

Our Redeemer's Voice

September 2024



ANOTHER NEW BEGINNING?



Rev. Jeremy Loesch

Living in the Church we realize how many new beginnings Christians are given. Some are obvious. We have the New Year on January 1st like the rest of society does. But we also have Advent, which is the start of the Church Year. Two chances to celebrate something new!

Yet when we reach the end of August and the beginning of September we get the feeling of a new beginning. A tear may roll down our cheek as summertime departs

but it doesn't last long for the bustle of a new school year begins. And it's not just the classes that make things busy, it may be the extracurricular activities, new start times, new school buildings, new teachers, new classmates.

In our congregation we have the feeling of new things going on, which is more accurately the resumption of some activities. Confirmation instruction resumes as well as Sunday School. We take the role of teaching the faith seriously and we try to pass on the love of Jesus to those who are present. We give thanks for our dedicated volunteer teachers who prepare lessons while not always knowing who will be present for classes. The tug and pull of life schedules does not let up nor does it take a day off.

I look forward to this "new time" of classes, for the content of our classes is always Jesus. In confirmation classes I seek to build a connection to Jesus and His church, for the day will come when the child is grown and is living on their own. Can you be certain what career your child will have, where they will live, who they will meet? No, no, and no. One thing you do know is that life doesn't always go the way we plan, that there are so many changes that are unforeseen, that instability is the only stable thing in our life. A connection to the church of Jesus Christ can provide that stability so when they move on in life they can find something familiar and comforting. I pray that they will find a congregation where they can say: This congregation preaches Jesus. This congregation offers the sacraments. This congregation teaches the Word of God. This congregation provides a place where I can share my gifts, where I can serve others, where I can love and be loved.

Aside from the educational aspect, we have the resumption of our Sleeping Bag project. Every Tuesday we gather at church to make sleeping bags for the homeless. It is a good time for fellowship and service. After a summer break we get together to make a positive impact for our neighbors and respond to the love of Jesus that we have received.

New things don't just happen in January or September. I'd like to think that it is every Sunday and every day. Every Sunday is a new beginning. We come burdened by sins, by the failures of our day, by the shame of falling to temptation one more time. And those sins are forgiven by Jesus. The Lord gives us a fresh start. And that also happens each day. Every day is an opportunity for us to live in our baptismal grace. Each day is an opportunity to rejoice that the Lord's mercies are new every morning.

Don't wait for the New Year. Today is the new day that the Lord gives you.

—Blessings, Pastor

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Reverend Jeremy Loesch



SEPTEMBER — PENTECOST

The Gospel for this period begins with Jesus being asked to drive out a demon by a Phoenician woman who trusted Him. He was impressed with her faith in Him and healed the girl. Jesus work to drive out demons continued. Jesus teaches His disciples but they wanted to be favored and were reminded that their job was to serve, not be served.

This period closes with the teaching about the acceptance of differing efforts that are in His Name. The remark was; "Whoever is not against us is for us."

The Old Testament scripture includes the words of prophesy regarding the miracles of Jesus. Isaiah 50 outlines Israel's sins and the coming *Servant* who will be rejected and beaten. In Jeremiah we learn of a plot against him like that against Jesus.

Much of the OT is about Israel fleeing through the wilderness and their many complaints. God had to provide manna, quail, and water for them under Moses leadership.

The Epistle lessons begin with James reminding the church not to show favoritism in their ministry since all are equally in need of salvation. James goes on with the warning we must '*tame the tongue*' since many sins come from the spoken word. He goes on to tell us that true wisdom comes from God.

Finally James cautions the wealthy not to lord it over the others or servants. We are all under the hand of God in the same manner and so should love others.

The Psalms are words of worship; some beginning with "Praise the Lord". Others focus on worship and praise for the Lord. Psalm 104 ends this period with a description of God's creation and all living things. We are urged to reflect on this and rely on the Lord. —Arlen Bessel (Archived from September 2022)



SHOULDERS FOR BURDENS

The Levites carried the ark of God with the poles on their shoulders." 1 Chronicles 15:15

In an age that has perfected mechanical devices of all kinds for carrying loads, we are apt to forget the homely wisdom of the Yiddish prov-

erb: God gave burdens, also shoulders. The Levites counted it an honor and a privilege to carry the ark of the covenant upon their shoulders.

The shoulders of God's people of old were also for bearing suffering, as the psalmist declared: "Yet for Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered" (Psalm 44:22). In the New Testament God's people are also encouraged to bear sufferings for Christ's sake, yes, to find joy in being exposed to "the painful trial" through which they are participating in the sufferings of Christ (1 Peter 4:12-13).

Discipleship under Jesus is a burden which is not to be escaped. To be mocked, abused, and rejected because we walk with our Lord is to share Christ's suffering. None of this is easy, but it is all necessary. For this God has given us the shoulders of faith -- of faith in Christ's sufferings for us. Our faith is lifted by the promise: "My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:30).

God's grace is sufficient for us today, as it has always been for those chosen by him to extend His Word and work into the world. PRAYER: Lord, give us shoulders equal to Your burdens. Amen.

From "Words of Promise," copyright 1996 (out of print), Concordia Publishing House.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Fellowship hour and congregational meeting will be held Sunday September 29 following church service. Please join us. The election of vice-president is on the agenda.



MUSTARD SEED DEVOTION

GLAD PRAISE

In the Word: *You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent* (Psalm 30:11–12a).

Of the Word: Before-and-after photos present the benefits (at least to the models!) of using a certain brand of wrinkle cream or of swal-

lowing a particular diet pill. Advertisers want to convince us to buy the product capable of making such a difference in our lives.

The Bible says we — all of us — were born into sin. Before Baptism, before Spirit-given faith in Jesus Christ, we were dead in our sins with no hope of change. After Baptism, after Spirit-given faith in Jesus Christ, we became alive in Him. After Him and in Him, we've changed. We know God loves us. We know Jesus won our salvation. We know He continues to nurture faith in us through the gift of the Holy Spirit. What a difference!

But is it a visible difference? Would anyone looking at God's "after" people be able to differentiate them from "before" people? Do your words and actions praise and proclaim the difference He has made in your life? Would your "after" photo convince others to find out more about Jesus Christ?

Walking with my Lord

Thanks be to You for the price You have paid — Let my actions exhibit the difference You've made!
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Living in Praise. Author: Patricia Mitchell. 15/32 ©2007 Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 801 Seminary Place Ste. L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. www.lwml.org

OUR REDEEMER NEWS & NOTES

LWML's FROZEN MEAL PROJECT— The group has announced that they will be supplying a frozen meal pantry for emergency situations where a member may have to be rushed off to a hospital and the family needs a little help, or to insure that when someone comes home from hospital there will be something easy to prepare. The ladies will be making the meals. Some will be stored in the freezer at the church.



LITTLE LIBRARY— We now have book plate stickers that we can put in the books that come through the church for the Library. It is a no cost way to let others see that Our Redeemer lets its light shine in the community as books are passed on. It has been great seeing the activity at the "library." Families have been spotted dropping off and picking out books. The library always appreciates the donation of children, young adult and appropriate adult books. Thanks to all who donate books.

BUILD A BAG - Build A Bag work sessions will restart September 10 at the church. We meet at 10 a.m. We then recycle used bedding into sleeping bags that are distributed to the homeless in Newark. Caring hearts and helping hands are needed to make this mission project a success. Currently seeking hats, gloves and scarves to tuck in bags for extra warmth. See Marybeth, Ruth or Lina for more information.

BUSY BAGS – The LWML is putting together Busy Bags for children who come to church, and are asking for donations of new or gently used and clean **QUIET** toys. No stickers, crayons, or messy items, please. Donations can be left at the office or given to Kathy O'Malley.

BULLETIN TRANSITION—Please let Kathy, Pastor, or Sharron know if you have suggestions for the new bulletin format. Announcements will be printed in the back when space permits. An insert will be provided otherwise. All attempts will be made to get entire hymns on one page.

COUNCIL MEETINGS have been moved to the third Wednesday of the month.

OUR REDEEMER NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY SCHOOL—Sunday school resumes Sept. 8th. Currently we have 3 volunteers to teach Robin, Emily and Marybeth. If anyone is interested in helping with Sunday School, please reach out to Robin.

MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP/SOCIAL HOUR— Beginning October, fellowship hour will now be held on the 2nd Sun. of the month. We ask that 2 to 3 people bring items such as simple snacks, desserts, finger foods, etc. September Fellowship Sunday is on the 29th.

BIBLE STUDY — Every Sunday at 8:45 a.m. You can also participate online.

CHECA MEETING— Join CHECA and members of the community on Monday September 9 at 7 p.m. to learn more about what is happening nearby

FACTS: The Friends Helping Friends fundraising event is an opportunity for ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN to raise donations by selling shopping passes to this event. OGT keeps 100% of the \$5 donations.



EVENT DETAILS: Buy a 25% off discount shopping pass for \$5. It is valid in-store and online during this one day event on October 22 from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

PASSES AVAILABLE NOW: See Ruth to get your pass, or to help sell a few yourself.

REGISTER TO WIN: Scan for QR code on your shopping pass for a chance to win a \$100 BOSCOV'S gift card. One customer from each store will have a chance to win this prize. This is an

event where everyone wins.

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH LCS — Thank you to all who donated school supplies during our back to school event. Your gifts will make a difference to schoolchildren this year — Ruth

ORCHARD— ORCHARD has donated another 58 lbs. of vegetables to a local food pantry to make a difference in the lives of others. This donation went to The Faith Food Pantry. The Faith Food Pantry, which first opened in February 2023, works with All Faiths Food Bank to distribute free meat, produce, bread, and non-perishable items 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. each Thursday. Thanks for all your support and interest. It's a blessing that we can help feed our neighbors in need. — Robin



Our Redeemer Gardeners,

What an amazing surprise Saturday to receive fresh veggies to hand out. The members of Food From Faith were just thrilled!! Thank you so much for sharing your beauty harvest. May you continue to have an abundance to sustain you & others.

*Sincerely,
Food From Faith*



LUTHERANS AROUND US

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY at the University of Delaware

All of us at Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD are looking forward to an outstanding year to come! Our student group is strong, fun, faithful, and creative. This past summer, student members worked on summer jobs, traveled to Europe, went to boot camp, took courses, worked as camp counselors, and reconnected with family and friends. It's great to hear about their service and adventures.

Please save the date of **Saturday afternoon, November 2!** We'll gather at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Wilmington for our next LCM fundraiser. We look forward to sharing tasty food, hearing presentations from amazing students, bidding in a live auction, and enjoying the grace of gathering with the wider LCM community. We hope you can join us!

During fall term, we welcome your ongoing prayers:

- Please pray for the Holy Spirit to draw **new students** to our group, for whom LCM can be a blessing and a safe, fun, and nurturing Christian community. May we welcome them warmly and accompany them with grace and joy, as they grow in faith and service!
- Please pray for wisdom in our search process for a **new office administrator**, as well as in identifying **new members** for our Directing Committee (governing board), that we may expand, deepen, and strengthen our leadership team. Thank you!

If you'd like to visit LCM on a Tuesday evening, please let me know. We enjoy connecting with visitors and are so grateful to those who bring dinners to share with the students. Please watch our website (www.lcmde.org) for updates and opportunities. We're grateful for your continued support through prayers, dinners, and contributions, and we look forward to seeing you this fall at our fundraiser.

We wish you God's blessings, abiding peace, and daily grace! J

*In Christ, Mindy Holland, Minister of Word and Service +
Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD*



LCM's Senior Honor Night in May was a beautiful occasion, including laying on of hands and prayer for each graduate! †

LCS BLOCK PARTY & WALK/RUN



This annual event is traditionally held on the 3rd Saturday of September, rain or shine. It is hosted by one of our church partners. Come out and have some fun with us as we raise funds that help us make a difference in the lives of others. The fun day includes food, drinks, live-music, games & activities, raffles, and friendly, non-competitive walk for adults and kids alike. Funds raised and food

collected from this event go directly to our LCS food pantries. You can also volunteer at this event. Last year's event raised \$73,000.

September 21st 2024

**Concordia Lutheran Church
3003 Silverside Rd
Wilmington, DE 19810**

**9:00 am for registration
10:00 am for Walk/Run start
2:00 pm Event End**

Let's **Celebrate!**

BIRTHDAYS

6

Jesse H

Woolly Bear, Woolly Bear What Will Winter Wear?



As the clock ticks down towards fall, the fearless woolly bear caterpillars stop their munching and inch across highways as vehicles blow by. Some will actually make it across roadways to find a spot to hide under debris, rocks, or bark where they will wait out the winter.

Some say that the nearly two inch bristly reddish brown and black striped caterpillar can predict how much cold, and ice will come with the winter winds. The banded woolly worm, as it is sometimes called, hatches from eggs

laid by the Isabella Tiger Moth. The yellowish adult moth lays a few dozen small white pearly looking eggs on old posts or trees in late spring and summer. After hatching the small hairless larvae busily munch on nettle, dandelion, clover, sorrel, and other common weeds. As the larvae mature, the woolly bear grows, and distinct hairy bands develop.

It is the number and the color of the hairy black and reddish-brown bands that are said to predict whether winter will prove mild or not. There is no definitive scientific evidence that guarantees the accuracy of predicting weather with woolly bears. The theory behind this weather prediction goes something like this. If the black stripes on either end of the critter are longer than the middle reddish stripe winter will be long and cold. A wide center reddish or brown band indicates that winter will be mild.

So ... based on a small sample of woolly bears that have come across my path recently I will take a stab at forecasting a winter weather outlook. Some had wide black bands, and some had wide reddish-brown bands. In fact, they all looked different. So which ones are right? I am going to go out on a limb and say that winter will be mild ... or not. My guess is that the woolly bear caterpillar is probably as accurate as predicting winter as Punxsutawney Phil is at predicting how many weeks of winter are left on Groundhog Day.

The Farmer's Almanac reports that some people take to reading the woolly bear to extremes. Apparently there are 13 segments on a typical banded woolly bear. Some believe that each band represents a week of winter. Orange and brown segments are said to predict the mild weeks, and the black ones forecast bad weather weeks.

The almanac also reports that some weather sleuths look at the thickness of the woolly bear hair. Thick fuzzy worms indicate a cold, snowy winter and a not so hairy worm means a milder one. If you think that confuses the issue there are others who look at the direction the woolly bear is traveling for weather forecasting. If the caterpillar heads north, it will prove to be a mild winter. A crawl towards south and it is time to break out the shovels and rock salt.

The modern folklore of predicting wintry weather by following the woolly bear began in 1948 with Dr. C.H. Curran, curator of insects at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City after a trip to Bear Mountain State Park to look at the woolly bears. Curran collected as many caterpillars as he could in a day. He determined the number of reddish-brown segments and hazarded a forecast with a reporter friend at the New York Herald Tribune. Curran's experimentation continued for the next eight years as he worked to prove scientifically the folklore weather rule that had been passed on through generations around Bear Mountain.

When woolly bears begin to seek out hiding spaces for the winter, it is certain that fall is right around the corner and winter will soon follow. The woolly bear does not care. Burrowed down in a hidden spot, its body secretes a substance to help it survive the winter freeze. When warm weather arrives the caterpillar begins a munching frenzy before spinning and encasing itself in a chrysalis. A short time later a dull yellow and furry tiger moth with small black spots emerges. After a brief period of mating and laying eggs the moth's life cycle will end. And it the end, fall will give way to winter ... so predicts the woolly bear.

—Sharron Boyle *September 2012 for South Jersey Times*

September Days

9/2 – Labor Day

9/7 – National Hummingbird Day

9/6 – National Read a Book Day

9/8 – Star Trek Day – Trekkies unite!

9/11 – Remembrance Day.

9/12 – Positive Thinking Day

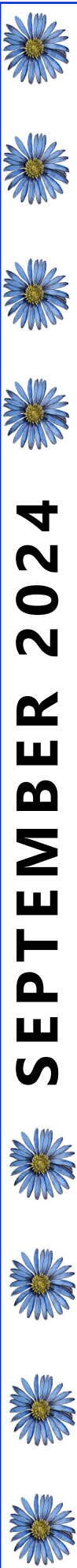
9/20 – National POW/MIA Recognition Day


9/21 – World Gratitude Day

9/22 – Fall Equinox

9/28 – National Good Neighbor Day

SEPTEMBER 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
SERVING — Pastor Jeremy Loesch ORGANISTS — Julie — Larry USHERS — Arlen — Dennis	STREAMING 9/1 9/8 9/15 9/22 9/29	LECTORS 9/1 Emily 9/8 Keven 9/15 Julie 9/22 Steve 9/29 Bob	<h1>PENTECOST</h1> 				
1 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS2 10 a.m.	2 Announcements Due	3 Announcements Due	4 Circuit Meeting	5 Circuit Meeting	6	7	
8 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Worship DS2 10 a.m.	9 CHECA 7 p.m.	10 Announcement Deadline Build A Bag 10 am	11	12	13	14	
15 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS2 10 a.m.	16 .	17 Announcement Deadline. Build A Bag 10 am	18 Council Meeting 7 p.m. Zoom	19	20 LWML Conference	21 Men's Breakfast LWML Conference	
22 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Worship DS1 10 a.m. LWML Conference	23	24 Announcement Deadline Build A Bag 10 am	25	26	27	29	
29 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Worship DS1 10 a.m. Congregational Meeting & Fellowship after church	30						

SEPTEMBER BIBLE READINGS

- 1 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
Job 31-33
- 2 Psalm 86
Job 34-36
- 3 Psalm 87
Job 37-39
- 4 Psalm 88
Job 40-42
- 5 Psalm 89
Proverbs 1-3
- 6 Psalm 90
Proverbs 4-7
- 7 Psalm 91
Proverbs 8-10
- 8 Psalm 92
Proverbs 11-13
- 9 Psalm 93
Proverbs 14-16
- 10 Psalm 94
Proverbs 17-19
- 11 Psalm 95
Proverbs 20-22
- 12 Psalm 96
Proverbs 23-25
- 13 Psalm 97
Proverbs 26-28
- 14 Psalm 98
Proverbs 29-31
- 15 Psalm 99
Ecclesiastes 1-3
- 16 Psalm 100
Ecclesiastes 4-6



***Read a little
each day and
you will get
through the
entire Bible in
one year***

- 17 Psalm 101
Ecclesiastes 7-9
- 18 Psalm 102
Ecclesiastes 10-12
- 19 Psalm 103
Song of Solomon 1-4
- 20 Psalm 104
Song of Solomon 5-8
- 21 Psalm 105
Jeremiah 1-3
- 22 Psalm 106
Jeremiah 4-6
- 23 Psalm 107
Jeremiah 7-9
- 24 Psalm 108
Jeremiah 10-12
- 25 Psalm 109
Jeremiah 13-15
- 26 Psalm 110
Jeremiah 16-18
- 27 Psalm 111
Jeremiah 19-22
- 28 Psalm 112
Jeremiah 23-25
- 29 Psalm 113
Jeremiah 26-28
- 30 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
Jeremiah 29-31

