The Cornerstone

A publication of Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:45 AM Sunday School/Bible Classes - 9:30 AM

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October 2020

Confirmation Sunday

Those being confirmed on October 25 are Kimberly Kuehnert, Genevieve Gross, William Butler, Addie Ross, Andrew King, Morgan and Maggie Merrill, Luke Johnson and Ivie Carson. There will be no reception this year, but baskets for cards will be available.



Fellow Redeemed,

Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Je-

sus Christ. Amen. This Grace from God is so amazing that, very often, we miss sight of just how deep and wonderful it is. I want to share a quote from Chad L. Bird, "In forgiveness we lose the control we thought we had, because there is no controlling the unrelenting, radical grace of a forgiveness-crazy Father. This love is frightening to the careful, reprehensible to the legalist, dangerous to the moralist. But if you've experienced it, you know it's like being yanked out of the grave and having your coffin lid pried open. It is the most unexpected pleasure in the world to be loved without condition by A God who makes no demands."

I want to take a moment and couple this quote with another quote from yet another book I am currently reading. It is an excerpt from the book Kingdom, Grace, Judgment: Paradox, Outrage, and Vindication in the Parables of Jesus by Robert Farrar Capon, "The Bible's last chapters proclaim a heaven and earth more inextricably intertwined than ever. Whatever else the "New Jerusalem" may signify, it says plainly that the final "heaven" will be as earthly as the eschatological earth will be heavenly – and that that's the way it is going to be forever. Indeed, it is worth nothing that most uses of the words "heaven" or "heavenly" in the New Testament bear little relation to the meanings we have so unscripturally attached to them. For us, heaven is an unearthly, humanly irrelevant condition in which bed-sheeted, paper-winged spirits sit on clouds and play tinkly music until their pipe-cleaner halos drop off from boredom. But in Scripture, heaven is a city with boys and girls playing in the streets, it is buildings put up by a Department of Public Works that uses amethysts for cinder blocks and pearls as big as the Ritz for gates; and indoors, it is a dinner party to end all dinner parties at the marriage supper of the Lamb. It is, in short, earth wedded, not earth jilted. It is the world as the irremovable apple of God's eye."

What an amazing realization that we find in God's revelation to us, through His Word. Heaven is not going to be some far off place, but rather a New Earth, that God Himself will create, with real life experiences that are more real than the temporal shadow of this life and this world. An actual mansion with actual, real life rooms, that Jesus Himself has prepared for us. These are what awaits us on the last day. The last day, not when we die, but rather, when Jesus Christ comes again, in glory to bring us into the new earth, the new Jerusalem, where everything has been made ready and everything awaits us with a new life, a forever life with God through Jesus Christ. Come Lord Jesus! Amen!

--Pastor Burmeister



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Loved For Who We Are

When I was a Child, my parents loved me not because I was good but because I was ... their Child. I loved them and I wanted to please them, but their love of me did not have to be earned.

Neither does the love of God. We are loved because we are his children, because we are. If we feel that we ought to be loved because it is our due, or because we deserve it, the less we will truly feel the need of God's love; the less implicit will be our trust; the less we will cry out, *Abba!*

--Madeleine L'Engle, Walking on Water







SAVE THE DATE! Camp Lutherhoma will once again be hosting Fall Force Camp the weekend of Nov. 20-22 for 8-13 year old campers. Adult registrants are free. Once we have registration details from Camp we will pass them along to you. Families sending campers will need to arrange their own transportation to and

from Camp. Lutherhoma will use procedures developed during summer camp and will continue to monitor the COVID situation in the coming weeks.



COLLEGE ADDRESES

Please contact the church office with updated addresses for all college students.

Outreach News

- Collections for the clients of South Tulsa Community House continue. See weekly eblasts for current and continuing needs.
- Sunday School offerings continue to be sent to the Tulsa Community Food Bank.
- October clothing collection for Harvest House is cancelled this fall.
- Tulsa Saints Foundation collects coats, socks, underwear, tee shirts and jeans for the homeless they minister to. Label Tulsa Saints and put near shopping cart south hallway.
- Thanksgiving baskets and Remembrance Bags will be collected for in November.
- Missionary support continues for the Kasters, Lutz, and Chehabs.

Thank you for reaching out and sharing God's blessings with those in need!





The OWLS will not meet until we are : comfortable with the safety issues for everyone involved. We look forward to our fellowship luncheons in the near future.



What brings warmth and shelter to families by becoming a bed, room divider, backpack, and at times even a home???



HOW CAN YOU HELP??

We need help in purchasing the fabric to make the quilt tops. Each quilt costs approximately \$25 to make. Donations marked "LWML quilts" can be dropped in the mite box or put in the offering plate.



ers for the

the world!

Prayers for our quilt program are needed plus prayrecipients of our quilts. These quilts are sent all over the United States, as well as





Anthony & Tasha Bury Chuck & Leigh Ann Fuller Alex & Hailee Goossen Tom & Barbara Sprunger Ed & Diane Fager Nick & Kimberly Shannon Marty & Rosalie Weber Shawn & Sandy Cooper Jarrod & Heather Mann Mitch & Danita Cockrell Robert & Jocelyn Bentley Jesse & Anita Overton Sam & Beverly Woodard

Congratulations and God's
richest blessings to all of
our couples as they
celebrate their wedding
annivørsary!

(October 1	15 yrs
(October 1	32 yrs
(October 2	4 yrs
(October 2	49 yrs
(October 6	41 yrs
(October 6	36 yrs
(October 8	54 yrs
(October 12	24 yrs
(October 15	9 yrs
(October 17	33 yrs
(October 21	3 yrs
(October 30	16 yrs
(October 30	27 yrs

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you're doing the impossible." --Unknown



You can now sign up online to receive the CTR E-blast! This gives you access to the weekly news and events email as well as special announcements. Sign up today at <u>http://</u><u>www.ctrtulsa.org/emailsignup/</u> to receive it if you have not done so already.

Stay in Touch

Keep up with coming events, announcements, and updates:

~Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ ChristTheRedeemerLutheranChurch

www.facebook.com/groups/ctrtulsa/

~Instagram:

www.instagram.com/ctrtulsa/

~Twitter: @PastorBe_CTR



DISTRICT YOU EVENT "JOY" for 6th-8th grade students at Camp Lutherhoma will be October 2-4.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY will be October 25. Baskets will be available for the confirmands for gifts and cards.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY will be October 4.

FALL CLOTHING DRIVE for Harvest House will

be cancelled for this fall.



Now that construction has begun, church activities are confined to Sundays only with limited room access. If you or your group wish to use the church facilities, please fill out the forms that are located in the narthex or contact Floyd Lemons.

Floyd will confirm the date and location and get back to you with that confirmation.



October Altar Flowers

You can sign up to provide altar flowers, which you may take home following the late service. On the sign-up sheet write your name by the date and the special occasion for the flowers. Write your \$50 check to CTR,

with ALTAR FLOWERS on the memo line.

4: by Chuck & Leigh Ann Fuller in celebration of Fred Cousins and Chandler Fuller's birth-days

4:

11: by Bill, Jennifer & Andrea Roettger in loving memory of Gloria

11:

18: by Mitch & Danita Cockrell in celebration of their anniversary

- 18: 25:
- 25: 25:

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Confirmation Ministry

Students will now have TWO options for class times, including:

• Sunday School from 9:30-10:30 am for 6th grade - 8th grade

• At Home with monthly Check-In Nights from 3:00-5:00 PM for 6th grade and up As long as social distancing and mask requirements are upheld they will be required at all in person classes. If necessary, we will continue Zoom class participation for those who require it.

SUNDAY MORNING 9:30 AM

30-Lesson Bible Overview Series (Green Workbook) & Faith Alive Bible

September 6 Summer Series

September 13 Overview of the the Bible

September 20 How We Got the Bible

September 27 Overview of the Bible Narrative

October 4 Creation

October 11 The Fall to Cain & Abel

October 18 The Flood to Babel

October 25 Abraham to Jacob

November 1 Israel to Joseph & Egypt

November 8 Moses & the Exodus

November 15 Wilderness Wanderings & the Law

November 22 The Conquest of the Promised Land

November 29- Thanksgiving Special Lesson

December 6 The Judges

December 13 Samuel to King David

December 20 David to Solomon

December 27- Christmas Special Lesson

January 3 The Divided Kingdom in the North

January 10 The Divided Kingdom in the South

January 17 The Place of the Prophets

January 24 The Exile

January 31 The Return and the Intertestamental Period

Key points will be taught in Sunday School. Students wanting credit for this class will have additional at home reading and assignments to turn in and complete each week in order to receive credit.

AT HOME/ MONTHLY 3-5 PM

60-Lesson Catechism Study (Blue Workbook) & Small Catechism (LSC) & Bible A weekly schedule will be sent to you

August 30

Review Lessons 1, 2, 3 & 6

Intro to Confirmation and the Small

Catechism

September 27

Review First Article of the Apostles Creed

October 25

Review Second Article of the Apostles Creed

November 22

Review Third Article of the Apostles Creed

December NO CLASS

January 24 or 31 TBD Review Intro & 1st-3rd Commandments

STEWARDSHIP MAXIMIZING GOD'S BLESSINGS FOR HIS GLORY					
For the Month of August	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>			
August Giving	\$67,230	\$94,481			
Monthly Budget	\$63,800	\$81,789			
Year to Date Giving	\$560,903	\$536,898			
Year to Date Budget	\$542,299	\$572,518			
YTD Expenses	\$512,933	\$576,965			
Building Fund Contribution:					

August receipts: \$4,138.00 Balance: \$1,671,394.63



In-Person Service Announcement

We resumed in-person worship on July 26 at 8:15 and 10:45. We WILL livestream the 8:15 service. Beginning September 13, all Sunday school classes will resume as well.

Masks will be required at CTR.

This will facilitate a two fold purpose; first so that we can serve one another by keeping the spread of germs to a minimum, and second so that we can sing all of the hymns and liturgy. Wear your masks while you sing and praise God as He serves us through Worship with His Word and Sacraments. Masks are available in the narthex.

Communion will be distributed in a walk through manner, maintaining social distancing.



HOLY MYSTERIES Dwell in the wonder of these two gifts of God:

that God made us in his very image (Genesis 1:26), and then - "much more"! that Christ came to earth as a human being (Philippians 2:7).

Ponder and savor how poet John Donne (1572-1631) describes these mysteries:

"Twas much, that man was made like God before, But that God should be made like man, much more." We Love You, Lord

We worship you, our Lord Savior, You died that we might be set free From sins that so beset us daily, You died upon the cruel tree.

We love you, Lord, for you have made us You loved us when we were astray. May we show our love by our devotion And worship you on this Holy Pay;

That we someday may live forever With you on high in your floly Place We love you, Lord, our floly Savior And long to see your blessed face.

The bread we gat in your remembrance We gat in humble faith, we pray, and the wine we drink at your commandment Shows your death till you return someday.

Over death and the grave you were victorious; This is our assurance that we someday Shall live with you in that home on high If we your blessed commandments will obey.

We love, Lord, for you are tholy We long to live for you today, That on that day when this life is over We'll be with you in theaven to stay. --Leman th. Wilson

"One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar." --Helen Keller



MILITARY COUPONS -

 Until further notice, the collection of coupons for military families overseas is going to be put on hold. I wish to thank CTR

members for their generous support of this program over the past several years. – Deb Drain



CHRIST THE REDEEMER YOUTH MINISTRY Jr. High (6-8th graders) Sr. High (9-12th graders)

http://www.ctrtulsa.org/youth-5-12-grade/



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8

DCE Suzanne Watt

Lower Elementary and Upper Elementary (Pre-5th Grade)







Confirmation students will have 2 choices for classes this fall:

- Sunday School from 9:30-10:30 am for 6th grade 8th grade
- At home with monthly Check-In Nights from 3:00-5:00 PM for 6th grade and up
- There will be an introduction for both classes on Sunday, August 30, from 3-5 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

The Sunday School class, a 30-Lesson Bible Overview is also open to non-confirmation students. If necessary, we will continue to Zoom Sunday School classes for the participation of those staying at home. Classes will be led by DCE Suzanne.

High School Youth (9th-12th Grade)



We are working to get a teacher in place for this class. Until that date, students may attend Pastor's class or can volunteer to help with one of the Elementary classes.

High School students are invited to High School Small Group on Sunday evenings. If any families are interested in hosting a gathering, please contact DCE Suzanne.





On August 23, 14 ladies met and put together 36 boxes of school kits, and 2 boxes of personal care kits. A total of 39 personal care kits were boxed and 321 school kits. Thank you to everyone who helped us gather school supplies. It was great to get together again even if we practiced social distancing and wore our masks. The boxes will go to OKC on October 5.

Lutheran

Women Our new officers were installed August 23 at the late service. May the *in Mission* Lord give the officers strength for the mission he has set before us.

The next LWML meeting will be September 20 at 12:30. There will be several items to discuss, including our October meeting, since there won't be an in-person Zone Fall Fest, the possibility of a Christmas party, bylaws, etc. After the meeting, we will box up our quilts so they will be ready to go with our school kits to OKC in October. If you don't feel comfortable attending the meeting, that is okay. We will adhere to the Tulsa Ordinance No. 24408, dated July 15, 2020. Masks will be required for this meeting and they will be available in the narthex.

Lynne Kollock was gracious enough to make a table for our Giving Tuesday in September. Make sure you check it out when you attend church. It really looks nice! Thank you so much, Lynne!

In the next few weeks, I will be working on a booklet to hand out to everyone. It will include everyone's name, address, phone, birthday, anniversary, the LWML pledge, motto, some songs, etc. If your name isn't in the directory, please email that information to me.

I'm working with James Morgan on the CTR LWML web site. You will be able to access it for up-to-date information. Thank you, James, for being very patient with an old person trying to learn new technology! We will also be able to have team meetings thru Microsoft so we don't have to use Zoom, if that need arises.

Even through the Pandemic of Covid 19, the mission work of the LWML continues. Please continue to support the many missions of LWML with your prayers and offerings.

LWML.ORG has lots of ways to support and learn more about mission grants. For the Oklahoma district go to OKLWML.ORG.

Thank you for your support and please be flexible as we figure ways for our group to meet together to fulfill our outreach and missions.

Yours in Service - Daphnee Brian, President



Create autumn-themed artwork using items from plants.



What you need:

- Seed pods, nuts, pine cones
- Mixing bowl
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup warm water
- Adult help

What you do:

- 1. Go on a nature walk and collect seeds with interesting textures.
- 2. In the bowl, mix flour and salt. Gradually add water. On a table, knead the dough. (If too dry, add more water; if too sticky, add more flour.)
- 3. Flatten a ball of dough and stamp impressions in it with the seeds.
- 4. If desired, bake for several hours at 150 degrees until dry and hard. Or, to reuse dough, store in an airtight container up to 6 months.





In the last days of August demolition began on the NW corner of the building. Temporary doors and walls were put in to secure the building.

On September 3 the sanctuary organ was covered and disassembled in order to pre-



pare for the new construction which will adjoin to the choir loft. A professional crew came in and carefully covered and packaged each piece.



On September 14 the rough framing for the new Fellowship Hall Kitchen serving bar was put in. Staff members are shown "behind" the serving bar to show just how large of a space it will be! Do you think that will hold all the chili for the next cook off??? In and out doors are located on each side of the serving bar to allow for ease of flow into the spacious kitchen area for church events.



On September 15 crews continued framing new walls in the old ECC corridor and Youth Corridor.

















ECC Welcomes New Babies!







Nikki Witt, Director



Ms Sarah returns with music, instruments and bubbles!!











Amazon Smile!

Help support ECC by shopping on Amazon Smile. Simply select Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church and .5% of your purchase will be given back to the ECC.



S NEW

To all my friends in Tulsa:

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

I have been following the construction and activities of CTR through Facebook. It looks like you have been making a mess of the place! I wasn't even gone a month before you started to tear apart all things familiar to me. It is strange to think that the CTR that I left will not be the same CTR that I return to, whenever I get back to Tulsa. That is okay though! I can't wait to see the finished project and experience the new version of CTR.

In a lot of ways that reflects the process that I am going through at the seminary. For those of you that don't know my story, I attended Lutheran grade school and high school and after a couple of community colleges (before community college was cool) I eventually landed at Concordia River Forest. I have been involved in ministry for almost 30 years. You would think that I know a lot of things. Yet when I was guided to attend seminary, I knew that I had to be ready to learn new stuff, re-learn old stuff, and be renewed. I won't come out of this experience the same person that entered the seminary.

I know that the Spirit is working in my life to renew me as He is with all of us. In Colossians 3:9-10 we read, "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all."

The fall semester has started so I am attending regular classes instead of just Greek. Additionally, I have been assigned field work at Faith in Oakville, Mo which we attend on Sundays. I will be working with them on Sundays or maybe doing something mid-week for the entire time that I am at seminary. They have a partnership with Bethlehem, a predominantly African American church. I am also working with Chai v' Shalom, a Lutheran/Messianic Jewish congregation. I am experiencing a very diverse church.

In the New Testament the word used for church (ἐκλλησιά) never refers to a building, but the people gathered in Jesus' name. During this time of restrictions on in-person gathering and social unrest, I wonder how the church (the gathered, electronically or in-person) will be renewed. What a great time to be the church! Anyone interested could experience the church like a fly on the wall. Who could you invite to watch? I am certain that the mission is not being slowed by COVID. I believe it is being accelerated. Again, what a great time to be the church!

Thank you for all your prayers and support. God has been good to us and our family. Prayer requests this month are for Steven, who is still deployed in the Middle East with the

Air Force. William is probably going to be deployed with the Army again soon. Deb continues in her job in Oklahoma remotely and we pray that they will continue the current arrangement. I always need your prayers, that I can continue to grow in knowledge and Grace.

In Christ, Deon and Deb Hull 14 Founders Way St. Louis, MO 63105



South Tulsa Community House

CTR members continue to make donations of non-food items to South Tulsa Community House (STCH). Although our usual number of people coming to church regularly on Sunday has been low because of virus restrictions, a faithful few are contributing much needed items, especially those that can't be purchased with food stamps. They exclaim over the useful items of soaps, paper products, and household supplies, grooming items, toothpaste, and baby items that can be very expensive to buy.

So, please continue to fulfill a need of a family when you are out shopping. We pick up the items from church on Wednesdays and deliver to STCH on Thursdays. It really helps! If you want to help and can't go shopping, we'll shop for you. Leave a check in the office and designate it to "Outreach Ministry-STCH". STCH is currently not taking any food items or plastic bags at this time.

Feeding People through Sunday School Offerings



Even though we did not meet for Sunday School during the second Sunday quarter of the year, Sunday School offerings came in! With the match Offering from the Outreach budget, CTR sent a check to the Community Food

Bank of Eastern Oklahoma in the amount of \$562.50. This is so helpful during this time of high unemployment and children home during the summer. Thank you for feeding God's children. If you would like to contribute what you would usually be putting in the Sunday School offering, leave a check to CTR in the office with the designation "Sunday School Offering".

Missionary Support

Support from the Outreach budget continues for several missionaries: Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster in the Czech Republic, Antoine Lutz in Papua New Guinea, and Rev. Chehab, Salam Christian Fellowship in Illinois.

> Contact Patti Ross at 918-691-5328 with questions and suggestions for the Outreach Ministry.



Isaac Watts (1674-1748) was an English Congregational pastor, theologian, and hymnist. He is credited with having written approximately 750 hymns. Watts' hymnic contributions included both "original songs of the Christian experience" (Marini, Ste-

phen, Sacred Song in America: Religion, Music, and Public Culture) and The Psalms of David Imitated in the Language of the New Testament, a collection of metric paraphrases of the Psalms with language adapted to a specifically Christian perspective. In the centuries since his death, a number of his hymns, including When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, O God, Our Help in Ages Past, Jesus Shall Reign, Where'er the Sun, and Joy to the World, have achieved broad popularity across a wide array of Christian denominations.

As with many of the great hymns of the Christian faith, *O* God, Our Help in Ages Past, a paraphrase of Psalm 90:1-5, had its origins during times of trouble and unrest. This hymn was written against the backdrop of a potential struggle for the English monarchy. This was of particular concern for Watts, who as a dissenting Protestant was aligned neither with the Anglican church headed by Queen Anne, nor with the Roman Catholicism of James, the Queen's half-brother and a potential claimant to the throne. Watts appended the heading "Man Frail and God Eternal" to the hymn, a reminder to England's dissenting Protestant minority that "kings and governments come and go, but God remains their home forever." (Smith, Robert E., Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns, 1036).



STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT FUND

Pursuing a career in service to the Lord through the church is a fulfilling opportunity, but it is not an inexpensive choice. Those who pursue professional church work many times incur educational debt, just like anyone else may do. Repayment of educational debt is often made more difficult by the more modest salaries of church workers, compared to other professions.



In order to encourage and retain our professional church workers here at Christ the Redeemer, several years ago the congregation established a fund to assist our Pastors, DCEs and O God, Our Help in Ages Past takes the form of a prayer. Through the words of this hymn, we are reminded of the steadfast, unchanging presence of the One who is "our dwelling place in all generations" (Psalm 90:1).

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;

Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Be Thou our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

(O God Our Help in Ages Past, LSB

733, stanzas 1-2 and 6)



Jacob Drengler Music Director



Steve & Jody Zscheck 673 S Clark Street Carroll, IA 51401

Wayne Schulz 5641 S 82nd E Ave. Tulsa, OK 74145

Jennifer Adams 6723 E 97th St. Tulsa, OK 74133

Pattye & Jackie Brown 9337 E 81st St. Apt. 314, Tulsa, OK 74133

other synodically-trained church workers in repaying their student loans. This fund relies on the donations of our members here at CTR. The fund is currently in need of additional funds. Please prayerfully consider a designated donation to this cause. You may place your gift in the weekly offering with a designation of "Student Loan Fund" or you may give your gift directly to one of the Elders, and we will ensure that it is deposited in the correct fund.

Thank you for your past generosity and for ongoing support.

- Jim Holt, Elder Chair



A New Member of the Congregation

We are here with the charge to serve the English-speaking people who live in Prague. So, we are always looking for people—who

come from all over the world—to share with them the peace that is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. On August 16, we welcomed Becca into communion with our congregation. Becca is a missionary herself, serving in a non-denominational Christian school here in the heart of

Prague. She teaches English literature and the Bible to high school students. We are, consequently, blessed to have her love for the Lord and His sheep here among us at St. Michael Lutheran Church and we pray for her witness to her students.



Outreach in Silesia

Usually, when we head out to Silesia (northeast Czech Republic), we are going to visit and to minister to our LCMS team members there. In August, however, we got a chance to add some other ministry to that trip. It just so happened that the church in which Chelsea (one of our missionaries) serves and the church in which Ben (our other missionary there) serves were both doing mission outreach weeks. Therefore, we stayed four days giving a hand to both outreach efforts. It was wonderful! We made new friends who live out in Silesia, and we were able to invite people off the streets to come and participate in church activities. We are hoping to take some of



the things we learned and apply them to the work in Prague. Already, we are planning a retreat and some English language day camps for summer 2021. It is our hope that it will bring others to Christ.

Sunday School and Adult Bible Classes Begin Again!

One of the things that COVID-19 took from us was the ability to hold Christian education classes for groups. By mandate, even after we were allowed to hold worship, we were kept from these classes. It has been that way since late March. This Sunday, September 6, we will finally be able to return to classes. Deacon Damašek will begin again with what he was doing when the shut-down occurred, a look at the Exodus and the Ten Commandments. Dale will begin with a class on 1 Corinthians. We are looking forward to being back in the Word together!

Outreach for the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (ECAV)

Recently, the deacon who serves the Czech-language congregation, Dominik, has put together a proposal for outreach in the northwest region of Bohemia (western Czech Republic). We are thrilled that some outreach is being proposed by the ECAV, and it is our prayer that this will occur. In order to look further into it, on Saturday, September 19, Dominik, Martin, and Dale will visit the locations where the work may happen. We beg for your prayers for this, that the clear Gospel might ring out like a bell here in Bohemia, calling many to the peace of Christ.

COVID-19 is still here in the Czech Republic. But even though the infection rate has increased, the need for hospitalization has decreased. Perhaps, this indicates a weakening of the virus. We continue to pray for our whole world and for the preaching of the peace of Christ at this time.

We commend you to Christ!

Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster— Your Missionaries to the Czech Republic



A Fixer-Upper

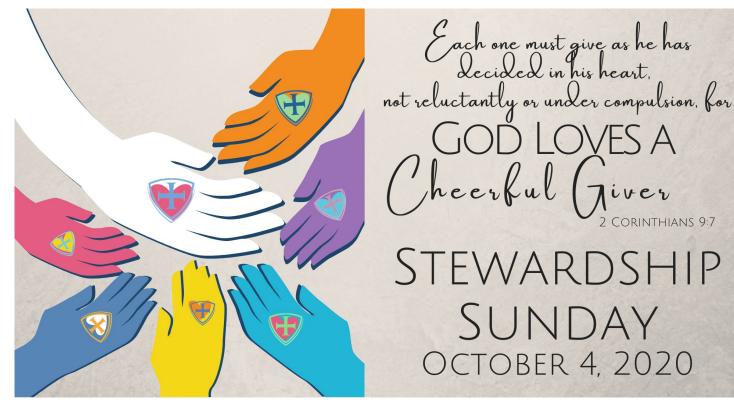


Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what he is doing. He is getting the

drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently he starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is he up to?

The explanation is that he's building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but he is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it himself.

--C.S. Lewis Mere Christianity



IT IS OUR JOY TO BE BROUGHT INTO THE FAITH BY GOD. TO be His stewards, and to BRING HIS WILL INTO REALITY. BY RETURNING TO HIM THE TITHE. THE OFFERING AND THE GIFTS. THAT HE HAS PREPARED FOR US TO GIVE. THIS CREATES IN US A JOY THAT THE WORLD CANNOT, AND DOES NOT KNOW. SO, WE ARE THE LIVING FULFILLMENT OF THE scripture. "God loves a CHEERFUL GIVER" - PASTOR B

CTR STEWARDSHIP GIVING OPTIONS

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart,

Stewardship

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 4, 2020

We welcome all donations through any of the options we offer for giving.

SUNDAY GIV



CORINTHIANS 9:7

Bring your offering to worship services

MAII IN GIVING

Mail your weekly envelope in with your offering to the church. 2550 East 71st St, Tulsa, OK 74136

INTRODUCING ONLINE GIVING VANCO

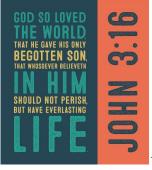
You can visit www.ctrtulsa.org/on-line-giving to sign up through Vanco for one time or ongoing offering or donations. This allows you to set up weekly, bi-weekly or monthly offering.

MOBILE

For our smartphone users, you can contribute through GivePlus Church, our mobile giving app. It's a convenient solution whenever you have a smart phone. You can give anytime, anywhere, any day. Go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find the app and download it for free.

Questions about E-Giving? Contact Jennie Gard at jgard01@msn.com to learn more.





The Best Medicine

Near the end of his life, Protestant reformer Martin Luther suffered debilitating headaches. When told about a costly medicine that might offer some relief, Luther smiled and said, "My best prescription for head and heart is that 'God so loved

the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

That Bible verse became a refrain for Luther on his deathbed. "What Spartan saying can be compared with this wonderful brevity," he said of John 3:16. "It is the Bible itself!" After repeating the words of that Gospel-in-a-nutshell verse three times in Latin, Luther exclaimed, "They are the best prescription for headaches and heartaches!"

Learning From Autumn Leaves

Every fall, I marvel at the beautiful leaves, studying the intricate shapes and God's creative, colorful displays. Despite its deterioration, the foliage reveals splendor - mere months after bursting out in spring and providing summer shade.

I often think I'm like an autumn leaf. Through many seasons, God has transformed me from a self-absorbed person to one who trusts his steadfast promises. Winter is approaching for me too. Yet the Holy Spirit keeps molding me to reflect God's goodness and beauty. During the autumn of my life, I pray that God helps me embrace changing seasons while reflecting his love and light to all.

-- MaryAnn Sundby



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