

## **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 [pastorlong@mtcalvarypeoria.org](mailto:pastorlong@mtcalvarypeoria.org).

## **CONFESSION**

Private confession is available by appointment only. Call the Church Office.

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Long is generally available at Mt. Calvary Monday 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](mailto: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

## **PRAYER 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.

## **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

## **CONCORDIA STAFF FROM MT. CALVARY**

Brooke Barr - Kindergarten  
web site at [www.concordiapeoria.com](http://www.concordiapeoria.com) for information.

## **SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

**March 15<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Psalm 142

Isaiah 42:14-21

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

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**ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK** – were given to the glory of God by Eileen Benne in thanksgiving for God's blessing of grandchildren.

### **HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK**

- ✠ Robert Grinslade – Now at Snyder Village – room 215
- ✠ Ron Achterberg – Apostolic Christian Home, Salem, room 147

**CHOIR REHEARSALS HAVE BEGUN** – There are no rehearsals next Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. We'll see you all again on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. **All are invited to join. No audition required.**

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> AT 2:00 AM. DON'T FORGET TO RESET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD BEFORE YOU GO TO BED SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>.**

**BUILDING AND OFFICE CLOSED** – On Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, the office (and the building) will be closed. The water line coming into the building supposedly contains lead, and must be replaced. So, since we will be without water for the day, the office will be closed. If you need Pastor for an emergency you may contact him at home: 309-243-2042.

**DIRECTORY PROOFS ARE UP!** – They will only be up for two Sundays and then they come down, corrections will be made and the directory printed. If you will not be in one of the services during these two weeks and want to correct something on your entry, please call the church office (309-688-4321). No exceptions to this time frame.

**A NOTE ON WORSHIP** – Now that Mr. Yoder has the Adult Choir fired up again, he's using them to support the congregation's singing of hymns. So – when you hear the choir joining in on verses, that's not a time to silence your voice – it's time to join with the choir in making a joyful noise!

**MID-WEEK SERVICE** – As we continue visiting God’s Mountaintops, we arrive at the Mount of the Transfiguration this week, and see Jesus our Savior. Mid-Day Prayer is at 11:15 am on Wednesday, followed by a light lunch. Vespers is at 6 pm.

**PASCHA/EASTER IS COMING! (SUNDAY, APRIL 5).** -- Midweek Lenten Services began February 25. We will again be serving a light lunch after the 11:15 service. If you can help, there is a signup sheet across from Pastor's office. Many hands make light work. Please contact Abbie Matson 309-224-9432 with any questions.

**TREATS FOR FAMILY HOUSE** – We provide treats for Family House on the fourth Monday of each month (see note on bulletin board). If you are able to help, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or contact LaVelle Borders (309-681-9414) for more information.

**CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION** – The Crafts and Conversation Group meets at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings and is open to anyone. Bring a craft or activity you like to do or just sit and visit. Sometimes LaVelle asks for help packing goody bags for children that come to pantry. Sometimes Judy has mailings to put together. Come join them, bring your lunch and eat with the group.

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS IN MARCH** – During **March** our pantry will be in need of **Tuna,, Canned Fruit, Pancake Syrup, Pancake Mix, Dried Milk, Vegetable Oil, Mac & Cheese, and (anything else you might wish to bring will be greatly appreciated.) And again, they can always use volunteers** –the volunteers they have (and are very thankful for) are stretched to the limit.

### **CURRENT BIBLE STUDY TOPICS**

**Youth Sunday School Classes.** The classes meet in the church basement at 10:30 am for grades Pre-K-6<sup>th</sup>. Jr. & Sr. High, if there are enough of you a class will be formed, otherwise you may help with the younger students or attend the Adult Class led by Pr. Long. Parents, you are invited to attend the Adult Class, during the time your children are attending Sunday School. **Please let us know if you can’t attend so the teachers know what to prepare. Messages to the church office (309-688-4321) would be appreciated.**

**Sunday Morning Adult Class** – Per a resolution from our District Convention this past summer, we’ll be taking a few weeks to look at the Synod’s “Everyone His Witness” program. While we may not be called to go out and convert everyone, we can learn how to talk about the

faith in helpful ways. **Class meets in the Parish Hall at 10:30 am.**

**Men’s Bible Study:** We are looking at Paul’s Letters to Timothy. **Men’s Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am at Gebby’s Family Restaurant at 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.**

**Thursday Lunch Together and Bible Study**—We are currently reading the book of the Prophet Jeremiah and will hear God’s word of promise and judgement in the face of national calamity. **We meet in the Parish Hall for lunch at 12:00 pm and Bible Study at 12:30 pm.**

**STEWARDSHIP** – Please remember that the ministry of Mt. Calvary continues throughout the year. Your prayers and contributions of time, talent, and treasures are still needed.

Carol reported at the March Administrative Council Meeting that she currently has \$55,028.00.00 in the General Fund.

You may mail your envelopes in (checks only, please), or drop them by the office. You can also make electronic donations through our web page: ([www.mtcalvarypeoria.org](http://www.mtcalvarypeoria.org)) by clicking the “donate” tab and setting up a profile with VANCO. If a donation is given using a credit card or debit card there is a 2.75% fee. If an electronic check is used the fee is 1.00%. A few people have been donating through e-giving and have learned how easy it is to use.

### **DOLLAR FOR MISSIONS UPDATE**

Our first project for 2026 is support for *Hispanic Ministry in Beardstown, IL*. \$1800 will be collected to support travel costs for Rev. Pablo Dominguez. Reminder that online one-time and recurring donations can now be made at:

<https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/LCMSCentralIllinoisDistrict/D4M>

### **ISSUES ETC. – KARAOKE FOR CHRISTIAN HYMNS**

-- You can sing hymns like “The Angel Gabriel,” “Silent Night,” “This Joyful Eastertide,” “The Day of Resurrection,” “Come Holy Ghost, Creator Blest” and more. Lutheran Public Radio has produced YouTube videos of more than 55 hymns featuring the Lutheran Public Radio Choir. Sing along at [lutheranpublicradio.org/karaoke](http://lutheranpublicradio.org/karaoke).

**KFUO RADIO KFUE Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.or** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuo), [X](https://twitter.com/kfuo), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuo).

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org:** On Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT), we're continuing our study of the book of Genesis, picking up with chapter 27! Tune in to Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we continue our series through the book of Numbers. On Concord Matters this week (3/14 at 10 a.m. CT), we're continuing our study of the Sacrament of the Altar as described in the Large Catechism— what benefit can be found in partaking of the Lord's Supper? Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) or in the KFUE Radio app!

**FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE A Life Quote for Sunday, March 8, 2026** -- “The call to be disciples of Jesus who live out our faith each day and, in so doing, work to make disciples of others, has never been greater ... We need to boldly proclaim what God has done for us in Christ. Not in a spirit of superiority or power, but in a posture of love and grace.” *Bishop Dan Selbo, North American Lutheran Church – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**A Life Thought in the Church Year for March 8, 2026 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent** – The world tells us to avoid suffering at all costs, even justifying murder (abortion, suicide, assisted suicide) on the grounds that death can be used to avoid further suffering. However, St. Paul reminds us that instead of trying to avoid suffering through death, we “can rejoice in our sufferings” (Romans 5:3), knowing that God uses our suffering to increase our hope in Him and bring us to everlasting glory. Therefore, when suffering comes, “let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker (Psalm 95:6), entrusting ourselves into the hands of the One who “died for us” (Romans 5:8).

**STREAMING!** -- Mt. Calvary offers a live stream of the **9:00 am service on Sunday mornings!** Just go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com), search for Mt. Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church (you’ll recognize our channel by our orange logo), and click the link. If you “subscribe” to the channel, you’ll get automatic notification when the streaming starts. The recording of the service will stay on the channel to be viewed later even if you don’t catch it live.

## **FROM CAMP CILCA –**

- **SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION** is OPEN for 2026! Please encourage families to register early to save their spot. Early Bird Registration Deadline for Summer Program at Camp CILCA is March 31
  - Registration <https://www.cilca.org/womens-retreat.html>
- **CAMP CILCA SPRING WORK DAY & PANCAKE DINNER:** March 14
  - 8 am – 11 am: Help get the campground ready for spring and summer fun!
  - 11 am – 1 pm Free pancakes for all!

## **MARTIN & KATIE CONFERENCE**

Join us for the 2026 Martin + Katie Conference at University Lutheran Church in Champaign, IL on Saturday, March 28, 2026. At this free conference, grow as Christmas men and women, meet new friends, get to know each other, and have fun. The Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Boyle and his wife, Nicole, will be our presenters. Rev. Dr. Boyle will teach about cultivating the pious Christian life as men and women. The conference is open to ages 18–30. Married or single are welcome. Registration is required, as capacity is limited. Please register no later than Friday, March 20th. Info and registration are available at <http://martinpluskatie.org>.

*Plus:* Bonus activities are planned for Friday night, March 27, and Saturday night, March 28! All are invited to stay for Sunday Bible Class, Divine Service, and lunch on Palm Sunday, March 29.

**FROM CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** – Christ Lutheran Church in Peoria will be hosting an “all you can eat” potato pancake and regular pancake supper on March 21<sup>st</sup> from 4 pm until 6:30 pm in gym B. The price is \$8 for adults and \$4 for K-8 grade. The meal includes pancakes, sausage, applesauce, coffee, water, iced tea, milk, carrots, and celery. Take-out will be available. There will also be a bake sale. All proceeds will benefit our youth program and activities.

**WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY** –Your next meeting is **Saturday, March 14th, at 9:30 am.** You will be discussing the Easter Breakfast. Come and see what Luann has planned for the morning.

## CONCORDIA NEWS

**Concordia Positions** -- Concordia Lutheran School is seeking applicants for the following positions for the 2026-2027 School Year:

- **Jr. High (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) Teacher** - Subject area instruction (Subject areas flexible based on interest and experience) and homeroom supervision
- **First Grade Teacher** - Self-contained classroom instruction and supervision
- **Part-time Teacher Aide** - Assists instructional staff with student supervision, assessment, and individualized student needs
- **Part-time Kitchen Assistant** - Assist the Kitchen Manager in providing food service for students
- Please contact *Emily Craine* 309-691-8921 or email your resume to [employment@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:employment@concordiapeoria.com)
- **Substitute Teachers** – As the season for colds catches up to us, Concordia could use more folks in their substitute pool. If you, or someone you know is interested, **contact the school at 309-691-8921, or e-mail Ms. Craine at [ecraine@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:ecraine@concordiapeoria.com)**
- **Librarians And Librarian Subs Needed** --If you are available during the day, we could use your help in the school's library. If interested, **contact Ms. Craine at [ecraine@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:ecraine@concordiapeoria.com), or Mrs. Drozd at [mdrozd@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:mdrozd@concordiapeoria.com)**
- **Hans Christian Anderson, A Musical Fable of Copenhagen** — Tickets are now on sale for the performances on March 20th at 10:00 am, and 6:30 pm and March 21st at 6:30 pm.
- **Concordia Band and Concert Choir** will be performing at the Rivermen Game on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:15 pm. Tickets are \$19 and can be obtained from Mr. Hipple at Concordia.

## CONCORDIA AUCTION AND GALA – Step Right

**Up!** will be held on **March 14, 2026** at the Warehouse on State, 736 Washington St., Peoria. Doors will open at 5 pm. For tickets, sponsorships, Cougar Cash, and Silent Auction Bids, visit:

<https://www.concordiapeoria.com/steprightup>

or use the QR code in Cougar Prints on the bulletin board. It is requested that you kindly RSVP by March 5<sup>th</sup>.

## LLL DISTRICT CONVENTION, MARCH 21, 2026

**'But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'**

**Joshua 24:15**

- A majority of practicing Christians participate in spiritual conversations, prayer and Bible-reading with their households.
- Fatih heritage impacts Christians' beliefs and practices for the long term.
- Join with others at the Central Illinois LLL District at the annual convention on Saturday, March 21 at Christ Lutheran Church in Normal, Illinois.
- The keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Peter J Scaer, Chairman and Professor of Exegetical Theology, Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne.
- Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour® will provide the keynote address.
- Polly Faszholz Gregali, Community Facilitator, LLL will provide a virtual presentation with LHM Updates.
- The registration fee is \$25.00 per person including lunch. Please complete the registration form and mail with your registration fee to Deloris Blessman, 20204 CR 1850N, Topeka, IL 61567. Please make checks payable to CID LLL District. For more information you can contact Deloris by phone 309.361,1461 or by email [delorisblessman@yahoo.com](mailto:delorisblessman@yahoo.com).
- Strengthen and encourage your faith walk as you encourage others in their faith journey as partners in His mission. Registration deadline is March 16, 2026. (Registration form should be in the office by next week and in the next Newsletter – it was unavailable at printing time.)