

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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**THIS WEEK'S FLOWERS** – were given to the glory of God by Richard and Yvonne Coltrin in celebration of their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary and in thanksgiving for their many blessings.

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE** – Our offering for the General Fund for March 18, 2018, was \$6,128.02. Our weekly need for 2018 is \$7,222.93. 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.

## **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](http://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	- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher's Aide
Becky Garvey	- Administrative Assistant
Track Coaches	- Brande Ruskusky Carson Heckmann Deaun Gillespie

## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

**April 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday of the Resurrection**

Psalm 16  
Isaiah 25:6-9  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
John 20:1-18

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## **PALM/PASSION SUNDAY WORSHIP NOTE** –

Today is Palm Sunday, or the Sunday of the Passion. We will gather in the Narthex before the services for the opening and then during the hymn move into the sanctuary. If you are not able to stand for the opening, you are welcome to take a seat in the sanctuary.

## **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE** –

This week is Holy Week. Therefore our services are on Thursday at 11:15 am and 6:30 pm. Both will offer Holy Communion with the Stripping of the Altar in the evening service. On Friday the services are at 12:00 Noon featuring the reading of the Passion History from the 4 Gospels and Tenebrae at 6:30 pm. Please join us.

**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO FAMILY HOUSE** – See note elsewhere in this newsletter and sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Thank you.

Women of Mt. Calvary

**IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER** – We will post on our web page and list with the cancellations on WMBD, WEEK, and WHOI should the weather be such that coming out for a service would be dangerous. We will also send out an e-mail for those we have an address for.

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:**

- † Joanne Waldron – Rosewood room 310
- † Shirley Steckmann – Now in Manor Court, Room 116
- † Bob Wilcoxon – New Room at Liberty Village -- #319 in Garden Court Hall

**EASTER BREAKFAST SIGN-UP** – Women of Mt. Calvary will again be preparing the Easter Breakfast for between the services on Easter Sunday. They are requesting your help with this project. Two sign-up sheets have been posted on the bulletin board – one for help providing casseroles and one for giving your family name and the number of people who will be attending with you. They will be preparing some of the food and setting up the Parish Hall on **Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 9:00 am.** If you are able to help with that please let Jessica Horman (397-7657) know.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AKA. VBS**

**All Hands On Deck For “Splash Canyon!”** – VBS is June 11<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> this year. We will need to have a staff in place by the first week of April. We have a start for people volunteering, but we will need many more to make our VBS a successful Splash! Please contact Paula Horst (657-3129), Carrie Kroenke (453-3632), or the church office (688-4321) for information. Please consider helping this year!

**LUTHERAN HILLSIDE VILLAGE** – will have the annual meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. Donna & Conley Stutz were our delegates last year, but would be more than happy to let someone else get the free meal (very tasty!) and listen to an update on how things are going at LHV. Talk to Donna or Conley if you are interested.

**LOCK YOUR CARS!** – Please remember to lock your cars at all times when on our parking lot and **do not leave anything of value in them.** And, especially in the evenings, be aware of your surroundings. (Property Board is looking for more security for the lot at night,)

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS** – During **March** our pantry will be in need of **Cereal, Fruit, and Canned Tomatoes.** 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.

**A HUGE THANK YOU** -- Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Can-A-Thon event on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Once again, the Mount Calvary family joined together with volunteers from all over Peoria to put our Christian faith into action. The work you have done for our Lord and our neighbors will help prevent hunger in children and adults during the next twelve months until Can-A-Thon 2019. So far we have received **2,687.50** pounds of food here at Mt. Calvary. Thank you, and God bless you for your good deeds done in His name. (Food is still being accepted.)

**THANKS** – to everyone who donated to the adopt-a-chair campaign. All the chairs are spoken for now. If you haven't gotten your money to Eileen Benne yet, please do so ASAP – we won't place the order until we have all the funds on hand.

**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!

**SUNDAY DONUTS AND COFFEE** – While the Women of Mt. Calvary enjoy providing the coffee and donuts that encourage fellowship between services, they are currently spending about \$43.00 per month (on average) to cover costs compared to the contributions put in the wicker basket. Contributions are voluntary, but they ask that you do what you can to help off-set their expenses.

**HELP! PEOPLE TO STAFF NURSERY NEEDED!**

– Women of Mt. Calvary would like to have at least two people in the nursery during the 10:45 am worship service every Sunday. Please consider helping with staffing the nursery and then sign the sheet indicating when you are available to serve. **Sign-Up sheets are on the bulletin board through May 2018.**

## **FROM CONCORDIA –**

**Echoes of the Hammer** -- Concordia Lutheran School Kids of the Kingdom Choir (grades 3-4) present a spring musical "Echoes of the Hammer" on **Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 6:30 P.M. and Thursday, March 29, 2018, at 8:45 A.M. in the Ruppert Center.** Come and celebrate the 500th anniversary with us in the retelling of the Reformation story!

Five hundred years ago, when his hammer pounded the Ninety-Five Theses to the church door, Martin Luther opened the door to the spread of God's Word to all the people. The Good News of salvation through faith in Christ alone, found in Scripture alone, continues to bring beauty, life, and freedom to all who hear it today, throughout the entire world.

### **CONCORDIA UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS**

**Parent Teacher Connection** fundraiser will be held at Chipotle on Sterling on **Tuesday, March 27th** from 4:00 to 8:00 pm.

**Band fundraiser** will be held at Panera in Westlake Shopping Center on **Thursday, April 12th.** Visit these locations and help earn money for the school.

**Aluminum Cans** are also accepted by the Concordia Band. Collection boxes are in the school Commons.

## **FROM WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY –**

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE**

**DAY** – Whose life matters most? Every human being down to the teeniest and feeblest, since God made sure to incarnate Himself as embryo in Mary's womb and then become completely helpless in crucified execution. How much do they matter? So much that Jesus redeemed them each and all, with His lifeblood as the price. *Lord*

*Jesus Christ, bring forth Your name from our lips so that it draws all people to You. 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 tomorrow, **Monday, March 26, 2018, at 6:30 pm.**

**Did You Know** – Bob Wegner is now the new chairman of Peoria Area Lutherans for Life?

## **ISSUES ETC. – TALK RADIO FOR HOLY WEEK**...

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: The Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," Apparent Contradictions on the Crucifixion & Death of Jesus, The Upper Room, The Garden of Gethsemane, The Trials of Jesus and more. You can listen live or on-demand at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org) and on the LPR mobile app.

## **LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE.ORG.**

– Listen to Worldwide KFUE.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

**This week on KFUE.org**, we wish our listeners a blessed Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Study 1 and 2 Thessalonians on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT) and tune in to Sharper Iron for "Best Of" episodes this week (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT). This Friday March 30, hear special Good Friday programming including a broadcast of the Tre Ore service from Ascension Lutheran Church in St. Louis from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. CT. Hear Christ for you anytime, anywhere at [kfue.org](http://kfue.org).

## **LIFE ESSAY CONTEST**

– Peoria Area Lutherans for Life wishes to announce its Annual "Life Essay Contest" for students in grades 5 to 12. Essays should reflect the student's feeling on life issues. Where possible the student's thoughts, as expressed in the essay, should be substantiated by God's Word. If other works are used for research or are quoted, they should be credited with footnotes and a bibliography. All entries should be submitted to Peoria Area Lutherans for Life, 908 W.

Hanssler Place, Peoria, Illinois 61604. Entries must be submitted no later than **tomorrow, March 26, 2018**. Be sure each essay has student's name, grade, and school (or congregation) listed on title page.

This year we have chosen a theme for the contest from John 10:10 – “I (Jesus) have come that they may have life and may have it more abundantly.” (NKJV) Please choose a “life topic” for your essay and tell us how that fits with the scripture text from St. John. (See Posters on bulletin board.)

**IT'S TIME AGAIN TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

– As a voting congregation of the Central Illinois District, we have the privilege of nominating up to two pastors for the position of District President. These names must be approved at a special voters' meeting and sent to the district office by May 13, 2018. If you wish to nominate someone for this office, talk to Pastor Long or Jerry Horst so a meeting can be scheduled.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** -- Redeemer Lutheran Early Learning Center is currently accepting applications for Teachers in our Preschool and Day Care center. Teacher position must meet DCFS requirements. Any questions can be directed to the Early Learning Center Director. Please send resume to Sue Skahill at sue.skahill@redeemerlutheran.com.

**CAMP CILCA SPRING WORK DAY** -- Work Day at Camp CILCA will be on **Saturday, April 7, 2018**. On that day we will prepare the camp for spring and summer by doing many chores including raking leaves, cleaning buildings, moving picnic tables, moving other items out of storage, making minor repairs, etc. The day begins at 8:30 am. You are welcome to come anytime. Lunch is provided.

**REGISTRATION** -- Is OPEN at [www.cilca.org](http://www.cilca.org) for the Camp CILCA summer program. There is programming for everyone from 3 years old through high school. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to unplug from technology, study God's word out in His creation, and make friends from all across the United States. **The Early Bird discount ends March 31!** (See fliers on table in Narthex.) Register your camper before the end of the month to receive \$10-25 off the registration fee. Visit [www.cilca.org](http://www.cilca.org) to register online

**CAMP CILCA** -- is looking for one more male counselor for the 2018 season. If you know of a young man who is a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation, has completed one year of college, and would enjoy teaching children about Jesus Christ in an outdoor setting, encourage him to contact Pastor Joshua Theilen by calling 217-487-7497, or emailing [camp@cilca.org](mailto:camp@cilca.org).

## ✦ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT MT. CALVARY ✦

### SUNDAY:

#### YOUTH:

**Sunday School: – Ages 3-Grade 8 meet in the basement.**

Do your kids get jealous? Today in Sunday School, our children will study the story of “Cain and Abel,” which tells about the first case of murder caused by jealousy. Consider discussing, “How does jealousy affect relationships in a family? Why is it important to forgive one another in our family?”

#### ADULTS:

**Hosea:** -- Often called the “John” of the Old Testament, the prophet Hosea was inspired to set many themes about God’s love and judgment before the people of the Northern Kingdom in a time of chaos and faithlessness. In pointing them to God’s love, he called them to remember God’s nature and character, as well as remembering their history and character. Only then could restoration and rebirth go forward. **Meets in the Parish Hall at 9:30 am.**

### WEDNESDAY:

#### **Men’s Bible Study:**

**Genesis:** The Men’s Bible Study is taking up the book of Genesis on Wednesday mornings. As we read together, we will discover God’s promises, mercy, and unexpected work right alongside His justice and the ruin sin brings into the world. **Join us as we meet at the IHOP on Big Hollow Rd. (across from Target), Wednesdays at 6:30 am.**

**Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study: On hiatus until April 11<sup>th</sup>.** Join us after Easter as we take up the discussion again.

***On Being a Theologian of the Cross:*** Join us as we take up reading *On Being a Theologian of the Cross*. While at one level, this book is about Luther’s Heidelberg Disputation of 1518, its real purpose (and goal) is found in the author showing us how to be theologians of the cross. What is that, you ask? A believer who becomes a theologian of the cross is one who has begun to see the cross at the center of our life with God and His work to redeem us in Christ. It’s not “doom and gloom,” but a recognition that our sinful nature must die, our will be frustrated, and our hearts reborn if God’s will to reconcile us in Christ is to be accomplished. **We’ll meet Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.**

### THURSDAY:

#### **Afternoon Bible Study:**

**Numbers:** **On hiatus until April 12<sup>th</sup>.** 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 +

<i>Sunday</i> 03/25/2018	<i>Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion</i> Divine Service Fellowship Coffee Sunday School/Bible Study Divine Service Youth Confirmation	8:00 a 9:15 a 9:30 a 10:45 a 1:30 a
<i>Monday</i>	Lutherans for Life	6:30 p
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Men's Bible Study - The Book of Genesis</i> Executive Committee Bell Choir Rehearsal Adult Choir Rehearsal	6:30 a 4:45 p 6:45 p 7:45 p
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> Maundy Thursday Divine Service Maundy Thursday Divine Service	11:15 a 6:30 p
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Good Friday</i> Reading of the Passion History Tenebrae	12:00 p 6:30 p
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Holy Saturday</i> Preparation & Set Up for Easter Breakfast Decorate the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday Private Confession	9:00 a 9:00 a 1-2:00 p
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Easter Proclamation/Divine Service Easter Breakfast - After Early Service Easter Egg Hunt Divine Service	8:00 a 9:30 a 10:15 a 10:45 a