

ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER

150TH ANNIVERSARY 1869-2019



BUILT ON CHRIST OUR CORNERSTONE

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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GROWING IN CHRIST'S FAMILY

-In God's Grace

-In God's Service

“CLOSED COMMUNION: PART I, the TERMS”

Last month I wrote about a practice that separates many in Christendom, that of baptizing infants and young children (those who cannot “accept Jesus”). In that article I laid down the Biblical command and necessity of baptizing little ones, as well as the historical testimony from the Early Church which affirmed that they carried out that practice, thereby indicating that those who do not baptize infants will answer to God for their denying His gracious blessings to those precious little ones. Now this month we are going to tackle another practice which separates many Christians, one which readily and all too often leads to very strong emotions, hurt, and even leaving congregations. I of course refer to the practice of *closed Communion*.

In order to have a profitable discussion (on any topic), it is necessary that the terms being used are understood by all involved. Of itself, this is not saying that everyone *agrees* with what is being said, but simply that everyone *understands* what is being said. So, to begin, let us lay out the terms that are used so that we are all “on the same page.”

Altar and Pulpit Fellowship: An official fellowship that comes from intense dialogue which, after agreement is confirmed, is then ratified by synodical convention. In our church body (The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod) as well as others, this fellowship declares that the two church bodies are in *full agreement on all doctrines* (not just the Lord's Supper). This then allows pastors to exchange *pulpits* and lay members to commune at either church's *altars*.

Real Presence: The term used to define the mystery of Jesus' true body being present in, with, and under the bread and His true blood being present in, with, and under the wine. This means that all communicants receive the body and blood of Christ by mouth (sacramental eating). Their faith does not make the body and blood present, but the Word of God spoken in Words of Institution does so. Faith is, of course, necessary *to receive the blessings* conveyed by the body and blood of Christ. But one with an erring faith, or even no faith at all, still receives the Lord's body and blood since Jesus did not say, “Take it, this is My body *if you believe it, but it's only bread if you don't*” but simply “Take eat, this *is* My body.”

Closed Communion: The practice of only communing those who are in full fellowship with us. Practically speaking, this means communing only baptized and confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or another church body with which we have officially entered altar and pulpit fellowship.¹ Thus the term *closed* indicates that our altars are only open to those in this fellowship, being closed to those who are not.

¹ The LC-MS has altar and pulpit fellowship with churches in Africa, Asia, Latin America (including both Central and South America), and North America. In the United States, we have fellowship with one church body, The American Association of Lutheran Churches (AALC).

Open Communion: The practice of letting anyone who desires to commune to receive the Lord's Supper. Churches that practice this might still have some "basic requirements" stated (believing in Jesus, recognizing the body and blood of Christ, etc.) but they do not require full agreement in doctrine (and sometimes do not even require agreement in the Lord's Supper itself).²

Close Communion: This term seems to have appeared in LC-MS writings in the later 1930's, and is still used at times in our writings.³ It apparently emphasizes the full unity of faith (*closeness*) among those who commune together. While to the ears of many it sounds "nicer" than closed Communion, *close* is used as a synonym for *closed* Communion and refers to the exact same practice. Incidentally, as the opposite of closed is open, both of which are used when dealing with admittance to Communion, the opposite of close is far, but that term is never actually used for any Communion practice. *Closed* is the older term in our own writings.

Now, with these terms defined, we can communicate more effectively on our topic, which we will continue next month. (You may want to hold onto these definitions as they will be helpful in the upcoming articles, and are just handy to know).

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Nerud*

A LOOK at the LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS:

The Apostles' Creed, Theology of the First Article

When confessing the Apostles' Creed during a worship service (or any of the Church's creeds), it is easy to consider it to be true, yet little more than a dry, lifeless, ancient writing. Yet, such is far from the case! The Apostles' Creed confesses great truths that have been revealed from heaven by God's voice in His Word. When we confess the creed, we claim the truths it confesses as our own. In addition, the creed can be considered a "Symbol," that is, something which identifies the true Christian from the false one. As we noted last month, a primary focus of this creed is God's Triune nature. This month, we will consider the first article which deals with the First Person of the Trinity.

The First Article is very succinct: "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth." In the Early Church, the titles "Father" and "Almighty" were seen as two separate modifiers of God. The creed follows the New Testament pattern which associates the term "Father" with God.⁴ He is, first and foremost, the Father of His only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, begotten from all eternity (John 1:14-18; Matthew 3:17). Second, He is the Father of all people since He is our source (Creator, Acts 17:26) and, even more, He is especially the Father of *all believers* who have been adopted by Him through Baptism and faith in Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).

The term "Almighty" has a couple of emphases behind it. First, it declares how God is all powerful, using His omnipotence to become the *maker* of heaven and earth, that is, creating all things out of nothing (Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:3). Second, it proclaims His being the absolute *ruler* of all things (1 Chronicles 29:11-12). Yet, while these are two distinct nuances, they really are very connected, as the one who makes also rules what He has made. So our Creator is also our ruler, our preserver, provider, and protector.

Consequently, as the Small Catechism says, "For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true."⁵ God grant us to so honor our God and Father!

(Next month we will consider the doctrinal content of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed.)

While not a normal apologetics article, I thought the following, coming from a member of the secular medical field, was valuable as we deal with all the gender insanity that is present in our culture. We see that not just the Bible, but also science, when not driven by emotions and politics, shows "male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27). Then again, this doesn't shock us, since the scientific method allows for the study of God's creation! Pastor Nerud

Johns Hopkins professor on child transgender trend:

² As an example, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) established fellowship with three Reformed churches. Even though these churches all deny the Real Presence of Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper, members of the different churches may still commune back and forth, basically agreeing to disagree, having determined that such disagreement should not be a hindrance to communion fellowship.

³ The term close is also used in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), though I do not know how commonly. I have read a recent WELS dogmatics (doctrine) book which uses both *closed* and *close* (and points out how they are synonyms for the same practice). I cannot speak on the use of this term outside of the LC-MS and (limitedly) the WELS.

⁴ E.g. Galatians 1:3; Philippians 2:11; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 1 Peter 1:2.

⁵ We often refer to this as the Kingdom of Power, God's sovereign rule over all of creation, even unbelievers and the devil and his demons.

⁶ The Apostles' Creed, meaning of the First Article.

‘Many will regret this’⁷

Argues that doctors are doing treatment without evidence

A psychiatrist from Johns Hopkins University has slammed the medical and psychiatric industries for what he says is reckless and irresponsible treatment of patients who claim to be transgender.

Paul McHugh, a renowned psychiatrist from Johns Hopkins University, told *The College Fix* he believes transgender people are being experimented on because the doctors treating transgender patients with hormones “don’t have evidence that (the treatment) will be the right one.” He also criticized the manner of treatment given to many children who claim to be transgender.

“Many people are doing what amounts to an experiment on these young people without telling them it’s an experiment,” he told *The Fix* via phone.

“You need evidence for that and this is a very serious treatment. It is comparable to doing frontal lobotomies.”

Vast majority of gender minorities report mental health issues

[A recent study](#) published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine found that 80 percent of gender minority students report having mental health problems, nearly double the rate of “cisgender” students. McHugh believes that in many cases the patient’s gender dysphoria is precipitated by mental illness.

“I think their mental problems, often depression, discouragement are the things that need treatment,” not gender dysphoria, he argued.

“I’m not positive about this. It’s a hypothesis, but it is a very plausible hypothesis, and it would explain why many of the people who go on to have treatment of their body discover they are just as depressed, discouraged and live just as problematic lives as they did before because they did not address the primary problem,” he added.

Possible ‘contagion effect’

“I believe that these gender confusions are mostly being driven by psychological and psychosocial problems these people have. That explains the rapid onset gender dysphoria Lisa Littman has spelled out,” McHugh said.

The Lisa Littman to whom the professor referred is a researcher at Brown University, who last year published a [bombshell report](#) suggesting that some transgender-identified children might suffer from “rapid onset gender dysphoria,” a phenomenon in which “one, multiple, or even all of the friends [in a group] have become gender dysphoric and transgender-identified during the same timeframe.”

There was significant backlash following Littman’s publication of the study, after which Brown [censored the report](#). The study was eventually [validated](#) with its results unchanged.

Long-term effects of child transgender treatment

Asked about the possible long-term consequences of the [growing practice](#) of helping children develop transgender identities, including with hormones, McHugh expressed pessimism.

“They’re going to be in the hands of doctors for the rest of their lives, many of them are going to be sterilized not able to have their own children, and many will regret this,” McHugh said.

“Can you imagine having a life where you need to seek doctors all the time, for everything, just to live? Getting your hormones checked, getting everything checked. That is something doctors should like to spare people of,” he added.

McHugh thinks that eventually our society will look back on this craze as something of an historical shame. “I believe it will be something like how we think of eugenics now. We will come to regret it when we discover how many of the young people that were injured regret it themselves,” he told *The Fix*.

The doctor stressed that medical professionals should stick to a higher standard of evidence when considering treatment for individuals who claim a transgender identity.

“You can think whatever you want without proof. Be my guest. You can think anything you want, if you like it that way. But don’t ask me as a doctor to prescribe hormones or operate on you when I try to do things which are for your benefit,” he said.

“My aim isn’t to stop people. It’s when they draw medical people in. That’s when I insist on evidence and what makes more sense.”

INSTALLATION OF REV. DAVID ANDERSON

Trinity Lutheran Church in Coal Valley invites you to rejoice with them when Rev. David C. Anderson will be installed as their Pastor on the afternoon of October 6, 2019 at 3:00 pm. Immediately following the service, there will be a dinner in the fellowship hall for anyone who would like to attend. If you plan on staying for the meal, please RSVP to Robin at Trinity by September 29th. The Church office phone number is (309) 799-5650 or you can email at trinityCV1@gmail.com.

⁷ <https://www.thecollegefix.com/johns-hopkins-professor-on-child-transgender-trend-many-will-regret-this/>. Underlined texts are links in the online article.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

1. Sunday morning: a study on the “Book of Ecclesiastes”. (All adults 18 and older are encouraged to attend)
2. Men’s Bible study, first Thursday of the month @ 7 pm, “Christianity The First Three Centuries”, a video study supplemented by Pastor.
3. A second Men’s Bible study, the second Tuesday of every month @ 1 pm, ‘One Christ, Many Creeds”.
4. A new afternoon study of “Christianity, The First Three Centuries” began Thursday, September 26. This group will be meeting the third Thursday of each month (next class is October 17). Class time is 1:30 pm – 3 pm. This is open to all members and friends of St. John’s.



OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

God is loving and gracious to his children. In His ultimate wisdom St. John’s has been blessed with another faithful shepherd of His Word, Pastor Timothy Nerud. We have a man dedicated to preaching God’s Word in truth and purity. He is passionate in revealing all God would have us know from His Word. His care and attention to the people of this congregation is so appreciated.

Keep Pastor Nerud and his family in your constant prayers, not just this month but always. Encourage and be of aid to him as he ministers to us. Willingly share your thoughts and concerns with him in love. Willingly work with him in reaching out to the lost and all in need.

Take the opportunity, not only this month but often, to let Pastor know what a blessing he is to you personally and to the ministry of the visible church. *“We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work” (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).*

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Brad Barry
2 Nancy Wickwire
4 Lynne Daniels
5 Carl Freeman
5 Dakota Grant
5 Sandra Kane
6 Fred Magerkurth
9 Russell Blank Jr



9 John Erdman
10 Zane Roberts
11 Stephen Mooney
11 Paul Welch
12 Rev Timothy Nerud
14 Jonathan Barry
17 Nicole Magerkurth
18 Keagan Daniels

20 Kurt Gehn
25 Kristen Wolfe
26 Nathaniel Helg
27 Carson Mitchell
28 Alan Eastburn
28 Katherine Wolfe

OCTOBER BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

1 Gracelyn Kulpa
4 Cheryl Loenser
8 Keir Blank
9 Cleone Loenser
9 Stephen Mooney
11 Alec Davila
11 Robert Wolfe



14 Jason Dahl
14 Cassandra Kulpa (Fern)
16 Tim Wolfe
19 Jessi Ague
19 Kelsey Ague
19 Lexie Ague
19 Memphis Ague

19 Rachael Himmelman
23 Carl Freeman
23 Madison Winchell
24 Brad Barry
24 Shirley Dahl
24 Gary Post
31 Nicole Werling
00 Barb Miller

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

4 Daniel/Fern Kulpa (2014) - 5 yr
6 Tim/Kristy Wolfe (2006) – 13 yrs
21 Dennis/Cheryl Loenser (1971) - 48 yrs
21 Preston/Sabrina Smith (2000) - 19 yrs



22 Joel/Lynne Daniels (2005) - 14 yrs
26 Joel/Susan Goetz (1991) – 28 yrs
30 Roy/Linda White (1992) - 27 yrs
31 Dennis/Cathy Langdon (1981) - 38 yrs

ALTAR FLOWERS

Celebrate a special occasion with flowers. Sign the flower chart which is on the bulletin board next to the rest rooms. Put \$20 in a yellow envelope found by the chart. Fill in the date you want to provide flowers and the occasion/memory and place envelope in the offering plate. The rest is done for you.



OFFICE

- Please call the office when someone is ill, hospitalized, or homebound.

- Please use the email addresses below. Bulletins and sermons are posted on the website each week.
Terri Hock – churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org
Website address – www.stjohnsgeneseo.org
Facebook pages: <https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnGLY/> (youth page)
<https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/> (church page)
- Submit bulletin articles by Wednesdays and Newsletter articles by the third Sunday each month.
- Church doors are locked when Pastor and Terri are not in the building.
- Check that all lights are off and all doors locked before leaving the building.

LWML NEWS

St. John's LWML met Tuesday September 10, 2019 at 1:00 pm. We had 12 members present. Joyce Dodge opened our meeting in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.



The Biblical Paradox for this month comes from *Matthew 5:5: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.* The meaning of meek is; mild of temper, gentle, not easily irritated. This should be the disposition of all people before God. This is an attitude of humility.

Joyce emailed birthday greetings this morning to Pastor Clausing and son Elijah. Within 5 minutes she had received a response back.

The devotion for today was led by Sherry Wechsler and is written by Terry Bentley, an LWMLer, called "Be Somebody" based on Matthew 25:35-40. Sherry led the Bible study which was from our Quarterly, "We will serve the Lord!". We closed singing together, 'Take My Life and Let It Be'.

Minutes from the August meeting were approved as printed. Correspondence came from Camp CILCA, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, our new Seminary Student Andrew Hill, and Lutheran World Relief.

The treasurer's report is as follows and will be filed for review. August receipts - Mites; \$309.72, Operating; \$27, Missions; \$41. Expense Distributions – Camp CILCA; \$200, RI Zone; \$39, Phil's Friends; \$25, Mites; \$329.72, Operating; \$20. Balance: Missions; \$354.84, Operating; \$142.67, Totally; \$497.51.

OLD BUSINESS

- LWML RI Zone Fall Rally, September 24 @ Mount Calvary, Galesburg. Those planning to attend are Joyce Dodge, Karna Hollatz, Margo Schillinger, Betty Firch, Liz Neumann, Wanda Rahn, Bev Peterson (hopefully), and Terri Hock. Pastor is checking his schedule. Registration is \$10 each and should be given to Liz. Ingathering for the Rally is 'Loving Bottoms'. Joyce has the poster made for the Zone Rally. This shows our mission projects.
- Date for LWML Sunday is still to be determined. Joyce and Liz are putting together a bulletin insert. Candy grams will be passed out to the congregation. Something for the Youth is being put together as well. It was suggested we put the flowers on the Altar. All agreed. Terri will order them.
- Christine Roth was the winner of the scholarship money to attend the Fall District Retreat.

NEW BUSINESS

1. We will need to look for a new president for our group. Joyce will not be available next year.
2. We will have our District Delegate to the national convention as our guest speaker next month.
3. Liz announced that the Gebauer Family are home on furlough and will be coming to St. John's September 22. They are missionaries in the Solomon Islands working for Bible Translators. They were classmates with Rev. Woods at Fort Wayne.

Our closing Mite devotion was for the second National Mite grant; "Teach Me Too – Preschoolers with Learning Needs. Lutheran Special Education Ministries - \$80,000.

Our next meeting will be October 8 with devotions by Betty Firch and Joyce Dodge as Hostess. Bev Peterson served our refreshments for the day.

Respectfully submitted by, Terri Hock, Secretary

MITE BOX MISSION GRANTS 2019/2020

Internships for Concordia University Chicago (CUC) Churchwork Students. **\$17,000**

This grant will allow CID, in 2020 and 2021, to make available to CUC Director of Christian Education (DCE) and Deaconess Students optional non-credit internships in the field of evangelism during the summer between their junior and senior years of college. This pilot project would take place in and around Springfield, with each intern serving four weeks in one area church, and then four weeks in another – if possible, one city church and another more rural church. Interns would develop and practice "real world" evangelism skills under the auspices of these congregations and pastors, augmenting their training and experience in this important part of church life. The funds would be used for a small stipend, transportation costs, and meals for the participants.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The new Sunday school year is in full swing. There are 11 children in grades preschool – 6th grade attending regularly. We have 6 students involved in confirmation studies. Nicole Nerud and Joshua Hock are in 8th grade. Kaleb Rahn, Cole and Kayci Freeman and Carter Eastburn are the 7th grade students. Our high school class has 12 active members. Please keep each of these young people in your constant prayers.

Thank you to those who sang for the 150th celebration service. We love hearing your voices of praise to God our Heavenly Father.

Christmas will be our next big event. We will begin looking at program materials soon.

Make SS, Bible class and worship a priority in your weekly lives. You will find great blessings being in God's Word.



YOUTH NEWS

We have 12 very active youth in our congregation. Pray often for each of these young people. May their faith continue to grow and mature as they daily walk with the Lord.

A spaghetti dinner is planned for Sunday, October 27th after the worship service. This is a fund raiser for Higher Things. Details are coming. You won't want to miss out on this event and opportunity to support our Youth.



ST JOHN 150TH TRIVIA QUIZ

The committee for the 150th celebration has decided that it would be fund to include some information in each monthly newsletter about the history of our congregation. It is important that we appreciate the way our church was founded by those German immigrants and the lengths they went to in assurance their families would be faithful to the teachings of the Gospel.

- 1. T or F** Rev. Mennicke's health had been failing for several years when in the spring of 1915 his physician decided a complete rest was necessary. Although Pastor Mennick's health had not bee completely restored, he continued his labors as best he could. He passed away May 15, 1924.
- 2. T or F** On August 17 of that year a call was accepted by Rev. S. Thies of La Rose, Illinois. In October of 1925 Rev. Thies received and accepted a call to New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 3. T or F** On November 22, 1925 Rev. Carl Hilgendorf of East Moline was called.
- 4.** Soon afterwards it was resolved to remodel the church to provide adequate meeting rooms. A basement was dug, the church was remodeled inside and out, and art glass windows installed. The work was completed in late December at a cost of (a) \$12,000 (b) \$5,000 (c) \$20,000.
- 5. T or F** St. John's congregation at this time was responsible for bringing electricity to the community, having it installed in the church and parsonage.

Do you have old pictures of St. John's people or activities especially before 1900? Contact Bev Peterson.

STEWARDSHIP

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. And the hand that hammered the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, penned its final words: "We are all beggars. This is true."

And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free. Ironic, isn't it? That, in order to be free, you must be a beggar; you must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas or birthday present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't much like being in someone's debt.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. But we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. And this is His legacy to the Christian Church. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

And, if we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for his undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything – forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This is not because of any worthiness or merit in us, but it is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace.



On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. And you receive. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the life-blood of the Christian Church. God justifies us, and He declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This is not because of our works; this is because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther would point us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled "We are all beggars. This is true." We are beggars. But we are beggars of the God who does not ignore us, who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – even in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless, we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace.

So inexhaustible are the riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism and Holy Communion – that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are not only inexhaustibly satisfied but have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.

EVANGELISM

The powerful booklet, "*Forgiveness is a Choice*", tackles the difficult and not-so-pretty matter of forgiveness in our lives. This booklet contains real scenarios and shows how forgiveness takes work and a desire to get beyond the offenses we've experienced or have committed against others. Just as the Father reconciled us to Himself through His Son's saving work on the cross, so He expects us to forgive one another. Pick it up in the narthex tract rack.

Are you praying for your friends who need to know Jesus? Are you building up that friendship? Have you told them how much Jesus means to you? Have you invited them to get to know Jesus better? This sort of friendship takes patience and persistence. God's timing is not our timing. We sow; God brings the harvest. 1 Corinthians

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Transferred to the Church Triumphant – Robert Peterson

Baptized as a child of God – Barrett Lee Hock (son of Adam Hock and Samantha Gunnison-Hock)

Baptized as a child of God – Lillian Lou Hock (daughter of Adam Hock and Samantha Gunnison-Hock)

GENESEO INTERNATIONAL THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

You can become part of it history by **Hosting** an international college student this year over the Thanksgiving weekend (November 27 – December 1). For information on this opportunity please contact Terri Hock or Arlyn & Marcia Helke. This is a wonderful chance to learn of another country, share your home and the Thanksgiving Holiday and your faith. Application deadline is November 7.



HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Each week there is a small group of women who gather for prayer. They pray for the needs of their families, this congregation and its members, our community, nation and world. All are invited to join them whenever possible. There is no greater way to serve than through prayer.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

We also have a 'Prayer Chain'. All prayer requests can be made to the office and a special prayer will be sent to those prayer warriors. For more information on either group, contact the church secretary.

'What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer'!

There are bright orange prayer request cards in the pew rack. Use these to let us know how we can pray for you or your loved ones. Place these cards in the offering plate or in the church office.

Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:16b



COUNCIL/VOLUNTEERS

During the month of October, we ask you remember Pastor Nerud, Heidi, Sarah, Nicole, and Katrina. God has richly blessed us with a faithful minister of His Word. Let us keep Pastor and his family in constant pray and encouragement for the great task laid before him as Shepherd of St. John's.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Throughout each month, please join the Council in praying for two families of St. John's congregation during the month of October: Stephanie Mosher and Duane Miller family.

Our Infrequent Attendees – pray the Holy Spirit bring them to the understanding of their need to be in regular worship in church on Sunday and that we as their brothers and sisters in Christ would reach out to them.

Our LWML Chapter and Ladies Aid – that God would continue to bless their work.

Sunday school – pray the Holy Spirit would direct and guide the students to a better understanding of God's love and mercy in Jesus Christ and that all parents would be diligent in bringing their children each Sunday.

Women's Ministry - we pray that a ministry would begin which would speak to the needs of all women.

Youth – pray the Holy Spirit would provide the means to work with our youth to keep them faithful to their confirmation promises. Bless and increase their numbers.

Elderly/Shut-ins - pray that this congregation would continually remember our Elderly and Shut-ins and minister to their special needs.

Stephen/Care Ministry – pray that God would guide us to the needs of others and supply willing people who will reach out to help provide for those needs.

REMEMBERING THOSE IN NEED!

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY—O Lord, You are the great Physician of soul and body. We pray that You would show mercy these members of St. John's:

Drew Schillinger

Steve/Paula Mooney

Joyce Miller

Lillian Hock

Cleone Loenser

Jim/Shirley Dahl

Lee/Lynne Johnson

Marilyn Woods

Arlyn Helke

John Wildermuth

Bob/Norma Daniels

Derek Helke

Bob Esterlein

Barrett Hock

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY/FRIENDS:

Don Eggers (son of a friend of Marilyn Woods)

Pam Bennett (friend of Dan/Roselyn Maeltzer)

Diana Helke (sister-in-law of Arlyn and Marcia Helke)

Rosemary Sternbeck (wife of Pastor David Sternbeck)

Mike Miller (friend of Bob & Sherry Wechsler)

Karen Wright (wife of Pastor Gary Wright)

Jodi Martins (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)

Mike Rowlands (friend of Arlyn/Marcia Helke)

John & Anita Causling (missionaries in Kenya)

Virginia Miller (mother of Jamie Werling)

Marilyn Potts (wife of Cal, former LFC)

MILITARY, THOSE SERVING & THEIR FAMILIES:

Mandy & Richard Davila (daughter & son-in-law of Dale & Linda Aper)

Luke & Nicole Thompson (son & daughter-in-law of John & Kindra Thompson)

Ken Willeford (husband of Alicia Hock)

James Ballegeer (son of Dave & Robin Ballegeer)

Tyler Hynes (nephew of Mark Ague)

Karl Flynn (son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Flynn)

Tyler Mahsem (son of Phil & Teresa Mahsem)

Zachary Gardner (nephew of Bob & Lois Esterlein)

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

The Lutheran Hour can be heard each Sunday on the following Stations at the listed times.

| | | | |
|------|------------------|---------|---------|
| WGEN | Kewanee, IL | 1500 AM | 5:30 am |
| WKEI | Kewanee, IL | 1450 AM | 5:00 am |
| KCLN | Clinton, IL | 1390 AM | 9:30 am |
| WMT | Cedar Rapids, IA | 600 AM | 6:30 am |

You can receive Daily Devotions to your computer. Go to lhmin@lhm.org

150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

"The Lord is faithful through all generations, therefore we will tell of His mercy to our children."

The verse above is our theme throughout this year of 2019. St. John's Lutheran Church is celebrating a tremendous milestone of God's faithfulness and blessings. During the year, we will focus on the many gifts given to our

ancestors and us throughout these many years. Not only will we look back, but we want to look forward as well. We have a great message to share. Our ancestors knew the importance of staying true to the Word of God and they eagerly shared this message of God's grace through Jesus to their families, friends, surrounding communities and the world. **We can do no less.** May our voices speak in strength and boldness about our loving Heavenly Father and the salvation given to all who would believe in Christ Jesus.

Answers to quiz: 1, 2, 3, 5 are T, 4 (a)



Listen to:
Music of the Church,
Morning Chapel,
and Issues, Etc.

Christ Centered, Cross-Focused Talk Radio anytime at:
LUTHERANPUBLICRADIO.ORG

HAMMOND-HENRY HOSPITAL HEALTH SERIES 2019-2020

Hammond-Henry Hospital Foundation is planning two series of both Women's Health and Men's Health programs. Health professionals and other experts will offer information on a variety of topics affecting our health.

Women's Health programs will be offered from 12 noon – 1 pm at the Cellar in Geneseo on the fourth Thursday of the month. The cost of the luncheon is \$9.

Men's Health programs will be offered on specified Wednesdays at Hammond-Henry Hospital in the first-floor conference room from 7 – 8 am. Those attending may purchase breakfast in the hospital dining room.

Women's Topic: October 24, 2019..... Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

Men's Topic: October 2, 2019..... Changes as We Age

Reservations can be made by calling 309-944-9112 or email hhhfound@hammondhenry.com by Tuesday prior to the program you wish to attend.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY CHOIR TOUR

We hope you can join us for the *Laudamus* choir concert at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1122 W Central Park Ave, Davenport IA on Tuesday, October 15 beginning at 7 pm. *Laudamus* is a select choir of seminarians from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis who are preparing for full-time pastoral ministry. The choir's program is eclectic, representing the church's song from many different genres. Please join us and tell your friends and family.

MEET OUR SEMINARY STUDENT – ANDREW R. HILL

Dear St. John's Lutheran Church,

Greetings! I received an email from Concordia Theological seminary a few days ago informing me that you are so kindly adopting me. My family and I want you to know how deeply grateful we are to you. I eagerly look forward to getting to know you and your congregation a bit better.

I think the seminary has sent you information about me but let me introduce myself again. My name is Andrew Robert Hill. My wife's name is Sarah. We were married July 23, 2016. On January 6, 2018 God blessed us with a son. His is named John Martin Hill after his grandfathers. I could happily spend this entire letter talking about him. He thinks that he is a big boy: he walks up and down the stairs wherever we can find them and babbles entire conversations to whoever will listen. The only real words he can say is "tractor" which is anything with either wheels or the sound of a motor, and sometimes "mon, dad, up-oh, dog, bird, and baby". Yes, we are expecting our second child on October 28, give or take. We are overjoyed as the day quickly approaches. John of course doesn't understand, but if you ask where the baby is, he will pull his shirt up and point at his belly.

I spent my time this summer working and studying. I was also my circuits lay delegate at the synodical convention. You can say that it was interesting. I learned a lot about how our synod does its business. After that week my wife and I loaded up all our belongings and went to Casper, Wyoming where both of our families live. We just spent time with family, and I went backpacking with my dad. We have been in Fort Wayne now for three weeks! Already it is beginning to feel like home. We have had the opportunity to be on campus for chapel several times and have met several professors. I now eagerly await the start of classes on September 9. Until then I will keep helping my wife set up our house and study.



The Scripture verse that served as the theme of the convention I was just at was 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Jesus Christ for you." I rejoice with you that we have a God who loves us to the point of sending His own Son to die for our sins. I rejoice with you that He gave us His Word to be preached to all nations. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare to begin my studies. Please pray for my wife during the stress of transition as the time come to deliver our baby. Please pray for my family as this whole time is difficult. I pray that God keep you firm in His Word and faith. And I give thanks to God for you. I thank God for giving me daily bread through you.

In Christ, Andrew R. Hill

COOKIES N CARDS

Fun, Food and Fundraising for our Foreign Missionaries!

What? **Card Making Day!** Whether you are a beginner or an expert paper crafter, this will be a fun morning to join with Women in Mission from St Matthew and Immanuel Churches to raise money for our missionaries by making all occasion cards for you to give or send to your friends.

When? **Saturday Oct 19th** 9am to noon. Check-in starts at 8:30

Where? **St Matthew Lutheran Church**, 115 12th Ave. West, Milan, IL.

Who is invited? Members and friends, grandmothers, mothers and daughters (12 years or older).

For your registration fee of \$15 you will get everything you need to make 6 beautiful all occasion cards. If you have always wanted to try stamping and paper crafting, this is your chance! Not only do we provide all the supplies, we have Creative Crafter Teachers to show you how to do it!

Proceeds from this event will support the work of missionaries in Spain, Sri Lanka, Ghana and Russia.

Space is limited and filling fast! Registration closes when all seats are filled or Sept 30, 2019, which- ever comes first!

Questions? Call or text Deb Toal (309) 235-1402 or email Christine Boudro parrycm@yahoo.com

Cookies n Cards at St Matthew Lutheran Church - Oct 19, 2019
Mail \$15 and registration form to

LWML Immanuel Lutheran Church
3300 24th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201
(please make checks payable to **Immanuel LWML**)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

This Fundraiser will support these missionaries:

Reverend David and Shelee Warner – Seville, Spain. Reverend Warner serves as a church planter, working with the LCMS mission team in Spain and Spanish church leaders to grow the congregation in Seville. He also serves members across Spain and assists with theological education.

Reverend Adam and Christine Lehman – Seville, Spain. Reverend Lehman serves throughout Spain as a church planter, working alongside other church leaders to grow the church in this country.

Reverend Steven and Martha Mahlburg – Shi Lanka. Reverend Mahlburg seeks to build and maintain relationships with the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sri Lanka. He provides support for raising up pastors and grounding congregations in Lutheran doctrine and practice. He works with other LCMS personnel to provide pre-seminary training. In addition, Steven serves as a pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Mission Church in Sri Lanka's capital city of Colombo.

Reverend Dale and Suzanne Kaster – Ghana, West Africa and Prague. Reverend Kaster trains men from the country of Ghana to serve as pastors of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana (ELCG).

Alyssa Anders - St. Petersburg, Russia. She works with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria (an LCMS partner church) teaching in the Seminary, enabling them with English as a Second Language skills.

October



2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|-----|--|---------|---------|--------|------|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| <p>ELDER Joel Werling</p>  | <p>ACOLYTE</p> | 1 | 2 LL 1 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm | 3 Prayer Circle 8 am LLL 10 am Ladies Aid 1:30 pm Elders 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm | 4 | 5  | | | | | | | | |
| 6 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship/Comm 10 am LL 1:30 pm | 7 | 8 LWML/Men's Bible Study 1 pm SM Supervision 4 pm | 9 LL 1 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm | 10 Prayer Circle 8 am LLL 10 am | 11 | 12 | | | | | | | | |
| 13 LWML/MISSION SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10 am LL 1:30 pm | 14 | 15 Council meeting 7 pm | 16 LL 1 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm | 17 Prayer Circle 8 am LLL 10 am Bible Study 1:30 pm | 18 | 19 | | | | | | | | |
| 20 SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship/Comm 10 am LL 1:30 pm | 21 <i>PD Photo sessions 2-8 pm</i> | 22 SM Supervision 4 pm SS Teachers 6:30 pm <i>PD Photo sessions 2-8 pm</i> | 23 LL 1 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm | 24 Prayer Circle 8 am LLL 10 am | 25 | 26 | | | | | | | | |
| 27 REFORMATION SS/Adult/Youth Bible Study 8:45am Worship 10 am Voters' Assembly 11 am Youth Fund Raiser dinner LL 1:30 pm | 28 | 29 | 30 LL 1 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm | 31 Prayer Circle 8 am LLL 10 am | | <p>USHERS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Betcher</td> <td>Neumann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DeWulf</td> <td>Post</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Holke</td> <td>Raschke</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loenser</td> <td>Stenzel</td> </tr> </table> | Betcher | Neumann | DeWulf | Post | Holke | Raschke | Loenser | Stenzel |
| Betcher | Neumann | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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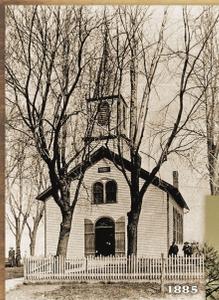


ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
8948 N 1900 AVE
GENESEO IL 61254

**SUNDAY SCHOOL/ADULT & YOUTH BIBLE
CLASS - 8:45 AM**

**LWML Sunday – October 13
Voters' Assembly – October 27**

**WORSHIP SERVICES – 10 AM
1st & 3rd Sundays/Holy Communion
Youth Fund Raiser Dinner – October 27**



**150th
Anniversary
Celebration**



***St. John's
Lutheran Church***

Geneseo, Illinois



1869-2019

The Lord is faithful through all generations.