



Resurrection Lutheran Church

105 S. Reed Ave Malvern, OH 44644

resurrectionlutheranmalvern@yahoo.com

www.resurrectionlutheranonline.com

August-September

2016

Blessed Are You

By [Adriane \(Dorr\) Heins](#) on June 22, 2016 in [Lutheran Witness, Web-exclusive Stories!](#)

by Tony Oliphant

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you” (Matt. 5:11-12). While it’s easy for many to remember this passage from the Beatitudes, it’s a much harder thing to actually rejoice and be glad when we hear all the slander against Christians in nearly every media outlet. We’re being branded and dismissed: bigot, hater, transphobic, anti-choice, anti-gay, anti-love, nearly any epithet that can be invented is being invented in order to write off all who make their stand on the Word of God.

As if that weren’t bad enough, sometimes we make the matter worse. We betray our confession when we hide the truth. This happens by not confessing what our Lord has given us through our words and actions or by simply trying to make ourselves unseen by anyone. We receive a strong warning against this type of behavior from Jesus:

Blessed Are You(cont).

“And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man will acknowledge before the angels of God, but the one who denies me before me will be denied before the angels of God” (Luke 12:8-9). We also betray our confession when we change it by caving in to societal pressures and name-calling from cultural pundits and media regulators. Tragically, this has been the reaction of many as they seek to dodge the insults of a corrupted culture. But again, we are warned: “If salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet” (Matt. 5:13).

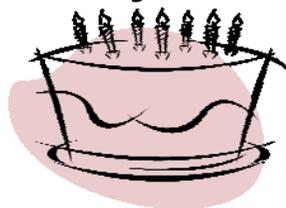
If those are the wrong reactions, what are the right ones? Follow in the example of the saints who encountered a hostile culture and widespread false accusations. Speak the truth as the Apostles did when they were called upon to do so (Acts 2:14ff, 4:5-12, 24:10-21). Cling to what the Scriptures teach, even when it looks like the world is against it, as the Lutheran Confessors did before the Holy Roman Emperor at the presentation of the Augsburg Confession. Teach the truth in the arenas where God has placed you, in your daily vocation, where the truth of what we teach intersects with everyday life. Fathers and mothers nurture the children God has given them with the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Pastors preach the Law to reveal the lies of the devil and the world and show the shining light of the Gospel to console shaken and terrified consciences. School teachers instruct and reveal the marvels of how God has created and ordered creation. Administrators are free to make use of agencies and laws in the left-hand kingdom in order to uphold everything that is needed for speaking the truth. We all have different vocations and different roles—and that’s good. We can speak the truth in places that have been entrusted to us.

Furthermore, like the saints of old, and as our Lord has taught us, we can pray as the baptized children of God. We can pray for those who speak evil about us. We can pray that we would be kept steadfast and faithful by the Holy Spirit and the Word. It may not be easy, but it is good and it is heard by our Father in heaven. The world will always reject the truth and seek some new exciting lie to embrace, but our faith has never been in this world. We can rejoice in all of the treasures won for us on the cross of Jesus and, by the grace of the Triune God, cling to the Truth in word and deed.

Rev. Tony Oliphant is pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Elmhurst, Ill.

Aug—Sep Birthdays

August	Day
Kara Williams	1
Adam Champer	4
Kimberly Crowl	9
Richard Sarbach	11
Mark Klotz	12
Martha Moyer	12
Clint Devine	13
George Buch	14
Margaret Klotz	30



September	Day
John Campbell	2
Vivian Maury	10
Jacob Maury	12
Robert Crowl	15
Cody Starkey	22
Fredrick Straight	23
David Vasil	26
Joseph Crowl	29

NATIONAL LWML MISSION GRANT CORNER

August 2016

Number 6 on the LWML Mission Grant list for the 2015-2017 biennium is; "Hope and Healing to the Navajo People, Rocky Mountain District". This Grant will be used to implement Gospel-oriented programs for men, women and youth. The Navajo Nation is the largest native people in the United States. A parsonage and guest house were built for Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Navajo, New Mexico in 1969 by the Rocky Mountain District LWML. In 1979 an LWML Mission Grant funded the construction of an educational wing for them. This \$75,000 grant will help to fund programs such as; youth camps, after-school enrichment programs, Boys/Girls Clubs, men's Bible study groups, abused women's support group, women's health education, and trips to share their faith with other Native people groups.

As I missed submitting a Mission Grant in June, I will tell you about two this month. The 7th Grant on the list is; "Outreach in Refugee Camps in Lebanon". The word of God is brought to Lebanon through Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)-Lebanon, known locally as Middle East Lutheran Ministry (MELM). The \$72,000 grant is for outreach to 15,000 at-risk women and children with humanitarian supplies; the trucking of, storage of, and distribution of those supplies. It also includes funding for printed materials and support staff. This is coordinated locally through the Middle East Lutheran Ministry center in Lebanon where they reach out to camps throughout the Bekaa Valley region of eastern Lebanon.

MELM also reaches out to struggling communities through Vacation Bible Schools and through programs that provide clothing and school supplies for children. The center provides emergency care for people such as the Syrian families and individuals who have sought refuge in Lebanon from the civil war in their homeland.

RESURRECTION 'S MISSION WORK

In May we donated 471 rolls of toilet paper to Carrollton Loaves & Fishes. As always, they were very appreciative of our help.

June's Mission money went to Cross-eyed Mission & July's support went to Refuge of Hope Men's Shelter in Canton.

Next month (August) we will be holding another toilet paper drive for the Malvern Christian Care Center. The drive will begin August 7th and run through the 21st. The need is great & they depend upon our generosity to help serve the those in need in our area.

Women of Faith

June Meeting

The Women of Faith Society met on June 14, 2016 with four members present; Marlene Crawl, Martha Moyer, Carolyn Starkey, Kathy Bortz. Marlene read devotions.

Secretaries report was read and approved.

Treasurer's Report was read. Martha explained how the Mite money is divided up.

65% goes to District LWML

25% goes to National LWML

10% goes for expenses

Old Business: Discussed about having a picnic in park, no decision was made.

New Business: Martha gave a report on the SELC LWML Convention. Nona Schiplull, District Treasurer will be coming on July 20 to teach us to make banners, and District Officers will meet here for a meeting. Next Meeting will be July 12 at 1:00. Martha made a motion to adjourn and Carolyn Starkey 2nd the motion. Closed with prayer.

July Meeting

The Women of Faith Society met on July 12, 2016 with four members present; Marlene Crawl, Martha Moyer, Carolyn Starkey, Kathy Bortz. Devotions were read by Marlene.

Minutes were read with 2 monetary corrections, amended minutes were approved. Treasurer's Report was given.

Old Business: Martha reported Nona Schiplull, District Treasurer will be coming on July 19th to teach the group how to make banners, and District Officers will meet at our church on July 20th.

New Business: No meeting in August. Martha made a motion to do a basket for Dancing on the Bridge, 2nd by Carolyn. Martha suggested we buy back-packs for Grain Train. Kathy made a motion that Martha do paperwork for Trivent for help with back-packs, 2nd by Carolyn. Closed with prayer.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Wednesday Evening Bible Study is continuing, every Wednesday night @ 7:00pm. We are currently studying **The Christian's Mission** in the CPH Lifelight Bible Series. Please Join Us

Resurrection Supports Jon Carpenter as He attends Concordia Theological Seminary as part of our Mission Efforts.

This year we have chosen to sponsor a son from St. John's, Massillon as our seminarian. Jon & Shannon Carpenter with their two young children Alexander & Elliana moved to Fort Wayne the middle of June. Jon began his studies this summer in preparation to become a pastor in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Our prayers are with them as they begin this new phase in their lives & we ask God's Blessing on Jon as he begins his studies.

Doctrine and Mission: The Purpose of Synod Meetings

By [Adriane \(Dorr\) Heins](#) on July 27, 2016 in [From the President, Lutheran Witness](#)
by Friedrich Pfothenhauer
translated by Matthew C. Harrison

This was Pfothenhauer's first address as district president, delivered in 1892 to the Minnesota and Dakota District. Pfothenhauer later served as Synod President from 1911–35. His words are a beautiful, urgent admonition for synod conventions to be, above all, doctrinal and to be doctrinal in order to be about mission.

It has pleased God the Holy Spirit to explicitly describe the first Christian council, which took place in the year 50 at Jerusalem, in the 15th chapter of Acts, which was read to begin this session. Allow me now, beloved fathers and brethren ... to attempt to demonstrate that our synod assembly is essentially like that at Jerusalem. ...

The text [Acts 15:1ff] tells us first of all why the congregation at Antioch desired to have a synod session. False teachers threatened to cause confusion, and the unity in the Spirit was in danger. Thus the council would deal with doctrine. We hold synods for the same reason. . . . We come together, rather, to examine a definite doctrine and to deepen our understanding of the saving knowledge. . . .

The congregation at Antioch chose representatives, namely, Paul, Barnabas, and certain members of the congregation. ... Our synod meetings are not gathering of pastors, but gatherings of congregations and their representatives.

Doctrine and Mission: The Purpose of Synod Meetings(cont.)

Thus the lay delegates have the same voice and place as the pastors. . . .

When the synod had gathered at Jerusalem, they immediately began to deal with the matter of doctrine. The doctrine of Christian freedom was a burning question. ... From God's Word they convincingly demonstrated that one must not continue to lay the yoke of Moses upon the necks of the disciples. Salvation comes only through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ ...

But the first synod at Jerusalem dealt not only with doctrine, it also dealt with mission. It says: "And they declared all that God had done with them" [Acts 15:4]. "And all the assembly fell silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles" [Acts 15:12]. Also at our sessions, the mission [of the Church], after the treatment of doctrine, takes the most time. Our dear traveling preachers have given their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. . . . In so doing, they move us to holy determination to take the Word of God ever further and to work ever more diligently. ...

Our Confessions also testify that along with the advancement of understanding of the pure doctrine, the mission should be the chief matter of a synod. Luther writes in the Smalcald Articles:

I should be very happy to see a true council assemble in order that many things and many people might derive benefit from it. . . . we see so many vacant and desolate parishes everywhere that our hearts would break with grief. . . . Those people cannot hear Christ speak to them as the true shepherd speaking to His sheep. [SA Preface 9–11; Tappert, 290].

Let us come together in order to give counsel from the Word of God where there is need of our counsel . . . Let us come together in order to sit around the honeycomb of the divine Word and eat and speak there from. Oh, how sweet it is—to encourage, to carry on the work of the mission!

Excerpted from *At Home in the House of My Fathers:*

Presidential Sermons, Essays, Letters, and Addresses from the Missouri Synod's Great Era of Unity and Growth (CPH, 2011), pages 695–99

LCMS Youth Meeting in New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering

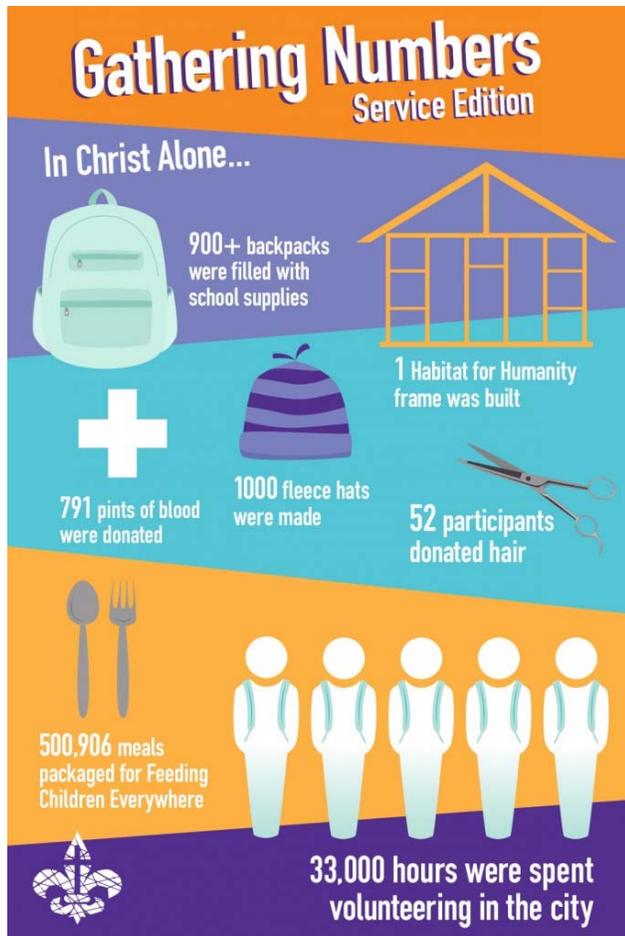
The Youth of the LCMS met together in New Orleans the week of July 16, 2016.

The LCMS is a praying church. On July 16, 2016, 25,000 youth and adults gathered for the 2016 LCMS Youth Gathering. Their Themes “In Christ Alone we stand”, “You are Loved” were reflected all of the events.

The participants had opportunities to Worship, pray and serve.



The participants of the 2016 LCMS Youth Gathering spent a lot of time in service this week. We give thanks for the ways in which the youth echoed the love of Christ in



IN CHRIST ALONE – TAKE ON HIS HUMILITY

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”
Philippians 2:3–4

In this stage of your lives, putting yourself aside for someone else is not always the first thing that comes to mind. In Paul’s Letter to the Philippians, he has joy and confidence in sharing the presence of Jesus in his life. From prison, he writes about his joy in the Lord. I am not sure that too many of us, if we were writing from a prison, could be joyful and even share the desire for others to know Christ.

As we leave the 2016 Gathering and go out into the world, an important question to ask ourselves would be, whom can I begin to serve a little more each day? Are there people in my life who need me to show love to them through what Christ did for me on the cross? What one person in my life exemplified humility so that I could see Christ’s love, a love that I had not seen before, and it **rocked** my whole world?

Maybe your world has not been rocked yet, and you are taking life for granted. Or you haven’t quite figured out how to get beyond yourself. Take a daily walk in God’s Word so you can be reminded that you don’t have to go it alone. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians is an encouraging message to reflect the same attitude, demonstrated through a lifestyle of mutual service.

You might ask, “You mean, we should live our lives as Christ lived His?”

What does that mean? It simply means being humble enough to serve others and see beyond our own brokenness—then thanking Jesus for taking it all to the cross.

Prayer: Dear Father in heaven, thank You for the opportunities that You give me each day that are not about me, but about serving You. Help me to be mindful of Your sacrifice on the cross and to become humble in my selfish world. Please let me strive to follow You one step at a time and be faithful and rest in You with confidence. In Christ alone I will find Your perfect peace. Amen.

Cara D. Hougesen—Community Life Builder—Trinity Lutheran, Indianapolis, IN

Resurrection Lutheran Church Prayer Chain

We continue to pray for

Jane Haun, David Devine, Elaine Ritterling, Florence Richards, Larry Perrin, Bill Rine, Kathy Wanner, Maxine Frere, Justynne Hodge, Rozelle Stephens, and David Kintz.

We are also prayer for Alex Barnett, Dwayne Starkey, Danny Starkey, Kurt Warrick, and all those serving our country at home and abroad.

Please keep Pastor McLeod up to date on these requests.

Reformation Relevance: ‘Only God rules over the soul’

By [Paula Ross](#) on July 7, 2016 in [Reporter](#), [Resources](#)

In his “Temporal Authority: To What Extent It Should Be Obeyed” from 1523, Luther distinguishes the two kingdoms of church and state and the types of law that govern each. In particular, he notes that when it comes to the salvation of souls, only the Word of God should be taught and accepted. — Editor

It is to be noted first that the two classes of Adam’s children — the one in God’s kingdom under Christ and the other in the kingdom of the world under the governing authority, as was said above — have two kinds of law. For every kingdom must have its own laws and statutes; without law no kingdom or government can survive, as everyday experience amply shows. The temporal government has laws which extend no further than to life and property and external affairs on earth, for God cannot and will not permit anyone but himself to rule over the soul. Therefore, where the temporal authority presumes to prescribe laws for the soul, it encroaches upon God’s government and only misleads souls and destroys them. We want to make this so clear that everyone will grasp it, and that our fine gentlemen, the princes and bishops, will see what fools they are when they seek to coerce the people with their laws and commandments into believing this or that.

When a man-made law is imposed upon the soul to make it believe this or that as its human author may prescribe, there is certainly no word of God for it. If there is no word of God for it, then we cannot be sure whether God wishes to have it so, for we cannot be certain that something which he does not command is pleasing to him. Indeed, we are sure that it does not please him, for he desires that our faith be based simply and entirely on his divine word alone. He says in Matthew 18 [16:18],

Reformation Relevance: ‘Only God rules over the soul’ (Cont.)

“On this rock I will build my church”; and in John 10 [:27, 14, 5], “My sheep hear my voice and know me; however, they will not hear the voice of a stranger, but flee from him.” From this it follows that with such a wicked command the temporal power is driving souls to eternal death. For it compels them to believe as right and certainly pleasing to God that which is in fact uncertain, indeed, certain to be displeasing to him since there is no clear word of God for it. Whoever believes something to be right which is wrong or uncertain is denying the truth, which is God himself. He is believing in lies and errors, and counting as right that which is wrong.

Hence, it is the height of folly when they command that one shall believe the church, the fathers, and the councils, though there be no word of God for it. It is not the church but the devil’s apostles who command such things, for the church commands nothing unless it knows for certain that it is God’s word. As St. Peter puts it, “Whoever speaks, let him speak as the word of God” [I Pet. 4:11]. It will be a long time, however, before they can ever prove that the decrees of the councils are God’s word. Still more foolish is it when they assert that kings, princes, and the mass of mankind believe thus and so. My dear man, we are not baptized into kings, or princes, or even into the mass of mankind, but into Christ and God himself. Neither are we called kings, princes, or common folk, but Christians. No one shall or can command the soul unless he is able to show it the way to heaven; but this no man can do, only God alone. Therefore, in matters which concern the salvation of souls nothing but God’s word shall be taught and accepted.

— Excerpted from Martin Luther, *Luther’s Works*, Vol. 45: *The Christian in Society II*, ed. Jaroslav Jan Pelikan, Hilton C. Oswald, and Helmut T. Lehmann, Vol. 45 (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1999), 105-106. Repro-

Men’s Club Pancake Breakfast

Dancing of the Bridge is quickly approaching. On Saturday September 10th from 7:00 am to 12:00, The Men will again put on their pancake breakfast. Please plan to attend. If you can assist with the prep or serving please contact Tom Maffet or Pastor McLeod.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS