

# THE JOTTINGS

The Newsletter of Jehovah Lutheran Church

1566 Thomas Ave, Saint Paul MN 55104 • 651-644-1421 • [www.jehovahlutheran.org](http://www.jehovahlutheran.org)

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



October 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](http://www.jehovahlutheran.org)



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

## Walking Together as Disciples for Life:

### Disciples – Holding to What Christ Has Given Us

*<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy*

*Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching 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,

As we begin to celebrate our Centennial year as a congregation this month, we conclude looking at the job description of making more disciples that Jesus has given to us:

- Baptizing
- Teaching
- Holding fast to what Christ has commended to us

As you probably know, I have received a call from Hope Lutheran in Winnie, Texas, to be their pastor. As I announced in the Divine Service this past Sunday, October 1, I am returning this call. I believe that it is the Lord's will that our family remain here with you at this time and that I continue to serve as your pastor. We have come through a pandemic and are thriving together as a congregation. We have a collaborative new outreach center for reaching our community with the love of Christ. I believe it is time that we continue to walk together as pastor and congregation.

As we do walk together, we acknowledge we do so in a time with challenges and obstacles in our path. We recognize that the culture of our society is becoming increasingly confusing and, in some ways, disheartening to us as we live out our faith in Jesus Christ. In some ways, our faith is even under attack.

But our Lord knew this would happen. He tells us, “In the world, you will have tribulation.”<sup>1</sup> Yet, He has also commanded us to hold fast to everything that He has given to us. This admonition of Christ “hold fast” goes hand-in-hand with that of baptizing and teaching as an integral part of making disciples and keeping disciples. Martin Luther highlights this aspect of the Great Commission in the final verse of his great hymn, “Dear Christians One and All Rejoice!”

“What I on earth have done and taught  
Guide all your life and teaching;  
So shall the kingdom's work be wrought  
And honored in your preaching.  
But watch lest foes with base alloy  
The heav'nly treasure should destroy;  
This final word I leave you.”<sup>2</sup>

In his poetic way of speaking, Luther teaches us here that the foes of Christ, His Gospel, and His Church seek to exchange the treasure of God's truth revealed in Christ for something far inferior and even fake. These enemies seek to swap something pure and precious for fool's gold. They seek to substitute the truth of God for a Satanic lie. And they don't just attempt to perform this evil stunt “out there” in the world but also within the Church itself. They seek to swap the Gospel for something that seems shinier, newer, and more relevant. But in the end, what they offer in the place of Christ's Gospel of eternal life is only a message of death.

In 1936, speaking to a church assaulted by a false, Nazified Gospel, Hermann Sasse described this work of the forces of evil in this way:

*continued...*

“The lie is the death of man, his temporal and his eternal death. The lie kills nations. The most powerful nations of the world have been laid waste because of their lies. History knows of no more unsettling sight than the judgment rendered upon the people of an advanced culture who have rejected the truth and are swallowed upon in a sea of lies. Where this happens, as in the case of declining pagan antiquity, religion and law, poetry and philosophy, life in marriage and family, in the state and society — in short, one sphere of life after another falls sacrifice to the power and curse of the lie. Where man can no longer bear the truth, he cannot live without the lie. Where man denies that he and others are dying, the terrible dissolution of his culture is held up as a glorious ascent, and decline is viewed as an advance, the likes of which has never been experienced.”<sup>3</sup>

**“Where man can no longer bear the truth, he cannot live without the lie.”** How true this is. When sinners accept a lie as a replacement for truth, they make it a new truth. Then, they defend that truth with gusto. We can all think of examples of this both inside and outside of Christianity. We know that there are things contrary to God’s truth which get held up and honored as unassailable facts.

So how do we guard against this in the Church? How can this kind of pious apostasy be prevented? There is only one thing. There is only one weapon against this work of the evil one: the real truth of the Gospel. In order to guard against losing the truth, we must know the truth. We must hear, trust, confess, cherish, teach, learn, and proclaim the truth of the Gospel of Christ crucified and risen for all people. We must hold fast to this and to the whole counsel of God given to us in the Holy Scriptures.

So as we celebrate 100 years of the proclamation of the Gospel in our congregation, let us do so hearing, trusting, and sharing God’s truth. As we continue to walk together in this time and place, I invite you: come hear the truth of God’s Word proclaimed in the Divine Service, study this truth in Bible class, live out this truth in our daily lives, come to the altar and receive Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

We continue to walk together in God’s grace into the future. We continue to hold fast to what Christ has given to us.

Walking together with you,  
Pastor Joshua Miller

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<sup>1</sup> John 16:33 (ESV).

<sup>2</sup> LSB 556.

<sup>3</sup> Hermann Sasse, “Union and Confession,” (1936), in *The Lonely Way 1: Selected Essays and Letters*, trans. and ed. Matthew C. Harrison (St. Louis: CPH, 2001), 265.

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES!

The St. Paul Outreach Center (SPOC) is a cooperative outreach mission of the St. Paul Circuit of LCMS congregation. This August the SPOC has some great opportunities for reaching out in our community. Join with other brothers and sisters in Christ in getting to know and serving our neighbors, so that we can share with them the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Coat Giveaway:** Saturday, October 14, at 10am, volunteer opportunities to sort, set-up, and serve Friday and Saturday.

**Pick-Up Soccer:** Friday evenings from 5-6pm, neighborhood and church youth gather together to play soccer at Hamline Park.

**Afterschool Activities:** Wednesdays at 4:30pm in Hamline Park.

**For more information:** Talk with Pastor or with Dr. David Mennicke.

## WHAT IS THE SAINT PAUL OUTREACH CENTER?



This new ministry is a partnership of the St. Paul Circuit LCMS churches sponsored by the MN South District.

We had a great start on September 8 with 100 people present for the kick-off International Potluck! Thank you to everyone from this congregation who had already supported this ministry in prayer or attending the potluck.

The St. Paul Outreach Center's primary focus is to meet the needs of new immigrants to St. Paul. Future offerings will include after school programming for children and families, conversation/cultural pairings, weekly community meals, and family health resources.

For more information please email  
spoc@jehovahlutheran.org  
or phone David Mennicke, coordinator, at  
651-636-3271.

Thanks for your partnership in this exciting new sharing of the Gospel!

## SPOC COAT GIVEAWAY

Saturday, October 14  
10am - 2pm




### Winter Coat Drive & Giveaway

#### Saturday, October 14 10am – 2pm

The St. Paul Outreach Center is hosting a giveaway event at  
Jehovah Lutheran Church  
1566 Thomas Avenue, St. Paul

**Winter Wear Donations Needed (clean, good condition):**

- coats
- hats
- scarves
- gloves
- mittens

**Donation drop off:**

- At Jehovah every Friday 9-11am
- at our own site for later delivery.

**Volunteers Needed:**

- set-up, help that day
- and take down

Use this link or QR code to sign up for donations and volunteer slots:

<https://forms.gle/dHeEMlnV5baib25Y7>



*Share  
with the Lord's people  
who are in need.  
Practice hospitality.  
Romans 12:13*

## 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 [pastorjoshuamiller@gmail.com](mailto: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.

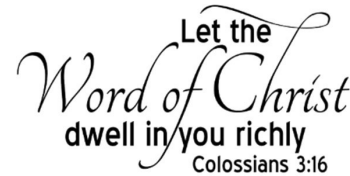
## *Men's Bible Study*

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

**October 5 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

### October 1

#### **Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

Can we blame our ancestors for our evil ways? Doing good or evil is our responsibility, Ezekiel replies. By God's grace, "turn and live."

#### **Philippians 2:1-18**

Paul sets forth qualities of life in Christ and then uses the example of Christ's self-denial as the foundation of Christian unity.

#### **Matthew 21:23-27**

Whence Jesus' authority? The parable of the two sons shows that his authority comes from God who calls to repentance and obedient faith.



### October 8

#### **Isaiah 5:1-7**

Isaiah compares Israel to a vineyard that despite God's loving care has brought forth "wild grapes" instead of justice and righteousness.

#### **Philippians 3:4b-14**

Paul cites his own human credentials, but he rests his right-standing with God in Christ alone.

#### **Matthew 21:33-46**

The parable of the vineyard and the wicked tenants depicts the history of salvation being played out as the religious leaders of the day plot to kill Jesus, the Son.

### October 15

#### **Isaiah 25:6-9**

The prophet praises God as a refuge for the poor and needy and then portrays a great victory banquet at which death will be swallowed up forever.

#### **Philippians 4:4-13**

Paul, in prison, faces an uncertain future but he calls on the Philippians to rejoice and to let the peace of God reign in their lives.

#### **Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus' parable depicts the kingdom as a messianic banquet to which all are freely invited, but God's invitation is not to be taken lightly.

### October 22

#### **Isaiah 45:1-7**

As the Lord's "anointed," the Persian emperor Cyrus is to end Israel's exile, demonstrating that God's authority extends over the entire world.

#### **1 Thessalonians 1**

Paul encourages new Christians even in the face of suffering to hold fast to their faith, active in love, and to their hope in the Lord's coming.

#### **Matthew 22:15-22**

Jesus' actions and teachings imply messianic authority, leading the Jewish leaders to use a ploy to trap him.

### October 29

#### **Revelation 14:6-7**

The angel announces the good news to all people. and proclaims they are to fear God and give him glory.

#### **Romans 3:19-28**

The law brings us under God's wrath for our sin. "But now" God manifests his righteousness freely in Christ, gifted to us through faith.

#### **John 8:31-36**

By his word Jesus brings true freedom, freedom from slavery to sin and freedom to live as his disciples.



## CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The theme for Centennial events is "100 Years of Grace: Walking Together at Jehovah Lutheran."

There will be five separate Sunday services for each 20 year period, spread throughout the upcoming months. The Celebration Sundays are as follows:

Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2023. Focus will be on God's grace in the 1920s-30s.

Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, 2024. Focus will be on the 1940s-50s.

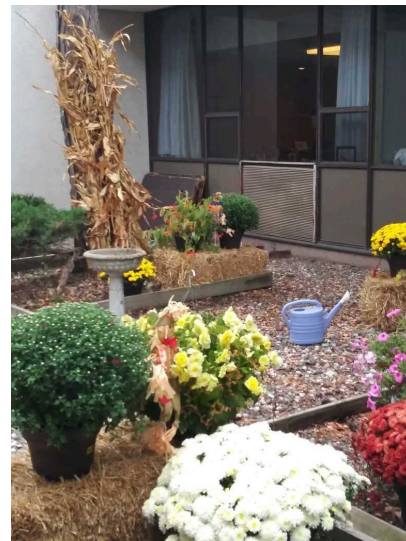
Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024. Focus will be on the 1960s-70s.

Rally Sunday, September 8, 2024. Focus will be on the 1980s-90s.

Reformation Sunday, October 27, 2024. Focus will be on the 2000s-20s.

## DRESSING UP THE COURTYARD

Thank you to Suzanne Hequet and Dan Wynn for sprucing up Jehovah's courtyard in preparation for our Centennial celebrations and bringing glory to God and beauty and joy to our community!



Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

Matthew 6:28-29



## THE NEW FREEDOM STORE FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Hello once again! As most of you know, this is our busy season. Busy, but fun!

This year especially we have so many wonderful gifts to give. A very big shout-out to a very special charity known as Hats and Mittens who have promised us 1000 sets of hats and gloves for all those in need: the poor, the homeless, refugees and immigrants, those returning from prison who will be living under long term care. The Freedom Store has donated 1000 tote bags in turn. We will also throw in some warm socks and a Bible if needed.



*Hats and Mittens* is also the name of a very special children's book which deals with the subject. Kids get it! And why not? Everyone can be kind, everyone at any age and from all walks of life. You can give to them if you want or you can put out a donation box in your church. Feel free to message me for details.

And if you would like to join us, we will be having a packing party Tuesday, October 3, at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave W, St Paul, MN downstairs in the Fellowship Room at 10:00am.

Jim Seemann, Ph.D.  
seemann@csp.edu



### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, October 5

1:00pm

All are welcome!

### LWML Capitol Conference Fall Rally

Saturday October 14, 2023

Gathering Place Lutheran Ministries

lower fellowship hall (there is an elevator)  
3245 New Brighton Road, Arden Hills 55112.  
Directions: 2 miles N of Hwy 36 Fairview Ave exit, 3blks NW on New Brighton Road or 1 mile E of I35W County Rd D exit to Fairview Ave, then 3 blocks NW on New Brighton Road.

9:00am registration

9:30-11:30am program, lunch following

Registration \$10 for program and lunch

"A Taste of SE Asia"



### **Mission Impossible:**

The Upside-Down Mission  
to the Lost in the Mountains  
of Southeast Asia.

Speaker: Pastor Yia Lor

We will be collecting:

**\*Gifts from the Heart:** items for homeless and homeless shelters - Pantry items (boxed or canned non-perishable); Blessing bags (can contain any items like socks, toiletries (soap, shampoo, toothbrush and paste, deodorant, lip balm, lotion), hand/body wipes, band-aids, Kleenex packets, hand/foot warmers, fruit snacks, protein/granola bars, bottle of water in a one-gallon resealable plastic bag.

### **\*Offering for District LWML**

Group representatives please notify Beth by October 8<sup>th</sup> with number from your groups. Leave a voice message 651-631-8956 or email [stpaulmetrozp@mnslwml.org](mailto:stpaulmetrozp@mnslwml.org)

*Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all peoples!  
Psalm 96:3*

**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 October is below. To watch, go to [mainstreetliving.com](http://mainstreetliving.com) and select the “Twin Cities” tab.

October 1: “Like Father Like Son” - A father’s example leads to his son making questionable choices at school.

October 8: “Families Come First” - A man contends with the demands of his career, promotion, and his vocation as a father.

October 15: “Conspiracy of Silence” - A husband and wife come to grips with a terminal illness.

October 22: “Big Account” - An advertising agency art director learns the impact of his work on his family and others.

October 29: “The Sexton” - A pastor and a sexton (church caretaker) with magical powers fight an eerie duel in a church.

**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*



# ACTIVITY CALENDAR

## October 2023



<b>1</b> 9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary Growing in Faith after Service Nursery Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Prayer Group 10:00am Men's Bible Study 10:30am	<b>5</b> Talkative Thursday Chat 11:10am  LWML Bible Study 1:00pm Open to all	<b>6</b> Pickup Soccer Game 5:00pm Hamline Park	<b>7</b>																																										
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## OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR HOURS

**TUESDAY - THURSDAY**

**8:30AM -1:30PM**

**FRIDAY**

**8:30AM -12:30PM**

**Email submissions for the November issue of *The Jottings*  
IS OCTOBER 25TH  
to [office@jehovahlutheran.org](mailto:office@jehovahlutheran.org)**

### **Contact us!**

Jehovah Lutheran Church

1566 Thomas Ave.

St. Paul MN 55104

651-644-1421

[office@jehovahlutheran.org](mailto:office@jehovahlutheran.org)



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