



The Sound of Morning Star
Morning Star Lutheran Church ~ Missouri Synod
Lakeside, California
www.morningstarlcms.org

September

2024

Greetings family and friends of MSLC, as I sit here, we're half way through August, in some places school has already started, summer is over and fall is on the way. Hopefully, everyone had a good summer. I say that realizing that it's vacation time for those with kids. The retirees have vacation time all year, although, vacationing while school is on is preferable to having to put up with kids, unless their yours and you have no choice.

This month, I wasn't inspired so much by a single thought or a verse I came across during devotions, but the last month or so of the gospel lessons. There are certain times when chapters in the gospel happen sequentially in a few days. The passion week is an example of half of the book being written about seven days. In this case, the last five or six weeks have focused on roughly two to three days.

This timeline started with the beheading of John the Baptist, moved to the feeding of the 5000, Jesus walking on water, and if you read Matthew's account, Peter attempting to, and then Jesus with the hard lesson that looks like a thinning of the herd.

There are several lessons to be learned, and some observations that most clergy pass by because they really don't pertain to the gospel narrative. In the feeding of the 5000, notice that the disciples waited until they were at their wits end before they went to Jesus to ask him what to do. HE, of course responded to them, I think somewhat humorously, 'you feed them'. The disciples didn't respond, 'with what?', they went treasure hunting to see what they had. Miraculously, in a crowd of over, who knows, they found a kid who actually had his lunch. This narrative reminds me a little of HIS post resurrection breakfast HE made for the disciples while they were fishing. They came to shore and HE was grilling fish, no one asked where HE got them. At the end of the feeding, the writer specifically points out that the crowd was stuffed as the disciples gather 12 baskets of leftovers.

Lessons that were learned from this story begin with realizing what resources you have available, not what you don't have. Regardless of your situation, pray about it before you begin, give Jesus a chance to give you the answer. As the writer specifically pointed out, not only did God provide, HE provided more than was necessary, which is the way God usually works.

Jesus then dismissed the crowd and the disciples got in the boat to head toward Capernaum. Depending on which version you read, Jesus walked on water and Peter attempted. Peter was ok as long as he didn't look down to see that he was really walking on water. Yes, it was a moment of loss of faith, but if John had brought the video camera and recorded as it happened, they could all have watch Peter when they reached the shore. For those who have ever tried water skiing, if you don't keep your eyes on the boat, if you look down to see yourself skiing, you're going down headfirst,



Sunday Services
8:45 a.m.

In person, via Zoom, or on
Morning Star's
Facebook page.

Bible Study
10:00 a.m.

For more information,
call the Church office.

619-443-6032



and that kind of hurts.

Jesus and the disciples are in the boat and headed for shore and the crowd that HE dismissed is there waiting for them. It's time for more humor, as Jesus remarks that they are following HIM, not because of the signs and healings HE has done, but because their bellies are full.

Jesus then begins teaching on being the Bread of Life, bread which was sent down from heaven, which was surmised as believe in me and all your needs will be provided. Finally, there is the true body and true blood, a statement and teaching that was very hard to take and had many leaving the following. Jesus asked HIS disciples if they wanted to leave as well, getting the response of where would we go, you are the Son of God.

Most of you understand the term "thinning the herd". As I thought about this passage, and listened to some other commentary, Jesus was asking those who were following for the free ride to believe in HIM. HE made the comment about their bellies being full, but now HE was asking for the commitment. You will be eating my body and drinking my blood as a sign that you are true believers. I've always thought that the disciples might have been very uneasy when they participated in the last Passover with HIM when HE instituted communion. What does HE mean by 'this is MY body, this is MY blood'. Did they remember that HE had used those words so long ago to describe true believers? Are you?

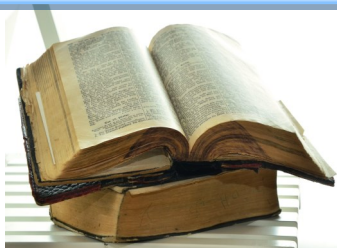
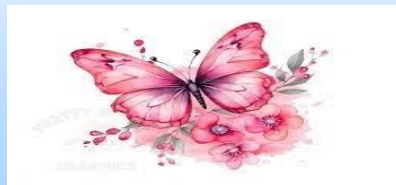
Sola Fide Sola Gratia Sola Scriptura

BOD has resumed meeting by the time you read this, I think.

Jerry

Ruth Essman

Please note that Ruth Essman's Memorial will be here at Morning Star, Sunday, September, 29th at 2PM. There will be a short reception following. If you would like to help by contributing a finger food, please see Liz Holand or Chris Hill.



Please join us in Classroom 4 at 10:00 a.m. on SUNDAY MORNINGS, and be blessed by Studying God's Word.



.Labor Day & Jesus

Pastor Richard Ross

Labor Day has been a national holiday since 1894. One of its champions said it would be good to set aside a day for a “general holiday for the laboring classes to honor those who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold.” That’s a great line addressing the dangerous conditions and the inadequate compensation of the factory workers and miners, the carpenters and machinists, the iron workers and brick layers, and so many others who worked 12 hour days, 7 days a week to make our nation the most prosperous in the world, who had “carved all the grandeur we behold.”

Labor Day isn’t a religious holiday, but I am reminded of Jesus’ promise to take care of us when we can’t do another thing, when we just can’t think another thought. He said, “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

When we read about Jesus, we learn what He taught, but we also learn how He lived. The Lord labored long hours preaching and teaching, empathizing with the heartache of His followers and confronting His enemies. And He prayed. A lot. He would go up into the hills alone to pray before and after ministering to the people, like when He fed the 5,000 (Matthew 14:53).

Christ’s work was rooted in prayer. When He healed a person, He would pray (Mark 7:31-37), and when He taught, He would prepare Himself with prayer, like when He taught the disciples to pray what became known as the Lord’s Prayer (Luke 11:1). There were so many kinds of situations where we find Jesus in prayer, like the time He prayed for Himself, the disciples, and for every believer just before He went to the Garden of Gethsemane (John 17). And even on the cross, He prayed, and His prayer was for those who had put Him there: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34).

There are many more examples of Jesus’ coming before His Father in prayer, taking to heart His own teaching that our “Father who is in heaven will give good things to those who ask Him” (Matthew 7:11).

After Jesus invited us who “labor and are heavy burdened” to come into His rest, He said, “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (Matthew 11:29). To bear the yoke of Christ is to imitate Him, to follow His lead, to live like He lived, to pray.



Nowadays, I have committed myself to pray even more than usual. My attitude is to be “prayerful,” to be full of prayer all the time. It’s a conscious decision to be interactive with the Lord as I go about my day. That’s what St. Paul meant when he wrote, “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). In that prayerfulness, I am conscious of God’s presence, I have peace in my heart, and I enter Christ’s rest.

This Labor Day may you be encouraged to know that the Lord knows your pain, He hears your prayers, and He has invited you into His rest. Amen.





SOME COMMON SENSE

Submitted by Jim Birren

We were fearfully and wonderfully made with senses of sight for which for which we have eyes, the tongue to taste, the nose to smell, the ears to hear and the skin to touch. By far the eyes are said to be the most important. Armed with accessories from the Potter, we are considered to be fully loaded, more so than a fully loaded new car. We are equipped with many organs, large and small with the skin being the largest organ. Since our creator doesn't make mistakes, we may be blessed with an extra toe, only one kidney or extra teeth. We could take inventory of knees, ankles, spine, ribs, fingers and nails, a heart, and strong lungs for sure to signal our arrival.

I was born into a life of sin, baptized into a life and given a flame of faith. Makes sense! Taken from a warm womb and subjected to a world of sin, No sense! However, God had a plan for me. Before the world was made, God knew my name, and this failsafe plan for my future, placed me into this life on earth to be nurtured by His Spirit. In His school of Life he would teach me, love me unconditionally, and allow His Son to be murdered for me. Through His absolution and His blood, He holds out His hand to grasp mine through my circumcised heart and I'm saved from eternal death. Makes sense? Yes, it does if you possess faith. Without faith it is impossible to fathom how wide, how deep and how high is the love of God.

So, I hear, I see, I touch what He has set before me. He really loves me! Makes sense to me!

1 John 4:19

We love because He first loved us.



BIBLE THEMES IN SPANISH (edited)

- El que oye y entiende la palabra da fruto
The one who hears and understands the Word bears fruit
- El reino de los cielos es como una perla fina
The Kingdom of Heaven is like a fine pearl
- Tome su cruz y sígame
Take up your cross and follow Me
- Somos todos como hijos de Dios
We are all like children of God
- Jesús tiene autoridad en mi vida
Jesus has authority in my life
- El amor no guarda rencor
Love doesn't hold grudges
- Soy bendecida para ser una bendición / Soy bendecido para ser una bendición
I am blessed to be a blessing
- Dios me conoce muy bien
God knows me very well
- Jesús me ama
Jesus loves me
- Lleven una vida de amor, así como Cristo nos amó
Walk in love, as Christ loved us
- El Espíritu es el que da vida
It is the Spirit that gives life
- Cristo amó a la iglesia y se entregó por ella
Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her



Reminder !!

September 22, 2024

Morning Star is having a "Hawaiian Day" so pull out your Hawaiian or floral shirts, tops, skirts, shorts or dresses! We will have Hawaiian treats during our fellowship.



Morning Star Lutheran Church



619-443-6032

12821 Ha Hana Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

www.morningstarlcms.org

Pastor Richard Ross

The people of Morning Star believe in the One True God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that everything God says in His Word, 'the Bible', is true. And we believe in God's promise that He will give us the free gift of eternal life through faith in Jesus, who died on the cross and rose again to save us.

Sunday Morning

Worship

8:45 a.m.

In person, on Zoom, or
Morning Star's
Facebook page.

Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

Youth Confirmation

10:00 a.m.

(Check the calendar for
the monthly
schedule.)

Ongoing Prayers:



Prayers of Thanksgiving for: *God's
saving grace, through
the gift of faith.*

May Our LORD send HEALING &
PEACE to our World, showing mercy
to all who are suffering.

Pray for those in the
Armed Forces,
especially:

Lucas Nelson Davis United States Navy
(Chris Hill's Grandson)



Prayers for our Pastor and Board of
Directors.

Prayers for His Church, the World and
Creation..

To add prayer concerns to this page, con-
tact the Church Office.

619-443-6032



Morning Star's 2024 Board of Directors:

President Jerry Grambow

Treasurer Wanda Lewellen

Financial Secretary Alicia Grambow

BOD Secretary Anne Ulm

Director of Lay Ministry Dick Collingwood

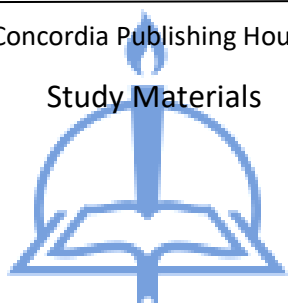
Director of Social Ministry Elizabeth Holland

Director of Operations Travis Carter

Dick Collingwood

Concordia Publishing House

Study Materials



Find daily devotions at

www.cph.org



FOR DEVOTIONS EVERYDAY TO YOUR IN-
BOX— SIGNUP AT : LWML.ORG

Mustard Seed
Daily Devotions

**Wanted: INSPIRATIONAL BIBLE-
BASED ARTICLES.**



Editor, Chris Hill, chrisahill12@gmail.com

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE IS:
September 22, 2024

For Birthdays,
Anniversaries,
and Other
Special Dates in August
see the calendar.

Morning Star also has an On-Line
Prayer Chain at:

morningstarlcms.org

~ Jim Birren,

Prayer Coordinator

September 2024

Morning Star Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study FOOD DRIVE	2 LABOR DAY	3	4 5:30 PM Praise team practice	5	6	7
8 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Youth Confirmation	9	10	11 5:30 PM Praise team practice	12	13	14
15 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study	16	17	18 5:30 PM Song Fest and Praise team practice	19	20	21
22 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Youth Confirmation \$0 Sunday for Missions Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25 5:30 PM Praise team practice	26	27	28 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM LARC Ham Radio testing
29 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study	30					