



St. James News

Equipping and Empowering Families and Students through Christ

Volume 65 Issue 6

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Statement on the death of George Floyd and the ensuing riots

Discriminatory treatment of human beings on the basis of race is irrational evil and results in evil. It is folly, which can produce only anger and hatred. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” America’s original sin of legal racism, the denial of human rights based on race, has reaped the whirlwind.

God’s Word rejects racism. “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). “No one is righteous, no, not one” (Romans 3:10). “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). All are equally created by God. All are equally accountable to God. The sins of all are equally atoned for by Christ. All are equally precious to God. Racial animosity is the result of sin and is sin in itself. Racism is not acceptable in the church. Jesus Himself bids us love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:31) and did so precisely while rejecting racial preference (cf. Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25–37).

Unity in the church according to the Augsburg Confession is defined by Article VII: “For it is sufficient for the true unity of the Christian church that the Gospel be preached ... and that the sacraments be administered in accordance with the divine Word.” Christ and His gifts bring unity and equity in the church. Racial discrimination in or by the church is sin. Racial conflict in our nation calls every Christian to introspection. “It is time for judgment to begin at the household of God” (1 Peter 4:17). “Righteous indignation” without self-reflection and repentance is meaningless, or worse, hypocrisy.

The one who grievously and unjustly took the sacred gift of life from George Floyd — resulting in a charge of 3rd-degree murder — will, ironically, be given the very thing he denied his victim, due process of the law. Justice must be meted out according to the law. Others may be charged.

We weep for George Floyd, for his family and loved ones because he was robbed of life. We weep for our nation. We weep for those across our nation who believe their only recourse is destruction. We weep for police officers everywhere, who carry out their honorable vocations with courage and goodwill but find their task infinitely more challenging and dangerous in the wake of the sad events in Minneapolis. We pray for the safety of all and the welfare of those who have lost property and livelihood. We pray for the police who must stand against mayhem. We support the First Amendment rights of the peaceful protestors.

We deplore injustice. We deplore destruction, robbery and doing physical harm to others. That, too, is injustice. We plead to citizens and governments of this nation for communities beset by poverty, crime and injustice. We plead for rational and unifying policies that will end

injustices and address social breakdown, lack of economic access, and other factors that fuel anger, hatred and dissension.

We shall pray, but we shall do even more. We shall follow the ancient mandate of the prophet of Yahweh: "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8).

And we shall proclaim Christ, "in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2). "For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:7-8).

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be

thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Colossians 3:1-17 ESV).

Rev.Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Our Church Records

Church Attendance

Sunday, May 31	76 & 56
Sunday, June 7	45 & 70
Sunday, June 14	57
Sunday, June 21	45

Baptism

Kalvin Carlisle Olson son of Keith and Alexa Olson on May 16, 2020 by Pastor Loder.

Emma Ruth Dickens infant daughter of Benjamin and Christena Dickens on June 7, 2020 by Pastor Loder.



Satan's sole purpose as the defeated evil one is to **"steal and kill and destroy."** (John 10:10) And his target is humanity. No greater ire does the evil one have than knowing that **"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved."** (Mark 16:16) Pride became his idol and the desire to be like God, if not God, was his fall. And to this day, the ongoing spiritual battle we all face is the one laid upon our minds by the most damning question in history, **"Did God actually say?"** (Genesis 3:1) Satan wishes for us to take the same fall.

Oh, how evident that is for us at this present time. In actuality, there's not a day that goes by that we don't experience the reality of the impact of sin, but in our present time, we have quite the vivid display. From the months of isolation we have experienced caused by a global pandemic to the vicious and emotional response to a cowardice act by a police officer, our world is in the midst of a prideful display of unchecked and unbridled pride.

Satan has convinced us that me, myself, and I is the trinity to which we do well to bow. It's not a new phenomenon, really. Rather, this narcissism has been breeding and multiplying for ages. And now, it seems, in this present time, the fruits of the idol of self's loins are coming to age. (But again, we note, that we aren't dealing with anything new, as sin has been the death of us since the Fall of man.)

What seems to make things appear worse is the unbelievable amount of access we have to information. And sadly, much of the information is not factual. We tend to be people who fall prey to the commentary that is offered in place of factual news. We tend to believe people who seem to be like-minded to our ideologies rather than consumers of factual information who land on our own reasonable thoughts. Mob mentality is what we stumble upon. Feeding the so wished for truths of me, myself, and I become the motivation even if it's false.

This is the tactic that seems to be rampant in our social media narcissistic pride-filled world. Satan has used the distraction of side events, false information, and emotion-filled rage actions to divide us. And it's working. If we think back to the pain caused to many by the solitude we retreated into months ago when the pandemic swept the world, it happened. When we think back to the rage-filled images of destruction

that filled our world's city streets weeks ago, it happened. People accusing one another. People despising the decisions of one another. People attacking one another.

Dear children of God, I hope you can see the danger of what Satan has been able to lace our hearts and minds. Rather than being still, removing the noise, and taking a reasonable look at what is actually happening in the world, he's been able to distract and enrage us to be willing to look at one another as objects of blocking one another's rights to do any and everything as opposed to the true brothers and sisters we are.

When this will all end, who knows. So long as we are human and living in this world, we will struggle with Satan's incessant temptation of pride. You will daily be bombarded with the desire to put yourself first and your wants above all others. Though that be the truth, we must be quick to succumb that evil by way of falling to our knees in repentance. We must be the first to repent of pride. And we do so with the joy of knowing that though the world around us is a mess, the blood of Christ does nothing but bless.

The blood of Christ is the only means that will rid this world of the damage caused by pride. We stand as the Church of Christ as we confess in the One true God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as the One who created this world, redeemed His creatures, and sustains their lives of faith through the sanctifying means of grace - Word and Sacrament. Dear friends, the world can be a scary place and we contribute often to the messiness therein. But let us not be afraid and robbed of the joy we know to be true as God's chosen and redeemed. The blood of Christ has covered you and will continue to give you the peace that surpasses all understanding. May this peace be the very gift you share with others as we make strides to repent, forgive, and move forward in the truth of God.

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

Pastor Loder



JULY: Logan Cardinal (1), Annita Power (1), Julie Smith (1), Colby Zillmer (1), LuAnn Ryks (2), Zachary Thorson (2), Lisa Johnson (3), Jacob Kieser (3), Anika Monson (3), Cari Schmieg (3), Richard Birkholz (4), John Brown (4), Madison Gueningsman (4), Austin Uecker (4), Randy Dalbec (5), Casey Diers (5), Arnold Hechesel (5), Janell Koch (5), Loren Wegner (5), Dean Lemke (6), Marjorie Helinske (7), Astrid Glessing (8), Kelsey Kieser (8), Teresa Schmieg (8), Megan Wiegand (8), Christopher Horsch (9), Cole Stillwell (9), Megan Stueven (9), Nathan Kotila (10), Paul Lindahl (11), Alexa Schumann (11), Jim Yukel (11), Pat Grangroth (12), Heidi Gulso (12), Tara Morse (12), Tara Morse (12), Rebecca Mosher (13), Greta Schlagel (13), Chase Main (14), Alyssa Stoll (14), Richard Streich (14), Wayne Schumann (15), Eric Stoll (15), LaVonne Burkett (16), Brycen Diers (16), Jill Kittock (16), Charla Alexander (17), Lisa Baumann (17), Becky Hagemann (17), Tyler Graczyk (18), Michael Stueven (18), Roy Bakeberg (19), Brandon Diers (19), Hathaway Heber (20), Kelly Riech (20), Bonnie Bistodeau (21), Luke Dahl (21), Tyler Gruenhagen (21), Carolyn Kotila (21), Tammy Oestreich (21), Julie Linder (22), Riley Bickmann (23), Lucas Kilpela (23), Carson Woolhouse (23), Clark Hassa (24), Peyton Helmbrecht (24), Brooke Gabbert (25), Aaron Horsch (25), Russel Gruenhagen (26), Julia Muldoon (26), Wayne Birkholz (27), Thomas Goepfert (27), Stanley Gulso (27), Mackenzie Helmbrecht (27), Emerson Diers (28), Eloise Doster (28), Linda Drusch (28), Erland Hoese (28), Jenna Wiegert (28), Carolyn Ittel (30), Dawn Krohn (30), Trudy Bender (31), Lynn Burbank (31), Rhonda Grangroth (31), Jason Schmieg (31), **AUGUST:** Kayla Bobrowske (1), Keith Bobrowske (1), Jeremy Cardinal (1), Coleton Main (1), Morgan Niesen (1), Ann Birkholz (2), Daniel Workman (2), Gayle Yager (2), Linda Bakeberg (3), Angela Cardinal (3), Elton Gruenhagen (3), Joyce Heuer (3), Jeanne Lindstrom (3), Marjorie Stueven (3), Ashley Main (4), Russell Schlagel (4), Keith Brose (5), Amy Burau (5), Madison Marschel (5), Michael Marschel (5), Elizabeth Anderson (6), Jean Birkholz (6), Justin Gabbert (7), Justin Niesen (7), Myron Lahr (8), Alexia Probst (8), Katie Hooser (9), Thomas Johnson (10), Pastor Loder (10), Gayle Ristow (10), Bradley Smith (10), Thomas Diers (11), Karen Schmieg (11), Marvel Engel (12), Violet Luhman (12), Darlene Lind (13), Cass Cardinal

(14), Bonnie Jones (14), Gwen Pehl (14), Waverly Stueven (14), Donald Drusch (16), Casey Stueven (16), Wyatt Gueingsman (17), Joseph Pehl (17), Timothy Zander (17), Chris Menk (18), Marlene George (19), Riley Gruenhagen (19), Shane Heber (19), Ronald Kern (19), Hathaway Stueven (19), Mark Burau (20), Dan Glessing (20), Kenneth Lahr (22), Elijah Wellnitz (22), Shari Zander (22), Kennedy Sparkman (23), Michael Luhman (24), Barbara Schmieg (25), Mindy Stoll (25), Jeremy Birkholz (26), Joel Hirsch (26), Vivian Nikko (27), Dennis Reek (27), Emma Diers (28), Rena Gruenhagen (28), Elise Linder (29), Carol Borg (29), Benjamin Koosman (29), Mildred Molnau (29), Anna Baumann (30), Jeffrey Kilpela (30), Brooke Whitton (30), Taylor Drusch (30), Brittany Jones (31),



7/8 Bernard & Margaret Marketon
7/9 Brad & Jenna Davis
7/9 Ryan and Kacy Muldoon
7/10 David & Melissa Eckhoff
7/12 Adam & Beth Koch
7/13 Justin & Angela Gabbert
7/17 Martin & Joan Boss
7/17 Lon & Michelle Droneck
7/18 Dustin & Katherine Gustafson
7/19 Steve & Kim Koosman
7/19 Terry & LaNette Thorson
7/25 John & Darlene Lind
7/31 Ronald & Roberta Weibel
8/2 Adam & April Stueven
8/4 Warren & Dorothy Anderson
8/8 John & Jane Brown
8/10 Jan & Ray Cardinal
8/11 Dennis & Nancy Butterfass
8/15 Pastor & Molly
8/16 Donald & Ruby Drusch
8/16 Glenn & Michelle Hofer
8/17 Jeff & Leisha Diers
8/21 Jacob & Jamie Diers
8/27 Gerald & Karen Diers



**Lutheran Hour
Ministries**

People of Christ With A Message of Hope

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

Hear The Lutheran Hour each Sunday at 12:30 PM on KDUZ-1260 Hutchinson or at 7:30 AM on KRWC-1360 Buffalo.

The Lutheran Hour may also be heard at 6:05 AM Sunday mornings on WCCO -830. The Lutheran Hour is our church's witness in the public marketplace. We can sponsor broadcasts on KDUZ in memory of loved ones or in honor of special occasions.

July 2020

July 5 "Unhelmed"

Are you living in the reality of life as it is right now, life as it will be, or somewhere in between? (Matt 6:1-18)

July 12 "Perfection Welcomes Failure"

God's perfect standards are exceeded only by His perfect patience and forgiveness. (Matt 6:19-34)

July 19
(Exodus)

July 26
Conclude Exodus Series

Stewardship- An Article from LCMS

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter article – July 2020

“Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, “You know the commandments.” And the ruler replied, “All these I have kept from my youth.” And Jesus said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” (Luke 18:18–22)

As we listen to this, one question is raised in our minds: Is Jesus speaking to us also or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor? As good Lutherans, we

answer: No! But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor?

The simplest explanation is this: If we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't mean it isn't to be used for the purpose God intends.

Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family, and society. We are members of all three of these by birth.

- We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from either our birth into the church or the birth of others by Baptism into it.
- We are born into a family, and our duties to others stem from either our birth into that family or the birth of others into our family.
- Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our birth or the birth of others into the same society.

All that we have and all that we are is to be pressed into service for the church, the family, and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and our duties toward them would falter.

So consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You provide food, clothing, and shelter for the members of your family. You save for college for your children.

But the one station that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are to give of our first fruits – the best from off the top – even as Abel gave the best of his flock.

This requires forethought and intent. It means that you sit down and make a plan for what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems there are other more immediate and pressing things.

This is all the more necessary now as we enter into periods of time while giving is low due to high unemployment or

restrictions on meeting in church to give. If we love God, his gifts of forgiveness given through the means of grace we receive at church and only at church, then we will support the church just as we love our country and our family.

For all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious and giving God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son into death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What is more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of the church, the family, and society, are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three by birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be ignored or even an afterthought. The church is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation by Word and Sacrament for eternal life.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League



At our baptism, each of us became a member of God's family. He continues to bless us daily. Select a word for each letter of your name, as you are reminded of our Heavenly Father's loving gifts to you. Here is an example:

"As a child of God I am: M – motherly
A – aspiring
R – redeemed
G – grace-full
E – energetic"

Convention delegates, Darlene and Marge, participated in business decisions of the MN South LWML by submitting votes electronically. The adoption of the mission goal for the 2020 – 2022 biennium is \$265,000.00.

St. James LWML executive board members approved sending \$200.00 to CROSSING HOME, an organization helping inmates transitioning back to home life after jail time. Funding assists independent living.

Plans are for the LWML to return to regular monthly meetings. On July 13th we will welcome Vicar

Thompson as he shares experiences and reviews his year with us at St. James.

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23



New Student Scholarship for 2020-2021

What a strange year! We have all been affected by the uncertainties facing the world today, whether related to health, finances, or the current political and social climate. Thank goodness we have a strong foundation in Jesus and His gift of faith to carry us during unpredictable times!

I want to take a moment to introduce myself as the new *Director of Enrollment* here at Mayer Lutheran High School. I am blessed to be a part of the exciting things we have planned for the Fall of 2020. I have been able to jump in with the ultimate goals of connecting with families like yours and increasing the number of students and families who call Mayer Lutheran *their* school! Please pray for our teachers, staff, and, especially, our students and recent graduates for their safety this summer. I would appreciate prayers for me, too, as I learn my new job.

I want to share two important facts with you. **First, we will be open for learning and leading, on campus, on August 26!** We have the freedom to make this decision for our school, and we have a detailed plan in place to ensure this happens safely and efficiently. We trust God to guide us in His wisdom as we move forward in welcoming our students back to campus in less than eighty days!

Second, we are now offering a Summer Scholarship of 50% off tuition for one year for any new student in any grade, who enrolls at Mayer Lutheran this summer. You will NOT need to apply for financial aid, but you will need to enroll at mayerlutheran.org/admissions-2/enroll/.

I would be happy to speak with you in greater details about this scholarship, to discuss the benefits of investing in an education from Mayer Lutheran High

School, and to walk you through the enrollment process. Please contact me as soon as possible. Now is the time! I look forward to talking with you soon.

Eric Turner

Our Parish Nurse

**This month I am sharing an article written by Rev. Fred Zimmermann, Pastoral leader for Parish Nursing. I feel it is so good that sharing it will uplift you .Enjoy!
Viral love**

It's gone viral. We hear this on the news or from a friend, and we need to check it out. Usually it's a video or a picture. It means that this has been liked by a lot of people or has affected a lot of people. It can be humorous, heart-warming or stunning.

The world has gone viral. This time it's a real virus that hasn't only affected a lot of people; in one way or another it's affected everybody. We've become all too familiar with its name: coronavirus — 'corona' meaning crown. Its name comes from the virus's crown-like spikes. We're part of something historic that will change us for a long time to come, perhaps forever.

We may not have the virus, but we also have a crown. But it's a very good crown. St Peter says: ***When the chief shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.*** (1 Peter 5:4)

St Paul wrote: ***Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day — and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.*** (2 Timothy 4:8)

And St James wrote: ***Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.*** (James 1:12)

What a contrast from the coronavirus to the crown of life! But the Christian faith is full of such contrasts: a crown of sin and death and disease to a

crown of glory, defeat to victory, lockdown to freedom, death to life. ***And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.*** (Romans 8:28)

Jesus wore a crown. ***The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head.*** (John 19:2) It's because of that crown that we are promised a crown, and can experience joy and confidence, even in the midst of a pandemic. It's through his crown of thorns and the 'throne' of his cross that he paid for our sin, and not only ours, but the sin that's infected the whole world. He rose to life, signifying his defeat of all that can destroy us. It's Jesus' love that saves the day!

During these days of struggle, may Jesus' love go viral. ***Bless the Lord, my soul ... who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion.*** (Psalm 103:1, 4) Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York (formerly of Milwaukee, WI, USA) said: 'If you ask why God would allow this [pandemic] you also have to ask 'why' to the selfless acts of love shown in the midst of it.' Nurses, health-care workers and various first responders are behaving as and are called heroes. People are reflecting Jesus' love and exercising their trust in God in new and stronger ways.

May the Good News of Jesus' love go viral in your life; a love that will be your crowning glory forever.
Rev. Fred Zimmermann

Note:

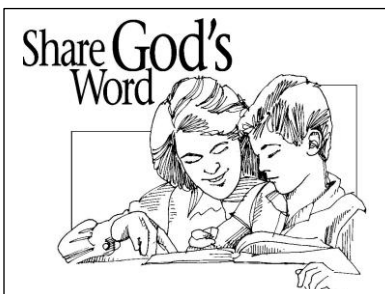
Watch for an August date when my sister will be here at St. James to present her slides and talk about her trip to Israel and the Holy Land. She is graduating from the Fort Wayne Seminary with her Deaconess degree. I am sure she will share some deaconess information at that time too.

Your Parish Nurse,
Darlene

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

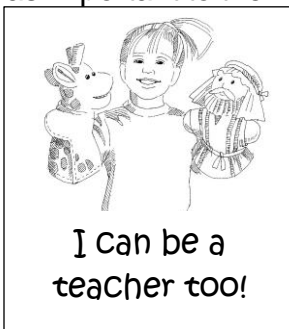


Due to the restrictions of group gatherings Sunday School is not being held this summer. We encourage parents to make time each Sunday morning to teach their children Bible Stories, do Bible related activities and sing songs/hymns so they continue growing in their faith. The older students may even be able to lead you in singing and telling the story. Devotions throughout the week will reinforce their spiritual growth.



One activity that can be very educational is to teach your child a Bible Story and later ask them to teach you the same Bible Story. It is surprising what they remember and what was important to them. After hearing their version you will know what areas you may need to spend more time on. Using objects and puppets always make lessons more memorable for children. Sunday School lessons and materials have been being mailed out to

students over the past few months. If your child has not received a mailing and would like to, please contact the church office (320-543-2766) to be added to the mailing list. Although the quarterly lessons are finished the teachers have extra materials that will be used for summer.



A favorite **summer** Sunday School activity is to watch a video from the *McGee and Me* series. Each video runs about 20 minutes and features a normal boy named Nick and his imaginary friend, McGee. The theme in each story teaches us how using what we learn from the Bible helps us make it through life's experiences. To find these videos go on line and Google *McGee and Me*. The first episode in the series is "The Big Lie." It is amazing how this series produced years ago still relates to children today.



We look forward to meeting together as soon as it is possible. Meanwhile, please keep your children learning about God's love. When your children see you making time for Bible Study, they will know it is important for them too. At any age we must continue learning and growing in our faith.

