Farth Bites Farth and Fellowship Jehovah Lutheran Church Faith Bites July 28, 2021

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

Gathered to be Sent "As Any Had Need"

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-44, 47 (ESV)

When I first began to talk with the call committee at Jehovah Lutheran, I was struck by how engaged the congregation was and is in acts of mercy. A year later, as your pastor, I am still moved by depth of love shown by this congregation. Whether it is through a food drive, a coat collection, welcoming returning Christians, gathering food for Keystone or resources for Rezek House, or even just putting on a mask during the pandemic; Jehovah is truly a compassionate parish, where people care deeply for their neighbors who are in need.

None of this service and love to others is coerced. There is no drudgery evidenced, nor does guilt motivate these acts of service. The people of God at Jehovah Lutheran have simply been moved to good works of mercy and service by the Good News of the love of God given to them in Jesus Christ. At Jehovah, faith motivates love for neighbors.

This love for neighbors as the natural fruit of faith has been a core feature of Christianity since the time of the first believers in the book of Acts, where Luke tells us that those in the first Church shared their resources with any who had need. This isn't just a side hustle that the Christians do sometimes; it's something that is right at the center of our faith. Loving others as God in Christ has loved us: it's one of the basic things about being a Christian. It's one of the basic things of what it means to be the Church as the body of Christ. We love others as God has loved us. This love for our neighbor that overflows from the love God has given us, we call **mercy**.

Along with witness to the Gospel and celebration of our life together in Christ, mercy is one of the three foci of identity in our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. It's also just who we are as people loved by God. As we move forward with our outreach roadmap of *walking together*, we do so with mercy at the heart of the matter. It's not just something we do occasionally; it's part of who we are as God's people in Christ. We love because He first loved us.

In Christ, Your Pastor, Joshua Miller

WE LOVE BECAUSE He birst loved us



VOTERS' MEETING

The Voters' Meeting will be held on

Sunday, August 8

11:00 a.m.

In person or Zoom yet to be determined.

You will receive your prospectus by email no later than Sunday, August 1.

vou richly Colossians 3.16

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 The Israelites hunger in the wilderness and complain against Moses and Aaron. Then the Lord provides them with "bread from heaven" that "they shall know that I am the Lord your God."

Ephesians 4:1-15

Paul urges the Ephesians to practice their calling to maintain the unity of the Spirit (seven "ones") and also to exercise Christ's gifts to each one for building up the body of Christ.

John 6:24-35

The crowds seek out Jesus after they eat their fill of the loaves. He tells them, "Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life." This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."





Divine Service – 9:30AM each Sunday In Person service in the sanctuary

The Word of the Lord Grew:

Outreach in the Earliest Church

Jehovah Lutheran Church

Adult Bible Class



11:00AM on Sundays. Join us in person in the lounge.

Contact Pastor Miller with questions at 612-600-3514 or pastorjoshuamiller@gmail.com.



Sunday School meets in the nursery after the Service. Parents are welcome to stay with their children.



IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Donna Ostenson Kiefert **Bernice Demulling Rita Galston** Paul Finegan George Mendoza Sandy Quenzer Let my prayer Tom Kelly rise before you as incense. **Tim Robinson** Psalm 141:2a Patrick Carey Wesley Pagel Shirley Starner, and her son-in-law Greg Beaudoin Jim Kinsel Lynne Baerthel and her family John Watson (recovering from surgery for blood clots) John "Jack" Hedenstrom (brother of Sue and brother-in-law of Al Puder) Jeannie Edwards (cousin of Pastor Miller) Joyce and Susan Boettcher (stepmother and cousin of Elizabeth Wegner) George Hild, Sr. (father of George Hild) Scott McMurray Jenna Schmidt (daughter of Perry Schmidt) Nicole Pierce (friend of the Millers from Emmaus Lutheran) Ramone and his family Those suffering or recovering from COVID-19 and for speedy and equitable distributions of the vaccines. For strength to speak out for and protect the lives of the unborn our God has created and compassionate care of all that He has made. For President Biden and Vice President Harris as they serve our nation. For Governor Walz and all in leadership in our state.

For our Synodical President Matthew Harrison, our District President Lucas Woodford as they lead us, and our Circuit Visitor, Steven Bielenberg.

For our congregation, its Pastor, and its lay leaders as we move forward together in outreach.

For the Mekane Yesus congregation as they call a new pastor.



continued...



Special Weekly Prayers:

As we pray for each member and family in our congregation by name, this week we pray for the Koch and Kolar families.

*Note, we are currently praying for two members or families from Jehovah Lutheran each week. The order for these prayers is alphabetical. In addition to our public prayers, our Pastor and board of Lay Ministry are praying individually for these members and families each week. Special prayer requests are encouraged any time and may be given to Pastor via phone or email.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

JEHOVAH'S OFFICE EMAIL HAS CHANGED

Please use our new email address: office@jehovahlutheran.org

Thank you!

JEHOVAH'S WEEKLY FRIENDLY FRIDAY CALL-IN CHAT



Join us 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 will have a short devotion, a topic for discussion, 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





SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

Join us for worship on Sunday, August 8 when an ensemble of twelve accomplished singers from the Twin Cities area, including four from Jehovah Lutheran, will perform movements from Vivaldi's "Gloria" throughout our service. This sparkling baroque gem is conducted by Ben Wegner and features our own Tim Buendorf at the mighty Van Daalen organ.

> I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. Psalm 104:33

Jehovah Lutheran Church

Classic Collector Show

Cars Trucks Motorcycles



Saturday, August 21 6pm-8pm in the Jehovah parking lot



Bring your non-alcoholic beverage and your camp chair

Come just to browse and enjoy the fellowship!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



5:00 to 7:00pm on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 Jehovah Lutheran Church Parking Lot

The Administration Resources Board (ARB) is looking for volunteers to help with Jehovah's annual National Night Out (NNO) outreach event that will be held from 5pm to 7pm on Tuesday, August. 3, 2021, on the church property. Here are your opportunities to help Jehovah reach out and serve our community:

- Help set up for the event in the church parking lot;
- Help by donating gently used clothing for all ages, small household items, linens, etc.
- Help sort and set out the clothing and small household items that have been donated for the giveaway;
- Help by donating purchased and packaged food items to be given away as prizes during the raffles throughout the event;
- Help for the loyal Kolar, Wynn and Fishback families and others who take on the food service;
- Help as popcorn makers;
- Help planning a few things for kids to enjoy;
- Help staffing food service, raffle, giveaway and kids area during the event;
- Help with take down and clean up after the event ends at 7:00pm.
- Spirit Freed is planning to provide music during the event. We could accommodate another group as we have done in the past. Contact us if you know of a group that might be interested in playing that evening.

To volunteer or if you have a new idea to add to the fun, please contact Marge Avoles at 651-398-8204 or at <u>margeavoles@comcast.net</u>, or talk with any of the other ARB members: Katy Fishback, Mark Kolar, Karl Miesen, Bruce Wegner, and Dan Wynn.



my peace I give to you.

Peace I leave with you,

John 14:27

