

# ***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.
- ◆ In Family Bible Class this morning, we'll continue our new study, looking at the Book of Genesis. Parents, children, youth, and adults are welcome. Note that rehearsals for this year's Christmas Pageant are now being held during the usual catechesis time. The pageant will be December the 21st.
- ◆ Valpo Guild pecans are now available for sale in the downstairs social hall. Proceeds benefit students at Valparaiso University. The sale is handled by Marilyn Dulmatch. Thanks for your support.
- ◆ To wait upon the Lord in repentant faith throughout this Advent Season, we will be gathered for Evening Prayer each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Pastor Stuckwisch will be vested and available in the Emmaus sanctuary for Individual Confession and Absolution this Saturday (13 December) from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. This means of grace and forgiveness, by the authority of Christ our Lord, is freely offered to be freely received in repentant faith. Those with questions concerning this practice are encouraged to review the Small Catechism, and are welcome to visit with Pastor about it.
- ◆ New canisters are now available, by the church entrance and in the office, for the collection of Campbell's labels and box tops, which are used to the benefit of Resurrection Lutheran Academy. See Linda Levine for details.
- ◆ The Altar flowers this morning are provided by Elfrieda Kuespert to the glory of God, in loving memory of her husband, Clem.
- ◆ When paying for Altar flowers, the checks should be made out to Emmaus LWML and then given to Diana Fish. Thanks!
- ◆ **COLLECTIONS FOR 30 NOVEMBER 2014: \$ 1,827.00**  
In order to meet our financial obligations and commitments, an average of \$2240 is needed each week.

- ◆ Offering envelopes for the coming Year of Our Lord 2015 are now available in the glass room at the back of the church.
- ◆ IN THE LORD'S SERVICE THIS LORD'S DAY:  
(ELDERS) Eldon Knepp; (USHERS) Nicholai Stuckwisch & Tobias Tribble; (ACOLYTE) Frederick Stuckwisch; (ORGANIST) Deaconess Sandra Rhein; (GREETERS) Robert & Herta Johnston.
- ◆ Rev. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor                      Home Phone: (574) 233 – 0574

## **From the Lutheran Confessions**

*“Article XXI. The Invocation of the Saints: If our opponents really had the good of the church at heart at this point, they would ask that our most gracious emperor take steps to correct the abuses, for clearly he is most anxious for the healing and improving of the church. Instead of supporting this most honorable and holy desire of the emperor, our opponents are doing everything to crush us. They give many indications that the state of the church does not concern them very much. They make no effort to provide a summary of the doctrines of the church for the people. They defend obvious abuses with new and illegal cruelty. They do not tolerate capable clergy in the churches. This way of doing things helps neither their position nor the church, and good men can easily gauge its outcome. After the good clergy have been killed and sound doctrine crushed, fanatical spirits will arise whom our opponents will be unable to restrain. They will trouble the church with their godless teachings and overthrow the whole organization of the church, which we are very anxious to maintain.*

*“Therefore, gracious Emperor Charles, for the sake of the glory of Christ, which we know you want to extol and advance, we implore you not to agree to the violent counsels of our opponents but to find other honorable ways of establishing harmony — ways that will not burden faithful consciences nor persecute innocent men, as has happened before, nor crush sound doctrine in the church. It is your special responsibility before God to maintain and propagate sound doctrine and to defend those who teach it. God demands this when He honors kings with His own name and calls them gods (Ps. 82:6). They should take care to maintain and propagate divine things on earth, that is, the Gospel of Christ, and as vicars of God defend the life and safety of the innocent.*

*“Article XXII. The Lord’s Supper Under Both Kinds: There can be no doubt that the use of both kinds in the Lord’s Supper is godly and in accord with the institution of Christ and the words of Paul. For Christ instituted both kinds, and He did not do so only for part of the church, but for all of the church.*

*“By divine authority and not by human authority, as we suppose our opponents admit, all of the church uses the Sacrament, not only the priests. If Christ instituted it for all of the church, why is one kind [that is, the Cup] taken away from part of the church and its use prohibited? Why is Christ’s ordinance changed, especially since He Himself calls it His testament? If it is illegal to annul a man’s testament, it is much more illegal to annul Christ’s. Paul says that he had received from the Lord what he was delivering, but the text clearly shows that this was the use of both kinds (1 Cor. 11:23–24). ‘Do this,’ Christ says first about the body; later on He says, ‘Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.’ These are the words of Him who instituted the Sacrament; previously He had said that those who would use the Lord’s Supper should use it jointly. It is evident, therefore, that the entire Sacrament was instituted for the whole church. In the Greek churches this practice still remains, and once it prevailed in the Latin church, as Cyprian and Jerome attest. In his commentary on Zephaniah, Jerome says, ‘The priests who serve the Eucharist and distribute the blood of the Lord to the people.’ The Council of Toledo gives the same testimony, and it would not be hard to collect a great multitude of testimonies. We are not exaggerating here, but we leave it to the prudent reader to decide what he should believe about a divine ordinance.*

*“In the Confutation our opponents do not even try to explain to the church why one part of the Sacrament has been withheld. This is what good religious men ought to do. They should have given the church a valid explanation to instruct those who were not permitted to receive the entire Sacrament. These men maintain that it is right to deny one part, and they refuse to grant both kinds. They cannot produce any ancient examples to prove their fiction that in the beginning of the church it was customary in some places to administer only one part. They quote passages that mention bread, like Luke 24:35, which says that the disciples recognized Christ in the breaking of the bread. They quote other passages that talk about the breaking of the bread. We do not seriously object if someone takes these passages as referring to the Sacrament. Still it does not follow that only one part was given; for by the ordinary usage of language, naming one part also signifies the other.*

*“They also refer to ‘lay communion.’ But this was not the use of only one kind. When priests were commanded to use lay communion, this indicated that they had been defrocked and were no longer permitted to consecrate the elements. Our opponents know this very well, but they throw sand in the eyes of the uninitiated, who when they hear the phrase ‘lay communion’ immediately imagine that it means our present custom of giving the laity only a part of the Sacrament.”*

***(From the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, 1530)***

## Walking with Our Savior this Week

**TODAY**            Divine Service of Communion            9:00 a.m.  
                          Coffee & Refreshment Downstairs    10:30 a.m.  
                          Bible Class / Pageant Rehearsal      10:45 a.m.

**MONDAY**           **Vespers**                                        **6:00 p.m.**  
                          Bible Class                                     6:30 p.m.

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

**WEDNESDAY**    Children's Choir Rehearsal               5:15 p.m.  
                          **Advent Evening Prayer**                    **6:00 p.m.**

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

**SATURDAY**        Individual Confession & Absolution    5:00—7:00

**NEXT SUNDAY**   Divine Service of Communion            9:00 a.m.  
                          Coffee & Refreshment Downstairs    10:30 a.m.  
                          Bible Class / Pageant Rehearsal      10:45 a.m.

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

*The Appointed Readings for next Sunday, the Third Sunday in Advent:  
   Isaiah 61:1-11; 1 Thess. 5:16-24; and St. John 1:6-8, 19-28*