



The Sound of Morning Star

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

October

2024

Greetings family and friends of MSLC,

It is Halloween and Reformation month. Normally, the Holy Spirit enlightens me with a certain verse from a devotion and away I go. This month is more a random thoughts process because of the verse that intrigued me. In Jn 21: 24, John states that he wrote down what he has seen and that what he has seen is true. Furthermore, Jesus did many other things as well, but it would take to many books to write it all down.

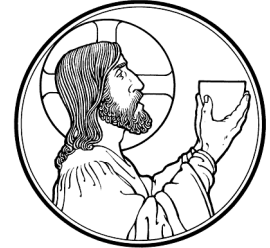
I'm a curious type of guy, and when I heard this passage from a bible study, I was intrigued. The SPIRIT is the director of the things that are written. I understand that the Gospels were written for certain purposes. Matthew is a narrative for the Jewish people while Luke is a narrative for gentiles. Mark and John have their specific purposes, but my curiosity stems from why the miracles that are found in the bible, are the ones that were used.

Matthew and John were eye witnesses to most of the ministry while Mark gets his insights from Peter, and Luke is a compilation of witnesses. The question is why the HOLY SPIRIT chose what HE chose to inspire the writers. I have no clue and I'm sure it's a question that professional theologians have philosophized over for many years.

Though I don't know, I can theorize as to why certain miracles did make the pages, while others didn't. Based on the last verse in John, Jesus did enough in the three years that HE walked the earth, that the bible is most likely a very small sampling of everything HE did. With that in mind, variety might actually be a prerequisite for making the bible.

The first miracle performed will make someone's book and the wedding of Cana is found in Jn 2:1. Unlike most of the miracles, this one simply shows HIS mastery or dominance of the physical world. I'm not sure, but I would guess that if I ventured into a chemistry lab, they would be able to mix the right chemicals to create the same thing.

As I looked at a lot of HIS miracles, health concerns top the list; healing the sick, healing the lame, and casting out demons. Most of these were done with an advocate imploring for Jesus to heal, while there are some where the person getting healed advocates for himself. HIS reputation was such that the centurion simply asked Jesus to say the word rather than travel to his house.



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



The miracles that I like to read about the most are the unusual ones. The woman who had bled for years but believed that just by touching HIS cloak she would be healed. The man at the pool of Bethesda, who had never heard of Jesus, but was healed on the Sabbath.

Those also seem to be distinguishing elements of HIS miracles that make the bible. Jesus miracles on the Sabbath seem to be front and center, followed by a deep discussion of changing the cultural norms. Then there are those miracles that have nothing to do with ministering to people one on one. Feeding of the 5 thousand, which is in every Gospel. What happened there that each Gospel writer was compelled by the SPIRIT to include it?

There are also the miracles which show HIS command of nature. One was HIS walking on water, the other was HIS sleeping in the bow of the boat. Both times, HE spoke and the sea was silenced.

Last week the Gospel lesson focused on the man who had brought his child to Jesus to have demon cast out. Jesus, Peter, James and John, were up on the mountain experiencing that transfiguration. The other nine tried to cast out the demon but failed. As I heard that, and it was pointed out that this event occurred after Jesus had sent out the twelve to do what HE had been doing, did they retain the ability to continue when they were back with Jesus?

Finally, my biggest curiosity is why all seven of the words that HE spoke on the cross aren't in all the gospels? As John stated, as an eyewitness to Jesus' ministry, the HOLY SPIRIT inspired these words so that we might believe, from all four gospels, that Jesus Christ is who HE said HE was, and did what they saw HIM do.

Sola Fide Sola Scriptura Sola Gratia

Hawaii day was today, nice job

Jerry

No News from the BOD



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



.There Is Life in Community

Pastor Richard Ross

Dry, dusty, treeless, and lonely: As I drive across the grounds of Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility in Otay Mesa, that's what I see and feel. Razor wire, metal bars, guard towers: Those are things I see from the outside looking in. Guns, metal detectors, outdoor latrines—those are things I see on the inside. Blue and orange—those are the colors the inmates wear. Khaki—that's the color the guards wear. Every other color—that's what everyone else wears.

I've been teaching a college level business class at the prison for five weeks. I'm with my 22 students twice a week for an hour and a half. Many of them are taking multiple classes, working towards a degree. If they get an associate's degree, their jail time will be reduced by 6-months. If they get a bachelor's degree, their time will be cut by a year. But some of my guys are "lifers," and they will never be released from prison. **They're in my class because there is life in community.**

It doesn't take much to engage the men in conversation. They crave interaction with other people, especially people who are not them. Besides leadership, which is the subject of our course, we've talked about our dreams for the future, sports, movies, and what each one of us would do if he were king. All of these men are behind bars for a serious offense, but that doesn't stop them from dreaming, from being human; each one has a heart and a soul.



Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility - Otay Mesa

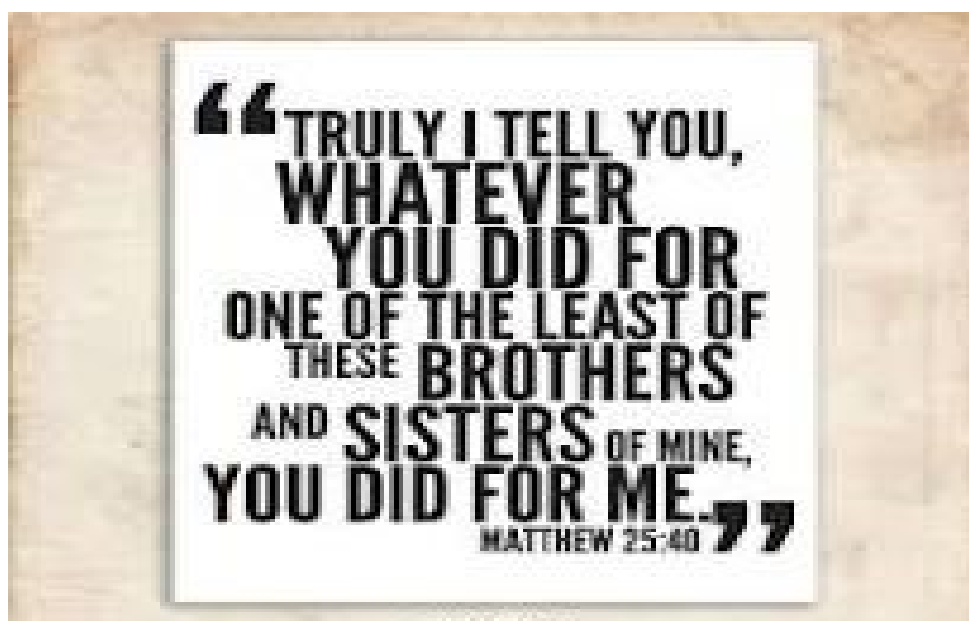


“Remember the human”: That’s a motto I picked up somewhere I don’t remember now. It means that despite all the stuff you’ve got going on around you, the only thing that matters to anyone in your life is how you treat them.

The state prison is a powerful metaphor for the prison that each one of us has been released from because of the love of Jesus on the cross. He set us free; He cut our chains; He released us from bondage. Nonetheless, each one of us has a jail cell we can remember vividly, a place in our hearts that has a grip on our souls, a place filled with guilt, shame, and humiliation, lies and betrayal. It’s that place the devil, the world, and our old man want to drag us back into. **But there’s life in community.** When a person opens their heart to us, and we listen to them, we have the opportunity to be a source of life for them.

One of my students at Donovan is Rahul. He’s been there for over 20 years. For what, I don’t know. But he told me he hopes to be released soon, and he wanted to share his business plan with me, which he started writing 5-years ago. We don’t do business plans in leadership class, but Rahul wrote one, and I’m going to give him a review because I “remember the human.” Maybe he will be freed someday, and maybe he won’t. But Rahul is my brother in this world; he is a member of my community, a community in which there are signs of life.

Who is “the human” in your life? Who is your brother, your sister?





I AM THE CHURCH

Submitted by Jim Birren

What us a church? Merriam Webster believes it to be a building for Christian worship to a body of Christian believers. So, is the first verse of this song wrong and is the church only real estate?

I am the church, you are the church,

We are the church together!

All who follow Jesus,

All around the world!

Yes, we're the church together.

What does a church look like?

A church is not a building

The church is not a steeple

The church is not a resting place

The church is a people

And who attends this church?

We are many kinds of people

With many kinds of faces

All colours and all ages too

From all times and places

And what do churchgoers do?

Sometimes the church is marching

Sometimes it's bravely burning

Sometimes it's riding, sometimes it's hiding

Always it's learning





What do you mean?

And when the people gather,
There's singing and there's praying
There's laughing and there's crying sometimes,
All of it saying: **WE ARE THE CHURCH TOGETHER!**



Do not be afraid, Fear not! The curtain is torn, and you many enter the Holy of Holies, no reserved seating, there is no need to count the bells on the Pastor's robe, no need to bring a goat, full of sin just waiting to be led out into the Kidron Valley and to be absolved of sin, cleansed whiter than snow, absolutely forgiven. This would be a good time to say the Truly, Truly, I say to you, whoever believes will have eternal life. John 6:47

While it is satisfying to play with writings, it is indeed great fun to plagiarize. **I AM** the church you are the church; we are the church together.

BIBLE THEMES IN SPANISH (EDITED)

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



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:

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Treasurer Wanda Lewellen

Financial Secretary Alicia Grambow

BOD Secretary Anne Ulm

Director of Lay Ministry Dick Collingwood

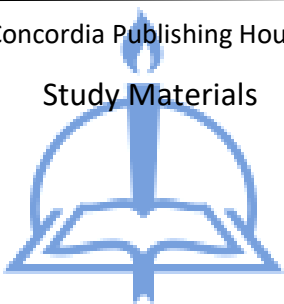
Director of Social Ministry Elizabeth Holland

Director of Operations Travis Carter

Dick Collingwood

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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:
October 27, 2024

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

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

morningstarlcms.org

~ Jim Birren,

Prayer Coordinator



******Here's something that might be fun. We see each other quite often, but maybe we could get to know other better. (Jim's suggestion, thanks Jim). If you would like to participate, please fill out the questions below and turn this slip of paper to Chris Hill. Each month we can highlight one person in the newsletter. What do you think?

Name_____

Hobbies_____

Favorite Color_____

Favorite Food_____

Favorite Song_____

Something most people might not know about me_____



October 2024

Morning Star Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 MITE BOX MONTH	2 5:30 PM Praise team practice	3	4	5
6 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible 10:00 AM Youth Confirmation FOOD DRIVE	7 6:30 PM BOD meeting Jeffrey Ulm- bd	8	9 5:30 PM Praise team practice	10 Joanne Brinson-bd	11	12
13 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study	14 Phil Essman-bd	15	16 5:30 PM Song Fest with Praise team practice	17	18	19 Christopher Carter-bd Aaron & Kelly Dodson-arriv
20 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Youth Confirmation Adriana Carter-bd Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23 5:30 PM Praise team practice	24 Isabella Carter-bd	25	26 9:00 AM -11:00 AM LARC Ham Radio testing
27 8:45 AM Divine Service or Zoom 10:00 AM Adult Bible REFORMATION SUNDAY \$5 Sunday for Missions	28	29	30 5:30 PM Praise team practice Ed Hill-bd	31		