

# MTC STUDENT MINISTRIES

Laura Pulliam, DCE | lpulliam@mtcsa.org | 210.824.8748

JUNE 2017



## UPCOMING

### JUNE 4 EDUCATION SUMMER CLASSES 9:45-10:45 AM

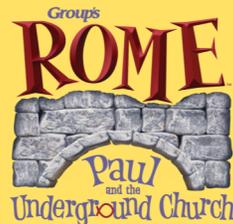
I've always had this love/hate relationship with calling it "Sunday School." Yes, it does happen on Sundays. Yes, you do learn things. **But acting as though reading, writing, and arithmetic are anywhere near as important as growing in your relationship with Jesus Christ by studying His Word? Nope. No comparison.** That's why, here at Mount Calvary, we *don't* take the summer off. In fact, we have lots of exciting new things happening during the Education Hour this summer! MS+HS will be combined in the youth room for several different topics over the summer, one of which is "Anything But Ordinary." Linda Sefton & Linda Cowan will be teaching (meet in the gym 6/11 only).

### JUNE 8-11 SERVE+FUN SUMMER SERVE



### JUNE 19-23 SERVE VBS

MS+HS students are an incredibly important part of our yearly volunteer team. We literally couldn't do it without you! It's never too late to sign up to help!



### JUNE 27-30 EDUCATION HIGHER THINGS CONFERENCE

## JUNE SCHEDULE

- SUN 4** 9:30am Armed Forces Breakfast  
10:00am Education Hour {youth room}
- THUR 8** 7:00pm Summer Serve Check-In {courtyard}
- SUN 11** 9:45am Summer Serve Closing Program {all ages—gym}
- SAT 17** 2:00-4:00pm VBS Volunteer Orientation {gym}
- SUN 18** 9:45am Education Hour {youth room}
- MON 19—FRI 23 VBS**
- SUN 25** 9:45am Education Hour {youth room}
- TUES 27—FRI 30 Higher Things Conference**

## MAY PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Thanks to Jake & Mr. Wille and Cheryl & Mr. Cobb, we tackled a whole lot of yard work for Mr. Zacek! These four put in the work of a dozen people in just a couple of hours. It was hot, but they never once complained. What a joy to get to practice Colossians 3:17, "Whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him!"



## FROM THE DCE

*In honor of Reformation 2017, the next few months of "From The DCE" will feature excerpts from the final chapter of my Master's Thesis— "Chapter 4: Implications and Possible Applications for the Church Today." Complete copies are also available.*

### CHRISTIAN WORSHIP IN THE FIRST THREE CENTURIES: BALANCING CULTURE AND HISTORY IN CORPORATE WORSHIP

#### THE DEVELOPMENT OF LCMS LITURGY

Before attempting to draw applications for the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) of this century, it is helpful to take a brief glance at how worship developed after the third century. When comparing broad strokes, corporate worship in many churches today is not dissimilar from the earliest recorded liturgies. This century's churches (not only Lutheran, but also Orthodox, Anglican, Roman Catholic, etc.) share many similar elements with the church of the first three centuries—prayers, songs, readings from Scripture, a homily, the Eucharist, etc. The liturgies of Lutherans "are carefully built upon the best of the past, thereby demonstrating continuity with the church throughout the ages" (*Living the Liturgy*, 2). Even some of the more minute details of the earliest corporate worship are still in use today. Most Lutherans respond, as if by reflex, to the ancient liturgical greeting, "The Lord be with you." This retention of the ancient is one of the values typically upheld in Lutheran churches today. While the rest of the world values "improvement" and "progress," in worship we see a different picture—just like a grown adult may share the traditions of his youth with his own family, so the church may repeat some traditions of its past.

This desire to build upon "the best of the past" is what would lead many Lutherans to agree with the statement that the church's history is *helpful* even when it does not seem *immediately applicable*. A description that helps to illustrate the development of the liturgy of corporate worship is the story of the creation of an elaborate painting. Unlike a photograph, which simply captures a singular moment in time, a painting may take years of additions and touch-ups before it is completed. Layer upon layer of color and texture have been added throughout the

centuries to make up the picture of worship we have before us today: "[T]he liturgy of the church has been fashioned by the church of all ages—prayer upon prayer, canticle upon collect, invitation and admonition, supplications and thanksgivings in alternate order, the word of God and the response of man together woven into a spiritual fabric" (*The Lutheran Liturgy*, 21-22). The worship of today contains elements of worship throughout the ages. This helps to explain how worship can be both historically grounded and culturally relevant.

*NEXT MONTH: LUTHER ON WORSHIP*

## NEW MS+HS SUMMER CLASS

**SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR  
BEGINNING JUNE 4 {YOUTH ROOM}**

*Do you dream of being ordinary? Of course not! You seek to be significant, remarkable, memorable. You seek to lead a life that matters. Fortunately, Jesus set the standard in being anything but ordinary.*

*In this five-week series, engage in thought-provoking conversations about several unforgettable moments from the life of Jesus... moments that demonstrated how lives changed every time heaven and earth collided.*



## WAIT? WHERE DID THE DCE GO?

MATERNITY LEAVE. That's right. Sometime in late June or early July, God is blessing us with the birth of a child. Can you say YIKES? God, are you sure I'm cut out for this "mom" thing? The cool thing about following God's call is that He almost *always* gives you more than you can handle... and then He's right there with you the whole way. Prayers appreciated!