✢ Mt. Calvary News and Announcements ✢
November 19, 2017

Interested in Lutheranism, membership?

If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the basics of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Long – he may be reached through the church office or by e-mail at PRBLong@aol.com.

Confession

Private confession is available on Saturdays before a Sunday with Communion as a preparation for the Sacrament on those Saturdays between 1 and 2 pm or by request; just contact Pastor Long for an appointment.

Office hours

Pastor Long is generally available at Mt. Calvary Tuesday through Friday mornings, or by appointment should you need or want to have conversation with him. You may reach him by e-mail at: PRBLong@aol.com.

Hospital calls

If you or a loved one have an illness or hospitalization that needs to be brought to the attention of Pastor Long, please call the office as soon as possible so that he may visit you. Note: Be sure the hospital knows that you are a member of Mt. Calvary and that you wish to have Pastor Long visit you. However, the hospitals do not always call the church—it is best if you let the office know.

Prayer chain

Please take advantage of this opportunity to pray for your needs and those of your friends and family. Cards are available in the pew rack. To activate the chain please call Ardeane at 691-8007.

Hearing assist device available

The Multi-Media Committee has made available a "hearing assist device" for use by those who cannot hear the service clearly. You can call the office during the week (688-4321) or see Pastor Long or the elder for the day on Sundays if you are interested in using one. Please take advantage of this opportunity to hear clearly and plainly the means of grace offered in the services.

Christian day school

Our congregation operates Concordia Lutheran School together with the congregations of Redeemer and Trinity. Call the Concordia School office at 691-8921, or check their web site at www.concordiapeoria.com for information.

Concordia staff from Mt. Calvary

Brooke Barr	-	Grade 2
Vanessa Ruckle	-	JV Volleyball Coach
Jan Heien	-	Title I Reading Tutor
Michele Keehner	-	2nd Grade Teacher's Aide

Scripture lessons for next Sunday:

November 26, 2017 – Last Sunday of the Church Year, Sunday of the Fulfillment
Psalm 130
Ezekiel 34:11-16
1 Corinthians 15:20-28
Matthew 25:31-46

This week's flowers – were given to the glory of God by Marilyn Miller in thanksgiving for her many blessings; and by Lee Mauschbaugh in loving memory of his parents, Bill and Alice Mauschbaugh.

New flower chart – The new flower chart for 2018 is up.

Weekly stewardship update – Our offering for the General Fund for November 12, 2017, was $4,346.00. Our weekly need for 2017 is $7,175.55. We started this fiscal year with a "clean slate" in terms of expenses vs. income. But we'd still like to make up some of the ground we lost last year – so please continue to give as generously as your means allow.

Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service – This **Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm** we will give thanks for all the blessings which we have received during the past year. The service will be the Spoken Order of Divine Worship that we use on Thursday evenings, but with a couple of extra hymns added. Please join us.

Food & Drink – We understand that some folks and families need to bring beverages and food into the sanctuary to help keep everyone content and healthy during services. We would simply ask that you make sure crumbs, spills, and scraps are picked up before you go. Thanks!

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:

✞ Shirley Steckmann (Linda Crook's Mother) – OSF 5022

PLEDGE SUNDAY – Last Sunday was Pledge Sunday. Still wanting to make a pledge? Bring the form to the office and it will be gladly accepted. If you cannot find your pledge form, just ask and we'll find one for you.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP WITH THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES? – We are looking for people to help with lighting the candles during Advent. This involves the responsive reading and then actually lighting the candle. We will welcome Sunday School types, teens, or even families. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board – just select your Sunday and the service time. Pastor will help you know what to do.

PASTOR'S TURN AGAIN – Pastor Long is teaching the 8th grade religion class at Concordia Lutheran School for the 2nd Quarter of the school year. This means he will get to the office a little later than usual for the next several weeks.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS -- Linda Khattar and her band of merry elves plan to decorate the Church for Christmas on **Sunday, December 3rd**, following the late service. She would like you to join in putting up the decorations and the trees. We will provide food for her helpers, so plan to stay for a while after the service and help.

DECEMBER SEMI-ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING

The December Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, December 10th, at 9:30 am** (between the services). The office requests that Chairs of Boards and Committees have their reports in to the office, typed and ready to print by **Monday, November 27th.**

FROM CONCORDIA:

Concordia Band and Concert Choir – will be taking part in the 8:00 am service at Mt. Calvary on December 10th.

Christmas Concerts at Concordia – The Concordia Band and Orchestra will hold their Christmas Concert at 6:00 pm in the Ruppert Center at Concordia on **Tuesday, December 12th.** Then, one week later, on **Tuesday, December 19th, at 6:00 pm**, the children in grades K-8 will present their choir concert in the Ruppert Center.

SAVE THE DATE – FOR "CAROLING, CAROLING WE WILL GO" – December 10th the Board of Youth will be sponsoring a "congregational" caroling party. Details will follow later. Watch for sign-up sheet on bulletin board.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **November** our pantry will be in need of **Fruit, Cereal, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Cereal, Fruit, Canned Ham..** If you can help out by bringing some, your donation can be placed in the baskets in either the Narthex or the Parish Hall or on the table in the Pantry room and will be greatly appreciated.

REFORMATION BULLETIN BOARD – Check out the mini-bulletin board in the parish hall titled, "Tidbits of the Reformation." The 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation will be October 31, 2017. Each week features a Luther quote based on the Three-Year Lectionary, the Reformation timeline, along with symbols, people, or Luther's hymns. So, remember each Sunday to stop by and check it out!

"Tidbits of the Reformation" for Nov. 19 features a Luther quote for the 24th Sunday after Pentecost, timeline dates 1592-1595, and Lucas Cranach the Elder's Altarpiece. It is located on the table in the parish hall.

FROM THE CHRISTIAN RESOURCE CENTER -- Several books written by Martin Luther, about him, and about the Reformation are on display in the Parish hall. Please feel free to look through them or take them home. Please write your name and the date you took the book(s) on the card inside the book and leave the card on the table.

FROM WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY –

Thanksgiving Bags for Shut-Ins – The ladies have put together Thanksgiving remembrances for our shut-ins and now would like your help delivering them. Check the table in the Parish Hall to see if there are one or two that you could deliver and then stop by to drop off their bag.

Treats for Family House – Family House offers a home away from home for the families of patients receiving medical treatment in Peoria. Women of Mt. Calvary have signed up to sponsor treats on **the 4th Monday of each month**. These treats may be store bought or homemade, and do not have to be individually wrapped. Family House is also in need of laundry detergent and cleaning supplies. If you would like to donate, **please sign the sheet on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office** and bring your treats to church, leaving them in the kitchen marked "*Family House.*" Questions? Call LaVelle Borders, 681-9414.

Postage Stamps – The Women of Mt. Calvary are saving postage stamps for LWML. Please cut out your postage stamps from envelopes and place them in the striped box on the table in the parish hall. We will trim the stamps and send them to LWML to support their mission work. Thank you.

Downstairs Nursery Staffing – Women of Mt. Calvary have been organizing the staffing of the downstairs nursery **during the 10:45 am service. Anyone who would like to help staff the nursery (we need two people per Sunday) please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office Sign-Up sheets are up through January 2018.**

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY -- Neighbors' lives occupy among the highest places of all God graciously lends us (Matthew 25:14-15). We may invest ourselves in them rather than burying them (Matthew 25:22-25) before they have borne the fruit and beauty for which He purposes them (1 Thessalonians 5:9-10). With this attitude we share in His own joy! *Merciful Christ, excite our spirits so to trust Your goodness that we find Your kingdom coming even amid suffering and weakness. Amen.*

Peoria Area Lutherans for Life **usually meets every 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Mt. Calvary, except during the summer. We welcome anyone who would like to attend and learn more about life issues. Please call Deb Lakamp at 309/712-9751 or e-mail her at lakamps@gmail.com if you have any questions. Our next meeting will be Monday evening, November 27th.**

ISSUES ETC.– GRACE, FAITH, SCRIPTURE & CHRIST ALONE -- Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. This week's topics include: The Estates of Church, Family & Government, The Hymn "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying," Church Architecture, The Final Judgement, Esther and more. You can listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

FROM LUTHERAN SENIOR SERVICES

LSS Aging Answers: – Tips for Season's Eatings -- The average American can gain as much as 10 pounds during the holidays. This year, fill up on low-cal, energy-dense foods like raisins, apples, and carrots to help you feel full before you hit the Christmas buffet table. To get your questions answered on any aging topic call: 314.446.2475 – a free service offered through Lutheran Senior Services; where older adults live life to the fullest.

Hope-Full Living, Devotions for Christian Seniors – The new books have arrived! There are copies on the table in the Narthex for **October through December.**

LCMS RESPONSE TO HURRICANE HARVEY, IRMA, AND MARIA, AND THE FIRES IN CALIFORNIA -- The LCMS World Relief and Human Care and its LCMS Disaster Response now answers the call for three hurricanes, and the fires in California. It's important that the kindness being expressed across the Synod continues in the aftermath of these catastrophes. Please pray for all involved. To give online, visit *lcms.org/disaster*. Text "LCMSDISASTERS" to 41444 to give by text. Call the LCMS toll-free gift line between 8 a.m. and 4:10 p.m. Central time at 888-930-4438. By mail, make checks payable to "LCMS." On the memo line, write "Disaster Response/Relief," and mail to the LCMS, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO, 63166-6861. Gifts also can be designated specifically for any or all of the affected areas by stipulating in the memo line.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUO.ORG, -- your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, current issues from a Lutheran worldview, and daily worship opportunities. 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 Twitter, and Instagram.

This week on KFUO.org, we wish everyone a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving. Hear some of our favorite programming from our archives as the KFUO Radio staff takes time to be with their families this week. Stay tuned for Christmas Music for the Sacred Season beginning December 24 and continuing through Epiphany. Thanks to our Church of the Week, Peace Lutheran Church in Lemay, St. Louis, MO, for their support of KFUO Radio!

Call 800-730-2727 or email letstalk@kfuo.org to join the conversation on "Let's Talk!"

INTERNET INFORMATION

Facebook: As we continue to look for ways to connect with folks outside the congregation, there is reason to believe that Facebook is still an effective tool. We have updated the Mt. Calvary Facebook group, and will be using that in our communications efforts. If you are a Facebook user, visit our page (Mt. Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church), "like" us, and indicate that you want notifications – then the magic will happen. And if you like

something you see on our page, feel free to "share" it with others…..

Newsletter On-Line – How would you like to receive your Mt. Calvary Messenger? If you have noticed even more colored stickers on the mail-boxes, the orange dots mark those families who receive the newsletter via e-mail and we no longer put a printed copy in the box. If you would like to receive your newsletter as an attachment to an e-mail, please let the office know and we'll try it out for a couple of months. If it works for you, we'll give your box an orange dot also.

POSITION AVAILABLE -- The Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund is seeking an individual to serve as Executive Director of the Church Extension Fund. The ideal candidate should have a Bachelor's Degree in business or Finance and/or equivalent. Six to ten years of progressive management experience in a related financial environment is preferred. He/She should be an active member of an LCMS congregation, preferably in the CID. For an application and complete job description, contact Dave Rohe at 217-793-1802 or email drohe@cidlcms.org.

LHV COOKIE WALK AND (new this year) LHV CRAFT SALE

The date: **Friday, December 8th.** Main lobby at Lutheran Hillside Village, Peoria. Please consider donating your homemade baked goods AND any crafts that you have created lately. Drop off date is Thursday, December 7th prior to 2 pm so that we can have time to prepare.

Baked goods: cookies of any kind, Christmas candies, snacks, brownies, fudge, small breads, pies. Goodies will be sold by their weight. $7 per pound We prefer homemade and not necessarily store bought. Thank you for your generosity!!

Craft items are being collected this year as donations. We have decided that we are not renting table space, nor are you required to be present. We will price and sell your items. Proceeds benefit the LHV's Benevolent Fund, for those residents who have outlived their resources. We ask that you give suggestions for pricing your items. Price accordingly, since our main customers will be LHV residents and staff. Again, thank you on behalf of LWGP!!

Questions?

Lisa Mack *LWGP* (309) 243-5859 *home* or (309) 360-2669 *text*

Tina Murray *RN* (309) 264-1096

Rachel Kiestler *Lifestyle Enrichment at LHV* (309) 689-2127

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2018 CID CONVENTION – Nomination forms for elected positions of leadership in the Central Illinois District are available on the table in the Narthex or from the office. All are asked to help with this process. If you are aware of someone who could serve at the District level in one of the positions where nominations are being sought you are encouraged to fill out the form and return it to the church office to forward to the District Nominations Committee. Please get the consent of the person you are nominating. All nomination forms are due at the District Office, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626 by December 31, 2017.

BLACK FRIDAY, CYBER MONDAY, GIVING TUESDAY – Did you know that on **Tuesday, November 28th**, for many of our Lutheran Missions, your donation on that day will be doubled, tripled or better. Lutheran Hour Ministries (lhm.org/givingtuesday) is one that will triple your donation. Colleges and Universities encourage donations that day as a way of not forgetting to give, because as the holidays approach we get busy and things slip through the cracks.

+ Christian Education at Mt. Calvary+

Sunday:

Youth:

Sunday School: -- The account of "The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace" serves as the focus of Sunday School today. Just as Jesus was with the three men in the fiery furnace and saved them, so our Savior is with us in His Word and Sacraments, sustaining us when we suffer for His name. Questions for discussion include, *"Who appeared in the fiery furnace with the three men? How has God rescued us from the fires of hell?"*

Adults:

Adult Class — **Luther, the Man:** Join us as we explore the Lutheran Hour Ministries video series on Luther. If the discussion and video format works, there are two more series we can explore on the reformation and its theology. But for now, we start with Luther and discover how his life shaped his theology and this theology shaped his life. **Meets in the Parish Hall at 9:30 am.**

Wednesday:

Men's Bible Study:

Smalcald Articles – So, according to our confessions, what are the non-negotiable teachings of Christ and the Scriptures? Luther drew up a list that he considered essential in preparation for a general council with the Roman Catholic Church. That council never happened, but these articles are still considered helpful in defining what we are called to believe. **We meet at the IHOP on Big Hollow Rd. (across from Target), Wednesdays at 6:30 am.**

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: On hiatus until January

Thursday:

Afternoon Bible Study:

Numbers: On hiatus this week for Thanksgiving. How did God's people get from Mt. Sinai to the Plains of Moab and the threshold of the Promised Land? Join us as we work through the book of Numbers. Far from being a census book, it narrates a history that is full of God's grace and judgment. **We meet at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.**

+ This Week's Calendar +

Sunday	*Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*	
11/19/2017	Divine Service	8:00 a
	Fellowship Coffee	9:15 a
	Sunday School/Bible Class	9:30 a
	Divine Service	10:45 a
	Youth Confirmation	1:30 p
Monday	Pastor Teaches at Concordia	8:30 a
Tuesday	Board of Elders	4:30 p
Wednesday	Men's Bible Study – *Smalcald Articles*	6:30 a
	Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service	6:30 p
Thursday	*Thanksgiving Day* – Office Closed	
Friday	Office Closed	
Sunday	*Last Sunday of the Church Year/Sunday of the Fulfillment*	
11/26/2017	Worship	8:00 a
	Fellowship Coffee	9:15 a
	Anchormen Rehearsal	9:15 a
	Sunday School/Bible Class	9:30 a
	Worship	10:45 a