

# **OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS**

## **September Newsletter 2017**

### The GOOD NEWS

#### Contents

From Pastor Pautz - The Holy Bible is clearly written so you may have life

Congregational Announcements

Introduction to the District Life Coordinator - Pastor Post

IDE Confirmation Retreat - October 6-7

2018 District Convention Letter

September Calendar

#### **Our Savior Lutheran Church – LCMS**

2261 Lucas Street Muscatine Iowa 52761

Church Phone

Church Email

[www.oursaviormuscatine.org](http://www.oursaviormuscatine.org)

563-263-0347

[oslcp@machink.com](mailto:oslcp@machink.com)

## FROM PASTOR PAUTZ

*Dw'vj gug'ct g'y tkvxp. 'vj cv'f g'o ki j v'dgrkxg'vj cv'Lgumu'ku'vj g'Ej tkw: 'vj g'Uqp'qhI qf ='  
"cpf 'vj cv'dgrkxkpi 'f g'o ki j v'j cxg'kkg'vj tqwi j 'j ku'pco g0Lqj p'42-530'*

"

We open the Holy Bible on Sundays for the Divine Service, Sunday School, Membership Class and Table Talk. We open it again on Mondays for the Divine Service and congregational meetings. We open it again on Wednesdays for Men's Group, Matins Service, Women's Group and Confirmation.

Why do we keep opening the Holy Bible? We open it so that we might believe that Jesus is the Christ and that believing we might have life through His name.

This is so important.

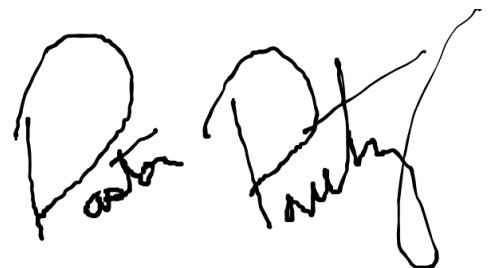
We don't study the Holy Bible for the purpose of knowing more facts about Jesus. Knowledge is helpful but faith is not knowledge. The demons know that Jesus is the Christ but they don't have faith in Him.

Belief is trust. We open the Holy Bible so that we may trust Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. A couple of Mormon missionaries once said to a friend of mine that there are "One hundred interpretations to every verse in the Bible." My friend agree saying, "Ninety-nine wrong ones and a single correct one." When the missionaries sputtered and tried to recover, he asked, "Do you really think that God became man, died on the cross for our sins, rose from the dead and then left a record so vague and contradictory that no one could understand it?"

The Holy Bible is clear. God wrote this entire book so that you may trust that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. The divine reward for this faith is life, now and forever.

We open the Bible together throughout the week so that our faith is strengthened and so that we may refute false teachers with the clearly written Word of God with the hope that even false teachers might repent and believe.

And that by believing in Jesus, we might have life.

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is a stylized, cursive 'P' followed by 'autz'. The second signature is a more fluid, cursive signature that appears to be 'Pautz'.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INDIVIDUAL ABSOLUTION** - Individual Confession & Absolution is available Sundays from 8:00 - 8:20 a.m. and Mondays from 5:30 - 5:45 p.m. There is no need to make an announcement beforehand. Pastor Pautz will be ready to vest and receive your confession. We will follow the Rite printed on pages 292 and 293 in the Lutheran Service Book. When we are ready, we will go into the Sanctuary to the altar rail.

Individual Absolution is also available throughout the week and during home visits. We agree with the first thesis of Martin Luther's 95 Theses written in 1517 that "When I ask you to confess your sin, I am only asking you to be a Christian." Also, the Book of Concord, defining Absolution as the third sacrament of the Lutheran church, says "We do not abolish the Divine Service but religiously maintain and defend it. For among us, services are celebrated every Lord's Day and on other festivals in which the Sacrament is offered to those who wish to use it, after they have been examined and absolved. And the the usual public ceremonies are observed, the series of lessons, of prayers, vestments, and other like things. (Apology of the Augsburg Confession XXIV)"

**LWML APPLE PIE MAKING** - We Need Your Help! **Saturday September 30th** and October 7th. Whether it is for 1 hour or both days, the women of LWML would like you to assist them in making apple pies for its annual mission fundraising project. We need men and women alike! We start at 8 a.m. and are usually cleaned up by 1:00 p.m. Don't miss out in the fun. Please sign up in the Narthex. The deadline for orders is Sept. 24th!

**THE FIRST MEETING OF THE LWML 2017-18 YEAR** will be September 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 7 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. "Jesus Christ Above All" is our theme and the bible passage we will focus on in the opening/bible study/closing will be "The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad." Psalm 126:3.

**LWML MISSION SERVANT PROJECT for September** is collecting items for school kits that will be given to the Orphan Grain Train – the list and information about the OGT are on the easel for you to take. Please look for the box in the narthex to put your collected items. We thank everyone for helping with this mission outreach project.

**RALLY DAY** is **Sunday, September 10th**. We give new Small Catechisms to our children, 2nd Grade and older, during the 9:00am Divine Service. Fall Sunday School will begin at 10:30am followed by a Potluck for all following Sunday School.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS - continued

**ADULT CATECHESIS** starts **Sunday, September 10th at 4:00pm** for anyone to review the Christian Faith and the Divine Service and also for those thinking about becoming communicant members of this congregation. Current members are encouraged to take this class every 5 years or so.

**TABLE TALK** starts **Sunday, September 10th at 6:00pm** for teenagers and their parents.

**BIBLE STUDY & MATINS** begin on **Wednesday, September 13th**. 6:30am Men's Breakfast and Bible study. 9:00am Matins Service. 9:30am Women's Bible study. We will continue our studies in the Book of Isaiah.

**JR. CATECHESIS** also begins on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:15pm. This first meeting is for parents and children to review class expectations and important dates.

**INSIDE FALL CLEAN UP** has been set for Saturday, October 28th beginning at 8 a.m.

On Sunday, **September 17<sup>th</sup>** our **LARGE LWML MITE BOX** will be positioned at the exit of the sanctuary where you can place your coins/dollars in support of the mite goal set for the coming biennium (2017-2019). **Small mite boxes** are available by the large mite box if you would like one for collecting your own mites. This biennium's goals can be found on the easel and are also listed in the LWML program. Our Savior LWML Board thanks you for your support and prayers as "We Serve the Lord with Gladness" here at Our Savior.

**THE NEW LWML PROGRAM** is ready and will show this year's activities; please take a minute to look through it. Be sure and watch for highlights in the bulletin and newsletter in the months ahead as to what our year will bring as we "Serve the Lord with Gladness" together. We encourage you to join us.

Stewardship Under the Cross  
**LUTHER ON TITHING AND STEWARDSHIP**

Martin Luther had much to say about being a good steward of God's gifts. Below are a series of quotations from the great Reformer about faithful, Biblical stewards.

**On Vowing to Support the Church with Tithes**

Thus it is said (Prov. 3:9): “Honor the Lord with your substance.” This must be understood not only of words and of the worship of the mouth or genuflection but of the deed itself... Gal. 6:6: “Let him who is taught in the Word share all good things with him who teaches.” Therefore when God wants to be honored, then He wants sacrifices to be offered, not only sacrifices of the mouth but also the reverence of the heart, yes, the deed itself. He wants us to help the ministry, and He wants everyone to contribute for the purpose of supporting the studies of the pupils and of propagating the doctrine. Then God is truly praised and glorified there. Make a vow there, and say: “I promise that I am willing to contribute something for the assistance of the churches.” That is St. Jacob’s vow. Therefore this example should be diligently inculcated, namely, that Jacob vows tithes, not in order that God Himself may eat or be enriched; but he gives them to the poor ministers and to those who are always the least of the brethren or disciples of Christ on earth. For all other arts are gainful and have their profits. This profession alone is in need of bountiful giving. We must live from the altar, as Paul says (1 Cor. 9:13). Accordingly, he who is godly and loves the Word of God contributes something. He who hates the doctrine along with those who teach and learn it robs and despoils. Otherwise God has so ordained that we should live from the vows, sacrifices, and alms that are owed to us by divine right. When the godly see the poverty and need of the ministers of the church and the school, they make vows and obligate themselves to give tithes, as Jacob gave them. (LW v.5)

**On Tithing to Support God's Work in the Church**

Therefore this text shows that Jacob did not make such a foolish and godless vow, but that it was a vow of thanksgiving. 48 For he says: “If I come again, etc.” It is as though he were saying: “I shall now obligate myself to pay a debt, and I shall make satisfactory reparation when I return. What? I shall build a school and a church here, and I shall give a tithe of bulls and goats and fruits for its establishment and upkeep, likewise a tenth part of the milk and the butter.” Of course, God does not need these things. For He does not eat bread or drink wine, as He says in Ps. 50:13: “Do I eat the flesh of bulls?” What, then, are you doing? I answer that Jacob is already righteous.

## Stewardship Under the Cross

### **LUTHER ON TITHING AND STEWARDSHIP ... continued**

Accordingly, he does not make a vow to placate God by making it; but he wants to do this to give thanks, to glorify God, in order that He may conduct him and bring him back according to the promise. Who will receive these tithes? Not the angels, not the sun, not the moon. But he will perform that extraordinary and glorious work for the purpose of preserving the ministry and founding churches and schools. . . . This is how Moses should be understood when he says (Deut. 23:21): “When you make a vow to the Lord your God, you shall not be slack to pay it.” What does it mean to make a vow to God, or whom is Moses addressing when he says: “The Lord your God”? It means to give tithes to the disciples, sons, and wives of the prophets, to the poor and needy. These are the ones who are to be supported by the tithes offered to God, and through these tithes God is supported. For God says: “Whatever you give to the children of the priests and prophets through whom the doctrine is propagated you must regard as given to Me, not that I may justify you through this work, but it should be a thanksgiving and a sacrifice of praise because I have justified you and have also blessed you in temporal matters. In addition, I shall bless you even more if you give ear to, support, and cherish the poor sons of the prophets.” (Luther's Works, vol. 5)

#### **On Abraham's Stewardship**

This was not the first time that Abraham gave tithes of these to the priest Melchizedek; he did so every year. Even before that victory Abraham conducted himself humbly, acknowledged Shem as a priest of the Most High, and gave him tithes, as did Lot and the other fathers who lived at that time. (LW vol. 2)... To be sure, Abraham had property; but he did not love it, since he showed that he was a manager and knew that by God's will he had been appointed a steward of his goods. (LW vol. 30).

## **DISTRICT LIFE COORDINATOR**

Greetings to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. My name is Alex Post, and I'm the District Life Coordinator for Iowa District East of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. I am called to serve God's people at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marshalltown. And I am blessed by God with my wife Esther, and our children Logan, Elsa, Nova, and Liam.

Our God is the giver of life. Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Jesus laid down His life for His sheep willingly and took it back up again so that by believing in Him, they may have eternal life in His Name. We confess that God also gives us our earthly life, our material goods, and all that we need to support this body and life. We confess this in the 4th petition of the Lord's Prayer: "Give us this day our daily bread." We confess God's gift of life in the 1st Article of the Creed: "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth." And we confess God's protection of life and condemnation of murder in the 5th Commandment: "You shall not murder."

So what is a District Life Coordinator?

A District Life Coordinator helps to make district congregations aware of important life issues in the community, the state, the nation, and the world. A District Life Coordinator is the liaison between district congregations, the Missouri Synod, and affiliated organizations such as Lutherans for Life. Today, the evils of abortion, suicide, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell experimentation, unjust war, poverty, disease, hunger, and murder end the lives of millions of innocent children, women, and men around the world. Every Christian is called by God to "visit orphans and widows in their affliction" (James 1:27), to tell the world that "the LORD hates...hands that shed innocent blood" (Proverbs 6:16), and to point sinners to our Lord Jesus Christ Who forgives every sin of those who repent and turn from their ways.

To that end, we pray everyday for God to deliver the unborn, the poor, the elderly, the sick, and the needy from neglect, abuse, and from an evil death. Although our care for those in need begins and ends with God's Word and prayer, we also use the tools of petition, activism, public witness, and spreading awareness of God's gift of life – from the womb to the tomb – from conception to natural death.

Please email or call me with any ideas or concerns that might help us boldly to proclaim God's gift of life for all people, of all ages, everywhere! Church Phone: (641) 753-9565 Cell Phone: (641) 758-1915 Email: [alexpost1226@gmail.com](mailto:alexpost1226@gmail.com)



## IDE CONFIRMATION RETREAT

For students in grades 6-8  
October 6-7 / Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca

### **Believe and Confess: The Trinity & Me**

*Rcuxqt "Cpvj qp{ 'F qf i gt u" \*K o cpwgrl Nwj gt cp. 'Ej ct r qwg" KC +"*

Backwards, forwards, sideways: no matter how you come at it, the Creed is telling us who God is and what He does for us. First, we'll find out how we get to know the Holy Trinity. Then, we'll look more closely at what each divine Person does. Finally, we'll answer some objections and lies from the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh. So, who is the Creator of the Universe? How do I know the Son of God is my Redeemer? When and where did the Holy Spirit call me? The Creed tells us all about our God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And is the Creed really for me? Yes, the Creed tells me I am a called, redeemed creature of God.





Godly and believing persons know their sins; they bear all their punishment patiently, and are resigned to God's judgment without the least murmur; therefore, they are punished only bodily, and here in time, and their pain and suffering have an end.

Unbelievers, however, since they are not conscious of their sins and transgressions, cannot bear God's punishment patiently, but they resent it and wish their life and works to go unpunished, yea, uncensured.

Hence, their punishment and suffering are in body and soul, here in time, and last forever beyond this life.

Luther, Sermons, III, p 131

August 1, 2017

TO: **CONGREGATIONS OF IOWA DISTRICT EAST**

RE: **2018 District Convention**

Dear Congregation of Iowa District East, **The 40th District Convention of the Iowa District East** will be held June 29- 30, 2018 at The Hotel at Kirkwood Center, 7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA. Life Together: Laity and Clergy is the theme for the convention.

In preparation for next summer's convention, your congregation will participate in a circuit forum to select your circuit visitor. The circuit forum will meet at the call of the Circuit Visitor.

**Each congregation must designate their representatives to attend the Circuit Forum.** One pastor and one layperson from each congregation is to be selected in a manner of the congregation's choosing.

**Congregations may nominate candidates for Circuit Visitor.** Any pastor in the circuit may serve as the Circuit Visitor. Nominations must be received by the current Circuit Visitor before the day of the Circuit Forum.

**Congregations may participate in the triennial process of determining Synod priorities.** Congregations are encouraged to send ideas and suggestions with their representatives to the circuit forum. The forum may, in the form of an overture, submit "triennial mission and ministry emphases" for consideration at the district convention.

The official convention mailing will be sent in late September. This mailing will include more information including deadlines, delegate forms, nomination forms and information on overtures.

In Christ, Rev. Mark H. Brase, District Secretary

**Our Savior Lutheran Church**

# SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
08:00 Absolution						
09:00 Service	10:30 Sunnybrook					
10:30 Class						
	01:00 Homebound					
04:00 Adult Catechism	04:00 Office Hours					
06:00 Table Talk	06:00 Service					
	07:00 Elders					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
08:00 Absolution						
09:00 Service	10:30 Sunnybrook	09:00 Circuit	06:30 Men			
10:30 Class		Pastor	09:00 Matins			
	01:00 Homebound	Meeting	09:30 Women			
04:00 Adult Catechism	04:00 Office Hours	in Ottumwa	04:00 Office Hours			
	05:30 Absolution		06:15 Jr. Catechism			
	06:00 Service					
	07:00 Council					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
08:00 Absolution			06:30 Men			
09:00 Service	10:30 Sunnybrook		09:00 Matins	09:30 District		
10:30 Class			09:30 Women	Mission		
	01:00 Homebound		04:00 Office Hours			
04:00 Adult Catechism	04:00 Office Hours		06:15 Jr. Catechism			
	05:30 Absolution			07:00 LWML		
	06:00 Service					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
08:00 Absolution						
09:00 Service	10:30 Sunnybrook		06:30 Men			08:00 Apple Pie
10:30 Class			09:00 Matins			Making
	01:00 Homebound		09:30 Women			
04:00 Adult Catechism	04:00 Office Hours		04:00 Office Hours			
	05:30 Absolution		06:15 Jr. Catechism			
	06:00 Service					
		<b>Notes:</b>				

