

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

September 13, 2026, 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalms 103:1-12

Genesis 30:15-21

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – Altar flowers were given by Eileen Benne in thanksgiving for God's many blessings.

CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGAN: We began rehearsals this Saturday, September 5th: Adult Choir at 1:00 pm and Bell Choir at 2:00 pm. There are no auditions – just come and sing along. Everyone is invited.

CONFIRMATION CLASS TO BEGIN

Do you have a child in 6th or 7th grade? Contact Pastor Long about enrolling them in the Youth Confirmation Class. This is a two year program that meets on Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 2:30 pm. where they will study the six chief parts of Martin Luther's Small Catechism in preparation for Confirmation and receiving the Lord's Supper. Our first meeting will be **Sunday, September 20th at 1:30 pm.**

CONCORDIA FAMILY MEETING

The annual meeting of Concordia families with the Elders and Pastor Long is scheduled for Sunday, September 27th immediately following the 11:45 am service. If you are unable to attend, please contact Pastor Long and he will set up a time for you to meet. Discussion for the meeting will include expectations and answer any concerns that the parents have.

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, and then join us for Bible Study.

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 SEPTEMBER – During September our pantry is requesting donations of **Boxed Dinners, Boxed Potatoes, Mac & Cheese, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, (other than corn or green beans), and Vegetable Oil (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.** – **SUNDAY SCHOOL IS COMING!** And with a new season, we're changing up the format. We will now offer Sunday School for ages pre-K through Jr. High on the ***second Sunday*** of each month. The Sunday School hour will include a lesson, snacks, an activity, and fellowship. This is a great opportunity for our younger members to grow in faith, knowledge, and community. So, come join us! Our "kick-off" will be **Sunday, September 13th**. The class is from 10:30 - 11:30 am.

† **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 September 1st Administrative Council Meeting that she currently has \$25,047.03 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.

ISSUES ETC. -- Luther Had Wartburg, We Have Collinsville -- 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 interview topics include: The Honesty Crisis, Luke's Gospel for the Hungry, Lutheran Schools & the Three Estates, The Story of a 16th-Century German City Embracing Lutheranism and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

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CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org: Our study of the book of Matthew continues on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT)! Tune in to "The Reign of Heaven Stands Near" as we look at Matthew 22-23. Join us on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we begin a new study in Paul's letters

to the Corinthians! Don't forget to listen to Concord Matters this Saturday (9/12 at 10 a.m. CT)—Pastor Brady Finnern and Rev. Brian Kachelmeier will be unpacking the doctrine of original sin as found in Article 1 of the Epitome of the Formula of Concord. Find your favorite programs on demand by visiting kfuo.org!

DOLLARS FOR MISSIONS – This year five projects have been approved and three have already been completed. Dollar for Missions has assisted in the funding of:

- Hispanic ministry in Beardstown,
- paid for a beautiful aluminum sign for Wittenberg Student Center at Illinois State,
- provided funds for Immanuel – Charleston to revamp its student library.

The two remaining projects include new flooring for the Wittenberg Student Center sanctuary and fellowship hall, and **providing technology equipment and instruction materials for Central IL Deaf Outreach (current project).**

New this year, you can now support DFM through online giving. Many people no longer carry cash but still want to support the Central Illinois District's mission work. One-time and recurring donations are now available online at:

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

All new recurring gifts will be matched by a special one-time gift, up to \$20,000.

Rev. Patrick Gumz at the district office.

FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – A Life Quote for Sunday, September 6, 2026 “However imperfect, every day comes as opportunity and privilege. They usually require patience and persistence, of course, and not a little bit of shared sweat and tears. But they turn out the sweeter for it. ‘When she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world’ (John 16:21). ‘Take heart; I have overcome the world’ (John 16:33)!” *Rev. Michael Salemink, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

A Life Thought in the Church Year for September 6, 2026 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost-- In faith, as God's watchmen, we humbly proclaim His Word. The faithful Word gives a true warning to the wicked (Ezekiel 33:7-8). We are called to speak boldly when lives are heartlessly ended and when God's gifts are mocked. We also rejoice as we teach about forgiveness. In Psalm 32 we read that

the Lord forgives those who acknowledge their sin before Him. In God's plan, He allows us to be watchmen, proclaiming warnings so that all may confess their sins and have a clear conscience. Many have guilty consciences because they have rejected the truth concerning God's gift of life. May God's mercy lead them to rely completely on the grace of God.

FROM CONCORDIA

“I am pleased to share that our full-time teaching staff will be joined by Mr. Benjamin Miller. He will lead our 7th Grade Homeroom and teach Jr. High Science, PE/Health, 7th Grade Art, and 7th Grade Character Education. Mr. Miller will begin teaching on Monday, 8/31. Please join me in making him feel welcome at our school.

Thanks be to God for leading Mr. Miller to Concordia, and I pray that He will continue to bless the start of our school year.”

Ms. Craine

CUB SCOUT ROUNDUP! Cub Scout Pack 155 will host our annual Cub Scout Roundup Night on Monday, September 14, from 6:30–7:30 p.m. at Concordia Lutheran School. Weather permitting, we'll meet outside between the Commons and Gym B (rain location: Gym B). This open-house style event will feature S'Mores and a chance for families to learn more about Cub Scouting, which is open to all boys and girls in grades K–5. Come see what Cub Scouts is all about and learn how your child can get involved! For specific questions about Pack 155 or joining, email cubmasterpack155peoria@gmail.com.

LLL RETREAT -- The topic for this year's Annual Fall Retreat of CID LLL District is “Life Issues.” We will have the Biblical Perspective, CID LCMS Perspective, and the Illinois Right to Life Perspective. We will be discussing the preborn issues, as well as end of life issues. This will be Saturday, September 12th, at Camp Cilca with doors opening at 8:30. Retreat will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Registration is \$25.00 which includes lunch; deadline is September 7th. Mail registration to: Deloris Blessman, 24204 CR 1850N, Topeka, IL 61567. For more information contact Deloris at delorisblessman@yahoo.com or 309-361-1461.

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).

FROM THE CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT
CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT IS GIVING
THANKS – for 125 years of ministry and outreach to the deaf community in Central Illinois. Last year, at the District Convention, it was voted to take time to recognize this Anniversary with "our prayers and gifts." If you would like to help support this vital ministry, send your gift, earmarked for the "Deaf Ministry Endowment Fund." to:

LCMS Central Illinois District
1850 North Grand Avenue West
Springfield, IL 62702-1626

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY GATHERING & MEETING – SEPTEMBER 19

You are warmly invited to **gather** with us on **Saturday, September 19, at 9:30 AM in the Mt. Calvary Parish Hall** for our monthly meeting. This gathering is an opportunity to set our course and coordinate our activities and outreach for the upcoming year. Together, we will focus on our mission to uplift one another, serve our congregation, support local community partners, and extend care to international organizations. Whether you have been involved for years or are attending for the first time, this is your chance to discover how you, our congregation and community can be **shaped** and **transformed** through shared fellowship. Every woman in our congregation is automatically a member of the Women of Mt. Calvary, and your voice, gifts, and presence are vital to our shared future. Come ready for wonderful fellowship, meaningful planning, and fun—and enjoy coffee and treats on us! Please bring your ideas, your heart for service, and a fellow Sister in Christ. We can't wait to see you there!

Warmly in faith, **Women of Mt. Calvary Officers: Dawn Henderson, Theresa Johnston, Lisa Cornelius and Luann Claudin**

LWMLZONE RALLY INFORMATION

Information for the LWML Zone Rally this Wednesday, September 9th is attached. While the registration date has passed, you may still attend, just show up and pay your \$15 registration fee at the door. (We did not receive this material until this past week, which is why it is late.)