

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 July:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4A728A5FB6-worship13>

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – were given to the glory of God by Denise Shivers in celebration of Ke'niah's 10th birthday and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

FLOWER SCHEDULE – The first Sunday of August, August 1st, still needs flowers. If you would like to have the flowers that day, please sign the *Flower Chart* on the bulletin board.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND: It's that time again. The Scholarship Committee has reviewed the requests and needs for extra financial assistance at Concordia Lutheran School for the 2021-2022 school year, and finds that we're a little short of being able to meet all that is requested. Our current balance in the Scholarship Fund is **\$1,874.04**. The requested needs for next year are **\$2,000**,

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

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

July 18th – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 23

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-44

PLEASE CONTINUE TO USE SIGN-UP GENUIS – The numbers there will tell us how much to set up for Holy Communion and how many bulletins to print.

so that leaves only **\$126.00** yet to cover. If you have the ability and feel so moved, could you make a contribution to the Scholarship Fund over the next week or two so we can fully address these needs? Thank you in advance!

PASTOR AWAY! – Yup, time for the Longs to take their annual trip to Florida. While Pastor Long is away, there will be no Thursday services, and just two services on Sundays (9:00 and 11:45 am). Today, Sunday July 11th Pastor Weitfeldt from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne will lead Divine Services 9:00 and 11:45 am with Bible Study at 10:30 am. And on July 18th, Pastor Wagnitz will lead Divine Services and Bible Study as well.

THIS SUNDAY'S SPEAKER -- The Reverend Matthew "Matt" J. Wietfeldt serves as the Director of Admission and Director of Christ Academy (a youth vocational discernment program) at Concordia Theological

Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW). At CTSFW, he has the opportunity to work with men and women, young and old alike, as they explore possible service in the Church and world. He is also a speaker, teacher, and lecturer on the topics of Christian leadership and vocation at local, district, and synodical conferences, convocations, and other gatherings. He is also using his knowledge and experiences in leadership as a consultant in a wide variety of areas.

Matt is a graduate of Concordia University Chicago, where he received a B.A. in Theology. After CUC, he went on to receive an M.Div. from Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne. Matt is a doctoral student in the Organizational Leadership (Ph.D.) program at CUC, focusing on the spiritual formation of organizational cultures and vocational leadership.

His greatest joy is spending time with his wife, Jenna, a CUC alumnus, and raising their five daughters.

NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER -- Pastor Michael Wagnitz was born in Magdeburg and raised in Germany. He grew up in a pastor's home and found his dedication to the Lord for various reasons. One of the significant experiences was the downfall of the heritage of the Churches in the Old Country.

In 1990 he immigrated to Canada, where he received further training as a pastor and was ordained into the Holy Ministry. His first call into the USA, he received to Iowa. In 2012 he passed the Colloquy in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Since that time, he has served several congregations, the most recent one in Colorado. He has now joined the group of retired pastors. In addition, he is available for supply preaching throughout this region.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During July our pantry will be in need of **Pasta & Rice Sides, Cereal, Fruit, and Gravy** **They are also looking for the heavier plastic bags that grocery stores use for delivery.** If you can help out by bringing some, your donation can be left in the church entry way during regular office hours.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY TOPIC: -- *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.) **We are meeting at Gebby's Family Restaurant at 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.**

THANK YOU TO THE PROPERTY BOARD – If you've driven down Hanssler and thought the Church Yard looked a little different, the two half dead flowering pear trees have been removed. Looks really nice without them.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT CONCORDIA LUTHERAN SCHOOL – There are four positions available for next school year at Concordia: Admissions Director, Title I Math Tutor, Title I Language Arts Tutor, and Kindergarten-5th Grade Physical Education Facilitator. Qualifications and Application Process information is available on the bulletin board across from Pastor's Office or you may pick up a copy from the church office. Call the school office (309-691-8921) and talk to Mr. Thompson.

CONCORDIA SOCCER PROGRAM

1. Concordia Lutheran School invites all Mt. Calvary children in 1st-8th grade (Fall 2021) to consider playing on one of the Concordia soccer teams this fall. The season runs from early August through early October. (practices starting at the end of July, games beginning in mid-August and lasting through the end of September) You do not have to be a Concordia student to play – all association church children are eligible.

Click or enter the link below to complete the interest survey. If you have any questions, please email either Soccer Coordinator Kendra Fleming kendraj13@hotmail.com (309-339-2375) or Athletic Director Drew Monkemeyer: amonkemeyer@concordiapeoria.com. Concordia Soccer Google Form Link: <https://forms.gle/zCo7XDjBMchYboLe7>

2. **5th and 6th Grade Head Volleyball Coach Needed:** Concordia Lutheran School is searching for a Head Volleyball Coach for the 5th and 6th Grade team in the upcoming Fall of 2021.

The season runs from the middle of August to the beginning of November. This position gives the opportunity to teach and train athletes in the sport of volleyball in a Christian-centered environment. We are looking for someone with a passion for and experience in volleyball and willing to work with 5th and 6th grade athletes. If you are interested in the position, please contact Concordia's Athletic Director, Mr. Drew Monkemeyer at 630-392-4303 or email at amonkemeyer@concordiapeoria.com

WORK DAY AT CONCORDIA – The next volunteer work day at Concordia is this **coming Saturday, July 17th, from 9 am to 12 Noon.** Please join them in preparing for the new School Year.

COVID-19 ERA —Phase 5! While Illinois is officially “Open,” we want to take things at a cautious pace here at Mt. Calvary. So here’s where we are for the summer --

Worship Schedule – Judging from the past few weeks, as we head into the Summer months, it looks like there’s not a pressing need to offer abbreviated services on Fridays and Saturdays, so those will go away for the time being. *However*, there are still folks who are not comfortable in “bigger” public gatherings. So, to offer a balance of larger and small gatherings, here’s the schedule for the next few months (except while Pastor Long is on vacation):

Thursdays – 6:00 pm. This will be a spoken communion service, two readings, one hymn (sung a cappella). Attendance will be capped at 30.

Sundays – 8:00, 9:00, 11:45 am. Bulletins will return for both the 8:00 and 11:45 services. While still “abbreviated,” both will feature hymns and extra readings. Both will offer communion every week. The 8:00 will be capped at 20 people attending. The 11:45 will expand to a 30 person maximum in attendance. The 9:00 service will be basically the same – except that there won’t be a limit to attendance (technically, we’re capped at 60% of the sanctuary’s capacity for seating, but that’s 153.... So, apart from Christmas or a sudden revival, that’s not an issue for us right now). Generally, communion will be offered on 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays for the 9:00 am service, and Matins on the other Sundays. We’ll stick with this for the Summer and re-evaluate needs and desires going into September....

Masking and Social Distancing – We will now simply encourage people to be prudent. If you are vaccinated and are having no other health issues, feel free to be maskless. If you are still feeling vulnerable, or are fighting allergies or other health issues, feel free to keep the mask. We’re not judging. Sit as close to, or far from, folks as you and the people around you are comfortable. Visit to your heart’s content indoors or outside.

Food – Given the number of people choosing to be “in-person” for the Adult Class, we’re not ready to order donuts or make a big pot of coffee. However, there have been generous members of the class who have been brewing coffee in smaller quantities, and even bringing donuts to share. Since eating together is such an important aspect of our common life, we encourage this to continue until we are ready to return to our previous routine.

Pastoral Contact – It’s been great to talk with many of you over the past several months, but as we all start returning to more ordinary social calendars, I’ll return

to keeping track of our shut-ins, and rely on the rest of you to initiate contact in order to keep me apprised of challenges, hospitalizations, and need for care.

Other Issues:

1. *Regular Office hours* - will continue – feel free to call or visit.
2. *You Tube Devotions* - Pastor Long will continue to post 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.
3. *Worship Videos* – We will continue to offer a video of the main service from Sunday morning on our You Tube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQY14dddMygJRCjTXdM3r1Q>
4. *Sign-ups* - We will continue to use Sign-Up Genius to pre-register attendance. While this is not so crucial for the 9:00 am service on Sunday, your use of this tool allows us to be better stewards as we print bulletins and set up for communion. Here’s the link for July:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4A728A5FB6-worship13>
5. *Bible Studies* – We will continue to be “Brushing Up on the Catechism!” in the Sunday morning Bible Study. You may attend by Zoom (while Pastor Long is gone there will be no Zoom), or in person – 10:30 am. The men are now reading “*Martyr’s Faith in a Faithless World*” by Pastor Bryan Wolfmuller — we meet Wednesdays at 6:30 am. **We will be at Gebby’s Family Restaurant, 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights. There will be no Zoom – attendance is in person only.**
6. *Challenge* - As we come back together, we still need to be connected to one other in ways deeper than just a wave and a smile. 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. And if there’s someone you’re “missing” as you come back to in-person worship, track that person down. Lost your directory? Judy will send you a new one.
7. *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 June 2021 showed year to date expenses of \$189,728.30, and offerings of \$170,091.20 which includes \$20,000.00 transferred from the endowment and \$1,089.00 from Thrivent. Please, prayerfully continue to send in your contributions.

General Wisdom: –

Some quick reminders for those of you attending the "larger" worship service on Sundays (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. Per CDC guidelines, if you are fully vaccinated, you no longer need to "mask up." If you are not fully vaccinated, or are experiencing allergies - we ask you to wear your mask when entering and exiting the building. You may take it off during worship.
4. In the sanctuary we will continue to leave empty pews to "space" folks. However, in a given pew, you are free to sit as close to or far away from others as you are comfortable with. 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 still 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. If you are fully vaccinated, you may socialize in the building (keeping safe distances); otherwise, please do your visiting outside (weather permitting).
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 an abbreviated communion service for those who feel more comfortable in a smaller setting and with shorter time indoors. And we will continue to make a service available on You Tube for those who prefer to worship remotely.

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 June 2021 showed year to date expenses of \$189,728.30, and offerings of \$170,091.20 which includes \$20,000.00 transferred from the endowment and \$1,089.00 from Thrivent. 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 Phase 5 we are still choosing to not meet until we can be pretty sure the virus is less of a threat. However – please keep an eye out for some of our special activities!

Treats for Family House – We provide treats for Family House on the fourth Monday of each month (see note on bulletin board). As of now we need a volunteer for the months of: **September, October, November, and December**. If you are able to help please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or contact 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 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.

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>.

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.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFuo.org: Begin the book of Nehemiah on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), study Jeremiah 32-35 on Sharper Iron's "A Time to Destroy and a Time to Build" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and hear practical application of our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters 7/17 at 10:00 a.m. CT. Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts!

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? Podcast episodes are available at kfuo.org/lutheranladieslounge and wherever you get your podcasts.

Rachel's Trivia Challenge: 80+ Years of LWML, On Location! Recorded on location from the 2021 Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) convention in Lexington, Ky., this installment of Rachel's Trivia Challenge celebrates over 80 years of mission and ministry made possible by the LWML.

Meandering meaningfully through time from the 1920s through the present, Rachel does her best to stump Sarah, Erin, and Bri on "a few great moments in LWML history."

How did Lutheran women make history in 1938? What strong ethical stand cost the LWML a convention in 1955? When and where was the first LWML "bat-phone" installed? Who was Flat Jan? And, of course: how is an LWML convention like the iconic 1980s mullet haircut?

Think you know the answers? Play along at home and discover how much you know (or don't know) about the LWML.

(I listened to this during my lunch hour, and ladies, they will keep you laughing for the entire time. Just go to kfuo.org and click on Lutheran Ladies Lounge for some fun and information about many subjects.)

PEORIA AREA LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – Please join us at our next meeting on Monday, September 27th, at 6:30 pm, at Bethel Lutheran Church, 325 E. Queenwood Road, Morton, IL. Contact LFL Chapter President, Bob Wegner, at cbwegner@outlook.com if you would like more information. We welcome everyone to come, learn, and join us in serving the Lord of Life.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – Was John's Gospel proclamation about Herod's marriage a political issue (Mark 6:18)? Or was it the Word of the Lord warning a neighbor against danger and pledging a better way? We may feel like neither prophets nor prophets' sons (Amos 7:14-15), but we have heard the Word of truth and the Gospel of everyone's salvation (Ephesians 1:13). However politicized or unpopular the sanctity of life becomes, we have been predestined to proclaim and celebrate it (Ephesians 1:11-12).

ISSUES ETC. – CASTING CHRIST'S NET ON THE INTERNET -- 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: The Calling of Christians in the 21st Century, The Social Justice Movement, The Scandinavian Reformation, Lutheran Hymnwriter Anna Hoppe and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

NEW GATEPOST – The Summer issue of the Central Illinois District newsletter, *The Gatepost*, 2021:Issue 3 is now available. If you don't receive it in your e-mail, copies are available on the table in the Narthex. You can have it e-mailed to you at www.cidlcms.org.