

First Lutheran Church

Cross Currents

May/June 2014



Dear Church Family and Friends,

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of Life, the Life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that Eternal Life which was with the Father and was manifested to us that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full (1John. 1:1).

As we live in these weeks after Easter, God gives our lives meaning and joy as the Apostle writes. Jesus has risen from the dead and brings us forgiveness and life every day! Christ was crucified for our sins and then raised again so that we have can have the Gospel preached to us and firmly believe that everything is going to be all right. With the risen Christ present among us in His Word and Sacraments. To hear, to touch, to see—our souls are filled with a noble and steady confidence that comes from God! God makes us glad with the news that the devil is thwarted, hell is closed, and Heaven is our home. With Paul and Job, we can mock death and sin and the world knowing that nothing can separate the Baptized from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

What does this look like daily? God's Word—read, spoken, fed, poured, and preached to our soul which causes us to get up in the morning in His presence. Filled with God's joy, we go about our daily tasks of eating, raising our families, loving one another, working in the world, and then go to bed at peace knowing that He's been with us. Every day Jesus forgives and constantly works good in our lives, for us and on behalf of others. God has redeemed our souls and life. We belong to Him. This is the joy that comes from being in the presence of Jesus' Word and among the fellowship of His children. The Triune God has declared these things and makes them real to our faith. Reading God's promises, praying, preaching His Word, worshiping, eating at His Supper, staying alive in the promises given to the Baptized— these all contribute to sustaining our joy in Christ, help us to love the brethren, and with the same Gospel, reach out to those who are not yet in His fellowship. These are the things that Jesus will continue to give, for us and our salvation, until the last sheep has been brought into the fold and then we can go Home and be with our Lord face to face. Joy!

+pastor

PASTOR

Rev. Kevin Kolander

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Gail Christiansen

CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Bob Brown

VICE PRESIDENT

Dave Anton

SECRETARY

Susie Wysong

TREASURER

Cheryl Cheek

FINANCIAL

SECRETARY

Beverly Leckie

EDUCATION

DIRECTOR

Melody Anton

EVANGELISM

DIRECTOR

Brenda Romanek

STEWARDSHIP

DIRECTOR

Robert Sandberg

TRUSTEES

Tom McDermott

Maurice Kaneshiro

Ron Niehouse

Jim Smith

Jesse Washington

HONORARY

TRUSTEE

Frank Crow

ELDERS

Robert Arp

Don Crow

Justin Morris

William Neebe

Michael Sunshine

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1st / Beverly Christiansen
2nd / Larry Hall
4th / D.J. Brannon
Morgan Kyle
5th / Sue Segade
7th / Sylvia Carter
11th / Ida Williams
14th / Harold Atkinson
16th / Ellie Niehouse
20th / Bob Brown
21st / Lezlee Neebe
Francine Wellington
25th / Kay Foster
26th / Helen Rice
Jim Warner



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1st / Linda Warner
6th / Eve Wysong
8th / Maurice Kaneshiro
16th / Ruth Detviler
Neil Steiner
20th / Elizabeth Porter
21st / Lea Brannon
Sandra Gray
23rd / Kim Sunshine
26th / Sylvia DePillo
27th / Steve Brynes
Ron Niehouse
28th / Kathy McCaleb
Mark Steiner

We Pray for our Family & Friends

PRAY FOR CHURCH FAMILY & LOVED ONES

Tim Noel , Maurice Kaneshiro, Bob Brown, Silvia DePillo (mom Mary), Detviler family (Tom), Sherman Terry, Ida Williams, Ralph Purcha, Geri Daughtrey (friend Lela), Chuck Cheek, Bonnie Harlow (daughter-in-law Nada), Lori Tucker (friend Marshall), Brian Christensen (Lutheran College in MN), Sunshine baby, Alyssa Brown.

MEMBERS & LOVED ONES IN THE ARMED FORCES

Robert Steiner, Debbie Bergman (nephew), Mary Kenagy (nephew Joshua), Erla Cloer (grandson), Nancy Purcha (3 grandsons), Brenda Romanek (brother), Alan & Helene Peterson (son Erick), Francine Wellington (grandson), Andrea Hall (nephew), Don & Ruth Detviler (grandson), Chaplains Rob Mueller & Dann Ettner.

OUR HOMEBOUND

Betty Leonhart, Madeline & Jack Dulmath, Anna Mevis, Sylvia Carter, Kay & Don Foster

LUTHERAN PASTORS

Rev. Thomas Bernard (Haiti, West Indies) & Rev. Rohwer (Muslims)

LOVED ONES RECENTLY DIED

Gaylon Knight (husband Ray), Sharon Timms (son Jay), Kay Smith (husband Jim), Francine Wellington (husband Rick), Helen Winchester

Church Attendance

March 2nd

Worshipped 124 , Communed 102 , Bible class 33, Sunday school 16

March 9th

Worshipped 90, Bible class 31 , Sunday school 11

March 16th

Worshipped 102, Communed 89 , Bible class 35, Sunday school 14

March 23rd

Worshipped 94, Communed 84, Bible class 28, Sunday school 12

March 30th

Worshipped 100, Communed 84, Bible class 26, Sunday school 12

April 6th

Worshipped 93 , Communed 84, Bible class 25, Sunday school 12

April 13th

Worshipped 110, Communed 98 , Bible class 35, Sunday school 11

April 20th

Worshipped 126, Communed 107

April 27th

Worshipped 94, Bible class 32, Sunday school 13

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Our LWML has been very busy these last couple of months! We served two funerals, helped with Easter Breakfast, and enjoyed a very successful Spring Tea!!

We want to thank all the ladies of our congregation who so graciously offered their help in food and service for these events. Your help was greatly appreciated.

We are in the process of purchasing new white paraments as our current white ones have yellowed over the years. We want to thank those who offered their financial assistance to help purchase these paraments.

All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us on Saturday, May 10th at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 26800 Newport Rd., in Menifee for the LWML Zone Rally.

Gangway to Galilee Upcoming VBS *Melody & Dave Anton*



Please continue to pray for Gangway to Galilee, our upcoming Vacation Bible School being held this summer, July 14th to the 18th. Pray for children to attend our VBS and that God would provide leaders and volunteers to help.

If you can help full-time or part-time, we have many ways you can be involved that will suit your schedule and interests.

Call Melody Anton

(951)245-4227

or

email: anton62803@aol.com



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

12th

Ron & Brenda Romanek

19th

Gerald & Helen Rice

20th

Rick & Francine Wellington

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

7th

John & Jamie Wilson

9th

Michael & Sandra Smith

25th

John & Sylvia DePillo

OFFICIAL ACTS

Baptized 3-2-14

Olivia Lily Porter Camarena

Transferred FROM
another LCMS

Congregation 4-13-14

Duane & Betty Van Patten

Transferred TO another
LCMS Congregation

2-19-14

Rhonda Gainey

Deaths & Christian
Burials

Rayford Knight

Died 3/21/14

Memorial Service

3/29/14

Jim Smith

Died 4/6/14

Funeral

4/12/14

REFRESHMENTS

MAY

4TH

Kathy Mc Caleb
Pat Crow
Ruth Detviler

11th

Mother's Day Cake

18th

Sue Rohrbach
Betty Van Pattern
Susie Mericle

25th/ POTLUCK

Pat Eide
Bonnie
Jamie Wilson



JUNE

1st

Susan Morris
Hedder Steiner
Karol Steiner

8th

Andrea Hall
Joline Terry
Susan Kaneshiro

15th

Ellie Niehouse
Lore Tucker
Kelly Kyle

22nd

Gerry Rice
Nancy Purcha
Helene Peterson

29th / POTLUCK

Tom McDermott
Maurice Kaneshiro
Ron Niehouse

Thinking through Creation & Evolution

We welcome Professor Rod Soper, from Concordia University, who will be with us during Bible study on Sunday, May 18th to present both sides of the coin so that we can understand a bit better and be equipped to give the reason for the hope that's within us concerning God and His Creation.

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle? The words are listed below. They may be listed forwards or backwards!

P	E	A	C	C	R	O	S	S	H	E	A	V	E	S
F	M	I	L	Y	B	A	B	E	V	O	L	I	G	I
H	T	O	S	A	J	T	O	N	U	O	Y	F	E	V
P	E	W	T	E	R	L	Y	D	F	A	M	A	L	Y
E	U	S	S	H	E	J	O	S	B	U	S	M	E	J
A	E	U	E	J	E	M	J	O	A	T	H	I	R	S
C	S	J	S	U	S	R	I	T	B	P	A	L	N	B
E	S	M	J	E	S	U	B	A	Y	T	S	Y	E	P
H	I	L	D	H	E	R	O	G	O	B	M	C	S	E
K	C	H	I	M	D	L	E	O	A	S	A	H	I	A
R	A	R	B	E	I	M	D	H	I	F	M	I	R	C
O	D	I	I	E	K	S	O	T	T	Y	L	L	A	C
S	B	O	A	S	U	N	P	H	E	A	V	E	N	E
S	A	A	G	S	E	A	D	J	O	V	F	D	I	M
M	P	E	J	E	B	N	S	E	V	A	E	H	F	E

MOTHER	CROSS	JESUS	PEACE
FATHER	CHILD	RISEN	BABY
FAMILY	BIBLE	BAPTISM	LOVE
JOY		HEAVEN	

Bloody Gardens

Dr. Jeff Mallinson



The idea of a garden is almost always pleasant. However, there is a bloody business to them. They require a microcosmic battle. We root out weeds and hunt and kill unwanted insects. We prune. Tilling the soil is a classic human vocation. It is, therefore, fitting that we find the high points of Jewish and Christian imagery within the context of a garden.

There was, of course, the Garden of Eden, where, we are told, our ancestors lost their connection to the Creator and began to experience their relationship to the earth in terms of curses. St. Irenaeus found it significant that Jesus of Nazareth retraced the steps of human history, succeeding where we had failed. We were kicked out of a garden. Jesus goes to a garden called Gethsemane to sweat blood, then ends up in a garden tomb after His crucifixion. And for those in the Christian church, that work of re-chaptering the human story allows one to say, cosmically, that it is all finished.

God is restoring the unrest of our earthly gardens. Nonetheless, for believers, this hope is not yet realized. We are already promised a garden that is free from bloodshed, and we have Jesus to thank for this. We remember His work as we prepare for Holy Week and the joy of Easter. However, in our penultimate reality, our gardens can still be war zones. The original balance has not been fully realized. On Monday, April 7, Dutch Jesuit Frans van der Lugt was shot in the head twice in the garden of his monastery in the besieged city of Homs, Syria. He refused to abandon his post, despite unrest in his world.

This reminds us that, for all our best efforts—political and evangelistic—we seek God through the cross. Our gardens are still bloody, but the blood of the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world will one day restore peace to our gardens: every piece of cultivated soil from Argentina to Syria will be set right. Rejoice with us in this promise, even as we mourn the loss of a monk who stood courageously in the face of manifest evil.

Dr. Jeff Mallinson is Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Concordia University and Director of the League of Faithful Masks, through which he co-hosts the Virtue in the Wasteland Podcast. He earned his Ph.D from the University of Oxford. His book, several chapter contributions, and articles reflect his interest in the intersections of Reformation thought, philosophy of religion, and culture.

LCMS Responds to Typhoon Haiyan

Pamela Nielsen / LCMS PRESS RELEASE



ST. LOUIS, April 30, 2014—Many teams and organizations sent to assist with last fall's Typhoon Haiyan recovery efforts have already left the Philippines, just four months after the disaster.

However, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) continues to assist in the Philippines, both with dollars and genuine Christian concern.

The Nov. 8, 2013, typhoon caused immense damage, killing more than 6,000 people and damaging or demolishing more than 1 million homes.

Yet, in the midst of the chaos and destruction, "God has been at work through the Disaster Response Team of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod," noted the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, president of the LCMS, in a recent letter to the church. "He's done that most recently in the Philippines, where disaster dollars are changing lives and offering hope." In that Christ-centered hope, the LCMS continues to walk alongside its partner church — the Lutheran Church in the Philippines — as well as the church's members.

The LCMS commitment to the Typhoon Haiyan relief effort exceeds \$1 million.

Initial grants totaling \$250,000 provided funds that assisted with food distribution, shelter kits, temporary shelter, and spiritual care. Additionally, \$600,000 is being used with sawmill construction, cash-for-work programs, rebuilding homes, and livelihood restoration. Another grant of \$230,000 is helping Orphan Grain Train with food packs, blankets, and school and hygiene kits.

Funds also have been given to help care for the pastors of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines, who have witnessed death on a seemingly immeasurable scale. Providing for their spiritual care helps ensure that the pastors are, in turn, able to care for the church's members as they seek to rebuild and restart.

"Join me in supporting LCMS Disaster Response," Harrison said in his letter, adding "God may use the Church — that's us, the Body of Christ! — to carry His Word and His gifts through tornado and hurricane, flood and fire, tsunami and typhoon, so that He may care for our neighbors, heal their hearts, soothe their souls."

FLOWER SCHEDULE

MAY

4th / Morgan Kyle
birthday

11th / Lore Tucker
(Dan's 50th)

18th / Still open

25th / Helen & Jerry
Rice

JUNE

1st / Susie Mericle
(Mom & sister's BDay)

8th / Bev Leckie

15th / Still open

22nd / Susie Mericle
(Son's Birthday)

29th / Still open



CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

MAY

WILSON

JUNE

KOLANDER

ONGOING MINISTRIES

E-Prayer

Pastor Kolander

H.O.P.E. BASKET

McCaleb's & Lori
Tucker

NEWSLETTER


Kelly Kyle

PHOTOGRAPHY

Ernie Alber

GREETERS

Brenda Romanek

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MAY 2014				1	2	3
4 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship w/ Communion Third Sunday of Easter	5 7:00 PM AA Meeting	6 10:00 AM LWML 7:00 PM AA Meeting	7 10:30 AM Bible Class 5:30 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Church Council	8 7:00 PM AA Meeting	9 6:00 PM Exegesis Study	10 9:00 AM Ladies Craft
11 Elders Mtg. after church 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship Service Fourth Sunday of Easter	12 7:00 PM AA Meeting	13 7:00 PM AA Meeting	14 10:30 AM Bible Class 5:30 PM Choir Practice	15 7:00 PM AA Meeting	16 6:00 PM Exegesis Study	17 6:00 PM Exegesis Study
18 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship w/ Communion Fifth Sunday of Easter	19 7:00 PM AA Meeting	20 7:00 PM AA Meeting	21 10:30 AM Bible Class 5:30 PM Choir Practice	22 7:00 PM AA Meeting	23 6:00 PM Exegesis Study	24
25 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship Service Potluck Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter	26 7:00 PM AA Meeting	27 7:00 PM AA Meeting	28 10:30 AM Bible Class 5:30 PM Choir Practice The Ascension of our Lord	29 7:00 PM AA Meeting 7:15 Ascension Service	30 6:00 PM Exegesis Study	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE 2014						
1 Seventh Sunday of Easter	2	3	4 10:30 AM Bible Class 5:30 PM Choir Practice	5	6	7
8 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship w/ Communion The Day of Pentecost	9 7:00 PM AA Meeting	10 10:00 AM LWML 7:00 PM AA Meeting	11 10:30 AM Bible Class	12 7:00 PM AA Meeting	13	14
15 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship Service Elders Mtg. after church The Holy Trinity	16 7:00 PM AA Meeting	17 7:00 PM AA Meeting	18 10:30 AM Bible Class No Choir Practice 7:00 PM Church Council	19 7:00 PM AA Meeting	20	21
22 First Sunday After Trinity	23 7:00 PM AA Meeting	24 7:00 PM AA Meeting	25 10:30 AM Bible Class No Choir Practice	26 7:00 PM AA Meeting	27 6:00 PM Exegesis Study	28
29 9:00 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship Service Potluck Sunday Second Sunday after Trin- ity	30 7:00 PM AA Meeting					