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May 2024



E-News

Volume 5
Issue 2

CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



The Gift of Rest

What promises, blessings, and answers to prayer are you missing because of the noise in your life?

Give a one-year-old a toy drum and that child will keep banging. Nonstop. Until Mom or Dad can't take it anymore and pull the drum away. Cue the screams of anger and disappointment. The little one screams, unable to handle the idea of losing this new noisemaker.

The noise is addictive, and so is the thrill of making sound to break the silence. Even adults struggle with silence. We prefer to hear the daily grind of our productivity, the sound of voices on video, music on our playlist, or the white noise of a busy schedule. Why?

Because silence can really bother us too. Being alone can feel scary. There's nothing to distract me from facing the real me. My real fears. My real letdowns. My real guilt. My real feelings that I've been bottling up. My feeling that I'm alone in the silence.

So I cover it all up and binge on Netflix for another week or work so much my head spins. It

becomes an addictive pleasure to hear the noise I create with my busyness, like a little one-year-old with a drum.

In the Third Commandment, God calls us to rest, to "remember the Sabbath" ([Exodus 20:8](#)). That word sabbath is the Hebrew word for "rest." God is saying, "I want you to give me the drum, the Netflix login, the overtime schedule, the noise of busyness. Give it to me. It doesn't save you. Remember to rest. Rest in me."

In the story of creation God rested on the seventh day after spending six days creating everything in the universe. He shows us the value of pressing the pause button. He certainly didn't need the rest. He saw that his creation was "good," and he said so often, but his creation needed one more thing: Rest.

God wants you to rest. To pause and enjoy him and his gifts—especially his spiritual blessings. That's why the Bible says, "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength" ([Isaiah 30:15](#)). God has many promises you'll be able to hear without all the noise.

So when you're afraid of the silence, of taking a rest, remember that resting is a work of faith. Believe that if you give God the noisy drum of constant activity, you'll start hearing more of his promises. Jesus gives his word to anyone who is overwhelmed, overworked, or over-worried: "I will give you rest" ([Matthew 11:28](#)).

One of my daily prayers is for rest and peace. I confess that I too often try to plan, design, analyze, create, and manipulate my own peace. I confess that I foolishly look to find rest in the numbing noise of viewing a screen. Then I joyfully remember that rest and peace are gifts of God given through Jesus. I don't need to make them or find them. They are already mine.

God Almighty put down his tools and rested after creation. Jesus the Savior rested in a silent, borrowed tomb. There's a pattern there. You should rest too.

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Our Contact Information

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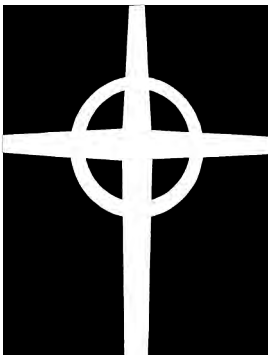
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Preschool Director:

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erin.hoehner@chapelofthecrosslutheran.org

Worship Times: Sundays at 8:00am & 10:15am
 Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes at 9:15am
 Mondays at 7:00pm
 Wednesdays at 11:00am



CHAPEL OF THE CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

As the family at Chapel of the Cross,
 our mission is to
SHARE the Gospel,
SEEK the Lost,
STUDY God's Word, and
STRENGTHEN One Another.



ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:15 - 10:00am
See Details Below

Men's Tuesday Bible Study
"A Better King, Servant, Conqueror:
The Book of Isaiah"
9:30-11:00am in the Sanctuary

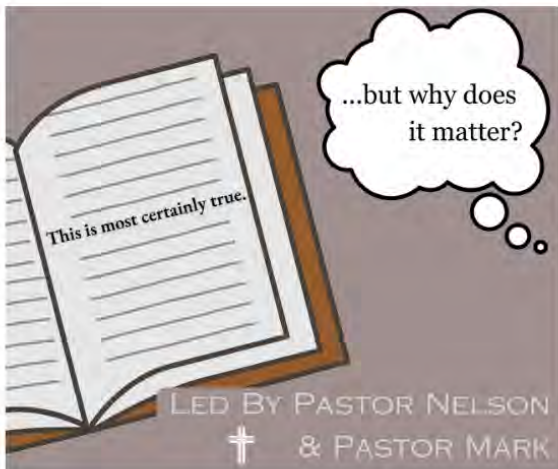
Men's Ministry Bible Class
Second & fourth Saturdays
7:30-9:00am in room 224

Women's Ministry Bible Study
"A Better King, Servant, Conqueror:
The Book of Isaiah"
Tuesdays in room 224 from 9:30-11:00am or
from 7:00-8:30pm.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:15 - 10:00am

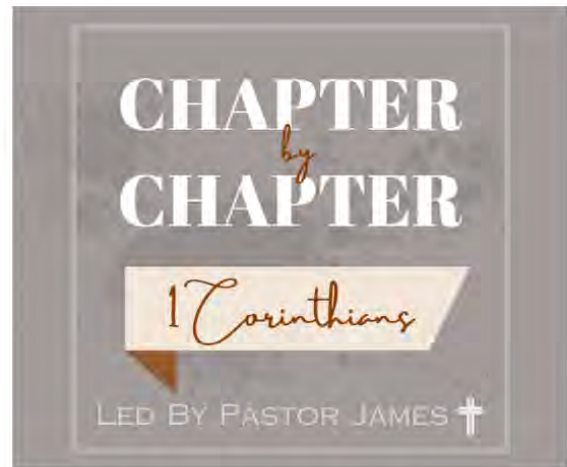
Beginning April 7th



This is Most Certainly True... BUT, Why Does it Matter?
As Christians, we are boldly confident in the truth of God's Word and what it means for us as His children. BUT... why does this truth matter for our lives today? Each week, we will discuss one article of faith found in the Small Catechism and—with the help of God's Word and one another—answer the question, "Why does it matter?" This course is designed BOTH for those desiring to become Chapel of the Cross members and current members wanting to grow their understanding of the Christian faith.

New Summer Study Beginning June 2nd:

Spiritual FAQ: Big Questions About Faith, Life, and God
Life is full of big questions, and our God desires that we ask them! Each week, Chapel's Pastoral Staff will lead a discussion based on some frequently asked questions about God's Word, His Character, and our lives as His people. Join us as we read and discuss God's Word and His wise answers to these big questions.



Chapter by Chapter: 1 Corinthians

Pastor James will be leading this survey of 1 Corinthians in the sanctuary. Over seven weeks, we will read through the 16 chapters that make up the Apostle Paul's letter to the church at Corinth.



Continued from page 1

So what promises, blessings, and answers to prayer are you missing because of the noise in your life? Push the pause button a few more times this season and enjoy the silence, the recovery, the gift of God doing the work for you.

God's Blessings,
Pastor James



The Poland Trip 2024

Preparations are picking up steam as we continue to prepare for another Day Camp in Pszczyna Poland this summer. Our team this year consists of Pastor James, Erin Hoehner, Dawn Walgate, Bethany Lakies, and Mackenzie Uglum. Please keep these individuals in your prayers, especially during July 19-30th while they're overseas.

During this trip, the team will have the opportunity to worship with Pszczyna Lutheran twice. In addition to

the English language games we will also help run the games and some of the crafts and Bible studies. The week is intense and immersive, providing great opportunities to serve others and get to see and experience a different country and culture.

LERT Training – Saturday April 20th 9am-4pm

LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) Training Event, for new or renewing/reviewing volunteer certification. Enables volunteers to be received at disaster clean up sites. Prepares groups to be on a local team that stands prepared to respond when disasters happen and where victims of storm damage are in need of assistance. This event serves to fill a gap of needed LERT team(s), specifically in the St. Charles county and surrounding counties of the Missouri District.

A registration fee of \$35 per person will pay for lunch, training materials, certificate, LERT volunteer T-shirt.

Your LERT Trainer will distribute all materials for the class and after the class.

Doors open at 8:30am, coffee and juice will be available. Class starts at 9:00am and runs until around 4:00pm.

Please send registration fees to "Chapel of the Cross Lutheran church", 907 Jungermann Rd, St. Peters, Mo. 63376. Please note "LERT Training April 20, 2024" on your check.



Questions? Please contact Kris Schuldt (pitchatent@centuyltel.net or 314-971-5747) or Doug Seifert (seifert.doug@aol.com or 314-402-9884).

Community Groups



In January 2023, Chapel launched our first round of Community Groups. The purpose of these groups is simply to gather our members together outside of our church services in a way that allows them to grow closer to God and one another. We had 6 different groups that met, pulling together 94 adults and children. Community Groups are continuing with some new additions. We have added Family Game Nights, a Mom's Group that meets during Open Gyms, and a new Retiree Group forming. Be on the lookout for dates and sign ups. If you are interested in more information please contact Pastor James at 636-577-7539.

Family Game Nights



Whether you're a family of four, or single join us in the Gym and have a good time! Game Nights happen on the first Friday of every month from 6:30-8:00pm. Upcoming dates include April 5, and May 3. We will have some light drinks and snacks available. Just bring yourself and your favorite game or games. Families, this is a great opportunity to play some games with your kids and meet some other families as well. We start at 6:30pm, but you can come anytime. There is no substitute for time spent together!

Retiree Group - OWLS



We have a new retiree group at Chapel called OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans). They meet the 2nd Friday of each month at 11:30am downstairs in the gym for lunch (its bring your own) and fellowship.

APR - MAY



YOUTH CALENDAR

MON 04/01 High School Hangouts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00a @ Denny's & • 1:30p @ DQ 	SUN 04/14 Middle School Meetup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30a-12:30p • Cecil Whittaker's 	4/19 - 4/20 All-Youth Lock-In <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:00p-8:00a • Chapel 	SUN 04/21 Middle School Youth Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30p-8:00p • Daniel's Den 	SUN 04/28 High School Youth Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30p-8:00p • Daniel's Den
SUN 05/05 Senior Milestone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:15a - Worship • 11:30a - Lunch 	SAT 05/11 All-Youth AmazinGrace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:00p-7:00p • Chapel 	SUN 05/19 Mission Trip Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30a-12:30p • Daniel's Den 	SUN 05/26 High School Hangout <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:30a-12:30p • Cecil Whittaker's 	6/24 - 6/28 VBS Volunteering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00a-12:00p • Chapel

● MIDDLE SCHOOL ● HIGH SCHOOL ● BOTH

EVENT INFORMATION

HIGH SCHOOL HANGOUTS

High schoolers - come and hang out on April 1! We'll be meeting up at Denny's (3939 Veterans Memorial Pkwy) at 10:00 and DQ (1015 St Peters Howell Rd) at 1:00 to enjoy good food and enjoy each other's company. Let DCE Josh know if you plan to come.

- bit.ly/hshangout-4-1

MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETUP

Middle schoolers are welcome to join us at Cecil Whittaker's (620 Jungermann Rd) at 11:30 on 4/14 for a Middle School Meetup. Show up for pizza, stick around for fun and meaningful conversations with other middle schoolers. Friends are welcome!

ALL-YOUTH LOCK-IN

All middle & high school youth are welcome to join us for our upcoming all-youth lock-in from 6:00 PM on 4/19 through 8:00 AM on 4/20. We'll start off the event with pizza and continue with fun activities and time in God's Word. Feel free to bring your own NERF blasters. The cost of this event is to simply bring a snack to share! Please sign-up below:

- bit.ly/lock-in24

YOUTH GROUPS

We'll be having a couple of Youth Groups in April! Middle School Youth Group will be on 4/21 and High School Youth Group will be on 4/28 - both from 6:30-8:00. Come for a time of fellowship and space to study God's Word with your peers.

SENIOR MILESTONE

We will recognize our graduating seniors during the 10:15 service on Sunday, May 5 and host a lunch for seniors and their parent(s) afterwards. Those who choose to participate will receive a personalized bath towel to use in their dorm, apartment, or at home in the coming years. To participate, please fill out this form:

- bit.ly/SeniorMilestone24

AMAZINGRACE

Middle and High School youth are welcome to participate in this year's "AmazinGrace" on Saturday, May 11. Spend the afternoon travelling around the church while doing fun activities! Sign up below:

- bit.ly/amazingrace-24

HIGH SCHOOL HANGOUT

High schoolers are welcome to join us at Cecil Whittaker's (620 Jungermann Rd) at 11:30 on 5/26 for a High School Hangout. Show up for pizza, stick around for fun and meaningful conversations with other high schoolers. Friends are welcome!

VBS VOLUNTEERING

VBS is 6/24-6/28 — volunteer here: bit.ly/cotcvbs24

TEXT UPDATES

- text "@cotcsmuth" to "81010" (Jr. High Youth & Parents)
- text "@cotcuth" to "81010" (Sr. High Youth)
- text "@cotcparent" to "81010" (Sr. High Parents)

@cotcyouth facebook.com/cotcyouthministry
linktr.ee/cotcyouthministry



Our middle schoolers had a great time at the circuit-wide Middle School Late Night at Immanuel St. Charles!

1/26

1/26

Here's a photo of our high schoolers lining up for an activity for our devotion during Youth Group.



2/25



3/10

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the O.A.S.I.S. Youth Food Challenge!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Study God's Word with your brothers and sisters in Christ on Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM. We have education opportunities for all ages each Sunday morning. Look and see which classes you and your children can attend.

Nursery

- Room 108

Preschool

- Room 106

Kindergarten & 1st Grade

- Room 112

2nd & 3rd Grades

- Rooms 113 & 114

4th & 5th Grades

- Room 111

Middle School (6th-8th Grades)

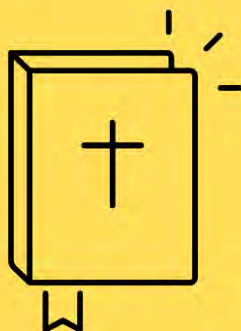
- Room 222

High School (9th-12th Grades)

- Daniel's Den (youth room)

Adult Bible Studies

- Sanctuary & Room 224



ELEMENTARY SCHEDULE



04/07 David and Jonathan

04/14 David Worships God

04/21 Solomon Prays for Wisdom

04/28 Solomon Builds the Temple

05/05 God Provides for Elijah

05/12 Elijah & the Prophets of Baal

05/19 Elijah Is Taken to Heaven

05/26 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE CLASS



OPEN GYM PLAY DATES

Saturday, April 11th from 9:00a-11:00a

Join us one Saturday per month (December – April) for Open Gym from 9:00–11:00 AM. This is a great time for kids to play together (and run out lots of energy) while parents have some time to reconnect with one another. We'll have the bounce house set up and some snacks will be provided as well!

- **Dates: 4/11**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday, June 24 — Friday, June 28 from 9:00a-12:00p

Let's get ready to celebrate our Savior! God has given us so many amazing blessings: our families, friends, and His everlasting love. At this year's VBS, kids will dive into five events in Jesus' life and discover that Jesus' love always gives us a reason to celebrate. We welcome all Preschool — 4th Graders to join us for "Celebrate the Savior." Register or volunteer here: bit.ly/cotcvbs24

- We will also have a new & special service opportunity for 5th & 6th graders as part of our VBS programming. Learn more & register here: bit.ly/56team24

chapel preschool



Preschool VIP Day – March 15, 2024

The preschoolers had a fun morning doing special activities in the gym with their VIP guests. We shared a fun poem, sang a song, and rang hand bells before we concluded our morning with a chapel service led by Pastor Nelson. We had a door offering for Bethlehem Micro School and collected nearly \$400 for the

mission!





CHAPEL OF THE CROSS
Faith Milestone Ministry

GRADUATE SUNDAY – CLASS OF 2024

TOWEL PRESENTATION & CELEBRATION LUNCH

LIVING BY FAITH

THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD

GRADUATE SUNDAY

May 5, 2024

Graduate Recognition & Towel Blessing

10:15 a.m.

Lunch, Celebration, & Presentation

11:30 a.m.



CHAPEL OF THE CROSS
Faith Milestone Ministry

Graduates will
each receive a
personalized
bath towel

High School graduates and their parent(s) are invited to a celebration in honor of the class of 2024 on **Sunday, May 5**. At the end of the **10:15 a.m.** service, graduates and their parent(s) will be invited forward for a brief recognition, blessing, and gift presentation. Following worship, there will be a celebration luncheon and a time for encouragement and conversation about faith in this stage of life.

Parents will meet together to discuss how they can encourage and support the faith of their young adult children. Graduates will meet to discuss the joys and challenges of making this faith their own as college students and young adults. This will also provide an opportunity to hear about how Chapel is trying to remain connected and support our young people during this time of transition.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend worship and our celebration to follow. **To ensure each graduate receives their personalized gift, please complete the 2024 Graduate Recognition Survey at your earliest convenience.**

Contact Pastor Andrew Nelson or DCE Josh Eckstein
with any questions you may have!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024!



Mark your calendars for VBS 2024: "Celebrate the Savior." Let's get ready to celebrate our Savior! God has given us so many amazing blessings: our families, friends, and His everlasting love. At this year's VBS, kids will dive into five events in Jesus' life and discover that Jesus' love always gives us a reason to celebrate.

We welcome all Preschool — 4th Graders to join us for "Celebrate the Savior." Register or volunteer by scanning [here](#):



5th & 6th Grade Service Team

For families with 5th & 6th Graders: Chapel is trying something new at VBS this year! We are providing an amazing opportunity for our 5th & 6th graders to participate in service projects in our community. These opportunities will take place at the same time as our normal VBS programming.

Register your 5th or 6th grader for this opportunity by scanning [here](#):



Lutheran Education Tuition Assistance Available



Through a mutual partnership with local LCMS schools, your family can attend these schools at a lower "member/association tuition rate" while retaining your Chapel of the Cross membership. In exchange for your reduced rate, we will provide tuition subsidy payments to the school on your behalf. All students enrolled in K-12th Grade at an LCMS school are eligible. Please click/ scan [here](#) to complete the Tuition Assistance Application Form by April 30.



EMERGENCY WEATHER RESPONSE HOMELESS SHELTERS

Chapel once again teamed up with other area churches to provide shelter for our homeless neighbors when the weather became dangerously cold this season. We were only activated one of our nights, but we were able to provide a safe and warm night's rest to 13 guests. Thank you to everyone at Chapel who helped (and signed up to help) to make this a reality. We look forward to providing this much needed service again next season.



Running Group

Whether you consider yourself a "runner" or not, this group is for you! We meet on Tuesdays from spring (starting April 2nd) through the fall (calling it quits around daylight savings time). We gather together at Laurel Park, just in front of the swimming pool at 6:30pm. We pray together and then hit the trails for half an hour before heading home.

The 2nd Quarter

VOTERS MEETING

May 19 - 11:30am in Room 224

pizza provided & childcare available



SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Men and Women

Keep yourself immersed in the pages of God's Word this summer by joining us in a community wide summer study of Exodus using Pastor Mark Hoehner's book *Knowing God, Knowing Me: God Saved*.

This is a seven week study with a small amount of homework, small group discussion, and a lecture by Pastor Mark. The study will begin on June 11, 2024 and end on August 6, 2024, with time off for VBS and Independence Day. More details will be available soon! Contact Margaret Hibbeler at st_charles_hibbelers@yahoo.com

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS



NEW MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING APRIL 9, 2024

April 9th will be the first day of a new mid-week Bible Study for men and women. This new study is a three week study called "For Such a Time as This." Esther went from an orphan to a queen. Joseph went from a slave to being second only to the King in all the land of Egypt. They both had ups and downs in their lives. This is typical of most of our lives as well, but God has a plan for each of us.

If you are at all intimidated about attending Bible Study, don't be! You might consider trying this three week study! There are a small number of study questions to answer at home as you are able, group discussion and a teaching lecture.

Tuesday mornings: 9:30-11:00 a.m. for men and women. Room 224.

Women may also participate remotely via Zoom.

Tuesday evenings: 7:00-8:30 Women only. Room 224

For more information, contact Margaret Hibbeler (st_charles_hibbelers@yahoo.com)

To register, click [here](#) or go to the Chapel of the Cross Midweek Bible Study Link.
If you have already registered for the Isaiah study, you do not need to re-register.



THIS IS MY BODY SUMMIT



Reverend Michael Salemink, executive director of National Lutherans for Life, will lay a foundation to help us understand the growing phenomena of gender dysphoria and pan-sexuality and equip us to speak with the love of Jesus to those involved.

When: Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Where: Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church, St. Peters, MO.

907 Jungermann Road, St. Peters, MO 63376

Coffee and snacks will be provided. Please register.

tinyurl.com/mybodystl



AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC & POETRY

with Tanner Olson & Blake Flattley



PATHFINDER CHURCH
APRIL 14
3PM
\$20/PERSON
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
PATHFINDERSTL.ORG/POETRY



15800 Manchester Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011



All Women of Chapel of the Cross and friends, young and old

Saturday April 27, 2024 – 9am-11am

Continental breakfast in the gym 9:00am-9:45am

Prayer Service in the church 10:00am-11:00am

No cost - a free will offering will be taken for missions



We all need grace, mercy and peace as we live life in this complicated world.

Come and spend some time with the Lord and Christians friends new and old who will encourage you
and rest for a while in God's Amazing Grace, Mercy and Peace.

For more information: Contact Susan Hoehner at susan.hoehner@gmail.com or

636-362-2284 Home





LWML Mission Statement

As Lutheran Women In Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

LWML Chapel Circle meet monthly for spiritual growth, fellowship, discuss mission work and special projects. All ladies are invited to join us! If you are not able to attend each month, you are welcome to come when it is convenient. You don't need to be a member to attend... ALL are welcome! Don't forget your mites! Here is a list of what Chapel Circle has been doing and has going on for the next couple of months.

January 2024: Chapel Circle received a thank you note from the Women's Shelter for our continued support! Chapel Circle assembled 100 kits in January and delivered to the Women's Shelter. Thank you everyone for your generous contributions of the towels, wash clothes and toiletry items needed for the kits.

Chapel Circle Meeting - February 20, 2024: Ladies showed their creative talents with markers and colored pencils by doodling on Visual Faith Cards and Bookmarks. Visual faith is a method of connecting with God by doodling. Being visual in our faith can make a difference allowing us to have some meaningful time with the Lord. These were assembled with a bible verses added. Each person made several to be mailed to the shut-ins. See pictures!!

Soup Supper - March 13th: Women's Ministries (Chapel Circle, Women's Bible Study, Women Rooted In Christ) furnished delicious soup and desserts prior to the Lenton Service on March 13th. The free will donation went to the Youth Group.

Chapel Circle Meeting - March 20th: Robin Tellor will be the guest speaker. Robin is with Westfield United Methodist Church. She was able to supply Chapel Circle with washcloths and towels from Drury and Hampton Inns for the Women's Shelter kits that were assembled in January of this year. In addition to supplying our ministry, they distribute to other missions and agencies throughout the world.

SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, April 27th: Breakfast Prayer Service at Chapel of the Cross. The theme is "Grace, Mercy, and Peace". There will be a continental breakfast. Would like to have on a Saturday morning to open up for more ladies to attend that are unable to come on Tuesdays. More info to follow!!



LWML District Convention - June 7 - 9, 2024: Convention is at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center in Independence, MO. Stephanie Seifert is the designated YWR (Young Women's Rep). We need 2 delegates and 2 alternates, if possible from Chapel Circle. Several have shown interest in going. More information to follow as the LWML website is currently down. Delegates need to register by March 31st.

Stamps: Chapel Circle continues to collect cancelled stamps. No Christmas stamps, no Love stamps, no Forever stamps unless they are Commemorative Forever stamps. LWML receives funds for missions from cancelled stamps (including foreign stamps). There needs to be a good 1/2" margin around the cancelled stamp. If unsure, just leave a large margin. You may contact Janet Minasian if any questions. The stamps will given to the Zone President at the 2024 LWML Convention being held this summer in June. The bin for the stamps is located in the coat room marked "Stamps".

Election of Officers: At the May meeting, Chapel Circle will be electing a President and Secretary. Please consider and pray for these positions. We want Chapel Circle to be able to continue as we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

LWML Spring Quarterlies: LWML Quarterlies are in the rack located in the narthex of the Church. Feel free to take one and read. When finished you may bring back to share with someone else. Also, anyone may go online to read the Quarterly at lwml.org.

Vacations: When traveling this spring or summer, please remember Chapel Circle continues to collect travel size toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, combs, kleenex, tooth paste, tooth brush) along with wash clothes and hand towels for the Women's Shelter. A bin marked "Personal Items" is located in the coat room in the back of Church.

If any questions about LWML, please speak with President Sue Hoehner 636-362-2284 or Vice President Paulette Allwardt 989-239-6815.

NEWS FROM THE CLAUSING FAMILY

888-THE-LCMS | www.lcms.org | infocenter@lcms.org

How to Support Us

To support the LCMS through the work of Rev. Jonathan Clausing, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

-OR-

Mission Central
40718 Highway E-16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Include "Clausing-Tanzania" in the memo line. Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/clausing.



www.lcms.org/clausing



This semester Emmanuel Semng'indo has been assisting with school administration in the seminary office. A gifted musician, Emmanuel has helped to introduce the Swahili version of the hymn "This Joyful Eastertide" to the seminary. The hymn appears in the Kenyan hymnal but is new to most Tanzanians.

Make Known His Deeds Among the Peoples

Some time ago I was eating in a Tanzanian restaurant while a wall-mounted television quietly played a religious music video in the background. Although spiritual music in secular venues is rare in the U.S., in Tanzania it is quite common. Equally common was the content of the video. The singer stood in the midst of a grassy field with arms outstretched, a glorious panorama of mountains in the background. With eyes closed in an expression of rapture, he sang (in Swahili) lyrics typical of modern Christian pop music, something like, "You are worthy, I just want to praise you, you are able, you lift me up when I am down, etc." I

jonathan.clausing@lcms.org



Our Family

Anita and I were married on August 16, 1997 and have been blessed with nine children.

Back Row, Left to Right:

- Anita (12.9.74)
- Ethan (5.8.08)
- Eileen (8.21.11)
- Emmanuel (3.6.15)
- Elijah (7.3.13)
- Eric (12.16.09)
- Jonathan (8.20.75)

Front Row, Left to Right

- Ernest (7.16.04) studies at Concordia University, Nebraska
- Eunice (6.1.06)
- Emil (10.29.99) lives and works in Chicago
- Eleanor (1.10.02) studies at Concordia University, Nebraska

To see past issues of our newsletter and other opportunities to support us, you can find us at Mission Central:

<https://missioncentral.us/clausing/>

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honestly wasn't even paying close attention until the singer finally came to the refrain: "Allahu Akbar." With a jolt I realized that I wasn't listening to Christian pop; I was listening to Muslim pop! Equally jarring was the troubling question raised by the experience: "Is there really any substantial difference between the two?"

Holy Scripture tells us what *ought* to be the difference. Echoing many other Old Testament writers, Isaiah declares, "Make known His deeds among the peoples." Christians identify the true God by declaring His deeds - His deeds in history, in specific places, before the eyes of specific people. The later parts of the Old Testament constantly refer back to the exodus - to Pharaoh, the plagues, the Red Sea, and God's provision for His people in the wilderness. God's Name was made known among the nations specifically because of His deeds in history. Likewise, we Christians identify the true God by His deeds in Jesus Christ - His conception, birth, baptism, miracles, transfiguration, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, and sending of His Spirit. When your hymnody is filled with these things, you don't have to wait until the refrain to find out to whom you've been singing!

At St. Peter seminary we sing Swahili hymns both old and new, but always explicitly Christian and steeped in the words of Holy Scripture. As I mentioned in the caption for the opening photo, it brings me great joy to see Christians get excited about introducing new, Christ-centered hymns into the church.

Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day prison, Our faith had been in vain: But now has Christ arisen! (LSB 482)



Meanwhile, on the other side of Tanzania, construction continues on the new seminary in Shinyanga. Our colleagues the Steffensons and the Paynes are preparing to teach there. Thanks to Zach Schnare for providing this photo after his recent visit to the new campus.

jonathan.clausing@lcms.org



Voters' Meeting on Sunday, April 19th following the 10:15am service.

ELDERS

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Doug White	dj1white87@gmail.com	314.541.8500
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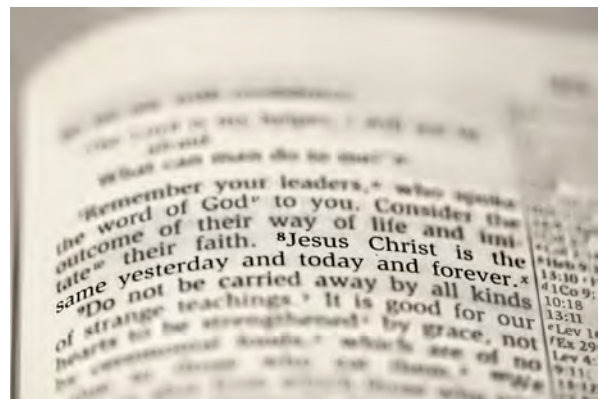
Unchanging

by Pastor Michael Salemink

Only another—and greater—certainty can deliver us.

Springtime brings changes. Weather, wildlife, and wardrobe are switching. Timepieces, taxes, and athletics are shifting. Improvement? Erosion? Or just over and over again? Whichever, we rarely and barely keep up with all the moving targets.

The sanctity of life has also seen its share of changes. Medical ultrasound machines arrived in the 1940s. Chemists first synthesized hormonal birth control in the 1950s. The “sexual revolution” started in the 1960s. Abortion access became mandatory in the 1970s. In vitro fertilization commenced in the 1980s. Physician-assisted suicide gained acceptance in the 1990s. Pill abortions arose in the 2000s. CRISPR genetic engineering originated in the 2010s.



Public regulations and political regimes continue to fluctuate. Novel measures using death as a solution keep emerging. As the hymnwriter memorably said, “Change and decay in all around I see.” It echoes the Apostle: **“the present form of this world is passing away”** (1 Corinthians 7:31, in a discourse directly addressing marriage and sexuality).

The whole creation convulses in the aftershocks of humankind’s fall. Since the forbidden fruit, sin and death have remained a constant of our race and our universe. Whatever our size or skills or circumstances, brokenness retains its hold. Evil may change clothes but never its core.

Only another—and greater—certainty can deliver us. The grace of Almighty God stands universal. The love of Jesus Christ still prevails as it always has and ever will. His work of creating proclaims every human life special—fact. His labor of redeeming proves every human life precious—truth. His activity of calling pronounces every human life priceless—reality. From the beginning—both the first moment of creation and the split-second of fertilization—until eternity this Gospel endures.

We speak this truth because it changes even the hardest and darkest hearts. We show this love because it saves lives in the most desperate situations and despite age, appearance, or ability. And we receive every neighbor as a gift and privilege because we delight together in a steadfast, faithful, and unchanging God.



April

Happy Birthday

Dean Hoff,	04-02	Sandy Goecke,	04-13	Stephen Bain,	04-22
Judy Duncan,	04-03	Marty Wittmus,	04-13	Loretta Schrieber,	04-22
Jackson Stroup,	04-04	Diane Hiner,	04-14	Ryan Failla,	04-22
Mark Hoehner,	04-05	Rachel Weinhold,	04-14	Kim Harnagel,	04-23
Paulette Allwardt,	04-05	Molly Kamphoefner,	04-14	Diana Harte,	04-23
Chris McDonald,	04-06	Zachary Hume,	04-14	Leila Cowan,	04-23
Asher Kemper,	04-08	Kuralai Kashenov,	04-14	Quentin Brandt,	04-24
Isaac Newsham,	04-08	Samantha Willett,	04-14	Connor Fujinaka,	04-24
Madeline Good,	04-08	Amy Maier,	04-14	Jan Metzler,	04-24
Kathy Rhodes,	04-08	Chris Durell,	04-15	Andrew May,	04-24
Liz Riedemann,	04-08	Web Noel,	04-15	Amberly Hume,	04-25
Barbara Rellmann,	04-08	Dan Wiederkehr,	04-15	Amy Spangenberg,	04-26
Nicole Becker,	04-09	Julianna Veit,	04-16	Emma Crutchfield,	04-26
Ray Granger,	04-09	Danielle Besand,	04-16	Judy Johnson,	04-26
Emily Albers,	04-09	Lacey Kirksey,	04-16	Deb Ross,	04-26
Isaiah Hoehner,	04-09	Kevin Harms,	04-16	Trevor Holovics,	04-27
Reagan Moellering,	04-09	Melissa Besand,	04-17	Brenda Durrwachter,	04-27
Holly Jarus,	04-09	Sharyl Doctorman,	04-17	Reagan Marshall,	04-27
Haley Meinhart,	04-09	James Jones,	04-17	Adrienne Collins,	04-27
Will Sills,	04-09	Kristen Spangenberg,	04-17	Kari Bowers,	04-27
Kevin Harms,	04-09	Amy Brake,	04-18	Drake Harris,	04-28
Sherry Wittmus,	04-10	John Middendorf,	04-18	Niki Noel,	04-28
Charles Lininger,	04-10	Andrew Nelson,	04-19	Meghan Kester,	04-28
Janice Pine,	04-10	Steve Linde,	04-20	Bob Carter,	04-29
Barb Biggers,	04-10	Joe Ostermeyer,	04-20	Tara Linneman,	04-29
Eugene Zajac,	04-10	Becky Bromberg,	04-20	Amber Holovics,	04-29
Karrin Nettles,	04-11	Joey Totra,	04-20	Jeff Simon,	04-29
Shirley Diehl,	04-11	Richard Stroup,	04-20	Adam Peanick,	04-30
Steve Junkel,	04-12	Erica Lindsay,	04-21	Dennis Guyott,	04-30
Mandy Marshall,	04-12	Eliza Good,	04-21	Tom Holovics,	04-30
Brian Rensing,	04-12	Gabriel Wesche,	04-22		

Happy Anniversary

Paul and Rosa Ludy,	04-02	Kathleen and Stephen Dwyer,	04-21
Brian and Kelly Tschannen,	04-03	John and Joy Lomax,	04-22
Bill and Kathy Rhodes,	04-04	Brad and Melissa Besand,	04-25
Lance and Mary Ann Mueller,	04-04	Richard and Betty Stroup,	04-27
Phil and Angela Clayton,	04-06	Doug and Nancy Seifert,	04-28
Michael and Amie Spangler,	04-10	Tim and Kathy Weber,	04-29
Virgil and Pat Schlough,	04-13	Deb and Allen Ross,	04-30
Dale and DeeDee Brommelhorst,	04-14		
Randy and Sherri Goltz,	04-16		
Stephen and Rachel Beck,	04-18		
Jenae and Spencer Mason,	04-18		
Tim and Emily Good,	04-20		

May

Happy Birthday

Jane Ohmie,	05-01
Gina Mahaffey,	05-01
Marge Winter,	05-02
Janet Hessler,	05-02
Rick Rodriguez,	05-03
Peggy Clemens,	05-04
John Bain,	05-04
Chuck Wiegand,	05-05
Rachelle Lilge,	05-05
Erlys Lein,	05-05
Michael Henson,	05-06
Tami Pack,	05-06
Sarah Brown,	05-06
Jay Hollowood,	05-07
Stephanie Matt,	05-07
Jordan Brake,	05-07
Cooper Schmidt,	05-07
Mary Ann Mueller,	05-07
Erik Diehl,	05-07
Tyler Mann,	05-07
Ethan Clausang,	05-08
Heidi Holovics,	05-08
Shane Sare,	05-09
Mia Freed,	05-09
Geoff Karstens,	05-09
Austin Freed,	05-09
Katie Harris,	05-10
Terry Eaker,	05-10
Trina Nichols,	05-10
Sheryl Munz,	05-11
Joel Collins,	05-11
Emily Hasson,	05-11
Aaron Freed,	05-12
Kenn Luecke,	05-12
Nolan Wilson,	05-12
Ruby Kramer,	05-13
Nolan Seifert,	05-13
Michael Prince,	05-13
Billy Clemens,	05-13
Samantha Savala,	05-13
Curtis Brooks,	05-14

Emmet Walgate,	05-14
Ona Cooper,	05-14
Ezmae Pitzer,	05-15
Jonah Uglum,	05-15
Michael Nichols,	05-15
Erin Severson,	05-16
Charles Miller,	05-16
Judy Liefeld,	05-17
Jordan Floyd,	05-17
Janice Kirkiewicz,	05-17
Kathy Baum,	05-18
Joanne Scheer,	05-18
Sherri McKee,	05-18
Katie Crites,	05-18
Harriet Allmon,	05-18
David Ruprecht,	05-18
Emily Good,	05-19
Isabella Totra,	05-19
Megan Niemeyer,	05-19
Pat Briley,	05-20
Brynna Walgate,	05-20
Christy Schaefer,	05-21
Claire Robinson,	05-21
Phyllis Carter,	05-22
Joyce Todd,	05-22
Cathy Poindexter,	05-22
Henry Tschannen,	05-22
Sophia Cowan,	05-23
Randy Goltz,	05-23
Quinn Young,	05-24
Matt Crutchfield,	05-24
Rachel Beck,	05-24
Kristin Young,	05-25
Jessica Farner,	05-25
TJ Podhorsky,	05-25
Rod Bloese,	05-25
Joyce Whittington,	05-26
Don Randolph,	05-26
Hannah Beck,	05-26

Walker Noel,	05-27
Emmett Holovics,	05-28
Mackenzie Thomas,	05-28
Andrew Sides,	05-28
Kathy Schulz,	05-29
David Laskowsky,	05-29
Joseph DeWitt,	05-30
Ryan Kemper,	05-30
Mary Ann Stuckstede,	05-30
Don Boettler,	05-31
Doug Seifert,	05-31
Elena Obermuefemann,	05-31
Xavier Brandt,	05-31
Daniel Rensing,	05-31
Natalie Rensing,	05-31
Virgil Schlough,	05-31
Ethan Freed,	05-31
Stephen Whittle,	05-31
Ariel Tschannen,	05-31

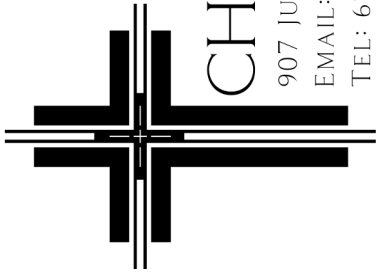
Happy

Anniversary

Rick and Debra Rodriguez,	05-02
Dan and Karen Heidelmeyer,	05-04
Mark and Erin Hoehner,	05-05
Jason and Jennifer Wareing,	05-05
Tim and Cindy Connoley,	05-05
Nicole and Matthew Hearty,	05-08
Curtis Brooks and Christine,	05-11
Dennis and Charlene Hass,	05-12
Kevin and Ariel Tschannen,	05-13
Zachary and Erin Hume,	05-17
Ed and Melissa Leppert,	05-18
Joel and Adrienne Collins,	05-18

Jim and Cynthia Harris,	05-18
Dale and Debbie Plegge,	05-19
Ron and Pat Hoormann,	05-20
Bob and Joyce Gaugh,	05-21
David Ruprecht and Linda,	05-21
James and Dorothy Marsh,	05-22
John and Pat Middendorf,	05-22
Kevin and Becky Totra,	05-22
Dale and Jane Obermoeller,	05-22
Steven and Margaret Hibbeler,	05-24
George and Jeannie Nelson,	05-24
John and Cathy Poindexter,	05-24

Dale and Dawn Septeowski,	05-25
Brad and Barb Biggers,	05-28
Rod and Wenonah Landers,	05-30
Rich and Bev Piehl,	05-30



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