

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 by appointment only. Call the Church Office.

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Long is generally available at Mt. Calvary Monday 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – were given to the glory of God by Barbara Zook in loving memory of her grandsons, Ian and Joshua Zook, and in thanksgiving for God’s many blessings

May 5th is still open – check the flower chart on the bulletin board.

POSITIONS ON COUNCIL THAT NEED TO BE FILLED ASAP

– There are several positions on the Church Council that have been open for quite some time.

1. Since the death of Jim Kaspar, who was the administrator of the **VANCO program**, this position is open. Also, Now there are some reports that need to be filed with the company and we need an administrator to do that.
2. Alex Kroenke has moved to Idaho and transferred to a new congregation. He was on **the Concordia Foundation Board**. So....now his position needs to be filled. Currently Eileen Benne is on the board, but we need a second person to serve with her. If our members aren’t at the meetings, no business can be transacted.

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.

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

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

May 5, 2024 –6th Sunday of Easter

Psalm 98

Acts 10:34-48

1 John 5:1-8

John 15:9-17

If you are moved to accept one of these positions, please talk to Jerry Horst or Pastor Long.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICES

May 9th is the day we remember and celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord, looking forward to our own resurrection and life forever with our Lord. We will have services at **11:15 am and 6:30 pm**, using Divine Service III with Holy Communion from Lutheran Service Book. Please join us in worship at one of the services as you are able.

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES – The new membership directories (bright yellow cover) are now in your mail-boxes. Please pick them up. Also, please notify the office (309-688-4321) when you have changes so we may keep this directory up to date.

SPECIAL SPEAKER ON MAY 12TH – The Rev. Kip & Ivy Hoech will be here on May 12th to preach and lead Bible Study.

A NOTE ABOUT MR. TAGGE

After a fantastic service on Easter Day, and a very busy Holy Week, our Minister of Music, Bruce Tagge, is stepping back from his duties for a bit so that he can concentrate on his health. Please keep the Tagges in your prayers, and feel free to send him notes or cards expressing encouragement and appreciation. Their address is:

516 W. Detweiller Dr.
Peoria, IL 61615

THANK YOU FROM ALTAR GUILD – Thank you to Michele Keehner, who has offered to help with the clean-up after the 11:45 am services on Sunday. Of course, extra help is always welcomed. Call Abbie Matson – 309-224-9432 – if interested.

CELEBRATION FUND – How has God blessed you lately? Warmth from the winter weather? Safe travels? Time with friends and family? Blessed worship with your church family? Good health? Please consider donating an offering of thanks to God by way of the Celebration Fund. See the table in the Parish Hall for more information.

TREATS FOR FAMILY HOUSE – We provide treats for Family House on the fourth Monday of each month (see note on bulletin board). If you are able to help, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or contact LaVelle Borders (309-681-9414) for more information.

CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION – The Crafts and Conversation Group meets at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings and is open to anyone. Bring a craft or activity you like to do or just sit and visit. Sometimes LaVelle asks for help packing goody bags for children that come to pantry. Sometimes Judy has mailings to put together. Come join them, bring your lunch and eat with the group.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **May** our pantry will be in need of **Mac & Cheese, Canned Peas, Canned Fruit, and Baked Beans.** They are also looking for the heavier plastic bags that grocery stores use for delivery. Your donation can be left in the church office during regular office hours.

CURRENT BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

Youth Sunday School Classes – Sunday School has a new look, new activities, new lessons, new fun. Please bring your students, ages 3 through 8th grade, and encourage them to participate every Sunday from 10:30 to 11:30 am. We will have 2 or 3 levels for classes depending on our turnout and hope to add more if needed. Any high

schoolers interested in starting a class please let Pastor or Paula Horst know.

Sunday Morning Adult Class –“**The Just shall live by Faith.**” These words drive the whole of Paul’s Letter to the Romans, as he is inspired to show them both how we are justified and the life that flows from that. Join us Sunday mornings as we read Romans together.

Men’s Bible Study – What is Jesus’ True Glory? The Evangelist, John, is inspired to set that before his readers in many ways. Join us as we read the Gospel according to John.

Men’ Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am at Gebby’s Family Restaurant at 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.

Thursday Lunch Together and Bible Study! –We’re taking up the **Prophet Malachi** for the next few weeks. What did this “messenger” have to say to God’s people – and more importantly, what does God have to say to us through him? Join us to find out. **We meet for lunch at 12:00 pm and Bible Study at 12:30 pm.**

A DOLLAR FOR MISSIONS UPDATE:-- The current DFM project is to continue a project already begun. In 2023, DFM funds were raised to begin ministry in as many as four new prisons in central Illinois during 2024. With the funds gathered, Central Illinois District started to fund one in January, and hopes to start more before the end of this year. The current project is to ensure that funds are available so that such new ministries can be continued in 2025. The current target is \$10,000. See the video at <https://youtu.be/LwYgCqIXzql>

CHRIST FOR YOU THIS WEEK ON KFUE.org: Begin studying Daniel on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), continue studying Proverbs on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study what we believe about The Church on Concord Matters (5/4 at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org and the KFUE Radio app!

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – It is anxiety and fright that drive folks to pursue abortion, physician-assisted suicide, and other measures that view death as a solution. Fear likewise bullies the sanctity of life into silence. But the Lord’s perfect love puts all fear to flight (1 John 4:18). In surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis, we and our neighbors need not independence and empowerment but the presence, promises, and compassion of the Father Almighty.

ISSUES ETC. – EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Taylor Swift's Latest Album, Men Competing in Women's Sports, The Benefits of Liturgical Worship, "I Have Overcome the World," "Love One Another" and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

THE LUTHERAN LADIES LOUNGE – Sharathon 2024: The Confirmation Party Planning Committee!

Following up on last year's Baptism party episode, the Ladies are once again forming a Party-Planning Committee — and this time, they're tackling confirmation.

In this three-segment Sharathon episode, the Ladies provide friendly advice to anyone hosting a confirmation party. Erin (recipe subcommittee) starts things off with an Apostles' Creed-themed menu, featuring gingerbread, Braunschweiger (a "lost and condemned food"), and red-and-white gelatin poke cake. Sarah (music subcommittee) explores several hymns that are appropriate for confirmation, including "Christ Be My Leader" and "Shepherd of Tender Youth." Finally, Rachel (subcommittee for interesting conversation) ends the episode with a short Trivia Challenge on the history of confirmation.

Sources referenced in Rachel's Trivia Challenge:

- John M. Brenner, "A Brief Study of Confirmation" (BrennerConfirmation.pdf (wisluthsem.org))
- A History of Confirmation – About Catholics
- The History and Development of the Sacrament of... | Loyola Press
- Sacraments? Baptism? Confirmation? – The Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville (pclawrenceville.org)
- What do I need to know about confirmation in the UMC?
- Confirmation Facts for Kids (kiddle.co)
- The Recovery of Memorization in Confirmation: A Study of Junior Confirmation at Concordia Lutheran Church, Geneseo, Illinois (lutherancatechism.com)
- The Confirmation Slap | Latin Mass Society (lms.org.uk)

STEWARDSHIP – Please remember that the ministry of Mt. Calvary continues even in these odd days. Your prayers and contributions are still needed.

A preliminary Treasurer's Report for March 2024 showed the year's expenses at \$104,029.11 and income of \$79,909.62 (This does not include the offering for Easter Sunday). You may mail your envelopes in (checks only, please), or drop them by the office. You can also make electronic donations through our web page: (www.mtcalvarypeoria.org) by clicking the "donate" tab and setting up a profile with VANCO. If a donation is given using a credit card or debit card there is a 2.75% fee. If an electronic check is used the fee is 1.00%. People have begun donating through e-giving and have learned how easy it is to use.

FROM CAMP CILCA

Camp CILCA is seeking a food service manager/head cook. -- This position would be part time and include planning and preparing meals for campers at weekend retreats, outdoor education, and the summer program. Applicants should be willing to obtain an Illinois Food Service Manager license, which the camp will pay for. To get more information, or to apply, contact Pastor Theilen at 217-487-7497 or director@cilca.org.

THE CAMP CILCA HOG ROAST is **Sunday, May 26th** and we are looking for willing hands to assist with set up, clean up, and serving. There will be a Matins service at 10:30am followed by dinner from 11:30am-2:30pm.

If you would like to assist with set up, serving or clean up, please follow this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAEAC2FA5F-FC43-camp>

We are also looking for about 300 servings of dessert. If you would like to contribute, please sign up on the link here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EAEAC2FA5F-FC43-49079918-dessert>

Information on Camp CILCA's summer programs is available on the table in the narthex. If you have a child or children looking for a camp for a week during the summer, look at what CILCA has to offer.

Rev. Joshua Theilen
Director
Camp C-I-L-C-A

MOTHER'S DAY DIAPER SHOWER -- Peoria Area Lutherans for Life is sponsoring our annual diaper shower on **Mother's Day, May 12th**. The purpose is to collect as many disposable diapers and wipes as possible for infants and toddlers, as well as adult protective underwear for both men and women in any size for use by seniors. These will be distributed to local, charitable, life-affirming organizations. In past years, with your generosity, we have helped Aperion Care, Destiny for Women, Empower Life Center, Esther House, Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center, Lutheran Hillside Village, Washington Christian Village, and Women's Care Center. May the Lord of life bless you as you help us make this event a success again this year. **Diapers may be left on the shelf above the coat racks across from the church office.**

(Those of you eligible for applying for Thrivent Action Teams – Bob Wegner said he applied and received the \$250 to buy diapers. The only thing not to do is mention “Lutherans for Life,” because Thrivent does not support Lutherans for Life.)

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY IS MAY 5TH -- Gifts will be used to support our CID students who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher, deaconess, or other called church worker. Please plan to make a generous gift now or on May 5th. Gifts may be designated “CID Scholarship Fund” to be used for the 2024-2025 school year or be designated “CID Scholarship Endowment Fund” to provide gifts every year for this ongoing need. Checks may sent to the Central Illinois District -LCMS, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626. Since the need for called workers is so great, we also ask you to encourage those who may be good candidates to consider pursuing a called church-worker vocation. **Envelopes are available on the offering table at the entrance to the sanctuary or dropped off in the church office.**

If you are considering a major gift, or would like to include scholarships for CID seminarians or church worker students in your estate planning or through a life insurance policy or IRA, please contact CID Planned Gift Counselor, Rev. Charles Olander, at (217) 416-8842 or c-olander@msn.com for assistance. Thank you.