

# OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS

## **June Newsletter 2017**

### The Messenger

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## FROM PASTOR PAUTZ

For the Gospel is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith:  
as it is written, The just shall live by faith (alone). Romans 1:17

### **The English Luther Bible: KJV**

Grace and mercy to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I have been relying more and more on the King James Version as my English source for sermon and Bible study preparation. Public readings, bulletins, Bible studies will be the Evangelical Standard Version (ESV). However, I thought this month I would give some explanation as to why I have changed.

Martin Luther dominated the Reformation through the force of his writing, both in quality and quantity. Luther's influence also permeates the efforts of his opponents, even when they argue against him. His collected works equal the size of more than 100 volumes, each about 500 pages in length. His works were best sellers and immediately translated all over Christendom. Luther's work was the gold standard in theology. As the Reformation spread to other countries and languages, so did Martin Luther's writings and influence.

William Tyndale, an Englishman, traveled to Germany and studied under Luther. Tyndale is know for his 1530's translation of the Bible into English. William used Luther's German Bible for his translation while referencing the original Hebrew and Greek Bibles. The authors of the 1611 King James Version relied on Tyndale's version. All were protestants wanting a clear and accurate English Bible for the people to hear and read and study. The English scholar F.F. Bruce stated that 90% of the King James Bible is from William Tyndale's English Bible.

Therefore, you don't need to read German to read Luther's Bible. The King James Version is so heavily influenced by Martin Luther it is often nicknamed The English Luther Bible.

I know there are many arguments against using the King James Version. Let me answer some of them here.

#### **1. New translations have a better text.**

Answer: They are usually shorter text. Look up Mark 16:8 in your non-KJV Bible. You will probably find the following statement:

[Some of the earliest manuscripts do not include Mark 16:9-20]

However, research has proven the remarkable precision of manuscript transmission, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament. There is waning excitement over the 19<sup>th</sup> century discovery in Egypt of two quirky manuscripts, Vaticanus and Sinaiticus, but modern translations still include them, even the Beck Bible. Because the modern New Testaments have trimmed verses and words away, people generally do not know what is missing. An honest text would offer the traditional readings and identify where the Egyptian manuscripts differ. The KJV avoids this because it retains the traditional texts.

## **2. The King James Version uses old-fashioned English.**

Answer: So does Shakespeare and yet people still read and go to his plays. Christians use old-fashioned English in worship, especially in hymns. No one has found a way to worship in a more solemn and dignified way using the latest English. Reverence is taking pains to care for holy things. Christians are reverent people and the KJV assists us in this manner.

## **3. Modern versions are easier for children to follow.**

Answer: So many easy versions of the Bible are now in print that children and adults cannot remember any given verse the same way. Rather than simplifying matters, the unending supply of new translations has created the exact situation which the KJV was created to solve. Someone who prefers modern verb endings for children can use the New King James Version and keep the child or the family in the same Tyndale-Luther style of precise Biblical readings.

## **4. The King James Version is a challenge to read.**

Answer: A challenging work is usually more interesting over a long period of time, increasing our capacity to understand. It may be likened to a 5 year old wearing his dad's shirt. It doesn't fit now, but he will grow into it.

Poor arguments for the King James Version have stigmatized the translation. It is like talking about mental illness. It's not something we want to do in public. However, the King James Version should not be blamed of its less enlightened advocates.

## **1. The King James Version has never changed since 1611.**

Answer: This is not true. Modest changes have been made from time to time, since spelling has changed and punctuation is different. You might be able to find a true 1611 KJV in the market place but they are usually purchased as a collectors item rather than a source for study.

## **2. The Lutheran Church began going downhill with the abandonment of the King James**

## **Version, so the King James Version will keep us orthodox.**

Answer: Many Protestant groups advocate inerrancy without being Lutheran or orthodox. Many use the King James Version exclusively without being Lutheran. Obviously, inerrancy and the King James Version alone will not preserve the truth. Lutherans need to have a genuine love for the best Scriptural materials and a thorough understanding of their confessions. Forcing the KJV with the Law reminds me of the man who beat his children when they did not learn their catechism properly. The son said, "It worked," but I am afraid it worked in turning Luther's doctrine into a grim hell of the Law alone.

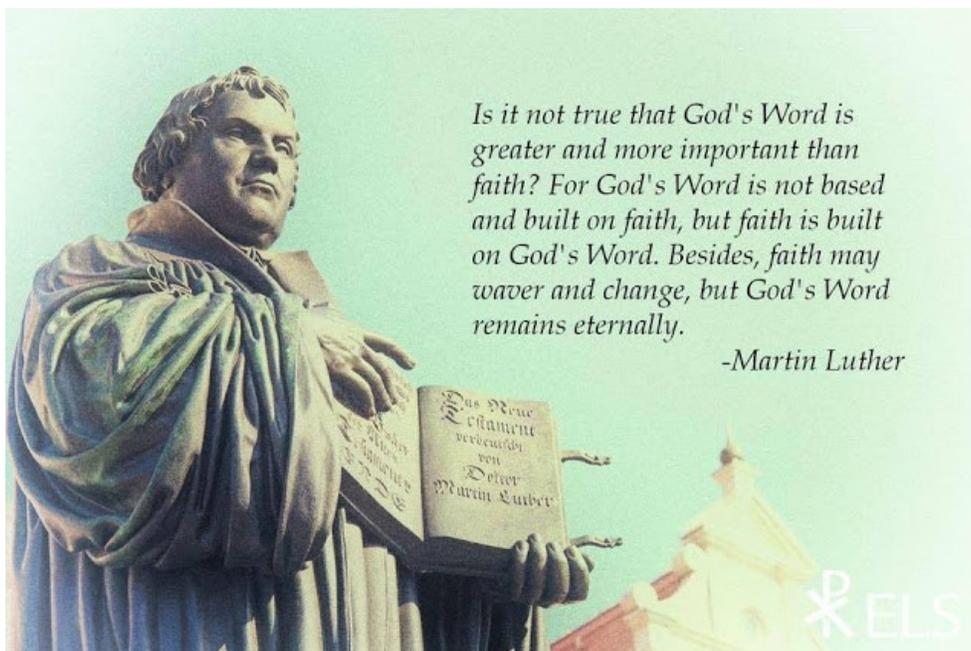
## **3. We should never read any other translation than the King James.**

Answer: This is a Fundamentalist rather than a Lutheran position. Few insights can be gained by using many different translations, but other versions do need to be consulted at various times for various reasons. Rather than forcing a use of the KJV, we should point out why the King James Version has stood the test of time. Many KJV advocates do not know the history of their favorite translation and therefore fail to motivate others with the Gospel. When I moved with my wife to Thailand, we developed a special appreciation for the United States, a love we did not forget upon returning to America. In the same way, while I moved with the tide of RSV to NIV to ESV and dabbled in NASB and NRSV and even the NAB among others, I later gained a new respect for the King James Version, especially since I tried translating on my own.

If you have questions as to why I changed, let's talk about it over coffee.

The Lord bless you and keep you,

Pastor Pautz



**Why should I Tithe?  
A Bible Study on Money Offerings**

We do not make God poor when we fail to give money to Him properly, but we do make ourselves poor if we do not give according to the standards He sets for us in His Word, the Bible. God does not need our money, but we need to give the way the Bible tells us to in order to overcome the negative influence money and the things of this world can have on us.

**Jesus said, “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Matthew 6:24**

Some of the teachings of the Bible are more difficult than others. For many the teachings about money, possessions and offerings are among the most difficult. But God’s instructions are for our good, not for our harm. If we follow His instructions, we will be free and content. Jesus said in John 8:36 “If the Son sets you free, you will indeed be free.” We also read in 1 Timothy 6:6 that “...godliness with contentment is great wealth.” That is God’s desire for His people: freedom, godliness, and contentment. That is also the desire of this church for its members and associates. That is why this Bible study is presented to you. Please pray for the Lord to make you open to His message, then go through the study. If you live in a family setting, it would probably be good to do the study together.

**1 To whom does my money belong?**

'The silver is mine, and the gold is mine,' says the Lord Almighty. Haggai 2:8

King David said to God, “But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you have already given us!” 1 Chr. 29:14

So everything I have really belongs to God. I am merely His manager of those things.

**2 What 5 requirements does God make on every Christian regarding money offerings?**

a. 2 Corinthians 9:7 “You must each make up your own mind as to how much you should give. Don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves the person who gives cheerfully.” So the Lord wants me to make my money offerings willingly.

b. Proverbs 3:9-10 “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first part of everything your

land produces. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with the finest wine.” The Lord wants me to make my money offerings to Him first. He is not pleased when I give Him leftovers.

c. 1 Corinthians 16:2 “On the first day of every week, each of you should put aside some amount of money in relation to what you have earned and save it for this offering. Don’t wait until I get there and then try to collect it all at once.” This tells me that the Lord wants me to make my money offerings to Him regularly, that is, whenever I have income, whether I am able to go to church that week or not.

d. Deut. 16:17 “Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.” Luke 12:48 “Much is required from those to whom much is given, and much more is required from those to whom much more is given.” The Lord tells me that it is not the amount itself that is important. What is important is that I make my money offerings proportionately. In other words, I should give a generous percentage of the income the Lord enables me to earn through my work and investments.

e. 2 Corinthians 8:1-4 “Now I want to tell you, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done for the churches in Macedonia. Though they have been going through much trouble and hard times, their wonderful joy and deep poverty have overflowed in rich generosity. For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford but far more. And they did it of their own free will. They begged us again and again for the gracious privilege of sharing in the gift for the Christians in Jerusalem.” Luke 7:47 Jesus said, “I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.” So my money offerings to the Lord should also be made generously.

Here’s the list of Biblical principles when it comes to making money offerings:

1. Willingly
2. First
3. Regularly (whenever I have income)
4. Proportionately (percentage)
5. Generously (Christian giving starts at a 10% tithe)

**3. What if I serve the Lord faithfully, even exceptionally, in other areas? Does that mean I don’t need to follow these directions about money offerings?**

2 Corinthians 8:7 “Since you excel in so many ways—you have so much faith, such gifted speakers, such knowledge, such enthusiasm, and such love for us—now I want you to excel also in this gracious ministry of giving.” Matthew 23:23

Jesus once compared offerings with “the important things of the law—justice, mercy, and faith.” And he said, “You should tithe, yes, but you should not leave undone the more important things.” So no matter how well or faithfully I may serve in some areas, the Lord expects me to follow His directions regarding money offerings, also, and even to excel in this area.

#### **4. What exactly is “tithing” and what does God say about it.?**

“To tithe” literally means “to give 10%.” The command about tithing was part of the Old Testament laws for the nation of Israel. So what God said in the Law is no longer a requirement, although the principle remains. (The principle in the Bible is that offerings begin at 10%.) But the Lord’s promises never change. And consider this promise about tithing: Mal. 3:10-11 “‘Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,’ says the Lord Almighty, ‘I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Let me prove it to you! Your crops will be abundant, for I will guard them from insects and disease. Your grapes will not shrivel before they are ripe,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

**5. Is it true that some people have tried tithing and it didn’t work for them?** If that’s true, then God’s Word is not true. We should remember that the Bible does not say that tithing can be done without sacrifice. But God does say that the blessings will far outweigh any hardship if the tithing is done consistently and from the heart.

**6. Is getting a blessing from God my motivation for tithing?** No, the motivation is His amazing love for me. Consider these three Scriptures: Galatians 2:20 “I myself no longer live, but Christ lives in me. So I live my life in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” 2 Corinthians 8:9 “You know how full of love and kindness our Lord Jesus Christ was. Though he was very rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.” 2 Corinthians 5:15 “He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live to please themselves. Instead, they will live to please Christ, who died and was raised for them.”

**7. This June, please prayerfully consider the following statements.** If you live in a family setting, please talk and pray about them together.

- The Lord has blessed us with all we need for this body and life.
- Have we been making first-fruit, regular, proportionate and generous (at least 10%, a tithe) money offerings to the Lord from the heart?
- If so, what other needs in our church and community can use our attention?
- If not – what steps can we take to move in a faithful direction?

If you would like to read more of Rev. Curtis' book, "[Stewardship Under the Cross](#)" click [here](#) for a [free copy](#).

Also they teach that men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake, who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight. Rom. 3 and 4.

Augsburg Confession, IV  
Of Justification



**Melanchthon**

## **Our Savior LWML**

### **NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

#### **Our Savior LWML needs your help!**

We need:

Ladies interested in attending and being part of our mission service for the Lord

Lately we have had 6-8 ladies in attendance at meetings. We would love to have more ladies come and share time with us at meetings for Bible study and fellowship.

We will need new officers (President and Secretary) for the next year. Prayerfully consider serving the Lord with gladness!

(This next part is for all members, men included!)

Are the members of Our Savior willing to help?

Our Savior LWML has made apple pies as our mission project for the year. This mission money that we raise goes far and wide to serve the Lord.

We need folks to help with this apple pie project on pie making days, picking up apples, delivery of pies, etc. We will need lots of hands to make light work.

Prayerfully consider how we as a church can continue to have our LWML an active part of our congregation.

If you have questions or wish to serve, please talk with:

Lisa Seaba, President

Wendi Ingram, Secretary

Mary Francis, Treasurer

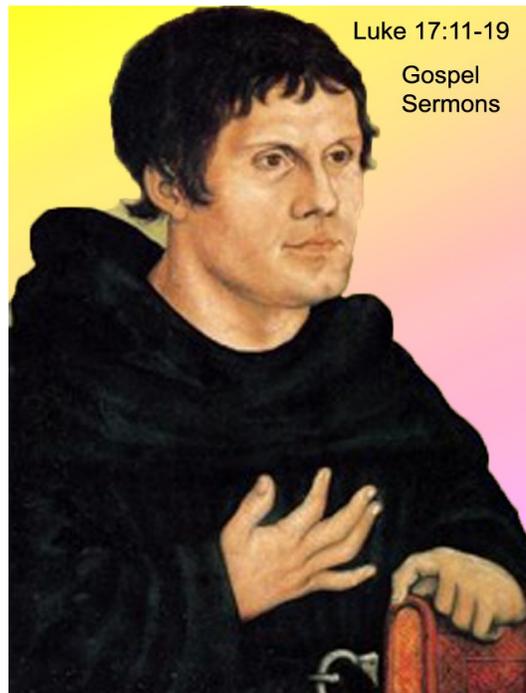
## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TO ALL CAMPERS AND WEEKEND TRAVELERS** The Monday evening Divine Service will continue to be offered every Monday throughout the summer at 6:00 pm. If you miss the Sunday service for any reason but desire to worship in your home church, prayerfully consider attending this service.

**SUMMER BIBLE STUDY** The Wednesday morning Bible study groups have decided to continue through the summer. The Men's Bible study will continue to meet at 6:30 am. The Woman's Bible study will continue to meet at 9:30 am. The topic will continue to be the Book of Isaiah.

**WEDNESDAY MATINS** will continue to be offered at 9:00 am throughout the summer.

**BIBLE STUDY NOTES** are now being posted on Our Savior's website at: [www.oursaviormuscatine.org/sermons](http://www.oursaviormuscatine.org/sermons) You will also find service video, sermon audio, and a printed sermon for most of the services. Also, a church calendar may be found [here](#).



Therefore be on your guard, there are many lecturers who want to teach faith and conscience, and know less about them than a common blockhead. They think it is a sleepy, lazy thing in the soul, that it is enough for the heart to believe that God is God. But here you observe what a thoroughly living and powerful thing faith is. It creates wholly a new heart, a new man, who expects all grace from God. Therefore it urges to walk, to stand, makes bold to cry and pray in every time of trouble.

## CONFIRMATION CAMP

August 1-4, 2017

It's time to give those catechisms some summer attention!

With the busyness of summer, many confirmands go months without picking up their catechism, let alone even thinking on the content they learned in confirmation and catechesis class the year before. Before confirmands know it, they'll be thrust right back into the swing of their confirmation studies in the fall, scrambling to recover and remember what they already went through last year.

Higher Things Confirmation Camp is here to give confirmands a refresher and new insight into their Lutheran catechesis life. Over the course of a 4-day camp at Camp Io-Dis -E-Ca in Solon, IA, Rev. David Kind (University Lutheran Chapel – Minneapolis, MN) will lead confirmands in their catechism study and Rev. Sam Beltz (St. John Lutheran – Oskaloosa, IA) will preside over our worship times for the week. It'll be a week filled with edifying catechesis, distinctively Lutheran worship, and tons of outdoor fun!

At Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, campers will enjoy numerous outdoor activities along with their worship and learning! Participants will spend time in activities such as archery, canoeing, horseback riding, rock climbing, zipping (zip line), disc golf, swimming, large-group games, campfire and s'mores, and many more! R

Registration is open to both groups and individuals, meaning confirmands can come with their classmates and a chaperone or register individually and be chaperoned by one of Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca's camp counselors.

This event is open to all youth grades 5th-8th, or ages 10-14.

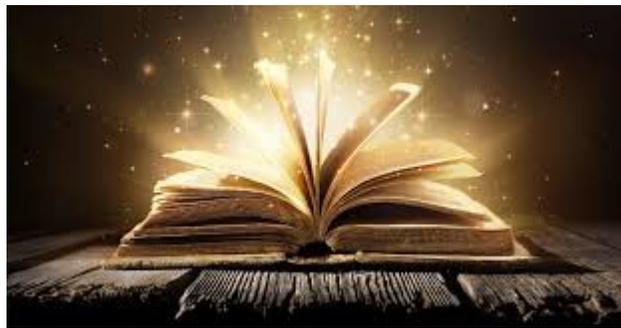
Registration for each camper is \$275. The registration fee includes all meals throughout the duration of camp as well as all activities, classes, and lodging at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca.

Go to [www.higherthings.org/camp](http://www.higherthings.org/camp) to register, and find additional information or contact Daniel Sanchez, Camp Director of Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca at (319) 848-4187 or [director@iodiseca.org](mailto:director@iodiseca.org) to email you a information packet.

The Camper Profile, Health Form, and Release of Liability must be completed for each camper. These forms can be found in the information packet.

Groups and individuals should register online by July 28th.

June 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Sunday School  01:00 Pastoral Visits	<b>5</b>  04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b> 07:00 Bd of Elders	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins</b> 09:30 Women's Group	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Sunday School  01:00 Pastoral Visits	<b>12</b>  04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b> 07:00 Church Council	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins</b> 09:30 Women's Group  06:00 LWML Friendship Night	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Sunday School  01:00 Pastoral Visits	<b>19</b>  04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins</b> 09:30 Women's Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>09:00 Divine Service</b> 10:30 Sunday School  01:00 Pastoral Visits	<b>26</b>  04:00 Office Hours <b>06:00 Divine Service</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 06:30 Men's Group <b>09:00 Matins</b> 09:30 Women's Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Notes:</b>



“A Christian should know that nothing on earth is more sacred than God's Word; for even the Sacrament itself is made, blessed, and sanctified by God's Word, and all of us, too, are thereby spiritually born and consecrated Christians.” Martin Luther