

# ***Announcements***

- ◆ A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests, friends both old and new. We pray that God has blessed your time among us with His Word and Holy Spirit. We cordially invite you to join us this morning for coffee and other refreshments downstairs following the Divine Service; and we ask that you please sign the guest book at the back of the church.
- ◆ Following coffee & refreshments, our Family Bible Class continues a study of First Samuel. Parents and children, youth and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in this class together. (Catechesis class for the younger catechumens also meets during this same time.)  
  
Care for the younger children (under four years of age) is provided in the nursery downstairs, so their parents and families are able to attend the class.
- ◆ Sandra Rhein is at Christ Lutheran Church in Cleveland, Ohio, this morning, giving a presentation on the Kenyan Hymnal Project. On Tuesday of this week, she'll be traveling to Kenya for several weeks of work on the Project. Please remember her in your prayers as she travels to and fro, and as she works in service to the Lord's Church. Our sincere thanks to Mrs. Anne Mangelsdorf for serving as our organist this morning, in Sandra's absence.
- ◆ Throughout the sacred season of Lent, in addition to the usual Vespers on Monday evenings, there will typically be Lenten Vespers each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., and a brief, spoken Divine Service each Friday at 9:00 a.m.  
  
As in past years, there will be soup supper served prior to the Wednesday evening Vespers, from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. One and all are welcome to enjoy the good soup and to share that opportunity for fraternal fellowship.  
  
This Wednesday (24 February), happens to be **the Feast of St. Matthias, the Apostle**, which we will celebrate with the Divine Service at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Today, following Catechesis and Bible Class, will be another opportunity for craft and recreation time together as an Emmaus family. Soup or chili will be provided, and anyone who would like to stay and participate is invited to bring a two-liter bottle of soda or a dish to pass, etc.
- ◆ Officers of the congregation, if you have not yet submitted an annual report for A.D. 2009, please do so by the end of February, if possible. Thanks.
- ◆ The Altar flowers this morning have been provided by Walt Sanders to the glory of God, in loving memory of his brother, Leslie.

◆ COLLECTIONS FOR 14 FEBRUARY 2010: \$2661.22

In order to meet our financial obligations and commitments, an average of \$1940 is needed each week.

◆ IN THE LORD'S SERVICE THIS MORNING:

(ELDER) Walter Sanders; (USHERS) Curt Dare & Erik Horner;  
(ACOLYTE) Martin Horner; (ORGANIST) Anne Mangelsdorf;  
(GREETERS) Dorothy Rummel & Marilyn Dulmatch.

◆ Rev. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor Home Phone: (574) 233 – 0574

◆ Rev. Gifford Grobien, Assistant Pastor Home Phone: (574) 231 – 9572

## ***On the Epistle to the Galatians***

*“It is not useless for Paul to admonish the hearers of the Word to share all good things with those who teach. He says to the Corinthians: ‘If we have sown spiritual goods among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits?’ (1 Cor. 9:11). Therefore hearers should minister in their material needs to those from whom they have received spiritual benefits. But today the peasants, the townspeople, and the nobles only abuse our doctrine to get rich. Formerly, under the dominion of the pope, there was no one who did not pay something to the priests annually for so-called anniversary Masses, vigils, etc. The mendicant friars had their share too. Trade with Rome and the daily offerings also got something. Our people have been set free from these and endless other exactions by the Gospel. But they are so far from being grateful for this freedom that they have been changed from prodigal donors to thieves and robbers, who will not give even a pittance either for the Gospel or for its ministers or for the holy poor. This is the surest possible sign that they have already lost the Word and faith and have been excommunicated from our blessings, for it is impossible that true believers would permit their pastors to suffer need. But because they laugh and poke fun when their pastors suffer some sort of adversity, and because they deny them their support or do not give it as faithfully as they should, it is certain that they are worse than heathen. Soon they will learn by experience what calamities will follow this ingratitude, for they will lose both their material and their spiritual goods.*

*“It is inevitable that grave punishment should follow this sin. I am sure that the only reason why the churches in Galatia, Corinth, etc., were so confused by the false apostles was that they had neglected their faithful teachers.*

*“Finally it is the utmost justice that someone who refuses an obol to the God who offers every good thing and eternal life should end up giving a gold piece to the devil, who offers him every kind of calamity and eternal death. Whoever is not willing to serve God in a small way for his own great advantage, let him serve the devil in a big way to his own supreme loss. Only now that the Word is shining do we see what the devil and the world are.*

*“When Paul says ‘all good things’ (Gal. 6:6), this is not to be taken to mean that everyone should share all his possessions with his preacher. No, it means that he should provide for him liberally, giving him as much as is needed to support his life in comfort. The word for ‘him who is taught’ (Gal. 6:6), i.e., ‘catechumen,’ is familiar to anyone who knows Greek.*

*“‘Do not be deceived; God is not mocked’ (Galatians 6:7). The Apostle is so serious in advocating this topic of support for preachers that he adds a threat to his denunciation and exhortation, saying: ‘God is not mocked.’ With this he hits the nail squarely on the head so far as the morals of our own countrymen are concerned. In their utter smugness they look down on our ministry and regard it as some sort of joke or game. And so they try, especially the nobles, to make their pastors subject to them as though they were vile slaves. If we did not have a prince who is as pious and devoted to the truth as ours is, they would have driven us out of this territory long since. When the pastors ask for their pay or complain that they are suffering need, they exclaim: ‘Priests are greedy! They want to have an abundance of every good thing. No one can satisfy their insatiable greed. If they were truly evangelical, they would have to give up all private property, follow the pauper Christ as paupers, and bear every indignity.’ Paul addresses a horrible threat here to fine fellows of this kind, who do this sort of thing and yet want to give the impression that they are not poking fun but are true evangelicals who worship God religiously. ‘Do not be deceived,’ he says, ‘God is not mocked.’ It is as though he were saying: ‘Surely you have not deceived God, but only yourselves. You will not mock God, but God will mock you.’ There is a well-known little verse that says: ‘You have not deceived me, your teacher, but yourself.’ But the headstrong nobility and the peasant class remain completely unmoved by this dreadful threat. When the death struggle comes, however, they will find out whether they have deceived themselves or us (though not really us but, as Paul says here, God Himself). Meanwhile, because they arrogantly despise our warnings, we are saying these things for our own comfort, so that we know that it is better to suffer injury than to commit it; for patience is always innocent. Besides, God will not permit us, His ministers, to perish of hunger; but when the rich suffer need and are hungry, He will feed us, and in the days of famine He will provide for us.”*

**(From Dr. Martin Luther’s Lectures on Galatians, A.D. 1535)**

# ***Walking with Our Savior this Week***

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>Divine Service of Communion</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	Catechesis / Bible Class	10:45 a.m.
	Craft / Recreation Time	12:00 Noon

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b><i>Vespers</i></b>	<b><i>7:00 p.m.</i></b>
	Bible Class	7:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY**     *Pastor's Writing Day (but do call in cases of emergency)*

*Sandra Rhein leaving for a few weeks in Kenya*

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Soup Supper	5:30 p.m.
	THE FEAST OF ST. MATTHIAS, THE APOSTLE	
	<b>Divine Service of Communion</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>

**THURSDAY**     *Pastor's Family Day (but do call in cases of emergency)*

<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b><i>Brief Spoken Divine Service</i></b>	<b><i>9:00 a.m.</i></b>
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<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	<b>Divine Service of Communion</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	Catechesis / Bible Class	10:45 a.m.

*You may also want to keep in mind, in your observance of daily prayer at home:*

*This Wednesday (24 February) is the Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle  
Readings: Isaiah 66:1-2; Acts 1:15-26; and St. Matt. 11:25-30*

*The Appointed Readings for next Sunday, the Second Sunday in Lent:  
Jeremiah 26:8-15; Philippians 3:17-4:1; and St. Luke 13:31-35*