



MORNING STAR LUTHERAN CHURCH

June 1, 2024

Brother and Sisters, greetings in the name of the Lord!

With Memorial Day past, summer has unofficially begun. But it ain't no big deal, is it? As I gaze out the window, I see that June gloom is no different than May gray. BUT the Lord's light shines down on me, and it shines down on you, giving us a path to follow for our daily walk with Him and with one another! I find this light in the Word and through prayer.

One simple prayer I pray on the go, or when I wake up at 3:00 a.m., or when I simply need to be reminded to whom I belong are the 2nd and 3rd petitions of the Lord's Prayer. They're to the point, they have punch, they rhyme, and they fall off the tongue easily, even at 3:00 a.m. Do you know of which petitions I speak?

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done.

You may add the rest of the third petition, of course. But in the middle of the night, this is enough.

A big thanks to **Liz Holland** for the flowers for all the ladies on **Mother's Day**! Thanks also to **Dick Collingwood** for setting up the Missing Man Table on **Memorial Day**. That was very special.

We have a **new alarm system** installed. It is armed and disarmed at the keypad next to the furnace room. One must enter through Lauren's office door. Entering through any other door will set off the alarm. One may also put an app on their phone to arm and disarm the system from outside. Please see me if you would like to install the app.

Knock Knock... Who's there?... Bacon... Bacon who?... Bacon cake for Father's Day! **Don't forget, Sunday, June 16, is Father's Day.** Why don't they have Father's Day sales? Because fathers are priceless 😊

As always the first Sunday is always **Food Drive Sunday**, and the last Sunday is always **\$5 Mission Sunday**. And every Wednesday there is **Praise Team practice** at 5:30 p.m. (with a **songfest** on the 3rd Wednesday, beginning at the same time).

Please see the attached calendar for birthdays & anniversaries!

With love in Christ,

Pastor Richard Ross

CHURCH PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings Family and Friends of MSLC,

As I write this it's Memorial Day weekend Sunday, it's the unofficial start of summer. The 2023-24 school year has concluded for some, while others still have a few weeks left. When I was a kid, it was the weekend that the family celebrated my dad's birthday which was on the 29th. Last Sunday, was happy birthday to the Christian church which started on Pentecost.

The idea that the Holy Spirit gave me for this month was one that I really didn't want to address. It's one of those topics that's slightly controversial, and as an amateur theologian, is probably one that I shouldn't touch. Usually the Holy Spirit gives me some words of wisdom and I go from there. Amazingly enough, it was this morning's conversation that Jesus had with Nicodemus that shed light on this subject.

The conversation occurs in John 3 and this section includes the famous line about God sending HIS beloved SON. But before HE got there, HE shared with Nicodemus about being born again by the SPIRIT. Half of this conversation was about Christian requirement, the other was about prophesy. Nicodemus gets a pass on this conversation because unlike him, as we read this portion, we know what it is 'to be born again'.

As I thought about it, I wondered if Christians really do understand the process of being spiritually born again and then the process of repentance. Regardless of the age you are baptized, the SPIRIT is now living in you. I was struck by the cliché that most of us use in outreach that JESUS loves you just the way you are. The truth is that HE accepts you just the way you are, but then it's time for the SPIRIT to begin working on you. Based on your baptism, and your continual repentance, you surrender yourself to GOD, the HOLY SPIRIT lives inside you, you are now a child of God and you literally get rid of all of those worldly identities that can't exist at the same time as a child of God.

A pastor has a dilemma on his hands, a devout Christian who is also homosexual. This person attends regularly with their boyfriend. I recently saw an article in an LCMS newspaper about a new resource program to reach out to those who are homosexual, transgender's, and those who cohabitate. As I read through the article, I kept thinking about 'what did Jesus do' when he came across those who were practicing unlawfulness according to the Old Testament. There is the interesting scene with Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. HE already knows her history and HE confronts her about, but doesn't judge her. Though we don't know how the woman ended up, I'm guessing that her encounter with Jesus changed her life.

That's what encounters with Jesus are supposed to do. Jesus asks for your surrender, making HIM number one in your life. We confess every Sunday because we have failed to do that. I'm reminded that Jesus' ministry involved HIM letting people come to HIM, rarely was it the other way, unless like the healing at Bethesda, the man had never heard of HIM.

When we are baptized, we become a child of God and the Spirit begins to work in us, we don't get to hold on to our other identities. As we go on our way through our week, we are child of God first, and as little Christ's we are to act that way. We don't get to walk out of church and resume the identity that the world has given us or that some legislature has now approved of.

Being a Christian is a 24/7/365 gig, any less, and GOD will say, 'truly, truly I say to you that I do not know you.

Sola Fide Sola Gratia Sola Scriptura

Jerry Grambow

CHURCH PRESIDENT'S NEWS

We had a Board meeting and officially approved of the new security system, it's installed.

As usual, because we have no ministry needs happening, the Board is taking the summer off and will resume the last Monday in August.

On a personal note, Alicia and I are going to Scandinavia in June with Dave Anderson. You'll remember him from the concert he did at Morning Star in March with Roger Walck for the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat.

J.G.

June 2024

Morning Star Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 MITE BOX MONTH
2 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study FOOD DRIVE	3 6:30 PM BOD Meeting	4	5 5:30 PM Praise team practice	6	7	8
9 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study	10	11	12 5:30 PM Praise team practice	13	14	15
16 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible	17	18	19 5:30 PM Song Fest and Praise team practice	20	21 Summer begins	22 9:00 AM -11:00 AM LARC Ham Radio testing
23 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study \$5 Sunday for Missions	24	25	26 5:30 PM Praise team practice	27	28	29
30 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study						