



CHURCH NEWS

Special Meetings: September 27-30

Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck from Maranatha Free Lutheran Church, Glyndon, MN, will speak at our special meetings this fall. His series is called, "**Living Life Backwards**: *Living this Life with the End in View*." Pray for Pastor Quanbeck as he prepares to proclaim God's Word to us. Pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare our hearts to receive God's Word with gladness.



Pastor Quanbeck sent the following note:

"Growing old makes a body and an inner self part company as one ages and the other stays young. It leaves a person depressed at the disconnect between the mirror and the mind." (David Gibson)

I am on the edge of turning 60 and don't know how I got here so fast. Some of you are even farther down the road of life! A couple of years ago I read the book "Living Life Backwards" by David Gibson which helped me significantly in gaining perspective on my short time upon this earth.

This led to a four-month study and preaching series in the book of Ecclesiastes, a book that I had considered one of the most depressing books in the Bible. However it is now one of my favorites.

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Services to invite friends to:

Sunday 9/27, 9:30 a.m., Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Nothing New Under the Sun?

The Brevity, Unreliability, and Futility of Life Apart from God

Sunday 9/27, 7:00 p.m., Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26

Can't Get No Satisfaction?

Experience Teaches the Futility of Life Apart from God

Monday 9/28, 7:00 p.m., Ecclesiastes 5:1-7, 18-20

Life Is Not so Futile If God Is in the Picture

Your Attitude toward God—Guard Your Steps as You Go to Worship

Tuesday 9/29, 7:00 p.m., Ecclesiastes 9:1-12

One Certainty, Many Uncertainties

Living Life with Both

Wednesday 9/30, 7:00 p.m., Ecclesiastes 12:1-14

The Preacher's Point

Remember Your Creator Now

Learning and Teaching

This time of year will always be “back-to-school time” to me. Even though I’m not technically in school anymore, my mind always takes me back to returning to school and seeing old friends, telling them about my summer, and gearing up for learning.

Though I loved (and still love) summer, I was always excited to come back and see what new things I would learn. I didn’t always enjoy the process of learning (talk to me about learning Greek and Hebrew sometime), but overall, I’ve always enjoyed learning new things.

That is especially true when it comes to theology. Once I finally had the technological resources to consume good podcasts regularly, I ate them up. Theological podcasts such as Issues Etc., Being Lutheran, and Table Talk Radio were staples while I was working or making road trips to home or to see Taylor. Learning has always been a mostly enjoyable experience to me.

Throughout the Scriptures, we are constantly reminded and exhorted to learn and study God’s Word. David writes in more than a few Psalms that he desires to be taught God’s Word (Psalm 25, 119, and 143:10, just to name a few spots). As we study God’s Word, Jesus says that the Holy Spirit will teach us and help us to remember what we have been taught (John 14:26).

Scripture also exhorts us to teach God’s Word to others. Jesus told his disciples to baptize and

teach as part of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), and Paul exhorted his followers, as well as Timothy and Titus, to teach the Word as well (Philippians 4:9, Titus 2:1).

While it certainly can be intimidating and exhausting to both learn and to teach, there are numerous blessings that come from both. As we learn and study God’s Word, He works through it to convict us, comfort us, and create and encourage faith in us. The more we learn about God’s love for us in Christ, the more we become comforted and encouraged in faith. As we then turn around and teach it to our kids and/or our neighbors, we serve them and give them the same comfort of the Gospel we ourselves received, and we are making disciples.

As we study, learn, and teach, we also become more discerning Christians. We begin to recognize what is true and what is false, what is right and “almost right,” as the famous preacher Charles Spurgeon puts it. We begin to see through the lies that our flesh, the world, and Satan throw at us. That in turn points us back to the solid ground and comfort of God’s Word in the midst of a time of “fake news” and “media bias.”

So as kids head back to school to learn and to study, whatever that may look like during the pandemic, let us all become students of the Word as well. Let us reap the rewards of getting to know more and more about who our God is and what He has graciously done for us in Christ.

In Christ, Intern Michael Onstad

Special Meetings, Continued from p.1

When we learn to live our lives with the end in view, it shapes our perspective on the time we have here. Gibson says, “Death can change us from people who want to control life for gain into people who find deep joy in receiving life as a gift.”

I look forward to digging into the book of Ecclesiastes with you, and trust that the Holy Spirit will speak to our hearts as we gather around God’s

Word. The message of this book is not only for those who are starting to feel old. Its author, Solomon, intends it as valuable lessons for the young as well. So bring your families, invite your neighbors and come together for a few days of fresh perspective on this earthly life in light of its end, and in light of eternity!

— Pastor Lloyd Quanbeck

VBS Success!

During these uncertain times, when most of our kids have had little normalcy in their lives for months, what a tremendous blessing it was that Our Saviour's was able to still offer VBS.

Did it look and feel different? Definitely! Did our kids get to hear God's message and rejoice in His glory together? Absolutely!!

We would like to send out a huge thank you to the Parish Education board and the volunteers who helped make this virtual VBS experience an



enjoyable one for kids, providing the opportunity to sing, hear Bible stories and verses, have a snack, and do a craft. Can't get much closer than that to what in person VBS consists of. We would like to thank the entire congregation for their prayers and contributions; it takes everyone to make it happen.



Finally, thanks to the kids (and parents) for their willingness to try something different and embracing it wholeheartedly. Now, maybe more than ever, our kids need to know God loves them, Jesus died for them, and that God has a plan.



We ask for your continued prayers for these young people as we move into fall and their return to school, whatever that may look like for each one of them.

— Sarah Lefebvre



To Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, I just want to say thank you to every single person involved in making VBS possible this



year. It certainly has been a different sort of year with many unexpected challenges, but your dedication to bring the Word to our children even in this consolidated online format was awesome.

While I was sad for them to miss out on "normal" VBS, my girls were so excited every single day to open their bags and log on—they did not feel like they were missing out on anything! I am so grateful that you decided to do this. I know that so much work was put in to make this happen, and I want you all to know that your selfless gifts of time and energy are appreciated.



Thank you again for letting my girls be a part of VBS this year. They absolutely loved it!

— Madison Carlson



Confirmation Dates

Catechization evening for our **seven** third-year students is scheduled for October 28 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the Catechization to support the confirmands and to be refreshed in the teaching of God's Word as summarized in Luther's Small Catechism. Confirmation Sunday is November 1.

Annual Conference 2020

Don and I had the privilege of attending the 58th Annual Conference at the ARC. Monday was board meetings for Don and WMF day for me. Our theme for the day was "Victory in Jesus." About 100 women attended. We had a wonderful day beginning with devotions by our Bible Study author, Linda Korhonen. Our other speakers were Natalie Ballman, Joan Korhonen, and Dana Coyle. Music was provided by the Snipstead sisters.

That evening we witnessed the ordination of Micah Klemme and Matthew Abel. Their fathers participated in the service. Both Paul Abel and Todd Klemme did their student internships at Our Saviour's and Reiner. Pastor Jerry Moan was the evening speaker.

Our theme was "Will He Find Faith" based on Luke 18:8. Tuesday morning the business began. Pastor Terry Olson was reelected Vice President, and Pastor Micah Hjermstad was reelected secretary. The morning sessions always end with a time of prayer. Tuesday evening was Mission Festival service. Paul and Becky and Matthew and Ednay Abel sang, and Missionary Brent Raan gave the message.

Wednesday was more business. We think that the abbreviated schedule worked well. Total registration was 308. It is always a blessing to be at conference and fellowship with others. We would encourage others to go in the future. Next year's conference will be at AFLC Headquarters.

—Sonia Balmer

Sunday School!

The Parish Ed Board would like to announce an anticipated start date for Sunday School of October 4. We will start our Sunday school year as usual with Rally Sunday. Plan to join us! More details will follow about Rally Sunday and Sunday School.



In-Sanctuary Worship Services!

Rejoice! In-sanctuary worship services at Our Saviour's resume on September 13, 9:30 a.m.! March 15 was the last time we gathered in-person at Our Saviour's to receive the ministry of the Word and the fellowship of the saints.

Since March 15, God's Word has continued to endure, His mercies have continued to be new every morning, and He has continued to shepherd us in dark sorrowful valleys and bright joyful hilltops. Some things never change!

Out of love for your concerned neighbors in the congregation, please wear a mask unless a medical reason exempts you. The council will continue to keep eyes on the pandemic and ears open to the congregation. Pray for each other!

The FM Transmitter will continue to broadcast to the parking lot on 102.5, and online video will still be available. Video will (Lord willing) be live-streamed at 9:30 a.m. and then archived for later viewing.

Kids Klub/Suppers on Wednesdays

As of this printing of the newsletter, we do not have a start date for Kids Klub or Wednesday evening suppers.



—Parish Ed

Virtual FLY Beyond 2020

The youth didn't travel to FLY Beyond this summer, but FLY Beyond is coming to us! Videos of the FLY Beyond Youth Retreat sessions that were recorded at the Association Retreat Center in Wisconsin have been made available to local Free Lutheran Youth groups.

The theme for the FLY Beyond this year is "Mysterious Hope." The Bible verse for these sessions is Colossians 1:27-29. These sessions will help in finding healing and how to interact with the world around us who are in need of the "mysterious hope" that we find in Jesus.

There are 15 sessions that we will be covering over the next weeks. We plan on having about an hour and half for them. This gives us time to watch the video and have time for discussion. Details are yet to be determined. We are planning on Wednesday nights. Hope to see you there!

FLY Convention 2021

Greetings from FLY. This year we ask for you to pray for the youth. As a fellow youth member, I know how challenging the school year we face will be as we will have more than just our faith tested.

We also ask you to pray for our current seniors that their last year won't be under quarantine. This upcoming 2021 FLY Convention is still scheduled, and the youth are really looking forward to it. We ask that you would pray that we would still have the chance and opportunity to go in these times and for the safety of the youth leading up to it.

Know also that we pray for you. Take heart, "In this world we will have trouble. But He has overcome the world." John 16:33

— Isaac Mauch

WMF, September 19

WMF (Women's Missionary Federation) meets Saturday, September 19, at 9:00 a.m.

Devotions: Sharon Peterson

Bible Study: Eloda Knutson (Lesson 6 — Love is Not Just a Feeling)

Twila Rolf (Lesson 9 — Becoming a Slave to Fear)

Hostesses: Barb Farbo, Maureen Giffen, Judy Weleski

Freya's Baptism



Freya Joy Borsvold, daughter of Luke and Andrea Borsvold, was baptized August 23, 2020. Laura Erickson is Freya's baptismal sponsor. God bless you, Freya!

Welcome, Jack!



Jack Winslow Elwell was born to Tony and Kate Elwell on August 24. Praise the Lord!

In Memory of Irene Molskness

On June 19, 2020 another of the Our Saviour's Church family moved on to her heavenly residence, when Irene Josephine Erickson Lysne Molskness passed from this life. She was ready to go "home"; in fact, she was awaiting taking that journey.

Irene was a woman of many talents and a persistent learner. For 35 years she owned and operated a beauty shop in homes in Holt, Newfolden, and East Grand Forks. Irene enjoyed a good book and time with family and friends. She was resolute in her Christian faith, had a good sense of humor, and a determined mind pertaining to life values. Irene also had a concern for the souls of others, especially her loved ones.



Irene is survived by her son Sherman Lysne (Barb) of Abilene, Kansas, and siblings — Garner (Julie) Erickson, Donald Erickson, June Sipkens, and Grace Olson.

Irene is preceded in death by her daughter, Carolyn Jablinski, daughter-in-law, Diane Lysne, and husbands, Stanley Lysne and Maynard Molskness (father of Tom).

Irene was an adventurous soul. She has now entered the greatest adventure of all—eternity with the Lord Jesus Christ. A beautiful graveside service was led by

Pastor Alex Amiot at the Holt, MN cemetery on August 3, 2020.

— Carmen Gustafson

A Note from the Annual Conference Secretary

I woke up this morning very humbled. I spent three days with other Christians at our church body's Annual Conference. They were flexible with a revised schedule. They wore masks. In various matters of business and ministry, they disagreed with grace and respect. They served one another. They prayed for each other. They stayed up late to encourage one another. So many people with different backgrounds and opinions, uniquely united in one faith in the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ. I am so grateful.

—Pastor Micah Hjermstad, AFLC Conference Secretary (posted on Facebook)

Consider One Another (Pray, Write, Call, Go)

VALLEY HOME, 523 ARNOLD AVE. S., THIEF RIVER FALLS

Don Brown, Ed Van De Streek

VILLA ST. VINCENT, 516 WALSH ST., CROOKSTON

Adeline Sletten

MINNESOTA GREENLEAF, 1006 GREENWOOD ST. E., THIEF RIVER FALLS

Irene Holmstrom, Jan Olson, Gordon Johnson

THIEF RIVER CARE CENTER, 2001 EASTWOOD DR, THIEF RIVER FALLS

Hulda Sigerud

C/O DEBBIE ULSTAD, 3025 281ST AVENUE, MADISON, MN 56256

Ruby Nygard

*"[O Lord], do not cast me off
in the time of old age; forsake me
not when my strength is spent."*

Psalm 71:9

*"Even to your old age I am
He, and to gray hairs I will carry
you. I have made, and I will
bear; I will carry and will save."*

Isaiah 46:4

Do you know someone connected to our congregation that should be on this list? Call or email Pamela Pals in the office, 681-4643, oursavioursaflc@mncable.net.

Our Saviour's Lutheran – September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM	2 Parish Ed Meeting 5:15 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	3	4	5
6 Our Saviour's Service online Radio Broadcast on KTRF 8:00 AM Parking Lot Service 9:30 AM Worship Service - Reiner 11:30 AM	7	8	9 Confirmation 5:30 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	10	11	12
13 Our Saviour's Service online Radio Broadcast on KTRF 8:00 AM Worship Service - OSLC 9:30 AM Parking Lot Service 9:30 AM Worship Service - Reiner 11:30 AM	14	15 Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM	16 Confirmation 5:30 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	17	18	19 WMF 9:00 AM
20 Our Saviour's Service online Radio Broadcast on KTRF 8:00 AM Worship Service - OSLC 9:30 AM Parking Lot Service 9:30 AM Worship Service - Reiner 11:30 AM	21 Deacons and Trustees Meetings 6:00 PM Council Meeting 7:30 PM	22 Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM	23 Confirmation 5:30 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	24	25	26
27 Our Saviour's Service online Radio Broadcast on KTRF 8:00 AM Worship Service - OSLC 9:30 AM Parking Lot Service 9:30 AM Worship Service - Reiner 11:30 AM Fall Special Meeting 7:00 PM	28 Fall Special Meeting 7:00 PM	29 Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM Fall Special Meeting 7:00 PM	30 Confirmation 5:30 PM Fall Special Meeting 7:00 PM			

Address
 P.O. Box 269
 2075 Hwy. 59 South
 Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701
Phone 218-681-4643 • **Email** oursavioursaflc@mncable.net