

# FROM THE MOUNT



## Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD



2019

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Church Office 210-824-8748

[mtcalvary@mtcsa.org](mailto:mtcalvary@mtcsa.org)

[www.mtcsa.org](http://www.mtcsa.org)



And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."  
Mat 28:18-20

### **Augsburg Confession Article V: Of the Ministry.**

That we may obtain this faith, the Ministry of Teaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments was instituted. For through the Word and Sacraments, as through instruments, the Holy Ghost is given, who works faith; where and when it pleases God, in them that hear the Gospel, to wit, that God, not for our own merits, but for Christ's sake, justifies those who believe that they are received into grace for Christ's sake.

### **Augsburg Confession Article XIV: Of Ecclesiastical Order.**

Of Ecclesiastical Order they teach that no one should publicly teach in the Church or administer the Sacraments unless he be regularly called.

Dear Friends in Christ,

**A** divine call is one of the most important and serious matters a church can engage for it goes to the heart of the matter. Jesus Himself gave the authority and responsibility to the Christian Church to go forth in His name, teach His Word, proclaim His Gospel, and administer His sacrament. As the Augsburg Confession so succinctly summarizes, "For through the Word and the Sacraments, as through instruments, the Holy Spirit is given, who works faith..."

Faith saves. Unbelief leaves people lost from God for all eternity. This is the heart of the matter.

Article four of the Augsburg Confession boldly confesses:

...men cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works, but are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor, and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake, who, by His death, has made satisfaction for our sins. This faith God imputes for righteousness in His sight. Rom. 3 and 4.

The issuance of a Divine Call of a man to serve in the office of the pastoral ministry is entrusted to God's people but is nonetheless the work of God Himself. Hence no one may assume the authority of the office "...unless he be regularly called."

The Voters will be about God's business. A divine call is a serious matter.

Very soon we shall gather, and the voting members give consideration to issuing a divine call for the ministry. In due respect for the seriousness and sacredness of the divine call this will be the topic of the meeting. Unlike many Voters' meetings where we have a set agenda and do minutes and talk about various housekeeping matters, this meeting will be a call meeting. We do not enter it lightly, but reverently with prayer as we seek to hear the voice of God tell us who He wants to be here.

As I have shared before, God provides the gifts, the talents, and the resources to a congregation to execute the ministry He is calling us to do in our location, in our time. All three of our candidates are strong Christian Lutheran pastors with some experience in full spectrum ministry. By full spectrum ministry I mean running the gambit from preaching, teaching, care of the sick, comforting the dying, providing for the grieving, teach all from youth to senior years and everything else in between.

As you consider what you have learned through the candidates time with us and through the information we have available on who they are, their personality, the background, their experience and demonstrated performance, I encourage you to consider what gifts

and talents the individual will bring, not just to keep going what we already have going but to help us maximize potential for ministry.

All the general areas of ministry are being covered but in truth we would benefit from an enhance focus on younger people, young family, and outreach. Mount Calvary is in many ways a very special place and we need to get the word out, not just about who we are, but get THE WORD out about who Jesus is and why He can transform lives and eternal destinies. And when people come, we need to be able to provide full spectrum spiritual care across the board for all areas of life. Currently, we have dedicated resources for those who are entering the senior years of their lives. We have a strong focus on education. We have an incredible music program. We will be blessed if we can build a strong focus on youth, young adult, and young family ministries. Our church will be blessed as all our members are able to participate and not just receive ministry but be able as they are led by the Spirit to incorporate their gifts into these ministries to enhance them.

What might our ministry plan look like two or three years down the road? What kind of outreach ministry may be thriving? What kind of young adult and young families may be thriving? How might the things we are already doing be even better? That will depend on whom God leads you to call, how God leads you to work with the person we call, and how God blesses our ministry together.

In the end it is a Divine Call. So we enter this final stage with humility and prayer to hear the voice of God say "Send this one".

Christ bless you richly and abundantly family of God.

*Pastor David Rees*





## **HYMNS OF THE SEASON – LENT**

As we enter the six-week season of Lent straddling the months of March and April, it seemed appropriate to select two hymns for the season of Lent rather than the hymn of the

month. We will be singing two relatively new Lenten hymns between Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Both of these hymns were included in the LCMS “Hymnal Supplement 98” and are therefore fairly well known in many LCMS congregations.

### **“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow” LSB 428**

Text: William J. Sparrow-Simpson, 1860-1952 Tune: John Stainer, 1840-1901

This hymn was a product of the collaboration between musician John Stainer and lyricist W.J. Sparrow Simpson. It was part of their most notable work, *The Crucifixion*, a cantata which was very popular at the time of its composition (1887) and still is frequently performed today. Much of their work is still known and appreciated. The setting of “What Child is This” in the *Lutheran Service Book* is one of Stainer’s many popular Christmas carol settings. “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” is set to a tune from another cantata by Stainer and Simpson, *St. Mary Magdalen*.

Stainer was born in London in 1840. He was part of the choir at St. Paul’s cathedral at ten years old and was appointed as organist at St. Michael’s college at sixteen. He would eventually become organist at St. Paul’s, but had to retire from that position in his forties due to failing eyesight. One of his colleagues blamed Stainer’s failing eyes on stress, saying “he is universally beloved and esteemed, but his many onerous duties ... have all involved responsibility and constant application, and the result is that his sight and general health have given way under the severe strain of sheer hard work.”<sup>1</sup> He subsequently took a position at Oxford. He died on Palm Sunday, 1901, while visiting Italy.

Sparrow Simpson was an author and poet. He was also born in London, in 1860. He was ordained in the Anglican church in 1882. He served as a vicar at a London church for nearly twenty years, and it was while in this post that he wrote the librettos for *The Crucifixion* and *St. Mary Magdalen*. In 1904 he accepted a chaplaincy at Ilford Hospital, where he worked until his death at age 92. Wikipedia notes that this Ilford post “was not onerous, and gave him ample time for research and writing.” During this period he excerpted several hymns from *The Crucifixion* and *St. Mary Magdalen* for separate publication as hymns.

### **“In Silent Pain the Eternal Son” LSB 428**

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938    Tune: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Christopher Martin Idle is a British hymnodist. Idle was born in Bromley, Kent, and studied at Eltham College, St Peter's College, Oxford, and Clifton Theological College, Bristol. He was ordained as a priest in the Church of England in 1965, and has written more than three hundred hymns, five of which appear in Lutheran Service Book.

John Lamberton Bell is a minister in the Church of Scotland and has been deeply involved in the music of the Church at both a congregational and synodical level within the Church of Scotland. This is Bell's only contribution found in the Lutheran Service Book, but it is a very poignant, well crafted, and appropriate tune with which Christopher Idle's hymn text is carried. It is a beautiful addition to our Lenten hymnody.

Both of these hymns, as well as most hymns in LSB can be found on Youtube. Search: “Lutheranwarbler”

Blessings,  
Pastor Meissler

## **Memorials**

### **In memory of:**

Ray Kniepkamp

Roy Lehrmann

Buzz Loeschman

Dane Kelly

Eddie Cliff

Natha Lee Smetzer

John Grieshaber

### **Given by:**

M/M Jim Koenig, M/M Roland Schneider,  
M/M Charles Koch, M/M Marshall Leiber,  
Carolyn Friedle, Peter Heide

M/M Charles Koch, M/M Marshall Leiber,  
Mildred Lehrmann

M/M Charles Koch

M/M Charles Koch

M/M Jim Koenig

Jerry Smetzer

Raymond Raddatz, Irwin Richardson

## **2020 Germany Passion Play**

Hi everyone! Our 2020 Germany Passion Play Trip is on and we still have room for another 10 individuals if anyone is interested. If you considered it and thought time had passed, it hasn't. Our next deposit is due with the Travel Agency the end of March and due with me no later than Friday, March 22nd. If you are signing up for the first time, the total deposit is \$1800. per person. For those who have already sent in first deposit, the next deposit due is \$1200. per person. Please contact me at 210-240-5044 if you have questions.

Thank you! Debbie Nitsche

**MARCH IS CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY SHOE DRIVE  
MONTH**

Donate your new or gently used shoes during our Soles4Souls Shoe Drive!



CHANGING THE WORLD  
ONE PAIR AT A TIME

CAM helps people living in poverty gain dignity, courage and hope. When you donate new or gently used shoes, you're helping people get back on their feet, literally!

We need men's and women's shoes of all sizes & brands, children's shoes of all sizes & brands, and men's work boots.

WHILE YOU ARE SPRING CLEANING YOUR CLOSETS HERE ARE ADDITIONAL NEEDED ITEMS:

**WOMEN'S CLOTHING** - Dresses, Skirts, Pants, Blouses, T-shirts, Jeans, Sweaters, Robes, Shoes, Nylons, Bras, Winter Coats, Purses, Gloves, Underwear & Socks(new), Hygiene Items (Travel-size Shampoo, Soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Lotion, Deodorant, Razor)

**MEN'S CLOTHING** - Jeans, Workpants, Khaki's, Tennis Shoes, Work Boots, Shirts, T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Winter Coats, Belts, Hats, Gloves, Bags, Socks & Underwear (new), Hygiene Items (Travel-size Shampoo, Soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Razor, Deodorant)

**CHILDREN'S CLOTHING** - Khaki's & White Button-down Shirts (for School Uniforms), Pants, Shirts, Dresses, Sleepers, Pajamas, Sweatshirts, Sweaters, T-shirts, Shoes, Jeans, Tights, Winter Coats, Gloves, Socks & Underwear (new), Diapers, Wipes.

*YOU CAN PLACE YOUR DONATED ITEMS IN THE CONTAINER IN THE PARISH HALL.*

With our thanks for all of your previous donations,  
Muriel England & Cathy DeVries, Mt. Calvary Representatives

# **FAMILY Matters: A Matter of LOVE**

by Wanda Laxson

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, if you were asked which word is the theme of more music, literature, and movies than any other, what would your answer be? Just off the top of my head, I would say "love". I googled the question to see if I was correct and, according to [writersedit.com](http://writersedit.com), I am. That really didn't come as a surprise. After all, God created us to love and to be loved. As Pastor Reedy reminded us last month, we are to be dedicated to love seven days a week, 52 weeks a year. In fact, love is to be the hallmark of the Christian life and it is listed first among the fruits of the Spirit.

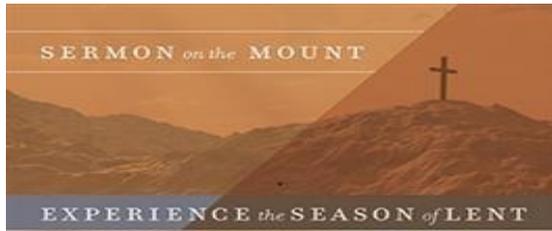
Although there are many definitions of love and we have different types of love relationships within our families and among our friends, neighbors, and acquaintances, the Bible is clear that we are to model our love on the type of love our Triune God has for us. The Greek word used in the New Testament is *agape*. The BIG question then is this: What does that Christian kind of love look like and act like?

I think a great place to begin is 1 Corinthians 13, the famous love chapter, which is used at so many Christian weddings. If we pay attention to what this chapter tells us about what love is and is not and actively work toward putting it into practice in all our relationships, we will reap a bountiful harvest of the fruit of love. Here are some practical steps you can follow. First, read through the chapter and make a list of the positive characteristics of love. Next, read through the chapter again and list what love is not and does not do. After that, examine some of your relationships in light of the two lists. Which positive characteristics from the first list are present and strong in your relationships and which are missing or weak? Which of the things in the second list are present and hindering your relationships? Pray to God for help in discerning and working on the areas of most need and write down specific steps you can take to demonstrate love in those relationships where you are struggling.

The Bible is full of passages about love, but there is just one more that I want to draw attention to with regard to your relationships. That is Colossians 3:12-14. In reading this passage, you will recognize some of the same qualities of love that we saw in 1 Corinthians 13.

However, there is an additional quality mentioned. Can you guess what it is? FORGIVENESS. In our relationships, there are going to be times when we need to apologize and ask for forgiveness and there are going to be times when we will need to forgive others, even if they don't apologize or ask for our forgiveness. In some cases, forgiveness may seem impossible. There again, we must pray and ask for God's help so that we do not become bitter and hard-hearted.

The dynamics of relationships can be difficult, especially in our families and church family. Until we get to heaven, we will have problems loving others the way God intended. The good news is that God gives us plenty of help in His Word. He also gives us help through the advice of Christian pastors, counselors, and authors. Two Christian ministries that have great resources for marriage and family relationships are Family Life (<https://www.familylife.com/>) and Focus on the Family (<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/>). They have radio programs, articles, books, videos, studies and much more to help Christian families love and thrive. Some of their resources are free and some are for purchase. Take some time this month to check them out!



**(all services at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted; Wednesday services preceded by a meal beginning at 5:30pm)**

- March 6 – Ash Wednesday – Blessed are You
- March 13 – Lent 1 – Salt and Light
- March 20 – Lent 2 – Prayer and Fasting
- March 27 – Lent 3 – Do Not Worry
- April 3 – Lent 4 – Judge Not
- April 10 – Lent 5 – Build on Rock
- April 18 – Maundy Thursday
- April 19 – Good Friday Tenebrae (service of shadows)
- April 21 – Easter Sunday

**ELDERS FOR MARCH**

	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
March 3 (Communion)	Charles Koch Jason Strawn	Spencer Hasch Mike Wille
March 10	Jim McNeel	
March 17 (Communion)	B. Stolhandske Toby Elbert	Jim Koenig Walter Marks
March 24	John Gilg	Gary Franzen
March 31 (Communion)	R. Maxwell John Smetzer	Marshall Leiber Brad Boeckner

**Special Wednesday Services – 7:00pm**

March 6 (Ash Wednesday)	Bill Stolhandske, Brad Boeckner
March 13	John Gilg
March 20	Jim McNeel
March 27	Jim Koenig

## **USHERS FOR MARCH**

<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Chuck Samuel	David Cobb
Mike Klein	Jim Roberts
David Thompson	Trey Roberts
John Haumann	Nick Hartman

### **Special Wednesday Services – 7:00pm**

March 6	J Harwood, W Mencke, R Miyachi, K Rabenaldt
March 13	W Mencke, A Lariosa, W Friend, P Glaspy
March 20	R Axtell, D Thompson, L Gillian, K Rabenaldt
March 27	R Axtell, L Gillian, P Glaspy

## **ACOLYTES FOR MARCH**

	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
March 3	Corben Perankovich	Wyatt Wilson
March 10	David Meissler	Daniel Morrison
March 17	Josh Smetzer	Joe Morrison
March 24	Corben Perankovich	Jake Wille
March 31	David Meissler	Wyatt Wilson

### **Special Wednesday Services – 7:00pm**

March 6 & 20	Joe Morrison
March 13 & 27	Daniel Morrison

## **GREETERS FOR MARCH**

	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
March 3	Bonnie Haumann JoAnn Koehn	Mary Marks Judy Hanson
March 10	Virginia Axtell Kim Hendrix	Mary Marks Sarah Paseur
March 17	Rita Storms Denise LaBonté	Deidra Thompson Randall Thompson
March 24	Leslie Smetzer Carol Wilson	Bonnie Koenig Carolyn Friedle
March 31	Brenda Hoffmann Kim Hendrix	Jill Cott L.J. Cott

## MORNING CLASSES

- **Adult Bible Class** | This large, lecture-style class meets in the gym and is taught by Pastor Reedy.
- **Men's Bible Class** | lecture & discussion style | Led by Larry Laxson.
- **PreK through College** | Children and students in are divided into classes that teach the Bible in age-appropriate ways. We offer classes specific to: PreK-K (small gym classroom), 1st-2nd (room 210), 3rd-4th (room 206), 5th-6th (Pre-Confirmation, room 204), 7th-8th (Confirmation, room 208), High School & College (room 218), Special Education (room 112), and Nursery (room 117)

## MIDWEEK CLASSES

- **Adult Information Class (AIC)** | *Wed* | 7:00pm | *Church library*  
New to Lutheranism? Just want to brush up on the basics? This is the class for you! Each course is 10 sessions. Speak to Pastor Reedy if interested. Begins July 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** | *Every Tuesday* | 10:00-11:30 am | *Room 212 (upstairs)*
- **Men's Bible Study** | *1st & 3rd Saturdays* | 8:00-9:30 am | *Parish Hall*  
Nothing starts the weekend off right like breakfast tacos, coffee, and Christian fellowship! This group is led by Jeff Harwood.
- **Triple F Men's Bible Study** | *Mon* | 6:30-pm | *Pompeii Italian Grill*  
A new men's Bible study followed by fellowship/food.
- **Women's Bible Study** | *3rd Mondays* | 7:30-8:30 pm | *Meets at members' homes*  
Talk to Shirley Wille for more information.
- **Mothers' ChristCare Small Group** | *2nd & 4th Mondays* | 6:30-8:00 pm | *Room 218 (upstairs)*  
This group is led by Wanda Laxson and is a great way for moms to get to know one another and be encouraged for the coming week!
- **Night ChristCare Small Group** | *1st Thursdays* | 7:00-8:30 pm | *Miyauchi Home*  
This group is led by Jan Miyauchi and meets at 2219 Peach Blossom.

## Plant Sale News

Thanks to all who are planning to grow plants for the plant sale on March 4! The plastic pot exchange next to the barbeque pits is available for those who have pots to spare or who need pots.

A decision was made to focus on only plants for the sale. Although we will no longer be able to accept handcrafted or formerly-owned outdoor/garden items for the sale, you are still welcome to sell these on your own and designate the money according to your wishes when you donate it.

Do you have a large plant in your yard that you want to donate, but you need help digging and potting it? Are you thinking about donating plant(s), but you don't know how you'd ever get them to church because they're big or heavy? We can help. Just let me know if you have any of these needs.

Some plants are patented, and it is illegal to propagate them. Knockout roses cannot be sold at our sale for that reason. Most plants that are patented come with labeling from the nursery informing the buyer that it is illegal to propagate them. One does not see these warnings often, but if you think that one of your plants may be patented, please do not donate its cuttings.

We'll need different types of supplies and also loaner items for the sale. We'll have a different list of needs later, but for now, we could use the following leftover items that you may have around your house:

acrylic craft paint	masking tape
2 ½" drapery hooks	solid color flagging tape
brushes for sign making	30" wide, white butcher paper, on roll

If you picked up a longer list of supplies in the narthex during February, please disregard that list and use this updated list instead.

A list of the types of volunteers whom we need is included in this newsletter. Please consider how you can be of help. If you have any questions, just stop by the plant sale table in the narthex on Sunday.

Karen Twiefel



**LBW**  
LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

The following volunteers from the Mt. Calvary Braille Center will receive anniversary pins in recognition of their service to the Braille ministry for the visually

impaired. These pins, given in 5-year increments, are presented to the individuals during the month they began their service.

Name	Years of Service	Service Date
Friedle, Carolyn	30	December 1989
Ganoza, Judy	5	November 2014

Congratulations to these volunteers and thank you to all our Lutheran Braille Workers for their continued dedication in "Helping People Touch, and Be Touched, by the Promises of Jesus."

If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, please contact Connie Lariosa (210-656-8044) for additional information.

**Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church  
308 Mt. Calvary Dr.  
San Antonio, Texas 78209**