

LIFELINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (972) 867-5588

Fax: (972) 985-5588

Internet Home Page: <http://planolutheran.com>

Vol. 36, No. 6

Plano, Texas

June 2022

Dad's books

Whenever I visit my dad's house in Iowa, one of the things I enjoy doing is pouring over his bookcases. The shelves are filled with Bible commentaries, volumes of Luther's Works, nearly everything on or by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, various current books on theological topics, different editions of the Book of Concord, various theological journals and things of this nature. I never run out of something to read at my Dad's house and the questions, "Dad, are you done with this one? Do you mind if I borrow it?" are asked more than once.

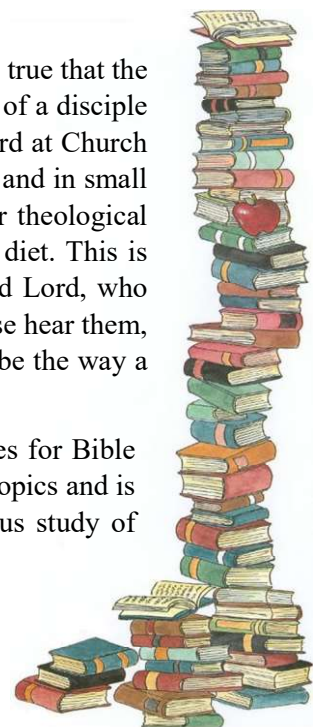
Given the substance of my dad's library, you might think my father was also a pastor, but you would be wrong. My dad is not a pastor, nor the son of a pastor, though he is the father of two pastors –yours truly and my brother, Mark, whom I lovingly refer to as "Pastor Shaltanis the Lesser" (I started calling him that to give my older brother a hard time, but he responds that it is only true that I am "greater" because I outweigh him by 80 pounds!) But our dad is not a pastor. So, why then does he have so many "professional" books? Is he a scholar? A Bible study leader? Nope and Nope. My dad doesn't have so many theological books because he needed them for work. My dad has them because he enjoys learning and he took this task seriously as a leader in the church. He was an elder in the church for years and at other times he was the chairman of the congregation or on the church council in some capacity. At all times he was an avid volunteer at the church and he is also what one would call a serious student of the Word and a student for life.

In this regard, I have tried to emulate him and so many others like him. It is most certainly true that the Christian is never finished studying and learning. Confirmation is not graduation. The life of a disciple of Jesus is one of discipline, including a disciplined study of the Word. We study the Word at Church when we hear it read and proclaimed and ponder its meaning, likewise during Bible class and in small groups and personal devotions. Such a regular interaction with the Word and spiritual or theological writings is not just something for pastors, but it is an essential part of every Christian's diet. This is made clear in the Collect for the Word that we pray from time to time, saying: "Blessed Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning, grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them..." [TLH version] What a great way to describe the way a Christian studies and internalizes the Scriptures.

To help and aid you in your study of God's Word, there are currently many opportunities for Bible Study available at Lord of Life. The library at church is also full of books on a variety of topics and is regularly having new books added to it. If you would like to get started in more serious study of God's Word, and need some direction, just let me know.

See you Sunday,

PrS



prepare for worship in June

June 5: The Day of Pentecost

Texts: Gen. 11:1-9; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:23-31

Hymn of the Day: "Come, Holy Ghost, God and Loird," 497

June 12: The Holy Trinity

Texts: Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31; Acts 2:14a, 22-36; John 8:48-59

Hymn of the Day: "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest," 498 or 499

June 19: Second Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: Is. 65:1-9; Gal. 3:23-4:7; Luke 8:26-39

Hymn of the Day: "Rise, Shine, You People," 825

June 26: Third Sunday after Pentecost

Texts: 1 Ki. 19:9b-21; Gal. 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Hymn of the Day: "'Come, Follow Me,' the Savior Spake," 688

*"I will pour out my Spirit
on all people."*

Joel 2:28, NIV



Recently Engaged!

Congratulations to
Nick Moudy and
Lauren Chumbley!!!



**Congratuations to
Noah and Emma Ziegelbein
on their high school
graduation!!**

Teen Times

“SUMMERTIME”

Another school year is in the books (pun intended)! The season of summer for a tween or teenager used to be 3 months of sleeping in, hanging out with friends by the pool or at the movie theater, going on a family vacation, and catching up on relaxation that has been in short supply for the last 8 – 9 months. However, the times we live in today have changed those seasonal teenage expectations, and now it is quite a bit different. Sure the vacations and family excursions are still present, but long gone are the weeks of sleeping 12 hours a day and playing video games and hanging out with friends for the other 12 hours.

The summer months now include camping trips with Scouts or week long summer camps away from the technological stimulation. The athletes spend time traveling to soccer and baseball tournaments or basketball and football camps while the musicians attend a marching band camp or two. For those who are of age, part-time employment might come into the picture which helps them get experience for the years following high school graduation. And for the young adults who just graduated high school, preparing for their first year at college becomes priority; making sure paperwork is in order, class schedules are set, housing is arranged, tuition is covered, scholarships approved, and freshman orientations are attended.

The summer plans for the IMPACT youth ministry have a staple activity as well. In July, 5 youth and 4 adults will attend the Higher Things youth conference at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. We plan to join nearly 1000 other LCMS youth, chaperones, parents, and pastors for 4 days of worship, Catechesis, fellowship, and fun. The conference theme this year is “FOR YOU” based on 1 Corinthians 15:1-2.

“Brothers, I am making known to you the Gospel that I preached to you, that you received, in which you stand, and through which you are saved.”

The idea of summer used to be “three months off,” but it is quite the contrary today. Summer months are just as busy as the rest of the year for most people. The challenge is to make sure that you are still spending time with God in His Word, and with fellow believers in His church. Enjoy your summer and all of the things that go with it, but make sure to be joyful for what God has done “FOR YOU!”

Until next time,
Scott Peters



What Do You Have That You Have Not Received?



Some of the disciples of John the Baptist were questioning him about the baptism and preaching of Jesus. John the Baptist replies to their questions in this way: “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven” (John 3:27).

Now, John the Baptist says this to show that Jesus, His teaching, and His baptism are from heaven. But this statement is true of everything – everything that we have and are in body and soul. In fact, this is what we are taught in the meaning of the Apostles’ Creed in *Luther’s Small Catechism*.

In the explanation of the Creed’s First Article, we learn that God has made us and everything in the universe. Luther says:

“He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.”

In the Second Article of the Creed, we learn that God sent His Son, Jesus, to humble Himself, taking the form of a servant. Luther writes:

“(Jesus) 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.”

In the Third Article of the Creed, we learn that the fruits of what Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did are given to us through the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church. Luther explains:

“That I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.”

Indeed, a person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. But how easy is this for us to forget about this?

How easy is it for us to think that what we have in this life is because we have earned it? How easy is it for us to forget that even all our skills, the abilities of our hands and minds – the very ethic to work diligently and to seek to get better at these skills – is given to us from heaven, just as John the Baptist said? How easy is it for us to forget that it is Christ alone – and the work of the Holy Spirit – that reveals His salvation to us, delivers it to us, and not our doing?

Sure, we have responsibility for coming to church, for delving into God’s Holy Word, and for praying without ceasing. But even these responsibilities are given to us from heaven, not to earn anything but in response to what He has accomplished for us.

A person cannot receive one thing unless it is given to him from heaven. Everything we have, and everything we are – in both body and soul – are gifts from God in heaven. Let us then respond in thanksgiving and give back to Him as He asks us to – with a first-fruits, generous proportion offering of what He has given to us.

Lord of Life Small Groups

EPIC PARENTING

- † For 30ish couples with kids
- † For info contact Ben Scarth
BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com
- † Usually meet one Sunday a month in the afternoon or evening

FRUITS OF THE VINE CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Scott Peters at 972-898-3351 cell or speters@planolutheran.com
- † Usually meet one Sun. a month at 5:30 PM

GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Mike Kunschke at (847) 951-6974
- † Usually meet the 2nd Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Will meet Sat., June 11 at 3:00 PM

COLLEGE GROUP

- † For students in college or recent grads
- † For info contact Pastor Shaltanis at PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com
- † Usually meet after the late service for lunch and Bible study

Thank you to everyone who
help out at our



Your help was greatly appreciated!!!



- 1 Jeff Prescott
- 1 Gary & Shannon Nuschler (48)
- 4 Randy Rippey
- 4 Sean Tweedie
- 8 Scott & Jonelle Peters (31)
- 10 Al Manning
- 13 Tony Hernandez
- 14 Tim Wood
- 14 Jack & Nelda Schrank (64)
- 15 Kristen Klein
- 16 Larry & Judy Dibbern (60)
- 19 Thomas George
- 19 Hunter & Alexis Starr (1)
- 20 Kaitlyn Hacker
- 20 Jake Tyler
- 20 Mark & Carrie Ziegelbein (24)
- 21 Athan Shaltanis
- 21 Tony Vess
- 21 Karl & Debbie Olsen (47)
- 21 Pastor Joel & Phaedra Shaltanis (25)
- 23 Tim Tischler
- 23 John & Vicki Frinksko (37)
- 24 Sue Parson
- 26 Samson Carter
- 26 Jim and Christi Hampton (51)
- 29 Chris Dorak
- 29 Melanie Scarth
- 29 Helen Wozniak
- 30 Greg Moudy

Lord of Life Lutheran Church
Summarized Statement of Activity
4 Months Ending April 30, 2022

	Y-T-D Operating Funds	Y-T-D Budget	Variance	Jan-Dec 2022 Budget
Contributions				
Regular Offerings	\$184,485	\$186,292	(\$1,807)	\$560,692
Other	\$37	\$0	\$37	\$0
Total Income	\$184,522	\$186,292	(\$1,770)	\$560,692
Expenses				
Benevolences	\$12,914	\$13,040	(\$126)	\$39,248
Elders	\$130,709	\$128,768	\$1,941	\$386,297
Education	\$194	\$300	(\$106)	\$1,000
Outreach	\$94	\$200	(\$106)	\$600
Office Expenses	\$3,775	\$3,630	\$145	\$12,090
Utilities	\$9,878	\$11,355	(\$1,477)	\$33,415
Property Maintenance	\$13,160	\$6,580	\$6,580	\$34,440
Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$350
Family Ministries	\$684	\$1,020	(\$336)	\$5,290
Youth Board	\$2,165	\$2,600	(\$435)	\$6,100
Children's Ministry	\$273	\$1,950	(\$1,677)	\$6,700
Admin Council	\$990	\$850	\$140	\$2,600
Total Operating Expense	\$174,837	\$170,293	\$4,543	\$528,131
Mortgage Payment	\$36,708	\$10,320	\$26,388	\$30,960
Total Expenses	\$211,544	\$180,613	\$30,931	\$559,091
Surplus or (Deficit)	(\$27,023)	\$5,679	(\$32,701)	\$1,601
Other Information:				
Operating Fund Balance	\$108,202			
Restricted Funds Balance	\$128,506			
Building Loan Balance	\$121,778			