

# NEWSLETTER

September, 2017

Vol. 24 No. 9

## New Storage Shed

Volunteers are needed to help with the framing of our new storage shed on September 9 starting between 8 and 9. We need at least 4-6 in the morning and at least 6-10 in the afternoon. If you can help all day, that is great, too.

Refreshments and lunch will be available. If you are able to volunteer please call Larry Affield 763-234-1243.

## Wednesday Bible Class: Deeper Into the Psalms Beginning September 13

The Psalms are a treasury of meaningful songs that speak directly to the heart. The writers of the Psalms are not puffy or sanctimonious but truthful about the struggles and triumphs of living the faith in this difficult world. If they're frustrated, scared, angry, or joyful, they simply come out with it. When you connect with a psalm, you cannot help but recognize that you are hearing a fellow child of God. The thing is, we often hear the Psalms like we hear songs on the radio; not pausing to think about what's being said. This class aims to remedy this for a few selected Psalms. Rather than reading the Psalms in passing, this class will examine them thoroughly and you will come away enriched in your understanding.

Rev. Greg Tyler will be teaching and using his own material. **The class is offered on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 and begins September 13. You may sign up in the narthex.**

## Vacation Bible School MIGHTY FORTRESS "In Jesus, the Victory is Won!"

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!  
GOD IS MIGHTY! THE VICTORY IS WON!

In a world where princesses and battles fill a child's imagination, kids learn they can't win every game, ace every test or conquer every challenge – but they don't need to!

At the Mighty Fortress the kids celebrated as they learned that God is our Mighty Fortress, our Shield and our Deliverer.

Each day the kids assembled at the incredible Mighty Fortress with Majestic Music where they joined Pastor Trask and his guitar. This year Pastor taught the kids the wonderful song of, "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho" and the kids loved it!

Stronghold Storytelling, Victory Village Bible Challenges, Tournament Games, Great Hall Snacks and Festival Crafts were the names of the wonderful locations the children rotated to.

This year we had 20 Adults and 29 youth volunteers share their time to make VBS a mighty success! Thank you all so much!

In celebration of the Mighty Fortress theme our 64 registered kids were given stadium horns to use to celebrate. The children raised their horns, held them high and blew with all their might to celebrate the victory!! Getting them to stop celebrating was a little harder than we anticipated. 😊

*"Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

*1 Corinthians 15:57*

## Reformation Words

Coming out of the middle ages, the Christian church found itself in a most confusing time. Many false teachings had risen to prominence whilst important scriptural teachings faded to obscurity. What's worse is the way that corrupt human authorities promoted these false teachings for power and personal gain.

Enter Martin Luther, a sincere, young Augustinian monk who started asking questions. Simply looking for answers, he instead got the full fury of the Roman Pontiff; this despite the fact that Luther's questions concerning the practice of selling indulgences were quite innocently asked. Of course, when truth is involved, the world is not always so ready to hear.

It was like the emperor's new clothes with Luther in the role of the young boy who innocently pointed out the obvious nakedness of the prancing emperor. Once his questions were made public, by the newly invented movable type printing press, huge numbers of people saw the truth as if for the first time and the Lutheran Reformation began in earnest.

It was a moment of clarity in an otherwise muddled history of the world. All the important tenets of the Christian faith were recovered and explained so even a child could understand.

At the end of October, this fall, we will observe the 500th anniversary of the day that Martin Luther nailed his 95 questions for discussion (theses) on the wooden door of the castle church which is agreed by most to be the beginning of Lutheran reformation in 1517. In preparation for this, I've come up with a series of sermons leading up to Reformation Day. Each week, we will look into one of the important scriptural words which was clarified during the Reformation. I offer this in the hopes that we hold on to the truth which the reformers, recovered for us. We will observe Reformation Day on the 29th of October.

Pastor Trask

## Reformation Words

September 16	"Scripture"
September 24	"Cross"
October 1	"Grace"
October 8	"Love"
October 15	"Forgiveness"
October 22	"Joy"
October 29	"Stand"

## ANNUAL PORK CHOP DINNER

**DATE:** Thursday, Oct. 5, 2017  
**TIME:** 4:30-7 pm  
**TICKETS:** Adults \$10 / Children \$5

Save the date and celebrate the union between you and a great pork chop! Thursday, October 5th, will be the date of the Annual Pork Chop Dinner held every fall at Life in Christ Lutheran Church in Albertville, Minnesota.

Life in Christ Lutheran's experienced grillers will have their smoke wafting down Main Street Albertville beginning at 4:30pm. The menu includes flavorful grilled pork chops; Dehmer's Meats baked beans, home-made sauerkraut, German potato salad, additional garnish, beverages and coffee married to a stunning dessert buffet.

The meal options are: \$10 pork chop dinner/ \$5 Children's hot dog meal which includes Mac and Cheese, Dehmer's Meats baked beans, home-made sauerkraut, German potato salad, additional garnish, beverage and dessert.

Advance tickets are available through the Life in Christ Lutheran Church Office by calling 763-497-3799 or between Sunday services. Tickets go on sale Sept. 10th.

A sign-up for workers will be available in the next week or 2. Please plan to help out and make this Annual Pork Chop Dinner the best yet!

## College Student Military Service Outreach

Life in Christ Lutheran Church wants to stay in touch with all of our young adult members that are leaving home for college or military service. In fact, it is often at this time in life when younger people feel disconnected from their home church the most. Please take the time to share your postal mailing address with our Outreach Team. We will be sending you "care" packages 4 times a year. If your name is on our past list, please resign up on our new list. Most college students addresses change each year.

To sign up, email your new address to [kristen@lifeinchristpreschool.com](mailto:kristen@lifeinchristpreschool.com) or place your address on the registration board in the narthex. The Outreach Committee thanks you!

## THE KANTOR'S VOICE

### BEING "IN THE ZONE"

{This might sound like a partial rerun of last month – but, after all, August has sometimes been known as the “month of reruns”.} I wish to take time to consider some comments from another Cantor whom I enjoy quoting from time to time – David Cherwien, director of the National Lutheran Choir – and Kantor of Mount Olive Lutheran Church in south Minneapolis. In his monthly column for his church newsletter, he brings out some good points regarding how discipleship relates to discipline. The two words come from the same root word in Latin, and David brings out some interesting thoughts on how these concepts relate to worship.

He writes, *“In a perfect world, we would all naturally want to erupt into song together; same key, same song, same tempo. (but in reality) we have to sacrifice a lot in order to sing together.” So what do we sacrifice? We sacrifice our personal preferences in music (“I don’t like that hymn”; “It’s too slow”; “FIFTEEN STANZAS?????”) We put these aside for the “greater good” – of making congregational song as one voice. We let go “of the centrality of self in favor of the community”.* David calls that “being in the zone” of the church’s song. He continues: *“this happens in liturgy as well. Through the liturgy we experience a shape and a flow; one thing flows into the next for an uninterrupted train of thought. That flow carries through with the Introit and Kyrie, scripture readings, organ music, and any external vocal or instrumental song that takes place. The liturgy “protects us from focusing in on things or people interjected by even well-intentioned leaders and participants”. We have an order to our service – a divine order for a Divine Service – which allows us to zero in on what God wishes to reveal to us that day. Then we truly are “in the zone”.*

Being “in the zone” in our liturgy prepares us for being “in the zone” in our Christian life. By being “in the zone”, we are disciplined to act on behalf of the community of faith we belong to, and to the beliefs we profess. It is through that discipline of Sunday preaching and teaching that equips us for discipleship in the balance of the week. We let go of what we want in favor of what we need; we let go of how we wish to speak and act in favor of what those around us may need to hear and see. It may involve serving meals at a funeral, needing us to rearrange our schedules; it might involve a new attitude of dedication regarding other church activities – not just showing up when we feel like it; it might involve going up to that new person in the narthex after service (especially after

service!); or it might involve speaking up in the workplace when the groundwork of what we believe is dissected, argued, and even ridiculed. The “zone” of our Christian life is deep and wide; it involves all with whom we interact on a daily basis.

Cantor Cherwien admonishes his congregation regarding the liturgy: “every liturgy should be cherished as if it were our last.” Very true. However, that admonition goes far beyond the Sunday liturgy. As baptized children of God, we need to regard every opportunity that comes along to profess our faith as if it were the last one we have. In Latin, there is a phrase “Carpe Diem” – which translates as “seize the day”. We need to seize all our days – all our moments – by being “in the zone” of the work Christ empowers us to do. How will you find yourself “in the zone” these days as Fall approaches?

See you in church –  
Kantor Duane Esterly

## Wednesday Simple Suppers

We will be using VolunteerSpot to organize the Simple Suppers again this year. Please watch your emails to sign up. Each confirmation family is asked to sign-up to prepare and serve at least one Simple Supper. Food is provided. We will also ask that confirmation students help with the Pork Chop Supper and Easter Breakfast. All are invited to attend any of the Simple Suppers for food and fellowship. The adult Bible studies follow the supper. Thank you for your willingness to help out with these very important meals.

## Thank you for your VBS Offerings

Life in Christ Preschool is very thankful for being chosen as the recipients of Vacation Bible School - "Mighty Fortress" offerings. The money was used to purchase new educational materials that will help us to not only learn through our play based curriculum, but model a Christian life at school through creative play.

*Giving thanks always and for everything to God the  
Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Ephesians 5:20*

***“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl. 9:10).***

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil—those who live contrary to God’s will—and to reward those who do good—those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will. Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are to support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God places a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence, our prayers, and on our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, for your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.

***LCMS Stewardship Article***

## **Lutheran Bible Translators Here Sunday, September 17**

180 million people do not have God's Word in their own language. To come to saving faith in Jesus and grow in that faith they need dedicated, gifted, skillful specialists to translate it for them. Dr. Jim and Susan Kaiser have been doing this in Africa for more than 30 years. They will be here on Sunday, September 17, during the Bible Class hour to tell us about their fascinating, challenging and essential ministry.



Jim and Susan Kaiser are excited to be part of a new partnership between Lutheran Bible Translators (LBT) and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY), which is the largest Lutheran church in Africa. They are helping make the Good News of God’s Word available to the people of Ethiopia in their heart languages.

Susan helped establish a literacy program for the Loko people of Sierra Leone (1980-1983). From 1985 to 2006, the Kaisers helped to translate the New Testament for the Kono people of Sierra Leone (dedicated in 2008). From 2006 to 2012, Jim assisted with the translation of the Old Testament for the Chaldean people of Iraq while also completing advanced studies to further equip him as a translation consultant.

Currently, Jim serves as a translation consultant with projects in five languages—Konso, Dirayta (also known as Dirasha), Zayse, Ts’amakko, and Ale (also known as Gawwada). All five language groups are found in the southwest part of Ethiopia near Lake Chamo in the Great Rift Valley. The EECMY is translating the Old Testament for the Konso people (the New Testament was completed in 2002) and is translating the New Testament for the other four languages.