



# Mt. Calvary Messenger

O C T O B E R 2 0 2 1

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## A Little Note from Pastor's Study

### What if I told you...?

It's my turn to ask a question. Mine stems from a collection of axiomatic "truths" shared within modern Christianity. All of them are attempts to answer questions about attendance. We've seen attendance fall for decades in the Christian church. There is a rise in self-identified secularism within America. We've been talking about it my entire life, from various perspectives.

The answers revolve around the question, "how do we keep kids, youth, and young families in church/returning to church?" The answers of the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries are: Sunday school programs, daycares, adolescent activities, big youth groups/activities, small group Bible studies, single mother's groups, and a host of other demographically specific parachurch (outside of worship) activities. Despite the best efforts of the church in these veins, she still shrinks daily.

What if I told you that we could expend our efforts on only one demographic group? What if I told you that we could see a 35% improvement in the retention of children, as adults, by focusing only on this one group? What if I told you the Christian church has largely ignored, marginalized, or even publicly denigrated this group?

Men, specifically fathers, are this one group. A large multi-national study on church attendance published by the Swiss government in the year 2000 found stark trends indicating the strong influence of fathers on the future church attendance of their children. Another study conducted on a much smaller scale later in the US found nearly identical results.

Starting with the worst and most obvious, when neither mom nor dad attend church, 81% of the kids won't either. When, only mom attends regularly, 39% of the kids will attend regularly as adults. When, both mom and dad attend regularly, 74% of kids will attend as adults. But, here's the surprising number. When only dad attends regularly, 67% of kids attend as adults. Without mom's influence, there's only a 7% drop. Without dad's influence, there's a 35% drop.

No, I'm not suggesting, implying, or stating in any way that women and mothers are unimportant. The influence of women and mothers in the lives of their children is incalculable and irreplaceable.

That still changes nothing regarding a change in church attendance. If we want to see an improvement in the retention of our children in church, we must expend our efforts on improving the attendance of their fathers at church on Sunday mornings.

(Continued on page 2)

# STEWARDSHIP

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. And 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. Ironic, isn't it? That, 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 or birthday present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't much like being in someone's debt.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. But we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. And this is His legacy to the Christian Church. 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.

And, 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 is not because of any worthiness or merit in us, but 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. And you receive. 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 life-

blood of the Christian Church. God justifies us, and He declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This is not because of our works; this is 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 would point 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, 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 – even 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.

So inexhaustible are the riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism and Holy Communion – that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are not only inexhaustibly satisfied but have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.

*(Continued from page 1)*

It is certainly worth noting that a rise in emotionalized and feminized worship practices in the Christian church run parallel to the decline in men's attendance. There are probably many ways to work on this. We will have to pick this up again soon.

Strong Christian men raise faithful Christian children.

- Pastor

## THE MARY MARTHA GUILD MINUTE



### OCTOBER MEETING

Welcome  
Devotion  
Pantry Item  
Mite Prayer

Beverly Albers  
Janice Teinert  
18-26 oz. canned soup  
Lee Herbrich

Monday, October 4th, Multipurpose Room  
Fellowship Time – 5:30 PM  
No refreshments will be served  
Business Meeting – 6:00 PM

### BUSINESS MEETING

Project/Activity

Call to Order  
Election of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer  
LWML Sunday, October 10th  
LWML Zone Rally October 10<sup>th</sup>  
Lunches for Homebound  
LWR Ingathering Dedication,  
Silent Auction of Quilts & Pew Display

### BIRTHDAYS

(6) Janice Teinert; (12) Margie Buscha; (13) Brenda Fischer

### ANNIVERSARIES

(9) Elva Bohot; (12) Jeanette Huelsebusch; (12) Gladys Teinert; (13) Susie Polasek; (29) Genelda Pavlik; (31) Beverly Newell

During this pandemic, in person Guild Meetings are announced on a month to month basis as needed. Everyone is invited to attend Guild Meetings (when scheduled) in the Multi-purpose Room at 5:30 PM on the first Monday of each month. All volunteers and support of our projects are greatly appreciated. Contact our Member Development Committee - Karen Fitch, or any Guild member or feel free to call the Church Office at 968-3938 for more information.



The La Grange Senior Citizens Group pictured are front from left: Mannie Fritsch-Schmid, Marianne Williams, Audrey Huenefeld, Joan Rice and Marie Hensel. Back row, left to right: Glenn Altwein, Marilyn Strmiska, Judy Zuhn, and John Rice. Not pictured are board members Norma Adams, Myrna Altwein, Neale Rabensburg, and Gloria Raschke.



Best of the Culinary Department winners were (from left) Jeanette Huelsebusch in the golden age division for a plum coffee cake, Rilan Karish in the child division for a dewberry cream pie and Sherri Nolen in the adult division for a Shirley Temple bundtcake.



# For Your Information



In July 2021, the AMEN Food Pantry served 179 families (434 individuals); five of these families were new clients. By comparison, in July 2020, the Pantry served 362 families (994 individuals); 38 of these families were new clients. We are grateful the number of families seeking assistance is back to prepandemic levels of 2019.

**Mt. Calvary Volunteers are scheduled to assist at the Pantry on Monday, October 4, 8:30-10:30 a.m.** We can expect a busy morning, as this will be the first opportunity in October for clients to "shop" for food. Your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your continued support with shelf-stable food, monetary donations, and your prayers. Please contact Stell (979-966-2319) or Beverly (979-250-1718) if you have any questions.



## HAPPY SCRAPPERS – QUILTING FOR LUTHERAN RELIEF

The Happy Scrappers will continue their quilting activities during Fall Months in the "Blue" Fellowship House at 9:30 o'clock AM, at 859 North Franklin Street. Please use the handicapped entrance located at the back of the House so for your convenience and safety. Parking space is located nearby. Social distancing can be practiced and face masks are optional. Attendees may bring a refreshment to share for the noon time lunch.

Everyone interested in just checking out the Blue Fellowship House or joining in the activities of the Happy Scrappers is invited. No sewing or quilting skills are required – only an interest in helping and participating in Christian service and fellowship. There are various stages in making a quilt and with many helping hands, the process will move faster. We have a variety of supplies on hand; however, additional donations are always appreciated.

We will be focusing on completing as many quilts as possible for the silent auction and dedication of our LWR quilts for the *INGATHERING* that will take place on Sunday, October 24th.

## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF INGATHERING

### DEDICATION OF MISSION QUILTS, PERSONAL CARE KITS & SCHOOL KITS

On Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup> the Mary Martha Guild and the Happy Scrappers will present for dedication a variety of colorful mission quilts before sending them on their way to destinations in various parts of the world. There will be a Silent Auction for several quilts and the remaining quilts will be displayed on church pews. Quilts will be on display from Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> and will be available for purchase at \$75.00 each, first come, first served. The Silent Auction will continue thru Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. All funds collected will be used for LWR shipping expenses and for the purchases of supplies for future quilting projects. Please make checks payable to the Mary Martha Guild.

On Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, all quilts will be packed and along with already packed Personal Care Kits and School Kits will be delivered to St. John Lutheran Church, Rutersville to begin their journey to LWR Headquarters in Maryland where they will be disbursed to people in need throughout the world.

**YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED**

## Can A Christian Assume Some Unvaxed Philistine Infected Them?

This topic stems from a series of conversations in person and online concerning a resurgence of COVID among vaccinated and unvaccinated people. Though no one in particular asked, it's a question worth examining. The distilled logic goes something like this, "I am vaccinated, and have contracted the plague. Therefore, there is a certain human being in my imagination. That person is unvaccinated. And, they are to blame for my infection."

Before diving into the Christian life aspect of this question, let us also consider the logic. If I am the one speaking this way, I imply that only an unvaccinated person can pass the disease to another human being. This is untrue. Generally speaking, a person who is symptomatic with a fever is infectious to others. Their vaccination status has nothing to do with this reality.

It is logically inconsistent to assume the unknown source of infection to be of one patient population or another. This is a bit like Schrödinger's Cat. The difference being that upon opening the box, we can determine if the cat is alive or dead. The state of quantum uncertainty revolving around an unknown infection source can never be removed from its state of uncertainty outside of evidence and identification. Apart from that evidence, the only thing certain is that a virus is to blame for infection.

Even for pagans, that is the answer. Now, for Christians there is even more at play. We must also consider how we are to talk about our neighbor. The Eighth Commandment teaches us to only use our words about our neighbor to uplift them.

**The Eighth Commandment** - You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way. [Luther's Small Catechism – AD 1529]

Dr. Luther didn't pull this idea of expanding the letter of Decalogue (the 10 Commandments) out of his stylish German hat. He used the exact model laid down by Jesus in Matthew's Gospel.

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire."

... "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart." [Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28]

So, how does this apply to us regarding that unknown Philistine, who infected me or my loved ones with the virus?

It applies this way. Not knowing who they were, neither gender nor ethnicity, age nor education, religion nor vaccination status, we may NOT impugn their character. Breakthrough infections are proof that vaccinated people can be vectors of transmission. The unknown source of whom we speak here can't be spoken ill of by a Christian, especially in their state of quantum uncertainty. Moreover, we also can't use the unknown person to malign other people either.

Dear Christians, let us only speak well of our neighbor.

- Pastor

*These articles are reprinted from the "Ask Pastor" column in the weekly email blasts, especially for those who do not receive email.*



## Why Is Pastor So Heavy-Handed Towards the ELCA?

There is a fault line dividing Christianity. Those who choose to embrace our culture, while losing their grip on the word of God, bit by bit. And those who embrace the word of God, even the uncomfortable bits, and reject culture, bit by bit. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS) are on opposite sides of this divide.

The criticisms I write, or quote in writing, are not borne out of animus, malice, or hatred. I'm grieved and afraid for the souls of those who are taught by the false teachers in the ELCA. To be perfectly clear, I'm certain many of our friends and family in the membership of the ELCA are indeed Christians. But, I am also certain the leadership and clergy of the ELCA have abandoned the scriptures in favor of worldly sociological and political positions, which are not compatible with God's Word.

We believe teach and confess in the Lutheran church that those who hear the Word of God can still come to and retain saving faith contrary to what they are taught. This teaching is called the Felicitous Inconsistency. It is so called because the faith exists in opposition to what is taught. We also teach that no one should rely upon this possibility. Neither, should we encourage our loved ones to remain where false teaching prevails based upon the felicitous inconsistency. Continually hearing false teaching will eventually corrupt Christians and drive them from the faith. Sadly, they could easily remain in the ELCA as unbelievers without discomfort.

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." [Romans 10:17]

The history of the downward spiral of the Jewish people in Judges and the fall of the divided kingdoms of Israel (Judah and Samaria) stand to teach us against this path. Embracing the popular paganism in an attempt to mingle it with the true faith only ends one way. The true faith is lost and destruction and suffering come to those who mingled it.

In Judges we find, "And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger." [2:11-12] "In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes." [17:6] "And the people of Israel departed from there at that time, every man to his tribe

and family, and they went out from there every man to his inheritance. In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes." [21:24-25]

And, in 1 Kings, "So [Jeroboam] the king [of Samaria] took counsel and made two calves of gold. And he said to the people, 'You have gone up to Jerusalem long enough. Behold your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.' And he set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan [both in the Northern Kingdom]." [12:28-29]

"And Judah [under King Rehoboam] did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and they provoked him to jealousy with their sins that they committed, more than all that their fathers had done. For they also built for themselves high places and pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree, and there were also male cult prostitutes in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations that the Lord drove out before the people of Israel." [1 Kings 14:22-24]

We sometimes think of America as a burgeoning atheist culture, but that's not a fair assessment. We are certainly a post-Christian culture. Political battles exist in our society, attempting to reject or regain the cultural elements that were the effect of Christianity's influence on our culture. But, Modern America is a religious culture with a god.

The big difference is that our god has no temple, no formal liturgy, no written scriptures. The god of American culture is the "me" in each one of us. Each person believes, thinks, and does what is "right for me." The culture surrounding us worships itself, individually and collectively. Concisely, if my internal thoughts and feelings are the primary driver in a decision, the conclusion is probably flawed.

Now, this god can be right from time to time. Even a broken clock can be right twice a day. Even a broken escalator may still be a staircase. But, in the long term, this god will lead me to destruction.

This god is a selfish and capricious god. No evil deed is beyond its teaching. The internal self-justification of doing what is right in our own eye will authorize any act that benefits me. This may take days, months, or years. But, we will eventually abandon morality of any sort.

The only thing standing between us and abject abandonment of the faith, which we see in the leadership  
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and clergy of the ELCA, and the culture it embraces, is the very Word of God. In His Word God condemns sin and teaches us to abandon it. But, it does more than that, He also gives us faith to hear and receive His forgiveness, through Jesus Christ.

Apart from acknowledged sin and forgiveness in Jesus, there can be no Christianity or salvation.

- Pastor

## What's With That Crazy New Flag on Pastor's House?



I recently started flying the US, Texas, and a Christian flag on the parsonage. This flag is a newly designed replacement for the “Christian Flag” from our friends at Ad Crucem, who made our newer sanctuary banners. This flag is a bold visual confession of the Christian faith.

A red cross covers the white flag from top to bottom and left to right. That image is borrowed from banners flown by Christian soldiers in the crusades. There’s a sound argument to be made that the crusades were a rare moment of Christian unity. The imagery is more reflective a unified Christian faith than any modern, sectarian

symbolism. We’ll never see a unified Christian church on Earth. But, the image of Christian unity in Christ in the resurrection serves as a fine symbol for our eyes on this side of the eschaton.

The shape covering the center of the flag is a trefoil. The trefoil consists of a triangle and three incomplete circles. It stands to symbolize the trinity. The circle by itself represents eternity. The tringle by itself represents the Trinity. Those two elements combine reinforce the notion of the Triune God expressed in the Athanasian Creed: a trinity in unity and unity in trinity with none before or after another.

Inside the trefoil, we find the Lamb of God, Jesus, to whom St. John, the Baptizer pointed. The Lamb bears a mortal wound on His neck. He has an Christological aureole around His head. And, He’s holding a triumphant banner (also crusadery in design). This Lamb is Jesus Christ crucified and risen again to forgive our sins.

The other little details are a bit busy, but they add wonderful meaning. Jesus is also presenting His Body and Blood in with and under the wafer and chalice of holy communion. He’s standing a in a heavenly sort of space on the clouds in the sky. He’s also standing atop a scroll with seven seals. The Lamb’s scroll contains the names, our names, of those sealed for salvation.

Many of us grew up with a different flag in our sanctuaries, assembly halls, and classrooms. It’s a white flag with a blue upper left canton and a red cross within the canton. This flag is commonly called the “Christian Flag,” but that an inaccurate name for the flag we see. It’s better called the “Methodist Young People’s Missionary Movement Flag.”

That flag was designed by British immigrant pastor Charles C. Overton with the help of Ralph Diffendor in New York. It’s design features two deliberate attributes. It was simple in its expression to appeal to many

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## What are people praying before and after the Lord's Supper?

You may have noticed folks who seem to be praying before coming to the altar of the Lord or after returning to their seats. What is it that they pray? Or, what/how should I pray, if I'm so inclined?

This question exists within the sphere of "what should I pray?" or "what if I don't know what to say?" There is no shame in not knowing what to pray. The disciples asked Jesus the exact same thing.

"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.'" [Luke 11:1]

And, He did. Jesus also taught us a good reason to pray at your seat, when you pray alone during lulls in the divine service.

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, *that they may be seen* by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." [Matthew 6:5-6]

There are two ways that Christians pray: corporately and privately. For corporate prayer, think of the depictions in Exodus, Samuel, and Chronicles. The divine service is that sort of prayer, all together, with one voice. Jesus is exhorting here about private prayer, humble, unobtrusive.

The very front of your hymnal (Lutheran Service Book) has a list of prayers for your benefit on the unnumbered page. Two of them are for before and after communion.

**"Before communing** – Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen." [LSB -ii]

**"Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament** – Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, Amen." [LSB -ii]

Both of these are fine examples of how to pray. They are individual, first person prayers. But, they are written focusing on the given faith, which receives the gifts of God. When you pray, pray like this.

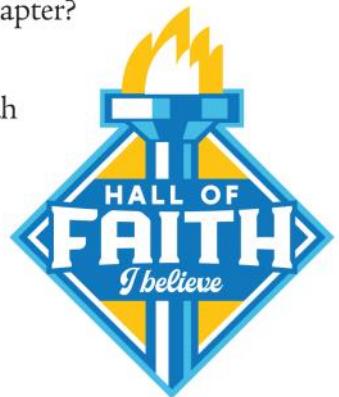
Apart from faith we receive condemnation. But, in and through faith, we receive forgiveness, life, and salvation.

- Pastor



Hebrews 11 is called the Hall of Faith because it's a partial list of ancestors who lived out their belief in God. Who is named in this chapter?

- A. Adam, Eve and Seth
- B. Abel, Enoch, Noah and Sarah
- C. Moses' parents, Moses and Rahab
- D. Deborah, Bathsheba and Huldah
- E. A and B
- F. B and C
- G. C and D



ANSWER: F

(Continued from page 7)

Christian sects without revealing any theological inconsistencies between them. It was also designed using the colors and the familiar silhouette of the American flag to appeal to Americans especially.

It worked. The flag found use in the US military chaplaincy. The flag was adopted by the Federal Council of Churches in 1942. It's been flown by a broad collection of Christian, christianish, and non-christian groups ever since. It is not a flag standing for a unified Christian faith. And, it never will be.

Instead, I fly a flag that does symbolize the Christian faith as I have received it.

- Pastor

**Lehmann Farm & Biergarten**  
1020 Catfish Lane  
Warda, TX 78942

You are warmly invited  
to join us at the  
Lehmann Farm & Biergarten  
for Oktoberfest!

Every year we support a non-profit with 100% of your free will donations during the Lehmann Oktoberfest. This year we are honored to support Mt. Calvary Lutheran Preschool. Donations to Mt. Calvary Lutheran Preschool are tax deductible.

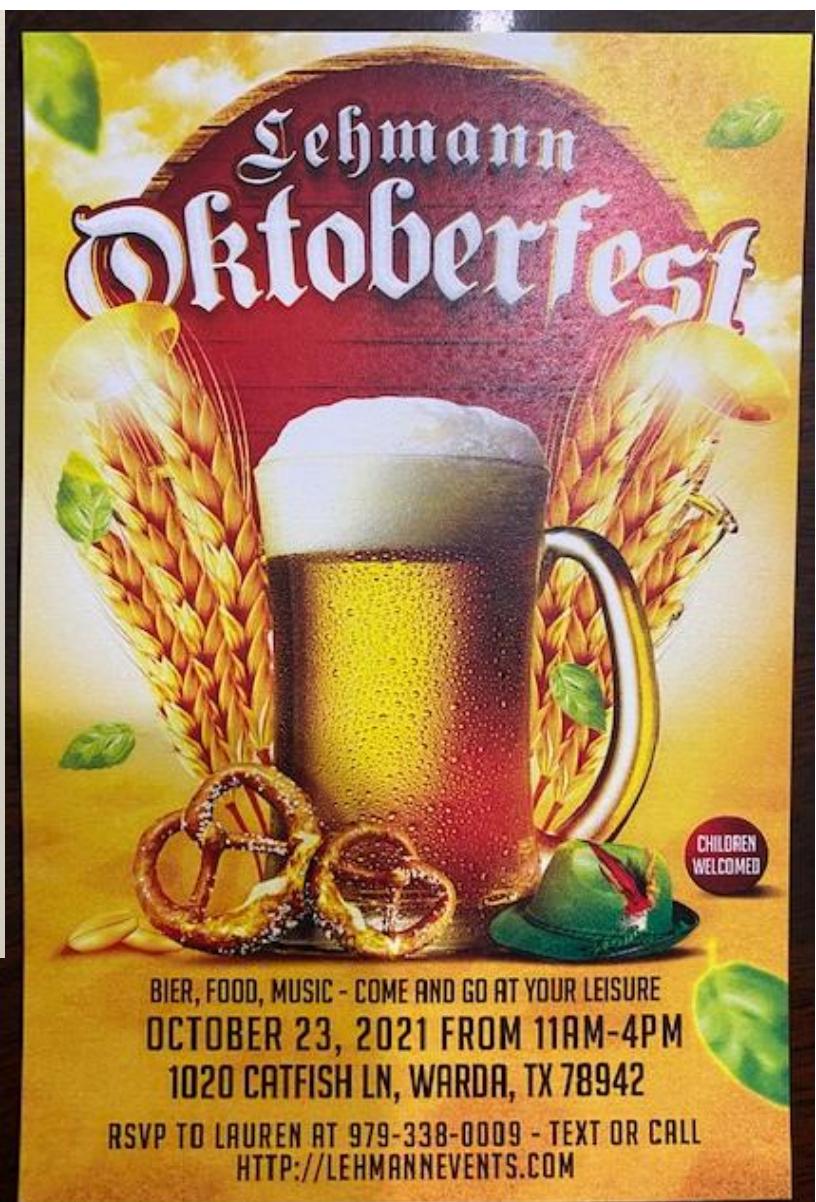
**Erich & Lauren Lehmann**  
**Chris Lehmann**

[www.lehmannevents.com](http://www.lehmannevents.com)

## FLOWER CHART OPENINGS

Don't forget that we have a Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the narthex hallway. You can sign up to provide flowers for a special occasion or simply to the glory of God.

Call the church office if you would like more information!





# OCTOBER

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Wes Diller	2 Cameron Kruse
3 Merrilee Zedan	4 Lynsey Bamsch Dawn Sedler	5 Dennis Winkler Gavin Cook	6 Janice Teinert	7 Joe McCoy Robert Pavlik <i>Paul &amp; Geraldine Teinert (54 yrs)</i>	8 Tammi Cook	9 <i>Jonathan &amp; Carrie Harbers (11 yrs)</i>
10 Brad Harbers Pegi Knippl	11 Kaleb Hensley <i>Blake &amp; Candace Koether (13 yrs)</i> <i>August &amp; Martha Pietsch (41 yrs)</i>	12 Margie Buscha Cody Kruse	13 Brenda Fischer Theresia Karstedt Joe Stephens <i>David &amp; Susie Polasek (37 yrs)</i>	14 Deborah Conway Wyatt Olguin Kathy Fischer <i>Jeremy &amp; Jessica Pietsch (15 yrs)</i>	15 Harvey Dippel Kim Filla	16 Jennifer Huelsebusch Dustin Blackwell
17 Lisa Caridi	18 Donald Roensch	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Robert Vanek Jeannette Sullivan Grant Hollek <i>Tim &amp; Jennifer Tarnowski (20 yrs)</i>	28 Dennis Schnell	29 Charles Koepke Don Pietsch <i>Robert &amp; Genelda Pavlik (55 yrs)</i>	30 Jeremy Pietsch Aaron Muniz
31						

## Remembering

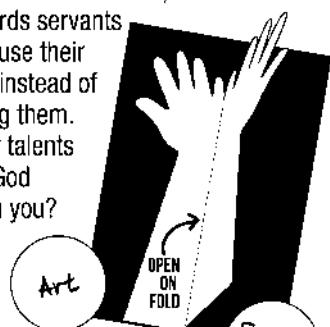
**Prayer of Christian Sympathy** for the family and friends of Patricia Frances Smith (Aug. 26); Jason Edward Dunk (Aug. 27); Jesse Lee McDaniel Jr. (Aug. 28); Gloria Jean Harbers (Aug. 30); Ezrianna Poncik (Sept. 4); Kerri Mae Wolf (Sept. 7); Jed Jackson (Sept. 15).

**Prayer of praise and thanksgiving** for the birth of a healthy son, Anthony Matthew Hatch, to parents Sam and Ashley on September 10<sup>th</sup>; and for the birth of a healthy daughter, Bodie Sage Henderson, to parents, Jacob and Shea (Cook) on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

# Just For Kids

## FULL OF TALENT

In Matthew 25:14-30, the master rewards servants who use their gifts instead of hiding them. What talents has God given you?



### What you need:

- Construction paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Gold crayon or pen
- Black pen



### What you do:

1. Fold one sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Trace your hand and lower arm so your arm touches the folded edge. Cut out the arm and hand, keeping the folded edge uncut.
2. Glue the folded hand to the other sheet of paper.
3. In gold, draw five coins in the hand. In black, write the skills and gifts God has given you.
4. Open the fold and draw 10 gold coins in the two open hands. In black, write how you can use your skills and gifts to help others and honor God.



## MASTER MULTIPLICATION

Jesus tells a parable about faithful servants who multiply their master's money. How does the master respond?

*Directions: Solve the math problems. Find the letters that match the answers and write them in order to complete Matthew 25:21, NIV.*

1. $(5) \times 3 =$	6. $(6) \times 6 =$
2. $(7) \times 4 =$	7. $(9) \times 3 =$
8. $(4) \times 6 =$	9. $(3) \times 8 =$
10. $(2) \times 10 =$	11. $(10) \times 4 =$
12. $(9) \times 5 =$	13. $(11) \times 8 =$

### KEY

A = 28	J = 50	S = 88
B = 35	K = 21	T = 45
C = 14	L = 63	U = 64
D = 25	M = 15	V = 32
E = 33	N = 24	W = 80
F = 72	O = 77	X = 56
G = 40	P = 54	Y = 20
H = 36	Q = 9	Z = 48
I = 27	R = 16	

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!

You have been faithful with a few things;

I will put you in charge of \_\_\_\_\_.

Come and share your master's happiness!"

MATTHEW 25:21, NIV

Answers: 15, 28, 20, 45, 36, 27, 24, 40, 88; many things

# Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church & Preschool

800 N. Franklin St.  
La Grange, Texas 78945

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**“Committed to Reaching Out With The Love Of Jesus”**

Answer: For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9, NRSV



—ph—s—us 2:8-9, NRSV

—u—m—y b—st.

r—s—ht—f w—rks, s—th t—  
th—g—ht—f g—d—n—t th—

y—r—w—nd—u—g; t—  
t—th, —nd th—s—s u—t

b—u s—v—d thr—gh—  
F\_r by gr—c—y—h—v—



Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing words.

# Puzzles!