**T Mt. Calvary News and Announcements T**

**September 20, 2020**

**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.

**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](http://www.concordiapeoria.com) for information.

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| **CONCORDIA STAFF FROM MT. CALVARY** |
| Brooke Barr | - | Grade 2, & Cheerleading Coach |
| Jan Heien | - | Title I Reading Tutor |

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:**

**September 27th – 17th Sunday after Pentecost**

Psalm 25:1-10

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Philippians 2:1-18

Matthew 21:23-32

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ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – were given to the glory of God by Marcia Riddle in honor of all the educators, parents, and students who are working so hard to make this school year a real learning experience.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK:

* Susie Fink – OSF room 3701

LIFE IN THE COVID-19 ERA — PHASE 4

As we continue to live out our callings in these challenging times, here’s what life at Mt. Calvary looks like:

**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:** we are allowed to have in-person services with up to 25% of the sanctuary’s maximum occupancy. The Fire Department has just 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 this week’s Sign Up-Genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4A728A5FB6-communion15>

**6**. **Bible Studies** – We are continuing to work through Acts 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 has started reading “Faith in the Shadow of the Pandemic,” by Prof John Pless & The Rev. Dr. Jacob Corzine — 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 August 2020 Treasurer’s Report shows year-to-date expenses as $241,644.78, and year-to-date offerings as $178,350.89. We’ve also received $70,000 from the Endowment Fund. Please, prayerfully continue to send in your contributions.

Phase Four 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. A Blue tape “X,” or a sign, indicates a pew that 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.

**CONFIRMATION** — If you, or someone you know, is interested in our Confirmation program, please let Pastor Long know — this year’s classes are organizing. Pastor will be holding classes for one hour **beginning on Sunday afternoon, September 27th from 1:30 – 2:30 pm and Tuesday evening, September 29th from 4:00 – 5:00 pm.**

PORTALS OF PRAYER AND MY DEVOTIONS (for children) -- These publications are available in 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.

*HOPEFUL LIVING***– Note for those of you who used the *Hopeful Living* devotions –** I called the company, and was told the publication had been discontinued, and that explains why we have not received the books for October, November, and December.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During September our pantry will be in need of Peanut Butter, Mac & Cheese, Canned Fruit, and Baking Mixes. If you can help out by bringing some, your donation can be left in the church entry way during regular office hours.

For the month of October, Mt. Calvary Food Pantry will receive a $1 donation from each purchase of the $2.50 reusable red "My Heart" Bag at the Hy-Vee store located at Hy-Vee 4125 North Sheridan Road, Peoria IL.

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

The August 2020 Treasurer’s Report shows year-to-date expenses as $241,644.78, and year-to-date offerings as $178,350.89. We’ve also received $70,000 from the Endowment Fund.

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.mtcalvaryypeoria.org](http://www.mtcalvaryypeoria.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 Four 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!

1) ”Virtual” Zone Rally: The Peoria-Pekin Zone of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League will not be meeting in person this year, but we still want all interested women involved in the work of the League. We’ll be distributing information (by email or regular mail per your preference) that will allow you to do the Bible Study, read reports, and even hear some of the speakers. **Also, we’d like to designate September 27th as “Gifts from the Heart” Sunday. We ask two things: a) that as you worship next week (or are out and about) you bring a special donation for the food pantry (we’ll weigh it as one gift at the end of the week); and b) that you make a special mite offering (men too!) by check to the Central Illinois LWML (but give it to Dawn Henderson).**  Information was sent out this past week.

2) We’ll still be doing shut-in remembrances and Thanksgiving Baskets, so watch for that news, too.

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. **The months of October and November are still open. If you are able to bring treats for either of those months, please let LaVelle (681-9414) know.**

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 CONCORDIA

Concordia Golf Classic – will be held on Monday, October 12, 2020 beginning at 10:00 am at the Country Club of Peoria. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex.

Concordia Budget Presentation -- Interested in learning a little more about Concordia’s annual budget? Join us on Zoom Tuesday September 29 from 6:30-7:30 PM for a brief review of the current school budget. This will be the first of what we intend to be an annual presentation of the school budget by the School Board Finance Committee.

Topic: Concordia FY 21 (July 2020-June 2021) Budget Meeting Time: Sep 29, 2020 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87541486724?pwd=M2tSL0RaR0pMNEJiODBqeTZIRjkxdz09>

Meeting ID: 875 4148 6724

Passcode: 3HWcyC

Concordia Blue Jean Ball – has been rescheduled again, this time for Saturday, April 17, 2021, same time, same place. You may continue to purchase tickets at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/diamonds-and-denim-tickets-72884133405>.

ISSUES ETC. – SACRED MUSIC STATION -- You can listen to the best of the Church’s music for the past 2,000 years on Lutheran Public Radio. LPR streams 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, Tune In and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUO.ORG, **– KFUO Radio,** a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](https://kfuo.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=54af661ed49340a315983cb13&id=0bfe83119a&e=9f5cc2cb8c) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on [Facebook](https://kfuo.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=54af661ed49340a315983cb13&id=49d9c88ee5&e=9f5cc2cb8c), [Twitter](https://kfuo.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=54af661ed49340a315983cb13&id=63da213eef&e=9f5cc2cb8c), and [Instagram](https://kfuo.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=54af661ed49340a315983cb13&id=271eeda69e&e=9f5cc2cb8c).

**This week on KFUO.org,** study a curious theological question with Pastor Tyrel Bramwell on Cross Defense (9/21 at 2:00 p.m. CT), study the practical application of our Lutheran confessions on Concord Matters with Pastor Sean Smith (9/22 at 2:00 p.m. CT), and worship with us in daily chapel services at 10:00 a.m. CT. Find your favorite 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? 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](https://kfuo.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=54af661ed49340a315983cb13&id=3bc440d64b&e=9f5cc2cb8c) 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: [facebook.com/groups/LutheranLadiesLounge](https://kfuo.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=54af661ed49340a315983cb13&id=b1354e25ba&e=9f5cc2cb8c).

 [**Story Time with Sarah: Walther’s Wife, Emilie**](https://www.kfuo.org/2020/09/11/lutheran-ladies-lounge-episode-050-story-time-with-sarah-walthers-wife-emilie/)**:** Carl Ferdinand Wilhelm may be the Walther everyone knows, but this Story Time with Sarah episode is all about his wife, Emilie.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – The Apostle St. Paul must have felt like a burden and better off dead (Philippians 1:21). Persecution caused him almost constant pain. Imprisoned in Rome, perhaps awaiting execution, he only ate, bathed, and was clothed at someone else’s pleasure. Yet though he couldn’t work, God made him a witness who blessed untold multitudes throughout history (Philippians 1:24). And what great worth and purpose likewise shines in our lives even when confined to hospital beds or completely incapacitated!

Lutherans for Life Essay Contest – Peoria Area Lutherans for Life announces their Annual Life Essay Contest for 5th grade through High School. The Theme this year is Proverbs 31:8: *Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.* For information concerning topics, and essay rules check the bulletin board or call the church office and the information will be e-mailed to you. Entries are due in the church office by December 11th.

CAMP CILCA GOLF OUTING **–**

Put your team together! It's on! Come play golf with us and support CILCA! Contact Pastor Daniel Smith at revdms@gmail.com to get more details.

When: September 25th, 2020

Where: Hickory Pt. Forsyth, IL

Cost: $60

Time: Check-in starts 11:30, Shotgun start at 1 PM

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY-- CID Scholarship Sunday was last Sunday. Fourteen undergraduates and nine seminarians, all from our Central Illinois District, are in great financial need to help them continue their studies. Please make a generous gift and mail your gift to:

 Scholarship Sunday Gift

 Central Illinois District LC-MS

 1850 N. Grand Avenue West

 Springfield, IL 62702-1626

You may write a check payable to the “CID Endowment Fund”, which will be invested and the annual proceeds used to assist students for years to come, or to the “CID Scholarship Fund”, where your gift will be used to aid students in the 2020-2021 school year. Thank you for your support of our future pastors, teachers, and full-time church workers.

**There are envelopes available on the table in the Narthex for your offering – however, please send your offering to the District Office address above.**

THE CHURCH MOUSE -- Have you been to The Church Mouse lately?   600 W Main St, Peoria near the campus of Bradley University.  A sanitizing business was recently hired to perform a thorough cleaning. It’s ready for you to come in and browse. Stop by on Thurs or Fri between 10-4 or on Sat between 10-3 pm. A variety of merchandise at low prices!

THE CHURCH MOUSE -- Do you have desire to volunteer or work part time at The Church Mouse? Volunteer clerks and a warehouse person are needed at this time in order to keep the store open and keep it running efficiently. Please call the current assistant manager, Joan Resler, at (309) 673-2363 for more information.

PEORIA DINING TOUR COUPON BOOKS **--** 127 local restaurants are included in the 2021 book. For $30, you will receive a coupon towards whatever you are hungry for! Only twenty of the one hundred and twenty-seven establishments are considered “dine in only”, so you can visit today! Coupons are valid through Oct 31, 2021. Purchase your book in your church office. Please make your check payable to the Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria. Thank you for your continued support!

*THE GATEPOST* – NEWSLETTER FROM THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT – If you do not receive *The Gatepost* from the CID, copies of the latest edition are available on the table in the Narthex. If you wish to receive it via e-mail, go to [www.cidlcms.org](http://www.cidlcms.org) to sign up.