

# Holy Crossings

Our Mission... to seek, share, and serve our Savior

November 2020

## "EVERYONE HIS WITNESS" – NEW "HANDS ON" RESOURCES!

Fall Minnesota South District Pastors' Conference  
Review by Pastor Jim

**"We're in this together!** The men and women in the LCMS Office of National Mission have been listening and learning so as to better equip congregations and districts in making lifelong disciples for Christ." After attending the District Pastors' Conference several weeks ago in Mankato at the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center, titled **"Making Disciples for Life,"** I was very encouraged with the work that is being done in Synod for supporting congregations with **relevant resources** that will bless congregations and also bless our family, friends, and anyone God has put into our life that we see in need of caring Christian support.

On Monday, we reviewed the LCMS Synod Convention seven Mission Priorities from the National 2019 Convention in Tampa Bay, Florida. The first four that are highlighted we were able to discuss in more depth at the conference on Tuesday.

- **Strengthen and support the Lutheran family in living out God's design**
- **Perform human care in close proximity to Word and Sacrament ministries**
- **Collaborate with the Synod's members and partners to enhance mission effectiveness**
- **Plant, sustain, and revitalize Lutheran churches**
- Enhance early childhood, elementary and secondary education, and youth ministry
- Promote and nurture the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of pastors and professional church workers
- Support and expand theological education

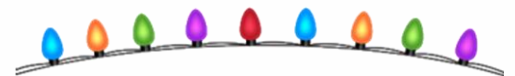
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## ...LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS!

**Matthew 5:16**

This year over the Christmas season we plan on letting our light shine all around the outside of the church. We want to light up the church and let the world know we are here. Donations are being accepted for strings of LED lights as well as extension cords and timers. Decorating will be done on Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30. Please join us, and as the song goes, *This Little Gospel Light of Mine, Im going to let it Shine...* Let's shine together in preparing ourselves and our neighbors for the best Christmas gift ever, our Savior Jesus Christ!



## Voters' Meeting Nov. 1

Please plan on staying for our Voters' Meeting at 10:15 on Sunday after the 9:00 am service. There are things that need to be discussed. All are welcome.

### Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes

Want to bless a child this Christmas? We have pre-printed Christmas Shoeboxes and peel & stick labels in the Commons. On the reverse side of the labels is information with gift ideas and just as important is the, 'what not to pack information'. Please pick up your boxes and labels, fill and return to church as you complete them. Deadline is Sunday, Nov. 15th. Dollar stores are a great place to get most of what you need. Thank you for blessing a child!

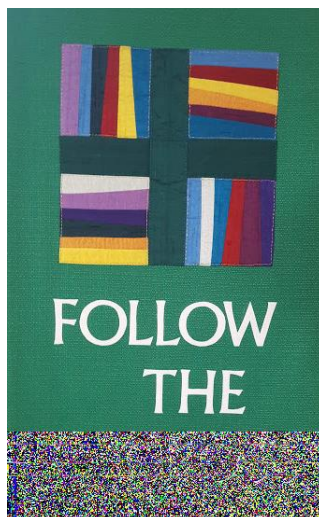


### Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries God with Us

What better news is there than to know that God is always by our side! In *God with Us*, we learn again what God the Father has done—He has kept His promise. In so doing, He has announced that grace and forgiveness are available to all, freely given in the birth of Jesus: God's Son, our Savior. He is Immanuel, "God with us."

The story of God coming to earth as a human child is a profound one. In *God with Us*, we find no aloof divinity who is unconcerned and remote somewhere in the cosmos. Rather, He is deeply involved in all our affairs—our joys as well as our heartaches. He *knows* us for He became one of us. At Christmastime, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Lord of the universe, Savior of the world, Shepherd of our lives.

Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them [delivered right to your inbox](#), [podcast the audio devotional](#), access them on your mobile device through the [FREE app](#), or listen with [Spotify](#), [iHeart Radio](#), [Alexa](#), or [Google Home](#).



## November Sermons

**Nov 1, 2020**

### All Saints Day

**Theme:** The Hope of the Children of God is Jesus!

**Text:** 1 John 3:1-3

**Nov 8, 2020**

### Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Theme:** The Last Days – Hearts Ready

**Text:** Matthew 25:1-13

**Nov 15, 2020**

### Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

**Theme:** Day of Wrath – Day of Salvation

**Text:** Zephaniah 1:7-16



**Nov 22, 2020**

### Christ the King Sunday Last Sunday of the church year.

**Theme:** Heirs of Everlasting Life Who Lived by Grace Through Faith – God's Gift in Christ the King

**Text:** Matthew 25:31-46

**Nov 29, 2020**

### First Sunday in Advent

**Theme:** The King Comes Just as I am

**Text:** Mark 11:1-20



## Sunday Schedule

**9:00 AM**  
Traditional Worship  
At Church &  
On Zoom

**10:15 AM**  
Christian Education Hour &  
Sunday School

## The Lutheran Hour

**The Lutheran Hour** can be heard each Sunday on WCCO (830 AM) at 6:05 am. And it can be streamed online too, [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org). Check-out LHM's daily devotions too.



November 1

### "Some People Never Change"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Some people never change. Most people do. With God, all people can. (Daniel 4)

November 8

### "Tied into the Same Lifeline"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Humble pie is on the menu at an ill-fated feast. (Daniel 5)

November 15

### "Bigger"

Guest Speaker: Pastor Gerard Bolling

Big problems call for faith in an even bigger God. Pastor Gerard Bolling tells how the God Who is bigger than our problems works through us to bring bigger blessings to the people around us. (Daniel 6)

November 22

### "Politics in Perspective"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

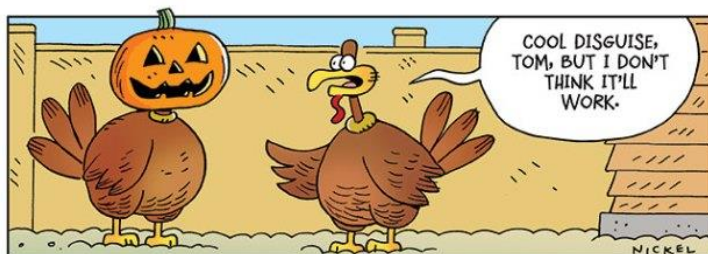
Political turmoil is nothing new and political security is only temporary. We can't escape politics. However, Dr. Michael Zeigler offers good news of a kingdom that cannot be overthrown and will never pass away. (Daniel 7: 1-14)

November 29

### "Magnum Opus"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Daniel 8:27)



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Tuesday was the day that the conference got exciting! The "Hands On," outline of the material was presented. One part of the material that caught my eye was the "**Core Module**"

- \*Covers the basics of witnessing (its generic)

- \*Flexible format

- \*Comprehensive leaders guide

- \*Witnessing in specific contexts

- \*On-line, video-based, individual study

- \*No cost to "Core Module" participants

**Included with the "Core Module" is Communication training.**

**"LASSIE"**

**Listen, Ask, Seek, Share, Invite, Encourage**

The vital communication needs in relationships follow this communication model called **LASSIE**.

**Listen** to the need of the person.

**Ask** open ended questions to learn more about their need. **Seek** what is behind the need (a loss, or change in life, a hurt, etc...)

**Share** what you finally hear being said by them so to connect the dots of the real need or theme of emptiness/aloneness. **Invite**, the person to pray with them, and offer any resources you may have including online resources to walk beside them.

**Encourage**, communicate that they are not alone; the Lord is there and is giving you strength to help them. Call, email, text and pray for them during the time of difficulty. Share church resources that the LCMS has or will develop soon and participate with them in the resources.

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**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
LCMS Stewardship Ministry  
Newsletter article – November 2020**

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, His death for our sins, and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water – combined with His Word, promise, and Name – the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And, being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure is that we belong to the most Holy Trinity, and everything that is His – righteousness, peace, eternal life – also belongs also to us. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's holy Word, as a sacrifice.

Thus, all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him. We eat to nourish our bodies. We share with our family, neighbors, fellow Christians, the poor, and even our enemies as holy things given by the holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and they bring blessings upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom.

Thus, we place all that we have into God's hands, and He never fails to remember us. He pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but, giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.

As we prepare for the celebrations of Thanksgiving, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all – even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

thankful  
&  
blessed



*cont. from pg. 3*

### **Everyone His Witness Context Modules**

Online video modules are available to your church family and friends you are helping that are in hardship. An initial onetime fee for the ministry modules and resources helps with the professional development of the resources by the LCMS. These are the modules that are being prepared professionally.

#### **Human Care**

- Grieving (*available*)
- Depression Anxiety (*available*)
- Post Abortion (*available*)
- (*In development stage*) Special Needs; Substance abuse; Alcoholism; Gambling addiction; Pornography addiction; Disaster relief; Nat'l Crisis; Risk of Suicide; social ministry; Local or regional crisis.

#### **Life Events/Issues**

- New Veterans (*available*)
- LGBTQ People (*available*)
- (*In development stage*) Birth of a Child; Parental concerns; Gender confusion; Health crisis; Mourning a suicide; Unemployment, Marriage; Divorce; Crisis Pregnancy; Social Justice Warriors; Miscarriage/Stillborn child; Property Loss; Retirement.

#### **World Religions**

- Judaism (*available*)
- Islam (*available*)
- (*In development stage*) Hinduism, Baha'i, Sikhism, Buddhism, Westernized Eastern

#### **De-Churched**

- Adult Children (*available*)
- (*In development stage*) Drifted away; Burned Out (Dones); Bad experience; "Christian in Name Only;" Long-term inactive members; Former Roman Catholics

#### **Un-Churched**

- The "Nones" (*available*)
- (*In development stage*) "Spiritual, not religious"

#### **ROM's** (Religious Organizations and Movements)

- Mormons
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Scientism
- (*In development stage*) Scientology; Christian Science; Hedonism; Occult; Wiccan; Lodges; Legalism.

We hope that Holy Cross will look into this new ministry resource and consider how it might help our church family reach inward and outward to support the needs of our members and individuals and families in our communities.



**\* Keep your family communicating every night and grow together in insight, love and understanding. Use this simple 5-step process just before bed for maximum impact.**

Learn more about these easy and effective family communication tools at [www.faith5.org](http://www.faith5.org).

**SHARE** your highs and lows of the day.

**READ** and highlight verses—one a day—in your Bible.

**TALK** about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows.

**PRAY** for one another. Praise and thank God for today's highs. Ask the Holy Spirit for help with today's lows. Include highs and lows of your family, friends and world in this prayer. Close in Jesus' name.

**BLESS** one another with the sign of the cross (on the forehead) and these words: (Name), child of God, may the love of God the Father, the forgiveness of sin won by Jesus' perfect life, death and resurrection from the dead here on earth, and the power of the Holy Spirit you received in your baptism charge you up and remind you to call on Him for all things!

*Pastor Jim*

*Meg*

*Dorene*



*Mui*

*Becca*