

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.

THIS WEEK'S FLOWERS – were given to the glory of God by Judy Honig in thanksgiving for the blessing of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

There are still many openings on the 2019 Flower Chart. Sign up now to get the Sunday you would like to have flowers.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE – Our offering for the General Fund for January 6, 2019, was \$7,074.00. **Our weekly need for 2019 is \$7,695.39.** We start 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 for information.

CONCORDIA STAFF FROM MT. CALVARY

Brooke Barr - Grade 2, & Cheerleading Coach
Jan Heien - Title I Reading Tutor
Michele Keehner - 2nd Grade Teacher's Aide
Becky Garvey - Administrative Assistant

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

January 20th – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 128
Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

2019 ENVELOPE BOXES – If you haven't already picked up your envelope box for 2019, it is on the table in the Narthex. We are now using the 2019 envelope numbers.

LIFE SUNDAY – Next Sunday, January 20th, we, with many other congregations will celebrate Life Sunday, remembering the date of Roe v. Wade and the beginning of legalized abortion in our country. To help in the fight against legalized abortion, Peoria Area Lutherans for Life will again be collecting *Pennies for Life*, asking each member of the congregation to give one penny for each year of life God has granted them.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: --

- † Dr. William and Jessica Fletchall on the birth of their son, Edmund Philip on Sunday, January 6, 2019. Edmund weighed 7 lb. 9 oz, and 20.5 inches long. Mother and son are doing
- † And to Cornelius and Jessica Eiland on the birth of their daughter, Corinne Vanessa Ann on Saturday, January 5, 2019. The grandmother is Elizabeth (Honig) Whitfield, and the great-grandmother is Judy Honig.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY – Please keep in your prayers the family and friends of:

- † Cathy Behrll, a former member, who was called to her eternal home on Monday, January 7, 2019. Services are pending.

May her family find comfort, hope, and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Who has come to give us life eternal.

THANK YOU – Linda Khattar and the Mt. Calvary Altar Guild would like to thank everyone who helped decorate the church last Sunday. Now everything is neatly stored away until next December.

THE CLAUDIN FAMILY INVITES -- the congregation of Mt. Calvary to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jaymeson, who achieved the highest rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. We hope you will join us on **Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 4:00 pm** here at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. The ceremony will be held in the sanctuary with reception following in the parish hall.

FROM CONCORDIA

Concordia Sunday – Sunday, January 27th Mt. Calvary will observe the beginning of National Lutheran Schools Week with the Concordia Concert Band, Concert Choir and String Ensemble participating in our 8:00 am worship service. Please join us as the children from Concordia share their talents with us.

Concordia Open House – On Sunday afternoon, January 27th, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, Concordia will hold their annual open house. This is a good time to tour the facility, meet the faculty and school board, and learn about all the programs available at the school for our students.

Trivia Night Band Fundraiser -- "Do you remember the TV show *Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?*" Well, it's time to see how smart you really are and support the Concordia school band program! The annual Band Trivia Night Fundraiser will be on Saturday, February 2, 2019.

Please consider gathering a team of eight (8) players to help support our kids in their musical endeavors. Food, fellowship and fun all for \$15 per person. Team reservations can be made at <https://goo.gl/ZLv77J>."

FROM WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY –

Help Us Gather Items for Our Valentine Packages for Our College Youth and Military –

During their February meeting on **Monday, February 4th**, Women of Mt. Calvary will be packing boxes for our young people who are in college or serving in the military. In this endeavor we need your help: 1) Please get the names of your college youth to Dawn Henderson (691-5547); and 2) Consider contributing candy, microwave popcorn, individually wrapped snacks, tissue packages, pencils, pens, hotel samples (no bar soap, please), or anything a young person away from home might need. Your items can be placed on the kitchen counter, but please mark them for Women of Mt. Calvary College Student Project.

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.

WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY GROUP TOPIC --

C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*: Join us as we look at C.S. Lewis' classic *The Screwtape Letters*. This imaginative work looks at the temptations Christians face in the midst of ordinary life by presenting a series of "letters" supposedly written by a senior "tempter" to his young nephew. If you don't have a copy, we'll get you one. **Meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.**

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **January** our pantry will be in need of **Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Cereal, Canned Meals**. 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.

THANK YOU! – 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!

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. More lighting had been installed, and the security cameras have been put up. They are on a motion sensor and will record anyone or anything that crosses in front of them. New signs warning that the cameras are there are now posted and the police department knows about them also.

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 January 2019.**

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – With this One, His Son veiled in frail human flesh, the heart of Almighty God is well-pleased (Luke 3:22). Through the same Jesus Christ, He creates, redeems, and calls (Isaiah 43:1-2) every member of our race to be His own beloved child. Since He stands in our place, even our sicknesses and sorrows do not represent punishments but rather opportunities for Him to shower blessing.

Peoria Area Lutherans for Life usually meets every 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 pm 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 new meeting place is Bethel Lutheran Church, 325 E. Queenwood Rd., Morton.

ISSUES ETC. – EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS -- 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 teachings include: The Confession of Peter, Mortification, The Wedding at Cana, Daily Bread and more. You can listen live or at your convenience at 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, hear live broadcasts from the March for Life in Washington, D.C., with Andy and Sarah (Friday 1/18 @ 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. CT), dig into the Gospel of Mark on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear curious topics about theology and the world on Cross Defense with Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller and his guest (1/14 at 2:00 p.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at kfue.org or wherever you get your podcasts.

EARN A RETURN AND HELP OUR LCMS CHURCHES! -- The Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF) provides resources to churches in our Central Illinois District that wish to grow God's ministry through building or expansion. We are able to do this because of conscientious LCMS members like you who support our churches by investing in the CID-CEF - we need your continued support and investments! As an added blessing for your investment, we are now offering a 24-Month SPECIAL RATE of 2.35% (minimum investment \$500) to you as well as our church organizations to support the LCMS ministry. Please contact Chris Anderson or Susan Short at the CID-CEF (phone: 217-793-1802, email: cef@cidlcms.org) or visit our website (www.cidlcms.org, see link in lower left corner) for this special interest rate and other recent rate increases for our investment options. Thank you for investing in the future of our LCMS!

SYNODICAL ELECTIONS – With the Synodical Convention coming up in July, it is time to make nominations for Synodical President, First Vice-President, and Regional Vice President. If you have anyone you wish to nominate for any of these positions, please let Pastor Long or Jerry Horst know before February 17th, so that a Special Voters' Meeting can be called.

MARCH FOR LIFE CHICAGO: Join area Lutherans at the March for Life Chicago on **January 13, 2019**. LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison is among the featured speakers. Meet on Federal Plaza (50 W. Adams Street, Chicago) at 1:55 p.m. under the LOVE AFFIRMS LIFE and the EYES FOR LIFE banners. RIDE A BUS LEAVING FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LISLE, 1101 Kimberly Way, Lisle, at 1 p.m. FREE WILL DONATIONS are received to cover cost for the round-trip bus ride. Call Kris Blackwell at 630.234.1491 to reserve your seat. Space is limited.

LERT TRAINING – Will be held Saturday, January 19, 2019 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 13443 Townline Road, Green Valley, Illinois 61534 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm (Sign-in begins at 8:30).
<http://www.cidlcms.org/LERT.GreenValley.1.19.19.pdf>

POSITION AVAILABLE -- Redeemer Lutheran Church has an opening for an Administrative Assistant. This is a full-time position, complete with benefits, in the church's front office. The office is open from 8:30 to 4:30, Monday through Friday. In general, the position is responsible for phone, email, walk-in traffic, congregational data maintenance (i.e. attendance and contributions), the visitor welcome cue, and various other office tasks. Visit redeemerlutheran.com/jobs for a full job description. Please submit your resume by January 21 to chip.winter@redeemerlutheran.com or Pastor Winter c/o Redeemer Lutheran Church, 6801 N. Allen Road, Peoria, IL 61614. We will be in touch for an opportunity to interview. Contact the church office at 309-691-2333 with any questions.

+ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT MT. CALVARY+

SUNDAY:

YOUTH:

Sunday School: – Ages 3-Grade 8 meet in the basement. “The Birth of Jesus” as recorded in Luke 2 is today’s Sunday School lesson. A Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord! As a family discuss the details of Christ’s birth. Ask, “How does our sin cause us to fear God like the shepherds did? Focus on the fact that God’s Son, Jesus, takes away our fears and offers us true peace, rescuing us from sin and death.

ADULTS:

Letter to the Hebrews: In a world of disorder, trouble, and faithlessness, how does a believer hang on? Through confidence in the reality of Jesus’ reign here and now. This is a letter of encouragement and exhortation for believers to hold fast to their confession of faith and to keep looking to Jesus. Join us as we work through this letter to see how it speaks to the challenges we face today. **Meets in the Parish Hall at 9:30 am.**

WEDNESDAY:

Men’s Bible Study:

2nd Samuel: If you are looking for adventure, intrigue, betrayal, faithlessness, and a testimony to God’s abiding love, join us as we follow ancient Israel through David’s reign as king to the division of the kingdom, and into exile. Turns out turmoil in politics is not just a modern problem. **We meet at the Bob Evans on Allen Rd. near the Walmart.**

Wednesday Evening Study Group:

C.S. Lewis’ Screwtape Letters: Join us as we look at C.S. Lewis’ classic *The Screwtape Letters*. This imaginative work looks at the temptations Christians face in the midst of ordinary life by presenting a series of “letters” supposedly written by a senior “tempter” to his young nephew. If you don’t have a copy, we’ll get you one. **Meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.**

THURSDAY:

Afternoon Bible Study:

Deuteronomy: . Join us as we finish reading the “Five Books of Moses” with the study of Deuteronomy. This is Moses’ “farewell address” to Israel as they prepare to cross into the Promised Land. But, more than that, this is a renewal of God’s Covenant with a new generation, and an explanation of how the Law applies to their new lives. Even though the book contains a lot of political and ceremonial law that doesn’t apply to us — the moral law still holds us. And the same God still calls us to live out love for Him and our neighbor in tangible ways. So, come learn with us. **We meet Thursdays at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.**

+ THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR +

<i>Sunday</i> 01/13/2019	<i>The Baptism of Our Lord</i>	
	Worship	8:00 a
	Fellowship Coffee	9:15 a
	Sunday School/Bible Classes	9:30 a
	Worship	10:45 a
	Youth Confirmation	1:30 p
<i>Tuesday</i>	Board of Elders	4:30 p
<i>Wednesday</i>	Men's Bible Study - <i>2nd Samuel</i>	6:30 a
	Wednesday Study Group - <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>	6:30 p
<i>Thursday</i>	Crafts & Conversation	10:00 a
	Bible Study - <i>Deuteronomy</i>	1:00 p
	Divine Service	6:00 p
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p
	Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:45 p
<i>Friday</i>	<i>The Confession of St. Peter</i>	
<i>Saturday</i>	Private Confession	1-2:00 p
<i>Sunday</i> 01/20.19	<i>Second Sunday after the Epiphany — Sanctity of Life Sunday</i>	
	Divine Service	8:00 a
	Fellowship Coffee	9:15 a
	Sunday School/Bible Study	9:30 a
	Divine Service	10:45 a
	Worship & Music Committee	12:00 p
	Youth Confirmation	1:30 p
Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jaymeson Claudin	4:00 p	