

# ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER



**BUILT ON CHRIST OUR CORNERSTONE**

**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Hearing/Handicapped Assistance Available

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*St. John's Church building is closed until further notice but God's message is still being proclaimed and His work continues throughout all our days.*

## GROWING IN CHRIST'S FAMILY

**-In God's Grace**

**-In God's Service**

### **"Saved by Faith *and* Works?"**

This month's article on the Lutheran Confessions deals with the Athanasian Creed. I will leave the discussion of the creed to that article, but there is a portion of it that is worth considering on its own. It states, "And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire" (verse 39). To the ears of many, this seems to sound as if works are the determinant of salvation. Is this correct?

To begin, it is always necessary to study the larger context. In other words, verse 39 of the Athanasian Creed is that, verse 39. There are 39 *other verses* of which this verse is but a part. Previous to this verse, the creed has already declared the necessity of believing rightly in the Holy Trinity as well as the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, including both His two natures and His work.<sup>1</sup> Concerning the work of the Godman, the Athanasian Creed states that He "suffered for our salvation" (#36). Obviously, this confirms that it is impossible for the creed to suddenly declare that our works alone save us. But could it mean faith *plus works* save us?

Before we get too suspect of the Athanasian Creed, let's quickly consider some similar sounding words, "Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, *those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.*"<sup>2</sup> See how the Athanasian Creed is simply reiterating a truth proclaimed in Holy Scripture, a truth spoken directly by the Godman who "suffered for our salvation"! So, the question is not, "Is the Athanasian Creed's wording wrong?" but is instead "How are we to understand these words rightly?"

Okay, now is the time to present a few of those beautiful promises of free salvation that are recorded in Scripture,

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law (Romans 3:28).

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).

<sup>1</sup> See this month's article on the Lutheran Confessions for further discussion on these and other points of confession in the Athanasian Creed.

<sup>2</sup> John 5:28-29, *emphasis added*.

As these words are also spoken either directly by the incarnate Son or by His Spirit through His inspired apostle, we rightly conclude that Jesus (and the Holy Spirit for that matter!) cannot contradict Himself. Thus, what He says about being saved by faith alone *as well as* those who do good being raised to life and those who have done evil raised to judgment *are all true*. So how can this be?

It is helpful to draw from a text in Revelation. St. John records, “And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done... And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:12, 15).

An honest reading makes it clear that there are different books involved. First there are “the books” which record what people have done, i.e. their works, whether good or evil. Second, there is “the book of life.” Now consider, that while people are judged by their works recorded in “the books,” their eternal fate is determined, *not by these books*, but whether or not *their name is written in the book of life!* This book of life is referred to throughout the Bible<sup>3</sup> and is specifically called the book of life of the Lamb,<sup>4</sup> the one who was slain before the foundation of the world.

And so it all comes together. For one’s name to be written in the book of life, that person must have been one of the elect, brought to faith in Christ Jesus and so saved. If they are not written in the book of life they do not have saving faith and so are condemned. And so, as Scripture teaches, faith alone saves while unbelief condemns.

But what about the works then? It’s actually pretty simple. Faith receives the forgiveness of sins which Christ Jesus purchased by His suffering and death. That means for believers, since their sins are forgiven, they do not have any wicked or evil works in “the books.” All such have been washed away by the blood of the Lamb. They only have those good works, when their faith was working through love (Galatians 5:6). On the other hand, since they rejected the forgiveness of Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, unbelievers have only wicked and evil works in “the books,” as anything not coming from faith in Christ Jesus is judged as sin in God’s eyes (Romans 14:23). The fact that some believers will have more and greater good works than others recorded in “the books,” even as some unbelievers have more and worse acts of wickedness, becomes the basis for the gracious rewarding of degrees of glory in heaven as well as degrees of punishment in hell.<sup>5</sup>

So we are saved by grace through faith alone. But as Luther aptly put it, *faith is never alone*. It will be bringing forth a new life of confessing Christ, battling sin, doing good works, and bearing the cross with patience. These works *are the fruit* of saving faith. But as this fruit is seen by God (after all, His Spirit produces it within us!), as just one more gracious act, He records our works in order to bless them even in eternity. May God work in each of us a strong faith which ever produces much fruit to His glory!

*Pastor Nerud*

### **A Look at the Lutheran Confessions: *The Athanasian Creed, Theology***

Unlike the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds which have three articles, each of which focuses on one person of the Trinity, that Athanasian Creed has really two parts, both of which are fairly extensive (the creed has been broken into 40 verses). The first part, #3-26, are an exposition and confession of the doctrine of Trinity, the greatest mystery of the Christian faith. The second part, #27-39, deals with the doctrine of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the second greatest mystery of the Christian faith. And it is no wonder that so much is contained, since it is when dealing with these great mysteries that human reason and speculation enter in and

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<sup>3</sup> Exodus 32:32, 33; Psalm 69:28; Daniel 12:1; Philippians 4:3; Revelation 3:5; 17:8

<sup>4</sup> Revelation 13:8; 21:27.

<sup>5</sup> This doctrine of degrees of glory and torment is stated in such passages as Matthew 11:21-24; Luke 12:47-48; Matthew 19:28-30; 25:21; 2 Corinthians 9:6; Daniel 12:3; Revelation 14:13. How Christ will work out the specifics must await Judgment Day, but they such degrees indicate God’s justice, that He does see our works, and so also encourages us to even greater faithfulness.

false teaching and heresy are given birth, something the Church had been fighting already for a couple hundred years as we heard last month.<sup>6</sup>

As said, part one deals with the Trinity. It begins stating, “we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.”<sup>7</sup> Part one is probably the better-known part of the creed, most likely due to its repetitive nature.<sup>8</sup> It confesses the full personhood of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that each person is fully uncreated, eternal, infinite, almighty, God, and Lord, yet there are not three Uncreated, Eternals, Infinite, Almighty, Gods, and Lords, but only One, for the substance of God is one. Thus each divine person has the same glory and majesty.

Yet, it also confesses the differences of the persons within the Trinity as well, that is, *in the relation that they bear to one another*. So the Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone, the Son is not made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone, and the Holy Spirit is of the Father and the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding. These words are difficult, the realities they convey go beyond our understanding, but they are all biblical.<sup>9</sup> So we learn and confess that there are three eternally *distinct* Persons that are inseparably united in this one divine essence we call “God.” And this God, this Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity, is to be worshipped.<sup>10</sup> And so this part of the creed concludes, “Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity” (#26).

However, God, the most blessed and holy Trinity, cannot be known apart from the second mystery, “But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ” (#27). In this second part on the incarnation of our Lord, the creed breaks down further into two subsections. First is the teaching on the two natures of Jesus Christ, His true and full divinity and His true and full humanity (#28-35). Here the two-fold “generation” of the Son is proclaimed, His generation from the Father in eternity (His divine nature) and His generation in time from His mother, the Virgin Mary (His human nature). And so this one person is both perfect God and also perfect man, having both a rational soul and body. He is one, not by the divinity being changed into flesh, but by the human nature being taken into the divine person of the Son of God. So, as far as His divine nature He is equal to the Father, but as far as His human nature, He is less than the Father.<sup>11</sup> This is not a belittling of Jesus, making Him less, but a declaration that in His one person, both natures still exist.

Similar to the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds, the Athanasian Creed then goes on and confesses the work of the Godman Jesus Christ (#36-39). It declares His suffering for our salvation, His descent into hell, resurrection on the third day, ascension into heaven, and His being seated at the right hand of the Father from when He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

While the length of this creed causes it to be used only rarely, perhaps, for some people, more troubling than its size is some of its strong statements not found in the other creeds. First, there are the warnings (#1, 2, 26, 40) that one must believe in agreement with this creed in order to be saved and, consequently on the flipside, “Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally” (#2). In this day and age of milk-toast teaching so as not to offend anyone, we must remember that this creed deals with the most fundamental Christian truths of the triune nature of God and the two natures of Jesus and His redeeming work. Christian doctrine *is exclusive* (Acts 4:12), and so this creed simply echoes the Holy Spirit’s words of damnation upon those who preach or teach differently than the divine truth as revealed in the Bible (Galatians 1:8,9).

Two final things can cause confusion and concern. First, there is the usage of the word *catholic*, “This is the catholic faith” (#40, see also 1, 3, 19). Hearing this, some mistakenly make the connection to Roman Catholic.

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<sup>6</sup> That is why divine revelation, the Holy Scripture must guide us, giving us the words to use and believe, even as it sets limits to our thoughts lest we enter great error.

<sup>7</sup> Athanasian Creed, #4. As given in *Lutheran Service Book*, p. 319.

<sup>8</sup> It has been well-said that “Repetition is the mother of learning.”

<sup>9</sup> Psalm 2:7; John 3:16; Galatians 4:4; John 15:26; John 20:22.

<sup>10</sup> While the word *Triune* is not used in the Athanasian Creed, we can see its great value as it literally means three (*Tri-*) in one (*unus*), thus meaning Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity.

<sup>11</sup> Consider Christ Jesus is exalted with His descent into hell, resurrection from the dead, ascension to heaven, and sitting at the right hand of God. Clearly this exaltation must happen according to His human nature, as the divine nature could not be exalted any higher than God already is, just as it could not have been humbled during His state of humiliation, which also then occurred according to His human nature.

But *catholic* originally meant “wholeness, integrity,” and later, drawing from these, “universality.” In other words, this is the what the whole true and pure Church of all times and places has, does, and will yet believe.<sup>12</sup> The final part, the seeming teaching of salvation by works, “And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire” (#39) is further examined in the pastor’s article (please see that).

*Next month we will begin our consideration of Luther’s catechisms.*

### **Apologetics: Solar wind protects us from cosmic rays Startling discoveries from the Voyager 2 space probe<sup>13</sup>**

*Once again we see that those who deny intelligent design have to give their praise to “luck,” “amazing coincidence,” or some other nonsense. How much easier it is to just accept the most logical conclusion: there is a Creator, and to then give Him the praise He deserves! - Pastor Nerud*

In 1977, NASA launched its two Voyager space probes. Thanks to them, we know so much more about the outer planets, including Jupiter and Saturn (Voyager 1 and 2), and Uranus and Neptune (Voyager 2). Recently, they have reached interstellar space—some reports say they have left the solar system. In particular, Voyager 2 reached interstellar space on 5 Nov 2018, over six years after Voyager 1. They have also taught us much about the sun itself.

#### *Solar wind*

The sun’s super-hot atmosphere, the corona, emits the solar wind, a stream of extremely fast (250 to 750 km/s) charged particles. This wind pushes against the particles in comet tails, causing them to point away from the sun. Fortunately we are protected from the particles in the solar wind by earth’s strong (albeit decaying) magnetic field, which traps them. We see the results as the aurorae, which are most prevalent near the poles in the wintertime.

Some might ask, why would God make such a dangerous sun? But in reality, our sun is ideal for life here on earth. First of all, it is remarkably stable. It is very quiescent compared to most stars of its type. And the latest Voyager 2 findings show that the powerful solar wind produced by our sun is an important design feature.

#### *Solar system boundary?*

The Voyager probes discovered that the solar wind was still blowing at enormous distances, many times further than any planets. We knew the solar wind would be slowed down by the gases of the interstellar medium. We knew this would happen, but we did not know how far out the solar wind would go.

The boundary is called the *heliopause*, and the Voyager probes have told us that it is over 121 astronomical units (AU) from the sun (1 AU is the earth-sun distance, 150 million km or 93 million miles). They also found that the distance is not constant. Rather, according to Voyager project scientist Ed Stone, of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, “The heliosphere itself is breathing in and out.”<sup>a</sup>

This encloses an immense ‘bubble’ around the sun called the *heliosphere*. Some call the heliopause the boundary of the solar system. However, there are some solar system objects that travel past this boundary and back, so it is not really the ‘edge’.

The sun’s gravity is still dominating at distances far larger than the heliopause. E.g. the planetoid Sedna is about the size of Pluto and is thought to travel to over 900 AU away from the sun at the maximum extent of its highly elliptical orbit, and the hypothetical Oort comet cloud (the supposed source of long-period comets) is claimed to be 2,000 to 200,000 AU.

The extent where a body’s gravitational field dominates all others is called the *Hill sphere* or *Roche sphere* (not to be confused with the Roche limit). The sun’s Hill sphere can be considered the real boundary of the solar system, and could even be a light year or more in radius.

#### *Importance of the solar wind*

A year after Voyager 2 crossed the heliopause, scientists had a chance to analyze its findings.<sup>b</sup> They found that, as expected, the plasma density was higher outside this boundary. There are many more high-energy cosmic rays here, which make up a significant proportion of the ‘plasma’ in interstellar space. These are

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<sup>12</sup> As a side note, the word *catholic* was originally used in both the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds and has been translated as “Christian” since the 15<sup>th</sup> century, something which Luther followed. Therefore, it could be translated as such in the Athanasian Creed as well.

<sup>13</sup> by Jonathan Sarfati; <https://creation.com/heliopause>. Underlined texts are links in the online article.

extremely energetic particles, therefore dangerous to us, and many come from supernova explosions of massive stars. Also as expected, the number of solar wind particles plummeted.

*National Geographic* summarizes these amazing findings:

Based on Voyager data, this bubble extends about 11 billion miles from the sun at its leading edge, surrounding the sun, all eight planets, and much of the outer objects orbiting our star. Good thing, too: *The protective heliosphere shields everything inside it, including our fragile DNA, from most of the galaxy's highest-energy radiation.*<sup>c</sup>

That is, from our perspective inside the heliosphere, there are far fewer extremely energetic particles because the lower-energy particles jetting outward from the sun are creating a 'shield wall' for the solar system. So it turns out that the heliopause is actually very important.

*References and notes*

- a. Cited in Wall, M., Voyager 2's Trip to Interstellar Space Deepens Some Mysteries Beyond Our Solar System, 4 Nov 2019.
- b. Voyager 2 Illuminates Boundary of Interstellar Space, [jpl.nasa.gov](http://jpl.nasa.gov), 4 Nov 2019.
- c. Greshko, M., Interstellar space even weirder than expected, NASA probe reveals, [nationalgeographic.com](http://nationalgeographic.com), 4 Nov 2019 [Emphasis added].

### DRIVE-BY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR KARNA HOLLATZ

Everyone is invited to join us in a 'Drive-By' parade to celebrate the 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Karna. We will meet together in St. Malacy's parking lot Wednesday evening June 3. We will begin the parade, leaving the parking lot, promptly at 6 pm to drive past Karna's house. We hope many of you can participate.

### WORSHIP SERVICES

All Sunday services continue to be streamed Live on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/>) during the regular service time of 10 am each Sunday morning. These streamed services will also be posted on our church website ([churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org)) the day following each service.

Pastor also has a live streamed weekly devotion on Facebook. Take a moment to check it out.

### 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](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsgeneseo.org)

Website address – [www.stjohnsgeneseo.org](http://www.stjohnsgeneseo.org)

Facebook pages: <https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnGLY/> (youth page)

<https://www.facebook.com/St.Johns.Geneseo/> (church page)

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Jessica Johnson  
1 Jerry Hickenbottom  
3 Karna Hollatz  
4 Aidan Copejans  
5 James Rahn  
6 Mike Kolb  
7 Darla Johns  
7 John Neumann  
7 Kem Schillinger  
8 Coni Himmelman



8 Katrina Nerud  
9 Richard Anderson  
9 Dominick O'Neil  
12 Paula Chapa  
12 Emerson Mitchell  
12 Seth Winchell  
13 Mandolyn Davila  
15 Lexie Ague  
15 Richard DeWulf  
16 Rachael Himmelman  
16 Denise Winchell

17 Kelsey Ague  
18 Sharilyn Iliff  
18 Sandra Rahn  
19 Nicole Nerud  
24 Haillie Miller  
24 Rodney Miller  
25 Rosalie Jorgensen  
27 Rebecca Ague  
27 Kyle Rahn  
28 Liz Neumann  
30 Maxx Hermann

## JUNE BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

2 Rylie Hallendorff  
3 Jennifer Magerkurth  
4 Dan Werner  
5 Harrison Wright  
6 Ben Schillinger  
8 Matthew Gehn  
8 Linda White  
10 Lee Johnson  
10 Kyle Wickwire



12 Addison Jorgensen  
14 Gannon Marcese  
15 Linda Aper  
16 Charles Johnson  
16 Theresa Mosher  
17 Randall Rasmussen  
18 Martin Himmelman  
18 Janice Neeld  
22 Mike Dahl

22 Lindsey Gustafson  
24 Payten Helg  
26 Richard Anderson  
26 Craig Mosher  
27 Gabe Loenser  
28 Kyle Miller  
29 Claire Yerkey  
30 Marcia Helke  
30 Jacob Miller

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

3 Lee/Lynne Johnson (1956) - 64 yrs  
6 Rufus/Kristin Hamby (2013) - 7 yrs  
7 Gary/Darla Johns (1964) - 56 yrs  
14 David/Denise Schmedt (2015) - 5 yrs  
18 Arlyn/Marcia Helke (1967) - 53 yrs



20 Justin/Justine Mitchell (2009) - 11 yrs  
22 Jay/Janelle Gibson (2014) - 6 yr  
24 Fred/Sheila Magerkurth (1962) - 58 yrs  
25 Bill/Julie Lage (1999) - 21 yrs  
27 Mike/Francie Kolb (1970) - 50 yrs

## STEWARDSHIP

The sin of the world is paid for. God's Law has been kept perfectly on our behalf. The prophecies have all been fulfilled. Jesus Christ has finished it all! And that, dear Christians, should fill us with complete confidence in our salvation. Since Jesus has finished all these things in His self-sacrifice, we can be fully certain our sins are forgiven, and we have everlasting life!

St. Paul wrote: "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Rom. 12:1)

We hear the same teaching in 1 Peter. "As you come to him, a living stone, rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves, like living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:4-5)

It's the very thing Malachi foretold of the Lord, that He would come and purify His priestly people, that they may offer to Him an offering in righteousness. (Mal. 3:3)

So, what does this mean? In view of God's mercies – that is, because Jesus sacrificed Himself to make us pure, giving His entire self into death – Paul said that we are to sacrifice ourselves entirely to God, offering Him our whole lives. For our Savior did not give Himself for us in part. So, we do not give back to Him in part.

We don't offer ourselves to God just on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings, for example. Rather, we give Him our whole selves, all the time. We understand that offering ourselves to God as living sacrifices involves the giving of our time. It requires us to be faithful stewards of the time He has given us. Yes, it means we devote to our Savior all our time. Otherwise we are not sacrificing our whole lives.

You see, God both teaches us, and has graciously qualified us, to present ourselves to Him as living sacrifices – to live as His holy priests, who offer Him acceptable sacrifices through Jesus Christ, all day, every day, in our various callings.

In the passages from Romans and 1 Peter, we hear several examples of Christian self-sacrifice: serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy, living peaceably with others, submitting to governing authorities and those over us in the workplace, wives submitting to husbands, husbands honoring wives, showing compassion, and suffering patiently in doing good.

In all these things, and in all our other everyday activities, we sacrifice ourselves by using our time, not just for our own benefit, but also and especially for the well-being of others. Work time, school time, exercise time, study time, mealtime, chore time, recreation and relaxation time, even sleep time – it's all God's gift to us to use for purposes that please and honor Him.

This challenges us to think about the way we spend our time, how we utilize our talents, and the way we spend our treasures. Whatever it is I'm doing, am I doing it "for the Lord"? (Col. 3:23) Am I presenting God a living sacrifice? Am I conducting myself as a holy priest, whose sacrifice is acceptable to God?

Because our Lord sacrificed Himself wholly for us, we offer ourselves wholly to Him as living sacrifices. This is following Jesus in self-sacrifice. By His saving mercy, yes, our sacrifice is acceptable to God. For the sake of Jesus' finished work, God is pleased with us.



## EVANGELISM

Matthew 6:24-34: Jesus teaches us to be “first things first” people. With the help of the Holy Spirit, prayer changes us. Prayer leads us away from our own solutions and plans and toward God and His will and righteousness. God says, “Trust Me. I am going to do amazing things.” That’s the tough part of being faithful. But the world is watching. Will they see us put our lives and our plans in God’s hands? Our best witness today may be simply putting God first to introduce the world to our Heavenly Father who cares for us and knowing we trust Him with everything. Source: [LCMS.ORG](http://LCMS.ORG)

### HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

*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*

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. 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!’*

*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 June, we ask you remember the Board of Stewardship: Carolyn Werner and Sherry Wechsler. Pray for them as they continue to carry out their work. Your support and help is greatly appreciated as well.

**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**– 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/Homebound** - 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.

**Confirmation Students** – pray that they will be eager to study, learn and grow in the teachings of the Lutheran church and their faith. May they see this is the beginning of a life lived for Jesus.

### 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**

**Jim Rahn**

**Lillian Hock**

**Rod Miller**

**Arlyn Helke**

**Bob Esterlein**

**Carolyn Werner**

**Carolyn Wildermuth**

**Derek Helke**

**Lee/Lynne Johnson**

**Betty Firch**

**Tim/Kristy Wolfe**

**Jim/Shirley Dahl**

**Barrett Hock**

**Larry Hock**

**Marilyn Woods**

### OUR EXTENDED FAMILY/FRIENDS:

**Andrew, Sarah, John, Daniel Hill** (seminary student)

**Mike Rowlands** (friend of Arlyn/Marcia Helke)

**Don Eggers** (son of a friend of Marilyn Woods)

**Virginia Miller** (mother of Jamie Werling)

**Mike Miller** (friend of Bob & Sherry Wechsler)

**Nick Fredrickson** (neighbor of Linda Aper)

**Jodi Martins** (daughter of Gary & Darla Johns)

**Casey Powers** (husband of Lisa (Bear) Powers)

**John & Anita Causling** (missionaries in Kenya)

**Kelly Wechsler** (cousin of Bob Wechsler)

**Marilyn Potts** (wife of Cal, former LFC)

**Kathleen VanDe Rostyne** (friend of Bob/Sherry Wechsler)

**Pam Bennett** (friend of Dan/Roselyn Maeltzer)

**Joseph Baamonde** (friend of Paula Mooney)

**Karen Wright** (wife of Pastor Gary Wright)

**Clinton Kane Family** (son of Sandy Kane)

Connie Cunningham (employee of Brad Gehn)

**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)  
**Tyler Hynes** (nephew of Mark Ague)  
**Karl Flynn** (son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Flynn)  
**Zachary & Tiffany Gardner** (nephew/wife 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](mailto:lhmin@lhm.org)



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**THE CAMP CILCA LOWDOWN**

June, 2020  
4124 Camp Cilca Rd, Cantrall, IL 62625

217-487-7497 / [camp@cilca.org](mailto:camp@cilca.org) /

Friends in Christ,

Camp CILCA was supposed to open its gates in the summer of 1949. But Polio happened, and camp was delayed until 1950. This is the 70th anniversary of that first camping season, and so it is in some ways fitting that a virus should once again strike and close CILCA's gates. It is with great sadness that I write this. ***There will be no overnight camp in 2020.***

The annual ***Hog Roast*** has also been transitioned from a physical fundraiser into a ***virtual fundraiser***. We pray that in lieu of attending the hog roast you will consider making a donation to the camp. Those donations can be sent in the mail or made online at:

<http://www.ultracamp.com/donations/donationselection.aspx?idCamp=741&campCode=vbp&idDonationCategory=1223>

The Chicken Fry and Auction are still planned for Labor Day Weekend. It is my prayer that by then this will all be an unpleasant memory. Our lives rest in the pierced hands of our risen Savior. Let us trust that He will bring us through, and continue to work for our good. God bless you all.

***Joshua W Theilen***  
Director, Camp CILCA

**Here are a few commitments from CILCA in 2020:**

1. The grounds will remain ***open*** for families and small groups (10 people or less) to hike, fish, boat, or camp out in tents, trailers, or cabins. We pray that you will take advantage of this and come out to enjoy God's wonderful creation.

2. We will be selling "***Camp-From-Home***" kits. These will include a camp t-shirt and other merchandise, as well as the Bible study, a craft, and a variety of activities designed to help you engage with God's creation. These will be on sale by Memorial Day weekend. The cost will be around \$50, depending on the cost of shipping.

3. We will also have *some on-line content*. These videos on our website, or Facebook, however, are not designed to keep children indoors and staring at a screen. There are enough of those out there. Our hope is that these videos will encourage you and your campers to *connect with our Lord in His Word and to engage His creation first hand*.

4. We also hope to have day-camps on Saturdays in July and August if we reach phase 4 by then. We will keep you updated on that as the summer progresses.

*Camp CILCA exists to foster and strengthen faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting.*

***The Church Extension Fund doesn't want your first fruits!***

We ask that you offer your first fruits to your local church by continuing with your regular contributions so that your church has the means to support your brothers and sisters in Christ during these difficult times. *You are their lifeline.*

But where God has provided you with additional financial blessings, we do want to offer you an opportunity that will benefit both you and the churches and schools in the Central Illinois District.

The Church Extension Fund has several investment opportunities available to LCMS members and to our local churches, schools, and organizations that provide returns which are more than competitive with other financial institutions during this economic downturn. Minimum investment is only \$500. Our interest rates and terms are listed below:

<u>Term</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
<b>24-month</b>	<b>1.90%</b> <i>Special Rate – Limited Time Offer</i>
<b>60-month</b>	<b>1.75%</b>
<b>36-month</b>	<b>1.50%</b>
<b>12-month</b>	<b>1.00%</b>
<b>6-month</b>	<b>.50%</b>

If you are interested, you can find our application on the District website ([www.cidlcms.org](http://www.cidlcms.org)) – click on the Church Extension Fund box in the left-hand column, or email us at [cef@cidlcms.org](mailto:cef@cidlcms.org) or call our office at 217-793-1802 and ask for Susan or Chris.

*All your investment dollars stay in the Central Illinois District and support the churches and schools within the District.*

# JUNE 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>  <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Elders 6 pm	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> Worship-Live Stream 10 am	<i>8</i>  <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> Worship-Live Stream 10 am	<i>15</i>  <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> Worship-Live Stream 10 am	<i>22</i>  <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> Worship-Live Stream 10 am	<i>29</i>  <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	<i>30</i>	<b><u>ELDER</u></b> Mike Dahl	<b><u>ACOLYTE</u></b> Carter Eastburn	<b><u>USHERS</u></b> Dan Maeltzer Rosalyn Maeltzer Dave Schmedt Denise Schmedt	





ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
8948 N 1900 AVE  
GENESEO IL 61254-8941

**WORSHIP SERVICES – 10 AM**  
Currently 'Live' streaming available

A hand-drawn graphic for Father's Day. The words "Happy Father's Day" are written in a mix of cursive and block letters, with a textured, shaded effect. The text is surrounded by small black dots, giving it a starry or celebratory appearance.

Happy  
Father's  
Day

The righteous  
man walks in  
his integrity;  
**His children  
are blessed  
after him.**

PROVERBS 20:7