

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

August 2, 2026

Psalms 136:1-9 (23-26)

Isaiah 55:1-5

Romans 9:1-5 (6-13)

Matthew 14:13-21

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

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – Altar flowers were given by Linda and Ray Khattar in Thanksgiving to the Lord for His many blessings and in celebration of their 41st anniversary.

✓ **PLEASE CHECK THE FLOWER CHART** – There are two Sundays in **August, the 2nd and the 16th** open, and two in September, **the 6th and 20th** that no one has signed for. If you are able to provide flowers for any of these Sundays, please sign up and let Linda Khattar know,

WELCOME BACK, TO PASTOR'S FAMILY – With Pastor Long's return, all activities that were on "hiatus" are back on – Bible Studies, meetings, and the 11:45 am Sunday, and 6:00 pm Thursday Worship Services.

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

✠ Ada Becker, mother of Michelle Becker (our cleaning lady) who was called home on Wednesday, July 22, 2026. Services are planned for Monday, July 27, 2026. May her family find comfort in the fact that she knew her Lord Jesus Christ and now rests with Him.

CONCORDIA TEACHER TO BE INSTALLED ~

Our Concordia Community is invited to celebrate, as Mrs. Mary Faley will be installed as one of our new teachers **this Sunday, July 26th, during Trinity Lutheran's 8:00 am service**. What a blessing that God has called Mrs. Farley to serve the students of Concordia Lutheran. She will be leading our 6th grade classroom along with teaching Jr. High Math and Social Studies. We pray that God blesses Mary's time at Concordia for many years to come.

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 *Psalm 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.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS – were placed in your mail boxes last week. Please check them to make sure they are correct and let the office know if they are not.

UPDATED NEWS FROM THE FAMILY LIFE COMMITTEE!

-- We've rescheduled our event due to the hot weather! So, we would love you to join us for an evening of fellowship, food, and music **this Wednesday, July 29 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 "Summer Breeze". "Them Basses" will be featured along with the vocal soloist for the week, Alison Meuth from Bradley University. 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 28.

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 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 – 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.

DOLLARS 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: online one-time and recurring donations can now be made at: <https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/LCMSCentralIllinoisDistrict/D4M>

ISSUES ETC. --- MORE TOPICS, MORE QUESTS, MORE JESUS -- 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: The Movie "The Odyssey;" Prosecuting Pornography; The Hymn "Entrust Your Days and Burdens;" Lutheranism in Canada and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO AM850 & kfuo.org: We're continuing our study of Matthew on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT)! This week, we'll take a look at chapters 10, 11 and 12. On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT), we've been delving into the book of Acts! Tune in as we pick up with chapter 17. On the Coffee Hour this

week (weekdays at 9 a.m. CT), we'll be sharing stories from the floor of the 69th Synodical Convention, happening in Phoenix, AZ. Find your favorite programs on demand by visiting kfuo.org!

FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE -- A Life Quote for Sunday, July 26 2026 "Even with all our sins, and even our rejection of Him, God is patiently loving us and calling us back to Him through the Holy Spirit. That's your story, friends. Go out in your God-given identity as a king or a queen and a priest. Don't go in fear and trembling, because when He calls you, He'll be with you!" *Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life--lutheransforlife.org*

A Life Thought in the Church Year for July 26, 2026 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost-- God does not love us because of any quality in us, such as our age, physical ability, potential, wisdom, race, etc. (Deuteronomy 7:6-7). God chose to love us from His own good grace and mercy and gave all He had, His own dear Son, to purchase the world from sin and have us as His own possession (Matthew 13:44). In doing so, God reveals that every person—regardless of their age, size, or condition—is a precious treasure to Him and is worthy of our love and protection.

CONCORDIA POSITIONS OPEN – Concordia is still looking for **1-2 people to fill our classroom aide position** for the 2026-2027 school year. Our school is also in need of **two Title 1 tutors**. Applicants must have a degree in education. These positions are paid through Peoria District 150 but work directly with Concordia. Title 1 tutoring schedules are flexible, typically part-time, 4 days per week. 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!

JR. & SR. HIGH NEWS! -- Come join the fun at the joint (Christ, Mt. Calvary, Redeemer, Trinity) Jr./Sr. High End of Summer All Youth Hangout at Redeemer's pavilion on **Sunday, August 30 from 5-8 PM**. Dinner will be hotdogs over the fire, and we'll have several yard games set up. Towards the end of the night, we'll break out the s'mores supplies and close our time together with a devotion. Watch for further details in the News & Announcements.

STREAMING! -- Mt. Calvary offers a live stream of the 9:00 am service on Sunday mornings. Just go to 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 still seeking 2 or 3 additional volunteers to help with Mt. Calvary's streaming service. The process is easy to learn and straightforward. If you would like more information about this service opportunity, please contact Glenn Matson (matson75@gmail.com, 309-360-9362) or Doug Auer (douglas.auer@gmail.com, 309-303-2397).