

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 the Auer family, in loving memory of wife, mother, and grandmother, Mary Ann, and in celebration of the family's March birthdays.

ENVELOPE BOXES FOR 2023 – Our envelopes for 2023 arrived – finally. They are on the table in the Narthex, so please pick yours up and begin using it. Thank you for your patience while we waited for them to arrive.

MID-WEEK SERVICES DURING LENT -- During the season of Lent we will have mid-week services on Wednesdays at 11:15 am and 6:30 pm. The theme this year is *Five Words for Five Weeks*. Each of the weeks will look at one of five of Jesus Words from the cross. This week, March 15th, we will look at *"I Thirst..."* There will be a light lunch following the 11:15 am service. Please join us for as many services as you are able.

LENTEN LUNCHEAS ARE BACK -- If you can help with the food, the signup sheet is across from Pastor's

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

March 19, 2023 –4th Sunday in Lent

Psalm 142

Isaiah 42:14-21

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

office. We hope you can join us! If you have any questions, please contact Abbie Matson at 309-224-9432.

CONCORDIA CHOIR TO JOIN US – Today, March 12th, the Concordia Lutheran School Choir will share their talents with us as they join us in worship at the 9:00 am service. Please plan to join us as we hear these young people provide special music for our service.

A REQUEST FROM THE REV. ROD BENKENDORF

– We have a young man from here in Perry County (just finishing 3rd year of college) who will be doing an internship in Washington, IL this summer for 2-3 months starting June 1ish (internship with: Ledgestone/Discraft disc golf company). I was wondering if you know of any housing that might make his life a little simpler... empty parish house, basement, empty apartment, etc. If you don't have any immediate ideas, would you be willing to share this info with fellow pastors, etc in the area? (His Mommy wanted us to share that he is a child of a Lutheran school teacher.) Pastor Benkendorf may be reached at pastor@hannoverlutheran.com.

WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY MEET – This **Monday, March 13, 2023** (tomorrow) the Women of Mt. Calvary will have their regular monthly meeting at 6:30 pm. The main item on the agenda is to select a new president. If you are interested in serving as president, or know of someone who is willing to take on that responsibility, please be at the meeting.

A CALL COMMITTEE -- has been formed to search for a new Principal for Concordia Lutheran School. Concordia's Principal, Paul Thompson, has accepted a Call to serve as Principal of Peace Lutheran School in Antigo, WI and will be leaving Concordia at the end of the school year. The Call Committee will be accepting names to consider through March 31, 2023. If you have a name for the Call Committee to consider, please reach out to callcommittee@concordiapeoria.com."

Thanks,
Brooke Anders

PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAIL BOXES – We are beginning to use them again. **The Easter Lily order form is now in your boxes.**

EASTER LILY ORDERS – Linda has ordered Easter Lilies at a cost of \$8.50 per plant. We have placed order forms in your mail boxes so that you can get your order in early. Fill out the form on the envelope, include your check and put the envelope in Linda Khattar's mailbox.

FROM OUR MINISTER OF MUSIC, BRUCE TAGGE – Come on, folks – the time before Easter is getting shorter, and our numbers are getting lower. We need you to join us just until Easter. (You are welcome to stay after that if you wish – we turn no one away.) See you all next Thursday at rehearsal —7:45 pm. We thank Kelly Eckert for joining us (and she came back again this week, so you can see we aren't that scary), now we need a few more to join her.

When is the last time you sang the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah? We plan to sing it on Easter Sunday. Come sing it with us! It's an easier version than the original.

LUCKY LEPRECHAUN CHALLENGE -- is coming up!!!! Please join us for a night of trivia & popcorn on Saturday, March 18 at 6:30 PM (doors open at 6:15 PM). In addition to marking your calendars for the event, you need to gather a team of fellow members or your friends! Don't worry about not having a team you may also sign up with an existing team and join in the fun! Sign ups can be done on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office or email Brooke at brooke.gutridge@gmail.com.

CELEBRATION FUND — **What is it?** A voluntary opportunity to give thanks to God for events and occasions in your life that are a reason to celebrate. It is also a way to raise funds that will help purchase items that would benefit the church and enrich our worship, but are not budgeted.

How can you help? Consider donating any amount when you have a reason to celebrate: birthday, anniversary, birth of a child, great report card, etc.

How do you participate? There will be a donation box in the Parish hall. Bills, change, and checks (made out to Women of Mt. Calvary) can be dropped through the slot anonymously. The box will be emptied each week. If you wish to have your donation added to your church offering record, envelopes will be available for your use.

WEATHER ALERTS – With the onset of winter weather, here are ways to receive cancellations. The TV stations, WMBD, WEEK, and WHOI will be notified, an e-mail will be sent out (if I don't have your e-mail and you want these notifications, please let me know) and it will appear on our web-site (www.mtcalvarypeoria.org) and facebook page.

BOOK OF MARRIAGES

With the 368 weddings that have taken place here at Mt. Calvary, Lisa Cornelius would like to put together a notebook with pictures of all (368) of those weddings. She would make it a loose leaf notebook that would be left in a convenient place for all to peruse in their own time.

So she needs our help. If you are able to send her pictures of your wedding — e-mail: lcornelius2011@hotmail.com or drop off the pictures at church and she will copy them and return them to you, she will get started on this piece of Mt. Calvary's History.

POSTAGE STAMPS – The Women of Mt. Calvary are saving postage stamps for LWML. Please cut out your postage stamps from envelopes and leave them in the office. Judy will get them to the ladies. They will trim the stamps and send them to LWML to support their mission work. Thank you.

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). **The sign-up for 2023 is up. June & July are available.**

CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION – The Crafts and Conversation Group is meeting again at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings and is open to anyone. Bring a craft or activity you like to do. Sometimes Paula and LaVelle ask 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 **March** our pantry will be in need of **Canned Meals and Tomatoes, Mac & Cheese, Pasta Sauce, Vegetable Oil, and Baking Mixes** **They are also looking for the heavier plastic bags that grocery stores use for delivery.** If you can help out by bringing any of these items, your donation can be left in the church office during regular office hours.

CURRENT BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

Sunday School Classes – **Sunday, March 5th**. Please bring your child to class by 10:30 am. Then parents, you may attend the Bible Study in the Parish Hall. The children will be discussing *“The Pool of Bethesda”*

Sunday Morning Adult Class – ***Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?*** Based on Pastor Matthew Richard’s book of the same title, this video series and discussion (led by him) will explore some of the false images of Jesus that tempt Christians to turn from the Lord Who actually comes to us. The books for this study are available and have been a gift of the John Riddle Memorial. We thank the family for providing these books.

Men’s Bible Study Topic – ***The Reason I Believe*** – We’ll be reading Allen Quist’s book on the basics of Christian apologetics – a branch of theology focused on defending and explaining why Christianity is the true faith and Jesus our only Savior. Text will be provided.

Join us 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’ve added a little extra to our Thursday lunches: a Bible study. As we start expanding our offerings at Mt. Calvary, one of the natural places to begin is around a time of fellowship and meal sharing. So, the plan is to gather for lunch at Noon, eat and visit for a while, and then read a chapter of Scripture together and talk about it. Some days we might have more to say, some days less – so there’s no “set” time for this. In fact, if you need to run after lunch, you can; and if you don’t want to join us until we get to the Bible part – you can do that too (try to

arrive around 12:30 pm for that). We’re reading the Gospel according to St. Matthew together. Come join us!

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

The Treasurer’s Report for January 2023 showed the year’s expenses at \$71,426.18, and income of \$47,834.56. 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.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE.ORG-- KFUE Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUE.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfue.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Study John 13-14 on Sharper Iron’s “The Word Made Flesh” (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear a Lenten Organ Recital and Worship Service on 3/15 at 11:00 a.m. CT, and study Hosea 6-10 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org or the KFUE Radio app!

THE LUTHERAN LADIES LOUNGE: – **Story Time with Sarah: The Texas Wendish Lutherans** -- You may have heard of C. F. W. Walther and the Saxon Emigration to Saint Louis and Perry County, Missouri. You may be familiar with Wilhelm Loehe and the Franconian missionary settlements in Michigan. But how much do you know about the Wends of Texas?

In this Story Time episode—releasing the day after Texas Independence Day—Sarah explores the history and heritage of the large group of Wendish Lutherans who settled in and around Serbin, Texas, in the mid-19th century. Joining her are subject matter experts Marian (Kaspar) Wiederhold and Jan (Knippa) Slack—longtime volunteers at the Texas Wendish Heritage Museum who are both direct descendants of the original Wendish settlers.

Who are the Wends? Why did they leave Europe for Texas of all places? What makes their homemade egg noodles so delicious? Find answers to these questions

and others you never knew you needed answered in this inspiring and informative conversation.

ISSUES ETC. – TOP PODCASTS IN RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY -- Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken, consistently ranks among the Top Podcasts in Religion & Spirituality with Apple Podcasts. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or your favorite podcast provider.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY -- Jesus delights to invite the Samaritan woman into His fellowship and forgiveness for her sordid past (John 4:13-18). So He has received each of us, notwithstanding our mistakes and failures. And so He insists we know the joy and hope of explicitly articulating the same grace to any who suffer the guilt and grief of aborting their own children. He holds their lives as precious as those already lost.

THE CHURCH MOUSE -- If you or your loved ones have outgrown your shoes, coats, clothes, toys, etc. please consider The Church Mouse when deciding where to take the items. Donations accepted Monday - Saturday from 10am – 3pm, 600 West Main Street, Peoria near the campus of Bradley University. Questions may be directed to Shirley or Joan at (309) 673-2363.

NEW POSITIONS OPEN AT REDEEMER PRE-SCHOOL

Redeemer Lutheran Pre-School has positions open for 2 asst. teacher's.. They just need to be 18 years old, high school graduate or GPA. It would be a part-time position. We do offer free childcare and retirement.

Sue Shahill, Director
Redeemer Early Learning Center
6801 N. Allen Road
Peoria, IL 61614
309-691-2333 X 115
sue.skahill@redeemerlutheran.com

JUST DESSERTS BAKE SALE -- Save your fork. Are you ready for dessert? Mark your calendars for the next bake sale at Lutheran Hillside Village. Please bring your donated baked goods – cupcakes, cookies, pies, small loaves of bread, candies – to the main entrance of LHV 6901 North Galena Road, Peoria before 11am on Thurs, May 11. Putting your items in a container that you do not need back is recommended. It is also very helpful if you label your donation: Banana Bread (no nuts) made by _____ from _____ Church for LHV Bake Sale. Just Desserts opens at 8am on Friday, May 12 until 1pm. *Nehemiah 8:10 Go and enjoy choice food and sweets...for the joy of the LORD is your strength.*

LWGP EASTER PARADE STYLE SHOW AND

TEA -- The Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria present the fifth “Easter Parade” Style Show and Tea at **2 pm on Saturday, March 25** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1427 W. Lake Ave. Peoria. Models will show off some of the delightful spring styles available at The Church Mouse while everyone enjoys coffee, flavored teas, and “English Tea Room” type desserts. Pastor Michael Jones and Don Bauer from St. John Lutheran in Bartonville will provide background piano music and accompany the singers and models. Pastor Lisa Diétrich from St. Paul in Peoria will be our Master of Ceremonies. Door prizes, raffles, items from the Church Mouse for sale and more will round out the afternoon.

Tickets will once again be \$10, \$5 for children under 12. Call 309-697-5762 or 309- 360-8734, or your LWGP delegate for reservations. You can pay in advance or at the door. Groups can reserve tables together on a first come first serve basis.

Proceeds go to Lutheran Social services of Illinois Children’s Programs.

If you’d like to model call 309-697-5762.

CAMP CILCA’S ANNUAL BANQUET -- is **Sunday, March 26, 5 p.m.-8 p.m. at Camp CILCA's Dining Hall!**

Tickets are \$40 each. Call the camp office (217-487-7497) or email (camp@cilca.org) to reserve your tickets today! The Annual Banquet is an evening celebrating **God’s work of Creation and Redemption**, especially as those works are enjoyed, proclaimed, and taught at Camp CILCA. Join us for an evening of music, food, great speakers, and friends. This year, Mrs. Katie Schuermann will speak about why Christians should read and write.