

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.
- ◆ This morning we glorify the Lord and give Him thanks for the recent high school graduates of our Emmaus family: Grace Ball, Eleanor Harrison, and Margaret Rhein. Please remember these three young ladies in your prayers, especially as they proceed with their college plans, and take an opportunity this morning to congratulate them as we share refreshments downstairs.
- ◆ Following coffee & refreshments this morning, our Family Bible Class will continue a study of Second Samuel. Parents and children, youth and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in this class together.

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.
- ◆ Acolyte training continues this morning, from 10:45 until 11:45 a.m. All current and aspiring acolytes (including candle-lighters, crucifers, and torch-bearers) should be in attendance. If you have a conflict, contact Pr. Grobien.
- ◆ This Tuesday (24 August), Emmaus will be gathered to celebrate the Feast of St. Bartholomew, the Apostle, in the Divine Service beginning at 7 p.m.
- ◆ **There will be Children's Choir Rehearsal this Wednesday (25 August) at 6:00 p.m., and next Sunday (the 29th) from 10:45 until 11:45 a.m.**
- ◆ Pastor Stuckwisch will be vested and available in the Emmaus Sanctuary for Individual Confession & Absolution this Saturday (28 August) from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. This means of grace and forgiveness is freely offered to be freely received in repentant faith. Those who may have questions about this Christian practice are encouraged to review the Fifth Chief Part of the Small Catechism, to examine the Rite of Individual Confession & Absolution in the Service Book (pp. 292–293), and to visit with either of our pastors.
- ◆ Even non-golfers still have a chance to make a “hole in one” for R.L.A. by participating in a “virtual golf outing.” Linda Levine will be collecting donations for a Resurrection Lutheran Academy scholarship fund over the next couple of weeks. For more info, please call Linda at 233–3462.

- ◆ Remember that our deaconess-elect, Mrs. Sandra Rhein, will be consecrated and installed to the Office of Deaconess at Emmaus next Sunday afternoon, the 29th of August, in the Divine Service beginning at 4:00 p.m. **Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of Pastor's study.**

Personal cards and gifts of congratulation to Sandra will certainly be appropriate. However, as a congregation, it has been suggested that designated gifts be gathered for the Kenyan Hymnal Project, in honor of Sandra's consecration and installation. If you would like to contribute in that way, simply place such a gift in the offering between now and the 29th, in a separate envelope marked for the Kenyan Hymnal Project. Thank you.

- ◆ As mentioned recently at our Sunday morning Family Bible Class, there will be a "New Member Information Class" beginning in September, meeting on Monday evenings (7:30 p.m.), following our usual Order of Vespers. This class will be a review of basic catechesis in the Christian faith and life, as well as a general survey of the Church's liturgical life in the means of grace. Interested "seekers," prospective new members, or anyone else of almost any age is welcome to attend the class. Each class will be about an hour.
- ◆ Those who may be interested, willing and able, are invited to designate funds toward the purchase and installation of Air Conditioning in the Emmaus sanctuary, nave and narthex. A very reasonable estimate has been received (under \$8000 total), which gives us something to work toward for next spring and summer (2011).
- ◆ Finally, to answer those who have asked, we need approximately \$250 at this point, in order to purchase a purple dalmatic for Advent and Lent.
- ◆ The flowers on the Altar this morning are provided by Pat Nering to the glory of God, in celebration of her goddaughter Rebecca Tribble's birthday.

- ◆ **COLLECTIONS FOR 15 AUGUST 2010: \$2182.33**

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

- ◆ **IN THE LORD'S SERVICE TODAY:** (ELDER) Robert Rhein; (USHERS) Nathaniel Rhein & Nicholai Stuckwisch; (ACOLYTE) Joshua Jordan; (ORGANIST) Sandra Rhein; (GREETERS) Robert & Herta Johnston.
- ◆ Rev. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor Home Phone: (574) 233 – 0574
- ◆ Rev. Gifford Grobien, Assistant Pastor Home Phone: (574) 231 – 9572

From the Lutheran Confessions

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

“XXI. The ‘Cult’ of Saints. It is also taught among us that saints should be kept in remembrance so that our faith may be strengthened when we see what grace they have received and how they were sustained in faith. Moreover, their good works are to be an example for us, each of us in his own calling. So His Imperial Majesty may in salutary and godly fashion imitate the example of David in making war on the Turk, for both are incumbents of a royal office which demands the defense and protection of their subjects.

“However, it cannot be proved from the Scriptures that we are to invoke saints or seek help from them. ‘For there is one Mediator between God and men, Christ Jesus’ (I Tim. 2:5), who is the only Savior, the only High Priest, Advocate, and Intercessor before God (Rom. 8:34). He alone has promised to hear our prayer. Moreover, according to the Scriptures, the highest form of divine service is sincerely to seek and call upon this same Jesus Christ in every time of need. ‘If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous’ (I John 2:1).

“This is just about a summary of the doctrines that are preached and taught in our churches for proper Christian instruction, the consolation of consciences, and the amendment of believers. Certainly we should not wish to put our own souls and consciences in grave peril before God by misusing His Name or Word, nor should we wish to bequeath to our children and posterity any other teaching than that which agrees with the pure Word of God and Christian truth. Since this teaching is grounded clearly on the Holy Scriptures and is not contrary or opposed to that of the universal Christian Church, or even of the Roman Church (in so far as the latter’s teaching is reflected in the writings of the Fathers), we think that our opponents cannot disagree with us in the articles set forth above.

“Therefore, those who presume to reject, avoid, and separate from our churches as if our teaching were heretical, act in an unkind and hasty fashion, contrary to all Christian unity and love, and do so without any solid basis of divine command or Scripture. The dispute and dissension are concerned chiefly with various traditions and abuses.

“Since, then, there is nothing unfounded or defective in the principal articles and since this our confession is seen to be godly and Christian, the bishops should in all fairness act more leniently, even if there were some defect among us in regard to traditions, although we hope to offer firm grounds and reasons why we have changed certain traditions and abuses.”

(From the Augsburg Confession, 1530)

