

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.

SIGN-UP FOR SERVICES –Here is the link for the

Services during May:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4A728A5FB6-worship16>

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – were given to the glory of God by Doug & Mary Ann Auer in celebration of their 38th wedding anniversary and in thanksgiving for God’s many blessings.

Lutherans for Life Day Diaper Shower: Please bring disposable diapers of any size to church (infant, child, and adult sizes). If you forgot last week, you may bring them anytime this month – we will be happy to receive them. Please join Lutherans for Life as we collect diapers again this year for area charitable organizations who serve women and their children as well as seniors. Your generosity will benefit worthy life-affirming organizations including Women’s Pregnancy Center, Esther House, Lutheran Hillside Village, Washington Christian Village, and Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center.

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 22nd – 6th Sunday of Easter

Psalms 67

Acts 16:9-15

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

John 16:23-33

PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE SIGN-UP GENIUS

The numbers there will tell us how much to set up for Holy Communion and how many bulletins to print.

MITES CONTINUE! — if you forgot on Mite Sunday, you can still bring them.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICES – **Next Thursday, May 26th** is Ascension Day. Mt. Calvary will have Divine Services at 11:15 am and 6:30 pm. Please plan to attend one of these services as we near the end of the Easter season and approach Pentecost.

THIS YEAR’S GRADUATES -- Do you have someone graduating this year? If so, we would like to recognize them and their achievements in the June MC Messenger. So ... please get their names to the church office by **May 19th** along with any other information you would like printed — parents’ names, plans for the summer/next year, awards, accomplishments they have received, etc. This applies to all graduates: pre-school through college and beyond. We can also include December, 2021 graduates. So far, I only have information on four graduates – there have to be more than that!

NOMINATIONS – It is time again to call for nominations to fill positions left open since last June. The big one is a position on the Concordia School Board. Board of Education needs another member and we are losing an Elder. If you would like a role on one of the boards, please contact Pastor Long or Jerry Horst. Check the list on the bulletin board to see where you might fit in best.

JUNE VOTERS' MEETING – At the Administrative Council Meeting on May 3, it was decided to hold the June Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting on Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 10:30 am (during the Bible Study Hour) in the Parish Hall. This means that any reports from Committee or Board Chairmen must be in the church office --- e-mail them to me at secretary@mtcalvarypeoria.org -- **by Monday, May 23rd**.

NEWS FOR ALL MT. CALVARY WOMEN -- After a two year hiatus due to COVID, nine women met May 2nd to regroup for the 2022/2023 year. Our first meeting will be Monday, September 12 (second Monday of the month) at 6:30. Officers for the year are: Mary Ann Auer - president, Theresa Johnston - vice president, Dawn Henderson - treasurer, Marcia Riddle - secretary. A big thank you to everyone who quietly continued to carry on with work of Women of Mt. Calvary since March of 2020. More news to follow.

BAKE SALE AT LHV -- A note of gratitude for those who baked, those who helped and those who shopped at the May 6th *Just Desserts Bake Sale* at LHV! Our profits exceeded our expectations! We want to give a nod of appreciation to Mt. Calvary members Mary Ann Auer and Phil King & anyone else who may have donated anonymously. We had a crowd of 128 customers. Thank you Mt. Calvary for your continuing support of LWGP!
We feel...rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as we were taught and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:7

LET'S CELEBRATE "90 YEARS OF HIS GIFTS"
2022 represents the 90th year of our congregation's founding. To help us commemorate this special occasion, we are planning a celebration for this Fall. Please help us with this special anniversary by sharing any congregational memories or church pictures you might have. The "90 Years of His Gifts" committee is looking forward to hearing from you!

Lisa Cornelius, Vicky Brosowske, and Abbie Matson

FROM WORSHIP & MUSIC – After looking at the results of the poll (we received 77 responses), the Worship & Music Committee recommended to the Administrative Council that beginning in June, we schedule Sunday worship at 9:00 am and 11:45 am with the Bible Study at 10:30 am. In light of the responses, they further recommended that the 9:00 am service alternate between a Communion service and Matins service every other week, while the 11:45 am service will be a spoken Communion service every week. After prayerful discussion, these recommendations have been adopted. However, if we find that they don't sufficiently serve the needs of the congregation, they can be revisited in the Fall.

RETURN TO "COMMUNION TABLES" – As COVID positivity remains low, we are ready to have folks come forward to receive communion (or a blessing) once again. However, due to a shortage of ushers, we are trying a new traffic pattern. We ask you to come up by the center aisle, both sides, and then stand to either side of the font as appropriate. After being dismissed, please return to your places by the side aisles. If coming forward is a challenge, simply let the usher know, and Pastor Long will bring communion to you.

TREATS FOR FAMILY HOUSE – We provide treats for Family House on the fourth Monday of each month (see note on bulletin board). **The list for 2022 is up**, so, if you are able to help, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or contact LaVelle Borders (309-681-9414).

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.

CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION HAS BEGUN AGAIN ON THURSDAY MORNINGS – The ladies of the Crafts and Conversation Group that met at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings before the pandemic hit, have decided to meet again at 10:00 am on Thursdays. They will socially distance by moving tables together and sitting 6 feet apart. Also, be sure to wear your mask. This is open to anyone, bring a craft or activity you like to do, needlework, coloring, etc., and join the group.

THURSDAY LUNCHES – Now that Easter is over, let's have lunch together! We've done it a couple of Thursdays and we'll do it again this week. Bring your lunch and join us at Noon.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **May** our pantry will be in need of **Cooking Oil, Pasta Sauce, Canned Peas, Manwich, and Toilet Paper.** **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 entry way during regular office hours.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY –Psalms – no, not all of them. Join us Sunday mornings as we explore the “hymnbook of Israel” (and the Church’s earliest hymnal as well). We’ll take a quick look at the various “types” of Psalms and their poetic style – and then just read through some of our favorites as we seek to use them to enrich our prayers and devotions. We meet Sunday mornings at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall and on Zoom.

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY TOPIC: -- Let’s read James together. Sure, Luther didn’t much care for it – but it is still God’s Word, and reliable counsel when understood properly. After all, despite their arguments with Rome about the relation of works to salvation, the Reformers still acknowledged – faith without works is dead.

We are meeting Wednesdays at 6:30 am at Gebby’s Family Restaurant at 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.

COMING OUT OF COVID

1. Masks are now optional “officially.”
2. We will continue with sign-ups for services so that people wanting a “less crowded service can be accommodated.

The sign-up for May is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca4a728a5fb6-worship16>

3. We will continue with single-use bulletins and pew spacing as well, just to stay on the safe side.

Continuing Wisdom

1. Wash your hands.
2. If you are running a temperature, or don’t feel well, please participate in one of our online options.
3. We will continue to record the main service on Sunday and make that available on our You Tube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQY14dddMygJRCjTXdM3r1Q>

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 April 2022 showed the year’s expenses at \$126,471.92, and income of \$102,589.14.

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.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

-- Don’t abortion and physician-assisted suicide call common—or worse—what God the Lord has made precious (Acts 11:9)? And should the transitory sorrows of surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis blind us to the joy and hope He has invested in every human being (John 16:21)? May our witness to the sanctity of all human lives begin to wipe away the tears from all eyes (Revelation 21:4) with the Gospel of Christ’s salvation!

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 Acts 8-10 on Sharper Iron's "To the End of the Earth" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), join us for Daily Chapel at 10:00 a.m. CT, study 1 John 5 through Jude on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and dig into Augsburg Confession Article XVII: Christ's Return for Judgment on Concord Matters (5/21 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org or the KFUE Radio app!

THE LUTHERAN LADIES’ LOUNGE – Hymn Sing with Sarah – Good Shepherd Sunday:

“The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.”

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

These familiar words from Psalm 23 and John 10 have been cherished by Christians throughout the ages for the deep comfort they bring. Also beloved are the hymns inspired by them—and it is these “Good Shepherd” hymns that are the focus in this Easter season Hymn Sing with Sarah episode.

Beginning with a broader discussion of the historical names and meanings of the Sundays between Easter and Pentecost (Quasimodo Geniti, Misericordias Domini, Jubilate, Cantate, Rogate, and Exaudi), Sarah then hones

in on hymns and readings for Misericordias Domini (“the steadfast love of the Lord”), known in common parlance as Good Shepherd Sunday.

Sarah tells the stories behind three of the most popular Good Shepherd hymns—“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (LSB 709), “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” (LSB 710), and “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” (LSB 711)—before inviting Erin, Bri, and Rachel to discuss their own favorite hymns in the genre.

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 topics include: Why the Public Square Needs Christianity, The Natural Family, The Ascension of Christ, The Hippocratic Oath, The Lord’s Supper, Planned Parenthood and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

MAY FINE ARTS SCHEDULE AT CONCORDIA

Spring Concerts — The Cadet Band, Concert Band, and all Orchestras will have their spring concert on **Wednesday, May 18 at 6:00 pm**. The Kids of the Kingdom Choir (Grades 3-5), Joyful Noise Recorders (grade 3 & 4), and Concert Choir will have their spring concert on **Friday, May 20 at 6:00 pm**. Come support all our amazing young musicians!

YOUTH SOCCER OPPORTUNITY: To Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Families!

-- Concordia Lutheran School invites all Mt. Calvary children in 1st -8th grade (Fall 2022) to consider playing on one of the Concordia soccer teams this fall. You do not have to be a Concordia student to play – all association church children are eligible. Below is a form to sign your child up to participate.

Soccer Information:

Concordia participates in the Peoria Parochial Soccer Association (PPSA).

Practices begin in late July. Games held mid-August through the first week of October.

Games are completed at the Mossville Soccer fields Concordia offers the following teams: 1st and 2nd Grade Co-ed, 3rd and 4th Boys, 3rd and 4th Girls, 5th and 6th Boys, 5th and 6th Girls, 7th and 8th Boys, and 7th and 8th Girls.

Parent Meetings are a choice from the following dates: July 18 or July 27 at 6:00 pm in the Concordia Commons Please complete this form as soon as you are able. Thank you so much!

<https://forms.gle/F8VDUVh6v1J9zqBG6>

If you have any questions contact Michael Holloway (Soccer Coordinator)

michael.holloway82@gmail.com or 309-397-5772

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY WAS SUNDAY, MAY 1ST.

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. Gifts may be designated “CID Scholarship Fund” to be used for the 2022-2023 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. Envelopes are available on the tables in the Narthex. 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.

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.

THE CHURCH MOUSE -- Located near the campus of Bradley University, The Church Mouse is always looking for volunteers. Daytime only. Mon – Sat. Women and men, we need you! For more information, please contact Joan Ressler or Shirley Lewis at (309) 673-2363.

FROM LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

-- In central Illinois this spring there is a great need for foster parents. We are asking members of your congregation to prayerfully contemplate this urgent demand. Long-term foster families are needed as well as short-term. As a short-term caregiver, you would serve as a respite or emergency foster family.

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois provides supportive services for children in need and their families. Foster care services focus on placing children who have experienced neglect or abuse in a loving and secure home. Children’s Community Services offers numerous other services to at-risk children and their families in their communities.

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is a licensed child welfare agency – License #013005 The foster care system doesn’t work without Foster families.

If you have additional questions, you could visit their website LSSI.org. If you wanted to personally speak with someone locally, contact Dawn Presley (309) 671-0300, extension 4258.