

† MT. CALVARY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS †
FEBRUARY 23, 2020

INTERESTED IN LUTHERANISM, MEMBERSHIP?

If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the basics of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Long – he may be reached through the church office or by e-mail at PRBLONG@aol.com.

CONFESION

Private confession is available on Saturdays before a Sunday with Communion as a preparation for the Sacrament on those Saturdays between 1 and 2 pm or by request; just contact Pastor Long for an appointment.

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Long is generally available at Mt. Calvary Tuesday through Friday mornings, or by appointment should you need or want to have conversation with him. You may reach him by e-mail at: PRBLONG@aol.com.

HOSPITAL CALLS

If you or a loved one have an illness or hospitalization that needs to be brought to the attention of Pastor Long, please call the office as soon as possible so that he may visit you. Note: Be sure the hospital knows that you are a member of Mt. Calvary and that you wish to have Pastor Long visit you. However, the hospitals do not always call the church—it is best if you let the office know.

PRAAYER CHAIN

Please take advantage of this opportunity to pray for your needs and those of your friends and family. Cards are available in the pew rack. To activate the chain please call Ardeane at 691-8007.

THIS WEEK'S FLOWERS – were given to the glory of God by Rob Cairncross in celebration of his daughter, Gabrielle's Birthday.

There are two Sunday's in March that have not been spoken for – any takers? Talk to Patty Caughey or Judy Honig!

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP UPDATE – Our offering for the General Fund for February 16, 2020 was **\$7,254.00**. Our weekly need for 2020 is **\$7,739.00**. We start the fiscal year with a “clean slate” in terms of expenses vs. income. But we'd still like to make up some of the ground we lost last year – so please continue to give as generously as your means allow.

HEARING ASSIST DEVICE AVAILABLE

The Multi-Media Committee has made available a “hearing assist device” for use by those who cannot hear the service clearly. You can call the office during the week (688-4321) or see Pastor Long or the elder for the day on Sundays if you are interested in using one. Please take advantage of this opportunity to hear clearly and plainly the means of grace offered in the services.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Our congregation operates Concordia Lutheran School together with the congregations of Redeemer and Trinity. Call the Concordia School office at 691-8921, or check their web site at www.concordiapeoria.com for information.

CONCORDIA STAFF FROM MT. CALVARY

Brooke Barr	- Grade 2, & Cheerleading Coach
Jan Heien	- Title I Reading Tutor

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

March 1st – 1st Sunday in Lent

Psalm 32:1-7
Genesis 3:1-21
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY WILL BE COLLECTING MITE BOXES NEXT SUNDAY.

IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER – We will post on our web page and list with the cancellations on WMBD, WEEK, and WHOI should the weather be such that coming out for a service would be dangerous. We will also send out an e-mail for those we have an address for. **If you wish to receive these notifications, please see that the office has your e-mail address.**

SALVAGE ON THE HIGH SEAS – The poinsettias that are left are now free for the taking whether you paid for one or not. So, if you can give them a good home, please take them.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY – Please keep in your prayers the family and friends of:

† Beverly Jean Watkins, who was called to her eternal rest on Monday, February 17, 2020, and given Christian burial on Saturday, February 22, 2020.

May her family find comfort, hope, and peace in Christ our Lord, Who has gone to prepare a place for us.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: -- Grant and Roshanda Szold on the birth of their daughter, Keahgynn on Wednesday, February 19, 2020. All are doing well.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES – This **Wednesday, February 26th**, we observe Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. Mt. Calvary will have two services, **one at 11:15 am and the other at 6:30 pm**. Both services will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Please join us as we follow our Lord and Savior through this season which ends with His death and resurrection. (There are no meals connected with these services.)

CONTRIBUTE TO ASH WEDNESDAY ASHES – If you have any palms in your house from last Palm Sunday, bring them to church **before this Tuesday, February 25th**, and they'll be added to the palms Pastor burns to make Ash Wednesday ashes!

OUR WEB PAGE HAS A NEW LOOK! – Every once in a while we need to “freshen up” the look of our web page – and that's just been done. If you haven't visited recently check it out – www.mtcalvarypeoria.org.

NEW THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY – **Judges:** – Sure, you know about Gideon and Sampson – but what about Ehud, Jephthah, Elon, or Abdon? Join us as we read the book of Judges and are reminded again of how God is faithful even when His people are not. **We meet Thursdays at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.**

AND NEW SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY – **Understanding Islam** – If we are to engage in dialogue and witness with our neighbors, we need to understand where they are coming from. With a growing Muslim population in Peoria, it is good for us to get a basic understanding of Islam so that we can have good dialogue with our Muslim neighbors. We will look at the history of Islam, its major teachings, and discuss the current challenges Islam poses.

BAKE SALE TODAY -- The Women of Mount Calvary are having a bake sale **today, Sunday, February 23rd**

between services. It's a great time to stock up on goodies for these cold winter days and nights.

FROM WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY

Treats for Family House – Family House offers a home away from home for the families of patients receiving medical treatment in Peoria. Women of Mt. Calvary have signed up to sponsor treats on **the 4th Monday of each month**. These treats may be store bought or homemade, and do not have to be individually wrapped. Family House is also in need of laundry detergent and cleaning supplies. If you would like to donate, **please sign the sheet on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office** and bring your treats to church, leaving them in the kitchen marked “Family House.” Questions? Call LaVelle Borders, 681-9414.

Postage Stamps – The Women of Mt. Calvary are saving postage stamps for LWML. Please cut out your postage stamps from envelopes and place them in the striped box on the table in the parish hall. We will trim the stamps and send them to LWML to support their mission work. Thank you.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **February** our pantry will be in need of **Boxed Potatoes, Peanut Butter, Canned Peas, and Tuna**. If you can help out by bringing some, your donation can be placed in the baskets in either the Narthex or the Parish Hall or on the table in the Pantry room and will be greatly appreciated.

CAN-ATHON DAY IS MARCH 15th -- and we are asking the members of Mt. Calvary to help in making this annual event a great success. You'll remember that this is the event that helps to stock our Community Food Pantry for the coming year. Please watch for information on how you can help serve hungry families in our neighborhood. Several groups at Mt. Calvary will be assisting in a variety of ways, and everyone will be invited to help by donating a bag of food! We can use all the foot soldiers we can find, especially on the March 15th, collection day!

NEED A DISCIPLINE TO ADD TO YOUR PREPARATION FOR EASTER? – JOIN THE CHOIR!

-- Once again this year, we would like to invite anyone who would like to sing with the Easter Festival Choir to join us for rehearsals. Our Adult Choir rehearses at 7:45 pm on Thursday evenings, and voices are needed in all sections. The rehearsal lasts roughly one hour. We would love to have you – please come. This is not a long term commitment, but who knows, you might like us well enough to stay with us the rest of the season.

FROM CONCORDIA

2020-2021 REGISTRATION – Concordia is now taking registrations for the next school year. While we are a little late in getting our letters out this year, if you want to take advantage of the discounted registration, it is due before March 1st.

Second Semester Honor Roll – Congratulations to our students who made the honor roll: Merit Roll – Sophia Joseph; Honor Roll: Cameron Dorsey, Kenyon Gillespie, Maddie Johnson, Tyler Crosiar, and Ella Barr. Good Work!

Blue Jean Ball – The “Blue Jean Ball,” Concordia’s main fundraiser is scheduled for April 18th. They are asking for help. There are all kinds of jobs to be done – if you wish to help call the school (691-8921) and they will put you in contact with someone who will gladly find a task for you – gathering auction items, helping with set-up, etc.

Service Opportunity at Concordia Lutheran School: – Faculty changes for the 2020-2021 school year: Mrs. Mantick has announced that after 35 years of teaching, she will be retiring at the close of the 2019-2020 school year. With this Mrs. Manahan, currently serving as our 4th grade teacher, will be transitioning to Kindergarten leaving Concordia with an opening for a 4th grade teacher.

Classroom Teacher: Concordia Lutheran School is seeking candidates for a fulltime, self-contained classroom teacher to serve in the 4th grade classroom.

Qualifications: Classroom teacher candidates must have, at a minimum, a Bachelor’s Degree in education, have a current teaching license (Illinois licenses preferred). Priority consideration will be given to candidates that are synodically trained, members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Expectations include classroom instruction, participation in professional development opportunities, curriculum development, and various supervision duties. All employees are to be in agreement with the Statement of Belief for the Lutheran Central School Association of Peoria IL and live in a manner that exemplifies the Concordia Lutheran School Christian Code of Conduct.

Please direct resumes and questions to Mr. Paul Thompson, Concordia Lutheran School 2000 W Glen Ave. Peoria IL 61614

Email: pthompson@concordiapeoria.com

Phone: 309-691-8921

Do You Shop At Kroger? – Link your Kroger Rewards Card to Concordia and Kroger Community Rewards makes a donation to Concordia each time you shop! Please use Concordia Lutheran School's account number, JK774.

STICKY TRAPS IN KITCHEN – Once again we have “sticky traps” in the kitchen around the cabinets. Please do not let your children play with them and do not discard them. They were put there by our representative from American Pest Control.

THANK YOU! – FOOD & DRINK – We understand that some folks and families need to bring beverages and food into the sanctuary to help keep everyone content and healthy during services. We would simply ask that you make sure crumbs, spills, and scraps are picked up before you go. Thanks! **If something liquid happens to be spilled on the pew cushion, please let Judy or Vicky know, so that it can be cleaned in the appropriate time and way.**

LOCK YOUR CARS! – Please remember to lock your cars at all times when on our parking lot and **do not leave anything of value in them**. And, especially in the evenings, be aware of your surroundings. More lighting has been installed, and the security cameras have been put up. They are on a motion sensor and will record anyone or anything that crosses in front of them. New signs warning that the cameras are there are now posted and the police department knows about them also.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – Many advocates of death-as-a-solution traffic in “cleverly devised myths” (2 Peter 1:16). Claims about “bodily autonomy,” “reproductive health care,” “medically necessary,” “safer than childbirth,” and “coat hangers” only obscure the beautiful truth. Gospel-motivated voices may lay the lies to rest with the Word “fully confirmed” (2 Peter 1:19) in eyewitness testimony: in the body and life of Jesus, God gives glory and sanctity to every member of our race.

Peoria Area Lutherans for Life – Come and Get to Know Us! – You are being invited to attend a meeting of the Peoria Area Lutherans for Life organization. We meet at 6:30 pm on the fourth Monday of each month at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton. **Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 24th.**

You might have noticed that interest in issues involving the sanctity of human life has been increasing across our nation. This is an exciting time to be involved in life saving efforts. We work to be gospel-motivated voices in support of life from conception to natural death. Please consider attending a meeting to see who we are and what we do. You might find you want to serve the Lord of Life by working with us. Come and see! Thank you.

Bob Wegner, LFL Chapter #268 president
cbwegner@outlook.com

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUO.ORG, – Listen to KFUO.org, the broadcast arm of the LCMS, as we share Christ for you anytime, anywhere via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us at @KFUOradio or on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

This week on KFUO.org, hear Ash Wednesday worship service from Peace Lutheran Barracksview on 2/26 at 11:00 a.m. CT, begin studying the book of Zechariah on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear comforting Gospel words on Moments of Assurance (weekdays at 12:00 p.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org.

ISSUES ETC. – MORE TOPICS, MORE GUESTS,

MORE JESUS -- Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Book of 1 Thessalonians, "Love" in the New Testament, The Season of Lent, Jesus Feeds Five Thousand and more. You can listen live or on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

A NEW PODCAST FOR LUTHERAN WOMEN –

Lutheran Ladies: Are you searching for a Lutheran podcast that really catches your ear? An audio retreat full of inviting conversations, laughter, and fellowship with your Lutheran sisters? Look no further! Join Sarah Gulseth, Erin Alter, Rachel Bomberger, and Bri Gerzevske on the sofa in The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge. It's a podcast oasis for you, dear sisters — so come on in, sit, rest your feet, and stay a while. Podcast episodes are available at kfuo.org/lutheranladieslounge and wherever you get your podcasts. For bonus content from the show and a chance to help shape future on-air conversations—and enjoy friendly fellowship with other Lutheran ladies—join The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge Facebook discussion group: facebook.com/groups/LutheranLadiesLounge.

ANNUAL CID-LLL MEETING – Save the Date of March 7 for the Annual CID LLL Meeting to be held at Christ Lutheran, Normal.

Rev. Gregory Seltz, past speaker of the Lutheran Hour will be speaking on "Two Kingdoms - One Mission" - The Work of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C.

Registration forms available in the church office.

CAMP CILCA SUMMER PROGRAM – Brochures for Camp CILCA's Summer Program are on the table in the Narthex. Pick one up, find the program that fits your child(ren), and go on-line to register. There are camps for all ages and abilities, and registrations paid in full receive an 8% discount.

+ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT MT. CALVARY+

SUNDAY:

YOUTH:

Sunday School: – Ages 3-Grade 8 meet in the basement. Sunday School has begun again so take your child(ren) to classes in the church basement and then you can join us in the Parish Hall for Adult Bible Study.

In Sunday School today, the children learned, “Jesus Heals Ten Lepers.” Jesus forgives and heals us from the sickness of sin and death. *Discuss, “What does it mean to be healed of our sin-sickness? How do we thank God for His grace?”*

ADULTS:

Understanding Islam – If we are to engage in dialogue and witness with our neighbors, we need to understand where they are coming from. With a growing Muslim population in Peoria, it is good for us to get a basic understanding of Islam so that we can have good dialogue with our Muslim neighbors. We will look at the history of Islam, its major teachings, and discuss the current challenges Islam poses.

WEDNESDAY:

Men's Bible Study:

The Gospel according to St. Matthew: Join us as we read through Matthew’s Gospel (the foundation for this year’s Sunday Gospel readings). While there are arguments about how early it was written, the Church has always placed it at the front of the New Testament because of the emphasis on Jesus as the fulfillment of Old Testament prophesy. **We meet Wednesday mornings at the Bob Evans on Allen Rd for an hour or so starting at 6:30 am.**

Wednesday Evening Study Group:

Isaiah – On hiatus until after Easter. Perhaps the greatest of the “writing” prophets, Isaiah’s voice continues to speak to us with promise about the future, redemption, and the work of Christ. Join us as we do a “quick” read of the prophet and discuss God’s Word given to us through him. **Meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.**

THURSDAY:

Afternoon Bible Study:

Judges: – Sure, you know about Gideon and Sampson – but what about Ehud, Jephthah, Elon, or Abdon? Join us as we read the book of Judges and are reminded again of how God is faithful even when His people are not. **We meet Thursdays at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall.**

+ THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR +

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Sunday of the Transfiguration</i>	
02/23/2020	Worship	8:00 a
	Fellowship Coffee	9:15 a
	Anchormen Rehearsal	9:15 a
	Sunday School/Bible Class	9:30 a
	Worship	10:45 a
	Youth Confirmation	1:30 p
<i>Monday</i>	<i>St. Matthias, Apostle</i>	
	Lutherans for Life at Bethel, Morton	6:30 p
<i>Tuesday</i>	Youth Confirmation	4:00 p
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
	Men's Bible Study - Matthew	6:30 a
	Divine Service	11:15 a
	Executive Committee Meeting	4:45 p
	Divine Service	6:30 p
<i>Thursday</i>	Crafts & Conversation	10:00 a
	Bible Study - <i>Judges</i>	1:00 p
	Divine Service	6:00 p
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p
	Adult Choir Rehearsal	7:45 p
<i>Saturday</i>	Private Confession	1-2:00 p
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>first Sunday in Lent</i>	
03/01/2020	Divine Service	8:00 a
	Fellowship Coffee	9:15 a
	Sunday School/Bible Class	9:30 a
	Divine Service	10:45 a
	Youth Confirmation	1:30 p