



CROSSLink

2107 3 Oaks Rd, Cary, IL 60013
847.639.1702 Church Office
847.639.6533 Preschool Office
www.HolyCrossCary.org

Worship Services:
Saturdays 5:30PM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 8:30AM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 10:45AM (LOFT)

September 2018

From the Pastor's Desk...



"No Other Gospel"

Dear Fellow-Redeemed,

Lutheran Christians (and perhaps ALL Christians) are really good at something: forfeiting their freedom.

Jesus came to set you free! He has freed you from your sin, freed you from guilt, freed you from condemnation, freed you from hell and the devil, freed you from rule-keeping, freed you from the need to live a certain way in order to be a genuine Christian-and you forfeit this freedom! You give it away.

How? By going back to counting on your performance. By relying on how well you are doing in your Christian life. By comparing yourself to others. By feeling guilty over every little thing. By feeling guilty about not feeling guilty. By keeping score with yourself and with your neighbor. Freedom forfeited. Followed by misery.

The Letter to the Galatians was written as an antidote to your practice of forfeiting freedom. One of the key verses in this New Testament book is **Galatians 5:1,"So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law." (New Living Translation).**

In other words, stop forfeiting your freedom!!! Now that you have the free forgiveness for all your sins, don't go back to living by commands and laws.

The Letter to the Galatians is full of Gospel comfort, peace and joy. It assures you over and over again that you are loved and forgiven by God, no matter what you've done or how you are living. If this sounds too good to be true, then it's the genuine Gospel!!!

Let's study this letter together. Beginning **Sunday, September 9** we will begin our journey through the Letter to the Galatians. Class meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:45-10:30 AM every Sunday.

If you struggle with sin; if you fight the urge to "perform your way" back into God's favor when you fall; if you feel as if it's "up to you" to make things right with God when it all crumbles into dust- you will LOVE the Letter to the Galatians. It reminds you that YOU ARE FREE!!! Free in Jesus!!! This is the real Gospel. There is no other Gospel.

No matter how well - or how poorly you are living the Christian life - God loves you. His grace, mercy and forgiveness remain the same on your best day as it is on your worst day. Your goodness does not help you; your badness does not harm you in Jesus. What God thinks of you remains the same: you are His dearly loved child! In Jesus you have NOTHING TO LOSE. Now THAT's freedom!

Some complain that "I've already heard the Gospel". Yes, but the problem is that you keep forgetting it. By doing this, you forfeit your freedom in Jesus.

Another reason for studying this letter is that the Gospel is counter-intuitive. It goes against the way we all live. We live by transactions. We buy something by earning and then paying for it. If something is broken, we fix it-or at least try to fix it.

These transactions show up in our dealings with ourselves, with our neighbors, AND WITH GOD. "I must earn and pay for my salvation". "It's up to me to fix my broken relationship with God". "If something went wrong between God and myself, I have to make it right". "You break it, you buy it." And on and on it goes.

This transaction-thinking will destroy you. The good news is that God is not a transactional God! His love and mercy are one-sided: it ALL comes from Him! He doesn't even consider YOUR side of the equation. He loves and forgives anyway. It's 100% God-0% you and me! That's freedom!

Join us beginning **Sunday, September 9 at 9:45 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and goodies begin at 9:30 AM. Invite and bring a friend!

Completely Free in Jesus,

Pastor Bill Metzger
Galatians 5:1

News from the Preschool

Jean Hoger, Director

We are grateful that preschoolers and parents were able to come and spend time together in the classrooms. While the kids played, the 3s parents acquainted themselves with each other, and the 4s parents reunited.

Although we are offering the same classes as last year, we are adjusting the days of attendance so the 3s and 4 will run on the same days. We will have kids here Monday-Thursday. This will benefit anyone with kids in both classes. We plan to have the classes separate for small group time and activities that reinforce skills appropriate for the age. We intend to play, have Jesus Time and large motor time together.

We thank you for your continued support and prayers for another school year where we will learn to love and love to learn!

A Teacher's Prayer

Lord, please help me to strengthen their voices, bodies and minds...To express their feelings and control them sometimes...To explore what is near and venture afar...But most important, to love who they are.

New Year of FISH Club Begins Sept 9!



With this Fall season focused on the Book of Luke and the chronological story of Jesus' life, we know it's going to be an exciting and educational year for the kids! With Jesus at the center, the kids connect to God and each other through a variety of fun activities. They craft. They play. They even eat creative snacks. All in a way that reinforces God like nothing else. We saw the amazing work God did week-to-week as the kids retained the stories and lessons from the Bible. It was truly amazing. Please join us **ages 4 through 6th grade every Sunday from 9:35-10:30 AM**. We're sure the kids will grow in their relationship with Jesus and meet a few new friends along the way.

We are looking for **four (4) new volunteers this year** -- we'd prefer 2 (two) adult volunteers and 2 (two) high school volunteers that only need to commit about 1 hour every other week. It really only comes down to 2-2.5 hours per month. We also have back-up teachers in case you can't make it on your scheduled week. The curriculum is organized and set in advance so prep time for your week is 15-30 minutes.

Questions about the curriculum or interested in volunteering? Contact Tania German.

September 9 Outdoor Worship

On September 9, our 10:45 worship service will take place outdoors, under the LOFT carport. Please bring a lawn chair to the service and join us.

Church Picnic September 9

Please join us for this year's RED, WHITE AND BLUE CHURCH PICNIC on Sunday, September 9 at noon starting in the gym. There will be a petting zoo and game for younger kids, Frisbee Golf, a Wiffle Ball game, Cornhole Tourney, egg toss and Bingo for older kids and adults. Chicken, hot dogs, buns, condiments and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Wear your red, white and blue and join us September 9.

Coffee Fellowship

We are starting back up in September with coffee fellowship. If you would be interested in serving coffee and a few treats, please contact Bonnie Robertson or see her at church. We are always looking for families or groups to serve after the Saturday evening service or the Sunday 8:30 service.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study Returns

The Tuesday morning Adult Bible study, taught by Pastor Ross, returns on Tuesday, September 11 at 10:00AM in the conference room off the church office. The group will continue its study of Matthew. Please join us.

Kids for Christ - -The Vine Life (Confirmation)

Our Wednesday evening Christian Education classes will begin on **September 12** from 7–8:30 PM.



Kids for Christ (KFC) is for grades 3-6. The Vine Life (Confirmation) is for grades 7-8. Both classes start the evening in the lower level of the LOFT.



This is a wonderful opportunity for your child's Christian walk with Jesus. Let Jesus be your top priority and give your child a chance to grow closer with his/her Savior! Contact Pastor or Mrs. Metzger with any questions.

Thursday Evening (NEW DAY) Bible Study

Faith Lessons – Cultures in Conflict

Join us on Thursdays beginning September 27 from 7:00-8:00 PM. We will meet in the lower level LOFT (room 140) for a fascinating video Bible study guided by renowned teacher and historian, Ray Vander Laan.

Life Among Pagans

How do you live in a culture where the worldview conflicts with Christianity? Learn from Paul as he presents his beliefs to the most powerful court in Athens and settles among the Greco-Romans of Corinth, who valued wealth and class, worship of multiple gods, and decadent pleasure seeking above all else. In this sixteenth volume of *That The World May Know* video series, discover how to live in your own Athens or Corinth - an increasingly secular Western world - in a way that glorifies God.

1. *Engaging the Mind: Paul in the Stoa of Athens*
2. *Engaging the Heart: Paul Before the Areopagus*
3. *Turning Weakness into Strength*
4. *The Lord's Supper: Discerning the Body*
5. *Transforming the Chaos*

For more information of if you have any questions, please contact facilitator, Ken Hauser.

Bowlers Wanted!

Looking for some fun and fellowship on a Friday evening? No skill required! Come join us the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 PM at 3D Bowl in Island Lake. The season runs September 21 through April 19, 2019. The cost is \$14 per person. Please contact Donna or Joe Stefinsky if you are interested.

Church Officer Positions

The Governing Board (GB) has created a Nominating Committee seeking candidates for the two Church Officer positions up for election in November. The time commitment for these positions is about 90 minutes once a month. If you have time constraints, but feel led to serve in some capacity, this may be a perfect way for you to serve.

Please prayerfully consider being a candidate. If you have questions, are interested in serving, or would like to recommend a candidate, please contact a Nominating Committee member: Mike Bulava, Heath McFaul, Linda Sorensen, Keith Toborg (Committee Chairman), and Bob Wagner.

The search for candidates will continue through the 4th week in October when the committee will meet to qualify candidates and recommend a slate to the Governing Board for placement on the ballot. Elections will take place at the voters' meeting in November.

OWLS Hoots and Happenings



OWLS have enjoyed a summer of great weather and good times. We continue as fall approaches to enjoy meetings at church in the lower level of the LOFT. We will meet September 6 at noon. Bring your own sandwich. The landers will prepare a devotion, dessert and beverages. We exchange books and magazines each month and donate any that are left to Bethesda Thrift Shop. We play cards, dominoes, group games and enjoy an afternoon visiting with friends. Please join us.

On Sunday, September 9 OWLS will play a big part in helping with the RED, WHITE and BLUE CHURCH PICNIC starting at noon. Set up will be on Saturday - you can sign up to help. We are providing the chicken for the potluck meal and encourage everyone to bring a dish to share. We will help with games and provide BINGO and prizes. Any 'stuff' you have that will make a good prize can be brought. OWLS are also asked to donate a \$5 gift card from a local store. We need your help to make this a great church picnic like we all remember having. Now it's time to share this with our kids and grandkids.

OWLS are planning a trip to the Chicago Botanical Gardens on September 20. We will leave from the parking lot at 9:00 AM. You may bring your lunch or purchase a meal there. The OWLS bulletin board will have more information and a signup sheet for transportation.

LWML Weekend October 6 & 7

We will be celebrating LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) Weekend on October 6 and 7. This year's theme is Our Rest in a Changing World. Such a great reminder that Jesus is truly a steady Hand in our tumultuous lives.

We will be taking a free will offering after the Saturday night and Sunday morning church services. Please consider donating to our worthy Mite cause. With your help, LWML was able to meet our goals and supported 9 worthwhile organizations in our latest biennium (2016-2018), including Bible Storybooks in Swahili, Reaching the Homebound and Belize Mission Feeding program. If you have any questions regarding the LWML organization or would like information about our group at Holy Cross, please contact Viki Dettmann. Thank you.

Walcamp Fundraiser

Walcamp presents a live Who Dunit Dinner/Fundraiser Saturday, October 13 at 6:00PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in Batavia. Ticket price is \$30 per person. Group discounts are available. Please call 815-784-5141 or visit www.Walcamp.org.

The evening includes: BBQ pork with sides and dessert, "Diamonds are a Crook's Best Friend" Who Dunit with a live professional troupe and a brief presentation on Walcamp's many ministries.

Caregiver Training

Have you ever wondered what you could do personally for the family who is caring for a loved one around the clock? Are you nervous about spending time alone with a person who has a disability? Voice of Care is offering a training which will enable you to give volunteer respite care with confidence AND to offer the message of hope in Jesus Christ at the same time! Join us at the Northern Illinois District Office (2301 S Wolf Rd in Hillside) on September 8 from 8:30AM to 4:30PM. Cost is \$55 and includes manual and lunch. To reserve your seat, please call Deaconess Kris Blackwell at 630-234-1491.

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5:30P Worship
2 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	3 LABOR DAY Offices closed	4 First day for preschool	5 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir	6 OWLS	7	8 5:30P Worship 7:00P Taizé Service
9 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT) Noon Church picnic	10 6:30P Board of Elders	11	12 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	13 10:00A Prayer Shawl	14	15 5:30P Worship
16 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	17 7:00P Governing Board	18	19 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	20 OWLS	21	22 5:30P Worship
23 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	24	25	26 6:00P Handbells 7:00P Choir 7:00P KFC/Confirmation	27 10:00A Prayer Shawl 7:00P Bible study	28	29 5:30P Worship
30 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:35A FISH Club 9:45A Adult Bible study 10:45A Worship (LOFT)						

2018