

# FAMILY NEWS

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and Academy | Davie, Florida

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## No CONFSSION NO CHURCH

- 06 Vacation Bible School
- 09 American Heritage Girls
- 10 Calendar
- 11 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 17 GriefShare
- 18 LWML
- 19 Bible Studies



Christians have always confessed their faith (1Pt 3:16), even at the cost of their own lives. Jesus calls on us to confess Him before men (Mt 10:33). Where the Lord has built the citadel of His church and she has confessed Him faithfully, the devil has mined her walls with his own confession. That makes our confessing all the more urgent. The confession of the truth beats back the foe's assault upon the kingdom of God, not because we confess more fervently or with greater passion than the one who confesses lies, but because of the inherent power of the Word of God that we confess to speak back the darkness. God's speaking bars the way to the citadel of the church. God's Word is always much more than information, but more importantly a Word that accomplishes what it says. It is never just instruction but an act-Word. One can see why it is so important to know and confess faithfully the Word of God because it accomplishes what it says (Gn 1).

Our Lutheran fathers took seriously the responsibility to confess the divine truth. That truth includes the deepest mysteries, such as the doctrine of the holy Trinity. The responsibility to confess the truth sets before us two alternatives, especially to the detriment of falsehood. That which contradicts the Christian truth must be rejected by the church if she is to remain the church. To contra-dict means literally "to speak against." When the dragon roars his lies or whispers his alternative truth, we should not fail to speak for God. That is the only weapon we have: a powerful two-edged sword that divides striking to the division of bone and marrow. God's story must speak against the satanic contradiction. Nothing riles our enemy more than hurling the Word of God at him. From it he flees defeated. No middle ground exists between Satan's speaking and God's. The alternative is clear. Either we smite Satan by confessing the truth, or we speak for Christ by denying it. Absent this confession the church ceases to be.

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from  
previous page*

On 25 June 1530 the Lutheran confessors stood before Emperor Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire confessing the Christian truth when called to account for the hope that was in them (1Pt 3:16). Their confession of faith, called the Augsburg Confession, became the fundamental statement of their faith along with the Catechisms of Martin Luther. To these confessions Lutherans pledged both themselves and their posterity when they were collected into the Book of Concord in 1580. This collection of confessions is still relevant today in a world in which there is nothing new under the sun. Satan has not changed the kind of attack with which he approaches the church, only the names are changed. The Lutheran Confessions conclude by commending the faith of the ancient creeds: the Nicene and Athanasian to us. For these "old" confessions faithfully protect us from the "new" heresies the enemy flings at us. This is why we are glad to pledge ourselves to these "old" confessions. They are protective summaries of the Bible's faith.

*Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray, Second Vice-President, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.  
Pastor, Memorial Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas.*

## **The Lutheran Confessions**

### ***Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, 12.37-40***

"Some Anti-Trinitarians reject and condemn the old, approved symbols, the Nicene and Athanasian Creeds, both as to content and terminology, and instead teach that there is not one eternal, divine essence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but that, as there are three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, so also each person has a distinct essence separate from the other two. Some teach that all three persons in the Trinity, like any three distinct and essentially separate human persons, have the same power, wisdom, majesty, and glory, while others teach that the three persons in the Trinity are unequal in their essence and properties. That only the Father is genuinely and truly God.

"All these and similar articles, and whatever attaches to them or follows from them, we reject and condemn as false, erroneous, heretical, contrary to the Word of God, to the three Creeds, to the Augsburg Confession and the Apology, to the Smalcald Articles, to Luther's Catechisms. All pious Christians will and should avoid these as dearly as they love their soul's welfare and salvation.

"Therefore, in the presence of God and of all Christendom among both our contemporaries and our posterity, we wish to testify that the present explanation of all the foregoing controverted articles here explained, and none other, is our teaching, belief, and confession in which by God's grace we shall appear with intrepid hearts before the judgment seat of Jesus Christ and for which we shall give an account. Nor shall we speak or write anything, privately or publicly, contrary to this confession, but we intend through God's grace to abide by it. In view of this we have advisedly, in the fear and invocation of God, subscribed our signatures with our own hands."



6600 North Clinton St | Fort Wayne, IN 46825  
www.lutheracademy.com

bennett@lutheracademy.com  
(260) 452-2211

June 9, 2017

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and School  
7601 SW 39th  
Davie, FL 33328

Dear Saints of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and School,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ!

As we approach the summer months and the latter half of the church year, we are called to focus not only on the Lord's work in our lives, but also to turn our attention to the work He gives us to do. At Luther Academy, we too continue to focus on our mission – to spread confessional Lutheran teachings to isolated pastors around the world. We have already hosted conferences in Mexico and Spain, with many to follow this summer and fall. Your support is what makes this possible. Thank you so much for your gift of \$1,200.00. Your gift is an essential part of our mission to share confessional Lutheran doctrine with pastors around the world!

Our Confessional Lutheran Dogmatics book series continues to make progress. Most recently released is the volume on the Holy Trinity. We hope to complete this series in the next two to three years. Another recent release is the first volume of Kurt Marquart's writings on theology for laypeople. Look for updates on the second volume in the coming months! As always, stay up-to-date with conferences, book releases, and other Luther Academy news by reading our bulletin and following our facebook page!

Since joining Luther Academy I have worked on a few projects that I hope will help increase the longevity of our organization. It is my hope that Luther Academy will continue its mission even after I am gone. I cannot thank you enough for your continued prayerful and financial support of our organization. You have been instrumental in continuing to work toward our goal of long-term service to pastors around the world.

Thank you so much again. In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R.H. Bennett".

Rev. Dr. Robert H. Bennett  
Executive Director of Luther Academy

# MISSION REPORT: THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SPAIN (IELE) FORUM 2017

On June 2-4, 2017, I had the privilege of attending the forum of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Spain (IELE) in Madrid, Spain. As your church council Vice-President in charge of missions, I was excited to represent Gloria Dei as a partner of the Spain mission.

The FORO (Forum) was held at a Catholic monastery in an outer suburb of Madrid. The



**Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders presenting the teaching on the pastoral office during the FORO.**

nuns there were gracious and kind as they served us our meals and made sure that our lodging needs were met. Those attending the FORO met in the lovely chapel there for matins, evening prayer, and our divine service on Sunday morning.

The purpose of the FORO was that of advancing the ministry of the IELE. The LCMS, along with lay leaders, are building on the foundation established by the IELE and the Lutheran Church of Argentina in 2000. The IELE is now independent of the Argentinean church body and is working with the LCMS to determine its direction. Meetings included the discussion of the priorities and budget overview that will focus and lead the church in growing congregations through Word and sacrament ministry. The budget includes support for the following priorities:

1. Rent, furnishing, and establishment of a ministry center in Sevilla, as well as increased rental income for meeting spaces in other areas such as Madrid and Cartagena.
2. Missionary travel expenses within Spain( pastors Adam Lehman and David Warner)
3. Monies for advertisement and outreach
4. Fund visiting Spanish speaking pastors to supplement the ministry of our missionary pastors



**Pastor David Warner, mission pastor to Sapin.**



**The FORO was held in a monastery on the outskirts of Madrid.**



**Pastor Lehman at evening prayers.**



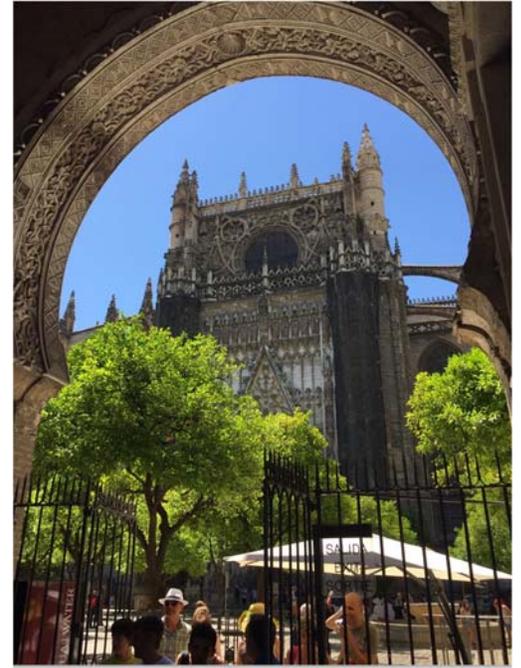
**Pastor Ted Cray with seminarian Antonia Suarez from Categena.**

Attendees included Rev. MacMillar from the LCMS office of international missions, Rev. Ted Cray, director of Latin American missions, and seminary professor and past missionary to Spain Dr. Arthur Just. The Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Iowa East District president, spoke on the office of the pastoral ministry during the FORO and provided needed training for the those seminarians in attendance.

After the FORO I traveled to Sevilla by rail with the Lehman family. I stayed with them for three days and enjoyed life in Sevilla. Adam and Christine Lehman were gracious tour guides and they, along with David and Shelee Warner, showed me the beautiful cathedral, castle, and lovely neighborhoods of Sevilla. I visited the soon- to- be permanent home of the

Lutheran Church of Sevilla and felt the excitement of the pastors as they spoke of the future ministry opportunities

there. I also enjoyed spending time with the Lehman children.



**Cathedral of Sevilla.**

They were a lot of fun and I received many smiles and hugs during my stay.

My visit to Spain was wonderfully informative, as I got to experience firsthand the inner workings of the IELE and meet many of the men and woman who serve this ministry. I saw life and faith lived out in



**At home with the Lehman children.**

Spain, and I am encouraged as to the

future of the mission. We have an opportunity to provide needed support and I am assured that it will be thoughtfully and prayerfully used to spread the gospel to the people of Spain.

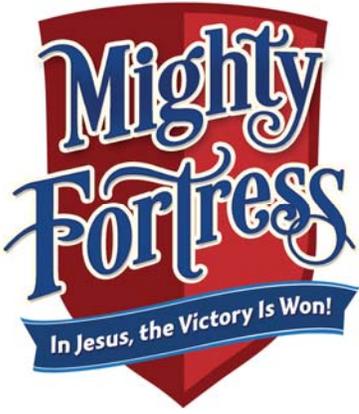
Thank you for this opportunity.

JoAnn Schweiger



**Hannah, Adam, and Christine Lehman; David and Shelee Warner.**

# Vacation Bible School 2017!!



Everyone involved at the MIGHTY FORTRESS had a wonderful time this past week. Approximately 153 children celebrated God's victory for us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It is such a blessing to be able to bring this ministry to children without charging a fee. This is only possible because of the overwhelming support of time, talent and treasure from the congregation. Thank you for your prayers and support that enable this worthwhile ministry to continue. It's not too late for you to help out with a donation. Simply mark your contribution "VBS" and place it in the offering plate.

A special thank you to the following people who were led to volunteer this past week:

Aesah, Ormita .....	Classroom Helper	Kern, Skylar .....	Snack Helper
Andrei, Jessica .....	Team Leader	Larsen, Stacy ...	Elementary Craft Leader
Barney, Emma .....	Classroom Helper	Macha, Lynn .....	Preschool Music
Caparella, Ashley .....	Team Leader	MacGregor, Debbie	Preschool Bible Review
Caruso, Ashley	Preschool Teacher, Set Up	MacGregor, James	Preschool Snack Helper
Caruso, Bruce...	Set Up, Ice Cream Social	MacGregor, Rob .....	Team Leader
Caruso, Gayle.....	Snack Leader, Set Up	Martinie, Emily .....	Classroom Helper
Claros, Katherine .....	Preschool Teacher	McLeod, Melanie .....	Preschool Teacher
Coxe, Carolyn.....	Registration	Pappas, Collin .....	Team Leader
Dammann, Steve .....	Ice Cream Social	Paynter, Diana	Elementary Bible Challenge
Dartilus, Katiana .....	Snack Helper	Porter, Benjamin .....	Team Leader
Friedman, Kristy .....	Registration	Poulos, Ginger...	Elementary Bible Lesson
Gamboa, Christopher .....	Set Up	Poulos, James .....	Team Leader
Grillo, Ava.....	Craft Helper	Poulos, Nina .....	Team Leader
Grillo, Ryan .....	Snack Helper	Poulos, Thomas .....	Preschool Puppeteer
Grimmett, Susan .....	Preschool Teacher	Reitsma, Joy.....	Registration
Groome, Amanda	Preschool Craft Leader	Santiago, Aaron .....	Games Helper
Harbar, Alex	Sound Booth, Mission Project	Schmidt, Karin .....	Snack Helper
Huayamave, Roberto .....	Games Helper	Schweiger, JoAnn.....	Games Leader
Jackson, Trudy .....	Snacks, Registration	Talpaz, Carolyn ...	PreSchool Craft Helper
Jones, Bill .....	Ice Cream Social	Tidwell, Alexis .....	Team Leader
Jones, Carol.....	Director	Tidwell, Amber.....	Classroom Helper
Jones, Rebecca.	Set Up, Ice Cream Social	Vonada, Sharon .....	Snack Helper
Kern, Kelly .....	Trouble Shooter	Wallice, Luanne ...	Preschool Bible Lesson
		Yost, Wendy .....	Snack Helper

## Our VBS Mission Project for 2017: *Sharing God's Mighty Word: Books for Kids*

Through Sharing God's Mighty Word from Concordia Gospel Outreach, we gathered offerings to show the love and mercy of Christ by providing books that tell the best story, God's story, to children who have not yet heard it. Together we can help fill hand with books as the Gospel fills hearts. Boys and girls, mothers and fathers will have the tools to learn about the amazing love of Jesus. We set a goal of \$600.00 and we were happy to celebrate that we met and passed our goal with a total of \$800.00 collected!!!



*Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
1 Corinthians 15:57*



Dear friends of Gloria Dei,

Thank you for giving me books. I can enjoy a book over summer. The book I got was "Crime biters" I think it's a funny book. It's also a good book that I can pass down to my younger siblings so they can read a funny book.

books

So thank you for the books!?

Thank You

Sincerely,

♥  
♥ ISPS  
♥

Thank you notes for  
books from Davie  
Elementary School  
Children

Dear Friends of Gloria Dei,

Thank you for the books you offered us. We know that it took a lot of time to get the books to us. It must of mostly must of took a few days of your time to let us have most of our time.

→ Organizing books must be really hard to find the reading level. When i picked my books it knew it would of been fun reading them just reading the back. Some times i wonder what was the first book made. But i'll leave that to history.

Books are amazing from big to small, from new to old. There's always a book in some ones life.

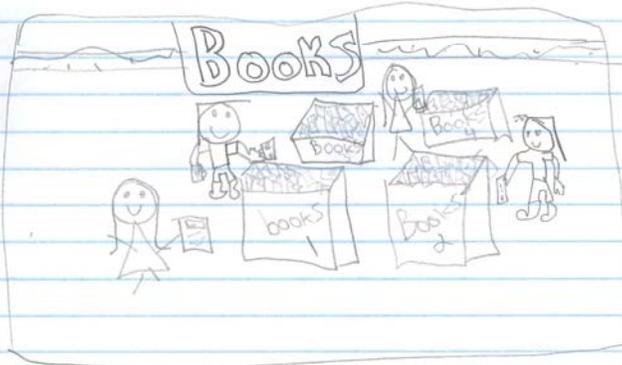


~ Senceirly, Nabrea  
Hardy

Dear Friends of Gloria Dei

6/1/17

Thank you for giving me a books. I know it takes a lot of time and effort. I really appreciate it, because I'm going to need it for the summer. So, I'm thankful you went through all that work for others. The world needs more people like you, thanks for everything.



Sincerely ♥  
REBECCA

Your

# American Heritage Girls Troop 1483

## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

The Troop does not have any formal activities planned for the summer, so we will use the next few newsletters to explain a little more about the program.

It takes a lot of volunteers to run a troop. We are required to have five Board members: Troop Coordinator, Assistant Troop Coordinator, Treasurer, Shepherd, and Charter Representative (our liaison for the church). In addition to the Board, two leaders are required for each unit. The units include: Pathfinders (Kindergarten), Tenderhearts (1st-3rd grade), Explorers (4th-6th grade), Pioneers (7th-8th grade), and Patriots (9th-12th grade). The Pioneers and Patriots are often combined since their numbers are usually smaller and the badge requirements are the same.

The AHG Mission Statement: Building women of integrity through service to God, family, community, and country.

The AHG Oath: I promise to love God, cherish my family, honor my country, and serve in my community.

The AHG Creed: As an American Heritage Girl, I promise to be Compassionate, Helpful, Honest, Loyal, Perseverant, Pure, Resourceful, Respectful, Responsible, and Reverent.



Each meeting begins with the flag ceremony, the Pledge of Allegiance, recitation of the Oath and Creed, devotion time, and announcements. The girls then break into their units and work within their own groups on badges or whatever activity the leader has planned for that meeting.

Next month, we will share information about the badges the girls can work on as they explore various interests.

Please spread the word about your troop. If anyone is interested in more information, they can contact Jim or Debbie MacGregor at 785-207-3796 or send an email to [ahg.fl1483@gmail.com](mailto:ahg.fl1483@gmail.com) or email Darla Schulte at [darla\\_schulte@bellsouth.net](mailto:darla_schulte@bellsouth.net).



**GLORIA DEI**

LUTHERAN CHURCH & ACADEMY

# July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 8am-Divine Service 9:30am-Sunday School 10:45am-Divine Service	<b>3</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm-"A Longer Look at the Lessons" Bible Study	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day Campus Closed</b>	<b>5</b> 9:30am-Joyful Hearts— Women's Bible Study 10:30am-4pm Thrift Shop Open	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8am-Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>9</b> 8am-Divine Service 9:30am-Sunday School 10:45am-Divine Service	<b>10</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm-"A Longer Look at the Lessons" Bible Study	<b>11</b> 10:30am-Prayer Shawl	<b>12</b> 9:30am-Joyful Hearts— Women's Bible Study 10:30am-4pm Thrift Shop Open	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8am-Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9am LWML Breakfast & Bible Study 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>16</b> 8am-Divine Service 9:30am-Sunday School 10:45am-Divine Service	<b>17</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open 6:30pm-School Board 7pm-"A Longer Look at the Lessons" Bible Study	<b>18</b> 6:30pm-Church Council	<b>19</b> 9:30am-Joyful Hearts— Women's Bible Study 10:30am-4pm Thrift Shop Open	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8am-Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open
<b>23</b> 8am-Divine Service 9:30am-Sunday School 10:45am-Divine Service	<b>24</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm-"A Longer Look at the Lessons" Bible Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:30am-Joyful Hearts— Women's Bible Study 10:30am-4pm Thrift Shop Open	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8am-Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open 1pm-LWML Summer Movie
<b>30</b> 8am-Divine Service 9:30am-Sunday School 10:45am-Divine Service	<b>31</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Thrift Shop Open 7pm-"A Longer Look at the Lessons" Bible Study					

# BIRTHDAYS

July / August 2017

Ryan Grillo	7/1	*Jennifer Preus	7/22	Casey Gifford	8/19
*Søren Preus	7/1	Marjorie Schieb	7/23	Alison Rubin	8/21
Ainsworth Patterson	7/2	Pat Von Alven	7/24	Millie Paterson	8/22
Don Coxe	7/3	Amanda Groome	7/25	Alex Harbar, III	8/24
Benjamin Singley, V	7/3	Brian Harris	7/26	Peggy Janzer	8/24
Bill Klockow	7/4	Debra Diehl	7/29	Eleanor Steinberg-Ryan	8/24
Robert Kohler	7/4	Kathleen Michel	7/29	Adoline Northrup	8/24
*Christine Lehman	7/7	*Noah Lehman	8/5	Bob Brave	8/26
Anne Pope	7/8	Gary Von Alven	8/5	Emilie Malinowski	8/27
Colleen Timmins	7/8	Ava Schumas	8/6	Max Elam	8/27
Alexa Schweiger	7/11	Adeline Uriano	8/6	Charlotte Sessa	8/28
Rosemarie Geisler	7/12	Ethan Josephs	8/11	Karem Munsey	8/28
Sean Hoyt, II	7/13	Barbara Reitsma	8/12	Chris Coxe	8/29
Luanne Wallice	7/14	Debbie Dell	8/13	Ronald Cusumano	8/29
Sharon Vonada	7/16	*Lena Preus	8/13		
JoAnn Schweiger	7/19	Mikayla Guerrero	8/16		
Lori Urtecho	7/19	Fran Fletcher	8/16	*Missionary Family	
Sandra Saikley	7/20	John Woodrum	8/18		

# ANNIVERSARIES

July / August 2017

Sam and Leah Sessa	7/3	Ronald and Jennifer Cusumano	08/10
Ed and Cheryl Smith	7/4	Sam and Donna Croup	08/12
Robert and Kathleen Cabral	7/10	Robert and Elsie Kohler	08/13
James and Alexandira Heller	7/11	Ken and Nancy Hughes	08/14
Glen and Dionne Josephs	7/25	Harry and Anne Pope	08/15
John and Sandra Saikley	7/31	Stanley and Karen Stenzel-Nowicki	08/15
Michael and Donna Clark	08/02	Ainsworth and Millicent Patterson	08/19
Gary and Pat Von Alven	08/04		
Bob and Lori Hines	08/04	*Missionary Family	
Decker and Joan Lee	08/07		



# Pray For Us Calendar

**These prayer requests were submitted by coworkers in the Lord's mission.**

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at [lcms.org/prayforus](http://lcms.org/prayforus) or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

**LCMS MISSIONARIES ON HOME SERVICE — JULY 1–15** Every other year, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) international missionaries spend approximately two months in the United States on "home service." During this time, they reconnect with the individuals, congregations and groups who support their mission work. Home service also gives them a period of rest and renewal and the chance to spend time with their families.

*Remember God's work through missionaries on home service as you pray:*

- 1.** for the approximately 30 LCMS missionary families who will be on home service in 2017. Ask the Lord to keep them safe during their travels.
- 2.** for God's hand to be involved in the details and logistical arrangements that are a necessary part of missionary home service, such as transportation and housing.
- 3.** for missionary families to be able to visit as many congregations and other groups as possible, while managing their limited time in the United States.
- 4.** that many congregations all over the United States would welcome missionaries into their churches for mission presentations, Sunday school, children's messages, celebration luncheons, Bible studies and other activities.
- 5.** for God to give missionary families emotional, physical and spiritual strength as they travel to many locations, share with many supporters and meet many new friends. Pray that home service would be a joyous and encouraging time, despite rigorous schedules.
- 6.** for missionary children. Pray that God would provide them with the opportunity to feel that they are a vital part of their family's ministry as they share about it with others.
- 7.** for the Lord to guide missionaries as they prepare their presentations. Ask Him to help them discern how best to share their stories and news with those who have so faithfully supported their ministry.
- 8.** that congregations and other groups would experience a revitalized interest in praying for missionaries and supporting their work after visiting with them face-to-face and hearing about what God is accomplishing through them.
- 9.** that as missionaries share their ministry experiences and joys during their home service, the Holy Spirit would challenge listeners to consider serving as a missionary themselves — in a short-term, long-term or career capacity.
- 10.** for the families of visiting missionaries, that they would be able to enjoy their time together and mutually encourage one another.
- 11.** for God to comfort and sustain the missionaries who are not able to see family and friends in the United States this year. May the Holy Spirit comfort them with His presence and the assurance of God's calling to serve far from home.
- 12.** that missionaries would have an easy transition back to life in the United States — even for a short time during home service — with minimal effects of reverse culture shock.
- 13.** that the Lord would raise up supporters for missionaries who are struggling to finding the resources necessary for their ministry.
- 14.** with thanksgiving for the many forms of support and the joys the Lord provides to missionary families as they serve Him.
- 15.** that the conversations started during home service would continue long after the missionary has returned to the mission field. Pray that through ongoing communication, missionaries and supporters would encourage one another.



*The Rev. Joel Fritsche, career missionary to the Dominican Republic, visits children at Zion Lutheran School, Staunton, Ill., during a home service visit.*

## INVOLVEMENT IDEAS

- Get tips on how to prepare for a missionary's visit to your congregation at [blogs.lcms.org/2017/discover-ways-to-support-lcms-missionaries](http://blogs.lcms.org/2017/discover-ways-to-support-lcms-missionaries).
- Learn more about the Synod's 38 partner churches at [lcms.org/partnerchurches](http://lcms.org/partnerchurches).
- Read stories about how God is using the Synod to impact people at home and abroad in *Lutherans Engage the World* magazine. View the online version at [engage.lcms.org](http://engage.lcms.org).
- Learn about the Synod's missionaries at [lcms.org/missionarysupport](http://lcms.org/missionarysupport).

**PARTNER CHURCHES — JULY 16–31** The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has 38 partner churches around the world. A partner church is a church body with which the LCMS has full altar and pulpit fellowship. Many LCMS partner churches also are members of the International Lutheran Council, a worldwide association of confessional Lutheran church bodies. Some LCMS partner churches came into existence through LCMS-supported mission efforts, while others have historic roots that pre-date the LCMS or that are sourced in the mission efforts of other Lutheran church bodies.

*Remember God's work in His Church as you pray:*

**16.** for all LCMS partner churches, some of which only have a handful of congregations. Pray that they would never feel alone in their service to Christ and His Church.

**17.** for LCMS partner churches in Latin America and the Caribbean. Pray that God's Word would continue to spread throughout these countries to bring the Body of Christ together in fellowship and to be witnesses to His love.

**18.** for LCMS partner churches in Africa. Pray that God would strengthen Lutheran Christians in this region to carry out their work for His name's sake.

**19.** for LCMS partner churches in Asia, that God would guide and strengthen Lutheran Christians in this region, especially in areas where it is difficult or dangerous to do His work.

**20.** for LCMS partner churches in Eurasia. Pray that God would continue to use His Word as a light to those in darkness and as a stronghold for the life of His Church.

**21.** that God would continue to raise up faithful servants for His Church in locations around the world.

**22.** for those who serve in leadership positions in LCMS partner churches around the world, as they guide, nurture and shepherd their people.

**23.** for the laypeople of LCMS partner churches around the world, that they would be fulfilled by God's Word to share with their families and communities.

**24.** with thanksgiving for all the missionaries who serve partner churches, that they would remain faithful in their tasks and be witnesses to the Gospel through acts of mercy.

**25.** for the Lutheran church bodies around the world that are interested in fellowship with the LCMS. Pray that God would guide the consideration process according to His will.

**26.** in thanksgiving for the great cloud of witnesses whose prayers continually are ascending to God on behalf of all those who serve in areas where spreading God's Word is difficult or dangerous.

**27.** for all those still living in darkness, that the Gospel will be sweet to their ears and swift in healing the broken.

**28.** for the Lutheran churches in Eurasia as they seek to minister to the refugees in their midst. Pray for safety for both the church workers and the refugees.



*The Rev. Mintre Banganare preaches during worship at the Lutheran church in Mire, Togo.*

**29.** for Lutheran churches around the world that are dealing with strife between their members. Pray that the Lord would guide them to a peaceful resolution that would strengthen their witness to the community.

**30.** for safe travel between and within countries in each world region. Pray that pastors, missionaries, medical teams and all others who travel to assist partner churches would be kept safe and healthy in order that the Gospel might be proclaimed to the far corners of creation.

**31.** for all projects currently going on in LCMS partner church bodies, that each one would have the volunteers and resources necessary to carry out the work of the church as it shows mercy and provides physical and spiritual care for people around the world.

#### MISSIONARY & PERSONNEL BIRTHDAYS

Download the prayer cards of missionaries and other personnel from [lcms.org/prayercards](http://lcms.org/prayercards).

- July 2** Nicole Lohmeyer, Dominican Republic; James Sharp, Uruguay
- July 3** Amanda Gauthier, Panama
- July 4** Steven Schumacher, Ghana
- July 6** Daniel Conrad, Mexico
- July 7** Christine Lehman, Spain; Caitlin Worden, Peru
- July 8** Herbert Burch, Peru
- July 12** Lawrence Matro, Papua New Guinea
- July 15** Angela Thompson, Sierra Leone
- July 17** Stephen Oliver, Taiwan
- July 19** Roy Askins, Asia
- July 22** Jennifer Preus, Dominican Republic
- July 26** Jennie Asher, Germany
- July 27** Julie McManus, Kenya
- July 28** James Krikava, Eurasia
- July 29** Emily McDermott, Togo
- July 30** Kathryn Conrad, Mexico
- July 31** Connie Cortright, Eurasia; Jean Hoffman, South Korea

#### MILITARY CHAPLAINS WITH BIRTHDAYS IN JULY:

Chaplain Matthew Boarts, Maxwell AFB, Ala.; Chaplain Ryan Rupe, Norfolk, Va.; Chaplain Edward Wright, Goodfellow AFB, Texas; Chaplain Patrick Riley, Parris Island, S.C.

# WORD ON STEWARDSHIP

“I will bless you ..., so that you will be a blessing” (Gen. 12:2). The Lord blessed Abraham so that he would be a blessing. How did He bless Abraham? He promised that from His seed would come the savior of the nations. And Abraham believed that promise, trusted that the Lord would provide it just as He had promised. Thus, everything Abraham did was colored by that promise. He willingly gave of himself and his household in service to the Lord in view of that promise.

Our Father in heaven has richly blessed us. Not only has He given us everything that we need to support this body and life, but He has also provided, that promised seed in His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the savior of the nations. He is the redeemer of the world. He is the one who has conquered sin, death, and the power of the devil by His death, resurrection, and ascension.

Just as we are richly blessed, we are also thereby freed to be a blessing. Since God has endowed us with His gifts, we are set to endow others. Thus, we give of the blessings we have received so that others may be blessed. We do this in our homes, our communities, and our churches. We press the blessings God has lavished upon us in service to those around us. We use our time, our talents, and our treasures to be a blessing even as they have been a blessing to us.

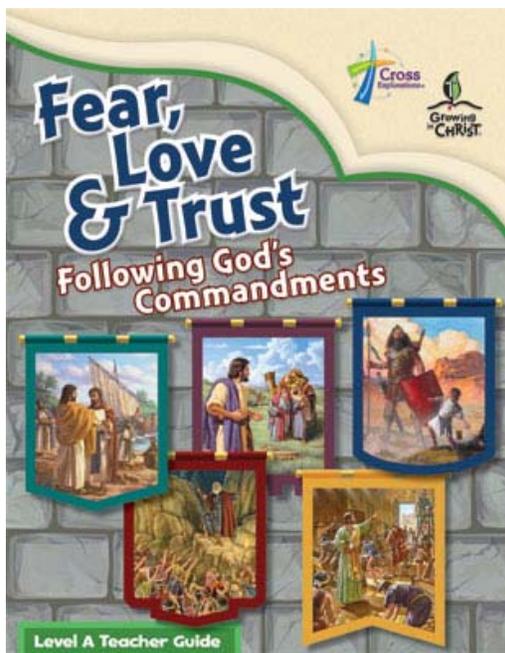
The Lord blesses us. And He enlists us to be a blessing to others. So, whenever you put that envelope in the collection plate, when you set out to serve at the local food pantry, when you sit down to help your kids with homework, think of this: The Lord has blessed you, so that you will be a blessing.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

<http://www.lcms.org/stewardship-ministry>

---

## HERE'S WHAT'S COOL IN SUNDAY SCHOOL!



Our new summer session began on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. and will run each Sunday morning through August 27<sup>th</sup>.

- ◆ One year olds through First Grade will meet in Room #32
- ◆ Second Grade through Fifth Grade will meet in Room # 19

With a castle-themed environment, students will learn about God's rules for holy living and loving in the Ten Commandments as we explore thirteen Old and New Testament Bible stories.

Be sure to join us for games, crafts, and fun!

*In our June 2015 Gloria Dei Congregational meeting, we formally adopted the Rev. Adam Lehman family as our missionaries to Spain.*

# Lehman Family Newsletter

An update from your missionaries serving  
our Lord in Spain



*Group Picture from the annual Foro  
(June 2-4) in Madrid*



*Family Picture Before Returning to  
the States for Home Service*

Blessings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As always, things have been both busy and exciting for us and for the Lutheran Church in Spain.

At this point, the property in Sevilla is almost ready to be used. All of the renovations have been finished. This means that all that remains is to acquire the necessary license to open as a public place. It has been a very long process, so we are very happily rejoicing and thanking our gracious Lord for getting us as far as we have come. And since the renovations are finished, we have been able to turn our attention to decorating the sanctuary. This is a great encouragement to the brothers and sisters in Spain. In very short order the Spanish Lutherans will have their very first 24/7 church property!

We have also recently completed our annual Foro in Madrid. This was a time to gather together for worship, to learn, and to discuss what the Lord has done amongst us over the last year, as well as where we hope to go in the near future! It was a time of great blessing for all in attendance, and we continue to be filled with great optimism for what the Lord will do to make sure that all in Spain hear the good news of Jesus, and all that He has done for us.

# How to Contact and Support Pastor Lehman

**Blog:**

[www.staticadventures.wordpress.com](http://www.staticadventures.wordpress.com)

**Email:**

[adam.lehman@lcmsintl.org](mailto:adam.lehman@lcmsintl.org)

**Giving Page:**

[www.lcms.org/lehman](http://www.lcms.org/lehman)

You may support my work with a tax-deductible gift on my Giving Page (listed above), or with a check payable to “The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.” Be sure to include “Lehman-Spain” on the memo line, and send to:

Mission Central,  
40718 Highway E-16  
Mapleton, Iowa, 51034



\*\*\*\*\*  
*To have your name added or removed from the newsletter mailing list, simply send an email to [adam.lehman@lcmsintl.org](mailto:adam.lehman@lcmsintl.org) and include either “ADD” or “REMOVE” in the subject line.*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Things continue to go very well for our family as we live and serve in Spain. But as the school year comes to a close, and we begin to turn our attention to the summer, we are realizing just how busy our summer is going to be!

We are returning to the United States for a couple of months of Home Service. This is our opportunity to visit some of the people and congregations who have been supporting us during our first two years in Spain. We will be traveling and making visits in several states during these next two months (including Indiana, Iowa, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Florida). Unfortunately we will not be able to visit with all of you, but we truly look forward to seeing as many of you as we possibly can!

As we begin our time of home service, we ask that you would keep our family in your prayers. Please pray that the Lord would keep us safely in the palm of His Almighty hand as we are traveling, and please pray for all the folks whom we will be blessed to visit with.

Please pray that the final stages of the property project in Sevilla go smoothly, and that it will soon be able to be used by the faithful Lutherans in Sevilla.

Please also continue to pray for Rev. David and Shelee Warner, our dear friends and fellow missionaries in Spain.

And please pray for all of the brothers and sisters of the Iglesia Evangélica Luterana Española (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Spain), including the pastors and seminarians in Spain.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, and for your continued prayers and support.

**Your servants in Christ,  
The Lehman Family**

## **GRIEF SHARE STARTS SATURDAY, AUGUST 26**

Each one of us knows a person who is dealing with the loss of someone close to them. It may be a friend, family member, neighbor or coworker who is hurting. Or it could even be you. This death loss could have occurred recently or ten years ago. GRIEF SHARE is a Christ-centered video seminar series that features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the materials presented during the video. One also has the opportunity to participate in a quiet time on their own in their workbook reflecting upon the Word of God. GriefShare is a place where many people have found that they can begin putting their lives back together again after a personal loss. Of necessity, all that is shared within the group remains confidential.

Gloria Dei will repeat the 16 week series starting Saturday, August 26 at 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We ask that new participants come in at 12:30 p.m. to register, etc. The registration fee is \$ 25.00 which covers the cost of the accompanying Study Guide, Tool Box and Resource Manual.

We join many churches worldwide who sponsor GriefShare not only for their own congregation members but the local community at large.

Brochures and cards covering this support group are available in the Fellowship Hallway as well as in the Narthex. Please take a copy, read it and pass it along to another person. We are reminded that even mature Christians with a solid faith need ongoing comfort and encouragement during the grieving period which can be lengthy and intense. You will find encouragement, hope and friends who will walk the grief journey with you. Questions? Please feel free to talk with one of the facilitators.

Do you know someone in another area who could be helped through GriefShare? Or do you wish to attend but not at Gloria Dei? If so, please go [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) and link onto "Find a Group", follow the directions and you will obtain information on churches who sponsor GriefShare. The GriefShare website contains much grief recovery information, a self study as well as daily devotions to which anyone can subscribe.

Do you care to join our Prayer Support Team or become a facilitator? Your time and talents are needed in this ministry. Talk with any of us for information on how you can help share God's comfort with the grieving.

We thank those of you who have shared the GriefShare ministry in our community for it is "word of mouth" publicity that is our best advertisement. Please keep our GriefShare ministry in your prayers. Thank you and may God bless each of you.

*The GriefShare Team (Judy Herman, Millicent Patterson, Linda Malone and Marian Fowler)*

# LWML ~ Lutheran Women's Missionary League

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the L.W.M.L.!



“Jesus Christ above all” was the theme of the 37<sup>th</sup> biennial convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League in Albuquerque, NM. Over 3400 men and women attended joining together to worship, sing, study God's Word and fellowship. I was privileged

to be a delegate representing the Gold Coast Zone and Gloria Dei. So many things happen during convention and some of my favorite things were opening worship service with over 70 pastors from all over the country participating, hearing the keynote speaker, Ida Mall, past president of LWML, voting on Mission Grants for our next biennium, listening to our Mission Grant Recipients, singing together, Bible Study and fellowshiping with our sisters and brothers in Christ.

One of the things I really enjoyed about the convention was our banner procession. This year was our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and our beautiful anniversary banner was carried in by the great granddaughter of Clara Schmidt, the first president and founder of LWML. It amazes me the craftiness of our women. The banners were beautiful!

On Saturday morning we were privileged to see a parade of international flags, each representing a country where mission grants have been awarded. There are 71 countries including the United States! Those mites are mighty! President Patti Ross reminded us to “Engage, Encourage, Equip, and Enjoy” as we go back to our societies.



Each time I am able to attend a national convention, district convention or a district retreat it reminds me that the LWML, Lutheran Women in Mission are able to use their God given talents to encourage each other and to support our mission grants as they spread the Gospel across the world. If you would like to see highlights from the convention please check out [WWW.LWML.org](http://WWW.LWML.org).



**Join us on July 29 at 1 p.m. for Summer Movie Matinee!**  
**All women are invited! We will be watching “My Life In Ruins”**  
**Come for some fun, food and fellowship!**

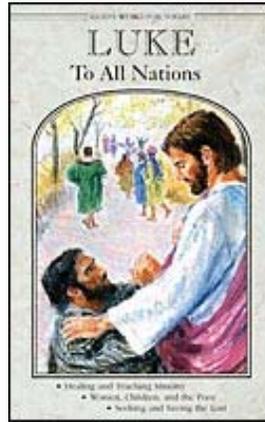
If you are interested in going to the District Retreat please send in your registration and put your name on the list on the purple bulletin board.  
We are looking at housing options for everyone!

# BIBLE STUDIES

Luke's carefully written Gospel, compiled from both oral and written accounts, points to God's gracious salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. The peace that Christ has brought to the world enables us to break out in a liturgy of praise. The salvation story did not end with Christ's ascension, however; Christ's Church is called to go to "all nations"-men, women, children, the poor, the sick, and the disenfranchised-proclaiming the victory found only in Jesus Christ. Luke speaks to us about

God's plan for bringing salvation to both Jew and Gentile; believers' unceasing joy upon hearing the Good News; the work of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' life and in our own; the enduring value and importance of prayer.

All men welcome!



Men's Breakfast and Bible Study  
Every Saturday 8 a.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall,  
Followed by Bible Study In Room 32  
Hot Breakfast \$4.00  
For more info contact Bruce Caruso at 954-962-4186

Monday Night Bible Study meets each Monday in the chapel at 7 p.m.

They are studying "A Longer Look at the Lessons"

Delve deeper into each week's three Scripture readings with "A Longer Look at the Lessons." This Bible study is based on the lectionary in the Lutheran Service Book, and provides information about the readings and their contexts.

For more information please contact Elaine Carstens 954-587-8394

Joyful Hearts  
Women's Bible Study  
Meets on Wednesday  
9:30 a.m.  
in the chapel.

All women are welcome!



Please join the women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League

1st and 3rd Saturdays  
at 9 a.m.—11 a.m.  
for Breakfast/Bible study  
We will meet in the chapel.  
All women are invited!

## PASTOR POULOS LEADS THE FOLLOWING BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. "Bible Foundations!"  
Why we believe what we believe!

Wednesday evening bible study will resume in August.



# Issues, Etc.<sup>TM</sup>

*Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio*

YOUR COMPREHENSIVE SOURCE FOR NEWS, INFORMATION & TRUTH...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. You can listen to what you want when you want at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org) and on the new Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.



## LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO

*Sacred Music for the World*

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



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

**Around the Word**  
Theology for the Curious Christian

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



The owners of these businesses and professional services provide this monthly newsletter at no cost to Gloria Dei families.

Please contact them and make use of their services or products.

 REALTY WORLD<sup>SM</sup>  
SOUTH FLORIDA

2883 Executive Park Dr., Suite 201, Weston, FL 33331  
Cell: 954-675-8316  
Bus: 954-660-5208 Fax: 94-660-5223  
E-mail: [jjames@rwsf.com](mailto:jjames@rwsf.com)  
Web: [www.rwsf.com](http://www.rwsf.com)  
*Independently Owned and Operated*



Jeri James  
Realtor Associate

FUNERAL SERVICE • CREMATION • CEMETERIES

Scott Cumming,  
Managing Funeral Director



FRED HUNTER'S  
SINCE 1890



2401 South University Drive • Davie, FL  
(954) 989-1550 • [FredHunters.com](http://FredHunters.com)

 Benjamin Moore  
Paints

 coronado  
PAINT

**BILLY LAWSON**  
Dealer Representative / Cell # 954-325-6340

Medallion Paint • 6033 Hollywood Blvd • Hollywood / 954.966.6800  
Paint World • 5020 S. State Road 7 • Ft. Laud. / 954.792.3900  
Medallion Paint • 12323 SW 55th St • Cooper City / 954.680.8403  
Color Counselors • 2027 E. Sample Rd. • L.H.P. / 954.941.6257

T.M.  
**RALPH**  
FUNERAL HOMES

PLANTATION  
FUNERAL HOME  
7001 Northwest 4th Street  
Plantation, Florida 33317

Also located in:  
SAWGRASS/WESTON  
371 Northwest 136th Avenue  
Sunrise, Florida 33325

PHONE: (954) 587-6888  
TOLL FREE: (888) 209-8778 • FAX: (954) 587-5582  
WEBSITE: [www.tmralfp.com](http://www.tmralfp.com)



THOMAS M. RALPH  
JUDITH C. RALPH  
Owners and Funeral Directors

  
**GLORIA DEI**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & ACADEMY

7601 SW 39th St.  
Davie, Florida 33328  
954-475-0683