

NEWSLETTER - JULY, 2016

Dear Ones in Jesus,

Two hundred forty-two years ago, American colonists were fighting against British soldiers over "rights" as citizens of the British Empire. By the following summer, with the Revolutionary War in full swing, delegates of the Continental Congress chose a five-man committee whose task was to draft a formal statement of the colonies' intentions. Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776, a date now celebrated as the birth of American independence.

We are citizens of a great country, thankful and proud of it, but there is something much greater for us. God has made us citizens of His Kingdom...The Kingdom of God... His Kingdom of faith (within the heart of each believer), His Kingdom of grace (including His Church on earth), and His eternal Kingdom in heaven.

We are declared citizens of God's Kingdom, not by birth, nor by allegiance, or by service, but solely and totally by His grace!

(Philippians 3:20) "Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself."

Earthly kingdoms rise and fall, come and go, and our life within these earthly kingdoms is brief also. That's why I really treasure my heavenly citizenship...because it is forever...eternal! What a Kingdom awaits us there...and it's all by grace...only by grace!

Americans are, as a whole, staunchly proud of their independence and freedom. As Christians, we can be just as proud of our freedom too...the freedom we have been given by God's grace in Jesus Christ - who acknowledges all who repent and forgives them freely and fully. He gives us His own peace, not a peace that the world knows, but a peace between us and God - eternal in nature...all by grace.

As an American, I treasure our independence, but as a Christian, I treasure our dependence...upon God...His faithfulness...His promise...His love...and His grace, without which we'd be helpless and hopeless. So, let this be our anthem proclaiming our "Dependence upon God!"

*By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! Then this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain.*

*By grace to timid hearts that tremble, in tribulation's furnace tried.
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, the Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure if grace were not my anchor sure?*

*By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; in Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad; all grief has flown since I am saved by grace alone. (LSB #566)*

Pastor Asmus

OUR MISSION: CELEBRATING, PROCLAIMING, AND SPREADING THE WORD.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER ARE FACING SURGERY OR HOSPITALIZATION, please contact
Pastor Erland Asmus:
Cell #: (651) 308-8492
Church Office: (651) 436-3357

PASTOR ASMUS WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE A CALL (OR IN HIS ABSENCE, ONE OF THE ELDERS),
BUT WE DO NEED TO BE INFORMED.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE! NEWSLETTER ARTICLES FOR AUGUST ARE DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE NO
LATER THAN TUESDAY, JULY 12TH.

ELDERS' MEETING will be held on Sunday, July 24, at 11:00 a.m.

SECOND HARVEST HEARTLAND - We will work on Friday, July 8th, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Please sign up on the
kiosk. We are in need of more volunteers. Any questions, contact Cheryl Schmidt.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY THIS SUMMER! During the summer, our Sunday Bible Study will be
more of a discussion nature, stemming from the Sunday lessons and their appreciation to our life and times
today. Let's come, ask, discuss, learn, and grow!

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars: Don't miss
this opportunity to help support St. Peter Lutheran Church. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-
THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®."

VALLEY OUTREACH "THE CLOSET" is still accepting donations of men's, women's and children's new
and used clothing (children's new underwear and socks). Please make sure all items are clean and in good
condition. Leave items in the designated area by the coat racks marked "The Closet." (ITEMS PLACED IN
BAGS ARE MUCH EASIER TO TRANSPORT TO THE CLOSET.)

4TH OF JULY FOOD BOOTH @ AFTON CITY PARK! On MONDAY, July 4, 2016 we will have a food
booth in the Afton City Park. The booth will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Be sure to stop by! Thank
you for your support of this event. July 4th profit will be used for our new kitchen.

4TH OF JULY PARADE - Attention everyone! If you'd like to help pass out our new blue bags (filled with a
coupon for the food booth, a marigold seed strip, and postcard listing announcements) and candy at the Afton
parade, sign-up on the kiosk! This year we will be walking by the side of a pick-up truck rather than ride on a
float. All members ages 7 and up are welcome to help out and friends are welcome to help too! Sign up on the
sheet on the kiosk. Meet at 11:30 a.m. behind the Afton Market Square. The parade starts at 12:00 Noon.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY GROUP will continue to meet this summer every other Tuesday at 7:00
p.m. They will meet July 12th and 26th. Join us if you like to knit or crochet or would like to learn. If you have
questions, call Gayle Schneider or Linda Craig.

“BARNYARD ROUNDUP” VBS June 13-17 was a huge success! There were 45 children attending for a fun-filled week of learning how Jesus works in and through us! During the week, we had a lamb, a chicken, a turkey and a duck visiting with us, as well as a “pig” game to entertain the children, furnished by Grant Fritsche. A BIG “THANK YOU” to all the volunteers who helped in any way with time, talent, donations, etc. We collected \$659.11 for Noppachi (Nut), the ten year old boy from Thailand, we sponsored through Compassion International.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM DOLLARS ARE AT WORK HERE! Our St. Peter Star-Spangled 4th of July project is being supported by Thrivent Action Team dollars. St. Peter’s presence in the Afton parade is all about outreach. Bags are being handed out along the parade route which include our Church postcard with worship times and upcoming events, a ‘planting seeds’ tape of marigolds, and a coupon for a free bottle of water at our food stand in the park. Thrivent funds were used for paper and printing expenses, the water to be given away, and a new cooler! Thrivent members are eligible to apply for up to two Action Team projects per year, receiving funds up to \$250.00 for each project. These dollars are to be used as seed money in fundraising for a need or outreach event. There are many opportunities where we can make a difference with Thrivent Action Teams! The online application process is simple. Questions? Please see Janel Busacker. Live Generously!

BEST HOURS TO CONTACT STAFF:

Pastor Asmus: Office hours: Monday—Wednesday 1:00 P.M.—7:00 P.M.
Saturday: 9:00 A.M.—Noon.

Please call him to arrange an appointment, as he also makes hospital
& shut-in calls, and home visits during these times.

Days off: Thursday and Friday

(Cell #: 651-308-8492) (For pastoral care and/or counseling, call anytime,
day or night.)

Secretary: Monday-Friday 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES OFFERED AT ST. PETER!

When: Wednesdays (*Not on July 13*)

Time: 6:30 – 7:00 P.M.

Format: A simple format of Scripture, song, message, prayer, Lord’s Supper; offered in a devotional setting so as to meet the spiritual needs of all who can’t attend Sunday worship, including families with children. No altar guild, no ushers... just a simple worship whereby Jesus offers you the “green pastures” and “quiet waters” of His mercy and grace.

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Mission – our call to proclaim - It is a blessing to walk and work together in witness and mercy with the 35 districts of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and with our 34 partner church bodies around the world. The mission we engage together extends the reach of the Gospel around the world. Coming together as a synod, by sharing resources and people, we by God’s grace, help to change lives now and for eternity. For a closer look at our LSMS Mission work being done today, take a walk down the hallway to Pastor's office, where you will see a bulletin board display, showing all the countries in the world where we are actively engaged in Missions, along with recent news articles describing what's happening in these areas.

A Table Prayer for Your Home

God is holy, God is great. Let Him bless this food on our plate.
Let Him bless us from above, with warmth, comfort, and great love.
Now we ask in the Name of God, to bless this food from here and abroad.
And as we eat this food from His hands, we pray for the poor in all lands. Amen.

QUILTERS WILL MEET TUESDAY, July 5th and Monday, July 18th, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon.

A "Life-thought"

From "Life Date" a quarterly journal from Lutherans for Life

God reserves for Himself both the privilege of providing life and the responsibility for deciding death (Luke 12:20). Life is His gift, even amidst afflictions (Ecclesiastes 2:22-23). It always arrives in His time and on His terms (Ecclesiastes 2:24-25); Colossians 3:2-4), wonderfully better terms than we would outline for ourselves. Prayer: Father God, Thank you for the life you've given me, and my redemption, which is secure in Christ Jesus. Give me a humble heart, ever thankful for Your grace, that submits to Your will in all things... Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done. Amen.

...a smile to lift your day!

Something to think about the lighter side of life...

- When asked what he learned in Vacation Bible School, Jeremy replied, "Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree."
 - Bulletin bloopers: "Mrs. Roberts will be serving a salad without dressing at today's potluck lunch."
 - Another bulletin bloopers: "Today's sermon topic is 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice."
 - Little Markus, trying to explain to his parents what he learned in Sunday School, said, "We learned what 'syntax' is. His father then asked, "So what is 'syntax?'" The little boy proudly explained, "Syntax is all the money collected at the church from sinners."
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THE YOUTH GROUP IS COLLECTING "ALUMINUM CANS" for a fundraiser. Leave them by the garage door. Please just bring aluminum cans. Thank you.

Our weekly worship services: (Bring your Bible!)

+ *Pentecost: A season of Growing!...in grace...in faith...in love...in hope... IN CHRIST! Alleluia!*

The difference CHRIST makes in a believer's life.

Wednesday - June 29

6:30 p.m. - Devotional Worship with Holy Eucharist

Sermon: see July 3.

Sunday - July 3 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship with the Sacrament of the Altar

Theme: Caring for one another.

Sermon: "The Difference" (Galatians 6:1-10)

Bible Class: Discussion: Isaiah 66:10-14; Galatians 6:1-10; 14-18; Luke 10:1-20)

Wednesday – July 6

6:30 p.m. - Devotional Worship with the Lord's Supper

Sermon: see July 10.

Sunday – July 10 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost.

9:00 a.m. – Praise Service with The Sacrament of the Altar

Theme: Living/sharing God's mercy.

Sermon: "In the Presence of Grace" (Luke 10:25-37)

Bible Class: Discussion: Leviticus 19:9-19; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37

Wednesday – July 13

NO EVENING WORSHIP

Sunday – July 17 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship with Holy Eucharist

Sermon: Rev. George Riemer

Bible Class

Wednesday - July 20

6:30 p.m. - Devotional Worship with Holy Communion

Sermon: See July 24.

Sunday - July 24 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. - Praise Worship with Holy Communion

Theme: Deepening our relationship with God.

Sermon: "Lord, teach us..." (Luke 11:1-13)

Bible Class: Genesis 18:20-33; Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13

Wednesday - July 27

6:30 p.m. - Devotional Worship with the Lord's Supper

Sermon: See July 31.

Sunday - July 31 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. - Special Service of Hymns, Prayer, Word, Sacrament.

Theme: Priority #1!

Sermon: "What's in Your Barn?" (Luke 12:13-21)

Bible Class: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-26; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR JULY/AUGUST, 2016
CAROL HALTER
LCMS MISSIONARY, WORKING IN HONG KONG AND MACAU

Carol Halter is a Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod deaconess working for the Chinese people in Hong Kong and Macau since 1981.

From 1969 to 1981, Carol served as a missionary with the Chinese Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in San Francisco, California. For three and a half years before that, she was a volunteer missionary in Hong Kong. After her deaconess internship and her 1965 graduation from Valparaiso University as a Lutheran deaconess, Carol committed her life to ministry to Chinese people. She received her master of divinity degree from Hong Kong Concordia Theological Seminary in 1984.

Carol does humanitarian, evangelistic and educational work among Chinese people of all ages. Her prayer is that all Chinese people will hear the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ — especially from each other. Fluent in both Mandarin and Cantonese, Carol nurtures and trains Chinese people to grow in Christ and to share the Gospel by holding educational and evangelism seminars and Bible classes, and by counseling individuals. Carol asks you to pray that she would be filled with the Holy Spirit to do what God wants her to do in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Chinese people.

Please consider helping to support this LCMS mission during July and August! Mission envelopes are on the Mission Board in the narthex, in your offering envelope boxes, and in the pews.

JULY, 2016

ACOLYTES FOR JULY

July 3 - 9:00 a.m. Ashley Walton
10 - 9:00 a.m. Emma Schatt
17 - 9:00 a.m. Lucas Oberdeck
24 - 9:00 a.m. Ryan Bernath
31 - 9:00 a.m. Charlie Veith

COFFEE HOSTS FOR JULY

July 3 - Judy & Lorraine Hansen
10 - (Open)
17 - (Open)
24 - (Open)
31 - (Open)

**MORE COFFEE HOSTS ARE
NEEDED! PLEASE SIGN UP IN
THE BOOK ON THE KIOSK.**

ALTAR GUILD FOR JULY

Mary Hauch
Laura Nelson

USHERS FOR JULY

Grant Fritsche, Elder
Doug Stoltzmann
Gary Anderson
Loiry Anderson
Jim Jordan

READERS DURING WORSHIP SERVICES IN JULY

July 3 - Gary Anderson
10 - Carol Nelson
17 - Betsy Hundertmark
24 - (Open)
31 - (Open)

**MORE READERS ARE NEEDED!!
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE BOOK
ON THE KIOSK.**

GREETERS FOR JULY

July 3 - Lorraine Hansen
10 - (Open)
17 - (Open)
24 - (Open)
31 - (Open)

**MORE GREETERS ARE NEEDED!!
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE BOOK
ON THE KIOSK.**

OFFICIAL ACTS FOR JUNE, 2016:

BAPTISM:

Leland Arthur Parmeter, son of Jasmine
Parmeter and
Casey Olson, June 11, 2016

FUNERAL:

Ella Warnke, June 25, 2016

XYZ CLUB for seniors 55 years and older meets on Tuesdays at Memorial Lutheran Church in Afton. This includes cards and visiting 9:30 a.m. to Noon. For information, call Marian Glasbergenner.

Rachel's Road to Healthy Living



★★★★★★★★★★

Are you looking for a change?

Would life be more enjoyable with lots of energy, better sleep, better physical performance & sustainable weight loss?

Come see how YOU TOO can lose weight, gain energy, gain lean muscle and feel fabulous with the superfood system that has transformed my life. This is not a quick fix or a diet, it is a sustainable, simple and healthy lifestyle!

★★★★★★★★★★

For more information, contact Rachel Swanson at 651-226-5059 or rklarson13@yahoo.com

Is Your Computer Running Slow or Acting Funny? Getting those annoying pop ups?

You Have Viruses that you are sharing with your friends and family...
Special \$30.00 Virus Removal and Diagnostics

Keep your personal information safe!

Transfer old files to your new computer, ask about programs.

Free pick up and delivery in the East Metro, Work Done by Certified Technicians
Visit us www.fsts-usa.com Email: shop@fsts-usa.com

Recycle your old Tech Free!

De-Clutter your home, Free Hard Drive (HDD) Certificate of Destruction!
Recycled items Fund a Christian Ministry!

VHS tapes are perishable and will deteriorate with time.

Preserve your cherished home video by converting them to DVD today.
Transfer services from VHS, miniDV, 35MM slides and pictures.
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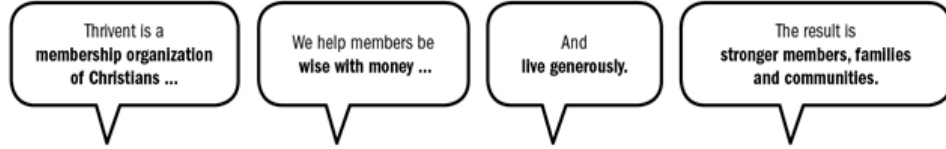
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