



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4107 21st Avenue, Moline, IL 61265

(309) 764-9720

holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com

THE ILLUMINATOR

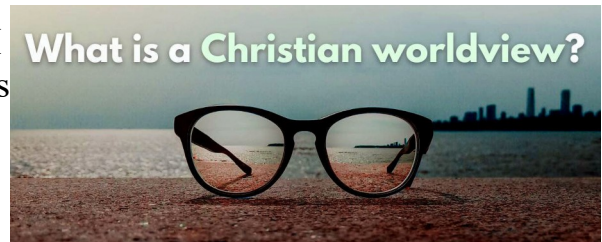
The Holy Cross Lutheran Church Newsletter

What is a Christian Worldview?

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With just about one month under my belt as your vacancy pastor, I truly wish to thank you all for the warm way in which you have received me and made me feel welcome and a part of Holy Cross congregation! It is a joy to serve you until the Lord of the Church sees fit to send you a new shepherd to lead and guide this flock!

As I began to think about what I would write, I looked back over some of your past newsletters and noted that each month, a common theme ran through both the pastor's and vicar's articles. With that in mind, I thought that in whatever time we have together, I'd address various doctrinal topics in a brief and winsome way in the hope of aiding you in responding to questions from unbelieving (or perhaps non-Lutheran) neighbors. So... this month, I'd like to tackle the question, "What is a Christian World View?"



First, a (hopefully helpful) illustration: Chris and Brian are two brothers who are able to see eye to eye on just about everything. But every August, it seems that they have a hard time agreeing on anything. Whenever football season starts up, Chris and Brian are always at odds. Though these two men had been born brothers, they grew up rooting for different teams. Chris is a Chicago Bears fan, and Brian is a Minnesota Vikings fan, and whenever their teams play each other, Chris and Brian leave the stadium with very different views of the same game.

In many ways, Christians and non-Christians are able to see eye to eye when it comes to the ways of the world. Most people, no matter what their beliefs may be, like to be

treated fairly, to have a feeling of personal security, and to have a sense of purpose in life. There are times, however, when a Christian's view of this world can be very different than their neighbor's.

(Cont'd)

Often, it's the joys and woes of daily life that demonstrate the differences. Whether celebrating a milestone, or coping with a disappointment, or even facing death, Christians and non-Christians can think, talk, and act very differently.

What makes a Christian 'tick'? Why do believers look at their world with such a different perspective? The answers to these questions reveal what Christian faith is all about. While the world around them believes in things like fairness, decency, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, a Christian believes in the God who is this world's Maker, Savior, and Counselor. Simply by speaking the words of a *Creed*, every Christian makes a powerful statement of who they really are—not only in relationship to their world, but also in relationship to the God whose world it is.

When a non-Christian sees a lifetime's worth of achievements as the sum total of hard work or as simple dumb luck, the Christian sees the hand of God. When a non-Christian sees a world filled with madness and uncertainty, the Christian sees a world for which Christ died. When a non-Christian struggles to see their purpose in life and where they ought to fit in the world, the Christian sees God's own Spirit at work.

Christians confess their faith in God. *"This is the God who made me what I am, gives me what I have, and who holds this whole world in his hands!"* Even if Christians and non-Christians can't see the world eye to eye, the truth of God is always in view.

This Christian Worldview even comes into play as you prepare to call a new pastor! The world might look at the process of calling a new pastor as simply a random act of chance (a result of direct popular vote). And if we are honest, there are, indeed, many opportunities for us to insert the greasy fingerprints of the "Old Adam" upon the process. But as flawed as the process might be, we know that God is at work behind the scenes to get the right man in the right place in His time (That's why we call it a DIVINE CALL). As Christians, then, it behooves us to PRAYERFULLY consider the candidates presented to us, and seek the man we believe will be best for Holy Cross congregation as a whole, and not just what we selfishly determine that we want.

As God's people, I invite you to pray this prayer which I have prepared OFTEN, or perhaps use some of the thoughts as you approach the throne of grace in the days ahead. Then, trust that our Triune God knows best what we need and will lovingly and caringly provide! Until then, please know that I LOVE being your vacancy pastor!

Under the completely sufficient imputed righteousness,
Pastor Wright

(Next Month's topic: "Why is Baptism so Important?")

A PRAYER FOR CALLING A PASTOR

Almighty and Gracious God, look with favor upon the people of Holy Cross as we prayerfully discern who is to be the next shepherd of Your flock in this place. Prepare for us a loving and faithful pastor who will love and care for Your flock and equip us for service to the lost in Moline and our Quad Cities community.

As we prepare to extend a call, keep us faithful to our task and keep us humble in prayer. Give us Your aid in this time of pastoral vacancy. Remind us of Your care. As we work to call a new pastor, strengthen us with the knowledge that Your care reaches to every need of Your church. Show us what we need and what needs doing for our life together in Christ.

Grant that Your Holy Spirit lead us to discern the gifts we seek and see those gifts clearly in the men we consider. Give us patience to wait on Your timing. Grant that we have the mind of Christ and agree. Grant us the humble attitude of Jesus who willing humbled Himself for us all—even unto death on the cross. Give us wisdom and openness to Your guiding. Renew our minds in regular study of the Scriptures and frequent reception of the holy sacrament of Your Son's body and blood.

Bless and strengthen the elders, Pastors Wright and Brondos, Pastor Nerud, our Circuit Visitor and President Mohr, our District President and all who assist us during this time of vacancy and who bring us Your life-giving Word. Bless all the people of God who gather at Holy Cross and grant us patience with each other in this difficult time. Enable us to use the gifts You have given us to build up the body of Christ, and let no area of Your kingdom suffer by a failure to employ the gifts, talents, and abilities You have given each one of us for service in the body of Christ.

We pray for our next pastor, who, at this time is known only to You. Increase his passion for Your Word. Make him a Christ-centered, Christ-saturated man. Give him a love for You, for Your Word, and for Your holy church. We ask that You even now, be preparing him to shepherd us through any trials and blessings he has faced or currently faces in ministry.

Grant that he be a man of Christ-like character eager to advance Your kingdom! Give us a man whose ambition, is to be pleasing to God, to seek first the kingdom of God. And bless his family too.

Forgive the faults of Your people throughout the call process: the ways in which we might limit You and fail to trust You. Forgive us should the process become contentious and for those times when we might seek our own agendas rather than seeking Your will for our congregation as a whole.

Protect us from candidates who are doctrinally unsound, who lack the conviction and courage to stand on Your Word and from those who lack character and purity. Protect us from any divisiveness in this calling process and above all, may Your will be done!

In the precious name of Jesus. Amen!

Here are a few numbers for you to keep handy during the vacancy. I welcome your phone calls and am happy to hear from you about how I may be of service.

Zion Lutheran Church (309) 496-2186
Pastor's Cell Phone (309) 236-3882

Bless you for all you do for one another as the body of Christ! May we, by God's grace, be a blessing to one another, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Under the completely sufficient imputed righteousness,

Rev. Gary Wright
Vacancy Pastor



In Jeremiah 3:15, the Lord promised, "And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding." Jesus called His apostles to spread the Gospel from Jerusalem, through Judea and Samaria, and to all the world.

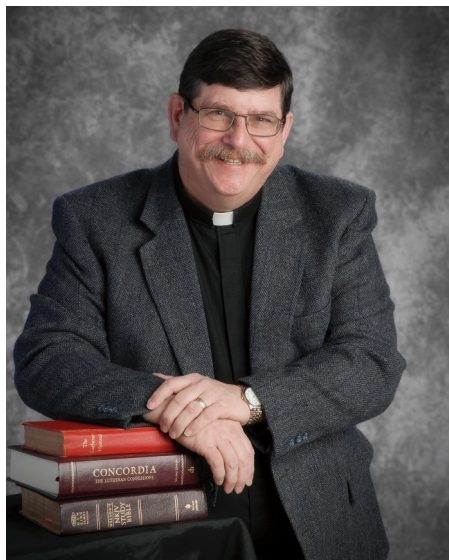
Surrounded by Witnesses (Bible Class - August)

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.



For those who have been attending church for decades, it may seem that the historic liturgy is boring or vain repetition. In this Bible study, however, we will note how much of the liturgy is actually God's Word as it first appeared in the lives God's people. In a practical and vibrant way, these sessions will help enrich and deepen our worship life and appreciation for Word and Sacrament in a way that has proven tried-and-true over the centuries.

Pr. Joel A. Brondos has served as a parish pastor and as a parochial headmaster of classical Lutheran schools for over 30 years in urban, suburban, and rural settings (retiring in 2019). He has lectured around the country and has published numerous devotions and Bible studies for CPH and other synodical publications. In 2008, he received the middle school teacher of the year award in the Northern Illinois District. He currently serves on the Board of Regents for Concordia Seminary - St. Louis. His wife of 43 years, Marilyn, has served as a teacher in the primary grades, and they currently live in Geneseo. Benjamin and Melissa Brondos, son and daughter-in-law, are members of Holy Cross.



Greetings Holy Cross!

August will be a month of beginnings as our children head into the new school year. The Sunday School Activity will be a Stress Free Day where we will focus on Matthew 6:25-26. Life is about much more than the stress that we pile on top of ourselves; that distracts all of us, even our precious young, from what is very important. So we will talk about what we can do to deal with earthly stress daily to make the adjustment to a new schedule and a new environment more smooth. We'll stretch, bake, craft and discuss together:

*25 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?
26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"*

Join us on Saturday, August 17th at 2 pm. No RSVPs necessary, please come and feel free to bring friends and family. This is for all ages, so if any adults want to join us please do!

In September we will celebrate Sunday School Rally Day! Join us on Sunday, September 1st to celebrate moving up to the next grade! After Sunday School and after church service we will enjoy a hot dog lunch together to celebrate!

The Sunday School Activity will be held on September 21st at 2 pm, subject to be determined. Keep an eye on the bulletin for more information!

Thank you for all of your support, and remember that Sunday School is weekly at 9:30. See you then!

In Christ,

Susan Serre



Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church

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E-mail: cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net

Ph. (309) 738-6124

Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez



Newsletter AUGUST 2024

“Go and make disciples”

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)



This is a Bible text that I use frequently to teach that we are instruments of God who intends for us to share the Good News with other people. It's well known as the Great Commission commanded by Jesus and given to His followers.

While I was conducting a Bible study, I mentioned this Bible text to encourage the listeners as to why we need to talk about our faith. A CR member shared this story with us. He came to the church, thanks to his grandchildren. They told him how they learned Bible stories in Sunday school. He would look at their happy faces when they sang a hymn or when they said a prayer before a meal. The Gospel seed was planted in his heart by those children. He was motivated to attend our church, and the Holy Spirit changed and transformed his life. He took catechism classes and now is an active member in CR.

These children, even though they didn't even know it, were obeying the Great Commission. What can we learn from this?

-That God's Word, the spiritual milk, feeds and nourishes all Christ's believers; children, youth and adults, as they attend church

-All Christ's believers become useful instruments of God to share the Gospel with relatives, neighbors and friends.

Do you obey Christ's command to share the Good News? If these children can share the love of Jesus, you can and should do the same. Today is a good day to start, right?

July 4th Parade, East Moline.: Cristo Rey participated in this event. Volunteers including children, youth, and adults distributed Arch books to the children along the parade route as well as church and activities information to the adults. We participated with the KALA Radio station team. On this radio station is where CR has a live program every Saturday form 7-8 am proclaiming the Gospel to Hispanic listeners.



Thank you to our Holy Cross Family. Thank you all very much for your generous gift. We are deeply touch by your kindness. Your gift will help us with the various therapies which Bethany is receiving. She has multiple issues which are being addressed. These have been challenging times, but the grace of God and the support and prayers of family and Christian friends like you have been a great blessing to us. We have always know Holy Cross to be a kind, caring and generous congregation, and you have again proven that to be true. We are sincerely grateful for this generous gift.

In Christ,

Anna, Brian, Elizabeth and Bethany Albrecht

Just a little FYI... There will be no bell practice throughout the month of August. Practices will resume in September. New players are always welcome! Thanks!

LWML Garage Sale will be October 3rd & 4th. It's time to start cleaning out your closets and set aside items for our next Garage Sale in October. Items will be accepted the week prior to the sale. For more information, you can contact Marcia Green (309) 236-2923 or Jan Tutskey (309) 781-1624.

Our Pantry Sunday recipient for the month of August is Pregnancy Resources. Here is a list of items needed: baby shampoo, baby wash, pacifiers, baby bottles, bibs, newborn diapers, 4T-5T diapers, newborn onesies, clothes 2T-3T.



Exercise Class and Fellowship Hour: New Time! Exercise class now begins at 10:15 a.m. immediately following the 9-10 a.m. Bible class led by Pastor Wright. Come and join us for Fellowship hour following Exercise class!

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.

The July – September editions of Portals of Prayer have arrived.

Three sizes are available. Please help yourself to this devotional resource and share with others. *In retirement Wilfred L. Karsten will be writing again for the publication's November 2025 edition.*



Foot Clinic – the next foot clinic will be August 22 at 1:00 pm in the conference room. The sign-up the sheet will be available the week of August 18th.

A DOLLAR FOR MISSIONS

The current Dollar for Missions project is for replacement of furnaces at Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb, which is expected to cost some \$25,000. The Student Center was built 55 years ago. Equipment replacement like this is important so the Gospel can continue to be proclaimed and students can go on being reached there for years into the future.



For more information visit:
<https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-current-project.html>. Thank you to those at St. John's who consistently support the work of Missions on the District and Synodical level. *You are a blessing*

Greetings, we will be electing a new Zone Secretary/Treasurer at the LWML RI Zone Fall Rally on September 17th at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Milan.

If you are interested in serving the Lord in this way, please call or text Janet Mau at 563-209-0723.

\LCMS Men's and Women's Bowling League

Come join us for fun and fellowship with other local church members.

All skill levels are welcome.

2024-2025 Season Starting Soon!

Where: QC Family Entertainment – 4401 44th Avenue – Moline

Informational Meeting – August 19th, 2024 @ 6 pm (In the bar area)

Fall Season – Starting September 9th, 2024

Winter Season – Starting December 12th, 2024 (Tentative)

Questions? Contact (Call or Text):

Michael Wagner (309) 453-7206

or

Jim Pearson (563) 293-6456



We look forward to seeing you there!



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: **Mercer Manor, Aledo** – Bob Koehler; **Cedarhurst** – Susan Wyant, Jan Phillips; **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: Kathrine Hopkins, Pastor Murdock

Friends of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer: Ryan Ramshaw (brother-in-law of Melissa and Benjamin Brondos), Gail Stuenkel (sister-in-law of Tom & Donna Stuenkel), Lisa Dingeldein (cousin of Justina), Mike Dingeldein (uncle 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) Joy Garrison (sister of Kim Trask).

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), Susan Raber (sister of Terry Kramer), Gwen Shrake, Hazel White (mother of Robbie Garrison), Ken Lackey (brother of Gwen Shrake), 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, 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, Cindy Davenport.



August Bible Reading Guide

8/01 Hbk. 3:2-16; 2 Chronicles 1-3	8/17 Psalm 72; Nehemiah 7-9
8/02 Psalm 57; 2 Chronicles 4-7	8/18 Psalm 73; Nehemiah 10-13
8/03 Psalm 58; 2 Chronicles 7-9	8/19 Psalm 74; Esther 1-3
8/04 Psalm 59; 2 Chronicles 10-12	8/20 Psalm 75; Esther 4-7
8/05 Psalm 60; 2 Chronicles 13-15	8/21 Psalm 76; Esther 8-10
8/06 Psalm 61; 2 Chronicles 16-18	8/22 Psalm 77; Job 1-3
8/07 Psalm 62; 2 Chronicles 19-21	8/23 Psalm 78; Job 4-6
8/08 Psalm 63; 2 Chronicles 22-24	8/24 Psalm 79; Job 7-9
8/09 Psalm 64; 2 Chronicles 25-27	8/25 Psalm 80; Job 10-12
8/10 Psalm 65; 2 Chronicles 28-30	8/26 Psalm 81; Job 13-15
8/11 Psalm 66; 2 Chronicles 31-33	8/27 Psalm 82; Job 16-18
8/12 Psalm 67; 2 Chronicles 34-36	8/28 Psalm 83; Job 19-21
8/13 Psalm 68; Ezra 1-5	8/29 Psalm 84; Job 22-24
8/14 Psalm 69; Ezra 6-10	8/30 Psalm 85; Job 25-27
8/15 Psalm 70; Nehemiah 1-3	8/31 Hbk. 3:17-19; Job 28-30
8/16 Psalm 71; Nehemiah 4-6	

August Birthdays

Alyahna Gauley	8/3	Shirley Reid	8/19
Lida Paller	8/3	Sheila Noah	8/22
Patrick Gordon	8/7	Cheryl McLaughlin	8/25
Martha Kroll	8/8	Dan Spoerl	8/25
Juleah Dawson	8/8	Alice Peters	8/26
Max Serre	8/8	Kris Westmoreland	8/27
Susan Rimkus	8/10	Derek Dawson	8/28
Rowan Corrigan	8/10	Matthew Hasselberg	8/28
Matthew Kelly	8/11	Michael Beardsley	8/30
Barb Kraft	8/13	Darcy Foster	8/30
Kris Noah	8/14	Tyde Elliott	8/31
Amanda Hahn	8/16	Virginia Koontz	8/31
Paul Kretschmar	8/19		

*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?



Holy Cross Lutheran Church – Moline, IL

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Contact Information: Church/Hope: 309-764-9720; 309-644-1714 holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com Pastor Wright: 309-236-3882 Email: hastatusopifex@gmail.com Susan: 309-721-1749 briedust@yahoo.com				1	2 Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The office is closed on Fridays	3
4 <i>11th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 SS/BB 10:45 Divine Service HC Pantry Sunday – Pregnancy Resources	5	6	7 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Exercise 10:40 Fellowship No Bells	8 12:30 LWML 4:30 Call Committee Meeting	9	10
11 <i>12th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 SS/BB 10:45 Divine Service HC	12 5:30 Christian Care Devotions & Dinner	13 5:30 Property Meeting	14 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Exercise 10:40 Fellowship No Bells 5:30 Board of Elders	15 10:45 Peace Quilters	16	17
18 <i>13th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 SS/BB 10:45 Divine Service HC	19 <i>September Calendar and Newsletter Items Due</i>	20	21 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Exercise 10:40 Fellowship No Bells	22 1:00 Foot Clinic	23	24
25 <i>14th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:30 SS/BB 10:45 Divine Service HC	26	27	28 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Exercise 10:40 Fellowship No Bells	29	30	31