

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 24th – Pentecost Sunday

Psalms 25:1-15

Numbers 11:24-30

Acts 2:1-21

John 7:37-39

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – Altar flowers were given by Connie Kissner in thanksgiving for God’s many blessings.

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 31ST – For some reason, May 31st was omitted from the Flower Chart. If you would like to donate Altar Flowers for that day, please contact Linda Khattar (309-508-1997) to volunteer.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK

✠ Robert Grinslade –now at Arcadia, 700 Main St., in Toulon

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

✠ Lois Whitby, grandmother to Hunter and Sam and mother to Michele Whitby. who was called to her eternal home on Friday, May 8, 2026. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

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

MOTHER’S DAY DIAPER SHOWER -- Peoria Area Lutherans for Life sponsored their annual diaper shower **Mother’s Day, May 10th**. The purpose was 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. Diapers may still be brought and placed on top of the coat rack across from the office.

HELP WITH STREAMING THE SERVICES -- We are looking for 2 or 3 additional people to help support Mt Calvary's streaming service. The process is easy to learn and is fairly straightforward. If you would be interested in learning more about this service and service needs, would you please contact Glenn Matson (matson75@gmail.com, 309-360-9362) or Doug Auer (douglas.auer@gmail.com, 309-303-2379).

PASTOR LONG AT CONCORDIA – He get's another shot at trying to teach the 8th graders something before they move on to greener pastures. Also, May is his month for leading Chapel.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: It is the intention of Douglas Brian Auer and Kathleen Elizabeth Tagge to be joined together in the estate of Holy Matrimony on June 27, AD 2026. They would cherish your prayers for them as they seek to live as husband and wife according to God's will.

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.**

JUNE SEMI-ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING – At the Administrative Council Meeting on May 5, 2026, the June Semi-Annual Voters Meeting was scheduled for **June 14, 2026**. This means that reports from Boards and Committees are due in the office on **Tuesday, May 26th**. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the meeting. We need 25 voting members for a quorum.

CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION – The Crafts and - 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.

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.

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 reading 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 May Administrative Council Meeting that she currently has \$21,153.59 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 --

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 -- Kfu 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 KFUA AM850 & kfu.org: We're continuing our study of select Psalms on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT)! This week, we'll take a look at Psalms 108, 116, 117, 121, and 12. On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT), we're diving into the book of Romans! Tune in as we unpack chapters 1-3. Don't forget to join us for Concord Matters this Saturday (4/23 at 10 a.m. CT)! We're studying the Power and Primacy of the Pope— the public confession of the Church matters!

ISSUES ETC. – UNDERSTANDING DIFFICULT

OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGES -- Was the universe really created in six days? Why did men live so long? What about all the violence in the Old Testament? Do Old Testament prophets predict current events? You'll find answers to these questions in a series of interviews with Doctor Reed Lessing and Doctor Andrew Steinmann, co-authors of the new book “Wrestling with God.” You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org/wrestlingwithgod. Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken.

FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – A Life Quote for Sunday, May 17, 2026 --

“We are no longer terrified sinners but God’s own children because of what Jesus has done for us. And so, the Day of Judgment becomes good news for us—because it is the day when the One we love most returns to bring us home in peace.” *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

A Life Thought in the Church Year for May 17, 2026 – Seventh Sunday of Pascha(Easter) --

“Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides through the deserts!” (Psalm 68:4). What a wonderful picture of Christ, God-in-the-flesh, who entered the desert wilderness of this world to bring light into the darkness and life to the dead! In a world that fosters a culture of death, Jesus came to give us eternal life. In Him, grace and peace rain down in abundance (Psalm 68:9). What hope this brings to those who are suffering, facing an unexpected pregnancy, or have lost their mooring in life! Christ brings forgiveness and restoration. Although we endure fiery trials (1 Peter 4:12), and the devil prowls like a roaring lion, seeking to devour (1 Peter 5:8-9), yet by the power of God’s Word, we resist him, firm in the faith. We are blessed as we follow Jesus, who suffered once for all on the cross, accomplishing the work that the Father gave Him to do (John 17:4). Risen, ascended, and glorified, Jesus restores, confirms, strengthens, and establishes us in the true faith (1 Peter 5:10).

.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

Help with Fun Day – Concordia Parent Teacher Connection is requesting help with Fun Day on May 21st. The link to volunteer is: <https://bit.ly/4s8iTB6>

Graduation 2026 – 8th Grade Graduation will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 135 NE Randolph on May 22nd at 6:30 pm. Congratulations to our Graduates: Michael, Kaiya, Olivia, D.J., Laurel (Valedictorian), and Sam (Salutatorian).

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**

FROM CAMP CILCA –

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

LEFT BEHIND – One black folding umbrella. If it is yours, it is hanging under the coat rack across from the office.

PEORIA BACH FESTIVAL, 2026 -- Join us for the 2026 Peoria Bach Festival. Eight wonderful concerts and events will be held from May 31 through June 5. This year we explore the music of the Bach family and his circle. The festival begins with a free organ concert at 4:00 pm on Sunday, May 31. A chamber concert on period instruments will be held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, June 2. The Festival Concert will be held at 7:30 pm on Friday, June 5. Additional concerts will be held at noon during the week of the festival. For details and to reserve your seats, visit www.peoriabachfestival.org – From Martin Dicke

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT CHURCH

WORKER SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

Each year our Central Illinois District designates the first Sunday in May, (this year it was 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.