



GETTING TO KNOW VACANCY PASTOR DEAN GADE



I was born in Forest City, Iowa, the third son of five siblings. I have two older brothers and two younger sisters. After leaving Iowa at an early age I grew up in Windom, Fairmont, Rochester and finally Shakopee. I graduated from Shakopee High School in 1972. After a short stint at Moorhead State and later Normandale Community College, I started at Continental Machines in Savage in Inventory Control. I married Diane in 1979 and was blessed with three sons, Michael, Matthew and Mark. In 1983, I started the Pre-Seminary program at Concordia College in St. Paul, MN. graduating in 1986. Moving to La Crosse, WI to work for Norplex Oak, a division of Allied Signal as an Inventory/Production Control manager.

In 1991 we moved to St. Louis to attend Concordia Seminary. In 1993-94, I served my vicarage at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waseca, MN. I graduated from CSL in 1995. My first call was to St. Peter Lutheran Church in Randall, MN. After a year I came to the Twin Cities and served Messiah Lutheran Church in Lakeville for 6 months before serving Shepherd of the Grove, Maple Grove for a year while I also worked at Ergotron Inc. in Eagan as a Purchasing Buyer and later as Assistant Production Control Manager. I was trained as an Intentional Interim Pastor and served Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Spring Lake Park for a year and a half. There were no Intentional Pastor needs when I finished so I became the warehouse manager for Part's Plus in Hopkins and later as a buyer for Rockwell Automation in Eden Prairie.

In 2004 I accepted a call to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in NE Minneapolis where I served until the end of 2019 when I retired. I week later I started with Endeavor Air at MSP and worked for 2 1/4 years while also serving Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Richfield with homebound and shut in ministry which I am still doing. I served pulpit supply at numerous churches until I accepted the Vacancy Pastor's position at Holy Cross starting on April 1st. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with our 7 grandchildren, genealogy research and traveling to Europe. My hobbies are fishing, hunting and woodworking (crafts).

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The King James Version of Proverbs 29:18 reads: **"without a vision, the people will perish."** Although the NIV translation is somewhat different, the impact is equally powerful: **"without a revelation, the people cast off restraint."** In other words, unless God's people have a clear understanding of where they are headed, the probability of a successful journey is severely limited, at best.

Yet, how many Christians – or more directly, how many Christian leaders or congregations– operate from day to day with a clear sense of God's vision for their ministry? As I've been evaluating the differences between the Churches that are growing and healthy and the churches that are stagnant or in decline, the one key distinction that emerges between these categories is the existence of a true vision for ministry.

In every one of the growing, healthy churches, there is a discernable link between the spiritual and numerical growth of those congregations and the existence, articulation, and widespread ownership of God's vision for ministry by the leaders and participants of the church. Conversely, there is invariably, a clear absence of vision in those congregations in which there is neither spiritual nor numerical growth taking place.

As I begin my work with you, my assumption is that, for most of you, your goal for yourselves and this congregation is the alignment of your heart, mind, and actions with God's desires and intentions for the entire ministry of God's people here at Holy Cross. It is in that hope, as we journey together, that the emphasis will be on training up leaders in this congregation (this doesn't mean just the elected leaders) who will step forward to the challenge which God places before this congregation to see His vision. For it is to this vision that He calls each of us, His Children who call Him Father, to listen, learn, follow, and grow in our Christian maturity.

Learning Christian leadership qualities and putting them into practice in our lives can be described like a small path. The first people to use the path find it very difficult because it is narrow... but the more people who walk on this path, the larger it will become. In the end it will be a well traveled road that everyone uses with ease and delight. So we, who are pioneers on this small and narrow path, must press on so our children and grandchildren will find an easy road. Thanks to those who have been ahead of them preparing the way.

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR CHURCH LEADERS

THOU SHALT accept thy place of service, believing that God needs you where HE has placed you.

THOU SHALT seek to learn your job and understand what it involves.

THOU SHALT be faithful to the services... of the church and to your God-called, church elected responsibility.

THOU SHALT study the Word of God and spend time in prayer EVERY day.

THOU SHALT pray for the unfaithful and seek opportunities to lead them to Christ.

THOU SHALT put the best construction on what you say about the church and joyfully lead others to do likewise.

THOU SHALT work with the entire program of the church, support the pastor and staff as well as other leaders.

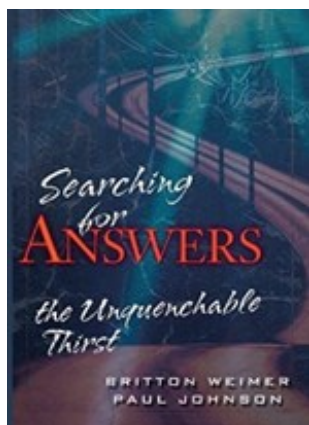
THOU SHALT follow God's plan of Christian Stewardship of first fruits giving of time, talents and treasures.

THOU SHALT do the very best.... not the second best.

THOU SHALT seek the leadership of God in all matters and follow that leadership above all else.

"Only those who look with the eyes of children can lose themselves in the object of their wonder," said Eberhard Arnold. A child's sense of wonder, unconditional love, and hope are to be cherished. These are the foundational links to the heavenly Father, links we should never sacrifice under the guise of a false maturity. Hold fast to the wonder and revel in God's love. Youth may be fleeting but a relationship with our Father and Creator only grows greater with the passing of time.

BIBLE BOOK ENDERS



Bible Book Enders will be meeting on Monday night July 25 to discuss **Searching for Answers - The Unquenchable Thirst** written by our own Brit Weimer and Paul Johnson. Join us for a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm with a book discussion to follow with Brit at 7:00 pm. Bring your friends, everyone is welcome and

invited, even if you have not had a chance to read the book. After our discussion you will WANT to read it! Questions contact Michele Lein or Bonnie Nowak.

COFFEE TIME



There's nothing like coffee and a treat after worship; it's the Lutheran way!!! A signup is posted in the Commons, so please sign up to help out! Never provided goodies

or made coffee? Talk to Pam with any questions. We ALL enjoy the refreshments, please be a part of putting a smile on everyone's faces!!!

TIME OF GRACE

Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style. Subscribe to **Time of Grace** (www.timeofgrace.org) resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with "Grace Moments" written devotions and "Grace Talks" video devotions.

TIME OF GRACE 

Pastor Mike Novotny
The Core
Appleton, Wisconsin
KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am

BELL CHOIR IS BACK!



Talk to Kris Hentges if you are interested in playing!

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request on Sundays, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the service. You can also email weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to the office at megan@holycross-pl.org.



CALLING ALL WOMEN CHALLENGE



Join us this summer for a study on the book of Lamentations. All are welcome, invite your family, friends and neighbors. We will have a great time discussing this unique book in the Old Testament. Read the book of Jeremiah and commentary on Jeremiah in preparation. May God prepare your hearts and minds for the AMAZING study of HIS WORD. **The dates for Bible Study will be June 15, 22, 29 and July 6, 20, 27 from 7:00-8:30 pm.** Contact Michele Lein with any questions.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Join us at Holy Cross from **8-9am each Tuesday** as we watch and discuss the Community Light Bible study on Mission Paradigms. We meet in the Gamma classroom across from the Kitchen.

ATTENTION ALL BIBLIOPHILES

Please pick up an updated Bible Book Enders' book list. Bible Book Enders was organized around 2004, and it meets four times a year. The group typically meets at church. Books are sometimes available at the library or they may be ordered on-line. The next book is by the author in our midst, Brit Weimer, and his co-author Paul Johnson. The book is entitled Searching for Answers - the Unquenchable Truth. All are invited to hear Brit's presentation, July 25 at 6 pm with a potluck preceding the presentation. Questions may be directed to Michele Lein or Bonnie Nowak.

IDE THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM



The Life of the Church in the "New" North America, is May 18-20, 2022 in Solon, Iowa. Take a look at their website for more information and to register online www.campiodiseca.org/idesymposium

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS

Join us for Bible Study series in the back of the sanctuary after worship. We begin a series on the Hard Sayings of Jesus, starting with the Beatitudes, Mathew 5:3-11. Feel free to get a cup of coffee first and snack before we start at 10:15am.

MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH



Main Street Living is an hour-long Lutheran television program that airs new episodes each Sunday morning. The Twin Cities program is broadcast at 9 am Central time on WFTC channel 29/9-2. Each Sunday, viewers enjoy a 30 minute remastered episode of "This is the Life," a popular Lutheran Hour Ministries series from the 70s and 80s. The episode is followed by a modified Lutheran worship service—led by a different local pastor each week. Main Street Living (Twin Cities) is endorsed by the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; however, the program receives no funding from the District. It is totally funded by viewers and congregations of the WFTC viewing area.

www.mainstreetliving.com/twincities

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. Check-out LHM's daily devotions too.

MAY 1

"Three C's of Christian Witness"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Competence, Conversation, and Caring--the three C's of Christian witness. (Daniel 3:28)

MAY 8

"What the Bible Is Like"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Bible is like an encyclopedia, a love letter, a self-help book, and a Good News article--but these comparisons all fall short. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

MAY 15

"What the Bible Is About"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

What is the Bible about? That's not merely an intellectual question. It's not just for a classroom. This question is intimately related to another question: what's your life about?" Rediscovering the Bible. (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)

MAY 22

"What the Bible Is For"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

What does a popular board game have in common with the Bible? (1 Timothy 4:13)

MAY 29

"Imagine That!"

Guest Speaker: Dr. Dean Nadasdy

(Revelation 22:1-7)

2 MINUTE MULTIPLIER



A weekday 2-minute devotion that helps you see Jesus at work in your world.

Delightful

The line of customers kept growing. Her phone kept ringing. The room's frustration? Rising. It should have been a simple in-and-out experience. Pick up the windshield wiper ordered the day before. Five minutes morphed into 20. I morphed into grumbling. Demanding. Forgot about being delightful.

In Isaiah 65, God speaks of making us a joy and a delight. Not just for Himself. But also for the world. Turning us into people people love to be around. What does that look like? For delight to well up in others when you're in the room? It looks like hope. Grace. Forgiveness. Acceptance. Kindness. Understanding. Having enough of those traits to share. You can't contain them. They bubble over.

It looks like a sincere love for their well-being. A true concern for how they're doing. Loving the neighbor more than the self. Obvious by asking. Listening. It looks like providing solutions. Not just platitudes. Allowing their struggles to change your schedule. Modify your day. Morph the five minutes into 20. Filling your backpack with their burdens so that when you leave, you leave your friend lighter. The room, lighter. Less dark. More delight. More courage.

Such is the calling of those in whom the Father delights. You. Me. All for whom He gave Jesus. To bring you back home. Restore you to a place of honor. Reunite you with the Lover of your soul. The One who carries your burdens. Leaving you lighter. Your home, lighter. Less dark. More courage.

To be delightful is not difficult. It simply entails letting out the hope you have in Jesus. Letting out the joy of being forgiven. Of belonging to God. Of being delighted over. Who needs some delight today? Perhaps the overwhelmed auto parts attendant. Enjoy being the delight Jesus created you to be.

Rev. Bill Woolsey
President and Founder
FiveTwo Network

Sign up to receive the 2 Minute Multiplier emailed to you! www.fivetwo.com/2mm

LCMS YOUTH GATHERING



As the LCMS Youth Gathering gets closer and our youth have been blessed by your support and donations, it is wonderful to share about the Gathering's theme with you. This summer the youth will be exploring the theme "In All Things" based on Colossians 1:15-20. Here is 16-17: "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things and in him all things hold together."

Throughout their time in Houston, TX the youth and adults attending will be focusing not only on the two verses quoted, or even just the five mentioned above, but the entire book of Colossians. You are encouraged to look up Col. 1:15-20 or even to read the whole book; it's short with only four chapters, but it holds a lot! If you read it closely, you can find the story of the Gospel

in just our five theme verses: creation, the fall, Christ coming to be in creation, our reconciliation through Him, and the hope of eternal life! Because this small book is jam packed with so much and highlights the whole story of the Bible, a big focus for the Gathering theme is exactly that: The story of the Bible. God's true story to us, about us, and for us.

The Youth Sunday School class with Michele Lein leading the discussion(s), along with Youth leaders Kelly Kruse and Ralph Wager are all getting excited to explore this theme, prepare for the trip this summer and be immersed in it while at the Gathering. Thank you, in advance, for supporting our youth and their leaders with your support and especially through prayer. Please keep praying for them as they get closer to this giant, exciting and Christ-centered event!

MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 1	Confirmation Sunday	"Let's Go To the Video"	<i>John 21:1-14</i>
May 8	4th Sunday of Easter	"Hear, Know, Follow"	<i>John 10:22-30</i>
May 15	5th Sunday of Easter	"To Love as Jesus Loves"	<i>John 13:31-35</i>
May 22	Ascension of our Lord	"Not Left Behind"	<i>Luke 24:44-53</i>
May 29	7th Sunday of Easter	"Christian Love and Unity"	<i>John 17:20-26</i>

LIVING SACRIFICES

Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church. It includes this, to be sure, but it is not limited to it. Stewardship involves our whole life – everything we have and everything we are.

Let us not, though, fall into the trap of thinking that because we give of ourselves in one area then we can neglect giving in another. Stewardship is not stealing from Peter to pay Paul. It is not a game that we play whereby we justify ourselves in not giving a tenth of our income because we have given in some other way.

This is why our Lord warns: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (*Matthew 23:23*) We are given to do both – tithe of ourselves and what we have.

And so it is that St. Paul makes his appeal to us: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (*Romans 12:1–2*)

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. We are not to have the mind of the world, where we exchange equal weight of this for an equal weight of that and think that we have done what God has required. Our whole life is given over for service in and for the Church of God. This is to be done in thanksgiving for what God in Christ has accomplished for us. This is our spiritual worship, the reasonable

response to what He has done for us. Not one for the other but all in all.

But what does this look like? St. Paul never lays down a general principle without also giving us some practical application of what shape that principle is to take concretely. He gives the general principle that our bodies are to be living sacrifices to God. And, after admonishing those who have been given particular gifts of grace to serve the church, St. Paul then speaks generally of what is expected of all. He says:

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (*Romans 12:9–13*)

This is what it looks like to present your bodies as living sacrifices. This is how we live out the grace of God here in time.

Let us then heed the apostle’s teaching. Let us present our bodies – everything that we have and everything that we are – as living sacrifices to God, our reasonable response to what God in Christ Jesus accomplished for us by His death and resurrection. Through this, we have forgiveness of sins, a new life in Christ, and eternal salvation. And through this worship, the grace of God is made manifest in His saints – for the church and the world.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry
www.lcms.org/stewardship

MAY 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Third Sunday of Easter 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Bible Study	2	3 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting	4 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due	5	6	7
8 Fourth Sunday of Easter 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Bible Study	9 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	10 8:00 am Men's Bible Study	11 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due	12	13	14
15 Fifth Sunday of Easter 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Bible Study	16	17 8:00 am Men's Bible Study	18 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due	19	20	21 8:30 am Spring Clean Up Day
22 Ascension of our Lord 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Bible Study	23	24 8:00 am Men's Bible Study	25 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due	26	27	28
29 Seventh Sunday of Easter 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Bible Study	30	31 8:00 am Men's Bible Study				