

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

July 19, 2026 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalms 119:57-64

Isaiah 44:6-8

Romans 8:18-27

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43,

Sermon Text - Luke 11:9-13

WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY ARE COLLECTION MITES THIS WEEK-END. MEN, YOUR MITES COUNT ALSO

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – Altar flowers were given by Alice Johnston in remembrance of her wedding anniversary and in thanksgiving for the Lord's many blessings.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK

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

PASTOR LONG & FAMILY AWAY!

They're off to Florida to see Sherri's mom and make sure all is well. The Elders will lead the services on July 12th, and our TIM Pastor will be with us to lead service and the Bible Study Hour on July 19th.

NOTE! – While Pastor Long is away, Thursday services are on hiatus (until July 20th). Also there will only be one service at 9:00 am on Sundays 7/12 and 7/19.

CHRIST IS RISEN; TELL THE NEXT GENERATION

During a convention year, the LCMS gathers a National Offering. This year the offering will support making the Good News of Jesus Christ available among families.

The National Offering theme is based on *Psalms 78:4*:

"We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and His might, and the wonders that He has done."

Mt. Calvary will support this effort by providing self-addressed envelopes for you to send your gift directly to the Synod. The envelopes are on the table in the Narthex, attached to a flyer about the offering. Please take one if you wish to participate.

JUDY AWAY – Judy will be gone July 17th, 18th, and 19th for her grand-daughter, Megan Benkendorf's marriage to Jack Fletcher in St. Louis, MO. If you are available to baby sit the office on Friday, July 17th, please let Judy know (309-688-4321).

PIE IN JULY

THIS SATURDAY, JULY 11 @ 1:30 P.M.

As the summer season gets into full swing we'd love to take a moment to pause, connect, and spend a relaxing time together!

The Women of Mt. Calvary and Family Life Committee are hosting a pie sampling afternoon, and we would be thrilled to have everyone join us.

What: Pie in July

When: Saturday, July 11th at 1:30 pm

Where: Mt. Calvary Parish Hall

What to expect: Fellowship and a variety of tasty pies made by the members of Mt. Calvary

Please sign up on the bulletin board so that we can finalize the pie count.

If you are interested in bringing a pie, please contact Luann Claudin (309-369-2606) or Lisa Cornelius (309-370-6338).

NEWS FROM THE FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE!

Please join us for an evening of fellowship, food, and music on this **Wednesday, July 15 at 6:00 p.m.** in front of Kelleher's Irish Pub & Eatery (619 SW Water, Peoria) for dinner and the Peoria Municipal Band Concert! There are many items available on their menu \$10-\$30 (approx.).

The Peoria Municipal Band concert begins at 7:00 p.m. and the theme is "It's an evening of *Folk Songs*". Courtney Huffman Frye is singing a special piece by Eric Whitacre and xylophone soloist Christopher Brandt moves from the back of the band to the front. The concert is free.

We're planning on getting some tables for dinner. If you'd like to join us, please contact Paula Horst (309 657-3129) or Michele Keehner (309 693-8095) or sign up on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office by Tuesday, July 14.

Rain date is Wednesday, July 22

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 JULY – During July our pantry is requesting donations of **Canned Fruit, Canned Peas, Canned Corn, Sloppy Joe Mix, Noodles, snack size chips, pretzels & Goldfish, (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. – **On hiatus for the Summer.** The classes meet in the church basement at 10:30 am September through May. Watch for information about the next school year in August.

Sunday Morning Adult Class – The Lord's Prayer from the Small Catechism with Explanation – **On hiatus this Sunday, July 12. Next Sunday, July 19, Class will be led by our TIM Pastor.** Join us as we explore the privilege of Prayer. Just what is prayer? What are we to pray for? We'll take up these questions and a host of others as we explore the Catechism together. **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 – on hiatus while Pastor's family is on vacation. 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 June Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting that she currently has \$14,799.00 in the General Fund and is a little concerned that she may not be able to pay all our bills.

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>

ISSUES ETC. -- DIVORCE & REMARRIAGE

SERIES -- Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to a series of interviews with Dr. Benjamin Mayes, author of the new book "Divorce and Remarriage: Ecclesiastical Discernment and Pastoral Care" at issuesetc.org/divorceandremarriage.

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 for "The Reign of Heaven Stands Near", our study of the book of Matthew on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT)! On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT), we're discussing the book of Acts. Follow along as we pick up with chapter 13. Stay tuned for this week's edition of Concord Matters (7/18 at 10 a.m. CT)! Pastor Finnern is

beginning a short study on private confession. Find your favorite programs on demand by visiting kfu.org!

FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE -- A Life Quote for Sunday, July 12, 2026

"Realistically, most of us will never be more than ordinary, but that doesn't mean we're useless. God works through the ordinary, the mundane, and the commonplace. He worked through Esther, and He works through you to bless others in ways you may never know." *Grace MacPherson -- A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

A Life Thought in the Church Year for July 12, 2026 -- 7th

Sunday after Pentecost -- Oh, how many sins against life occur because the devil has snatched the Word of God from peoples' hearts and because the cares of this earthly life choke out the Word (Matthew 13:19-22)! We are often tempted to withhold preaching the Word to some, thinking that we know which people will believe and bear fruit. However, God calls us to continue casting out His Word onto every type of soil, knowing that His Word never returns to Him empty and will accomplish His purpose (Isaiah 55:11), sometimes in the most unlikely of places.

LWML MITE BOX FUNDING

As of early May, Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) has dispersed \$1.3 Million in funding for selected mission grants. Ten grants have been fully funded and LWML is not even halfway through the biennium with half the monies raised. Way to go, Congregations! Remember, we collect mite boxes on the **first Sunday of each month** with a collection box in the front entry way and the Parish Hall. You don't have to be a woman to put money into a mite box and you don't even have to have a mite box! Just drop your money/change into the large mite box and know you help fund some wonderful mission projects and activities. A list of those projects are available in the narthex and in the LWML Quarterly. Thank you!



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.

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).

CONCORDIA POSITIONS OPEN – Concordia Lutheran School is seeking applicants for the following positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Part-time Teacher Aide – Duties include assisting instructional staff with student supervision, assessment, and individualized student needs;
- Substitute Teachers – Are you looking for a flexible and rewarding position where you decide when and what grade levels you want to work with? Concordia is looking for substitute teachers for the next school year.

Please contact Emily Craine 309-691-8921 or email your resume to employment@concordiapeoria.com

FROM CAMP CILCA – HOMECOMING

The Camp CILCA Homecoming is **Saturday, August 1 from 10am-2pm**. Help close out this summer with a bang! There will be games, food, music, swimming and more. Admission is free. Only pay for the food you eat. See you there!