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 Allen Steinbeck, Intentional Interim Pastor

Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Volume 61 – Number 10

October 2023

FROM THE INTENTIONAL INTERIM PASTOR...

Dear People of God in Christ Jesus,

Wow, October already! On the last Sunday of this month, we will celebrate Reformation Day, on which we remember the beginning of our Christian heritage as Lutherans. We are thankful for the clarity we have in knowing how and by whom we are saved: By Grace, through faith, for Christ's sake. Some of you have heard me quote a friend saying, "It's not enough to be right; you've got to know why!" The "why" is so that we not only enjoy Jesus for ourselves, but also share him with others. One common way of engaging our surrounding community here on the church grounds during this month is an event many call "Trunk or Treat." Be looking for details on that.

As most of you know, Sunday, September 17 saw our return to the "normal" of kneeling at the Communion rail to receive the Lord's Supper. That same day, we once again began offering the Common Cup to all those who choose to receive from it. God is good. All the time.

Beginning Sunday, October 1 (known in our circles as "LWML Sunday") you will notice some differences from our recent past in the Divine Service itself. Exactly as we have it in the hymnal, we will now have printed in the bulletin more interaction between the readers and the congregation: "This is the Word of the Lord" and "Thanks be to God." We will also use responses before and after the Gospel reading. A couple other things of note: we will be using what is called the Salutation between pastor and people ("The Lord be with you" – "And also with you") and then the Prayer of the Day (sometimes referred to as the Collect), which is a formal prayer thematically tied to the pericopes for the day. And, finally, on the first Sunday of each month we will be using the Nicene Creed as our statement of faith; later in the service, we will also be plugging in a post-Communion Prayer.

In the latter part of October, be looking for special communication from the church office about the celebration of All Saints Day. With the blessing

of your Elders and the full knowledge of your Church Council, within the service on Sunday, November 5, we will be including what is known as the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. This can be an awesome reminder for us, that when a believer in Jesus dies, their "membership," if you will, is transferred from the Church here on earth, to the Church in heaven. More details to come, on this meaningful experience. ✨

Peace to you in Christ Jesus our Lord!

...Pastor Allen Steinbeck

MOWING IN OCTOBER

Oct 07 – R. Riddiough, N. Schofield
 Oct 14 – Art Atrops, Jim LaBelle
 Oct 21 – Mark Hathaway, Lucas Mayes, Dick Scholar
 Oct 28 – Bill Williamson, Harold Oliver



Oct 01		LWML Sunday
Oct 01	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Oct 01	10:00 am	Comm. Svc.
Oct 04	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study
Oct 05	6:00 pm	Elders' Mtg.
Oct 08	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Oct 08	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
Oct 09	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Men's Group
Oct 11	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study
Oct 15	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Oct 15	10:00 am	Praise/Comm. Svc.
Oct 15	2:00 pm	Adult Fellowship
Oct 15	9:00 am	Nov Ministry Availability Due
Oct 17	4:00 pm	P/S Board Mtg.
Oct 18	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study
Oct 20	9:00 am	Nov Newsletter Deadline
Oct 22	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Oct 22	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
Oct 22	11:00 am	Council Mtg.
Oct 25	10:00 – 11:30 am	Small-Group Bible Study
Oct 29	9:00 am	SS/Bible Study
Oct 29	10:00 am	Worship Svc.
Oct 29	4:00 – 6:00 pm	Trunk or Treat



- Oct 03 Sue Busbee, George Kennedy
- Oct 07 Valerie Trenev
- Oct 09 Elizabeth Timm
- Oct 10 Stephen Janssen
- Oct 11 Joanna Miller
- Oct 12 Jim LaBelle
- Oct 24 David Wobrock
- Oct 27 Danielle Tate



- Oct 12 Todd & Julie Martin
- Oct 29 Fred & Kathy Lee

ALTAR GUILD & FLOWER SCHEDULE



Oct 01 – Comm. Svc.

**10:00 AM — Set-Up – Susan Wilcox
Take-Down - Marianne Heuchert**

**Flowers: Diana Brown for the blessing of
Upward Bound Preschool**

Oct 08 – Worship Svc.

10:00 AM – Kelly Olney

**Flowers: Molly Williams in memory of her
mother**

Oct 15 – Praise/Comm. Svc.

**10:00 AM – Set-Up – Becky Zielke
Take-Down – Connie Hathaway**

**Flowers: Becky Zielke in celebration of Jim
LaBelle’s birthday**

Oct 22 – Worship Svc.

10:00 AM – Lori Williamson

**Flowers: Linda Sweeney in memory of Karla
Knight’s and Marie Hoffmann’s birthdays**

Oct 29 – Worship Svc.

**10:00 AM – Marjorie Hord
Flowers: Open**

ELDER’S CORNER

(Excerpted from Lutheran Hour Ministries)

(Jesus said) "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt." Matthew 18:23-27

For most of us, telephone bills are a normal part of life. They send them out, and we pay them. Of course, as impossible as it may seem, there are times when the phone company can make a mistake in its billing. Such appears to be the situation for one couple from Damascus, Oregon. They signed on with Verizon in November and purchased two cell phones.



They expected their first bill to be around \$120. It wasn't. They had to argue down a bill of \$698. After arguing that bill down, they ended up cancelling the service in December and they returned their phones.

That should have been the end of the story. It wasn't. The couple received a bill for \$2 million! The company says it is resolving the problem but, in the meantime, collection agencies have been giving the couple a tough time, and their bank is reluctant to extend a loan to them so they may buy the house of their dreams.

Now I would love to tell you this was a one-time problem, and I would also love to share that nobody has been able to top this couple's outrageous phone bill. I would love to say both those things, but I can't.

Witness the story of Solenne San Jose whose phone company, Telecom, sent her a bill for 15 quadrillion dollars. That's a 15 followed by 15 zeroes. According to reports, it was quite a struggle for San Jose to get the phone company to admit it had made a mistake and her bill ought to have been \$151.

Thankfully, both these billings were mistakes and eventually were resolved.

But there is no such billing error in regard to us. Our numerous sins of thought, word, and

deed have placed a great debt upon our souls. Ours was an obligation so large we could never begin to pay it off. This unpayable debt meant our hope of heaven, and not just our earthly credit rating, had been destroyed.

Seeing our hopeless and helpless condition, our Heavenly Father had mercy upon us and sent His Son into this world to pay the price necessary to forgive our sins and save our souls. Because of Jesus' selfless sacrifice, all who believe in Him have their sins forgiven and have the hope of heaven restored.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, I give thanks You have done all that was necessary to save me from my sinful debts. In thanksgiving for what You have done for me, may I show a willingness to forgive those who have sinned against me. This I ask in the Savior's Name. Amen. ✨

God Bless, Todd Martin

PRAYER CHAIN

The process for prayer requests to the prayer chain has changed. Prayer requests can now be made to lcoss.prayers@gmail.com which is the preferred method of contact. If you are unable to email, the church office can be contacted (805-937-1116). We will be emailing everyone listed in the directory soon to clarify who wants to be notified of prayer requests. Many thanks to Linda Bornhoft who will be overseeing the prayer chain emails for the immediate future. ✨



APOLOGETICS OPPORTUNITY

Zion Lutheran Church (SLO) is hosting an apologetics lecture on October 28, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM. It will consist of two presentations of about one hour each with Q and A to follow. Check Zion's website for more information. In the meantime, call Zion's church office at 805-543-8327 to register. Curious? Talk to Paul and Lisa DiModica who are attending and submitted this notice. ✨

DISCIPLING BY DOING

From the Church Council President by Paul Mattson

Last month you may have seen my column in the newsletter asking, "What do YOU *want* to do?" This month I would like to share some more specific ideas of opportunities in the coming months.

By way of introduction, recently in Sunday morning Bible class we heard an interesting concept presented by Rev. Dr. Rische to a convention of pastors: "You cannot disciple without teaching, but you can teach without discipling." It really got me thinking about learning and discipling. I like to learn. I like to be taught and I like to teach. It is fun and rewarding to master a new skill or see someone else do so as a result of instruction. I also know and believe that *doing* is one of the greatest teachers. If you have done it, you know it, whatever it is. But, what about this discipling stuff?

I don't know about you, but I know I am not particularly cut out for the door-to-door stuff. And, I have not fed 5000 from 5 loaves and 2 fish recently. But am I missing something here? Perhaps. Dr Rische goes on to talk about meeting in small groups and having relationship interactions (discipling) in that small-group setting. That got my attention and my interest. I think I could do that. In fact, I do that a bit already. Maybe I could do it a bit more and with a bit more intention towards discipling.

Okay, back to opportunities. We have an intentional interim pastor and our Family Ministry program at LCOS is now completely the responsibility of the congregation. In the past, we have held a Thanksgiving Dinner and we have had a tradition of holding a Christmas Extravaganza. I think both are great. If you think they are great, then look for an opportunity to help make them happen. I think it might even be discipling if you *do* it. And speaking of discipling, our church's Discipleship and Outreach Committee needs members and a chairperson. That committee could be God's hand in helping us at LCOS learn more about discipling, encouraging small-group activities.

Please give it some thought. Maybe, decide to *do* something. Anything. Remembering that we are saved to give glory to God. Do anything you want. What do YOU *want* to do? ✨



ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Check out what that retired orthodontist has conjured up for lively competition! Get ready to play *Minute to Win It* with a dental twist. Will floss be boss? Or will the drill kill? At least, you can look forward to the gastronomic goodness of treats furnished by Grace Buchholz and Melissa Crawford and lots of fun prizes. Join the craziness and bring a not-so-crazy friend. ❁



FROM THE PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE

Welcome to the monthly update from the Pastoral Call Committee. We are continuing to meet, pray, and wait just as all of you are doing. By doing so, we are being faithful and patient and obedient to our Lord. I am quoting/referencing the Collect from Sunday, September 10. The Collect comes from the Latin word *collectus* which means "gathered together." A Collect is a prayer to God which gathers together the thoughts of the congregation into one prayer for the day. (zlc.org).

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Note how all good proceeds from God. How can we make this time "good?" By God granting us holy inspiration so that we set our minds on the things that are right; and with God's mercy, accomplish them! What things are "right?" Serving our neighbor mainly by sharing the gospel, but also in worldly practical ways of meeting the basic needs of others. And with God's mercy, we do this daily.

This request/prayer is answered through Jesus Christ. So as we continue to meet, pray and wait for our new Pastor, let us focus on Jesus Christ who made eternity possible and on sharing this with our neighbors. ❁



Bible Quiz

Not long before Jesus' arrest, he said: "I did not come to ____ the world, but to ____ the world." Fill in the blanks.

- A. judge; save
- B. hate; love
- C. condemn; teach
- D. disrupt; conform to

Answer: A (See John 12:47, NIV.)

Puzzle!

Use the clues to discover the names of some Old Testament prophets. Then unscramble the circled letters to describe what prophets are.

I was called to preach to the people of Nineveh but ran from God instead. (My book is #32 in the Bible.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _

I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. (My book is #37.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _

Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. (My book is #28.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _

My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises comfort. (It is #23.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _

I had dreams and visions. (My book is #27.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _

Because of my predictions, I was often in danger and angered officials. (My book is #24.)

_ _ _ () () _ _ _

I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. (My book is #30.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _

My book contains descriptions of strange visions. (It is #26.)

_ _ _ () _ _ _ () _ _ _

PROPHETS ARE _ _ _ _ _ .

Answers: Jonah, Haggai, Hosea, Isaiah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Amos, Ezekiel; Messengers

OCTOBER 2023

CHRISTIAN MINISTERS AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

DAY	TIME	ACOLYTE	ELDERS	USHERS	LESSON READERS	SOUND SYSTEM	ALTAR GUILD/ FLOWERS
1 Sunday	10:00 am Comm.	Emma Olney	Dennis Payne Rudy Stowell	Mike Foley	Gary Lange	Chad Thorstenson	Altar: Susan Wilcox – Set-Up Marianne Heuchert – Take-Down
							Flowers: Diana Brown for blessings of Upward Bound P/S
8 Sunday	10:00 am	Riley Olney	Tom Heuchert	Paul Mattson	Debbie Heuchert	Diana Brown	Altar: Kelly Olney
							Flowers: Molly Williams in memory of her mother
15 Praise Sunday	10:00 am Comm.	Ali Mayes	Mark Hathaway Todd Martin	Jim LaBelle	Melanie Mayes	Ed Buchholz	Altar: Becky Zielke – Set-Up Connie Hathaway– Take-Down
							Flowers: Becky Zielke in celebration of Jim LaBelle’s birthday
22 Sunday	10:00 am	Elder	Art Atrops	Bill Williamson	Terry Murdock	Karl DiModica	Altar: Lori Williamson
							Flowers: Linda Sweeney in memory of Karla Knight’s and Marie Hoffmann’s birthdays
29 Sunday	10:00 am	Braedon Rappoza	Dennis Payne	Michael Southern	Becky Zielke	Estelle Schofield	Altar: Marjorie Hord
							Flowers: Open
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 Debbie Heuchert (805) 264-4599

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!

OCTOBER 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Comm. Svc. LWML SUNDAY		7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	10-11:30 AM – Small Group Bible Study	6:00 PM – Elders’ Mtg		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc.	6:00 – 8:00 PM – Men’s Group	7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	10-11:30 AM – Small Group Bible Study			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Praise/Comm. Svc. 2:00 PM – Adult Fellowship	Nov. Ministry Availability Due	7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc.		Nov. Newsletter Deadline	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc. 11:00 AM – Council Mtg.		7:00 PM – CC Chordsmen – SH	9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc.			
29						
9:00 AM – SS/Bible Study 10:00 AM – Worship Svc. 4:00-6:00 pm – Trunk or Treat						