

The Illuminator
The Newsletter of Holy Cross Lutheran Church (LCMS) – Moline, IL
March 2024

From the Pastor: *“The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* 1 Corinthians 15:56-57

When having a MAiD is No Help.

Medical assistance in dying (MAiD) is now legal in ten states of our nation as well as the District of Columbia. This trend is bound to keep spreading as more legislatures debate the issue. As we know, however, just because something is legal in the eyes of secular law does not make it right in the eyes of our Almighty God. Let’s be clear. Medical assistance in dying is just a less-offensive term for the phenomenon that has been called doctor-assisted suicide, mercy killing or euthanasia. Because those labels serve to indict the practice, proponents have gone to less objectional names. The word *suicide* and *killing* immediately call to mind the Fifth Commandment, which prohibits us from taking the life of another person or our own. Even if we call the practice euthanasia, as was the case in past decades, that does not justify the action either. Euthanasia literally means “good death,” and we cannot label anything good which God declares to be bad.



Death entered the world because of sin. God told Adam and Eve that if they transgressed His commandment not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, they would surely die (Genesis 2:17). Although neither Adam nor Eve dropped dead the moment they took and ate the fruit of the tree, death had set in. Their immortality was destroyed along with the perfection of the world. Their actions brought consequences to all of us, for we share both in their sin and in their death.

The Bible tells us that death itself is an enemy. It is not natural. God created us to live, not to die. You know that to be true when you sit at the deathbed of a loved one. The end of our earthly life does not always come immediately. Disease and illness often have a long, slow progression until they reach their ultimate conclusion. God has given our earthly bodies remarkable resilience to stave off this enemy. People literally do fight for life, and do not always give up quickly or easily. Yet, inevitably, we breath our last and God sends His angels to take our souls into the blessed presence of Jesus until the trumpet sounds and our bodies are raised, glorified and united with our souls for all eternity in the physical and spiritual New Eden of eternity.

Easter changes our perspective on death. God is the giver of life and the conqueror of death in Christ Jesus. There comes a time as serious illnesses run their course when medical professionals tell us that death is imminent. It is certainly not wrong to cease treatments that have no likely chance of success. Then the aim is to make the person comfortable and ease their pain. This is far different than taking active measures to deliberately end a person’s life. We can certainly pray for death to come for us or a loved one, but we leave its timing to our Lord. We will never need an earthly “MAiD” when we have a divine Savior, for as the Psalmist says, *“Our help is in the name of the Lord”* (Psalm 124:8).

In Him,

Pastor Karsten

From the Vicar: *“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”* Philippians 4:8

Truth, Goodness, and Beauty in God

As Christians we are very clear about our belief in an objective truth, that is a truth that does not change and is not affected by our circumstances or opinions. Consider Pastor’s article, where he is able to clearly say that murder is always wrong. This is a truth that always was and always will be, and its source is God.

Ancient Christians have identified three qualities that stand apart as objective standards, these are truth, goodness, and beauty. What this means is there is a thing that defines truth, and all claims to truth are judged by it. There is a thing which is good, and all things that are called good are judged according to it. There is a thing which is beautiful, and all things which are called beautiful are judged according to it. This thing is, and could only be, our God, the Trinity of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



The concept of standard truth is certainly not in vogue among the Marxism-infested culture which we inhabit. This is a concept that is easier for us to understand as Christians because it connects directly with how we understand Scripture. It must be true, and if anything disagrees with Scripture, then that thing is wrong. God cannot lie. There is no room for us to say, “Well this is true for me, but that may be true for you”. Fallen men, if left on their own, would eventually break down into an uncountable number of contradictory claims. The fact that there is any truth is proof that God exists as the source of all truth. So we as Christians consider all things according to the measure of truth which they possess.

Goodness may seem a bit more nebulous when we try to define it. First of all, a thing can be good in and of itself, and likewise a deed can be good, yet it is the same goodness in both. When God created the world, each day He declared that what He had done was good. It was put in order, it existed in the way He willed it. When everything was good, it was operating in the way which God intended for it. After the fall, the goodness of the world was corrupted, yet goodness can still be found when things exist according to their created nature. A man is good when he lives as a man and attends to manly virtues. A fruit tree is good when it grows and produces a crop for man and animals to enjoy. The fact that anything good ever comes to be is proof that God exists as the source and standard of goodness. In this way Christians can judge the goodness of things.

If there is one thing which all modern people seem to hate with equal passion, it is the idea of objective beauty. Among the more depraved things we catch ourselves saying is, “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.” This is meant to say that a flower cannot be beautiful of itself, but it creates an experience of beauty in the one who sees it and thinks so. But beauty is built into creation, our part in knowing beauty is to acknowledge it as creatures. Contact with beauty may cause an emotional response, but this is because of it’s being beautiful on its own. The fact that there is true beauty in this world instead of bare functional forms is proof that God exists and has made it as a reflection of His nature. Only against divinity can Christians judge beauty.

In Christ,
Vicar Corrigan

From the Youth Director/Sunday School Superintendent:

Hello Holy Cross!

February, in spite of being a short month, has been full of joy and activities. The YPS met on the first Sunday; while the Christian Education committee met, the teens made themselves lunch in the form of personal pizzas. They even brought a few out to us and cleaned up the kitchen! We got to hear them interact, laugh and work together. I was impressed, and afterwards I was told that that was one of their favorite activities, which does go to show that you can, in fact, over plan for things!

Speaking of planning, we spent time planning the next few months of activities. In March, we will all be attending the Kantorei Service at 10 am on Sunday, March 4th and then staying for lunch with the congregation. In April, we will be hiking in Maquoketa Caves.

Next up we had a great time with the Sunday Schoolers! We gathered for a day of stars, starting with Genesis 1: 14-15 and a great conversation about how the movements of the stars and planets are precise and can be calculated with certainty – our amazing universe! We used Stellarium, a free downloadable program AND a newly available online version to look at the night sky on our birthdays, among other things. Then we had a craft and enjoyed some treats together.

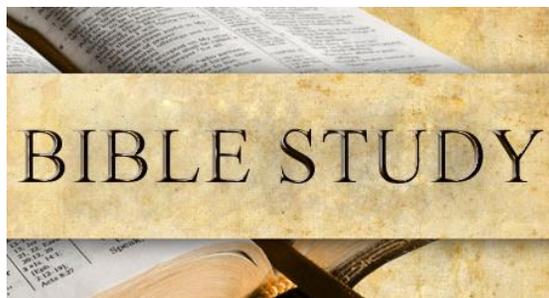
Looking forward, I want to remind everyone that the congregation is invited to visit the John Deere Planetarium at Augustana College on Monday, February 26th at 6 pm. This is a program for third grade and up and will be about an hour long in the dark. I'm really looking forward to it and would like to invite you to sign up in the entry way as we're limited to 50 attendees! Join us!! From the director of the program: "Unfortunately, parking spots are scarce on this side of campus. Please take a look at the campus map. We usually recommend parking either on 38th Street or in the WVIK parking lot right off of 38th Street. You may also park in the lot in Lincoln Park, Please use the 38th Street campus entrance with the John Deere Planetarium sign when walking onto campus. You will walk up a small hill to the Admissions parking lot. The John Deere Planetarium is located directly west (left) of the Admissions parking lot." Ask me any questions, I want you to come if you're interested.

We also want you to invite family and friends to Journey to the Cross on Saturday, March 30th at 10 am. Come to learn about the week leading up to Christ's crucifixion and Resurrection! Christian Education is requesting donations of treats for treat baskets from the congregation; please drop them off in the office and thank you! Last but not least Christian Education is hosting the Lenten Dinner on March 6. It's taco dinner night! Join us! The teenagers assisting will be using the proceeds to go to Higher Things in July.

Thank you for all you do!
In Christ,
Susan Serre



You are always welcome at any of our weekly Bible Classes, held in the fellowship hall. You do not need to start at the beginning of a unit or topic. Please come whenever you can. Vicar Corrigan’s Tuesday class is studying the Book of Isaiah. Pastor Karsten’s Thursday morning class is engaging in a study of *The History of Christianity*.

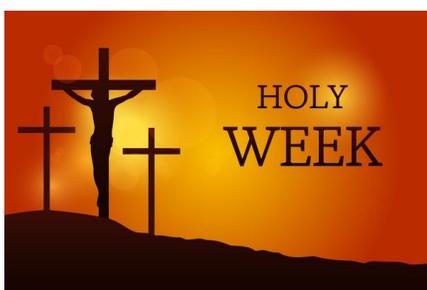


The Concordia Theological Seminary Kantorei will sing in our service on Sunday March 3. There will be only **one service at 10:00 a.m.**, with no Sunday School or Bible Class. Following the service, the Mutual Encouragement Committee is hosting a dinner. Everyone is invited. It is our privilege to be their hosts. Let’s have a full church as we gather in the Lord’s house that day together at one service.

Lenten Services: Our Midweek Lenten services continue using the theme: **God On Trial**, with several pastors of the Rock Island Circuit participating as rotating preachers. Here is the Lenten midweek schedule for late February and the entirety of March:



| <u>Date</u> | <u>Theme</u> | <u>Preacher</u> | <u>Dinner</u> |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| February 28 | Truth | Hagen | LWML |
| March 6 | Misconceptions | Umbarger | Youth/Christian Ed. |
| March 13 | Testimony | Sommerer | Evangelism/Stewardship |
| March 20 | Restraint | Astrowski | Elders |



Holy Week Activities

Palm Sunday March 24 – 8:15 Divine Service with Holy Communion; 10:45 – The Confirmation Service for Ivory, Zoe, Alexander and Michael. The public examination of the confirmands occurs during the Bible Class time.

Maundy Thursday March 28 – 7:00 p.m. Service of Corporate Confession and Individual Absolution with Holy Communion.

Good Friday March 29 – Holy Cross hosts the Rock Island **Tre Ore service from 12:00-3:00**. Nine pastors from the Rock Island Circuit as well as Vicar Corrigan will participate. You may come for a portion of the service or stay for its entirety. **The Holy Cross Service of Darkness is at 8:00 p.m.**

Holy Saturday March 30 – 10:00 **Journey to the Cross**, an activity for the entire family, hosted by the Christian Education & Youth Committee. 8:00 p.m. – **The Easter Vigil**, starting in the courtyard and concluding in the Church.

Easter Sunday March 31 – **7:00**, Divine Service with Holy Communion; 8:15 Easter Breakfast, hosted by the Mutual Encouragement Committee; 9:30 – Sunday School/Bible Class Easter video; 10:45 – Divine Service with Holy Communion.

Please take note of the specific starting times for each of the services.

Volunteers are needed to watch the Security monitor during our services. If you can help in this way, please sign the sheet in the church entryway. If you have any questions, please talk to a member of the Board of Elders.



On the Second Monday of every month Holy Cross serves at the **Christian Care Men's Homeless Shelter** in Rock Island. A devotional service is held from 6:00 – 6:30 and then dinner is served from 6:30 – 7:00. The Mutual Encouragement Committee oversees this mission endeavor, but everyone is invited to help. If you would like to assist in the meal preparation and/or serving, or provide items for the meal, please see the sign-up sheet in the church entryway.

Our Fitness and Fellowship program continues in February. Fitness is a low impact exercise routine akin to the Silver Sneakers program. Then stay for some great fellowship and coffee after fitness. Both programs meet in the fellowship hall.



Pastor Karsten has been asked by the **Association of Theological Schools** in the United States and Canada to serve on the accreditation visitation team for Dallas Theological Seminary as that institution undergoes review to renew its ATS accreditation. He will be in Dallas from March 18 -21.

The Holy Cross Property Committee is planning a spring clean up day on Saturday March 23, beginning at 8:30. The event will be held regardless of the weather, because there is both inside and outside work that needs to be done. Come when can. Your help will be appreciated.



Holy Cross, as well as friends of **Rev. Subramaniam Devanesan** from around the country, are joining together to bring his family to the United States to celebrate his graduation from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne on Friday May 17. His wife and daughters have started the visa process in Colombo. God willing, Pastor Deva, his wife Kamala, and daughters Andriya and Lydia will be in Moline to worship with us on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. If you would like to assist in helping the seminary with airfare and short-term health insurance expenses for the Pastor's wife and daughters, please make your check payable to Holy Cross with that designation. It was moved at the February voter's assembly that Holy Cross will undertake this endeavor and cover costs not met by donations from other friends.

PRAYER LIST

Please help to keep this list current by calling the church office when a name can be added or removed. This list is also printed in the Sunday bulletin.

Members in Facilities: Allure, Moline – Gary Johnson; **Mercer Manor, Aledo** – Bob Koehler; **Crosstown Square** - Barb Noah; **Cedarhurst** – Susan Wyant, Pat Barr; **Friendship Manor** - Dick Hochstetler, Phyllis Thorngren; **Woodridge Supportive Living, Galesburg** - Dick Ristau; **Illini Restorative Care** – Henry Setton; **Park Vista**: Ron & Carolyn Luecke.

Serving in the Military: Jakob Ryckeghem, Alexa Ellis, Brett Kramer (Grandson of Terry Kramer), Logan Noard (Son of Kyle and Marilyn Noard), Leith Masri (son of Peggy Jones), Stephen Waugaman (grandsons of Donna Knudtson), Cameron Moore (grandson of Lew and Maria Steinbrecher), Andrew Tolley (son of Carole Tolley), David Revel (son of Craig & Laurie Revel), Jeffrey Teuscher (nephew of Willie Swain), Matthew Glider (grandson of Doris Glider), Austin Cox (grandson-in-law of Sieg Paulsen), Matthew Patterson (son-in-law of Mike Waters, serving in Kuwait).

Members of the Congregation receiving cancer treatment: Sharon, McKean, Pastor Murdock
Friends of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer: Patti (sister-in-law of Sharon McKean), Ryan Ramshaw (brother-in-law of Melissa and Benjamin Brondos), Darlene Atwell (friend of Joyce Spidle), Natalie Nelson (daughter of Gregg and Tami Winter), Gail Stuenkel (sister-in-law of Tom & Donna Stuenkel), Lisa Dingeldein (cousin of Justina), Lisa Crawford (friend of Melissa Thorngren), Tristan Blume (friend of Teresa Brown), Joanne Lyons (friend of Joyce Spidle), Dave Patterson (brother of Bev Wagner), Harold Foster (brother-in-law of Bob Hellstrom), Judy Knudsen (sister of Allen Stegemann), Hannah Clark (relative of Marilyn Noard).

Serious Health Concerns: Tony Loritz (son of friends of Jennifer Swanberg), Phyllis Murdock, Pam & Bill (friends of Gwen Shrake), Scarlet Durbin (granddaughter of Beverly Carlise; great-granddaughter of Martha Kroll), Edgar Johnson (brother of Vicki Welvaert), Susan Raber (sister of Terry Kramer), Isla Galliard (great-granddaughter of Mary Ann Galliard), Emily Scott (granddaughter of Geri Stolze), Brittany (great-niece of Claude & Sandy Lohse), Gwen Shrake, Hazel White (mother of Robbie Garrison), Ken Lackey (brother of Gwen Shrake), Cindy Davenport, Heidi Sias, Maureen DeLassus, Kelly Teuscher (niece of Willie Swain).

Recovering/Ongoing Health Concerns: Bethany Albrecht (granddaughter of Pastor & Lynette), Sherry Lohse, David Kramer, Donald Dawson, Kristine Westmoreland, Gary Johnson, Alyssa Jones (granddaughter of Marian Jones), Fred Poe (grandson of Virginia Koontz), Carol Ferrell, Susan Jamieson, Joshua Duburg (cousin of Jill Safe), Sieg Paulsen.



March Bible Reading Guide

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 03/01 | Isaiah 64:1-9/Numbers 16-18 | 03/17 | Psalm 100/Deuteronomy 28-30 |
| 03/02 | Psalm 85/Numbers 19-21 | 03/18 | Psalm 101/Deuteronomy 31-34 |
| 03/03 | Psalm 86/Numbers 22-24 | 03/19 | Psalm 102/Luke 1 |
| 03/04 | Psalm 87/Numbers 25-27 | 03/20 | Psalm 103/Luke 2-3 |
| 03/05 | Psalm 88/Numbers 28-30 | 03/21 | Psalm 104/Luke 4-5 |
| 03/06 | Psalm 89/Numbers 31-33 | 03/22 | Psalm 105/Luke 6-7 |
| 03/07 | Psalm 90/Numbers 34-36 | 03/23 | Psalm 106/Luke 8-9 |
| 03/08 | Psalm 91/Deuteronomy 1-3 | 03/24 | Psalm 107/Luke 10-11 |
| 03/09 | Psalm 92/Deuteronomy 4-6 | 03/25 | Psalm 108/Luke 12-13 |
| 03/10 | Psalm 93/Deuteronomy 7-9 | 03/26 | Psalm 109/Luke 14-15 |
| 03/11 | Psalm 94/Deuteronomy 10-12 | 03/27 | Psalm 110/Luke 16-17 |
| 03/12 | Psalm 95/Deuteronomy 13-15 | 03/28 | Psalm 111/Luke 18-19 |
| 03/13 | Psalm 96/Deuteronomy 16-18 | 03/29 | Psalm 112/Luke 20-21 |
| 03/14 | Psalm 97/Deuteronomy 19-21 | 03/30 | Psalm 113/Luke 22 |
| 03/15 | Psalm 98/Deuteronomy 22-24 | 03/31 | Isaiah 64:1-9/Luke 23-24 |
| 03/16 | Psalm 99/Deuteronomy 25-27 | | |

March Birthdays

| | | | |
|------------------|------|-------------------|------|
| Ali Gauley | 3/2 | Larry Bopes | 3/16 |
| Kyle Noard | 3/2 | Tera Elliott | 3/16 |
| Doris Stegemann | 3/3 | Sarah Kretschmar | 3/16 |
| Kent Countryman | 3/4 | Rose Mahlburg | 3/19 |
| Joyce O’Neal | 3/6 | Phyllis Murdock | 3/21 |
| Isabella Dawson | 3/7 | Elizabeth Schmidt | 3/21 |
| Audrey Elliot | 3/8 | Susan Eckert | 3/23 |
| Skye Byers | 3/9 | Jenna Fender | 3/24 |
| Terry Kramer | 3/9 | Linda Johnson | 3/25 |
| Susan Serre | 3/10 | Nancy Stewart | 3/27 |
| Don Freeman | 3/11 | Brian Rauh | 3/31 |
| Roxanne Kubatzke | 3/12 | | |

*According to our records, God has blessed you with the privilege of celebrating a birthday this month.
 Please inform the Holy Cross office if this information is incorrect.
 Have you remembered the Lord’s work in your will and estate planning?*





Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church

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Ph. (309) 738-6124

Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez



Newsletter March 2024

Lent.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. On this day, as forgiven sinners, we receive ashes in the sign of a cross on our foreheads as the pastor says: *"for dust you are and to dust you will return."* (Genesis 3:19)

Do you ponder Jesus' sacrifice and death during Lent? Jesus knew His mission to save the human race from their sins was drawing closer and closer. He can see the punishment, suffering, and death He will experience. It was not easy for Him, but He willingly obeyed His Heavenly Father. He spent time in meditation and prayer as He prepared for this imminent event.

Usually when we talk about death, people, even Christians, become frightened. It's not easy when your doctor tells you bad news like "you have: diabetes, cancer, heart disease, etc." It's not easy to assimilate. How long will I live? Will I suffer a lot? These are just a few questions that come into our minds. It is not easy for us to deal with the fact that someday we will leave this world. It takes time for reflection.

To us, as Christians, Lent is a time of spiritual preparation and prayer. In this season, we need to look, in a serious and respectful way, at the act of Christ's sacrifice for us on the cross. We need to realize that it is our sins that nailed Him to the cross. It is a penitential season of the church year. He hangs there suffering on our behalf. And He does it all out of love for us miserable sinners. And we also ask God to help us accept our own inevitable death trusting that He will deliver our souls into His presence where we will await with hope our resurrection on the Last Day.

Realizing all that Jesus has done for us we can sing or say the words of this beautiful Lenten hymn:

Christ the life of all the living,
Christ the death of death our foe,
Christ Yourself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe
Through Your suffering, death and merit
Life eternal I inherit.
**Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
Dearest Jesus unto You. Amen and Amen!**

Lord have mercy upon us! Christ have mercy upon us! Lord have mercy upon us!



Liberty. *“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery”* Galatians 5:1

One day, Steve, a Lutheran pastor from Texas visited our church in Monterrey, Mexico. He didn't speak Spanish well, but he really worked hard on it. I invited him to eat delicious tacos with me in a famous restaurant there in Monterrey. It was Holy Week so there were not many people in the restaurant. While eating the last taco, as a joke, I asked him, “Do you know that the majority of

Mexicans do not eat meat on Holy Friday?”. He smiled and with the fajita taco in his hand and ready to eat it, he said, “It is so good what Christ did. He gave me liberty”!

Christ's liberty is delicious! Right?

Comments:

On Jan. 7, CR new Board of Elders was installed. Ruben Dominguez, President; Guadalupe Gutknecht, Secretary; Laura Nunez, Treasury; and Gisela Arellano, Treasury Assistant

The New Ladies Board of Directors was elected in December. Guadalupe Gutknecht, President; Laura Nunez, Treasury; Ana Salgado, Secretary

Prison Ministry. Now the number of attendees has grown from 16 to 20 people every Thursday. They also have access to LHM brochures published in Spanish. Every Thursday I give the opportunity to a person to guide us with an opening prayer. (Some get nervous, because they are barely taking the first steps in the knowledge of God and the Holy Scriptures)

Before and after the Bible Study, we use the songs used in CR, supported by the talent of the musicians who are also in prison.



Choice Dollars. Christ the King Lutheran Church (Cristo Rey) participates in Thrivent Choice which is a charitable grant program of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Did you know you are now able to direct your Choice Dollars to our Hispanic mission?

We continue to thank God for your faithful prayers and loving support of this Hispanic ministry!



SMAHLBURG@YAHOO.COM



Christmas

Each year, Lutherans congregations join together in several combined services to celebrate Christmas. This year, was no different. I had the privilege of preaching for one service up in the mountains on a tea estate. I also preached at one in a town called Yatiyantota near several rubber tree estates. There the congregation from Colombo joined. We praise God for the encouragement he gives this small church body when they join together around our Savior Jesus Christ.

After each of the services, there is a cultural program. It like a variety show for Tamil culture. There is a lot of dancing, some singing, sometimes there are skits and speeches as well. Finally, Santa Claus comes out dancing with the children and giving them candy.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to newsletter@mahlnews.com with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

The Kingdom Ours Remaineth



Praying between sessions

Teaching at the Telugu Pastors Conference in Andhra Pradesh India

“The Kingdom Ours Remaineth” from Martin Luther’s hymn, “A Mighty Fortress,” was the title of the paper I presented in India in January. The Bible Faith Lutheran Church invited me teach at their Telugu Pastors Symposium. I think there were as many as 600 people who attended. The topic was answering the claims of the “prosperity gospel.”

Luther’s hymn expresses that even if the everything is taken away from us, even our lives, we still have the kingdom of God. Jesus tells us that a servant is not above his master, so I looked at Jesus’ life. Then I compared the lives of those who did lose their lives from Christ’s sake to the type of the lives those who preach the “prosperity gospel” live.

After the conference, I had the joy of attending a church dedication in a remote fishing village. A huge crowd attended. Loudspeakers carried the proceedings to the entire village. These people were a witness for Jesus to the community.

This was my first trip to Andhra Pradesh in India and my first time to meet our brothers and sisters in Christ from the Bible Faith Lutheran Church (BFLC). They gave me a warm welcome, and I pray that a good relationship between BFLC and LCMS will flourish.



Church Dedication



Guests to the symposium



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- God's guidance for the ministry of the CELC
- Opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- CELC hymnal project
- To grant Autumn a good result for her thyroid treatment

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- Autumn's thyroid treatment
- Good health for Rev. Nadaraja
- A successful trip to teach in India

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- His work through the Bible Faith Lutheran Church
- His work through the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church
- His work through the India Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mahlburg Moments



Martha with her cake and presents

It is also the month when we joyfully welcomed Skye and Rose back for their Christmas break.



Enjoying the sights in Indonesia

December is a busy month in any household and ours is no different. In addition to all of the activity surrounding Christmas there is one last birthday of the year, Martha's.



Everyone gathered around the Christmas tree

At the beginning of January the whole Asia region got together for a family retreat in Indonesia. Sadly Rose and Skye could not join us.

January always ends with a big bang. We celebrated Steven's birthday this year with a cake that had one of his favorite spaceships on it. He loves all things science fiction so this year's cake had the Enterprise on top of it. He was truly surprised by it.



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Steven & Martha Mahlburg. Make checks payable to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

OR

Mission Central
40718 Highway E 16
Mapleton, IA 51034

On the memo line include [LastName-Country]

Give securely from any device: lcms.org/givenow/missionarypage

Call a donor care representative: 800-930-4438

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Accountant Report January 2024

Thank you for your support!

of Sundays 4
 YTD P/W \$6,351.25
 LYTD P/W \$4,479.80

| ACCOUNT BALANCES | MONTH | THIS YEAR TO DATE | LAST YEAR TO DATE | PRIOR MO. YTD |
|---|----------------------|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| GENERAL FUND | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 175,619.61 | 175,619.61 | 159,891.58 | 159,891.58 |
| Contributions/Transfers In | 25,405.00 | 25,405.00 | 22,399.00 | 407,962.70 |
| Interest | 27.07 | 27.07 | 26.46 | 314.74 |
| Total Receipts | 25,432.07 | 25,432.07 | 22,425.46 | 408,277.44 |
| Available Balance | 201,051.68 | 201,051.68 | 182,317.04 | 568,169.02 |
| Expenditures/Transfers Out | <u>36,121.40</u> | <u>36,121.40</u> | <u>30,735.33</u> | <u>392,549.41</u> |
| Ending Balance | 164,930.28 | 164,930.28 | 151,581.71 | 175,619.61 |
| ANNIVERSARY FUND | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | (383.29) | (383.29) | 805.33 | 805.33 |
| Contributions/Transfers In | 415.13 | 415.13 | 0.00 | 3,147.38 |
| Bequests and Refunds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 372.00 | 372.00 |
| Expenditures | <u>235.08</u> | <u>235.08</u> | <u>314.73</u> | <u>4,708.00</u> |
| Ending Balance | (203.24) | (203.24) | 862.60 | (383.29) |
| CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 16,438.06 | 16,438.06 | 12,560.06 | 12,560.06 |
| Contributions | 130.00 | 130.00 | 480.00 | 4,247.00 |
| Expenditures | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>369.00</u> |
| Ending Balance | 16,568.06 | 16,568.06 | 13,040.06 | 16,438.06 |
| MEMORIAL FUND | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 101,938.38 | 101,938.38 | 99,387.48 | 99,387.48 |
| Receipts/Transfers In | 90.00 | 90.00 | 1,035.00 | 6,914.30 |
| Expenditures/Transfers Out | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>420.00</u> | <u>4,363.40</u> |
| Ending Balance | 102,028.38 | 102,028.38 | 100,002.48 | 101,938.38 |
| SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND Adult Bible Class | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 2,986.24 | 2,986.24 | 1,224.93 | 1,224.93 |
| Receipts | 170.00 | 170.00 | 204.00 | 2,659.05 |
| Expenditures | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>897.74</u> |
| Ending Balance | 3,156.24 | 3,156.24 | 1,428.93 | 2,986.24 |
| SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND/ VBS SUPPLIES | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 2,291.12 | 2,291.12 | 1,799.72 | 1,799.72 |
| Receipts | 1,014.75 | 1,014.75 | 33.61 | 1,598.58 |
| Expenditures | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>1,107.18</u> |
| Ending Balance | 3,305.87 | 3,305.87 | 1,833.33 | 2,291.12 |
| BENEVOLENCE FUND | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 10,576.36 | 10,576.36 | 10,505.53 | 10,505.53 |
| Receipts | 325.00 | 325.00 | 206.00 | 1,459.00 |
| Expenditures | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>1,388.17</u> |
| Ending Balance | 10,901.36 | 10,901.36 | 10,611.53 | 10,576.36 |
| MISSIONS FUND | | | | |
| Beginning Balance | 4,739.50 | 4,739.50 | 20,593.00 | 20,593.00 |
| Mahlburg, Cristo Rey Sri Lank \$ for Missions | 322.00 | 322.00 | 787.30 | 19,566.31 |
| Receipts- Rev. Devanesan | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | .4351.00 |
| Expenditures-Rev Mahlburg | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 3,490.00 |
| Expenditures-/\$ for Missions | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,729.81 |
| Expenditures-Cristo Rey | 0.00 | 0.00 | <u>1,000.00</u> | 2,000.00 |
| Expenditures-Sri Lanka Xmas | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10,000.00 | 20,705.00 |
| Expenditures- Rev Devanesan | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>11,846.00</u> |
| Ending Balance | 5,061.50 | 5,061.50 | 8,880.30 | 4,739.50 |
| TOTAL FUND BALANCES | 305,748.45 | 305,748.45 | 306,767.63 | 314,205.98 |
| Beginning cash | 240,000.00 | Total fund balance | 305,748.45 | |
| Months deposits | <u>68,218.82</u> | accts payable | <u>1,024.51</u> | |
| Months checks & fees | (68,218.82) | | 306,772.96 | |
| Ending cash | 240,000.00 | retained earnings | <u>134.69</u> | |
| Outstanding deposits | 0.00 | Total balance | 306,907.65 | |
| Outstanding checks | \$ 5,100.87 | | | |
| Adjusted bank balance | <u>\$ 234,899.13</u> | 910.00 ins. Accrual in accts payable | | |
| Plus sweep account | \$ 72,008.52 | | | |
| TOTAL | \$ 306,907.65 | | | |

