LUTHER MEMORIAL CHAPEL &
UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER

CHAPEL NEWS

1916 – 2016: A Century of God's Gifts in Jesus Christ

3833 N. Maryland Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211 Phone (414) 332-5732 July/August 2021

Vacation Bible School: All about Jesus

By Pastor Larson

Who is Jesus? That's what this year's VBS theme is all about. During a conversation with His disciples, Jesus once asked them, "But what about you? Who do you say that I am?" (Matt. 16:15). This question goes out to each and every one of us in a personal way! Who is Jesus? This summer we want to prepare the young disciples to give a confident and clear answer to just that question!

First off, He's no legend, myth, or fictional hero. Jesus really lived in the first century, and the New Testament contains the fullest, most reliable record of His life and ministry. The historical evidence and eyewitness testimony all agree. Jesus is a historical person, born of the virgin Mary, crucified under Pontius Pilate, and raised from the dead on the third day.

Who is Jesus? He is both human and divine (man and God). When Jesus forgives sins, the folks ponder the right question, "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Matt. 9; Mark 2; Luke 5). In John 8, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, before Abraham was, I AM!" (John 8:58). In the next verse they pick up stones to stone Him! Why? "We are not stoning you for any good work," they replied, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God." But of course, He was and is God! He died for you and shed His blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

This year's theme for VBS is "All About Jesus." We will focus on the Second Article of the Creed, Jesus' virgin birth, His death and resurrection, His ascension and His coming again on the Last Day. Jesus asked the disciples who they believed He was. Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man but by my Father in heaven" (Matt. 16:17). May God create and sustain such faith in our hearts that we would confess Jesus as Lord, receive forgiveness of sins, and learn from Him how to love our neighbor.

Check out details for VBS in the poster enclosed in this newsletter. Invite your neighbors to participate. Who do you say that I am? Be ready with the words of the Small Catechism upon your lips and heart.

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Serving Us

Michael C. Larson, *Pastor*
Jason Lane & Brian German, *Assisting Pastors*
Kathryn A. Hill, *Church Secretary*
Martha Galvin, *Director of Music*
Julie Wohlrabe, *iO Director*

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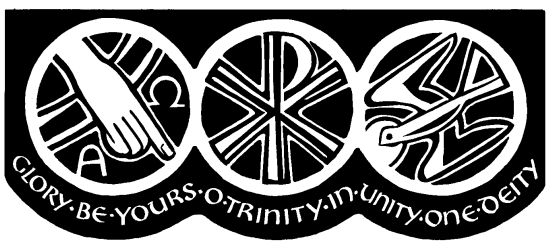
I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Preparation for the Lord's Day in July & August

Date	Name of Day	Hymn of the Day	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
July 4	Fifth Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 688	1 Kings 19:11–21	Psalm 64	1 Cor. 1:18–25 *or* 1 Peter 3:8–15	Luke 5:1–11
July 11	Sixth Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 562	Ex. 20:1–17	Psalm 28	Rom. 6:1–11	Matt. 5:17–26
July 18	Seventh Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 819	Gen. 2:7–17	Psalm 47	Rom. 6:19–23	Mark 8:1–9
July 25	Eighth Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 754	Jer. 23:16–29	Psalm 48	Acts 20:27-38 *or* Rom. 8:12-17	Matt. 7:15–23
Aug. 1	Ninth Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 730	2 Sam. 22:26–34	Psalm 54	1 Cor. 10:6–13	Luke 16:1–13
Aug. 8	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 644	Jer. 8:4–12 *or* Jer. 7:1–11	Psalm 55	Rom. 9:30—10:4 *or* 1 Cor. 12:1–11	Luke 19:41–48
Aug. 15	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 559	Gen. 4:1–15	Psalm 68	Eph. 2:1–10 *or* 1 Cor. 15:1–10	Luke 18:9–14
Aug. 22	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	*LSB* 545	Is. 29:17–24	Psalm 70	2 Cor. 3:4–11 *or* Rom. 10:9–17	Mark 7:31–37
Aug. 29	Thirteenth S. after Trinity	*LSB* 683	2 Chron. 28:8–15	Psalm 74	Gal. 3:15–22	Luke 10:23–37



JOIN US FOR SUMMER FUN WITH

Three more softball games in July:

July 1 at 8:15 p.m.

July 8 at 6:15 p.m.

July 15 at 8:15 p.m.

Come and join the fun at Sijan Field on Thursdays in July.

EXCERPTS FROM THE LARGE CATECHISM BY MARTIN LUTHER: THE SECOND PETITION: THY KINGDOM COME

Just as the name of God is in itself holy, and we pray nevertheless that it be holy among us, so also His kingdom comes of itself, without our prayer, yet we pray nevertheless that it may come to us, that is, prevail among us and with us, so that we may be a part of those among whom His name is hallowed and His kingdom prospers.

But what is the kingdom of God? Answer: Nothing else than what we learned in the Creed, that God sent His Son Jesus Christ our Lord into the world to redeem and deliver us from the power of the devil, and to bring us to Himself, and to govern us as a King of righteousness, life, and salvation against sin, death, and an evil conscience, for which end He has also bestowed His Holy Ghost, who is to bring these things home to us by His holy Word, and to illumine and strengthen us in the faith by His power.

Therefore we pray here in the first place that this may become effective with us, and that His name be so praised through the holy Word of God and a Christian life that both we who have accepted it may abide and daily grow therein, and that it may gain approbation and adherence among other people and proceed with power throughout the world, that many may find entrance into the Kingdom of Grace, be made partakers of redemption, being led thereto by the Holy Ghost, in order that thus we may all together remain forever in the one kingdom now begun.

For the coming of God's Kingdom to us occurs in two ways; first, here in time through the Word and faith; and secondly, in eternity forever through revelation. Now we pray for both these things, that it may come to those who are not yet in it, and, by daily increase, to us who have received the same, and hereafter in eternal life. All this is nothing else than saying: Dear Father, we pray, give us first Thy Word, that the Gospel be preached properly throughout the world; and secondly, that it be received in faith, and work and live in us, so that through the Word and the power of the Holy Ghost Thy kingdom may prevail among us, and the kingdom of the devil be put down, that he may have no right or power over us, until at last it shall be utterly destroyed, and sin, death, and hell shall be exterminated, that we may live forever in perfect righteousness and blessedness.

From this you perceive that we pray here not for a crust of bread or a temporal, perishable good, but for an eternal inestimable treasure and everything that God Himself possesses; which is far too great for any human heart to think of desiring if He had not Himself commanded us to pray for the same. But because He is God, He also claims the honor of giving much more and more abundantly than anyone can comprehend, like an eternal, unfailing fountain, which, the more it pours forth and overflows, the more it continues to give; and He desires nothing more earnestly of us than that we ask much and great things of Him, and again is angry if we do not ask and pray confidently.

For just as when the richest and most mighty emperor would bid a poor beggar ask whatever he might desire, and were ready to give great imperial presents, and the fool would beg only for a dish of gruel, he would be rightly considered a rogue and a scoundrel who treated the command of his imperial majesty as a jest and sport, and was not worthy of coming into his presence: so also it is a great reproach and dishonor to God if we, to whom He offers and pledges so many unspeakable treasures, despise the same, or have not the confidence to receive them, but scarcely venture to pray for a piece of bread.

Twenty Bible Verses for Children to Learn by Heart

Recommended by Pastor Larson

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
(John 14:6)

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
(2 Corinthians 12:9)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.
(Psalm 111:110)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
(Proverbs 3:5)

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
(Galatians 2:20)

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
(Matthew 22:37-39)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
(Colossians 1:13-14)

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.
(1 Peter 4:8)

My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching. Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.
(Proverbs 6:20; 23:22)

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.
(Ephesians 4:26-27)

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
(Romans 10:9)

I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.
(John 11:25-26a)

Godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.
(1 Timothy 6:6-8)

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
(John 15:12)

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.
(2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.
(Lamentations 3:25-26)

In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.
(John 16:33)

Let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him.
(1 Corinthians 7:17)

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
(Matthew 7:21)

This is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.
(John 6:40)

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

John Swanson	July 2
Tanner Toll	July 6
Erica Wieting	July 6
Christopher Nickels	July 8
Patricia Baka	July 9
Darice Button	July 10
Miles Toll	July 12
Joseph Bratz	July 15
Adam Buelow	July 16
Ruby Himsel	July 16
Madison Rebholz	July 16
Elspeth Sovitzky	July 18
Susan Kohut	July 20
Louis Sagert VI	July 27
Lilah Ledic	July 28
Preston Kretsch	July 29
Eleanor Sagert	July 29
Lauren Toll	July 29
Sarah Nus	July 30
Richard Sovitzky IV	July 30
Shelby Stevens	July 31
Martha Galvin	Aug. 3
Zane Zirkle	Aug. 8
Katherine Genthe	Aug. 10
Marissa Beckman	Aug. 14
Connie Cortright	Aug. 16
Ronald Deichler	Aug. 17
James Genthe	Aug. 17
Alison Thoms	Aug. 19
Kelly Burns Stith	Aug. 21

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Paul Hessel	Aug. 21
Jeffry Berrens	Aug. 22
Brett Galvin	Aug. 22
Amalia Paronto	Aug. 22
Oliver Grasse	Aug. 25
Katherine Burfeind	Aug. 28
Temish Christiansen	Aug. 29
Stephanie Coleman	Aug. 29

BAPTIZED *June 5, 2021:*
John Lawrence Mintman, *son of Mark & Ann Mintman*

TRANSFERRED IN
On June 1, 2021:
Andrew Hoffman
N13W5446 McKinley Ct.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
email: andrewh.0575@gmail.com
Cell phone: 262-353-6474

On June 7, 2021:
Gabriel & Rebekah Frusti
20650 West Court St
New Berlin, WI 53146
And children Jacob, Levi, Zoe, Ava
Gabriel's cell: 262-365-3730
his email: gfrusti85@gmail.com
Rebekah's cell: 414-484-9895
her email: bekahjoy87@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Added to LMC membership June 17, 2021:
Suzanne Witas
3928 N Frederick Ave
Shorewood, WI 53211
email: sjwitas@gmail.com
Cell phone: 414-324-6192

TRANSFERRED TO *Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI on June 15, 2021:* Paul Arthur Himsel

Food Drive for Hope Lutheran Church

Please bring your donations of canned or dry food items **to the blue barrels** here at LMC. **Mary-Martha Circle will pack up your food gifts and deliver them** to Hope Lutheran Church Food Pantry. Thank you to all who take part in helping to feed the hungry this summer.

Church Picnic is Sunday, July 11, following coffee hour. Join us for live polka music, food, and fun.

Once again LMC's annual summer picnic will be held outdoors on church grounds. Here are some pictures from former years:

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH AT LMC:

GOD'S FELLOW WORKERS

BY JULIE WOHLRABE, IO DIRECTOR

Eleven years ago, Bessie Fick re-energized the international ministry at Luther Memorial Chapel, and the Missouri Synod's International Student Ministry, known as ISM, found a solid home in Shorewood, eight blocks north of UWM. Incidentally, ISM began 25 years ago, and in 2010, became a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. There are 79 ISM groups around the country, and we are one of seven in Wisconsin.

Prior to 2002, University Lutheran Church, directly across from UWM on Kenwood Blvd., had been a campus ministry, and there were a handful of international undergraduate students who would join in their activities. In 2002, that church was closed, and the South Wisconsin District asked LMC in Shorewood if they would be the church home to nearby Lutheran college students. That is when the University Student Center (USC) began at Luther Memorial Chapel and was supported financially by the SWD for many years. Between 2002 and 2010, again, there were a handful of international students, and a few LMC members taught ESL (English as a Second Language). But it wasn't until Bessie arrived in 2010, working part-time for **two** separate ministries, that the international mission really picked up.

It began as a ministry of friendship, hospitality, and teaching ESL classes to international undergraduate students, as Bessie and volunteers would weave the love and message of Jesus Christ in how they served the internationals, ultimately serving our Triune God.

In those early years, Bessie would set up a table at the UWM Student Union and tell international students about ISM, inviting them to the church for ESL classes, and at the beginning, this was how new people came to LMC. Later, it was by word of mouth. During that same timeframe, Bessie would speak at area churches about the international mission at LMC, inviting those interested to serve alongside her. This is how several volunteers got involved, including me. When Bessie's husband, Jeff, received a call to southern Illinois, Bessie resigned as the part-time ISM coordinator in late spring of 2017. Around that time, to better identify the international people served and still maintain the ISM connection, our local name was changed to International Outreach, iO. Volunteer Nancy Wolck designed a beautiful new logo and her husband, John Wolck, agreed to be the volunteer coordinator for one year. In 2018, Luther Memorial Chapel chose to pursue a full-time director through a Partnership Grant from the South Wisconsin District, and I was installed as the full-time director in September 2018.

Since 2010, our program grew with both volunteers from several churches and internationals from 14 countries, although the majority were from China, and most were visiting scholars. They came for one year, often bringing a child, and a spouse or parent to care for the child. We provided as many as 12 to 14 classes per week, offering various levels and types of ESL classes, such as grammar, pronunciation, and conversation, using ESL materials as well as the Bible; we had a Sunday morning Bible reading class; we had our evening Children's Program and what eventually became, in my opinion, the anchor of our program, our Thursday evening Worldview Conversations class.

Our Exchange Room provided much needed free things such as various kitchen items; bedding and soft goods; warm coats/gloves/scarves/boots for various ages; car seats, booster seats, toys and books for children; bicycles. We even had retired Deputy

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Sheriff, Jeff Button, helping with security on Thursday evenings and during our events just in case we needed it.

We offered group events for as many as 80 internationals in the way of dinners and activities for all ages, and during all seasons, such as Easter celebrations, with egg hunts for the children, a wonderful meal, a Power Point program for all ages explaining what Easter truly is; we also had a similar type of event for our Christmas celebration; we had strawberry picking and apple picking; we had pumpkin carving; Thanksgiving dinners; visits to The Domes and museums; attending symphonies and concerts; we even had volunteers open their home on Pewaukee Lake where 70 internationals and volunteers would play, eat, talk, laugh and go boating, which became an annual event (not in 2020). It takes a lot of willing helpers to make these large events happen, but we had, and still have, enthusiastic volunteers, knowing that we are all God's fellow workers!

We also had one volunteer open her home for large gatherings and potluck meals, as well as other volunteers opening their homes for smaller get-togethers, private dinners, and private conversations, many of which resulted in questions about Jesus, about faith in Christ, about wanting to know MORE about our Lord. Some of our volunteers were blessed with the opportunity to see unbelievers become believers in our Holy God!! To have the pastor privately catechize these former atheists from Communist China, and then, in the quiet of a random time of day, very secretly, again, hearing them profess belief in our Holy Triune God, and then, being privileged to be their sponsor, standing side by side with them as they are being baptized into the family of Christ!!! What an honor!!!

Of course, this all happens because of our God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit! God makes this happen! He connects us for His purposes, and He gives all of us opportunities to work in His Kingdom.

You remember when the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 4:6-9, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers."

Many of you have heard me say this, but as my family prepared to live in Japan years ago, I heard a missionary who had spent decades there say, "As vineyard workers, some of us plant, some of us weed, some of us water—but God gives the growth. For 20 years, I was tossing rocks from the soil, dispelling untruths about Christianity. I don't need to see the fruit of my work, that is in God's hands and in His perfect timing."

It was the early 2000s when a young Chinese visiting scholar was doing research in Indiana. She was trying to prove evolution. During her time in America, she was connected to a program like iO and was given a Bible, later returning to China. When she could not prove evolution was true, she began reading about Creation in this Bible. Yes, she became a Christian! She was baptized, along with her seven-year-old daughter and then, four years ago, her husband was baptized. This family attended an underground church in China. Eventually, they sent their daughter to St. Paul's Lutheran High School in Concordia, Missouri, and now, she is a sophomore at Concordia University in Mequon!

The story of this student's mother coming to faith in

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INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH AT LMC:
GOD'S FELLOW WORKERS

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Christ over time like that is a reminder that no matter what is going on in our world, in our country, in our towns, in our churches, in our families, and in ourselves, we Christians, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, can carry on. We are God's fellow workers! How is He using you for His purposes?

Thinking about God's precise and intimately personal connections between His people, I want to share the story of how God worked divinely through people who did not know one another, and how those God-directed connections resulted in our wonderful Worldview Conversations class.

Remembering that Bessie Fick started in 2010 and would speak at area churches about fundraising and new volunteers, she spoke at my church in Whitefish Bay, Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, in 2011-2012, and a woman named Deb Madigan accepted Bessie's invitation to become a volunteer. The following year, there was a small group of men, visiting scholars from China, that met Bessie at the UWM Student Union who accepted her offer to come to LMC, where they attended ESL classes. In the early summer of 2013, during a Strawberry Picking event, Deb was next to a Chinese scholar, low to the ground picking berries. He inched himself closer to where she was and with his index finger to his lips, very quietly whispered to her, "Shhhhh, Debbie, I am a Christian, on milk, I am hungry for more." He told her that this was very serious and very dangerous, and that the other scholars must never know this about him. I will refer to this visiting scholar as Paul, which is not even his chosen English name, but this is done for his protection as a Christian, living in Communist China, a country whose government is determined to persecute Christians, as well as Muslim Uighurs. Deb promised Paul that she would do whatever she could to help him, and they both were overjoyed, though trying to contain their enthusiasm so as not to let the others know what had been spoken. Deb shared that she did not know how she would keep her promise, but she knew, without any doubt, the Holy Spirit was at work and guiding her.

Around that same time, Deb's father, retired LCMS Pastor and Missionary, Pastor LeRoy Hass, had been in a car accident, and she found herself at his church, Hope Lutheran Church, more frequently. There she met a woman named Karen, who loved studying the Bible and playing organ, and was extremely interested in worldwide mission work. Deb shared with Karen about the Chinese scholar, Paul, who was craving to know more about Christ. Could she recommend someone to teach a Bible study? Karen gave Deb a list of three men. The first two men had to decline because of medical issues. Karen had said the third man was quite busy teaching other classes and doing various things, but Deb called him anyway. This man agreed to teach on a trial basis. After their first class, it became apparent that a traditional Bible study would not meet the needs of the other visiting scholars that Paul was bringing with him to the class. So, the two of them began meeting privately one-on-one, when Paul shared that it had been his secret intention to seek out deeper instruction in the Christian faith while in America! This group class continued and soon became known as Worldview Conversations. That was late summer 2013, and that man was Karen's brother, Tim Albers.

Deb, along with John and Nancy Wolck in early 2014, were supportive volunteers who also attended Worldview Conversations, and as I mentioned earlier,

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from my perspective of overseeing the entire program, this was the anchor class for iO. Although that is not to diminish in any way the importance of the various ESL classes, along with the relationship-building that happens in that instruction (which the many volunteers would certainly agree with). I began as a volunteer teacher in 2016 and it is absolutely true that many warm, Christ-centered conversations and friendships are built in those classes, too.

Now back to our Thursday evening Worldview Conversations class: through God's grace, the thought-provoking Power Points, along with Tim's calm voice and Cheryl's friendliness, brought many visiting scholars, starting with Paul and that first group of scholars, to meet in the cozy upstairs library at LMC (which Deb fondly referred to as "The Upper Room"). Plus, those with a child knew the Children's Program was a safe, fun place for them. Eventually, the Worldview Conversations class grew so big that a larger room was required. Such a blessing!

Remembering that these visiting scholars are deep and serious thinkers, Tim would prepare well researched and documented, clearly written Power Point slides, and his topics included many and various aspects of science; evolution; the human body; the miracle of birth; philosophy; "The Big Questions of Life," as he and Cheryl would say. These presentations were always given through a Christ-centered lens, a Christian worldview. They were providing an inviting friendship-based, proactive defense of the Gospel.

These scholars were quite intrigued, often asking for Power Point copies. When their year was finished and they went home, they continued asking, because those who had become Christians, and those strongly leaning toward believing in Christ, wanted more! In 2014, Tim and Cheryl began Skyping, and seven years later, they are still Skyping! Amazing! I have only scratched the surface of how God has connected His people, using ALL the iO volunteers, with all the classes, the events, the activities, the dinners, the private conversations, all for HIS purposes. Yes, we are God's fellow workers!

As I wrote earlier, Deb's father was a retired pastor and missionary, but didn't mention where he served – yep, Japan AND China – our God, what an amazing Master Connector!!! Remember Paul, the Chinese scholar who whispered to Deb in the strawberry patch, and said, "I am a Christian, I am hungry for MORE?" Deb had arranged for Paul and her dad to spend time together before Paul returned to China. Then in the spring of 2017, Deb's father was dying, and she called two dear elderly Japanese women friends, Fumiko and Eiko, and they, along with Deb, sang hymns in Japanese with her dad. Then she called Paul in China, who answered immediately and with a picture of Martin Luther behind Deb's father in the background, on April 1, 2017, while on his deathbed, Paul and her dad recited the Lord's Prayer together in Mandarin Chinese. After a brief time, Pastor Hass was gloriously gathered to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

God is our Divine Connector, and again, it's not about us, it's about Him. He connects us for HIS purposes because we are His fellow workers, so that people may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing, they will have life in His name, for all eternity. This is most certainly true!

And then … 2020.

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INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH AT LMC:
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Back to the Word of God: "For God, who said, "'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed." (2 Cor. 4:6-9).

Yes, such important verses for all of us, and especially for me as the director of iO, watching our incredibly powerful, productive, exciting, fulfilling international outreach crumble before my eyes, before our eyes. Yep, those in-person classes, events and activities all stopped. The Chinese visiting scholars returned to China and none have come since. In fact, my UWM International Department contact told me there have been zero visiting scholars from any country. There is no word on the fall semester, but I'll be speaking with her in August. Unlike Bessie eleven years ago, I haven't been allowed into the UWM Student Union to set up a table and tell people about iO. Maybe this fall?

Like many organizations and establishments worldwide, iO looked quite different this past year, and still does. But our Skyping volunteers have not only continued with their original Skype sessions, they've added even more, including a Bible class for international friends which other volunteers attend; an apologetic question and answer session on science and the Bible; along with discipleship and applying the Christian faith to everyday situations. These are not casual conversations. Another volunteer, Kim Hernandez, who was our Sunday morning Bible reading teacher, continues the same class on Friday nights. John and Nancy Wolck have also been Skyping, including Nancy with a Russian-speaking lady she first met some years back.

None of these internationals are in Wisconsin; they are either on the East coast or outside of the United States.

As for in-person get-togethers, I have stayed in touch with a few undergraduate UWM students from Spain and China; a few CUW international students; and some local internationals in the neighborhood, helping with English, sharing God's Word, and helping one woman with her citizenship test. Jeff Button recently shared that he too is helping a few internationals with their English.

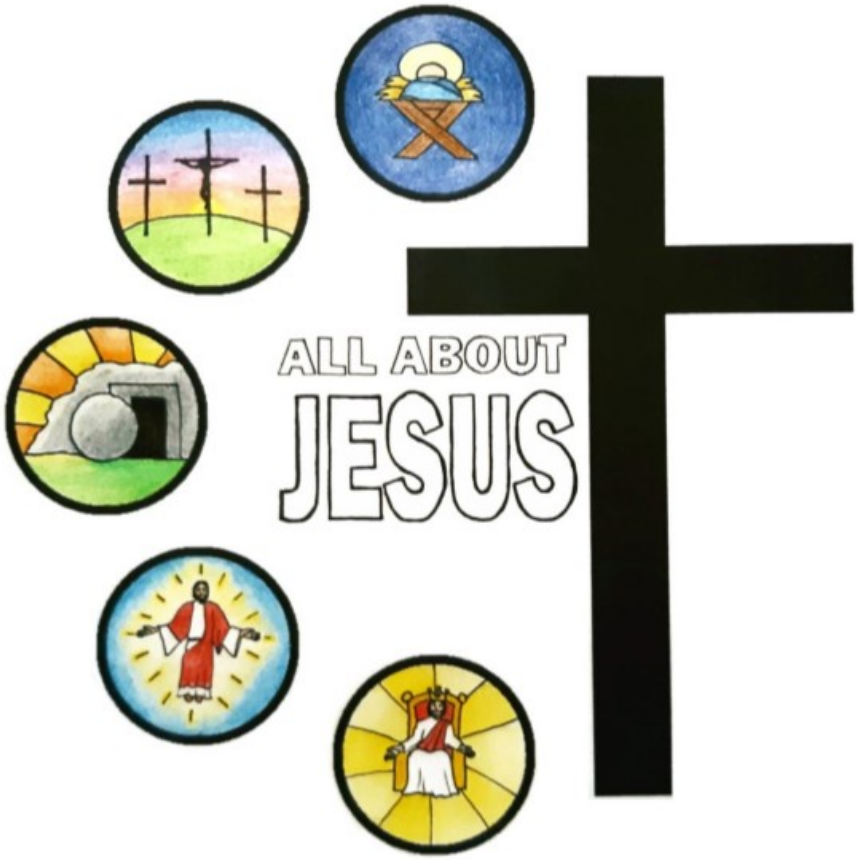
On the iO bulletin board at Luther Memorial Chapel, the following Bible verse has been posted since March 2020: "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer" (Rom. 12:12).

Where will iO go from here? Where and how will we find new internationals? Will there be a paradigm shift? Thankfully, we can rejoice that God knows the answers and that He will direct us. Our Provider will provide for us. Our Master Connector will connect us. We are His fellow workers in His kingdom.

We will continue to be patient and constant in prayer, and we will continue to do what we are doing. Hopefully, I will set up a table at the UWM Student Union in September, just like Bessie did over a decade ago, and invite students to our iO program. It's in God's hands.

If any of you have thoughts and ideas for iO, please contact me and please pray for the future of iO. Remember, God is our great connector. Look how He connected those willing workers to form the Worldview Conversations class! They didn't even know each other. But God knew each one of them and HE brought them together. In God's kingdom, we are honored to be His fellow workers!

Vacation Bible School 2021



July 26-30, 9:00-11:45am

Luther Memorial Chapel &
University Student Center

3833 N Maryland Ave, Shorewood, WI

Christ-centered Bible stories, crafts, music, based on the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed.
Play and snacks included.

Every day starts with Matins at 9:00am

Adults & teens are welcome to stay for
Bible study, food, fellowship & music.

To sign up, please email jengrasse1993@gmail.com
Include number and ages of the children. Put VBS in the subject line.

July 2021 at LMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	28 **7:00 PM** Divine Service	29	30 **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	1 **8:15 PM** Fighting Sheep Softball at Sijan Field, 2800 Kinnickinnic Ave.	2	3 **8:00 AM** Confession
4 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	5 **7:00 PM** Divine Service	6	7 **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	8 **6:15 PM** Fighting Sheep Softball at Sijan Field, 2800 Kinnickinnic Ave.	9	10 **8:00 AM** Confession
11 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:30 AM** Church Picnic at LMC	12 **7:00 PM** Divine Service	13 **6:00 PM** Trustees	14 **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	15 **8:15 PM** Fighting Sheep Softball at Sijan Field, 2800 Kinnickinnic Ave.	16	17 **8:00 AM** Confession **9:00 AM** Book Club
18 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	19 **7:00 PM** Divine Service **7:00 PM** MAHL in LMPR	20	21 **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	22	23	24 **8:00 AM** Confession
25 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	26 **9:00 AM** Vacation Bible School **7:00 PM** Divine Service	27 **9:00 AM** Vacation Bible School **6:30 PM** Church Council	28 **9:00 AM** Matins **9:00 AM** Vacation Bible School **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	29 **9:00 AM** Vacation Bible School	30 **9:00 AM** Vacation Bible School	31 **8:00 AM** Confession

Next LMC Book Club Saturday, July 17

We will read and discuss ***The Four Loves*** by C. S. Lewis.

In English we have one word for love, but the Greeks had four different words! Storge (empathy), Philia (friendship), Eros (romantic), Agape (unconditional, sacrificial love). C. S. Lewis explores the nature of love and reflects that human love is a reflection of divine love.

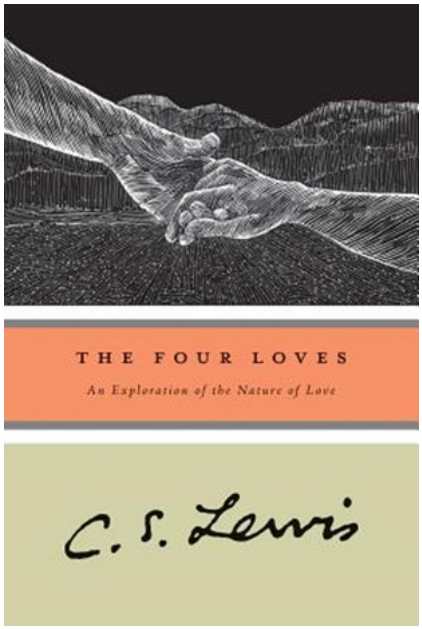
Schedule

9 a.m. Matins in the Small Chapel

9:30 a.m. Discussion

10:30 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. Depart



August 2021 at LMC

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	**2** **7:00 PM** Divine Service	**3** **6:30 PM** Elders	**4** **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	**5**	**6**	**7** **8:00 AM** Confession
8 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	**9** **7:00 PM** Divine Service	**10** **6:00 PM** Trustees	**11** **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	**12**	**13**	**14** **8:00 AM** Confession
15 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	**16** **7:00 PM** Divine Service	**17** **Due date for items for September *Chapel News***	**18** **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	**19**	**20**	**21** **8:00 AM** Confession
22 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	**23** **7:00 PM** Divine Service	**24**	**25** **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	**26**	**27**	**28** **8:00 AM** Confession
29 **8:00 AM** Divine Service **9:00 AM** Divine Service **10:15 AM** Coffee Hour & Fellowship **10:45 AM** New Member Catechesis	**30** **7:00 PM** Divine Service	**31**	1 **9:00 AM** Matins **7:00 PM** Basketball in Gym	2	3	4 **8:00 AM** Confession