

Email from 10/30/2020

Subject: Coronavirus & Church Updates: October 30<sup>th</sup> – from Pastor Arnold

Dear Fellow Redeemed,

*Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, the Missouri District President, shares this devotion with us today. In the light of Reformation Day, remember that God has made you free to serve. God bless your day.*

Martin Luther's doctrine of vocation emphasizes the Scriptural teaching that every Christian is called by God to a life of service. Some may be called to lives of service as pastors or teachers, while others serve their neighbors as accountants or police officers. However, each is a form of service that we offer in Christ's name. This key teaching of Lutheran doctrine gives purpose to the daily work that each Christian undertakes. In his "Freedom of a Christian," Luther writes, "A Christian is an utterly free man, lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is an utterly dutiful man, servant of all, subject to all."

We are, therefore, free to serve the Lord with gifts of music and art or by picking up trash around the church grounds. All forms of service are considered acceptable sacrifices to God on account of Jesus—the one, perfect sacrifice. For our service to Christ and His Church is sanctified by the Word of God and prayer.

How is God using you to serve others and be His chosen instrument of blessing? There are so many different ways that we can serve with the gifts that God has given us. As St. Paul writes, "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:17) Jesus Christ has set you free to serve! May our heavenly Father use you to be a blessing to many with the gifts that He has given to you! God's blessings in your service!

**A Blessed Reformation Day Eve!** On the Eve of All Saint's Day (October 31<sup>st</sup>) Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses (95 statements of biblical discrepancies concerning the Roman Church) on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. This moment would set into motion the Reformation with many events to follow. If you wish to learn more about the Reformation, please watch this video by my friend Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller. You can find the video by clicking [here](#).

Pastor Wolfmueller also wrote a book about Martin Luther's theology of martyrdom. You can find that book by clicking [here](#). I have not read it yet but plan to do so soon.

Here is what the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany looks like today:

**CONGRATUATIONS** to our six newly elected Directors. They are Charley Buckner, Tommy France, Steve Foutch, Dan Jones, John Peer, and James Thomas. Thank you for your willingness to serve on our Board of Directors. We are blessed to have your service and leadership for the sake of our parish-family.

**THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE:** Reminder... we have Worship with Holy Communion on Thanksgiving Day at 10 a.m. So come and bring your family. What better way to give thanks for all we have than to do so in the Lord's House.

**November Church Sign-ups on SignUpGenius.com** – A maximum of 90 persons may sign up to attend Service. **Please sign up before coming to church by going directly to the sign-up website by clicking: [sign-up for Church](#).** Or, you may visit the church website, [www.christlc.net](http://www.christlc.net), and find the link in the “alert” pop-up section. You may also call the church office at 816-741-0483 or email Eunice at [christlc@christlc.com](mailto:christlc@christlc.com).

**Reminder** – Wednesday Evening Service is a *Mask Required* Service. We ask that you would please wear your mask at all times. Of course, you may remove or move your mask down to receive Holy Communion. Then, if you would please, return your mask to its original position. Thank you.

**LIVESTREAM REMINDER:** You now have TWO options to view our livestream Bible study (9:30 a.m.) and Divine Service (10:45 a.m.) on Sunday. 1) [Facebook page](#) or 2) [Vimeo](#). If you go to our Vimeo page, you can view the most recent Bible studies and Church Services. You can still view all the church Services, Sunday School Lessons, and Daily Devotions on our [YouTube Channel](#) as well. Check it out!

**Your Pastors and Church Leadership** are aware of the increased COVID cases around the nation. We want you to be assured we are taking extra precaution to clean and sanitize as much as possible. We all need to work together to make sure we stay safe in order to keep ourselves and our neighbor healthy. Thank you for all your cooperation.

**“In-Person” Bible Studies** – Don't forget, we have FIVE different “in-person” Bible Study options for our Parish family: 1) Sunday 9:30 a.m. 2) Adult Information Class on Sunday 7 p.m. 3) Tuesday 10:30 a.m. 4) Wednesday Women's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. 5) Friday Men's Bible Study. Choose one or two or three and come join us.

**Thank You** – to all who continue to remember your church-family with your offerings, even when you are not able to be here. It is important to remember that we continue to be the body of Christ together... no matter if we can be here on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings or not. God bless you all. Thank you so much for remembering your Church.

**Prayer** – *Dear heavenly Father, guide and protect your church. Keep us safe and steadfast in your Holy Word. Watch over and protect your church and this world. Grant us safety and peace. In Jesus name, Amen.*

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Arnold