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 Stephen A. Eckert, Pastor

Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Volume 61 – Number 8

August 2023

FROM THE INTENTIONAL INTERIM PASTOR...

Dear People of God at Our Savior,

In his letter to God's people in Rome the Apostle Paul speaks of the importance of God's written word to us. In chapter 15 verse 4 he says:

"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

We are beneficiaries of that same hope today. God's words are shared in many ways. Some examples include the printed page for reading, spoken format for hearing, and video format hearing and seeing.

Most of you have been receiving emails from the church office/me on Tuesdays or Wednesdays for the last few weeks with a brief note and an attached file documenting sermon notes from the previous Sunday. These are intended for your encouragement and hope. Please be free to pass these notes along to others who may need the same endurance, encouragement, and hope in our Lord Jesus.

In addition to those notes from the past, I'd like to share some hope, encouragement, and endurance toward the horizon. Following are Scripture lessons and sermon texts and titles we will be using in the days ahead. Be free to read ahead and dig in a bit.

July 30 Psalm 125:1-2; Romans 8:28-39;
 Matthew 13:44-46
 Sermon: "Nothing. Nothing.
 Absolutely Nothing!" (Romans
 8:38-39)

August 6 Psalm 136:1-9; Isaiah 55:1-5;
 Matthew 14:13-21
 Sermon: "Little Is Always Much in the
 Hands of Jesus" (Matthew 14:17-
 18)

August 13 Psalm 18:1-6; Job 38:4-18;
 Matthew 14:22-33
 Sermon: "Faith's Cry, Desire, and
 Focus" (Matthew 14:27-28)

August 20 Psalm 67; Matthew 15:21-28
 Sermon: "Undaunted Faith"
 (Matthew 15:22-23a)

August 27 Isaiah 51:1-6; Matthew 16:13-20
 Sermon: "From Ruins to Joy,
 Gladness, Thanksgiving, and the
 Sound of Singing" (Isaiah 51:3)

Endurance and Encouragement and Hope are
 yours in Jesus!

...Pastor Allen Steinbeck



Aug 03	6:00 pm	Elders' Mtg.
Aug 06	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Aug 06	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
Aug 06	11:00 am	Council Mtg.
Aug 13	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Aug 13	10:00 am	Praise/Comm. Svc.
Aug 13	11:00 am	Voters' Mtg.
Aug 13	2:00 pm	Adult Fellowship
Aug 14	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Men's Group
Aug 15	9:00 am	Sep Ministry Schedule Due
Aug 16	4:00 pm	P/S Board Mtg.
Aug 20	9:00 am	Sep Newsletter Deadline
Aug 20	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Aug 20	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
Aug 20	2:00 pm	Adult Fellowship
Aug 27	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Aug 27	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
Aug 27	11:00 am	Rally Day



VOTERS' MEETING

Sunday, August 13, 11:00 AM, in Stahnke Hall—All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting. The agenda will consist of 1) Election of Officers, 2) Budget Approval, and 3) Pastoral Call and Preschool Director Updates. ☼



Aug 02 Merlin Meyer
Aug 09 Emma Olney, Bill Williamson
Aug 12 Bruce Summers
Aug 14 Sarah Ganschow
Aug 16 Dylan Gomez, Caitlin Stevenson
Aug 17 Don Benson
Aug 18 Nathan Schofield
Aug 19 Reese Riddiough
Aug 21 Matthew Olney, Jane Riddiough
Aug 23 Jeff Sweeney, Linda Sweeney
Aug 27 Frank Presnell
Aug 28 Mark Andersen
Aug 30 Paul DiModica
Aug 31 Henry Clavin



Aug 08 Billy & Diana Brown
Aug 17 Darrell & Marianne Heuchert
Aug 22 Harold & Ruth Oliver

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Greetings from the Call Committee! We come together with you to praise our Father in heaven for his generous gifts and to thank him for our intentional interim pastor, Allen Steinbeck. Pastor Steinbeck was installed on July 2 and had his first full service on July 9. He started on time, was well prepared, and mindfully included his temporary status throughout the service.

Please continue to introduce yourselves and make him feel comfortable at our church. He is a trained intentional interim pastor, so let us use his knowledge and critiques to embrace this time in our church to change and grow and prepare for our new pastor. We want to be prepared like the five virgins

who brought oil with them for their lamps as they waited for the Bridegroom. (Matthew 25:1-13)

Our Call Committee Chairman, Terry Murdock, is consistent with his follow-up to the District as we continue to wait for a list of potential pastors. And, as stated in last month's article, please continue to submit names of LCMS pastors that you would like to see come to our congregation.

Thank you for continued prayers during this time of change and growth. ☼

ALTAR GUILD & FLOWER SCHEDULE



August

Aug 06 – Comm. Svc.

10:00 AM – Susan Wilcox – Set-Up
Stephanie Clavin – Take-Down
Flowers: Open

Aug 13 – Worship Svc.

10:00 AM – Connie Hathaway
Flowers: Open

Aug 20 – Praise/Comm. Svc.

10:00 AM – Becky Zielke – Set-Up
Kelly Olney – Take-Down
Flowers: In memory of Shirley Eckert's birthday by Linda Sweeney

Aug 27 – Worship Svc.

10:00 AM – Connie Hathaway
Flowers: Jim LaBelle in memory of Carol

MOWING IN AUGUST

Aug 05 – Art Atrops, Jim LaBelle

Aug 12 – Mark Hathaway, Lucas Mayes, Dick Scholar

Aug 19 – Bill Williamson, Harold Oliver

Aug 26 – Bill Williamson, Arlin Weiting



ALTAR FLOWERS

Do you have an event in your life or a blessing received that you would like to remember with flowers on the altar? August 3 and 10 and September 10 are open. The altar flower sign-up poster is located on the bulletin board next to the women's restroom in the narthex. ☼



FAMILY BBQ

We are having our Rally Day picnic again this year! Look for the sign-up sheets soon!

When? **Sunday, August 27**, after church.
Lunch served - 11:30 am

Where? LCOS Church Parking Lot

Who's invited? You, your friends, the community,
Upward Bound families

Why? For Food, Fun, Fellowship

What can I do? Sign up to bring a salad, chips, or
a side dish.

Sign up to help set up (8:00 am) or
clean up.

Sign up to help in the kitchen.

Bring a canopy for "shade" or your own lawn chair.

Activities: Tours of Upward Bound
Preschool, bounce house, crafts, and
face painting.

ELDER'S CORNER

Off The Map

Some of the most interesting words I have ever read were spoken by a man whose name I do not know. Don't be shocked...some days I barely know my own name! Anyway, the man was Christopher Columbus' first officer aboard the Santa Maria, who was with him during his first voyage to the Americas.

One day he wrote in the ship's log these simple words, "Today we have sailed off the map."

Now I doubt that any of us have ever really had that same experience. The reality is that today through GPS technology, MapQuest, and Google Earth, we can literally pinpoint nearly every square foot of our existence. Physically, you may never have been "off the map"...but have you ever been off the

map spiritually? We may wonder how we got to be where we are. There are those times when each of us wonders how we got to be where we are...a mountain of debt, a situation out of control, a fight that we didn't ask for with someone we love. Situations such as these can leave us shaking our heads wondering, "How did we get here?" Or maybe as we transition to new leadership here at LCOS, we may wonder how did we get here and are we charting the right course?

Perhaps a better question is, "How do I get back to a place I'd rather be?" Questions such as these are almost as old as time itself! Surely Adam and Eve after taking a bite into crime must have pondered that question. You see the reality is that the separation of sin and its consequences have put us in a place God never intended for us to be.

So how do we get back to the place where we so desperately need to be?

Fortunately for us, the **Map Maker** Himself has not left us to our own accord. He has given and continues to show us the way to a right course to Him. That way is found in Christ alone. Jesus said, "I am the WAY, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but by Me!" (John 14:6)



It is by God's grace that we are not left in uncharted waters! When we were lost, at just the right time, He sent His Son for us. It is His Son who comes to us and takes us to the place that we need to be. It truly is as the old hymn says, "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found..."

So if you feel a little uneasy about our transition here at LCOS, remember brothers and sisters in Christ, God continually comes to His people and brings us to the place where we need to be...being led by someone **He** calls to lead.

As you spend time with your family and friends this summer, take the time to thank God for keeping you and LCOS on the map and for continuing to gather us together and giving us all we need...so that we may remain in that place...where we need to be!

In the Cartographer's (look it up) Service,

... Dennis Payne

Puzzle!

Fill in the blanks with the correct words. Then transfer the letters to the numbered boxes below to complete Psalm 107:1, NIV.

- Shape that symbolizes love _____
31 15 7 18 5
- Part of a stove used for baking _____
12 3 24 39
- Color made by red and yellow _____
28 42 7 8 27 37
- A present _____
1 32 20 11
- Clothing a girl wears _____
19 22 43 44 33
- Something you open to go into a room _____
40 29 17 47
- Opposite of soft (sound) _____
34 17 41 30
- To take a long walk _____
14 2 9 38
- A high body temperature _____
45 50 49 48 42
- Items used to build or fix things _____
13 35 21 16 26
- Edge of the sea _____
10 23 46 51 4
- Home for a bee _____
6 25 36 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56

Answer: heart, oven, orange, gift, dress, door, loud, hike, fever, tools, shore, hive; Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1, NIV

ADULT FELLOWSHIP



The next Adult Fellowship will be on **Sunday, August 13, at 2:00 PM**. This is the 2nd week of August and is a change from the date we chose at our last get-together (which was August 27th). I pray this works for everyone. See you there for fun, food, and fellowship! ✿

GOD IS WATCHING

In the cafeteria line one day, a seminary dean noticed a bowl of big, juicy oranges. A sign by it read, "Take only one. God is watching you!" At the other end of the lunch line sat a large plate of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies. Beside it was a hastily scrawled note, likely from a hungry student: "Take as many cookies as you want. God is back there watching the oranges."

The message behind that good-natured irreverence? If you believe that God's sight is limited to one place, then your idea of God is too small!

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

Bible Quiz

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches. Which list includes a city that is not among those seven?

- A. Ephesus, Thyatira, Philadelphia
- B. Smyrna, Laodicea, Galatia
- C. Pergamum, Thyatira, Smyrna
- D. Sardis, Ephesus, Laodicea

Answer: B (See Revelation 2-3)

REMEMBERING ST. BARTHOLOMEW

On August 24, the church commemorates St. Bartholomew, who is listed among the 12 apostles. Because he is never named in the book of John — while a follower named Nathanael is mentioned only there — many scholars believe Bartholomew and Nathanael were the same man. Further, Bartholomew's name is next to Philip's in Matthew, Luke and Mark, while in John, Philip introduces Nathanael to Jesus, who says, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" (John 1:47, NRSV).

Besides the Bible, Eusebius, the father of church history, is first to mention Bartholomew. Eusebius reports that Bartholomew gave a Hebrew translation of Matthew's gospel to Christian converts in India. Bartholomew also preached in Mesopotamia, Persia, Egypt and Armenia, where he was killed about 71 A.D. Tradition holds that Bartholomew was either beheaded or flayed alive and then crucified upside-down. ✿

AUGUST 2023
CHRISTIAN MINISTERS AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

DAY	TIME	ACOLYTE	ELDERS	USHERS	LESSON READERS	SOUND SYSTEM	ALTAR GUILD/ FLOWERS
6 Sunday	10:00 am Comm.	Ali Mayes	Dennis Payne	Diana Brown	Lucas Mayes	Karl DiModica	Altar: Susan Wilcox – Set-Up Stephanie Clavin – Take-Down
							Flowers: Open
13 Sunday	10:00 am	Elder	Rudy Stowell	Bill Williamson	Marjorie Hord	Dennis Payne	Altar: Marianne Heuchert
							Flowers: Open
20 Praise Sunday	10:00 am Comm.	Riley Olney	Mark Hathaway	Jim LaBelle	Brent Clavin	Chad Thorstenson	Altar: Becky Zielke – Set-Up Kelly Olney– Take-Down
							Flowers: Linda Sweeney in memory of Shirley Eckert’s birthday
27 Sunday Rally Day	10:00 am	Brandon Rappoza	Tom Heuchert	Michael Southern	Debbie Heuchert	Ed Buchholz	Altar: Connie Hathaway
							Flowers: Jim LaBelle in memory of Carol
Please phone person* at right ONLY if you are unable to find a replacement>>>>>		ACOLYTES *Mark Hathaway 937-9675	ELDERS *Todd Martin 801-3873	USHERS *Dennis Payne 934-1101	READERS *Todd Martin 801-3873	SOUND *Dennis Payne 934-1101	ALTAR GUILD Connie Hathaway 937-9675 FLOWERS Connie Hathaway 937-9675 FLOWER MINISTRY Donna Finlay (805) 937-3690

1. PLEASE ARRANGE FOR ANY CHANGE(S) BY TRADING WITH ANOTHER MINISTER.
2. PLEASE NOTIFY THE PERSON WHO OVERSEES YOUR ASSIGNMENT OF ANY CHANGE(S).
3. INFORM CHURCH OFFICE ONLY AFTER CHANGE(S) IS/ARE MADE TO SCHEDULE – 937-1116

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!

AUGUST 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH		3 6:00 PM – Elders' Mtg.	4	5
6 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Comm. Svc. 11:00 AM – Council Mtg.	7	8 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	9	10	11	12 No Quilters' Meetings for the Summer
13 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc. 11:00 AM – Voters' Mtg. 2:00 PM – Adult Fellowship	14 6:00 – 8:00 PM – Men's Group	15 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH Sept. Ministry Availability Due	16	17	18	19
20 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Praise/Comm. Svc.	21 9:00 AM – Sept. Newsletter Deadline	22 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	23	24	25	26
27 9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc. RALLY DAY	28	29 7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	30	31		