

THE JOTTINGS

The Newsletter of Jehovah Lutheran Church

1566 Thomas Ave, Saint Paul MN 55104 • 651-644-1421 • www.jehovahlutheran.org

A Community of Joy . . . Celebrating, Learning & Sharing the Love of God in Christ Jesus



Month of:
February 2021

Rooted In **the Living Word**

SUNDAYS

WORSHIP ONLINE 9:30 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM 11:15 a.m.



Join us for online worship at

jehovahlutheran.online

and on YouTube at

[www.youtube.com/channel/
UCdLy0HeNI3NlwQh-mN7Qjsg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdLy0HeNI3NlwQh-mN7Qjsg)

Stay Informed

on our Church Website:

www.jehovahlutheran.org



Your gifts support our mission.

PASTOR'S HOURS

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY
1:00PM - 5:00PM**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
9:00AM - NOON**

**Email submissions for
THE JOTTINGS BY FEBRUARY 23RD
to jelcoffice@gmail.com**

SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

February 7: Isaiah 40:21-31, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39

February 14: 2 Kings 2:1-12, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9: 2-9

February 21: Genesis 9:8-17, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

February 28: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Romans 4: 13-25, Mark 8:31-38

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Mercy in the Midway: Serving our Neighbors Together

As Christians, we are called by our Lord Jesus to serve our neighbors. Service through mercy goes together with witness to the Gospel and life together in faith. Since New Testament times, Christian communities have engaged together in service through works of mercy. The Church's ministry of mercy flows from the Gospel it preaches and the faith it confesses.

In the second chapter of Acts, Peter's witness to the Good News of Jesus led early believers in Jesus to share all that they had in common with each other. This sharing of resources with others was not coerced by the apostles in any way but came as the natural overflow of a heart changed by preaching of the Gospel and filled with a common life of faith (Acts 2:45). A little later on, the Apostle Paul made the work of mercy an integral feature of his ministry, as is demonstrated by his advocacy and collecting of offerings for Christians in Jerusalem, who had lost resources in an earthquake. In encouraging other Christians to support those in Jerusalem in need, Paul taught that the generosity of serving others in mercy is an act of love that flows from God's grace given to us in Jesus Christ and is nurtured in the Church's life of faith together even across congregational boundaries (2 Corinthians 8:4-9).

This love for others, created by God's grace, developed by the Church's life of faith, and shared across congregations, is still active among Christians serving others in mercy today. On Friday, January 22nd, that mercy took concrete form in the parking lot of Jehovah Lutheran Church. On a day when the thermometer read 0 degrees Fahrenheit, members of our two parishes, Jehovah and King of Kings, came together to distribute coats to neighbors in need from the Midway area of St. Paul.

continued . . .

The two of us, Pastor Miller and Pastor Lee, got to know each other well during Pastor Miller's vicarage at King of Kings, a congregation with a big heart. At the end of the vicarage, Pastor Miller was called to serve Jehovah Lutheran, a congregation with a history of nearly one-hundred years of serving its neighbors in the Midway neighborhood of St. Paul. Having done ministry together during the vicarage, we were both excited that we could continue to work together with sisters and brothers in Christ on the same circuit of churches.

Knowing the generosity of our two congregations, we had been thinking about what we could do together as the people of God to serve our neighbors in the Midway. Many factors moved us to work together, so when a coat drive was suggested, it made a lot of sense. Coats are desperately needed by many in our community. At Jehovah, we have had a number of people ask if we have spare coats. Some of these people have been homeless, some have not. Either way, the need is real. It gets cold in Minnesota, and coats can be expensive.



We brought the idea to lay leaders in both congregations. The response was overwhelming. People from Jehovah and King of Kings came together to plan and accomplish collections of coats for three weeks, transportation of coats collected at King of Kings to the distribution site at Jehovah, advertising for the event, and successful distribution of the coats and other items to those in need.

The reality of COVID-19 poses difficulties to some traditional methods of outreach, but at Jehovah, the members have become creative in how they serve others. Two prior food distributions have demonstrated that the congregation can distribute needed resources in a drive-through manner. Neighbors can drive through the parking lot to pick up the gifts distributed by the church in a near-contactless way. With this in mind, volunteers from Jehovah and King of Kings set up clothing racks in the Jehovah parking lot, with coats sorted by age, gender, and size.



As the project took shape and our members began to distribute the coats, the members of our respective parishes got to know each other, befriend each other, and work together as our members worked side by side. The weather outside was cold, but the Christian fellowship we share as sisters and brothers in Jesus Christ was warm. All together, we gave away about 250 coats of all different size as well as gloves, hats, and snow pants.

As we continue to be Christ's Church in this time on the St. Paul Circuit, we look forward to other ways we can act together. We look forward to how our two congregations can cooperate in witnessing to the Gospel, living our faith, and serving others in mercy. In doing so, we continue to live as the Church has from its earliest days, engaging in mercy moved by the Gospel and formed by our common life of faith.

Your fellow servants in Christ,

Pastor Joshua Miller, Jehovah Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN

Pastor Vue Lee, King of Kings Lutheran Church, Roseville, MN



Photos by May Lee, wife of Pastor Vue Lee, King of Kings

IN PERSON COMMUNION

Each Sunday, Jehovah offers brief 15 minute services of Holy Communion in the sanctuary with one service at 10:00am and a second service at 10:30. Participation is by reservation only. You may sign up using this link, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ca9ae2da2facf8-jelc16>. You can also sign up by calling the church office, or by calling Pastor Miller directly. You must also fill out a health screening form to gain entry into the building.



PREPARING FOR WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Isaiah 40:21-31

The Lord of history, the Creator, subdues the rulers of the earth and frees the faint and the powerless to live by his strength.

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Paul's "reward" is that he can offer the gospel free of charge. He makes himself slave to all, becoming all things to all men in order to win them.

Mark 1:29-39

Jesus proclaims the kingdom and shows its power by freeing people from diseases, demons and death.



WORDS TO PONDER

From our hymn "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

Service be our sure vocation;
 courage be our daily breath;
 mercy be our destination
 from this day and unto death.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Rise, O church, a living faith.

re: Vitality

As we look forward in 2021, we will be seeking help from the LCMS through use of a program called re: Vitality. This is a tool for in-reach, outreach, and discipleship as we renew our own commitment to the Gospel and our desire to share it with others. This will be a step-by-step process. We will keep you posted, and all will be invited to join in along the way.

Is there anything to do right now? Yes! Right now we can pray. We can “seek first the kingdom of God.” We can pray that the Lord will help us to be missional people. We can pray that our Lord of the harvest would send laborers into his harvest and even shape us to be such laborers. Though we know that God’s kingdom will prevail no matter what, we also know that our Heavenly Father desires to work through us. We can pray for his guidance, his Lordship in all we say and do. We can pray for minds and hearts that are open to the Gospel. We can pray knowing that our God is a God of grace and of self-giving love who longs for healing and wholeness in our homes, our neighborhoods, our daily lives. We can pray that the light of Christ will shine through us, pointing others to the One who is the Light of Life.

This, then, is our first step—for the sake of those around us, for the sake of his kingdom. More to come soon.

In Christ,
Pastor Joshua Miller and Board of Lay Ministry
January/Epiphany 2021

Jehovah Lutheran Church Adult Instruction Class: Rooted in the Faith



Join us Thursdays at 2:00PM
in the Schumacher Lounge.

All Are Welcome!

Contact Pastor Miller with questions.

Jehovah Lutheran Church Adult Bible Class: The Gospel of Mark



Join us on Zoom
at 11:15AM each Sunday.

Contact Pastor Miller with questions.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Donna Ostenson Kiefert
 Bernice Demulling
 Rita Galston
 Martha Ryan
 Paul Finegan
 George Mendoza
 Sandy Quenzer
 Tom Kelly
 Tim Robinson
 Patrick Carey
 Shirley Starner, and her son-in-law Greg Beaudoin
 Dick Westpfahl
 Linda Wood
 Daniel Miller
 Ramone and his family

Those suffering or recovering from COVID-19.

For the family and friends of Matt Schweer, husband to Cassidy and a father, who died of complications from COVID-19.

For the family and friends of the Wallace family (2 children, mother, and unborn child) murdered in St. Paul.

For our nation.

For our Synod and District and all parishes of the LCMS as we vote to move our convention dates on account of COVID-19.

For our Synodical President, Matthew Harrison, and our District President, Lucas Woodford, as the lead us in these and other decisions, seeking to protect the lives of those weakest among us.

For our congregation, its pastor, and its lay leaders as we consider how to be the Church of Jesus Christ in this time and place and as we look forward to a phased-in return to worship in person.



*Let my prayer
 rise before you as incense.
 Psalm 141:2a*



EARTH CARE

“THE EARTH IS THE LORD’S ...” PSALM 24:1

This column intends to highlight ways to care for God’s creation. Maynard and Shirley Dorow have pursued earth care issues and welcome your feedback.

Care of the earth has concerned people for ages. Please consider this quote from John Calvin’s commentary on Genesis 2:15 written in 1554.

“The earth was given to man, with this condition, that he should occupy himself in its cultivation ... The custody of the garden was given in charge to Adam, to show that we possess the things which God has committed to our hands, on the condition that, being content with the frugal and moderate use of them, we should take care of what shall remain. Let him who possesses a field, so partake of its yearly fruits, that he may not suffer the ground to be injured by his negligence, but let him endeavor to hand it down to posterity as he received it, or even better cultivated. Let him to feed on its fruits, that he neither dissipates it by luxury, nor permits it to be marred or ruined by neglect. Moreover, that this economy, and this diligence, with respect to those good things which God has given us to enjoy, may flourish among us; let everyone regard himself as the steward of God in all things which he possesses. Then he will neither conduct himself dissolutely, nor corrupt by abuse those things which God requires to be preserved.”

This thoughtful gem is the lead-off epigraph in the 157-page book *Earthwise, a Guide to Hopeful Creation Care* (third edition) by Calvin B. DeWitt, Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, 2011. DeWitt is fully educated as both theologian and scientist and teaches in both areas. He is cofounder of the leading Evangelical Environmental Network (EEN), and has a lifelong, joyful dedication to God’s creation. He’s fun to read, too.

Dr. Joel Hunter, former Senior Pastor at Northwood Community Church in Longwood, Florida, writes in the foreword, “The care of creation is not just a way to honor the Creator... is not just a way to love your neighbor ... is not just another way to obey God’s command to cultivate and keep the earth.... The care of creation is a crucial issue. The way we address it could mean life and death for millions of people around the world.” We can help protect the “least of these” neighbors by addressing environmental disruption.

DeWitt believes one of Christianity’s gifts to the world is its “stewardship tradition,” and he calls upon all to re-assume that role in daily acts of living. He says further, “Creation is not a lost cause ... God’s Son has himself entered God’s own creation to redeem it and us.” (p. 92)

We can anticipate the heavenly renewed earth (Isaiah 65:17; Romans 8:19-21; Revelation 21-22). In short “We should so behave on earth that the renewed earth will not be a shock to us.”

FEBRUARY

- 2 Martha Ryan
- 3 Morganna Long
- 5 Marilyn Hequet
Olivia Harris
- 7 Mark Eberhart
- 20 Rena Miller
Garrett Kruchowski
- 25 Kaitlyn Fishback

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

*The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face
shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face
toward you
and give you peace.*

Numbers 6: 24-26

NEWS OF OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED ... AND HOW TO HELP!



Exciting News from Keystone!

Keystone has purchased a 20,000 square foot building on University near Fairview!!

The purchase of a new building will provide additional space not only for food distribution, but also for the food mobile and on-site crisis services. There will be space for the Family Navigators service to meet with residents in crisis and connect them with other resources in St. Paul.

The timeline for the new space has been accelerated due to the increase need and the COVID 19 situation. The plan now is to open in 2022. There is a funding drive to rehab the new site.

There has been a 93% increase in services in Sept. 2020 compared with Sept. 2019. The increase is expected to continue through 2023 because the pandemic has hit low income the hardest and it will take these households longer for their income to recover. By the end of 2022, Keystone expects to serve over 50,000 people. This would be a 50% increase in the around 28,000 people helped in 2019. The need is great.

We thank you, Lord, for providing resources to help our neighbors in need.

NEW FREEDOM STORE



The New Freedom Store is in need of Target gift cards or Cub Foods gift cards for Lutheran families from other congregations. You can send gift cards to:

Jim Seemann
1075 Burgess Street
Saint Paul, MN 55103

ONLINE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (St. Paul, MN) will begin meeting weekly, via Zoom, at 9 am on Thursday, March 18. The group will run through Thursday, May 20. This spring we will be using Rev. Harold Senkbeil's latest book, *Christ and Calamity: Grace and Gratitude in the Darkest Valley* as our discussion guide. To register for the group, or for more information, please contact Kathy Kohner at: landmarkengr@earthlink.net



MAIN STREET LIVING | SUNDAYS 9 – 10 a.m. | WFTC CHANNEL 29/9-2

Main Street Living is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, channel 29/9-2, viewer area. The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally. Program information for February is not available at this time. To watch, go to mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.



JOIN US FOR OUR FRIENDLY FRIDAY CALL IN CHAT

We chat at **11:10am each Friday**. All you need is your phone. Dial: 978-990-5000. If you are using a land line please dial 1 and then the number. When prompted enter the JELC code:

796345#

After the beep just say hello and your name. We can visit about how our days are going, silver linings, concerns, etc. We will also have a short devotion and prayer.

Join us on Fridays at 11:10am.

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,
as indeed you are doing.*

1 Thessalonians 5:11



ACTIVITY CALENDAR



February 2021

<p>Act justly, Love mercy, Walk humbly <i>with your God</i></p>  <p>Micah 6:8</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<p>9:30am Online Worship jehovahlutheran. online</p> <p>In-person Communion 10:00 & 10:30am</p>	<p>Lay Ministry Meeting 6:30pm</p>			<p>RIF 2:00pm Lounge</p> <p>ARB Meeting 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<p>9:30am Online Worship jehovahlutheran. online</p> <p>In-person Communion 10:00 & 10:30am</p>	<p>Council Meeting 6:30pm</p>		 <p><i>Asb Wednesday</i></p> <p>Worship 6:30pm</p>	<p>RIF 2:00pm Lounge</p>	<p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<p>9:30am Online Worship jehovahlutheran. Online</p> <p>In-person Communion 10:00 & 10:30am</p>		<p>Jottings Articles due</p>	<p>Online Lenten Worship jehovahlutheran. online</p>	<p>RIF 2:00pm Lounge</p>	<p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	

<p>28</p> <p>Online Worship jehovahlutheran. online</p> <p>In-person Communion 10am & 10:30am</p>	March 2021							<p><i>Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Joel 2:13</i></p> 
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31					