
CONNECTION

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Mesquite, TX

October 2019

THE LANGUAGE OF THE LIE VS. TERMS OF TRUTH

An unparalleled gift of humanity is language: alphabets, lexicons, dictionaries, grammars. All of these mark the human enterprise and differentiate us from other species. Humanity thrives through words—sung and spoken, oral and written, prose and poetry, chapter and verse. Words are the crowning currency of our communication.

WORDS DO MATTER.

Words can soar to the sublime ... or they can descend to the depths. The way we use words can either clarify and correct or distort and deny. One of the skillful, if subtle, means of distorting truth is the euphemism. A euphemism is “a mild or less direct word used rather than one that is blunt or offensive”. Such wordplay can be somewhat innocent ... or even humorous. By virtue of being 5’7”, I am “vertically challenged”. Our Victorian sensibilities have changed the toilet room into the bathroom, restroom, or water closet. Toilet paper then becomes bath tissue ... although it would be rather useless in a bathtub. Euphemisms for death are most famous: passed away, fallen asleep, dearly departed ...

Some of the most dangerous euphemisms come from politics. George Orwell famously wrote that “political language is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable.” Torture becomes “enhanced interrogation.” The murder of innocents becomes “collateral damage.” Such deceitful use of words whitewashes the truth and blinds us to that which is morally wrong. We take something brutal and ugly and try to hide it, obscure it, sanitize it, and sugarcoat it. The language of the lie becomes not only dangerous but evil.

HUMAN LIVES COUNT ON AN HONEST USE OF LANGUAGE ... SO DO THE LIVES OF ANIMALS.

This October 6 at 5:30 pm, we’ll gather for our 26th Annual Blessing of the Animals. We sometimes call it a pet blessing because our urban environment limits the animal kingdom in our midst ... yet cat or dog, turtle or hamster get celebrated because they bring such feelings of joy to our lives ... and because they too are creatures of feeling and joy.

Each creature, in turn, is cherished by us with words of blessing ... and a treat! Yet, while we share words of blessing, the world uses words of curse to hide what goes on behind closed doors. Euphemisms blindfold us to protect our emotions from the cruel carnage that we inflict upon God’s creatures. “Food Processing Plants” describe the slaughterhouse where animals are skinned alive, scalded to death, hacked apart ... sometimes while they’re still conscious. “Feedlots” shield us from the systematic annihilation of millions of cattle. In “stockyards”, animals are “harvested”, denying them their dignity and denying us the sight of their suffering, anguish, and pain. “Game animals” are caught defenseless in a game that they cannot win. “Livestock” become something stored on a shelf in a warehouse. Such euphemisms turn animals into commodities while turning us into, perhaps, something less than animals. They reveal us as heartless rather than compassionate ... and without compassion we are less than human.

DEEP DOWN, WE KNOW THIS ISN’T RIGHT, AND, DEEP DOWN, WE KNOW WE CAN DO BETTER.

The Bible doesn’t mince words when it comes to the truth ... or when it describes feeling. Biblical words take us deep down. In the New Testament Greek, the word for feeling doesn’t come from the heart, but from the gut. Deep down in



our gut, we understand feeling and compassion for others. The Old Testament Hebrew locates our feelings of compassion deep down with the word for womb. We are all mothers in the Bible, who care for, who feel for others as if they were our own beloved offspring.

THE BIBLE’S WORDS HELP US ABANDON THE LANGUAGE OF THE LIE FOR THE TERMS OF TRUTH.

For when we say the truth, write the truth, even sing the truth...that truth just may set us—and our animal friends—free.

Sunday School Teachers and/or Assistants wanted!

Sunday school class with starting back up October 6th.

We have a small group of children that attend regularly. They are mixed ages from Kindergarten to 6th grade. Would love to have two separate aged classes of lower elementary and upper elementary kids.



We use a very easy curriculum that is very easy to just jump right into with very little prep time on most lessons.

Would just be 1.5 hours total volunteer time each week. Would even accept two people willing to team teach!

If you have any questions, please contact me, Lisa Holmes at lisa.holmes63@gmail.com or call or text, 469-371-8252. Please leave a message if I do not answer.

Thank you for your consideration!

Blessings to you and your family and to the OSL children!

Lisa Holmes, Education Director

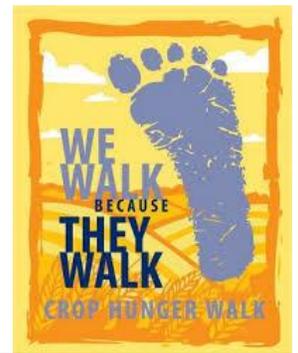
September 29: The Festival Sunday for Saint Michael and All Angels



The air is all awash with angels on September 29th—all 3 services! Come celebrate a church festival that is pure joy! All angels are welcome, but you don't have to be angelic to celebrate these celestial messengers.

Your Shoes Are Made for Walkin' **November 3rd, 2pm**

Until we walk in their shoes, it's difficult to understand the needs of the hungry and homeless around the world. Church World Service understands. Through the CROP Hunger Walk, churches around the nation march against hunger—both locally and globally. CROP challenges you to put on your walkin' shoes **Sunday, November 3**, for a 10K walk against hunger. Join us for the CROP Walk—it's good for your sole! (This year's walk begins at the south edge of Audubon Park. Get pledge forms from Pastor Schelter.)



Fall Behind

Set your clocks back before you go to sleep Saturday night, November ~

With an extra hour of sleep, we should all get to church on time. We may even start on time!



All Saints Day

For our All Saints Worship, November 3, we will remember saints from Our Savior as well as saints from the past. Near the end of each worship service, we'll read the roll call of saints whose cross has been exchanged for the crown of eternal glory. If you would like to include the name of a close friend or a loved one who has preceded us in death in the faith of our Lord, please write their names on the All Saints Worship Scroll before or after worship.



Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 6, 5:30 pm

Come Rover, Come Fluffy: Come one and all to the 26th Annual Blessing of our Pets!



This is an all animal, all age event for our church and our community! Bring dogs, cats, gerbils, rabbits, fish, birds, or any pet small enough to transport to church. Photos will highlight this year's Pet Blessing. You may add a picture of a pet (living or deceased) to a pet photo gallery, and we will again take pet photos for a keepsake certificate. Other plans are in the works to support a local animal shelter or *Paws in the City* in caring for stray and homeless pets. Caution! We will have NOT ONE lost pet! Please make sure your pet is appropriately restrained by leash, carrier, or cage. After the pet blessing, we will bless each other with fellowship and food—hot dogs and snacks. Special treats for the pets! Invite a neighbor!

Nancy's Health Notes

Life has so many challenges that sometimes we don't know which way to turn. Many issues we have no control over and that can lead to frustration. Being able to realistically separate those challenges from ones we can influence and control is a large task. However, this separation helps the individual focus on issues that can result in positive change.

Let's use personal health as an example of activities we can control. Granted there are medical conditions out of our control. We understand we do not have control over our skin color, eye color or hair color – unless you are friends with Lady Clairol. These are all characteristics we inherit from our parents and multiple generations. There are also disease processes that we can inherit that have no choice about.

Now let's be more positive. There are many choices we have to improve our health.

I have repeatedly encouraged everyone to keep current with age appropriate immunizations. Now is the time to receive the flu shot if it is not contraindicated. There are two strengths – the smaller for people 6 months to 64 years and the high dose for people 65 and over. Ask your health care provider what they have recorded and what they recommend for complete coverage.

Eating has become a large part of our social lives. Going out to eat or grabbing fast food has changed our nutritional intake. As a result a large portion of the population has become obese. Obesity is the one factor we have at least some control over that can have a detrimental effect on health. The incidence of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease are increased with obesity.

If one desires to lose weight the place to start is a physical exam and a referral to a dietician. Sound goal setting is important – not fad diets. Dieticians can help plan reasonable real plans including appropriate nutrients. Add walking 30 minutes per day and you have a good start to improve your health.

Please do not be discouraged if you do not see immediate results – learn to think of small increments. An individual did not gain the extra weight over night. Being consistent with changes in eating habits and exercise are needed.

There are a multitude of benefits resulting from weight loss. Some of these are a return to normal blood pressure and cholesterol levels, which can remove the need for medications. Symptoms of diabetes can also be reduced including a lowering of A1C to less than 6 resulting in decreased medications. Less money spent on medications can decrease stress of worrying how to pay for it. Sleep improves for all ages and can eliminate the need for CPAP. Happy the spouse with no snoring!

One additional gain is a person's attitude and self-image. One can feel good about themselves and what they have accomplished. As weight decreases energy levels increase. Because sleep has improved and energy improves one is more alert and the days are more productive. As an individual shows success with changes in weight and overall health, they may never know the positive role model they have been to someone else who wants to improve their health.

Approach life's challenges with excitement and enthusiasm knowing God is with you.

Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9

Nancy Wilson, RN, FCN

BIRTHDAYS

Date	Name
2	Lisa Holmes
5	Chase Dannen Paul Hardi
7	Stephanie Cannon Marie Mazza
9	Bonnie Johnston
11	David Rountree Kris Semmler
12	Lucas Holmes
14	Jeffrey Combs Subi George
15	Charles Skyles
19	Jaylen Freeman Darren Mann
20	Angela Faaborg Stephanie Freeman
21	Avery Castilleja Victor Hunter Sally Nelson
22	John Ernst
23	Mitchell Belz Tristan Tran
25	Keith Bruneau
27	Jessica Davis
30	Tyler Faaborg

OCTOBER



WEDDING

ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Years
12	Brian & Shari Murphy
31	Subi & Laurie George
31	Kris & Shay Semmler



BAPTISMS

Date	Name
1	Debbie Lonon
3	Landon Hyatt Cori Peterson
6	Jamed Kratus
8	Robert Holmes
9	Karley Lewis Peyton Lewis
12	Sheri Hall
14	Amelia Holmes
16	Charlotte Dannen Kelsey Dannen
18	Jeremy Richardson
20	Julie Williams
23	Raymond Perez
25	Michael Conoly Sally Nelson Skip Rickmeyer
29	Linda Speake
30	John Lippincott



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	9/22-10/6		10/13-10/27	
	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00
Assisting Minister	Thane Katz	Chip Cannon	Lois Schelter	Randy Peterson
Greeter	Dave Shafer Beth Shafer	Lou Mazza Marie Mazza	Michael Lubben Cynthia Lubben	Nicholas McCabe Patti Preas
Ushers	Debbie Lonon Earl Herndon	Patti Preas Nicholas McCabe	Mark Hall Bonnie Johnston	David Anderson Jon Cook
Reader	Paula Fincher	Marie Mazza	Earl Herndon	Clinton Turner II
Communion Assistants	Paula Fincher Thane Katz	Shari Murphy Henry Williams	Carol Murray Dave Shafer	Richard Mastin Marie Mazza

ACOLYTES

	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Oct. 27	Nov. 3
8:30am	Yiyaine F. Mackenzie H.	Alicia V. Marie V.	Yiyaine F. Mackenzie H.	Alicia V. Marie V.	Yiyaine F. Mackenzie H.
11:00	Olivia R. Caroline F.	Jeremy R. Madison R.	Olivia R. Caroline F.	Jeremy R. Madison R.	Olivia R. Caroline F.

CONNECTION

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Mesquite Texas
Permit #98

Our Savior Lutheran Church

411 North Town East Blvd.

Mesquite TX 75150

Office: 972-226-0510

Fax: 972-226-0722

www.oslmesquite.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Worship—8:30am, 11:00am & 5:30pm

Sunday School—9:45am

Pastor—John Schelter



Bravo to a Blockbuster Birthday Bash!

Hats off to the heroes who made our 50th Anniversary a grand celebration. Listing names is hard to do because so many are inevitably left out... but we can at least start. David Anderson masterfully organized the church council, almost the whole church, and the momentum spread from there. John and Pat Mangham turned the gym into a fairy tale banquet hall. Ken & Paula Hester, Paul Cross & Karen Staton, Chris Anderson, Sally Nelson, Pat & John, Paula Fincher, Bonnie Johnston, Brian Murphy (with Tim and Tessie!), Julie Williams, Amy Ismail, Richard Mastin, and so many others pitched in to serve, set up, clean, and help wherever needed, that the whole church deserves a great big “Thank You.” Preparatory work included Paula Fincher’s invitations and the constant presence of Loretta Cannon getting addresses, making displays, and doing behind the scenes work to make things happen. Speaking of preparatory work, who’s on board to start planning our 100th Anniversary Extravaganza?

REFORMATION RALLY!

Now that Reformation 500 is a distant memory and we’ve finished our travels to Wittenberg, Augsburg, and Leipzig, what next? Since October 27 is Reformation Sunday, how about one last Marty Party to review, recollect, and recap all we’ve learned. We’ll have fun, food, and games. What games, you may ask? We’re planning on Reformation Wheel-of-Fortune and Reformation Jeopardy and a really great time—including a new “official” Reformation ballad to Marty Luther! What food, you may ask? Comfort foods, finger foods, and whatever foods you might want to bring to make our Marty Party one last blast from the past! October 27, 5:30pm.



OCTOBER 2019



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Each Sunday 8:30am Worship Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service 5:30pm Worship Service		1 9:30am Mother's Day Out	2 7:30pm Confirmation Class	3 9:30am Mother's Day Out 10:30am Granny Group	4	5 8:00am Men's Basketball
6 5:30pm Pet Blessing	7 Bishop's Convocation 10/7-10/9	8 9:30am Mother's Day Out	9 7:30pm Confirmation Class	10 9:30am Mother's Day Out 10:30am Granny Group	11	12 8:00am Men's Basketball
13 12:30pm Council Meeting	14 7:00pm Lesson Study	15 9:30am Mother's Day Out	16 7:30pm Confirmation Class	17 9:30am Mother's Day Out 10:30am Granny Group	18	19 8:00am Men's Basketball
20 12:30pm Nursing Home Service	21 7:00pm Lesson Study	22 9:30am Mother's Day Out	23 7:30pm Confirmation Class	24 9:30am Mother's Day Out 10:30am Granny Group	25	26 8:00am Men's Basketball
27 5:30 Reformation "Marty Party"	28 7:00pm Lesson Study	29 9:30am Mother's Day Out	30	31 <i>Reformation</i> 9:30am Mother's Day Out 10:30am Granny Group		