

September 2016 Newsletter



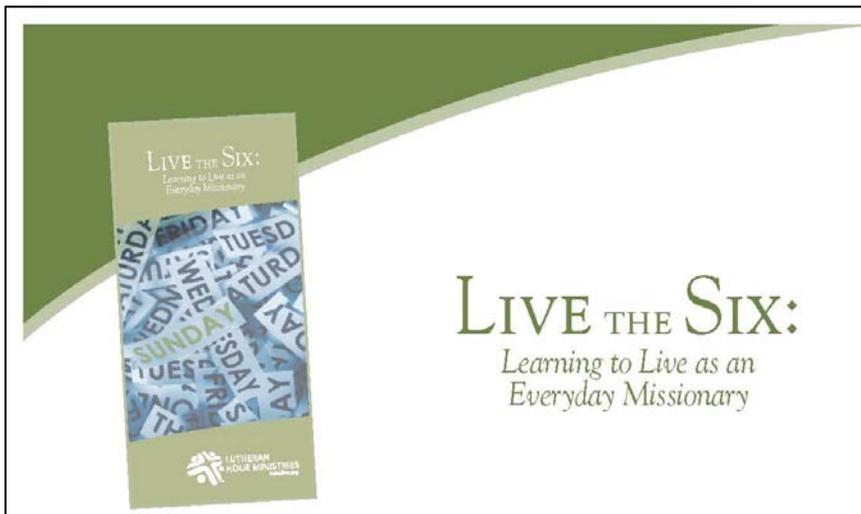
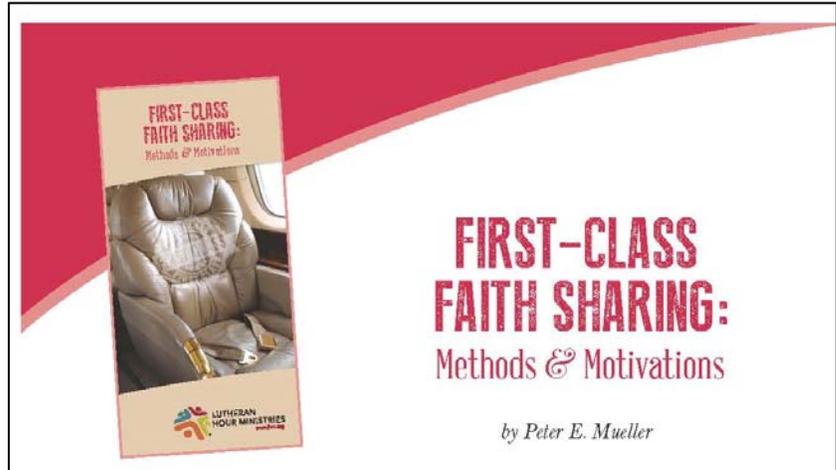
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Joining Jesus on His Mission

Our Sunday Morning Bible Class starts up on
Sunday, September 11th at 9:45 a.m.
Upstairs in the Tower Room.

As we all know, sharing our faith is a challenge. Considering the message we possess, however, one wouldn't think it would be. After all, we have the truth that can change everything for everyone: God sent His Son to die for our sins and by believing in Him as Savior we have eternal life in His Name. At face value, telling others about this doesn't seem too complicated.

St. Paul writes: "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:2-6).



I call it "parking lot amnesia." I'm not referring to the times you think your car has been stolen at the mall (because you exited on the wrong side). I have another name for that. I mean something else by the term. Chances are you've experienced it several times over throughout your life; it goes like this. You're walking out of church on Sunday after a great morning, but by the time you get to the car, whatever happened in the building already feels long gone. It doesn't matter how good the music was, how energetic the choir was, how "on" the preacher was, there's something mysterious—nefarious—that happens on the short walk from the church building to your car ... all of it just seems to fizzle away. You start thinking about lunch, about the unfinished chores to be completed before a new work week rolls around. The kids start arguing. "Will you stop hitting your sister!" You notice your front tire looks a little low, and it's still 10 days from payday. The cloud of serenity, inspiration and conviction you were enveloped in just moments ago is replaced by a whirlwind of stress, panic and monotony. Church is over. Welcome back to regular life. Prepare to be challenged to live your faith the other six days of the week!

Beloved in Christ Jesus,

Do you struggle with procrastination? Procrastination is the art putting off till tomorrow things you don't want to do today. Did you know there's even an organization called "the Society for Creative Procrastination"? They have a web site, but it hasn't been updated since September 2000.



Let me share with you some of the web notes.

"Tomorrow's meeting of the procrastination society has been put off until next week." "I was going to give up procrastinating, but I never got around to it."

"Folks, if you were with us last week, we never got around to mentioning that it was National Procrastination day. If you get a chance this week, please try to celebrate it. If you can't get to it, then maybe try to do it at the weekend, but no big rush. Have a nice day."

Now, most of this is meant in good fun, but there's danger lurking in the background. Often our favourite word is "tomorrow." Sometimes leaving something to sort itself out doesn't make much difference. After all, if the snow's all going to melt by 9 a.m., do I really need to shovel it, or can I just wait and let God melt it? One neighbour is just the opposite. He's of the opinion that if there's not enough snow for his blower, he'll shovel it together in piles and then use the blower.

Sometimes we look back and regret having put something off. Remember that freezing cold day when the wind was whipping up ice and snow and you were on the ladder putting up the Christmas lights? I'll bet you were remembering all those warm fall days when you thought about putting them up, but you didn't, because there's always tomorrow. You paid for not doing it in the nice weather with a case of frost bite.

The real question I want to ask today is this: "what are the consequences of putting off spiritual things?" Scripture is very clear that in eternal matters, we dare not put things off. In 2 Corinthians 6:1-2, Paul gives this warning: "As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. For he says, "In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation."

A man was asked, "Do you want heaven and eternal life when you die?" "Yes!" "Do you want to know how you can have it now?" "No!" If you think you'll worry about it tomorrow, how do you know that you will have a tomorrow?

In Luke 9:59-62 Jesus said to another man, "Follow me." But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family." Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

"Do you want to serve the Lord in his kingdom?" "Yes! There's that friend or family member or co-worker I've always been meaning to talk to about spiritual things." "Do you want to do it now?" "No, I'll do it tomorrow, or next week." How do you know they will have a tomorrow? How do you know you will? If you put it off, they may be lost.

God's Word warns us against spiritual procrastination. Jesus says, "The time has come, the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news" The setting is Galilee. John the Baptist has been arrested and opposition to the Gospel is on the rise. The people who heard Jesus that day had no guarantee that they would have the same opportunity the next day. The day came when Jesus said this to the towns of Galilee (Matthew

11:21-24): "Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the Day of Judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day. But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the Day of Judgment than for you."

back in the days of Jonah, the time had come for the city of Nineveh. God had decreed forty days for them to repent and return to the Lord; not 41, not 42, but 40. There was an urgency for them to listen and believe and respond. There was also an urgency for Jonah to go to Nineveh because time was running out for them and the judgement of God was about to fall. The people of Nineveh did not have the luxury of putting off their spiritual self-examination. Jonah didn't have the luxury of time either. He must go and preach while there is still time for them to listen. God would not delay his plans just because of Jonah. God wanted him to go today.

Jesus came to the shore of the Sea of Galilee and called Peter and Andrew and James and John to come and follow him. John the Baptist's voice had been silenced, but the Gospel would still go out. Not only that, but the messengers would be multiplied. These four they had met Jesus before in Jerusalem, but the time had come for them to make spiritual things their priority. The good news of the Gospel had to get out. John had been arrested, so Jesus called them.

Paul says in 2 Corinthians 6:2 - "Now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation." Paul here pleads with his readers that they not put off spiritual things until it's too late. This same theme comes up many times in Scripture. Ephesians 5:15-16 says, "Be very careful, then, how you live-- not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil." The King James translation has remarkable translations for this verse. Instead of "make the most of every opportunity," it uses the phrase "redeeming the time." What exactly does that mean?

In confirmation class we have been learning Luther's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed. Jesus has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death; that I may be his own and live under him in his kingdom and serve him.

By his suffering and death on the cross Jesus has redeemed your soul from hell. He has put his cross upon your soul and given you the forgiveness of sins. He has redeemed your body to be resurrected on the last day to eternal life. He has set it free from its inexorable return to dust. In the meantime the Holy Spirit has sanctified that body to be his temple, so that you might serve him. He has put his cross upon your body.

He has also redeemed the days of your life. He has set free your days and weeks and months from the curse of uselessness. He has put his cross upon your hours and days and years, redeemed them that they might be used in service to him. To redeem the time means to apply the cross to your hours and days.

The book of Ecclesiastes talks a lot about the futility of life apart from God. You work and slave and save and build up your riches, then you die and it all belongs to someone else. Why should someone invest an entire life in something that is decaying and will be destroyed? Jesus says (Matthew 6:20), "Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal."

Paul has some strong words for us here. Most of what we think is important and worthy of our time is temporary and fleeting. "This world in its present form is passing away." He says, "Those who had wives should live as if they had none, those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them." Did Peter have a wife? Yes. Did Peter and Andrew sell their fishing boat? No, but these things took on a new perspective when Jesus called Peter and Andrew to follow him.

It comes down to this: In view of the shortness of the time, how should we live? Colossians 3:1 tell us, "Set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God." Do not get so wrapped up in the ups and downs of life that you lose sight of what lasts beyond this life. In other words, keep a heavenly perspective on life. Colossians 4:5-6 says, "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

For Paul, as he writes to the believers in Corinth, he is aware of the sinfulness of the city. The city and its inhabitants are "on the edge" and there is an urgency to bring the message of repentance and forgiveness to them. In our times 2000 years after Paul, our lives should have an urgency. We do not have "all the time in the world" because this present world will pass away.

There are essential attitudes that are at the heart and core of our Christian faith. These attitudes are so important that if they are not there, we'd better look and see if faith is there.

One of those attitudes is contentment. When we put on contentment, we put off worry. That means that trust in God and worry are mutually exclusive. Paul can say, "I have learned the secret of being content." If you are not content, if you worry about everything, instead of taking it to God in prayer, is faith still there?

Another essential attitude is love. I John 4:18 says, "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love." How can you say you love God, whom you have not seen, when you don't love your neighbour, whom you have seen?

Another essential is joy in the Holy Spirit. "Be joyful always" Scripture says. David prays in Psalm 51, "Restore to me the joy of your salvation." How can we have forgiveness, life and salvation and be sad? How can we have Jesus with us and the Holy Spirit in us, and not let it affect our face and our heart?

Now, is it an essential attitude to have zeal for the kingdom of God? Such zeal would include the willingness to leave behind the temporary for the sake of the eternal. What did Jesus do after John was put in prison? He went on preaching the good news and gathering disciples. A political advisor might suggest that the best course of action would be to lay low for a while, but Jesus was not easily dissuaded from the task.

Zeal for the kingdom of God means having a sacrificial love for the lost. At Mount Sinai, while God was giving Moses the Ten Commandments, the Israelites were building and worshiping a golden calf. God threatened to destroy the Israelites and start over again with Moses until Moses intervened and said, "Punish me instead." Moses had a heart for the lost.

So did Paul. In Romans 11 he wishes he could trade his salvation for the salvation of Israel. If his going to hell would bring them to heaven, he would do it.

Then you've got Jonah. God says, "I'm going to destroy Nineveh unless they repent," and Jonah says, "can I watch?"

Beloved, we have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. All those wrong priorities, all those times when we have not kept God and his kingdom first, all those times when we have trusted in things have been forgiven. You have been redeemed, bought free. Your time has been redeemed by Jesus too, that you might use it for him.

Peace and Joy in Jesus,

Pastor Larry Flohr

LOOKING FORWARD..... September 2016 Update

As the summer now draws to an end, we take the time to reflect on all that has been done at Christ Our King over the last few months. It has indeed been a very busy but exciting time as we prepare for Pastor Christi and his family to join us very soon. Since our last update, here is a little of what has been accomplished with the help of many:

- Pastor Flohr and Marjorie have now moved into their new home close-by, and with the help of many from our congregation are now settled in and unpacking
- The parsonage has been thoroughly cleaned both inside and outside by the hands of many of our members, and the three bedrooms have been freshly painted by our talented volunteers
- New carpet has been installed upstairs in the hallway, bedrooms and closet, thanks to an anonymous donation from a family of our congregation
- A new stove was installed in the kitchen, once again generously donated by a member of our congregation
- Thanks to the generous donation of several hours of a cleaning service by a very thoughtful member of our congregation, the parsonage is now in "move-in" condition for the Christi family
- A new office for Pastor Christi has been created where the former Nursery Playroom was, and has been beautifully painted by our volunteers with the existing carpet cleaned and stretched
- A food drive has been underway for a while and the parsonage kitchen is being stocked with donated food items and other staples for the Christi family
- Plans are now being made for the Installation Service and Reception for September 18th, and organizers are getting ready and excited for the special day

We are most grateful and thankful for all those hard-working individuals who have given of their time, talents and energy to perform these many tasks under a short timeline. The expression of "many hands make light work" is especially true when called to serve the Lord in this capacity. Despite the heat, humidity and very long hours, the work is now slowly coming to an end, and we can start focusing on the joy of welcoming our new Associate Pastor and his family into our midst. TO GOD ALONE BE ALL THE GLORY!

"Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our

God for ever and ever. " - Revelation 7:12

Our Installation Service is scheduled for Sunday, September 18th at 4pm followed by a reception. Here is your invitation!

A TIME FOR CELEBRATION!

Please join us on **Sunday, September 18th**, 2016 as Pastor Vasilios Christoforidis (a.k.a. Pastor Basil Christi) is installed as our Associate Pastor at Christ Our King Lutheran Church located at 2150 Dundas St. W. in Mississauga.

Installation service will be at 4:00 p.m. followed by a reception afterwards in the church fellowship hall to welcome Pastor Christi, Rebecca and their two children into our midst. **If you would like to attend the reception after the service please sign up on the poster in the lower narthex,**

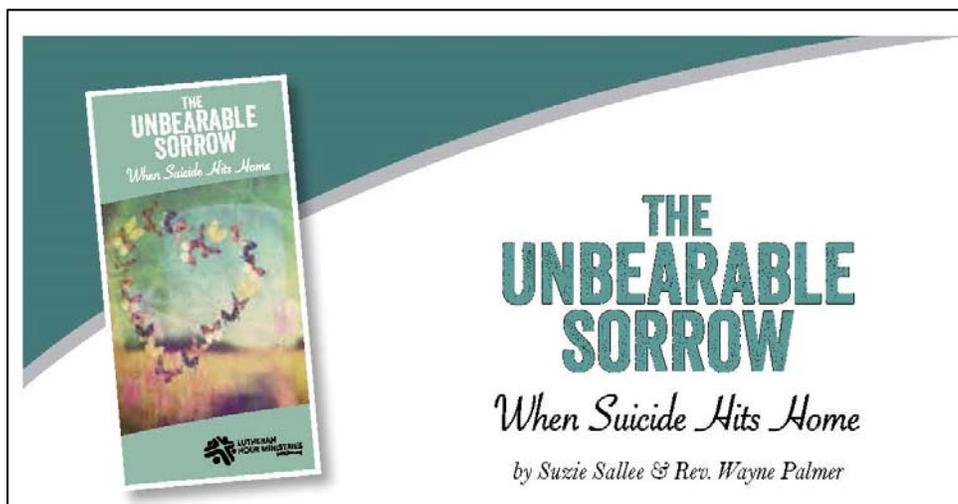
RSVP to Christ Our King's church office at 905-822-8931, or email at coklutheran@christourking.ca

no later than **Friday, September 9th** as space is limited in the church basement. We look forward to seeing you at that time, as we celebrate this most joyous occasion as brothers and sisters in Christ.

**GOD is
so GOOD!**

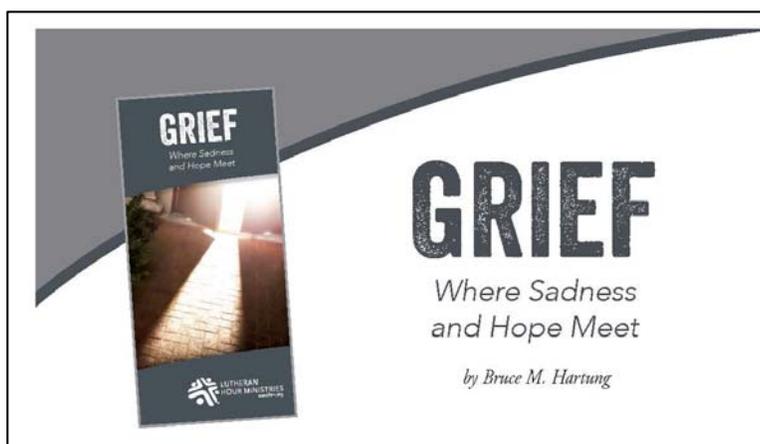
New from Lutheran Hour Ministries:

Available in our Booklet Rack, or on line at: <https://www.lhm.org/projectconnect/booklets.asp>

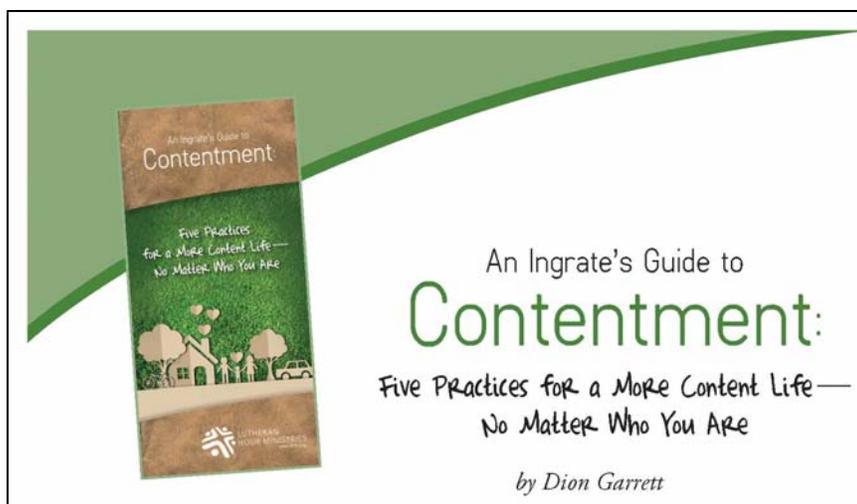


The taking of one's own life is one of the most shocking events of human nature. The finality of the act leaves us bewildered and full of questions. Why? How could this have happened? What was bothering this person so much? What more could I have done? What more should I have said? These are the questions of suicide's survivors—those left in the wake of emotion and confusion after a loved one has taken his or her life.

The grief we experience over profound loss in this world, particularly the death of a loved one, is an emotional journey different for each of us. There are no hard and fast rules for getting through such an ordeal; as individuals we ride it out to the best of our ability. While some are emotional “basket cases,” erupting in tears for long periods of time, others face this trauma with a type of stoicism or hard-edged exterior. Regardless of the person’s reaction, however, God is there in the middle of it, ever available to comfort and bring us through our suffering and tears. And that’s the point of this booklet: our grief, while it can be intense and debilitating, is not a thing that can’t be managed and, eventually, overcome. That is, of course, where God comes in. Though life has dealt us a terrible blow, we know His grace is sufficient, healing even the heartache of our loved one’s absence in this world.



Contentment in this world is an elusive thing. Even with our necessities met and a few perks thrown in for good measure, it can still feel like something’s missing. The truth of the matter is there will always be a void if we tie our sense of inner peace to the fleeting things and nature of this world. Offering insight on some key “practices” to implement concerning contentment, the author shows how being content is very much tied to our perspective. Citing the apostle Paul’s illuminating view on contentment as found in the book of Philippians, the author drills down to the Source of true peace and satisfaction in this life.



In Praise of Small Talk in the Narthex

(by Rev. David Petersen, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.)

From the time of my youth, my family had always made a habit of charging out of church in fear that if we did not, someone might talk to us about religion. That is the way I'd still prefer it but the freedom to run away was taken from me on a fateful day when God joined me in holy wedlock to a girl who (and I am not making this up) has spoken, more than once, to a wrongly dialed number for over half an hour - both as the receiver of such calls and the dialer. If small talk were an Olympic sport she'd win the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Nobel Prize. She knows more about grocery store clerks she has only met once than Matt Harrison knows about banjos. If hairdressers have an annual award for customers who get the most involved in their lives (and who says they don't?) then she has been barred from competition and given the lifetime achievement prize.

On top of that extraordinary loquaciousness, she does not like to be rushed, by which I mean that she does not tolerate being reminded of what time it is, or what time we are expected to arrive some place, or finding her husband asleep in a chair happily drooling on himself. A non-rusher is simply to be thankful for the privilege of waiting.

So it came to be, against my will and to my horror, as a young newlywed, that I was foisted into the strange world of the Narthex after church. Here was the first surprise: it wasn't that bad. Not everyone there was polite or nice, but they all meant well. The next surprise was that it turned out that I didn't have to talk at all. All I had to do was shake hands and smile. The Narthex veterans were happy to make all the noise. Thus I learned to laugh at humorless clichés about the weather, to suffer accusations that I was hardly working, and to nod wisely when the subject of supporting the troops or honoring the flag came up.

And another surprise: the closest thing I have ever heard to religious talk in the Narthex was when I was vigorously instructed as to exactly why it was that Moses had originally put the "Amen's" in The Lutheran Hymnal while simultaneously being assured that God didn't speak German or only let Lutherans into heaven. No one, not one, not ever, has asked me in the Narthex to give more money or made me feel guilty about the lost whom I was failing to evangelize. Nor have they asked me about my attendance, but they have made me feel welcome and loved.

The greatest surprise, however, is that I have found myself enjoying it. I now look forward to responding to "How ya been?" with a gusty, "Better than I deserve." At first, as a rookie, I would come back with "How 'bout you?" to which I learned to expect either "Fair to midlin" or "Still standin" to which we would then laugh together as though that were clever and novel. But I have been not rushing my missus (that is what we Narthex vets like to call the ladies) for years now. So now I like to mix it up a bit. I will sometimes add hand gestures and other advanced techniques to the Narthex banter. And sometimes, the missus has to wait for me!

Along the lines of my own experience, it turns out that the Lutheran confessions know something about the goodness of the Narthex after church also. They understand it to be something that God Himself has instituted, that it has created and given, for our good - not the space but the camaraderie that God bestows on Christians and that He means for us to enjoy. Luther, in the Smalcald Articles, proclaims: "God is extravagantly rich in His grace." God gives the Gospel, His Word and the Sacraments. He forgives our sins for Jesus' sake. And on top of all that, as part of the Gospel itself, He also comforts and encourages us through "the mutual conversation and consolation of brothers and sisters."

You don't have to get that, the mutual consolation and conversation of the brethren, in the Narthex after the Sunday morning service, but that is probably the quickest and easiest way to get it. Skipping it because you don't care for small talk or the place is filled with Republicans is about as dumb as skipping the body and blood of Jesus because the church uses cheap wine. The church uses cheap wine! And the Church is full of sinners who need your conversation and consolation and who also have it for you.

So work on your small talk and your fake smile. Take the risk. There is nothing to lose and quite a bit to gain. Go ahead and let some of God's people love you this Sunday in the Narthex and love them back. I doubt you'll regret it.

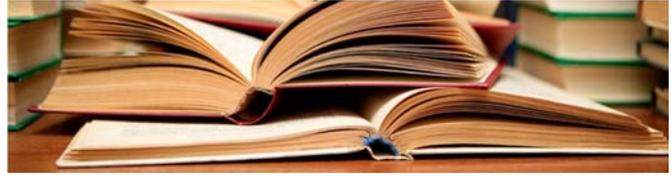
New to the Library – Check it out!

Books for Kids

Ribbit! Roar! Quack, Quack, Quack! God's Noisy

123s by Christine Harder Tangvald

This colourful board book will delight younger children as they count the animals on each page and learn what sounds God's creatures make. *Recommended for ages 1 to 3.*



Animals and Me ABC by Connie Beyer Horn

Camels in the desert, monkeys at the zoo, God made each one special with special things to do! But there is something special that animals will never be, find out as you learn about animals from A to Z.

Recommended for ages 2 - 6.

The Edge of the River: Moses and Miriam by Bob Hartman

Turn these pages and discover the exciting story of baby Moses and his sister Miriam. The read-aloud rhythms and beautiful illustrations will help children imagine that long-ago place.

Recommended for ages 4 - 7.

Will: God's Mighty Warrior by Sheila Walsh

Parents and kids alike will be engaged by Will's adventurous search for the armour of God and will realize for themselves the strength and protection God offers to each of us!

Recommended for ages 5 - 10.

Books for Youth

Timeless Bible Truths - the Illustrated Small Catechism prepared by Scott L. Jung

Martin Luther's Small Catechism is presented here in the style of a graphic novel. Each page is filled with colourful comic-style illustrations to emphasize the text.

Running the Race of Faith by Pam Ausenus

Do you ever wonder what your purpose in life is? Do you struggle to find direction? *Running the Race of Faith* takes an in-depth look at Hebrews 12:1-2 that will help prepare you for your Christian journey. Each chapter offers questions for reflection, scriptural support, encouragement, examples of faithful individuals of the Bible, and challenges for today.

Books for Adults

Teaching the Faith at Home by David L. Rueter

This is an excellent, reader-friendly book, championing the cause of lifelong learning and lifespan catechesis. Rueter recognizes the responsibility of the whole church for raising disciples; [it] is something church and family do together. Anyone concerned about teaching the faith to children, youth, and adults through the entire span of life will find plenty to chew on. *Review by Rev. Dr. Terry Dittmer*

Devotions for the Chronologically Gifted edited by Les Bayer

Written in large print, this book offers timely, enriching devotions about God and his Word as it applies to the life of a mature reader.

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S GROUP

"But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."

Psalm 31:14

On Thursday, August 18th, our Women's Group met once again and enjoyed another evening together over delicious food, warm fellowship, and God's holy and instructional Word. Despite the fact that August is still summertime with people being away on holidays, we still had a great turn-out for this event, and for that, we give much praise and thanks for being able to have this opportunity to gather together in His Word and celebrate our faith and friendship as sisters in Christ.



As always, we sat down to a wonderful home-cooked meal, and this evening we enjoyed a hearty beef stew, couscous and lentil vegetable dish, a large variety of fresh salads, and of course, not to be left out – mouth-watering desserts. Such a treat to come out once a month and enjoy such great cooking and baking lovingly prepared by friends!

After dinner, we then enjoyed a few funny and more serious stories, and then Mary treated us to a fun-filled board game of "Wheel of Fortune", based on the wheels of man. The game required us in teams of two to determine what the well-known symbol on a certain vehicle meant, and after giving a correct answer, someone on the team got to spin the wheel for points. At the end, we all received a thoughtful prize for our hard work and participation. Such fun watching the friendly competition!

Once our game came to an end, we then enjoyed a Bible study of "**Being Mindful of God's Wheels**" (in Whom, or in What, do You Place Your Trust?) Through the reading of various Bible passages, we learned with the help of training wheels, the wheel of fortune, chariots of fire, horse power, trains, planes, and automobiles, and a tandem bicycle, that it is in God whom we trust, and only in Him. It is so natural to place our trust in the security of our wealth, our job, wages and our "plenty". But as we studied the lives of Gehazi, Solomon and Pharaoh from the Old Testament, we learned that wealth and strength do not provide trustworthy security. Our God, the Triune God, might lead us on a worrisome or uncomfortable path, but He is the only One whom we can fully rely on and trust. And that's His promise!

Our evening came much too quickly to an end, and before we knew it, it was time to wrap things up and conclude with the singing of beautiful songs and prayer. A perfect ending to another perfect evening!

Our next Women's Group get-together will take place on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th** starting as usual with dinner at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Please take a moment and mark the date down on your calendar, and prayerfully consider coming out that evening to enjoy a few hours with other sisters of the faith. We are so blessed here at Christ Our King to have these opportunities to grow together in our faith, fellowship and friendship. It would be wonderful if you could join us at this time!

In His service,

Donna Prusha

LWML-C NEWS

As we begin another year of LWML-C, we consider all the blessings God has given 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. To God be the Glory!

Our first meeting of this year takes place on Wednesday September 21st. At that time we will share with you some of our Society's topics and plans for the upcoming year. In addition, we will work on trimming stamps and other Work Night projects. Also, we will be making plans to host the LWMLC Toronto Zone Rally on Oct. 22nd. Please join us!

We look forward to October 2nd, LWMLC Sunday. It will include our Mite Collection and Dedication here at Christ Our King. Please remember to bring your mite box, or if you prefer, a designated amount in a separate envelope, marked LWMLC Mites.

During September and the early weeks of October, we are gathering together items for the S.O.U.L. Program, based at Christ Lutheran Church, St. Catharines. This ministry supports developmentally challenged young people and helps them to have access to craft materials (beads, crayons, markers, etc.) for creative endeavors and monetary gifts for special events. A chart will be put up early in September and a collection box will also be available in the Front Entry. Monetary gifts may be given to Mary Mulligan. All items need to be brought to COK by Oct. 22nd, the day of our LWMLC Zone Rally.

Canadian Lutheran World Relief is celebrating its 70th birthday by giving the opportunity for all our Lutheran churches from across Canada to each make a 7" patch. This patch would then be sent off and sewn together to complete a large "patchwork quilt" to be put on display in Winnipeg. Should you have an idea for our patch's design or wish to take part in completing it please inform Hazel Steiss.

The Mission Grant focus for this month is that of Providing Support for both in-House and Visiting Pastor Outreach Ministries in the Canadian Maritimes-(\$10,000). This is just one of the 8 Mission Grants selected for this triennium at our Ontario District's LWMLC 2016th convention. We pray:

Dear Lord, there are many children, youth, and adults living in different parts of the Canadian Maritimes who have need of an in-house pastor to sustain worship services for individuals and families who have spiritual needs There are also those who would benefit from outreach ministries by a visiting pastor, whose efforts to help both churched and unchurched people would be invaluable. Keep these pastors strong in mind and spirit and faithful to Your Word. May our Mites enable them to bring the Good News of salvation through Jesus Our Saviour. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.



Choir Practice Fall Startup

Now that September is here, we will once again start up our choir practices.

As in the past, we will have Wednesday evening practices from 6:30p.m. till 7:30p.m. Since not everyone is able to always come during this time frame, we will have additional shorter, warmup practices on selected Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. In this way, we hope that all of you will have the chance to sing with us. (We'd love to see some new faces!)



In preparation for the Installation Service of Pastor Christi on Sept. 18th, our first choir practice in September will take place on September 7th. We hope that you will be able to join us!

Practices Dates for September: Thursday, Sept. 8th, Wednesdays, September 14th and 28th.

Nursery School News

Another school year is beginning. Both Evelynne Haz and Lynda Morell are ready to welcome the children. We had 2 Open Houses in August that went well. Some of our returning parents completed their registrations and we had 4 families visit. Evelynne has made some small changes in the layout of the room as we begin to implement the new pedagogy "How Does Learning Happen?".

On September 6th we will start with 10 children: 5 "newbies" and 5 returning students. Most are 2 and 3 days. In mid October we will welcome twins bringing our number to 12. We already have a registration for a child who will begin in January when she turns 2.

Please keep our children, their families and our staff in your prayers. Pray also for more children to register so they can grow in grace and in His Word.

Board of Trustees September 2016

Board Members: George Kral, Ted Jurgens, Rob Brennen, Graham Parker, John O'Handley, Josh Vernon

Just a few updates as follows:

- 1) Fall Clean-Up Day has been **changed to October 15, 2016** Keep this date in mind as there will be a lot of cleanup work needed and will require help.
- 2) Outdoor Lighting: New lights have now been installed.
- 3) New Pastor's Office: is now ready, painted, a new lock has been installed and carpet cleaned.

September

Partners in Prayer

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 CLMS COK NS Gwen & Bob Paterson	2 CLS COK Sunday School Yvonne (Verlinden) & Michael Perry	3 LFL-C Pastor Christi Stephen Potozny & Anne Milochik
4 LBT Pastor Flohr Martin & Donna Pusha; Mark	5 Our Saviour, Etobicoke Pastor Luke Barbara Robichaud	6 Good Shepherd, Barrie COK NS Andrew & Cheryl Rode; Alex	7 Risen Christ, Mississauga COK Shut-ins Karola Rode	8 Immanuel, Georgetown COK NS Robert Ruttkay	9 Holy Trinity, Bradford COK Sunday School Rudy & Ursel Sacha	10 Redeemer, Brampton Pastor Christi Pierre & Elizabeth Raymond. Luc, Benjamin
11 Grace, Oshawa Pastor Flohr David & Shona Sacha; Calum, Aiden	12 Clarington Lutheran, Bowmanville Pastor Luke Henry & Wanda Schnobel	13 St. Paul's, Cobourg COK NS Stephen & Victoria Sacha; Alexandra, Christina, Julianna	14 Trinity, Toronto COK Shut-ins John & Madolyn Scharrer; Juliana, John, Valerie	15 Toronto Korean COK NS Marcus & Sang Soon Santos; Tiago, Alina, Nyla, Livia	16 Loving Saviour, Barrie COK Sunday School Edgar Schink	17 Living Faith, Orangeville Pastor Christi Rob Sinclair; Emily, Erin
18 Rev. Paul Zabel, East Dist. President Pastor Flohr Rudy & Norma Singh	19 Rev. Dr. Robert Bugbee, LCC Pres. Pastor Luke Brian & Hazel Steiss	20 LCC COK NS Michelle & Mark Shannon; Scott, Kelsey, Brittany	21 LWML COK Shut-ins Joanne Tate	22 CLWR COK NS Roberta Terzolo & David Raine	23 LLL COK Sunday School Barbara & Ushnish Tieman-Sengupta	24 CLTS Pastor Christi Sharyn & Paul Thibault
25 CLMS Pastor Flohr Bodo & Helga Thormeyer	26 CLS Pastor Luke Henry & Joanne Ulozas; Michael, Jeffrey	27 LFL COK NS Donna & Jerry Vacl; Suzanne, Andrea	28 LBT COK Shut-ins Mark & Ruth Verlinden; Peter	29 LCC COK NS Susan & John Vernon; Joshua, Christina	30 LWML COK Sunday School Vicki & Bill Vopni; Ryan, Sarah	

2016

Give with Love

Our giving *gives us away*. Not what we give but why we give matters.

Sometimes we donate time, effort, money, materials because someone else has twisted our arm. Our heart is not in it.

We just want to keep face. It may do some good - but not for us.

Some people expect their generosity will bribe God. We don't buy God's mercy with good deeds.

Only the precious blood of Jesus can make us right with our heavenly Father.

We have been blessed to be a blessing. We share what we have with God's other children,

because our Father tells us to love them. What we do for others, we do for Jesus.

Our giving is to be a thank-offering, a recognition of the love God lavishes upon us. With David we exclaim, "Who am I and who are my people that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from You and we have given You only what comes from Your hand." 1 Chronicles 29:14

In the Old testament God told His people to give the tithe, ten percent of their income. Tithing is not a New Testament command, yet God's ancient promise is still valid. "Bring the whole tithe ... and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10

Those of us who accept God's challenge know our giving is a token of our trust in the Lord.

Our confidence is in God Himself, not in His blessings. We cannot outgive God.

Let God Love You

God's action often depends on our reaction. He does not depend on us to trigger His behaviour.

God always makes the first move. "Repent and be baptized ... you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:38

"Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved." Acts 16:31

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." James 4:8

"Humble yourselves before the Lord and He will exalt you. James 4:10

"Come to me, all who labour and are heaven laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

God has rich benefits to give us. Anxiously He waits to pour His love into our hearts.

He is able to give us more than we are able to ask. The Lord could bless us without our cooperation. Often He does. Yet for some reason at times He will not act until we use the strength He gives us. Our Lord does not force Himself upon us. He says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me." Rev. 3:20

When we respond to His love, we welcome Him and His gifts into our lives.

You Belong to Jesus

Do you believe in Jesus? Do you believe He died for you? For you personally?

If you trust in Jesus as your Saviour, you are a Christian, a little Christ.

He has put His stamp of ownership upon you. You belong to Jesus!

Jesus unites us with Himself. We are in Christ, in union with Him, tied to Him. "If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Cor. 5:17

Personal contact with Jesus alters everything! We become new people!

Jesus brings unity between God and us. Christ died for our imperfections. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us..." Eph. 1:7-8a
Our relation to Jesus makes us acceptable to the Almighty! "In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence." Eph. 3:12

Jesus makes it possible for us to call His Father our Father.

We have a connection with the Source. Jesus is the vine; we are the branches.

He supplies the nourishment we require. If we remain in Him, all He offers is ours.

We need only surrender ourselves: "Take me, Lord. I'm Yours!"

September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 	2 1:00 Wedding of Jordan Parker & Sarah Di Pucchio 7:00 Urdu Service	3 2:00 Wedding of Caitlin Walsh & Michael Kostiuik at St Joseph's Ukranian Cath. Church
4 10:00 Worship Service	5 Labour Day 	6 7:00 Board of Evangelism Meeting	7 8 - 2 office hours	8 6:30 Choir 7:00 Elders' Meeting	9 8 - 2 office hours	10
11 8:30 & 11:00 Communion Service 9:45 Sunday School & Bible Class	12	13 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Radio Ministry Committee Meeting	14 1:00 Bible Study 6:30 Choir 7:30 PPC Meeting 8 - 2 office hours	15 6:30 Ladies' Night	16 7:00 Urdu Service Receiving of new members 8 - 2 office hours	17 
18 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service 9:45 SS & Bible Class 4:00 Rev. Christi Installation Service Dinner to follow	19 7:30 Praise Choir	20 6:30 Confirmation	21 1:00 Bible Study 7:30 LWML 8 - 2 office hours	22 6:30 Men's Bible Study Supper	23 8 - 2 office hours	24
25 8:30 & 11:00 Communion Service 9:45 Sunday School & Bible Class Noon- Voters' Meeting	26 7:30 Praise Choir	27 6:30 Confirmation	28 1:00 Bible Study 6:30 Choir 8 - 2 office hours	29 	30 8 - 2 office hours	

October 2
LWML Sunday & Mite Box Collection for Missions

Also in October:
Saturday, October 15 - Fall cleanup
Saturday, October 22 - LWML Fall Rally at COK
Saturday, October 29 - Kids' Club

2016