

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 refreshments today, our Family Bible Class continues a study of Second 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 meets with Pastor Grobien during this 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.
- ◆ Deaconess Rhein is presenting on the Kenyan Hymnal Project at St. Paul Lutheran Church in South Bend this morning. Thanks to her husband, Dr. Robert Rhein, for serving as our organist in her absence today.
- ◆ Ladies of college age and beyond are invited to gather for Bunco at Regina Grobien's home THIS EVENING (17 October), beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Pastor Stuckwisch will be attending the Indiana District Pastors' Conference this week, Monday through Wednesday morning. Please remember him and the other pastors of the district as they travel to and fro, and as they meet together for the study of the Word of God and for fraternal fellowship.
- ◆ Due to the pastors' conference, there will be no Monday evening Vespers, nor Basic Catechetical Review this week. These will resume on the 25th.
- ◆ However, there will be Wednesday evening catechesis and choir, as usual.
- ◆ Emmaus will be gathered to celebrate the Feast of St. James of Jerusalem, Bishop & Martyr, this Friday (22 October), Divine Service at 7:00 p.m.

And looking ahead to the following week, the Feast of St. Simon & St. Jude, the Apostles, will be celebrated on Thursday the 28th of October.
- ◆ Please note that the Emmaus Youth will be having a bake sale next Sunday (24 October). Let them know if you have any pre-sale special requests.

- ◆ It is time once again to renew (or begin) *Lutheran Witness* subscriptions. Please call the church office before the end of October to let Heidi know whether you are renewing, or if you wish to cancel or begin a new subscription. The cost per year is \$15.00 (but send no money yet). Thanks!
- ◆ COLLECTIONS FOR 10 OCTOBER 2010: \$1203.45
In order to meet our financial obligations and commitments, an average of \$1940 is needed each week.
- ◆ The Altar flowers this morning have been provided by Mr. & Mrs. Randy & Diana Fish to the glory of God, in celebration of their 42nd anniversary.
- ◆ IN THE LORD'S SERVICE THIS MORNING:
(ELDER) Walter Sanders; (USHERS) Erik Horner & Nicholai Stuckwisch;
(ACOLYTE) Nathan Jindra; (ORGANIST) Robert 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

“XXV. Confession. [Individual] Confession has not been abolished by the preachers on our side. The custom has been retained among us of not administering the Sacrament to those who have not previously been examined and absolved. At the same time the people are carefully instructed concerning the consolation of the Word of Absolution so that they may esteem Absolution as a great and precious thing. It is not the voice or word of the man who speaks it, but it is the Word of God, who forgives sin, for it is spoken in God’s stead and by God’s command. We teach with great diligence about this command and power of keys and how comforting and necessary it is for terrified consciences. We also teach that God requires us to believe this Absolution as much as if we heard God’s voice from heaven, that we should joyfully comfort ourselves with Absolution, and that we should know that through such faith we obtain forgiveness of sins. In former times the preachers who taught much about confession never mentioned a word concerning these necessary matters but only tormented consciences with long enumerations of sins. . . .”

“Concerning confession we teach that no one should be compelled to recount sins in detail, for this is impossible. As the Psalmist says, ‘Who can discern his errors?’ Jeremiah also says, ‘The heart is desperately corrupt; who can understand it?’ Our wretched human nature is so deeply submerged in sins that it is unable to perceive or know them all, and if we were to be absolved only from those which we can enumerate we would be helped but little. On this account there is no need to compel people to give a detailed account of their sins. That this was also the view of the Father can be seen in Dist. I, ‘De poenitentia,’ where these words of Chrysostom are quoted: ‘I do not say that you should expose yourself in public or should accuse yourself before others, but obey the Prophet who says, “Show your way to the Lord.” Therefore confess to the Lord God, the true Judge, in your prayer, telling Him of your sins not with your tongue but in your conscience.’ Here it can be clearly seen that Chrysostom does not require a detailed enumeration of sins. The marginal note in ‘De poenitentia,’ Dist. 5, also teaches that such confession is not commanded by the Scripture but was instituted by the church. Yet the preachers on our side diligently teach that confession is to be retained for the sake of Absolution (which is its chief and most important part), for the consolation of terrified consciences, and also for other reasons.”

“XXVI. The Distinction of Foods. *In former times men taught, preached, and wrote that distinctions among foods and similar traditions which had been instituted by men serve to earn grace and make satisfaction for sin. For this reason new fasts, new ceremonies, new orders, and the like were invented daily, and were ardently and urgently promoted, as if these were a necessary service of God by means of which grace would be earned if they were observed and a great sin committed if they were omitted. Many harmful errors in the church have resulted from this.*

“In the first place, the grace of Christ and the teaching concerning faith are thereby obscured, and yet the Gospel earnestly urges them upon us and strongly insists that we regard the merit of Christ as something great and precious and know that faith in Christ is to be esteemed far above all works. On this account St Paul contended mightily against the law of Moses and against human traditions so that we should learn that we do not become good in God’s sight by our works but that it is only through faith in Christ that we obtain grace for Christ’s sake. This teaching has been almost completely extinguished by those who have taught that grace is to be earned by prescribed fasts, distinctions among foods, vestments, etc. . . .”

(From the Augsburg Confession, 1530)

Walking with Our Savior this Week

TODAY **Divine Service of Communion** **9:00 a.m.**
Coffee & Refreshments Downstairs 10:30 a.m.
Catechesis & Bible Class 10:45 a.m.
Bunco at Regina Grobien's house 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY—WEDNESDAY Indiana District Pastors' Conference

WEDNESDAY Catechesis Class 4:30 p.m.
Children's Choir 6:10 p.m.
Evening Prayer **7:00 p.m.**
Youth Choir 7:30 p.m.

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

FRIDAY THE FEAST OF ST. JAMES OF JERUSALEM (*observed*)
Divine Service of Communion **7:00 p.m.**

NEXT SUNDAY **Divine Service of Communion** **9:00 a.m.**
Coffee & Refreshments Downstairs 10:30 a.m.
EMMAUS YOUTH BAKE SALE
Catechesis & Bible Class 10:45 a.m.

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

*This Saturday (23 October) is the Feast of St. James of Jerusalem
Readings: Acts 15:12–22a; James 1:1–12; and St. Matt. 13:54–58*

*The Appointed Readings for next Sunday, the Fifth in Angels' Tide:
Genesis 4:1–15; 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18; and St. Luke 18: 9–17*