In Celebration of New Life

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” 1 Peter 1:3

May is a month to celebrate new life. In fact, the name of this month comes from “Maia”, the Greek goddess of spring. A popular English saying proclaims, “April showers bring May flowers.” New life springs forth all around us bringing joy to our senses. But new life is not limited to the weather and foliage. During this month, people will move into our area and people will move out of it. Some individuals will enter the work force and others will retire. People will enter this world and others will leave it. Couples will get married. Students will graduate. While you may not personally experience any of these scenarios this month, you will likely experience some kind of change. New life is as inevitable and predictable as the sun rising and setting each day to promote life.

This month is a time for us to celebrate new life in the church as well. We continue in the Easter season for the first two weeks. We celebrate the new life and living hope we have in our risen Savior, Jesus. Beginning May 20, Pentecost, we celebrate the new life we have in the Holy Spirit as He fills His church with power to share our living hope. As we reach out in Christian love, our words and actions bring the joy of new life to others and ourselves.

Sometimes, our bodies respond to new life in less than pleasing ways. Allergies can dampen our enthusiasm for “new life.” Such reactions may encourage us to stay inside where the environment is more controlled and safe. Staying inside on beautiful spring days does little for the human spirit. God is calling us out to celebrate new life. Likewise, some people may respond to our Christian witness in less than pleasing ways. Such reactions may dampen our enthusiasm towards reaching out. We may want to stay “inside” where the environment is more controlled and safe. Yet this too, does little for our celebration of new life in Christ.

Both this world and people can and will disappoint us at times. All creation has been negatively impacted by sin. However, we have been positively impacted by the mercy of our God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This month, celebrate the new life that is around you, but even more celebrate the new life that is yours through faith in Jesus Christ!

Pastor Mark Rhoads

Prayer Warriors

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a global family of believers. Together, we are united in mission and ministry. This page gives you a space to pray for members of the LHM family and share your own prayer requests. When you sign up to be an LHM Prayer Warrior, we will send you a FREE digital resource named Prayer: When You Don't Know What To Say that explores why and how we should pray - www.lhm.org/prayer. Please share this information in your church bulletins, newsletters and presentations.
GOOD NEWS COURIER

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Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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REV. BRIAN TRUOG, SENIOR PASTOR
REV. MARK R. ROHRD, PASTOR
Office Hours: 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Monday-Friday
Traditional Service 8:30 A.M.
Blended Service 11:00 A.M.
Adult Bible Class/Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
A Place to Worship, to Learn, to Serve.
A Stephen Ministry Congregation
WWW.COSLCTN.ORG

NEW MINISTRY CENTER:
Thanks again to Herb West for the beautiful Ministry Center in our Christian Ministry Center’s lobby. If your ministry would like to put a display up on one of the shelves, or, if you would like to use the Ministry Center table some Sunday to promote your ministry, contact Pastor Truog to make arrangements.
Our Ministry Promotion Team would be happy to help you design a display.

Newsletter Staff:
Ron Uncapher, Editor
Judith Schmid-Bielenberg, Sandy Stricklett, Cathy Stark, Marguerite Vormelker, and Gwen West

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Heard Sunday Mornings @7am on WJBX 97.5FM
The Ascension

Many Christian churches will celebrate Ascension Day on (or near) May 21, which is 40 days after Easter. Theologian Friedemann Hebart explained Christ’s Ascension this way:

“When Jesus’ work on Earth was done, he took leave of his disciples and went to be with his Father. A time for sad farewells, one might think. Yet the church celebrates the Ascension with special joy. What is the reason for joy when Jesus leaves his people?

“The Ascension is not the end of Jesus’ work, but a new beginning! How could Jesus ever leave us alone? Because he has gone to be Lord of the universe, he can continue his work of life and love — among us, too. His work was not just a short episode in Galilee. In the person of the Holy Spirit, the same Lord is present among us, still revealing the Father’s loving heart, so that we, too, can believe — and sing songs of joy.”

Pentecost

On Thursday, May 10, Christians around the world will celebrate the Day of Pentecost. It’s often remembered as the church’s birthday. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised that the Holy Spirit would come upon those who believed in his resurrection.

Three thousand people were gathered in Jerusalem when the Spirit came upon them. They were so touched by the Holy Spirit that they began to worship regularly, especially on Sundays, the day of Christ’s resurrection. To symbolize the “tongues, as of fire” (Acts 2:3, NRSV) that came upon the people present at Pentecost, liturgical churches display the color red in their worship services on Pentecost Sunday. Many people attending worship wear red on that day.

The Bible

What does the Bible do for us? The Bible tells us of God’s love, grace and mercy. God has given us the Bible to guide us through our life here on earth. The Bible also helps to equip us and strengthen us in our witnessing. If we study Scripture on a regular basis, we will be strengthened in our faith in the Lord Jesus.

As Christians it is important for us to be in the Word on a regular basis. We do this in a number of ways. In all worship services we have at least two readings from the Bible; one is always from the Gospels. This is good but we also need to study the Bible more than just on Sundays.

Christ Our Savior has a number of Bible studies throughout the week. We have one between the services on Sunday. There is a ladies Bible study on Tuesdays, at the church, at 1:30 pm, in room 103. We have one on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm, with dinner at 5:30 pm before the Bible study. There is a Bible study on Wednesday morning and there is one on Friday, at 10:30 am in room 103.

We as a church can offer many types of Bible studies, at many times and on many different days. If you would like to participate in a Bible class that is already meeting, contact the leader of the class. If there is not a Bible class that meets your needs, please contact your Elder or me and we will get one started that will fit your needs.

We have some other ways to help you to study the Bible regularly. Some ways are Portals of Prayer that are available to our members quarterly daily study books, and many books in our library.

If you are not participating in any of the current Bible studies, please consider getting involved in one.

In His Service,

Merton Roberts, Elder
865.308.0204
mjr mù@gmail.com
SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, MAY 5th, 2018

On Saturday, May 5th, 2018 the Tennessee District of the Lutheran Laymen’s League will be hosting its annual conference at Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Knoxville, Tennessee. The focus of this year’s conference will be to familiarize people in East Tennessee with the offerings of Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM), its work throughout the world and encourage the use of modern digital capabilities. The conference will feature information about LHM including the latest digital offerings presented by Rachel Legoute of LHM. Also included will be a Bible study and information about LHM’s ministries in Liberia. As an added bonus, we expect Dr. Gregory Seltz (former LHM Speaker) to update us on his new assignment as the Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberties. This weekend will also be the celebration of our host congregation’s Fiftieth Anniversary.

The conference will begin at 10:00 AM with a Bible study and a brief business meeting followed by a pizza lunch. The afternoon session will feature information about LHM and presentations by our guest speakers. It will be followed with a fish fry and conclude around 6:30 PM after the viewing of the Kentucky Derby. The conference is offered free of charge including all meals. Please join us for this informative meeting.

Contact Mark Roeder (770) 891-3978 for any additional information and registration.

Mark Roeder

THE CARING CHURCH

For some time now concerns have arisen about members of our loving church family whose attendance at church has been slipping a little or has been a little more sporadic than usual. There are generally common reasons for this such as illness, vacations or just plain losing interest. At any rate, this is not just our concern but a real concern throughout our nation. We truly believe as Elders, along with all the leaders of our church family that we should extend our hands, voices and caring hearts just a little further, especially towards those who are new or a little quieter than usual or generally just sitting alone. In other words, put some renewed ZEAL in your greeting and let it shine.

We want to encourage each of you to prayerfully consider expressing your Christian love and care by paying special attention to members of our church family, who usually sit in a nearby pew or have sat with you at Bible study, who are frequently absent. Perhaps many people will feel it is not their place to get involved. If you feel especially awkward in reaching out yourself with a straightforward but simple call expressing concern, we encourage expressing your concern to one of the Pastors or to any of the Elders, who will be working to strengthen relationships with members in their Elder groups.

We are all members of one body in Christ and caring for members of our church family is what the Lord would want from us. Romans 15:2 and 4-6 says, “Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, for building him up, … For whatever was written before was written for our instruction, so that through patience and the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God of patience and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another in the manner of Christ Jesus, so that together with one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Your Caring Board of Elders
COS ENDOWMENT FUND
Grant Drive Successful & Other Blessings

The Endowment Fund Committee is pleased to report that our recent fund drive succeeded in raising the $10,000 deposit necessary to receive a second $5,000 Werner grant for investing in the Traditional Portfolio (60% equities/40% fixed income securities) that was recently established by the Lutheran Legacy Foundation. The purpose of this grant program is to encourage Lutheran churches to establish and grow endowment funds to support their ministries and outreach programs, as well as enhance their long-term financial security. As with the initial Werner grant that we obtained in 2017 to invest in the LLF Growth Portfolio, our second deposit will entitle the Christ Our Savior Endowment Fund to earn investment income on the total amount ($15,000 at inception), while the principal amount of the grant amount is being earned out over a 7-year period. Thanks to the members of our congregation whose generosity made this investment possible.

Our Endowment Fund has subsequently received a generous gift from Ursula Young that she made as she bid farewell to our congregation in connection with her relocation to Florida. This will permit our Endowment Fund to establish an account with the LCMS Foundation to further diversity our portfolio of investments. The LCMS Foundation has a range of funds for which professional managers with specialized expertise have been selected, and the fee structure is quite favorable. Although church endowment funds have historically benefited primarily from estate legacies, the importance of life-time giving for the COS Endowment Fund to achieve its mission is especially helpful. We are blessed and thankful that Ursula has set such a fine example, and we hope that others may consider similar opportunities in the future. For various ways to contribute, please refer to the COS Endowment Fund brochure, copies of which are available in the CMC ministry center.

ADOPT-A-STUDENT
CALL DAYS HAVE COME AND GONE!

On April 24th Casey and Noah Kegley, two of our adopted seminarians, learned where they will serve God’s plan as pastors. On April 25th John Engwall, our recent Fort Wayne seminary graduate, has also gone into the service of the Lord. These young men celebrate beginning their careers in the church. However, on those days, 120 congregations hoped to have a new leader, but only 83 candidates graduated from both seminaries. It is important, as an LCMS congregation, that we continue our support for the Adopt-a-Student program, so that more young men will prepare for the ministry.
Thank you for your support and the blessing you are to the future of the LCMS. For more information, call John W. Smith at 408-0185.
SCRIP UPDATE

BULLETIN - Great Lakes Scrip Company has been acquired in a $1.5B acquisition by Bold Orange. No immediate changes are available. The next SCRIP order date will be **Sunday May 6**, in time for Graduations and Weddings and other summer activities.

The **COS Endowment Fund** is operating a Fund Raising Program called SCRIP; it allows the Fund to raise money when members pre-purchase retail gift cards to pay for everyday purchases. (Order dates are announced monthly)

1. You can order Gift Cards through the Endowment Fund Team and pay via a check to the **COS Endowment Fund**. (not a Tax deduction)

2. The TEAM purchases the cards for a lesser amount based on a rebate (ranging from 1.5% to 12+) and pays the postage. The difference between face value and the amount which the Fund pays is immediately credited to the Endowment Fund Bank Account.

3. The TEAM buys the cards and has them available for you within days.

SCRIP gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer and do not have an expiration date. There are over 750 favorite retailers, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels, airlines, cruise lines and home improvement suppliers to choose from.

The SCRIP team also now offers “Presto Pay”. This process allows owners to purchase SCRIP Gift Cards online or increase the value of existing cards using normal “ACH” processing; after a separate sign-up has been completed - see the Administrator for the latest details.

See the latest brand List @ [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)

By shopping through the SCRIP, a person doesn’t have to spend any extra dollars to contribute to the things they love. For example if you shop regularly at Food Lion or Walmart or Omaha Steaks, purchase a SCRIP gift card and use it for your purchases.
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church presents
A Day of Orthopaedics

May 19, 2018
8:30am-2pm

Featuring University Orthopaedic Surgeons of the Advanced Orthopaedic Center at UT Medical Center Reserve your spot now to learn about the prevention, management and treatment of Osteoporosis and other orthopaedic issues of the shoulders, hands, hips, knees, foot and ankle.

UT Physical Therapy will have representatives there to answer your questions on therapy.

Call the Church Office for Reservations
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
260 Wade Road, Loudon, TN
865-458-9407

For more information visit our website www.coslctn.org

Schedule
8:30 - 9:00  Breakfast
9:00 - 9:45  Dr. Brian Tonne
Management of Knee Pain
9:45 - 10:30 Dr. Philip McDowell:
Shoulder Pain: Causes and Treatment Options
10:30 - 11:15 Dr. Christine Seaworth
Foot and Ankle: Bunions and Great Toe Arthritis
11:15-11:45  Lunch
11:45 - 12:30 Dr. Kostas Triantafillou
I’ve Fallen and I Can’t Get Up!
How to Protect Yourself from Osteoporosis
12:30 - 1:15  Dr. William Oros
Management and Treatment of Hip Pain
1:15 - 2:00  Dr. Joshua Moss
Common Hand and Wrist Conditions and Injuries
April 4, 2018

Mr. Richard Martin
Director, K-9 Deployment
LCC Canine Comfort Dogs
3020 Milwaukee Avenue
Northbrook, IL 60062

Dear Mr. Martin:

We brought back students and staff to Great Mills High School this week to begin the process of recovery. We know this is the first step in a long journey. We also know that the best healing happens when people come together in love and support.

Through your donation, you have shown Great Mills this love and support in its most trying time. Thank you for providing therapeutic support for Great Mills students and staff. Mr. Philip Burden, Team Leader, has been incredible and the dogs Jewel, Maggie, Sasha, Addle, and Leah were awesome! Your generosity provided positivity and hope when it was needed most.

We are part of an incredible community that pulls together when there is need. Your contribution is evidence of this and makes us thankful to live in St. Mary’s County.

With deep appreciation,

Karin M. Bailey
Chairman, Board of Education

J. Scott Smith, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Christ’s love for:

Good News Courier  May 2018

Ascension of the Lord