



Good News From Good Shepherd

"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep."

John 10:11

October, 2022

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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Taunt vs Trust

After Jesus fed the 5,000 as described in John 6, he crossed the lake. The crowds, not finding him the next day, also went to the other side. When they found him, Jesus accused them of only seeking him for more bread (vs 26). He told them not to work for food that spoils but instead to work for the food Jesus would give that leads to eternal life. Because Jesus had told them to work, they asked Jesus what work it is they are to be doing. He answered, "to believe in the one God has sent," meaning Jesus.

But they didn't care about believing in Jesus; they just wanted bread. So, they asked him, "What sign are you going to do that we may believe? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness" (vs 30-31). They could have picked any of the many signs God performed in the Old Testament as an example, but they purposely picked the story about manna because it involved their ancestors getting bread which is what they wanted now. Basically, they were taunting Jesus by saying, "Moses gave us bread, why don't you prove yourself to us by giving us bread too!" They did not really care about receiving a sign; just bread.

In response, Jesus said that in Moses' day it was really God who provided the manna and that God was now offering the true bread to them – that is he who comes from heaven and gives life to the world. At this point, Jesus is trying to turn their attention from seeking physical bread that will temporarily fill their bellies to belief in Jesus which will save them from their sins and provide eternal life (vs 32 – 33).

But alas, the people still just wanted bread and said to him again, "Sir, give us this bread always." Undaunted, Jesus tried once more to explain that he is the bread of life. He said this not because he actually wanted them to eat his flesh – that is not what this passage is about – but because he wanted to use the analogy to shift their thinking away from their physical desire for bread to a satisfaction of their spiritual need by belief in him. Jesus stated this directly, firmly and plainly in verse 40, "that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

At this point the people grumbled because, despite their taunts, he would not give them bread. They knew he was Joseph's son; they watched him grow up. How could he claim that he had come down from heaven? He had provided bread before on the other side of the lake. Why wouldn't he give it to them again? You can hear them in their frustration cry, "For God's sake, just give us some bread!"

What "bread" are we looking for Jesus to provide to us? We pray for many things: better jobs, happiness, our families to get along better, health of ourselves and loved ones. These are good and valid things for which to pray. Each of these weighs heavily on our hearts, and God wants to hear from us about our hurts. Our problem occurs when, like the crowds in the above story, we become frustrated when we don't get what we want. We fail to trust Jesus and begin to demand things, taunting him to provide what we want.

Regardless of the outcome of our prayers, we must always trust Jesus and believe that the Father sent him to save us from our sins. We do not need to taunt him to provide us what we want. We must trust him because through his saving grace the Father has already provided us what we need for salvation in the form of his son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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David Smith, Head Elder (210.218.3685, Destax1962@gmail.com)

A Message from Your Council President



Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 (NIV)

The fall season is a time of transformation. Throughout this month the leaves will change from their summer green to rich gold and russet hues. At the end of the month kids will 'transform' themselves and become ghosts, goblins, pirates, witches, princesses, superheroes (and maybe a few angels) for a night.

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18

After much study, prayer and deep thought expressed in 95 theses Martin Luther, with a few bangs of a hammer, was transformed from a simple monk to a persona non grata of the Holy Roman Empire.

A marked man depending on others to keep him safe and out of harm's way, he used the time to create a precious gift for his countrymen - the New Testament in vernacular German. No longer could the message of the Gospel be held captive by only a few in a foreign language. As the Gospel was literally spread by word of mouth in the early church, so now it could be spread once again by familiar words.

This year we celebrate not only the **Reformation** of the church, but the 500th anniversary of the publication of that German New Testament (1534 for the Old Testament), the first of many to follow: Casiodoro de Reina, first complete Spanish bible, having a bear reaching for honey on the cover to disguise it from the Inquisition which group burned him in effigy in 1562. The Bear Bible was published in 1569. William Tyndale, first printed English New Testament 1525, Pentateuch 1535. Captured in Antwerp before the Old Testament was completed, he was condemned for heresy, executed by strangulation and then burned at the stake at Vilvoorde in 1536. Their devoted work is an inspiration on two levels: 1) to reverence and savor the scriptures for which they sacrificed, 2) for the continuance of the work so that all people of the world can have God's word in the language that speaks to their heart. (Logo courtesy LBT.org)



But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. Philippians 3:20-21

We are in the enviable position of having an array of English scripture translations to choose from. Let us not **conform** to this world and take scripture for granted, but **reform** and transform our habits and **renew** our commitment to be deliberately and joyfully engaged in God's word.

Council Actions: There were no business actions taken. The team had a first look at a proposed budget for next year which will be refined over the next few weeks. There was ongoing discussion around the set up of the E Giving portal and the concerted effort to strengthen our team by training other volunteers as backups for key positions. This will be further developed by way of the Finance committee.

As a reminder to all, last month the Property board proposed a comprehensive list of projects ranging from necessary maintenance to enhancements that will improve some current challenging conditions. The bottom line in cost exceeds prior work presented to the congregation. Please plan on attending the November congregation meeting at which time we'll be able to collectively review and prioritize the proposed work.

Marlis Norton, Council Pres.

Embraced by His Grace, Engaged in His Word, Empowered by His Spirit

Christian Education Offerings

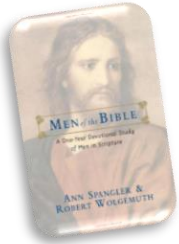


Women's Bible Breakfast • Saturday • October 8

Our second-Saturday Bible Breakfast resumes at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 8. Bring a dish to share or your own personal favorite if you prefer. God always provides just what we need. We'll continue the LWML Fruits of the Spirit study series and will focus on Goodness.

Women's Sunday Bible Study • *Forgiveness* • 8:45 a.m.

Our small group meets in the Duchow Room. Our study is *Forgiveness* by Donna Pyle (now Snow). The book is available from CPH for \$14.99. Please feel free to join in. It's not too late! We will be in week 8, finally, of the 8 week study.



Women's Tuesday Bible Study • *Men of the Bible* • 9:30 am

We are still in Isaiah. We study one person at a time, often in multiple sessions, no book required, so join in any time.

Men's Bible Study
Mondays – 10 am
A Summary of
Christian Doctrine

Pastor's Bible Study
Sunday at 8:45 am
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm



October

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Elijah Warren | Oct. 2 |
| Linnea Caldon | Oct. 5 |
| Jessica Brann | Oct. 14 |
| Andrew Gawura | Oct. 14 |
| Virginia Langsdale | Oct. 20 |
| Cassie Molina | Oct. 20 |
| Harold Bacon | Oct. 22 |

November

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Julie Rath | Nov. 8 |
| John Poynter | Nov. 8 |
| Joe Barvinkak | Nov. 9 |
| J. T. Cottrell | Nov. 11 |
| Jacob Brann | Nov. 12 |
| Rob Nielsen | Nov. 15 |
| John Yri | Nov. 17 |
| Anne Yri | Nov. 18 |
| Emma Poynter | Nov. 18 |
| Barb Barvinkak | Nov. 27 |
| Lynn Mitchell | Nov. 28 |

Auxiliary Committee of the Federation

Fidget Mat Mission Event • October 12, Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Messiah Lutheran • 10416 Bossi Lane, Cincinnati

Fidget mats engage and calm people with dementia and/or Alzheimer's Disease by giving them something to do with their hands. They have been shown to be very therapeutic. Mats will be donated to local care centers in cooperation with the Cincinnati Alzheimer's Association.



What to bring.....

- Your creativity, ideas, friendship
- Any notions, ribbons, buttons, zippers, beads, trims you may have (not necessary to participate....there will be things there to work with). Do you or friends have any they might like to donate?
- Sewing machine if you have one that is portable. We will need a few seamstresses.

Ingathering • October 30, Sunday, 3 p.m.

Joint Reformation Service • October 30, Sunday, 4 p.m.

Grace Lutheran • 3628 Boudinot Avenue, Cincinnati.



Dr. Dale Meyer, past president of Concordia Seminary St. Louis and past Lutheran Hour speaker, will be our guest at the 3 p.m. Ingathering. He will provide a state-of-the-seminaries overview and be available for Q&A following. Dr. Meyer will also be the guest preacher for the service.

Ingathering will be items for the on-campus co-ops of both Concordia Seminary St. Louis and Concordia Seminary Fort Wayne. Please consider an **Ingathering gift for our Seminary Co-Ops** critical to the support of the seminarians and their families as they pursue their vocations. We provide the following shopping lists:

Co-Op Needs for both Seminaries:

Canned Beans (Black, Kidney, Garbanzo, Refried, Baked)
Canned Fruit & Applesauce
Pasta Sauce & Pasta (Including Whole Wheat & Gluten Free)
Granola Bars & Fruit Cereal Bars
Peanut Butter & Jelly/Jam
Cereal & Oatmeal (Instant & Rolled Oats)

Concordia St. Louis specific:

Honey
Canola Oil & Olive Oil
Toothpaste

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Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Food Baskets



Operation Christmas Child



Angel Tree



Christmas Baskets



Volunteer Opportunity

Good Shepherd has been blessed to receive funds through the Trash for Cash program which help provide funds for our youths to attend the recent Higher Things Youth Gathering. Becky Aragon and Mary Givhan will be attending this event below. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Mary Givhan at mtgivhan310507@hotmail.com. You must sign up to participate. This is strictly a give back volunteer event. No funds will be received for our participation.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

NOVEMBER 5TH, 2022, 9AM - 2PM
THOMAS MORE STADIUM
7950 FREEDOM WAY, FLORENCE



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

We need your help running the largest Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event in Kentucky.

Date: Saturday, November 5th, 2022

Time: 7:00am - 2:30pm (event is 9:00am - 2:00pm)

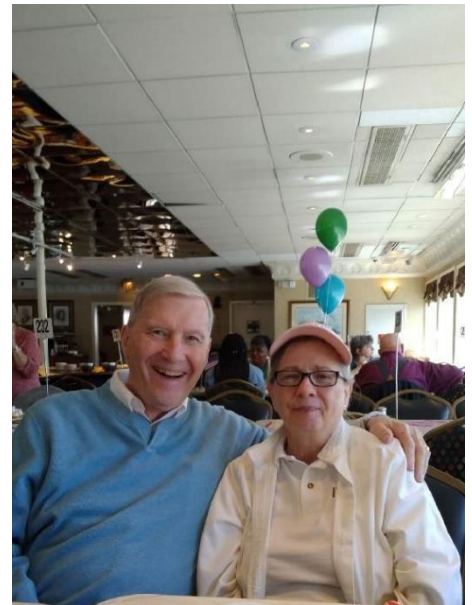
Location: Thomas More Stadium (Home of the Florence Y'all's), 7950 Freedom Way, Florence, KY 41042

Age Minimum: 12 years

September Events Higher Things Youth Presentation

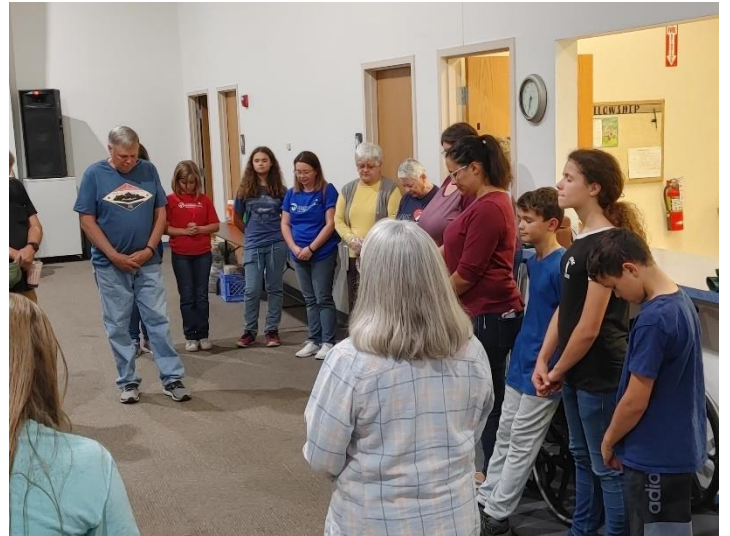


O.W.L.S B&B Riverboat Cruise



Food Give Away at Acadia Senior Apartments

35 boxes were distributed







Mary Givhan and Dave Wissler in Germany

LCMS Stewardship Newsletter October 2022 “We Are All Beggars”

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. Before that happened, the hand that hammered the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, penned its final words: “We are all beggars. This is true.” And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free.

Irony, isn't it? In order to be free, you must be a beggar. You must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't like being in someone's debt like that.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. And we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

If we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for his undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything. Forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This isn't because of any worthiness or merit in us. It is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace. On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the lifeblood of the Christian Church. God justifies us and declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This isn't because of our works but because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther pointed us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled “We are all beggars. This is true.” We are beggars, but we are beggars of the God who does not ignore us and who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – still in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace. The riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism, and in Holy Communion – are so inexhaustible that our cups overflow. We, who are



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