

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

Pastor Long is not currently allowed access to the local hospitals or nursing homes unless a person is in danger of eminent death. However, we want to keep hospitalized members in prayer, so please keep us informed. If a person is available by phone, please give us a number and Pastor Long will call.

SIGN-UP FOR SERVICES –Here is the link for the month of May:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4A728A5FB6-worship11>

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK –were given to the glory of God by Barb Zook in celebration of her grandson Matthew's birthday and in thanksgiving for her many blessings.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT LUTHERAN WOMEN – MITES UPDATE

-- The following is from Pat Heinecke, VP of Mission Grants...Praise God!
I just couldn't wait any longer to tell you some great news! The LWML CID women have surpassed their mite goal of \$105,000!! The total amount raised was \$116,447.80 with over \$40,000 of it being collected just in March!

This means that the next project by vote, "Filling Haitian Tummies--Project HOPE", will receive \$3,778.88 of the \$5,000 they requested! Thank the Holy Spirit for inspiring so many people to give to our projects. Praise the Lord!

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, & Cheerleading Coach
Jan Heien - Title I Reading Tutor

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

May 9th – 6th Sunday of Easter

Psalm 98

Acts 10:34-48

1 John 5:1-8

John 15:9-17

IT'S THE FIRST OF THE MONTH – WOMEN OF MT CALVARY ARE COLLECTING MITES.

OFFICE HELP NEEDED – Judy needs someone to babysit her office on **May 13th, 14th, and 17th** so she can attend granddaughter, Megan Benkendorf's graduation service in Jackson Missouri. Please call the church office, 688-4321, and she will explain how hard it is to sit and wait for the phone to ring or let someone into the building. Sign up for part of a day or a full day. Every little bit helps.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **May** our pantry will be in need of **Ramen Noodles, Canned Peas, and Peanut Butter**. If you can help out by bringing some, your donation can be left in the church entry way during regular office hours.

COPIES OF THE NEW GATEPOST – 2021:ISSUE 2 – are available on the table in the Narthex.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE MOTHER'S DAY DIAPER SHOWER – Next Sunday, Mother's Day, May 9th, Peoria Area Lutherans for Life will again be collecting diapers (infant and adult), and/or diaper wipes to be delivered to area pregnancy centers and nursing homes. Please bring your contributions to church that Sunday and leave them under the coat rack across from the office. We will count them and have Bob Wegner pick them up.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY TOPIC HAS CHANGED – *Martyr's Faith in a Faithless World*: How do you carry on with faith, hope, and love in a world that constantly seeks to tempt you or grind you down? Join us as we read Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller's encouraging meditation on the heroes of the faith and the promises we're given to live by. (call the office if you want us to order you a copy.) Meets Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am via Zoom.

CONFIRMATION – This year we have six candidates for confirmation. Having passed their interview with the Board of Elders, they will be confirmed next Sunday, May 9th in the 9:00 am service. The candidates are: **Cameron Dorsey, Kenyon Gillespie, Maddie Johnson, Sarah Long, Sophia Maxwell, and Hunter Whitby**. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they prepare for their confirmation.

FROM CONCORDIA LUTHERAN SCHOOL – Grace mercy and peace to you from our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please contact Mr. Thompson to learn more about the opportunities for you and your family at Concordia Lutheran School. Mr. Thompson would like to meet you and take you on a private tour of our facilities. Please contact Mr. Thompson at 309-691-8921 or pthompson@concordiapeoria.com and schedule a tour. *At this time, we are scheduling individual tours to fit your schedule.

LILIES – The Easter Lilies have served their purpose and have quit blooming. They are now considered "salvage on the high seas" and available for you to give them a good home (sometimes they will even bloom again this season). So for now they are on a table in the Parish Hall waiting for you to take home. Please pick one up!

COVID-19 ERA —Phase 4

After searching through both state and county health department guidelines, we are unable to find any information indicating that our current measures for addressing the pandemic should change. Therefore, we remain in our current routine.

1. **Regular Office hours** will continue – feel free to call or visit.
2. **Pastor Long is still making an effort to reach out to folks who haven't been able to make it back to church yet.** — mostly this is to "check in" — but please share your concerns or prayer requests as well. If you think you've been over-looked, please call us!
3. **You Tube Devotions:** Pastor Long is still posting devotions to You Tube three times a week. We're currently using them to take brief looks at the "other" readings from the previous Sunday. Look for them Tuesday, Thursdays, and Fridays.
4. **Worship:** We're now recording the main service from Sunday and uploading it to YouTube Sunday afternoon. Subscribe to our YouTube Channel or look for links on Face book or our web page.
5. **In Person Worship: Until conditions change, our schedule will remain as it is.** We are allowed to have in-person services with up to 25% of the sanctuary's maximum occupancy. The Fire Department has determined that our max occupancy is 264 in the pews which means 25% is 66. We will continue to use Sign-Up Genius to pre-register attendance. If you haven't had a chance to sign up this week here is the link for May:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4A728A5FB6-worship11>
6. **Bible Studies** – We will be "Brushing Up on the Catechism!" in the Sunday morning Bible Study. You may attend by Zoom, or in person – 10:30 am. The Men's Bible Study continues in a "Zoom" format, and is now reading *Martyr's Faith in a Faithless World* by Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller — we meet Wednesdays at 6:30 am.
7. **Challenge:** As we are away from one another, we can still be "church," even if in a different way. One of the things St. Paul commends to us as the "body of Christ" is to share each other's joys and burdens. Turns out, you can do that by phone, even with someone you don't "know" all that well. So, I urge you all to join me (if you can) in "calling around the congregation" to check in on each other, get to know each other and encourage each other. Lost your directory? Judy will send you a new one.
8. **Stewardship during COVID-19:** While God has blessed us with a "cushion" financially during these odd days, the ministries of Mt. Calvary still need your support – whether it's Judy taking care of the office, Pastor Long trying to provide study and worship opportunities, the Pantry continuing to reach out to our area, or Mr. Tagge providing music.

The Treasurer's Report for February 2021 showed Year to date expenses of \$64,290.28, and offerings of \$55,398.74. Please, prayerfully continue to send in your contributions.

Phase 4 Protocol -- Some quick reminders for those of you attending the "larger" worship service this Sunday (and things for everyone to consider).

1. If you are not feeling well or have a temperature 100 degrees Fahrenheit or over, please stay home and get well.
2. If you are in a "high risk" category and don't feel safe, then also continue to take proper care – but make sure you are in touch with us so we can properly minister to you.
3. We ask you to wear your mask when entering and exiting the building. You may take it off during worship.
4. In the sanctuary, please "socially distance" yourselves in the pews. Family/household groups may sit together. You should leave an empty pew between you and folks sitting in front of you. Signs indicate which pews should be left empty.
5. Single use bulletins will be available as you enter the nave. Please leave them in the recycling container when you depart (unless you are taking yours home).
6. Communion will be brought to you in the pew.
7. The offering plate will be at the entrance of the nave for you to leave offerings as you are so moved.
8. Please do not socialize in the building - but do visit outside (weather permitting) with safe distancing.
9. If you have not indicated your preference for individual or common cup at communion, please go back to Sign Up Genius and do so (it allows us to prepare ahead of time).

Remember, we are continuing to offer the abbreviated communion services for those who feel more comfortable in the smaller settings. And we are continuing to make a service available on You Tube for those who prefer to worship remotely.

PORTALS OF PRAYER, HOPEFUL LIVING, MY DEVOTIONS, AND HAPPY TIMES (for children)

– New editions of these publications are available on the table in the Narthex or from the church office — you can stop by and pick one up (call first and let us know you are coming) or we will mail them to you. Just let us know what you need and whether you need regular size or large print.

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 February 2021 showed year to date expenses of \$64,290.28, and offerings of \$55,398.74. 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. Currently seven people have used this method of giving. Thank you.

FROM WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY

With the "Phase 4 Protocols" we are choosing to not meet until the virus is less of a threat. However — please keep an eye out for some of our special activities!

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 call the office** and bring your treats to church, leaving them in the office marked "*Family House*." Questions? Call LaVelle Borders, 681-9414. **A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.**

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 also. Judy will get them to the ladies. They will trim the stamps and send them to LWML to support their mission work. Thank you.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE.ORG. – KFUE Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUE.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfue.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

This week on KFUE.org, begin studying 2 Peter on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear about 1 Kings 8-10 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and worship with us in Daily Chapel at 10:00 a.m. CT. Find your favorite podcasts on demand at kfue.org or on your podcast app!

PODCAST FOR LUTHERAN WOMEN – Have you scrolled through your podcasts, searching for one that

catches your ear – a place you can escape to with inviting conversations, laughter, and fellowship with your Lutheran sisters? Look no further! Join Sarah, Erin, Rachel, and Bri on the sofa in the Lutheran Ladies Lounge, a podcast oasis for you, dear sisters, to sit, rest your feet, and stay a while. And on the way out, we'll check your lipstick. Podcast episodes are available at kfuo.org/lutheranladieslounge and wherever you get your podcasts. For bonus content from the show and a chance to help shape future on-air conversations—and enjoy friendly fellowship with other Lutheran ladies—join The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge Facebook discussion group:

A New Kind of Normal (Sharathon 2021): What does a return to normal (or a turn towards a brand new kind of normal) look like in a post-COVID world?

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – We behold ourselves in both our unborn and our elderly neighbors, for apart from Jesus even we can do nothing (John 15:5). And we behold our Lord Jesus in their bodies as well because He has come unto us in a flesh like their own (1 John 4:2). Let us use our breath to defend them from abortion or assisted suicide and in this way praise the Lord (Psalm 150:6).

FROM CAMP CILCA –

There are camp programs open this summer for every age group from preschool through high school. These programs are designed to get campers out-of-doors and into God's creation as much as possible, something everyone needs more of these days. There are brochures on the table in the Narthex or visit the electronic brochure with the following link: <http://www.cilca.org/summer-camp.html>.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY IS TODAY MAY 2ND -- Gifts will be used to support our CID students who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher or other called church worker. Please plan to make a generous gift now or on May 2nd. Gifts may be designated "CID Scholarship Fund" to be used for the 2021-2022 school year or be designated "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund" to provide gifts every year for this ongoing need. Checks may be 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 are qualified to serve to consider pursuing a called church-worker vocation. Envelopes are on the table in the Narthex.

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.

FROM LUTHERAN WOMEN OF GREATER PEORIA

Spring Cleaning? -- If you are in the mood for spring cleaning and you need a place to donate, please remember The Church Mouse! Located at 600 W Main Street, Peoria. Hours of operation are Tu-Fr 10-4pm, Sat 10-3pm. The Church Mouse gladly accepts gently used clothing for men, women & children, furniture (in good condition), linens, books, sports equipment, craft materials, shoes, gently used toys, knick-knacks, housewares, etc. Donations accepted at the back door of the building. Questions? Contact Joan or Shirley at (309) 673-2363

LWGP General Membership Meeting -- Join the ladies as we gather outdoors at St. John Lutheran Church in Bartonville on **Friday morning, May 21st. 9 am.**, 6614 W Smithville Road, Bartonville. We will celebrate spring by having a local expert talk to us about plants and flowers. A light breakfast and coffee will be served. A game relating to flowers will be enjoyed as we reunite after a full year apart. RSVP to Lisa Mack, call or text (309) 360-2669 by Sun, May 16. See you at the pavilion!
Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of the doves is heard in our land.

Song of Songs 2:12

ISSUES ETC. – ESSENTIAL EXERCISE FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIND -- 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 teachings include: Roman Catholic Mariology, The Godly Practice of Leisure, The Word "Glory" in the Bible, Facebook's New Prayer Post Feature and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST – Saturday, May 8, 7-10 am, St. John's Lutheran, Bath (13961 CR 1100 N, Bath 62617). You are invited to take your mom out for breakfast and enjoy a menu of biscuits and gravy, corned beef and hash, ham, scrambled eggs and assorted homemade pastries all for a donation of your choice. Funds raised will go toward the support of mission work among the Latino population through St. John's Lutheran of Beardstown and the Central Illinois District of the LCMS. If you have questions, please contact Rev. Lesemann at 309-256-6514 or banblesemann@juno.com.

Diaper Shower

Sponsored by Peoria Area Lutherans for Life

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 9th



Please bring disposable diapers of any size to church
(infant or adult)

Diapers collected will be donated to groups such as:

Esther House
Lutheran Hillside Village
Women's Pregnancy Center
Washington Christian Village
Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center