

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.

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.

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 web site at www.concordiapeoria.com for information.

CONCORDIA STAFF FROM MT. CALVARY

Brooke Barr - Kindergarten

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

May 10th – 6th Sunday of Pascha (Easter)

Psalms 66:8-30

Acts 17:16-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

Luke 14:44-53

WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY WILL BE COLLECTING MITES THIS SUNDAY.

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – Altar flowers were given by Vonnie Brinkmann in loving memory of her husband Dale, and in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK

✠ Robert Grinslade – now at Arcadia in Toulon

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

✠ Ron Achterberg, father of Linda Khatarr and Jennifer Johnson, who was called to his eternal rest on Thursday, April 23, 2026. **Services will be held at Mt. Calvary on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 11:00 am. Visitation will begin at 9:30 am.**

May his family find comfort, hope, and peace in Christ and His triumph over sin and death.

FROM THE BOARD OF PROPERTY – Thank you to everyone who helped spread the mulch last Saturday. The

flower gardens are now very neatly groomed and ready for the Summer.

MOTHER'S DAY DIAPER SHOWER -- Peoria Area Lutherans for Life is sponsoring their annual diaper shower on **Mother's Day, May 10th**. The purpose is to collect as many disposable diapers and wipes as possible for infants and toddlers (especially sizes 4, 5, and 6); plus, adult protective underwear for use by seniors. These will be distributed to local pregnancy resource centers and senior living facilities. May the Lord of life bless you as you help us make this event a success again this year.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – This year we have one confirmand, Ethan Horman. Having passed his questioning by the Elders, he will be welcomed into the congregation as a communicant member next Sunday, May 10th, in the 9:00 am service. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall following the service. Please keep him in your prayers as he makes his pledge of faithfulness to the Lord.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK – On Tuesday evening the Executive Committee meets at 7:00 pm. Other Boards meet at 6:30 pm, and Administrative Council meets at 7:30 pm. Tuesday is also Food Pantry Day from 9 to 11:00 am – if you are interested and able to help, I'm sure LaVelle or Paula will be able to find something for you to do.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICES

Thursday, May 14th, the church celebrates the Ascension of Our Lord. We will offer two Divine Services, one at 11:15 am and the other at 6:30 pm. Please join us.

PASTOR LONG AT CONCORDIA – He get's another shot at trying to teach the 8th graders something starting May 1st. Also, May will be his month for leading Chapel.

GRADUATIONS

With the month of May comes graduations — grade school, high school, college, higher degrees. We would like to honor any (and all) of our students who are graduating from any level. So, please, parents, grandparents, students, let us know of your family's graduates so we can list them in the June Messenger. Also, give us any information you have on future plans: next level school (high school, college, etc.) or vocations they will pursue following graduation. **Deadline for turning in information is May 25th. Anything after that date will printed in the July Messenger.**

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 MAY – During May our pantry is requesting donations of **Tuna, Soup, Vegetable Oil, Canned Fruit, and Boxed Meals (or 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-6th. 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.**

Sunday Morning Adult Class – **Paul's Letter to the Galatians** -- Paul's letter to the church of Galatia is aimed at stamping out a particularly bad, yet earnest, heresy: the claim that in order to be a "good" Christian, you "must" keep particular rules or laws. Paul counters such notions with the Gospel's insistence that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone. **Meets in the Parish Hall at 10:30 am.**

Men's Bible Study -- The Formula of Concord: After Luther's death, with pressure from the Emperor, and in debate with other "reformed" churches, the Evangelical Lutherans found themselves besieged on all sides. And in the midst of that, they began debates among themselves that threatened to tear the "evangelical" churches apart. The Formula of Concord sought to resolve these debates on the basis of the Scriptures, and succeeded in giving the Lutheran Church a foundation that has proven sturdy into our own age. Join us as we read through it to discover the gifts it has for us. **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're just starting the Gospel according to St. Luke. Trained as a physician, Luke is inspired to give an orderly account of Jesus' work so that all who hear can be "certain" of the things in which they have been catechized. He emphasizes the universality of God's grace in Christ, the completeness of the forgiveness that Jesus won for all, and Christ as the seeker of the lost and lowly. **We meet in the Parish Hall for lunch at 12:00 pm and Bible Study at 12:30 pm. Come, join us!**

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 April Administrative Council Meeting that she currently has \$25,321.00 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) 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 --

The second 2026 project for Dollars for Mission is a new lighted sign for Wittenberg Lutheran Center. \$7,000 will be collected for the cost. Project: A new lighted, cast aluminum sign for Wittenberg Lutheran Center at ISU.

Reminder that online one-time and recurring donations can now be made at:

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

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

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfu.org: Tune in to Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT) for our latest study, "Springing into the Psalms!" This week will take us through Psalms 21, 30, 38, 45, and 53. Join us on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as Pastor Booe guides us through a brand new study of the book of James! Don't forget to listen to Concord Matters this Saturday (5/9 at 10 a.m. CT) as we look at the Power and Primacy of the Pope. What is "the office of the keys"? Find your favorite programs on-demand by visiting kfu.org!

ISSUES ETC. – PROVIDING ARTILLERY SUPPORT FOR THE CHURCH MILITANT ON THE FRONT LINES

Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Intercessory Prayer in a Post-Christian Culture, Understanding Difficult Old Testament Passages, Roman Catholicism on Free Will, “The Population Bomb” by Paul Ehrlich, Luther’s Large Catechism on Holy Baptism and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – A Life Quote for Sunday, May 3, 2026

-- “When Jesus returns, all who believe in Him will be raised up from death to live in His presence forever. That is the promise of His enduring, steadfast love: ‘I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ’ (Philippians 1:6). The purpose of God for us will be fulfilled!” *Dr. Carol Geisler, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

A Life Thought in the Church Year for May 3, 2026 –Fifth Sunday of Pascha

-- The truth of God’s Word is not always welcomed by “stiff-necked people” who “resist the Holy Spirit,” and even become enraged at hearing the truth. Stephen faithfully proclaimed that Word even though it led to his martyrdom (Acts 7:51, 59-60). Many angry voices today demand unfettered access to abortion or physician-assisted suicide. But we must continue to sound the trumpet of truth, for only the power of God’s Word can open the eyes of the blind and execute justice for the oppressed (Psalm 146:7-8). It is the narrow road of faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, that gives us access to our Father in heaven (John 14:6). Baptized into Christ, we are living stones, being built up into a spiritual house, that we may proclaim the Good News of the One Who calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:5, 9).

.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.

CONCORDIA NEWS

May Concert Schedule:

Please mark your calendars for the Spring Music Concerts at Concordia:

- **May 5th – 11:00 am -12:00 pm** -- Concert Band, Concert Choir, and Concert Orchestra will be representing Concordia at the Caterpillar information Center during Arts in Education
- **May 12th, 6:30-pm** – All bands and orchestras
- **May 13th 6:30 pm** – Classroom music and all choirs

Both evenings the programs will be held in the Ruppert Center.

Concordia Positions Open -- 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
- **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
- **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**
- **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, or Mrs. Drozd at mdrozd@concordiapeoria.com**

WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY MAY MEETING –

Women of Mt. Calvary meet on Saturday, May 9th at 9:30 am. We will be electing officers for next year and planning summer events.

Also, reserve Saturday, June 20th. We will be having a Men's Game Day in honor of all men and fathers. More information will follow.

LILIES – are now “salvage on the high seas.” If you are able to give some a good home in your garden, take what you can use, even if you didn't purchase one.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT CHURCH

WORKER SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

Each year our Central Illinois District designates the first Sunday in May, (this year it is May 3rd,) to encourage financial gifts to assist CID students who are studying for full-time church work vocations. Gifts will be used to support our 19 CID students. This includes five seminarians and eleven undergraduates who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher or other called church worker. Last year we were able to send \$174,000 to offset \$375,185 worth of unmet needs. Please plan to make a generous gift on or before May 3rd. Gifts may be designated “CID Scholarship Fund” to be used for the 2026-2027 school year or be designated “CID Scholarship Endowment Fund” and the income from your gift will be used to help CID students for years to come. Checks may be sent to: Central Illinois District -LCMS, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626 Also, don't forget to pray for, thank, and encourage those called church workers who are presently serving you, as well as those who are studying to serve the Lord and you in ministry. If you are considering or know someone who would be a good candidate to study for a called vocation in the church, please speak to your pastor about them and send their name and contact information to our District President, Rev. Mark Eddy, at meddy@cidlcms.org. If you are considering a major gift, or would like to include scholarships for CID seminarians or church worker students in your estate planning or through a life insurance policy or IRA, please contact the CID office at cid@cidlcms.org for assistance.

FROM CAMP CILCA –

Summer Camp Registration is OPEN for 2026! Please encourage families to register early to save their spot.