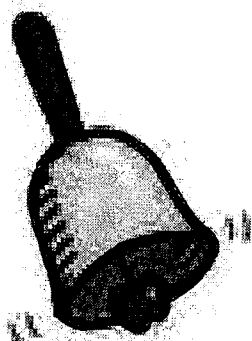


September 2008 Newsletter



Christ Our King Lutheran Church,
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Letter from Pastor Kluge:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus...

It has been a few years since my wife and I were visiting for the anniversary of the congregation. I had a few minutes before officiating at a wedding and thought I'd check out your website. Looks like you have one healthy congregation! May the Lord continue to bless your work. As you will recall, I served Christ Our King upon graduating from the seminary in 1965 until January of 1972.

After retiring from full time ministry in January 2002 my wife and I joined St. John Lutheran Church, Forest Park, IL. At one time a very large parish with over 3,000 members time, the movement of younger families to the far western suburbs of Chicago, and the resulting change in the community of Forest Park have, together with other things, taken a toll on the congregation. It is a shadow of its former self but is struggling to reach out in new and creative ways to the community with the Gospel. God has richly blessed the congregation with good leadership, a good number of whom teach at Concordia University, Chicago...just a short distance from the church. I was asked to assume full time ministry at the congregation after the former pastor left and have been serving in this capacity for about two years. The congregation plans to call within the near future. I will be glad to retire again. If you care to check us out go to: stjohnforestpark.org

For those who remember her, my wife Sharon is pursuing a second career in movies, television, and print ads. She has appeared in non-speaking parts in a number of television shows and movies; most recently in the beginning of "The Dark Knight". (Not our kind of movie!)

The two of us have also done some traveling: England, France, Italy and hope to make it to Germany, Austria and Switzerland if our health remains good. We have also enjoyed visits to British Columbia and Alaska.

Our family lives in the Chicagoland area and are all doing well. Some of you may remember them: Our oldest daughter, Lynn, is a single mother, owns her own home, and lives in the Village of Lyons near us. Our oldest son, Michael, is a manager for AT&T, is married, has three boys and a girl, and lives southwest of us. Our youngest daughter, LeeAnn (who was just a baby when we left Mississauga) installs computer software for companies, lives near O'Hare Airport, and travels a great deal. Our youngest son, Jason (born after we moved to Illinois) lives NW of the city of Chicago and teaches music in the public school system.

If you care to share the above with the members of Christ Our King feel free to do so. I would guess that after all these years very few of the original members are still there.

The church e-mail is at the top. For those interested, my home e-mail is: fatherdtk@comcast.net.

God's richest blessings to you!

Dave Kluge, Pastor

September, 2008

Beloved in Christ Jesus,

As they graze, many types of animals “assemble” or congregate together. Why do they do that? They assemble together for protection. Often there will be a hungry lion nearby waiting for one animal to stray so he can kill and devour it.

A similar situation exists among Christians. The apostle Peter was well aware of how the devil works when he used the image of the lion: “Be alert ... the devil prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (1 Peter 5:8).

In his Word, God warns us that the devil is always, every hour, prowling not far from us, waiting for the time when we will stray away from our local assembly of believers. It is for that reason that our Father in heaven desires each of us to be an active member of a Christian congregation. Christian congregations “congregate” or assemble regularly. In the assembly we receive God’s protecting and life-giving Word and Sacrament. For our protection from the devil, we need to keep a tight relationship with other members of a local congregation. In other words, **stick with the herd**.

When you assemble regularly with other worshipers, you will experience their love and concern for you, even as you demonstrate love and concern for them. Even though God desires us to love all people, he wants us to show special love to fellow members of the body of Christ.

- “So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10)
- “Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, to his edification” (Romans 15:2)
- “When you assemble, let all things be done for edification” (1 Corinthians 14:26). “... to the building up of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12).

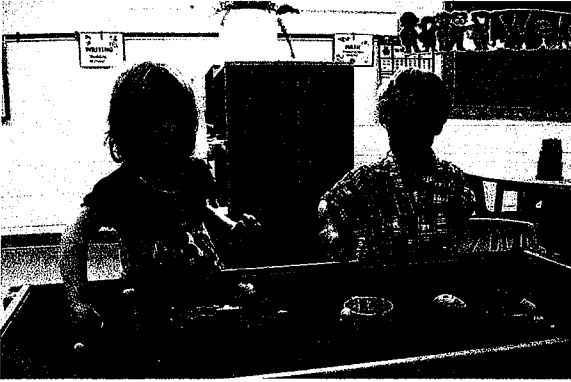
As you become closer to others in the body of Christ, they will protect you ... so stick with the herd.

In Jude 22-23, Christians are urged to uphold the doubting and bring back into the faith, into the body (the congregation), those who are straying.

This protection from the devil which God provides through his congregation is one of the most important things for young people to know so that they, by God’s power, **stick with the herd!**

Dear Lord Jesus, assure us that, where two or three have gathered in your name, you are in the midst of them. Help us always to seek the spiritual food we receive in the congregation. Enable us to be constantly aware that being a member of your body, your congregation, protects us from the evil one. Enable us, O Lord, to always be part of a group of believers who feed on your Word and are protected by you. In your name we pray. Amen.

**Greetings from Cathy Sookhoo
Supervisor/Administrator
September 2008**



It's that time of year again! School buses are loaded, pencil cases are filled and the sound of tiny footsteps are echoing the halls of Christ Our King Nursery and Kindergarten.

A special thank you to the staff for taking the time to prepare the classrooms, they are brightly decorated and ready for early learning. The Kindergarten and Nursery School staff is glad to be back,

and are full of great ideas to enhance our programs.

Our enrollment to date is as follows; Nursery registrations are up to 19 and Kindergarten registration is at 12 (including all full-time, part-time, am and pm classes).

We are proud to announce that our Nursery School is now providing programming three afternoons a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday). Our afternoon classes are small, but we are hopeful that the next few months will bring us new students to fill our spaces.

What is the "church"?

When someone says the word "church", we usually think of a building where people go to worship. Well as our Lutheran Confessions say so well, the church is the "assembly of all the believers among whom the Gospel is preached in its purity and the Holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel."

This was one of the topics in our Bible lessons this week in the kindergarten class. The answers were many and it was evident that the children attending our school are exposed to the Word of the Lord and as we foster their faith we ask for guidance from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to give us the wisdom to help their little feet to follow in His footsteps.

Sincerely,

Cathy Sookhoo
Supervisor/Administrator

NEWS FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL



WELCOME BACK, KIDS! I hope and pray that you all had a wonderful summer vacation filled with lots of rest, fun and good times with family and friends. It's so hard to believe that another school year is on our doorstep and that soon the cooler temperatures and fall will be upon us before we know it. Hopefully everyone is geared up for another great year at school, anxious to learn and share that knowledge.

While we are getting ready again for day-school, we are also getting ourselves back into routine and starting up Sunday School on September 7th @ 9:45. We hope and pray that our families will continue to be faithful in bringing their children weekly for Christian instruction in the Word so that they will be better equipped to handle the pressures of the world around them. Parents are also invited to join in the adult Bible Study downstairs with Pastor while the kids are upstairs also learning a similar Bible lesson. What better way to stay together as a family than to grow in faith learning about Jesus?

This year, the Sunday School staff has a challenge for members of COK. We ask that you would pray for the Children's Ministry on a very frequent basis – daily – if possible.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- All of the children of our Sunday School
- The teachers, helpers and staff of this ministry
- Pastor Flohr
- The Board of Christian Education
- Dormant families who have S.S. aged children
- The parents of our S. S. children, especially for those with needs
- The children of our Nursery and Kindergarten School and their families
- Each other as we continue to grow in our common faith

In His Service,

Donna Prusha

We have a great lineup of events planned for this fall. We're looking forward to seeing you all and getting to know you better.



➤ **September 19 – 21. IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE!**

Big welcome back from the summer with a retreat at the pastor's cottage in Minden Ontario. Our theme is 'It's a jungle out there'.

Singing, devotions and lots of fun activities, swimming, canoeing, great food! Also included: Olympic events never seen on T.V.! Yes, you could win a medal!

Cost: \$20 (for food and gas) Let us know as soon as possible if you are coming.



➤ **October 5 - 3RD ANNUAL APPLE PICKING** - This time we plan to start by making a pie, and eating it at the end of our picking.

➤ **October 19 - 3rd ANNUAL MT NEMO: HIKING, CAVING, ROCK CLIMBING.**

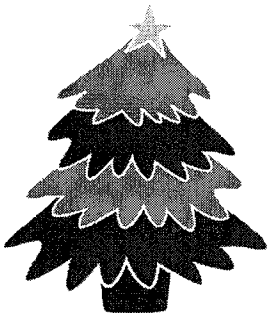
This year we are inviting your parents and younger siblings along, from grade 4 and up.

➤ **November 2 – LUNCH SWAP AND GAMES DAY.**

We're planning a mega board game and 'mini hockey stick mini putt' in the church.

➤ **November 16 – MAKE YOUR OWN PIZZA, PING PONG & PARKING LOT HOCKEY**

➤ **November 30 – LASER TAG**

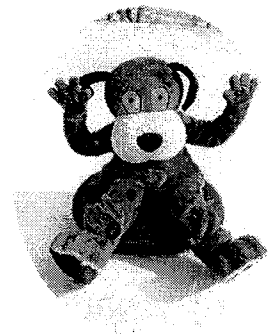


➤ **December 7 - TREE DECORATING, 'CHINESE AUCTION' GIFT EXCHANGE AND PARKING LOT HOCKEY**

➤ **December 14 - Come to see the Sunday School pageant in second service (11:00) and stay for lunch**

➤ **CHRISTMAS - HOLIDAYS!**

➤ **Saturday January 10 - SNOW TUBING, Snow Valley, Barrie**



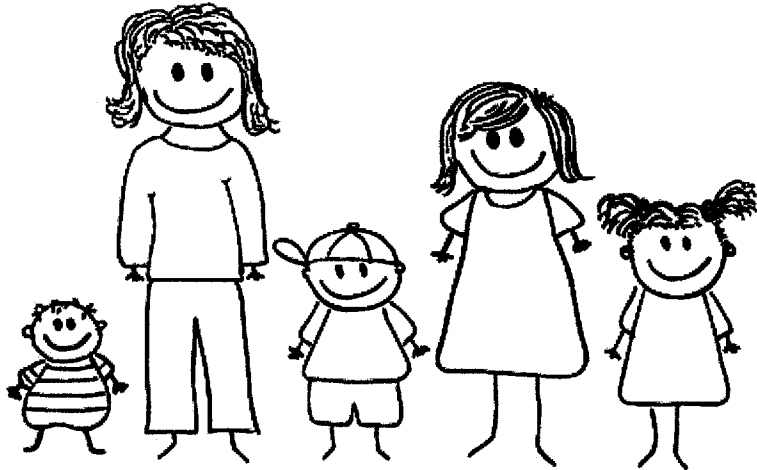
We always start with lunch right after service provided by us, so come downstairs right after second service.

Check the youth board regularly for sign up sheets and other info. Find yourself in the photos!

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY EVERY SUNDAY 9:45 – 10:45 IN THE YOUTH ROOM.

(usually led by Mark Verlinden, with input from youth and other adults)

A chance to talk about the deeper issues in life, see some fun and interesting dvds.



Moms & Tots

Are you looking for some “grown-up” time? Every other Thursday morning from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., we have a moms and tots time at Christ our King. Babysitting is provided for your pre-schoolers while you join with other moms (dads too) for some coffee, fellowship, and a bit of time in God’s Word.

This fall we want to highlight men and women of the Bible who overcame extraordinary difficulties. Their stories show that God chooses ordinary people – people like you – to do his extraordinary work.

No, we are not here to elevate these Bible characters inappropriately. Our Lord is the true hero of each story! In each one we see God’s mercy in people’s lives, especially his mercy shown through Jesus Christ. We want to see the joys and challenges that each person faced and show how God forgave, sustained and enabled that person to serve him.

Here’s our whole Fall Schedule:

- September 11 Noah
- September 25 The Poor Woman
- October 9 Nicodemus
- October 23 The Canaanite Woman
- November 6 Thomas
- November 20 Jonathan
- December 4 Archangel Gabriel
- December 18 Anna and Simeon

JOIN US September 11th at 9:30 a.m. For Noah.



LWML NEWS

As we begin another year of LWML, we consider all the blessings God has given to us : fellowship with others in our own society as well as with those at the zone level, an opportunity to study God's Word and discuss a variety of topics included here, as well as the opportunity to take part in a variety of mission projects through our Work Nights and collection of Mites. May God be the Glory!

We look forward to October 5th our LWML Sunday. It will include our Mite Collection and Dedication here at Christ Our King and then the opportunity to attend the Toronto Zone Rally to be held at Redeemer, Bramalea at 2:30p.m.. Our speaker, Dorothea Korcok, will lead us in a presentation on 'Women in Mission'. An ingathering will be held there in which we can bring monetary gifts for the zone treasury along with gifts for the Haiti Mission(used shoes –in good condition along with new underwear-different sizes). If you have something you'd like to donate , a box will be set out in the narthex to receive them from mid-September through until October 5th. Thank you.

We would like to spend our first meeting on September 22nd doing a Bible Study/discussion on the topic "Lutheran Women in Prayer. Prepared by Irene Warpula from the LWML-Canada's Christian Growth Committee, it provides a very good understanding of prayer from the Lutheran perspective. In addition, a discussion of our other projects and activities for the upcoming year will all be a part of our evening. Please plan to join us.

The Mission Project focus for this month is that of "*Funding Support for Roofing Costs for Seven Churches in Haiti*". We pray:

Heavenly Father, it is Your Will that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of Jesus as their Savior. Watch over the churches in Haiti. Fill us with the desire to reach out to them through our mites and with our prayers. If it be Your Will, provide the needed funding for the roofing materials so that the church leaders there will have restored houses of worship in which to further plant Your Word and glorify You. For Jesus sake we pray. Amen.

AN UPDATE FROM THE ABUSE PREVENTION TEAM

In 2004, the Voters' Assembly of Christ Our King adopted the Abuse Prevention Policy as recommended by the Lutheran Church Canada-East District. Since then, the Abuse Prevention Team (the "APT") at Christ Our King has endeavoured to ensure that the policy is followed within the Church and School. The APT has also prepared a revised draft of the policy that is less generic in form and more specific to Christ Our King. The substance of the revised draft policy, however, is identical to the one adopted in 2004.

The APT plans to publish a copy of the revised draft policy in the October 2008 Newsletter and hopes that it will be discussed and voted upon at the November, 2008 Voters' Assembly meeting.

Please take the time to read it and come to the November meeting with your questions and comments.

Partners in Prayer

September 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Remember to also pray for those who are: in government, sick, suffering, celebrating and those you know who do not yet know Jesus as their Savior	1 East District New Synod President, Rev. Robert Bugbee Laurie Gerald Alyssa, Alanah Barbara Graham	2 Central District NS - Jenny Concannon Doug & Marion Graham Betty Guo & Jiangpu Bian Phil	3 ABC District NS - Cathy Sookhoo Gord Hampton Harold & Margaret Hoffman	4 LWMLC NS - Lynda Morrell Herb & Sandra Hufnagel David, Laura Linda Hummel	5 LLL NS - Corinna Brown Richard & Elina Isic Carly, Lara, Emma Rob & Judie Jackman Sarah, Grant, Shane	6 Sunday School Pastor Flohr Charles & Marilyn Jacobs Steven, Courtney Anne Joye
7 LCC Pastor Flohr John & Mona Julian Ted & Barb Jurgens Mark	8 East District New Synod President, Rev. Robert Bugbee Leo & Nadine Kazlovskis Kristen, Amy Max & Heidie Kazman Peter, Ryah	9 Central District NS - Jenny Concannon Larry & Sharon Keiln Marie Kinn-Lamoureux Angela, Robert	10 ABC District NS - Cathy Sookhoo Sonja Klose-MacDonald Alexa Rose Knecht	11 LWMLC NS - Lynda Morrell Bruno & Aneliese Korst- Fagundes Darren & Englee Kral Caitlin, Ryan	12 LLL NS - Corinna Brown George & Milka Kral Michael Bill & Wendi Krewdel Sebastian, Katrina	13 Sunday School Pastor Flohr Jacob & Klara Krewdel Jeff & Christine Kriwetz Samuel, Benjamin, Matthew
14 LFL-C Pastor Flohr Robert & Desiree Kroppmanns Hans & Agnes Kugel	15 LBT New Synod President, Rev. Robert Bugbee Thomas Kuonnaye Debbie Laplante Lorelei	16 CLWR NS - Jenny Concannon Patricia Lim Alexander & Janet Lopez Renee, Alexis	17 CLMS NS - Cathy Sookhoo Elaine Love Andrea, Emily Titus & Susan Lowe Jackie, Jessica	18 CTS NS - Lynda Morrell Frank & Janice Luchetta Katherine, Christopher Ron & Ruth Luckhoo Nerissa, Theresa	19 CLTS NS - Corinna Brown Don & Randi MacNeil Lawrence, Heather, Colin Richard & Delaine Magwood	20 Sunday School Pastor Flohr Gavery Masih Alister & Nancy Mathieson Rachel, Matthew, Michael
21 LCC Pastor Flohr Marvin & Gisele Maunula Ryan & Jackie Maunula	22 Concordia College New Synod President, Rev. Robert Bugbee Dale & Monica McCann Vanessa, Allison Phurna Mcknight	23 Board of Elders NS - Jenny Concannon Sherry & Scott McNabb Jason, Sara, Adrian, Leah John & Kareth Middlemass Thomas	24 Board of Evangelism NS - Cathy Sookhoo Daphne Miller Wilhelm & Nena Moller	25 Board of Fellowship NS - Lynda Morrell Karen Moore Jim & Mary Mulligan	26 Board of Education NS - Corinna Brown Donald & Susan Munro Scott, James Todd & Jodie Murray MacKenzie	27 Sunday School Pastor Flohr John Neill Mike Neill
28 LCC Pastor Flohr Don & Judy Obelnycki John & Rose O'Handley Katelin, Deidre, Kristi	29 Board of Youth New Synod President, Rev. Robert Bugbee Richard & Rebecca Lu Olsson Evan, Emma Herb & Frieda Pakrul	30 Board of Elders NS - Jenny Concannon Mark & Linda Parker Graham, Jordan, Katelin, Rae Ron & Bridgitte Pascucci Heidi	CLMS Canadian Lutheran Mission Society CLTS Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary - St. Catharines CLWR Canadian Lutheran World Relief CTS Concordia Theological Seminary - Edmonton LBT Lutheran Bible Translators Canada LCC Lutheran Church Canada LFL - C Lutherans For Life - Canada LLL Lutheran Laymen's League LWMLC Lutheran Women's Missionary League Canada NS Nursery School/Kindergarten teachers	http://www.concordiamissions.org/ http://www.concordia-seminary.ca/ http://www.clwr.org/ http://www.concordiasem.ab.ca/ http://www.lbt.ca/ http://www.lutheranchurch.ca/index.html http://www.lutheransforlife-canada.ca/ http://www.lll.ca/ http://www.lutheranwomen.ca/ http://www.christourking.ca/nurseryschool.htm		

East District - Mission, Vision, Strategic Plan Working Document, Draft 6 - 18 July 2008

Our Mission:

“Called together for service, the East District shall, by God’s grace, provide support and encouragement to our congregations and church workers as they carry out our Lord’s command to make disciples of all nations.”

Our Vision:

“Vibrant, growing congregations purposefully and joyfully reaching all with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Our Lord has taught us to value:

- **Grace**
 - as an undeserved gift from God
 - in our relationships
 - in our witness
- **Worship**
 - receiving the means of grace
 - in the community of faith
 - and personally
 - through our vocations
- **Unity**
 - in our confession of faith
 - support and cooperation
 - sharing resources
- **People**
 - seeking and saving the lost
 - nurturing, catechizing, and encouraging believers
 - supporting church workers
 - recognizing and using the gifts and talents God gives
 - honouring life at all stages
- **Faithfulness**
 - integrity
 - excellence
 - accountability

Our Strategic Directions:

1. Work together to cultivate Christ-centered, loving and outreach-oriented congregations by:

- 1.1 Emphasizing the vital need both for faithful participation in the Divine Service as well as personal, family and corporate Bible study and prayer; and for focus on the mission of seeking and saving the lost and straying.
- 1.2 Providing leadership training and support for church workers and parishioners.
- 1.3 Providing support both for existing work in strategic locations and for new and expanded opportunities for extending the Kingdom.
- 1.4 Addressing the increasing stress under which church workers labour, and providing them and their families with better care.

2. Work together to grow the financial and other resources available for the mission of the Church by:

- 2.1 Communicating effectively the mutual fiscal and other responsibilities and accountabilities between the District and its congregations.
- 2.2 Growing our Church Extension Fund and Planned Giving activities to maximize long-term financial stability.
- 2.3 Evaluating existing programs, missions and resources for cost-effectiveness and efficiency and taking appropriate action.
- 2.4 Developing opportunities with congregational approval for over-and-above directed giving.
- 2.5 Providing increased opportunities for our people to use their time and talents in acts of service that make a difference in the church and world.

3. Work together to develop intercultural congregations and missions by:

- 3.1 Developing and supporting a variety of intercultural mission partnerships.
- 3.2 Identifying and developing intercultural leaders.
- 3.3 Providing financial and people resources, advice and support for intercultural work particularly in urban areas.
- 3.4 Sensitizing our congregations to the opportunities for intercultural ministry and challenging them to act.

4. Work together to enhance communication and partnerships by:

- 4.1 Improving communication and cooperation between our District and congregations.
- 4.2 Seeking to remove communication barriers between our District and parishioners
- 4.3 Strengthening the role of District Liaisons
- 4.4 Strengthening partnerships and cooperation with Lutheran Church-Canada auxiliaries, Listed Service Organizations and other organizations.

5. Work together to strengthen and promote Lutheran theology and education by:

- 5.1 Strengthening doctrinal unity on an ongoing basis.
- 5.2 Strengthening and supporting Christian education for children.
- 5.3 Encouraging ongoing education in Lutheran doctrine for youth and adults
- 5.4 Assisting congregations with comprehensive planning for the development of viable Lutheran schools.

Open Your Life to God

Why pray?

God knows everything.

True! "... your Father knows what you need before you ask Him." (Matthew 6:8)

Prayer is not informing God of what's going on.

The Almighty is not waiting for us to give Him directions.

Proper prayer does not try to manipulate God.

It is not an attempt to bring Him under our control.

It is not demanding God's help but

making ourselves more receptive to His power.

The real essence of prayer is the opening

of our lives to the influence of the living Lord.

It is lining up our will with His.

It's discovering what we really need.

Prayer is drawing nearer to God,

seeking to commune with the Eternal One.

For this reason prayer goes far beyond petition.

It is a blend also of thanksgiving, praise,

meditation and confession.

The more we pray, the closer we feel to God.

The closer we draw to Him, the more we are inclined to pray.

Faith gives us the confidence to pray.

Prayer exercises faith.

The stronger our faith in the Lord,

the more we rely on His goodness and greatness.

God's answers to prayer are not the only benefits.

Even in asking, a need is filled and we arise

strengthened and repaired.

The seeking, the asking, the knocking

are part of the blessing.

They remind us of our dependence on God

and make His presence more real.

Prayer can be a frantic outburst of supplication.

It is also calm, candid conversation.

On occasion God's answers to prayer are so dramatic we call them miracles.

But a constant, quiet miracle takes place

in our hearts as we discover that

in answer to prayer, God supplies a steady flow of power for ordinary daily living.

In opening ourselves to God's power,

we not only survive, we thrive!



Forgive Others

"Father, forgive us as we have forgiven others."

That's what Jesus teaches us to pray.

It's hard to forgive someone who has done great injury to us.

It may be harder to forgive those who continually irritate us, eroding our self-respect, destroying our happiness.

It's not easy to forgive even petty annoyances of daily life.

It wasn't easy for God to forgive either!

In fact, it was the hardest thing He did.

God's Son suffered hell for our sins.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just,

and will forgive our sins. . . ." (1 John 1:9)

God forgives for Jesus' sake.

He no longer holds our sins against us.

They are forgiven forever.

When our hearts have been warmed by God's amazing, forgiving love, we forgive others.

To forgive does not mean we can always forget.

The memory of a certain wrong may be so deep and so painful we can not erase it from our mind.

To forgive does not require us to resume the same relation we once had with the person we forgive.

To forgive means we do not hold grudges.

We do not seek revenge. The Lord says He will repay.

We do not humiliate or hurt those who hurt us.

We do not dig up and dwell on past wrongs.

To refuse to forgive others cuts us off from God.

It keeps us from proper worship and fellowship with God.

It prevents His power from entering our lives.

Nothing is more Godlike than to forgive.

Nothing is more necessary.

■ CONFORMED OR TRANSFORMED?

Rom. 12:1-2: "Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind" (v. 2).

If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away." So wrote Henry David Thoreau. St. Paul said it differently: "Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world."

By "this world" Paul meant the corrupt systems of our society, the system of values apart from God. That system is always trying to press us into its mold through our contacts with people, through TV and movies, books and magazines.

We need to be alert to what we are seeing and hearing, for we are called to be a counterculture in our attitudes toward marriage and children and family life.

The alternative to being "conformed" is to be "transformed." This happens when our minds are renewed, when we fill our minds with God's truth and let it take possession of us. Through this truth God sets us free and changes us so that we become more and more like him. Then, says Paul, "you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect."

✠ O Holy Spirit, alert us to the pressures that are forcing us into the world's mold. Renew and transform us by the power of your truth.

In what area of your family life are you tempted to conform to the world? How can you resist these pressures?