have good intentions.



Why is it so vitally important that we Christians “hold fast our confession” (Hebrews 4:14) that each day in creation was a true day?

- First, we can only regard each day as an epoch by taking exception to the clearly written words of God. There are clear figures of speech in the Scriptures (e.g., the parables). Those figures, however, do not permit everything to be a figure. The entire Scriptures would soon become an analogy, and we would all be damned.
- Second, a twenty-four-hour period indicates the power and efficacy of God’s Word, which delivers forgiveness and life to us in Christ. When God speaks, things happen—right now. God’s word “light” created light (Genesis 1:3). God’s words “Come out” raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:43). God’s words in worship “Your sins are forgiven” mean that all sins are completely and entirely forgiven in that moment—not an epoch later.

Our “wild, unmanageable” sinful nature is the real motivation for treating the days of creation as epochs, rather than twenty-four-hour periods. It would be better simply to enter the chute and headgate of God’s Word. Our Lord Jesus is a good rancher. He herds us into the chute of His Word so that He may treat our sins, vaccinate us against death, and identify us as His own forever.

T.R.A.C.K. FOOD DRIVE

September’s elder-sponsored service project is for the Tomorrow River Area Community Kitchen. We will be collecting non-perishable and frozen foods and household supplies for the community throughout the month of September. As we are blessed, we will strive to bless others!

Especially needed items are as follows:

Ketchup	Refried Beans	Snack crackers
Mustard	Applesauce	Instant oatmeal
Canned fruit	Pancake mix	Canned meats
Soups	Jam or jelly	Graham crackers
Dry cereal	Stuffing mix	Laundry detergent
Hamburger Helper	Gravy (jar or mix)	Dish soap
Juice	Salad dressing	Toilet paper
Instant potatoes	Mayonnaise	Paper towel
Mushrooms	Saltine crackers	



MEXICAN ENCHILADA CASSEROLE

Ingredients

cooking spray	1 (4.5 ounce) can chopped green chiles, drained
1 pound ground beef	
1/2 cup chopped onion	
1 (15 ounce) can tomato sauce	2 teaspoons chili powder
1 (15 ounce) can black beans, rinsed and drained	1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 (14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes with lime juice and cilantro (such as RO*TEL(R))	1 teaspoon minced garlic
1 (8.75 ounce) can whole kernel sweet corn, drained	1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
	1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
	6 flour tortillas
	2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Prepare a 13x9-inch baking dish with cooking spray.

Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Cook and stir beef and onion in the hot skillet until beef is completely browned, 5 to 7 minutes; drain and discard grease. Stir tomato sauce, black beans, diced tomatoes with lime juice and cilantro, corn, and chopped green chiles into the ground beef mixture; season with chili powder, cumin, garlic, oregano, and red pepper flakes. Reduce heat to low and cook mixture at a simmer for 5 minutes.

Spread about 1/2 cup beef mixture into the bottom of the prepared baking dish; top with 3 tortillas, overlapping as needed. Spread another 1/2 cup beef mixture over the tortillas. Sprinkle 1 cup Cheddar cheese over beef. Finish with layers of remaining tortillas, beef mixture, and Cheddar cheese, respectively.

Bake in preheated oven until heated throughout and the cheese is melted, about 15 minutes. Cool 5 minutes before serving.

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The Shepherd's Voice

September 2019

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

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