

## Divine Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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## May 2018 Newsletter

### From the Pastor's Study:

***"[Jesus said] 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'"***

(Matthew 9:37-38)

God certainly does bless His people. Not only does He provide us all that we need to support this body and life, all of our daily needs, but many times providing luxuries that are hard to comprehend. He provides all our physical needs and many of our wants as well. But He also provides for our spiritual needs as well through the Means of Grace – His precious and holy Word and the Sacraments.

Over the ages He has given His Church capable and devout leaders. Some of these would include Peter and Paul, Augustine and Chrysostom, and the two Martins – Luther and Chemnitz. Thankfully, still to this day He continues to supply His Church with faithful workers that lead His people in a correct and God pleasing fashion. Pastors are to teach and preach the precious Word of God so that the members of the congregations they serve are uplifted in their faith life and motivated to lead lives that are filled with sanctified love for their fellow man.

During the last week of April, calls were extended to candidates for the pastoral office at both the Saint Louis and Fort Wayne seminaries of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Vicars will be assigned at both seminaries to serve congregations as well. What a blessing it is to know that *"the Lord of the harvest"* continues to call some of His children into the ministry of serving His people with Word and Sacrament ministry. Thanks be to God that these young men are moved to take up the cross and are willing to preach the Good News of the Gospel where the Lord will have them serve.

I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage you to pray for these new candidates and vicars. Pray that the Lord would truly bless their efforts, and that He would continue to grant them strength and wisdom to boldly proclaim Christ the crucified and risen Redeemer. Also pray that the Lord would continue to bless His flocks around the world and that more young men would be moved to take up the calling into the service of the Church and the Lord. God's continued blessings to you and yours. See you in church.

*Pastor*

## FUN IN THE FAITH

Through these quizzes, I pray that you continue to gain new insights into the Lord's Word, and its application for your personal life. I also hope that your continued study of God's Word is rewarding and enlightening, as well as spiritually uplifting. Here are the answers to the quiz for the month of April.

- 1) The Old Testament prophet Isaiah prophesies that the Lord will prepare a feast for all peoples. What will be included in that feast? *According to the prophet Isaiah (25:6) the feast that God prepares will include "a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow of aged wine well refined."*
- 2) Why, according to Saint John, was he writing his epistle (letter)? *Saint John explains the reason behind writing his first epistle in the words of 1 John 2:1. He writes: "My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."*
- 3) Following His resurrection Jesus appeared on several occasions to His disciples. According to Saint Luke's Gospel account, how did Jesus prove to the disciples that it was really Him and not a spirit? *From Luke 24 we learn that Jesus showed the disciples the nail wounds in His hands and feet. This was done to reassure the disciples that it was truly Jesus and not a spirit because as Jesus said, "See my hands and feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." (Luke 24:39)*
- 4) In Saint John's Gospel account, to what does Jesus compare the devil as he scatters Jesus' followers? *At John 10:12 Jesus compares the devil (Satan) to a wolf who comes to snatch and scatter the sheep from the hired hand of the shepherd.*
- 5) Who was Candace? *From the story of Philip teaching the Ethiopian eunuch we learn that Candace was the queen of the Ethiopians. (Acts 8:27)*



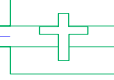
Here are the questions for the month of May. These questions are based on the appointed readings for The Sixth and Seventh Sundays of Easter, The Day of Pentecost and The Holy Trinity. These readings can be found printed on the reverse side of the Propers (worship insert) distributed at Sunday morning worship. They can also be found listed on page xvii (Series B) in the front of Lutheran Service Book (burgundy hymnal) or see Pastor for a list of the readings. God's continued rich blessings on your ongoing study of His Word.

- 1) How do we know when we love the other children of God according to Saint John's first epistle?
- 2) How far is Mount Olivet from the city of Jerusalem?
- 3) Once the lifeless dry bones of Ezekiel's vision had the breath of life in them, to what did the LORD compare them?
- 4) Who was the first person to hear the Gospel in a nutshell: "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)?
- 5) How many wings do seraphim have and for what do they use them?

Something to Think About:  
Part I. The Holy Scriptures II.  
Origin and Inspiration of The Bible

6. The Apocryphal books, which were never included in the term "Holy Scriptures," were not written under inspiration. They are profitable to read, but are human documents which cannot be used to establish divine truths.

(A Summary of Christian Doctrine, Koehler, Edward W. A. Saint Louis:  
Concordia Publishing House, 1939. p. 9)



Walther's Words

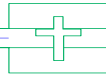
Thesis XVI

*In the twelfth place, the Word of God is not rightly divided when the preacher tries to make people believe that they are truly converted as soon as they have become rid of certain vices and engage in certain works of piety and virtuous practices.*

(From the twenty-ninth evening lecture – May 29, 1885)

"Without question, the words which, in Revelation 3:15-16, Christ addressed to the bishop of the church at Laodicea are of a memorable and awful import. He said: 'I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. I would thou wert cold or hot. So, then, because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth.' We see from these words that in the infallible judgment of God it is worse to be a lukewarm than a cold minister; it is worse to be a lazy and indifferent minister, who serves in his office because it is the profession in which he is making his living, than to be manifestly ungodly. For when a minister, though not teaching or living in a plainly unchristian manner, is so sleepy, so void of all earnestness and zeal for the kingdom of God and the salvation of souls, the inevitable effect is that the poor souls of his parishioners become infected by him, and finally the entire congregation is lulled into spiritual sleep. On the other hand, when a minister leads a manifestly ungodly life and teaches ungodly doctrine, the good souls in his congregation do not follow, but turn away from him with loathing. Now, although greater damage is inflicted on the Church by the lukewarmness of a minister than by his manifest ungodliness, still both kinds of ministers will at the end of the world receive the same sentence. Both the lukewarm and the cold minister will be addressed in those awful words: 'I never knew you; depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.' (Matthew 7:23)".

(The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel, Walther, C. F. W., W.H.T. Dau,  
Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1929, 1986. p. 307)



**MARTIN'S MUSINGS**

(Quotes of Martin Luther on select topics)

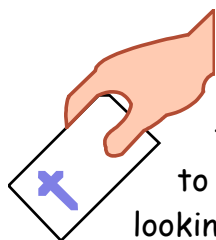
"A Spirit of Patience and Pardon Marks the Church"

"The kingdom of Christ consists of those who bear and those who are borne."

{What Luther Says, Plass, Ewald M. Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House,  
1959. p. 277, entry 814}

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## LAWN MOWING



Would you like to help with the lawn mowing but aren't able to actually do the mowing? We are looking for assistance to help defray the cost of the gas for the mower by sponsoring the gas for a week or more during the summer. The cost each week is about \$25.00. If you'd like to make a donation, please place it in an envelope with your name on it and put it in the offering plate.

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## CIRCUIT ASCENSION SERVICE

On Thursday, May 10th at 7 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church in Menasha will host the circuit wide Ascension service. If you would like to carpool to the service please contact the church office. Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 300 Broad Street in Menasha.



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## VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING

The following Church Council positions are up for election this spring and will be voted on at our May 6<sup>th</sup> Voters' Meeting.

- Elder** 1 position open
- Financial Sec.** open
- Trustee** 2 positions open
- Evangelism** open

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions or would like more information about them, please contact Hank Curry, or Pastor Bramstadt. Additional nominations will be accepted at the meeting.

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## PASTOR BRAMSTADT'S VACATION

Pastor and Linda will be on vacation from May 24<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. If the need for emergency pastoral care should arise members can contact one of the Elders - Hank Curry (920)921-6177; Tom Clausen (920)922-4225; or Jerry Schilling(920)238-9959. If it is an extreme emergency contact Pastor Wilkens at Hope, Fdl at 922-5130.

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The April 17, 2018

Ladies' Koinonia meeting was held

at church hosted by Sandy Maas and Carol Curry with 8 members attending. Linda Chisholm led us in a devotion "How Heavy is your Purse" and opened with prayer.

Kay Klemme will be attending the LWML SWD Convention June 22-23 at the Milwaukee Marriott West-Waukesha as a delegate. Ladies' K members will be receiving in their mailboxes the choices for the 2018-2020 LWML Mite Projects. Please vote for your top 5 choices and Kay will present them at the convention.

Final plans for the LWML Zone Spring Rally at our church and the Spaghetti Dinner on May 4 were made. The evening concluded with a "Bible Word Search-Crucifixion".

The LWML Spring Rally on April 23 was a huge success with 49 in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the theme "Spring 'Ant'icipation Celebration" picnic lunch and decorations, campfire songs, and the Bible study lead by Pastor Bramstadt "Celebrate Life". The response for the ingathering to the Solution Center in Fond du Lac was huge.

Please reserve May 15<sup>th</sup> for our next meeting at the home of Amy LaPointe. Members and guests are invited to join us for our last meeting of this year. A big thank you to all of our officers and members for their participation this year and always!

In Christ's Love for All  
Kay Klemme  
President Ladies' Koinonia



# A WORD FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP BOARD

## Serving God by Serving Others

As God's people, we are urged to "*fix our eyes on Jesus*" (Hebrews 12:2 NIV). The writer to the Philippians asserted, "*Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 2:5). What is that attitude? When we "*fix our eyes on Jesus,*" what will we see?

We see the Suffering Servant about whom Isaiah wrote. The One who has "*borne our griefs and carried our sorrows*"; the One who was "*wounded for our transgressions...crushed for our iniquities...*" and by whose "*stripes we are healed*" (Isaiah 53:4, 5).

We see the Son of Man who, in His own words, "*came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many*" (Matthew 20:28). This is the Son of Man who lived a childhood in obedience to His Father and to the earthly parents who were chosen for Him. This is the Son of Man who preached and taught, who healed the sick, confronted the wicked, and comforted the despairing. This is the Son of Man who calls us to "*deny [ourselves] and take up [our crosses] and follow [Him]*" (Matthew 16:24).

We follow Him in paths of service. Just as Jesus did, we serve when it might be inconvenient or when the person needing our service is unlovable. Just as Jesus did, we put others first. Just as Jesus endured the cross "*for the joy that was set before him*" (Hebrews 12:2), we, too, will find joy and fulfillment in serving in Jesus' name.

As God's people, we are called to love God with all of our hearts, souls, and minds and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:37). The key to our service is to live with an attitude that is God-centered. With God as our focus, we will want to love and serve Him and others. Unfortunately, because we are by nature self-centered, our interest is in serving ourselves instead of serving others. When we succumb to the temptation of putting ourselves first, we place ourselves in the center of life, and we become less interested and ultimately unaware of the needs of others. God's grace turns us around. In Christ, He has put us first, so now we are freed to put others first.

Jesus said in Luke 4:8, "*You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.*" Our prayer is that God will enable and strengthen us to put others first as we faithfully respond to His call to serve.

# STEWARDSHIP DEVOTION

## Scripture Readings:

*“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7).*

## Becoming Cheerful Givers

The basis for cheerful giving comes from the love that we receive from God. *“For God so loved the world that he gave...”* (John 3:16). God loved and continues to love. His nature is both loving and giving. Because of His love for us, He promises to supply all of our needs. Paul said, *“He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”* (Romans 8:32).



With the love and grace that we receive from our heavenly Father, we are changed from self-centered to God-centered people. With God in control of our lives, we can begin to trust and depend on Him. Filled with God’s love, we will love and give cheerfully. Christ’s nature will be seen in our giving to others.

Jesus provided the model of giving one’s self to others. He *“...did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many”* (Matthew 20:28). Christ willingly and cheerfully accepted this humble position to give and serve others. Jesus said, *“Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you”* (John 13:14-15).

As His stewards, we are called to give cheerfully to the needs of others. In giving to the needy, we are reminded of the words in Matthew 25:40, *“...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these bothers of mine, you did for me.”*

## Discussion Thoughts:

What allowed the Macedonians in 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 to give so generously and cheerfully?

Explain the attitude of trust in relation to cheerful giving.

What may you have to forego when you give generously and cheerfully? What might you receive?

## Prayer:

Dear Father in heaven, we pray for a giving spirit. Lord, enable us to give our time, talents, and treasures cheerfully. In Jesus’ precious and holy name we pray. Amen.

# Steward Builders

A newsletter to help you grow as a steward.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.



## God Will Supply

We go to work based on the promise of a wage for our labor. We enter into marriage covenants promising to be faithful to our spouses for life. We get on planes, trusting the pilots are well trained and the aircraft safe so we can get to our destinations. We drive our cars on the right side of the road (in the US, anyway!), confident that oncoming traffic will stay in their proper lanes.

If we put so much faith in fallible humans who are prone to error and misjudgment, how much more can we live as stewards who give first to God, trusting Him to supply all our needs!

*"Praise be to the Lord,"* prayed Solomon. *"Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses"* (1 Kings 8:56).

God's stewards throughout history have praised God for His faithfulness: Elijah, fed by ravens beside the brook (1 Kings 17:2-4); Daniel in the lion's den (Daniel 6); Paul preaching the Word of God even while imprisoned (Acts 28:17-31).

How about the Macedonians who gave generously even out of their poverty to share with others they felt were even more needy (2 Corinthians 8)? All these attest to the faithfulness of God. Surely God has blessed us, too, so that we can bless others with our gifts. David, the psalmist, wrote from experience: *"I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed"* (Psalm 37:25-26).



## Resisting the Lure of Gambling

Gambling can devastate our lives. Those who can least afford it are often the ones who spend the greatest portion of their income on gambling. When the gambler is addicted, God, family, and others lose importance.



There is no 11<sup>th</sup> commandment that says, "Thou shalt not gamble." There are, however, several Biblical precepts that gambling violates. The Bible warns us of the dangers of greed (Luke 12:15), selfishness and the desire to get rich quick (1 Timothy 6:9-10). Gambling encourages greed, materialism, and "get-rich-quick" thinking (Proverbs 28:20).

Scripture also tells us that all good gifts come from above (James 1:17) and that we are to be good stewards of those gifts (1 Corinthians 4:2). Gambling encourages a reckless investment of our God-given resources (Matthew 25:14-30). Gambling says, "I don't appreciate what God has provided. I deserve and want more." God tells us not to amass more wealth but to manage well what He has given us (Matthew 6:19-20).



May God help us all understand the risk of becoming addicted to gambling. May He give us strength to stay away from any activity that takes our trust away from Jesus.

## Overcoming Selfishness

By nature, we are selfish people. At an early age, we voice our selfishness with the word "Mine!" Unfortunately, this selfish attitude often carries forward into our adult years. Many people live with the attitude, "What is mine is mine, and I'm going to keep it." Because of our selfishness, we look at life in terms of our money, our things, and our achievements. We focus on ourselves and give little thought to those around us.

A selfish attitude is obviously not conducive to giving. Believing that we need and deserve all we have, we have little interest in giving generously. Because of our sinful, self-oriented natures, we fail to exercise generosity in our daily lives. The Bible depicts our fallen condition: "...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Likewise, Isaiah 53:6 says, "*We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way...*" We tend to want to do and accumulate things only for ourselves, and our society does little to redirect our focus. The media rarely applauds selfless acts of giving. Instead, admiration is saved for men and women who have attained power, prestige, and material wealth.

When God changes our hearts, though, our selfishness is no longer an obstacle to our giving. With hearts right with God, we acknowledge God as the owner of all things and trust in Jesus rather than our money for our security and salvation. By the working of the Holy Spirit, through His Word, God can remove our selfishness.

**Blessings on your Stewardship Journey**

# DIVINE SAVIOR MAY CALENDAR

**ALTAR**  
Sharyn Farder &  
Jill Teal

**USHERS**  
Dick Weinberger,  
Tom Clausen, Phil Rasmussen  
& Harold Collies

**ELDERS**  
Hank Curry,  
Jerry Schilling &  
Tom Clausen



- |          |                                                                                                                                  |          |                                                                                                                                            |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed. 2   | Sr. Confirmation class @ 5 p.m.<br>Midweek Bible study @ 7 p.m.                                                                  | Tue. 15  | Ladies' K meeting @ 6:30 p.m. at<br>Amy LaPoint's home                                                                                     |
| Thur. 3  | Cottage Bible study @ 6:30 p.m.<br><b>Amanda Duvall</b>                                                                          | Wed. 16  | <b>Summer Newsletter Deadline</b><br>Sr. Confirmation class @ 5 p.m.<br>Midweek Bible study @ 7 p.m.                                       |
| Fri.. 4  | Spaghetti Dinner & Raffle from<br>5:00 to 7 p.m.                                                                                 | Thur. 17 | Cottage Bible study @ 6:30 p.m.                                                                                                            |
| Sat. 5   | JJJ – Forsberg family<br><b>Charlie Beaman</b><br>* * * * *                                                                      | Fri. 18  | <b>Pete Chisholm</b>                                                                                                                       |
| Sun. 6   | 8 a.m. Adult Bible study<br>9 a.m. Worship w/ Holy Comm.<br>Acolyte – Hunter Hansen<br>Voters' Assembly meeting after<br>service | Sat. 19  | JJJ – Chisholm family<br><b>Bill Klemme</b><br>* * * * *                                                                                   |
| Tue. 8   | Circuit Winkel @ Peace/Neenah                                                                                                    | Sun. 20  | <b>Confirmation Day</b><br>8 a.m. Adult Bible study<br>9 a.m. Worship w/ Holy Comm.<br>Acolyte – Samuel Fuchs                              |
| Wed. 9   | Sr. Confirmation class @ 5 p.m.<br>Midweek Bible study @ 7 p.m.                                                                  | Mon. 21  | <b>Dick Weinberger</b>                                                                                                                     |
| Thur. 10 | Cottage Bible study @ 6:30 p.m.<br>Ascension Service @<br>Trinity/Menasha @ 7 p.m.<br>Ruby's Pantry                              | Wed. 23  | Midweek Bible study @ 7 p.m.                                                                                                               |
| Sat. 12  | JJJ - Klemme family<br>* * * * *                                                                                                 | Thur. 24 | Cottage Bible study @ 6:30 p.m.                                                                                                            |
| Sun. 13  | <b>Mother's Day</b><br>8 a.m. Adult Bible study<br>9 a.m. Worship w/ Examination of<br>catechumens<br>Acolyte – Sam Curry        | Sat. 26  | JJJ – Rasmussen family<br>* * * * *                                                                                                        |
| Mon. 14  | Boards and Committees meet<br>@ 6:30 p.m.<br>Church Council @ 7 p.m.<br><b>Dana Bodart</b>                                       | Sun. 27  | 8 a.m. Adult Bible study<br>9 a.m. Worship w/ guest preacher<br>Rev. Jerome Stecker<br>Acolyte – Mackenzie Hansen<br><b>Steve Forsberg</b> |
|          |                                                                                                                                  | Mon. 28  | <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b><br>Church offices closed                                                                                               |
|          |                                                                                                                                  | Tue. 29  | <b>Hank Curry</b>                                                                                                                          |
|          |                                                                                                                                  | Wed. 30  | Midweek Bible study @ 7 p.m.                                                                                                               |
|          |                                                                                                                                  | Thur. 31 | Cottage Bible study @ 6:30 p.m.                                                                                                            |

# May 2018

| Sunday    |                                          | Monday    |                                                 | Tuesday   |                                    | Wednesday |                                                       | Thursday  |                                             | Friday    |                                          | Saturday  |                                                      |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|
|           |                                          |           |                                                 | <b>1</b>  | Pay \$.10<br>Wore socks            | <b>2</b>  | Pay \$.10<br>Wore blue                                | <b>3</b>  | Pay \$.50<br>Have a birthday<br>this month  | <b>4</b>  | Pay \$.25<br>Plan May<br>rummage<br>sale | <b>5</b>  | Pay \$.10<br>Spring<br>house<br>cleaning<br>progress |
| <b>6</b>  | Pay \$.10<br>Sang this<br>morning        | <b>7</b>  | Pay \$.25<br>Got up<br>before 8am               | <b>8</b>  | Pay\$.25<br>Gave a hug             | <b>9</b>  | Pay \$.25<br>Attend<br>Bible Study                    | <b>10</b> | Pay \$.10<br>Saw a<br>squirrel or<br>rabbit | <b>11</b> | Pay \$.05<br>Each<br>veggie<br>planted   | <b>12</b> | Pay \$.05<br>Each flower<br>bought                   |
| <b>13</b> | Pay \$1.00<br>Took mom<br>out to eat     | <b>14</b> | Pay \$.05<br>Waved to a<br>friend               | <b>15</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Attend<br>Ladies' K   | <b>16</b> | Pay \$.50<br>Have<br>wedding<br>anniversary<br>in May | <b>17</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Saw the<br>sun set             | <b>18</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Ate fish fry                | <b>19</b> | Pay \$.50<br>Prayed for<br>a veteran                 |
| <b>20</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Made<br>breakfast           | <b>21</b> | Pay \$.05<br>Used<br>coupons<br>over<br>weekend | <b>22</b> | Pay \$.10<br>read a<br>paper       | <b>23</b> | Pay \$.10<br>Sat outside                              | <b>24</b> | Pay \$.10<br>Did a<br>hobby                 | <b>25</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Clipped<br>lawn             | <b>26</b> | Pay \$.50<br>Going<br>camping                        |
| <b>27</b> | Pay \$.50<br>Heard a<br>Bible<br>passage | <b>28</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Had a cook<br>out                  | <b>29</b> | Pay \$1.00<br>said "I love<br>you" | <b>30</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Put your<br>boat in this<br>month        | <b>31</b> | Pay \$.25<br>Fed birds                      |           |                                          |           |                                                      |