



Our Savior

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

2900 Burton Street SE + Grand Rapids, MI 49546 + 616.949.0710 + www.oursavior-gr.org

Love: The Necessary Ingredient

In last month's newsletter I began a look at 1 Corinthians chapter 13 by giving an overview of the chapter and its teaching on love. I noted there are three major sections to 1 Corinthians 13: the necessity of love (vv. 1-3); the character of love (vv. 4-6); and the permanence of love (vv. 8-13). This month's focus is the necessity of love, verses 1-3.

It was a pretty embarrassing moment. A buddy and I had gotten to work at the golf course extra early. We wanted to get the job done before it got too hot that day. We were using a gas-powered machine on the greens.

It went great—until we had one green left. I was walking the machine to that last green, when the engine stopped. I figured the gas tank was empty. It wasn't. The engine has seized because it had run out of oil.

With oil the engine worked great and all but one of the greens was finished. Without oil the engine didn't work at all. Consequently, the entire crew had to do that last green by hand. It took a long time. It was hot, awful work. For the rest of that hot day nobody was very happy with me.

Love is the oil for the body of Christ. With love there's almost no end to what can be done and learned. With love no one's upset if he doesn't get the credit—everyone's happy that something is getting done for the good of another. Love is always busy finding a way to serve. With love Christians grow in knowledge and they use that knowledge to better serve, to confess their Savior, to align their thoughts with the truth of God's word.

But without love everything's hard. We mistrust each other. We compete—not for fun on the court—but in meetings and conversations to get one up on others. We think it's "me" versus "them". We forget we're a team together, one body working together.

With love each part works its unique calling or vocation, yet all work together in harmony that the Church may proclaim Christ's love for us and show kind service. We're really helpful to each other. But without love we're just a useless collection of broken people. That engine was really useful, until it ran out

of oil. Like that machine with its seized engine, without love we're worthless.

Saint Paul begins this chapter on love to the Corinthians he loved:

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

(1 Corinthians 13:1-3 NKJV).

What we are on our own is nothing. What we need is love. And that's the beauty of our Lord's passion—Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection—it is unstoppable love for us and for all. "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10).

It is this forgiving love that is always delivered to you in the word of the Gospel, in absolution, in the Body and Blood of love incarnate, and in your baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection. It is this love of Christ for His Body the Church that flows to you and me. His love turns our selfish minds toward our neighbor, soothes the inevitable injuries we suffer from each other, and makes us use whatever the Lord has given us to help and encourage our hurting brothers and sisters.

Jesus always gives His love that bears all our sins, our failures, our incomplete works, and all the pains we've suffered too. He calls us: "Love one another as I have loved you." Rejoice! In this life His love never runs out for you!

Peace and Joy in Christ,
Pastor Fleming

Senior Saints

June 12 at noon.

Bring your own sandwich; drinks and dessert provided. Program will be a "little bit of Orville and Wright."

Mighty Mites:

Financial support for LCMS Prison and Jail Ministry Conference - \$27,500



Recognizing that resources and training events should be made available to clergy and lay volunteers interested in all types of prison and jail ministry, the LCMS plans its second synod-wide Prison and Jail Ministry Conference in 2012 - 2013. A grant from LWML funded the first such conference in 2005, attended by 100 lay and clergy participants from 25 LCMS districts, and LWML will fund the second one to further this important ministry.

Help Out Camp Concordia

Summer is fast approaching and the camp is always in need of items to make the summer a better one. We take new items and old ones in good condition.

We always need:

Push Brooms	Plastic Trash Cans
Dustpans	Kleenex
Copy Paper	Rubber Gloves
Band-aids (Latex Free)	(Latex Free)
Canned Vegetables	Cleaners (e.g. Lysol,
Triple Antibiotic	Scrub, Bubbles)
/Neosporin	Box Fans
Brooms	

If you would be willing to donate any of the above items, simply leave them in the office in the box marked "Camp Concordia". Thanks for your support.

Women in Fellowship

May Meeting Recap

Flowerland's Kathy Rome gave us a lot of helpful hints on ways to plant and fertilize in order to have beautiful flower-filled pots this summer.

June 5, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Quilting Bee @ Fellowship Hall

Come for as long as you can. Questions? Contact Judy.

June 11, 7:00 to 9:00 PM (Note time change)

Women in Fellowship – regular meeting

"Fellowship, Floats, and Fun" Bring a game and/or craft supplies for Lutheran Child and Family Services "Family Fun Nights". We'll also have some "fun" of our own playing a couple of "Norma's Games"!

No WIF meetings in July and August

Office Secretaries' Schedule

We are moving to a reduced summer schedule. The office will most likely be open 9-12 every day, but we might be out and about. Please call ahead so we know to expect you.

LIFEWALK 2013 – June 15

Get those walking shoes on and gather your family and friends to join us as we walk 2 miles around the campus of Cornerstone University on East Beltline Ave. This year's walk will be on Saturday, June 15 at 9:00 a.m., registration anytime between 8:00 and 8:45 a.m.

LIFEWALK is a fun way to raise awareness and funds that support the life-saving work of the Pregnancy Resource Center, here in Grand Rapids. So please consider raising pledges for this very worthy cause. If you have questions, please contact [Debra](#).

Our Savior Lutheran Track Meet

Thank you very much to the parents and alumni who gave their time and talents to run the events at our track meet on Friday, May 24. Five other area Lutheran schools joined us for an exciting day.

Thanks also to all who helped run the concessions stand. Through their work and the matching funds which Thrivent Financial for Lutherans North provided, we were able to provide \$962 toward medical expenses of a school family.

Lutheran Radio and Television

- * THE LUTHERAN HOUR. 105.7 FM at 6:30 AM & 1680 AM at noon.
- * WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS WTLJ-TV 54 in Grand Rapids, Sundays at 11:30 AM. Also on DirecTV channel 377
- * KFUO Synod's radio station. You can listen on line at www.kfuo.org.

Our Savior School News

Important Dates

June 4, School Board
 June 6- 7, No Afterschool Extended Care
 June 6, Graduation (7pm)
 June 7, Last Day of School – ½ Day
 June 7, Awards Ceremony (8:30 am), Chapel (11:00 am)
 June 7, PTL Picnic (6:30 pm)
 June 8, BVNA Dumpster Day @ School Parking Lot
 June 14, Report Cards Mailed

Summer Scrip Orders

Scrip will run through summer thanks to our dedicated PTL! Please put orders and checks in Stephanie's mailbox at church by the Sundays listed below.

Scrip Dates: 6/16, 6/30, 7/14, 8/4, 8/18

Visit the Creation Museum

Messiah Lutheran Church is sponsoring a trip to the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky on **August 8, 9 and 10!**

The Creation Museum is designed so that visitors experience history in an unprecedented way. The state-of-the-art 70,000 square foot museum brings the pages of the Bible to life, casting its characters and animals in dynamic form and placing them in familiar settings. It will be the focus of a great trip that will be enjoyable and educational for all ages.

The three-day, two-night trip has been put together by Gail Andrus Travel of Grand Rapids. The trip cost of *\$409 per person* includes:

- Air-conditioned motor coach transportation
- Two night's accommodation (double occupancy) in Cincinnati, Ohio
- Admission to the Creation Museum & Kentucky's Newport Aquarium
- Two continental breakfasts & one dinner
- And more activity options!

Only 40 spaces available! A deposit of *\$100 per person* is required to make your reservation **by June 10**. If you would like more information or have questions, contact Sandy Inman at [616-363-9706](tel:616-363-9706).