

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



June 2023

Jehovah Lutheran Church

Traditional liturgy and
hymns of the faith
Gospel-centered preaching
Weekly celebration of
Holy Communion



SUNDAYS

Worship 9:30am

Growing in Faith
Sunday School
Following Divine Service

Living in Faith
Bible Study 11:00am

Join us for worship
Stay Connected
and Informed
on our Church Website:
www.jehovahlutheran.org



One Lord, one faith, one baptism
Ephesians 4:5

Walking Together as Disciples for Life:

Job Description

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:16-20 (ESV)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In any job, a job description is absolutely essential to successfully doing your job. If you don't have a job description, you don't know what to do. So, you can't really do it well. If you have a job description but do something else every day at work, you might be a really nice employee and a really good coworker, but you're not doing the job.

When I co-taught a course for graduating seniors at Augsburg University, my friend and co-instructor in the business department gave the students (and her co-instructor) this sage piece of advice: “Never take a job that doesn't have a clear job description. If you take the job, and you have trouble later on, go back to the job description, and if you need to, take your supervisor back to the job description too.”

In any job, a clear job description is essential.

In Matthew 28, our risen Lord Jesus Christ gives us the job description of His Church. Before His ascension, Jesus tells His apostles—who will become the charter members of the Christian Church on earth—what they are supposed to do. We call this job description of the Church, the Great Commission.

Jesus says:

Make Disciples

Baptize

Teach

Hold to everything I have commanded to you

This is our job description—yours and mine as disciples of Jesus. This is the job description of the Christian Church on earth. And this, brothers and sisters, is the job description of our congregation, Jehovah Lutheran Church.

As we move from the Easter season, through Pentecost, and into the “Time of the Church,” I think we would do well as a congregation to remember the mission, the job description, our risen Lord Jesus has given us. I think this is especially true as we near the 100-year anniversary of the founding of our congregation.

Our job as a congregation is not just to keep the lights on and the building open (though it's a beautiful building). Our job is not just to be a presence in the city of St. Paul (though we want to be good neighbors). Our job isn't just to be a social event center (though our fellowship together warms our hearts). Our job is not just to meet our budget (though we are grateful that God moves our hearts to keep our financial promises and to give generously). **Our job is to proclaim to the Gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ. Our job (given to us by Christ Himself) is to make disciples, to baptize, to teach, and to hold fast to everything that Christ has given to us.**

continued...

For the next few months in our newsletter, my pastoral letter to you will look at one of the aspects of the job description that Jesus gives us in Matthew 28. I pray that the Holy Spirit would move all of our hearts to go back to our job description and live out our calling of mission and to walk together on the road of discipleship on which our Lord has sent us. I pray that we will make our divinely given job description central to every Divine Service, every education class, every visit, every outreach event, every board meeting, and every conversation we have with one another.

Walking together with you,
Pastor Joshua Miller

ST. PAUL OUTREACH CENTER TO LAUNCH THIS FALL

On May 23, an initial coordination meeting took place at the LCMS Minnesota South District Office in Burnville with these people: Pastor Vue Lee (MNS District/formerly at King of Kings), Pastor Joshua Miller (Jehovah), Pastor Francis Stephanos (Mekane Yesus – Emeritus Pastor), Dr. David Mennicke (outreach coordinator), and Nader Alaraj (POBLO Missionary). The group began laying out plans for a "St. Paul Outreach Center" that will launch after school programs for new immigrants in the fall. Possible topics for the classes (intended for children and for elders) include IT/computer education, Basketball/Phy Ed., Math, English, Music, Amharic, biology/chemistry, cultural training/orientation, and Bible Study. Mekane Yesus is planning pilot offerings this summer, along with an August 12 open house highlighting the fall offerings. Our goal is to coordinate these with POBLO's small group offerings. The sharing of the Gospel of Christ will be key to these programs.

We ask all members of JELC to pray for this ministry as it is being planned this summer. JELC members also will have volunteer opportunities to support the Outreach Center in the fall. Please watch for more information later in the summer.

SOCCER CAMP, SUPPER, & CAR SHOW

JEHOVAH LUTHERAN CHURCH,
KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN SCHOOL, AND
MEKANE YESUS FELLOWSHIP ARE
TEAMING UP TO PROVIDE A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

JOIN US FOR THE FOLLOWING
4:00PM - 5:30PM...SOCCER CAMP (AGES 8-12)
5:30PM...COOKOUT AND CAR SHOW BEGINS

CONTACT PASTOR MILLER FOR INFO
(651) 644-1421
1566 Thomas Ave. W #2
St. Paul, MN 55104



“We preach Christ crucified” (1 COR. 1:23).

We chose this simple statement as the theme for our upcoming LCMS convention in Milwaukee. As I have prepared for the convention, these words have resonated in my mind. These words describe our church. We, the LCMS, preach Christ crucified along with the apostles and the whole Christian church throughout the world.

Not only do we enjoy fellowship with every Christian of every time and place, but we also seek to reach all people with the Gospel, for not all have heard. One thing that diminishes our ability to share the Good News with all people is language. Since the tower of Babel in Genesis 11, people have spoken different languages. Yet as we learned in Acts 2, the message of the Gospel unites people into the one Body of Christ.

Therefore, we have designated our 2023–2026 LCMS National Offering, “We Preach Christ Crucified for All People,” for the translation of solid biblical Lutheran resources into languages that lack such materials. Whatever you generously contribute to this offering will enable this vital work. We thank God for all those who have labored to translate the Scriptures. You will help provide instructional and doctrinal resources LCMS congregations can use to reach and instruct non-English speakers in His Word.

Our 2019 convention theme verses included Paul’s words, “Pray without ceasing” (1 THESS. 5:17). I have made it my habit to pray before I start my day, praying for individuals, members of my congregation, international church leaders, people I have met and, of course, the Synod at large. Many times, the Psalms of David

I invite you to take this insert home to assist you in your personal or family prayers. Pray for those who translate Lutheran resources, that their labor would produce faithful and beneficial materials for those who use them. Pray for those who receive their work. Pray for our international church partners. Pray for all those who do not know Jesus. Join me in daily prayers, for our Lord has graciously invited us to bring before Him all our concerns, all through Jesus Christ crucified and risen. We preach Christ crucified — for all people.

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Prayers

Pray for Christian translators

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Through the diversity of all tongues, You have gathered the nations in the unity of the faith. Enlighten those who translate. Give wisdom and grace to their words, and be pleased always to work through Your Holy Word to convict of sin, convince us of Christ’s righteousness and, by faith, love and hope, beat down Satan under our feet; for You reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Pray for the LCMS and our partner churches

Gracious Father, You do not leave us as orphans. You have drawn not only our congregation to Yourself by the cross of Christ, but You have united us with many fellow saints in the confession of Your truth. Be gracious to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and preserve the Gospel among us. Bless us here, that we may bear much fruit, and that our fruit may abide. In the same way, do not let us neglect our brotherhood around the world, who confess the same name of Christ. Let us gain courage from them, seeing how they also are standing firm in the faith, how they also resist the devil and how they also experience the same kinds of suffering. In many peoples, tribes and languages, glorify Your name; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

JEHOVAH SERVICE AND EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Divine Service

9:30am Sundays in the Sanctuary

Invite a friend and join us
for a year of connecting and *Walking Together*.



Living by Faith

11:00am on Sundays

Ages 14 - 100+

Join us in person in the lounge

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



Growing in Faith

Ages Birth - 13 years

Gather with us weekly in the nursery after the
Divine Service.

Parents are welcome to stay with their children.

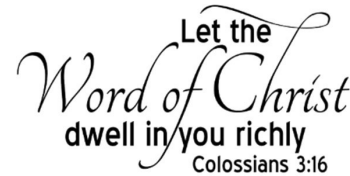
Men's Bible Study

Join us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings
at 10:30am in the lounge.

Bring your own Bible and coffee mug, if you like,
or use the ones provided.

No RSVP necessary

Contact Pastor Miller with any questions.



Jehovah Lutheran Church Women

Join us for coffee, conversation, prayer,
and Bible Study

on the first Thursday of the month,
June 1, at 1:00pm.

Open to everyone.

Our curriculum comes from
the Lutheran Women's Quarterly
If you have questions or would like
more information, contact Pastor Miller.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

June 4

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

God creates the world in six days and rests on the seventh.

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

By God's plan Jesus was crucified and killed.
But then "This Jesus God raised up,
and of that all of us are witnesses."

Matthew 28:16-20

After his resurrection Jesus meets his disciples in Galilee and commissions them to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



June 11

Hosea 5:15-6:6

A call to return to the Lord.

Romans 4:13-25

Abraham trusted God and so became the father of us all and our model for believing.

Matthew 9:9-13

Jesus calls Matthew, the tax collector, and when the Pharisees disapprove, Jesus responds that "I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

June 18

Exodus 19:2-8

Moses makes the trip up Mount Sinai to arrange the covenant with the Lord. He speaks the terms to the people and they assent to it.

Romans 5:6-15

The apostle Paul's discourse on the results of justification reinforces that
"We have now received reconciliation."

Matthew 9:35-10:20

Jesus goes about teaching and healing and then commissions the twelve to proclaim and to act out the kingdom in similar fashion.



June 25

Jeremiah 20:7-13

In a personal lament Jeremiah accuses God of deceiving him, leading to his persecution. Yet he can express confidence in the Lord's promise of deliverance.

Romans 6:12-23

By our baptism (6:34) we have been set free from the lordship of sin and death and consecrated to God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

The disciple follows the Lord without fear, with absolute commitment, confessing him before others.



CELEBRATE THE LORD OF THE NATIONS

*Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!
The Lord looks down from heaven;
he sees all the children of man
(Psalm 33:12–13).*

The national convention of the LWML—Lutheran Women in Mission takes place in Milwaukee on June 22-25. Beth Schuster, a member at The Gathering Place, will represent our zone as a voting delegate. New national leadership will be chosen and new mission goals for 2023-2025 will be established. The final date for Gifts from the Heart (See box and information in the narthex.) will be June 11. Thank you for contributing these items and thank you to the John 1516 youth for putting together kits for Orphan Grain Train. Beth will take the gifts with her for collection at the convention.



**Pray together.
Read together.**



Summer reading that's all about Jesus!

CPH Reads rewards reaching for another book all summer long. Join your friends and family as you explore stories and lessons about Jesus' love. Complete the challenge for a chance to win AWESOME prizes!

May 31 - August 11, 2023
Learn more at cph.org/reads

What is the CPH Reads challenge? How would you like the chance to win a prize for reading books about Jesus? That's what the CPH Reads challenge is all about! Readers like you are challenged to read 1,000 minutes of books about Jesus this summer. Everyone who completes the challenge will be entered for a chance to win

Goal: read 1,000 minutes!

You get to pick what you read. How fast can you beat the challenge? It kicks off on May 31, 2023. You have until August 11, 2023 to log all your time.

Join the challenge:

- 1** Go to cph.org/reads with an adult to get started.
- 2** Pick a book to read.
- 3** Start reading!
- 4** Log your time by August 11

Ready, set, read!

THE NEW FREEDOM STORE

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

**Oh happy day, happy day
when Jesus washed my sin away
Oh happy day, happy day
I'll never be the same, no no no no
Forever I am changed.**

Saturday was a wonderful day, a perfect day, for a little picnic in the parking lot of Freedom Works. Residents fired up the grill and made hot dogs. They played some good old fashioned gospel music and played a little bit of football. The New Freedom Store set up a car wash, providing soap, wax, towels. A few of the neighbors decided to join us too.

And why not? The road to recovery is not an easy one. The least we can do is build a little morale, have some fun, and celebrate the JOY that comes with a new life with Jesus. We wish to thank you for your donations which sponsored this event! Enjoy the pictures. They're sure to make you smile.

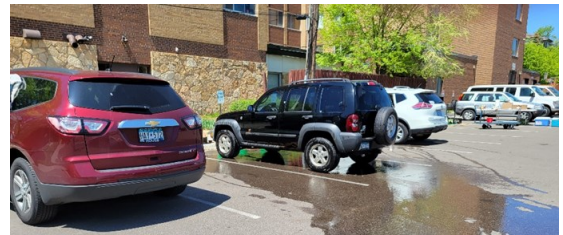
Once again this summer, I will be hosting a **Sunday to Remember** visiting with congregations here in the District. The idea is entirely scriptural based on a passage from Hebrews 13:3: **"Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison."** I will bring some guests from prison ministry, perhaps even a former felon, who will worship with you and read from the scriptures. Perhaps also we can bring along our prison band, Spirit Free. We can speak in a Bible study and share the good news, that Jesus walks along with us all on our journeys, even those, perhaps even especially those, who make the longer journey from darkness to light.

I will be pleased to share our stories at meetings with the **Lutheran Women's Missionary League**. After all, your work is vital, not just for the homeless or the refugees or even the children whom we support, but also for former prisoners too. If at all possible, I will bring one along with me too.

And may God bless us, one and all!

Jim Seemann

FreedomWorks Car Wash



Getting Started: In the distance, resident Bobby makes hot dogs and serves soda

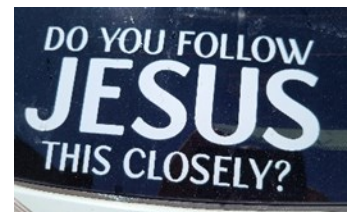


More residents join in,
some just came to socialize.



Women reside at
FreedomWorks too.

A window sticker on
one of the resident's
cars



**JOIN US
FOR OUR TALKATIVE THURSDAY
CALL - IN CHAT**



We chat at **11:10am each Thursday**. 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 also will have a short devotion and prayer.

Join us on Thursdays at 11:10am

*Therefore encourage one another
and build each other up,
as indeed you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*



**MAIN STREET LIVING
SUNDAYS 9:00–10:00am
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 June is below. To watch, go to mainstreetliving.com and select the “Twin Cities” tab.

June 4: “How Come a Nice Girl Like You”— A nurse struggles with what to do after reconnecting with an old boyfriend.

June 11: “A Will to Live” – A man leaves a large portion of his money to the church and hospital, then has his will contested by relatives.

June 18: “Man in the Middle” – Two men are left with a “secret” when one tells he has terminal cancer.

June 25: “Return Trip” – The modern-day story of a prodigal daughter.



ACTIVITY CALENDAR

JUNE 2023



10

July 2023

| 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 | | | | | |




*From the rising of the sun
to its setting
the name of the Lord
is to be praised.
Psalm 113:3*



LWML Bible
Study
1:00pm
Open to all

Talkative
Thursday Chat
11:10am

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|----|--|---|---|----|
| 4 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith after Service Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge | 5 Lay Ministry Meeting 6:00pm | 6 | 7 Prayer Group 10:00am NO Men's Bible Study NO Rooted in Faith | 8 NO Talkative Thursday Chat ARB Meeting 6:30pm | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Senior Celebration Sunday 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith after Service Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge | 12 | 13 | 14 Prayer Group 10:00am Men's Bible Study 10:30am Rooted in Faith 6:30pm | 15 Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am | 16 Soccer Camp 4:00pm Classic Cars and Cookout 5:30pm | 17 |
| 18 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith after Service Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge | 19 Council Meeting 6:00pm | 20 | 21 Prayer Group 10:00am Men's Bible Study 10:30am Rooted in Faith 6:30pm | 22 Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am | 23 | 24 |
| 25 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith after Service Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge | 26 Jottings articles due | 27 | 28 Prayer Group 10:00am Men's Bible Study 10:30am Rooted in Faith 6:30pm | 29 Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am | 30  | |



OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR HOURS

TUESDAY - THURSDAY

8:30AM -1:30PM

FRIDAY

8:30AM -12:30PM

PASTOR'S CELL: 612-600-3514

**Email submissions for
THE JOTTINGS BY JUNE 26TH
to office@jehovahlutheran.org**

Contact us!

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St. Paul MN 55104

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*Jehovah Lutheran Church Is a congregation of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*