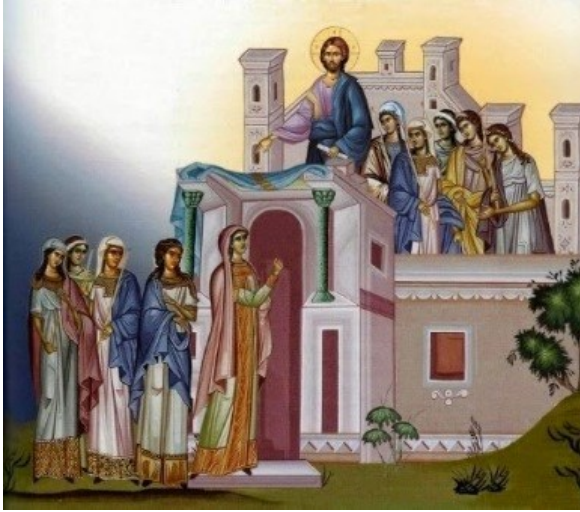


THE
CRESTVIEW LUTHERAN
NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024



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“Therefore, beware that you do not invent any other way to heaven nor attempt to break in by any other path. There is surely no other way but this way of faith, which is shown by the pure Word of God, as Paul says in Rom. 10:17: “Faith comes from hearing.” For this reason, free will and all human wisdom evaporate and disappear, just as the foam on the water and the head on a bad beer. But the faith that is poured in by God—that is the true oil. “

- Dr. Martin Luther

A Sermon on the Gospel for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Trinity. Preached in Erfurt at St. Michaeliskirche on the Day of the 11,000 Virgins (October 21st), 1522

FROM THE PASTOR

My offering for this month. Enjoy!

Pax Christi,

Pastor Parent

What About...

Christian Families

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christian families face enormous pressures in our world today. It is important that they have a good understanding of what God intends for the family and how they can best respond to the many challenges that confront them.

What does God say about families in His Word, the Bible?

In the beginning, God created men and women to live together with one another as husbands and wives, and through their marriages to bring children into the world. We read in Genesis 2:22–24: “The Lord God made a woman from the rib He had taken out of the man, and He brought her to the man. The man said, ‘This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called “woman,” for she was taken out of man.’ For

this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.” Our Lord Jesus Christ affirmed the divine institution of marriage during his earthly ministry (St. Matthew 19:5).

Through the Apostle Paul, the Lord revealed that Christian husbands and wives are to love and serve one another, modeling before the world the love Christ has for His bride, the Church. In Ephesians 5, St. Paul wrote: “Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the Head of the Church, His body, of which He is the Savior.

“Now as the Church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for Her to make Her holy. ... In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it,

just as Christ does the Church—for we are members of His body.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the Church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband” (Ephesians 5:21–33).

In this powerful description of marriage, there is no room for husbands to “lord it over” their wives, nor for wives to disregard their husband’s role of “headship” in the home.

The key is mutual submission to and love for one another, modeled after Christ’s love for the Church, and the Church’s submission to Christ Her Lord.

Parents are to provide discipline to their children with love and compassion, doing what is best for their children. We read in Ephesians 6:4: “Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” And children are to honor and obey

their parents, as the Lord commands, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.’ ‘Honor your father and your mother’—which is the first commandment with a promise—that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth” (Ephesians 6:1–3).

What are some of the cultural trends impacting families?

As we review what the Bible has to say about families, we quickly realize how far many of our cultural trends are from God’s will for families.

Christian families are bombarded by signals which contradict God’s

Word. Popular culture—through movies, music, magazines, books and especially television—inundates us with wrong messages. The signal is sent that a sexual relationship outside of marriage, or before marriage, is perfectly natural, or that even a homosexual lifestyle is merely an alternative to “traditional” marriage. Children are led to believe that being disobedient and disrespectful to parents is normal, even amusing, or that the elderly are to be viewed as a bur-

“Yes, we surely do recognize that popular cultural trends often convey messages totally contrary to our Lord’s Word and His will for Christian families. This needs to be recognized and resisted. “

den, or subjects for humor. So much of popular culture appeals to humanity's most sinful inclinations, and encourages them in a barrage of images and words.

The pressure on our children—particularly our teenagers—to do whatever is necessary to be “popular” among their friends is sometimes difficult for parents to understand and appreciate. Our young people are often caught up in destructive lifestyles and behaviors, encouraged by popular music, which encourages rebelliousness and disdain for life and the dignity of their fellow human beings. As our teenagers grow older, they are given the impression that “living together” without marriage is perfectly acceptable. How tragic it is when their own families do nothing to resist this behavior!

Men in our culture are encouraged to indulge their lusts and selfish desires. So little respect or attention is given to the man who wishes to be a faithful husband or father. How many children today grow up without a loving and responsible father in the home? The horrendous consequences of this trend will only become greater as we move into the future.

Women, too, are pressured to take a dim view of what God has given them. They are pressured to view childbearing as less than fulfilling, something perhaps only to be tolerated, and not to be enjoyed as a gift from God. They too face temptations to disregard God's expectations for them when they are wives and mothers, or to view marriage as something to be abandoned when it becomes inconvenient for them.



Yes, we surely do recognize that popular cultural trends often convey messages totally contrary to our Lord's Word and His will for Christian families.

This needs to be recognized and resisted.

What can a Christian family do to deal with the challenges of our day?

Openly facing the issues is the first step. Pretending that problems do not exist will certainly not help. Nor will it do for a family simply to hope that they will not be faced with problems. Ignoring reality will not make it go away.

It is crucial for Christian parents to spend both quality and quantity time with their children. Reading with their young children, discussing the questions they have and being there to

support and encourage them is extremely important.

Husbands and wives need to take time out of busy and hectic schedules to simply talk to one another, discussing the needs they have and the problems they are experiencing, working together to grow in their love for one another, and for their children.

More importantly, Christians need to pray for the Lord's blessing on their marriages and families, asking God to forgive them for their sins and failures as parents and spouses, and then turning to the Lord's mercy through their Savior Jesus Christ.

Christian families need to make every-Sunday worship an absolute priority. As families are gathered by God around His Word and Sacraments, they receive forgiveness, life and salvation—the strength they need to cope with the challenges of daily life.

What role do daily devotions have in the life of the Christian family?

One of the most important things a family can do is spend time together in the Word of God.

Key ingredients for the family's devotional time are the Scriptures, the hymnal and the Small Catechism.

These are excellent resources for meaningful time together in the Word of God.

Parents should begin reading and reciting the chief parts of the Small Catechism with their children when they are very young, helping them learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed, and then working on the explanations, building as time goes on.

Parents need to discuss their faith with their children, pray with them and encourage their children in love to do what is right, not hesitating to say "no" when necessary. And always, parents will want to be for their children a model of the Heavenly Father's love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

How can parents help their children resist temptations?

Parents often overlook the very important role they play simply by the way they themselves handle life. A parent can provide an important role model for his or her children.

If a man constantly displays a harsh and fierce temper at home, uses foul language and acts disrespectfully toward his wife, it is little wonder why his son would grow up with similar attitudes and behaviors. If a wom-

an constantly gripes and points out every fault, again, there is little surprise when her children do the same when they grow up.

Christian parents need to model their Christian faith, both to their children and others around them. St. Paul wrote that a Christian marriage is to be an image of Christ's love for the

Church. This is both an awesome responsibility and a joyous privilege.

May God bless our families richly with His loving mercy, strengthening them as they seek to love one another and serve their Lord and Savior.

—Dr. A. L. Barry President

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Sunday Readings (Lectionary)

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel
Nov. 3	Proverbs 8:11-22	Philippians 3:14-21	St. Matthew 22:15-22
Nov. 10	Exodus 32:1-20	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	St. Matthew 24:15-28
Nov. 17	Daniel 7:9-14	2 Peter 3:3-14	St. Matthew 25-31-46
Nov. 24	Isaiah 65:17-25	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	St. Matthew 25:1-13
Nov. 27	Deuteronomy 8:1-10	Philippians 4:6-20	St. Luke 17:11-19
Dec. 1	Jeremiah 23:5-8	Romans 13:8-14	St. Matthew 21:1-9

FROM THE PRESIDENT

On the 24th of November, we're planning on holding the voters' assembly meeting where our voting members will be asked to cast their votes on at least two issues: the 2025 Church Budget and the Group B offices that are up for election. The treasurer will explain the big picture about the proposed budget and can

answer your questions if you have any. As you can imagine, our church's expenses won't be cheaper in 2025 than they were in 2024, so brace yourselves and remember that our Lord will provide everything which He knows that we need.

Additionally, your church council

will receive the slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee at the council meeting on 12 Nov and rumor has it that their work was once again fruitful - we anticipate new nominees in the mix this time around! To God we give the glory and to those who are willing to serve in council positions we give our sincere thanks.

See you Sunday!

God's Blessings to You, Alex

FROM THE BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY

Happy November everyone!

I hope you all had a wonderful October and are looking forward to the upcoming holiday season! We have two events coming up in November for you all to look forward to (as well as one in December...)!

First of all, we are having a Craft Day on Saturday November 23rd! It will run from 1:30 to 3:30 with light refreshments provided. You can bring a craft to work on or you can use one of the coloring sheets that will be provided! It will be a fun time to have fellowship and get the creative juices flowing.

Second, it is a Voters' Meeting Month! So we have a Potluck coming up on November 24th right after church. The sign up sheet will be posted in the Fellowship Hall with the typical categories of Main Courses, Side Dishes, and Desserts. I can't wait to see what

yummy goodies everyone brings!

Finally, there is something that I want to put on your radar. We are planning to do a Christmas Party on December 14th starting around 11 am. It will be a potluck lunch with games and other activities. I will reveal more details as we get closer, but a few things to make sure you know ahead of time is there will be an ugly sweater competition as well as a Dirty Santa gift exchange. I know this is not until next month, but I just wanted to make sure you all knew to mark your calendars!

Well, that's it for November. I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Thank you,

Clare

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever." ~ Psalm 107:1

Duck Eggs For Sale

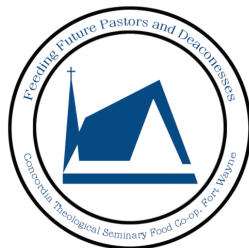


I have duck eggs for sale, they are \$8.00 a dozen. Duck eggs are wonderful for baking a eating. I prefer to eat and bake with duck eggs. French chefs use them for back, and baking season is here! People who have trouble digesting chicken eggs can usually tolerate duck

eggs. Julie, Deb an Mahlon, and Linda Urda can provide references for my eggs. If you would like to sample or want to order a dozen please see me. If you have any questions please ask. Dee Ann Tech
You may text or call 850-758-1808

CTSFW Co-Op Christmas Marketplace

We are collecting for the Marketplace through Nov. 24th. Please add “Co-Op” to your check’s memo line and write it on the “Special Offering” envelope found in the backs of the pews. These donations are a huge blessing to the seminary families who receive them. Thank you! Dcs. Heather



COFFEE WITH PASTOR



Coffee with Pastor begins with Matins at 9:00 a.m.

followed by time with Pastor to get to know him and for him to get to know his flock!

Birthdays:

- Jeannie Harrison 11/4
- Carlene Kamradt 11/7
- Gervase Anthony 11/13
- Kitty Trexler 11/17
- Max Ibe 11/22
- Anna Franco 11/28
- Gordon Ruef 11/29

Men's Group

7:00 pm

Tuesday, November 19

Pastor Parent's house.



Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes (TEAMS)

October 8, 2024



President – Alex Franco

Vice-President- Brad Bien

1) Attendance: Pastor Parent, Dcs Heather Bien, Alex Franco, Brad Bien, Brian Hull, Mahlon Haunschild, Julie Blaylock, Linda Urda, Alan Widner, Cindy Parent, Clare Jones, Emily Bien, Jennifer Currid

2) Alex called the meeting to order at 6:38. Pastor Parent opened the meeting with prayer.

3) The previous council minutes were approved with a few amendments. See updated copy in the church office. (Julie/Mahlon).

4) Reports:

a) Pastor's Report (Fr Parent)- Pastor has been holding catechesis classes at the Stapp home. For the Pastor's hunting trip in Nebraska this year, he and his family will be out of town Nov. 11-25. The circuit forum will be held Oct. 20 at Grace Lutheran Church in Destin. Pastor has been asked to serve as the circuit visitor. The Sunday morning study of the Book of Revelation continues. The church workers conference is Oct. 13-15 in Slidell, LA. Pastor will be attending, and Dcs Bien will make plans to attend next year. Cindy and Julie will be repairing the green chasuble.

b) Deaconess Report (Dcs Bien) – The rose and gold paraments have been ordered. Since the cost of the paraments came in under budget, Heather will also order the matching veil and burse for each set. We are still collecting for the Co-Op Christmas Market Place at the Fort Wayne seminary.

c) Financial Report (Mahlon)- See attached. The hurricane relief fund stands at \$2,458.

d) Treasurer (Brian) – See attached.

e) Board of Security (Julie)- No recent incidents to report. Julie and Emily have discussed the need for a security presence at the Oct. 12 Fall Ball.

f) LWML (Linda) – See attached.

g) Board of Education (Cindy)- see attached.

h) Board of Youth (Emily)- Emily identified the youth group as those 10 and under. The 11–17-year-old group is still looking for a name. After much discussion concerning insurance liability when holding community events on our property, a motion was made to postpone the Fall Ball (Alex/Emily). Alex offered Emily an apology for not addressing this issue sooner.

i) Board of Elders (Alan) - No report.

j) Board of Trustees (Brian) – Brian reported that the three crosses on the church property are in need of removal. If we are to replace them will be addressed at a latter date. The codes to change the temp on the thermostats have been removed.

k) Board of Social Ministry (Clare)-See attached. Clare suggested that we have enough college age church attendees to form a social group to support each other. Trunk or treat is still planned for Oct. 31. Since this is a community event, Alex will draw up a policy that addresses non-church members attending activities on OSELCP property. The council will have a meeting on October 20 after church to vote on the policy.

l) Board of Evangelism (Alex) - No report.

5) Unfinished Business:

a) Split Cost of Liability Insurance with Byrna defenders? (\$825 annually via CCW Safe)- to be considered in 2025 budget.

b) 2025 Budget Inputs- Please give 2025 budget requests to Brian as soon as possible.

c) Nominating Committee Progress- All church members have been given the descriptions of council positions open for the November Voters' Assembly.

d) Air Horns vs. Whistle- Julie will purchase 7 air horns and 30+ whistles. Training and practice will be conducted with the congregation.

6) New Business:

a) FL/GA & Southeast Districts Hurricane Recovery Assistance. Alex will send an email with instructions concerning donations for Hurricane Milton. Previous donations were given for Hurricane Helene relief. It was decided that we would send all donations for both hurricanes to the Southern District and let them decide where to use the donations.

b) New insurance quote- After an extensive discussion of the issues associated with our insurance policy, a motion was made to allow Brian to search for alternate companies (Julie/ Mahlon). He is, however, to continue with our current policy so that we have continued coverage. In the future, we need to discuss plans in case our buildings incur extensive hurricane damage.

7) A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 9:03 (Brad/Clare).

8) Pastor Parent closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Currid

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2024



President – Alex Franco

Vice-President- Brad Bien

- 1) Attendance: Pastor Parent, Alex Franco, Brad Bien, Mahlon Haunschild, Clare Jones, Emily Bien, Linda Urda, Cindy Parent, Jennifer Currid
- 2) Alex called the meeting to order at 11:38. Pastor Parent opened the meeting with prayer.
- 3) New Policy Statements for hiring and for working with minors (see attached): Since council members had previously received copies of the policies and had opportunity to have input, Alex made a motion to adopt both policies related to hiring and working with minors, second Mahlon. The motion passed.
- 4) Pastor closed the meeting in prayer at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Currid

Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service
 Followed by our traditional Pie Night
 Eat dessert first!
 Bring your favorite pie to share
 Nov. 27th Time TBD




JR FALL BALL
 Our savior lutheran fellowship hall
 178 W North Ave, Crestview, FL
 OCTOBER 16th
 1:30pm-4pm



← Follow the Youth Group on Instagram!

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

178 W. North Ave.

Crestview, FL 32536

Phone: 850-682-3154

Email: oselc@oselc.gccoxmail.com

We are on the Web!

www.Oselc.net



Council President: Alex Franco

Council Vice-President: Brad Bien

Secretary: Jennifer Currid

Treasurer: Brian Hull

Financial Secretary: Mahlon Haunschild

Board of Elders: Alan Widener

Board of Christian Life:

Board of Trustees: Brian Hull

Board of Education: Cindy Parent

Board of Youth: Emily Bien

Board of Evangelism: Alex Franco

Board of Social Ministry: Clare Jones

Board of Security: Julie Blaylock

LWML: Linda Urda

Library: Jennifer Currid

Usher Director: Julie Blaylock

Organist and Kantor: Brian Hull

Office Administrator: Trish Hull

Newsletter Editor: Dcs. Bien

Pastor Raymond Parent · Deaconess Heather Bien