

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 2018

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Tyler, Texas 75703

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Bringing Christ to the people...the people to Christ"



Dear Friends in Christ,

For this newsletter article this month, I'd like to continue to look at the Apostle's Creed, the confession of faith that we use in our worship services on most Sunday mornings. For the last few months we've been looking at portions of the Creed, and at what Martin Luther had to say about these portions in his booklet, The Small Catechism. As has been shared, the Creed can be divided into three parts. The parts are called articles. Each article tells us about a person in the Trinity. The first article tells us about God the Father, the second article tells us about God the Son, and the third article tells us about God the Holy Spirit.

We've looked at the first two articles in previous newsletters; this month we continue with the third article. Let me share the article, and then what Luther wrote about it.

The Third Article of the Creed

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Martin Luther wrote:

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church day after day He fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day He will raise me and all the dead and give me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

The Apostles' Creed is a great summary of our Christian faith. And Luther's explanation of the Creed is a marvelous sharing of all that we confess in the Creed. This Sunday morning when we use the Creed, reflect on all that we are saying and proclaiming.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mark

Focus on Missions from the NALC

The following story was in the September edition the North American Lutheran Church's monthly newsletter. It is a helpful and concise summary of how the NALC is doing mission and planting churches. Please note, it is an innovative strategy, more in line with the New Testament and different from what many mainline churches have done over the last 50 years. The NALC believes this will be more helpful and successful, and overcome many of the problems that the old strategies have had.

Please note also that we at OSLC are involved in this. As we are exploring a Hispanic ministry here, we are sharing in this ministry and mission.

NALC STRATEGY FOR PLANTING CHURCHES

*By Pastor Gemechis Buba
Assistant to the Bishop for Missions*

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We have been asked by many people about the NALC's strategy for mission, specifically our strategy for planting churches.

They have heard us say that the NALC does not plant churches at the national level. This is a new strategy and vision for many people.

The formation of this strategy began several years ago after I read an analysis and study done on the topic of mission in different denominations.

A comparison of Lutheran denominations found that most of them (and other mainline denominations) established mission departments at the national level in the 1970s. They began to encourage congregations, synods and regional associations to collect mission money and send it to the national office. The purpose was to centralize the mission fund in one pot.

The national office would then be responsible for planting churches, sending out missionaries and supporting global projects. The role of the local congregation shifted from being engaged in mission to writing a check every month. This money was sent to a regional office, which often took a percentage, and then sent on to the mission's office in the national headquarters.

What happened with that money? What was the result of that strategy?

Because the national church was responsible for mission, most congregations made themselves responsible only for worship. This killed their capacity to multiply and plant other churches. And now we can see the outcome. Each of the mainline denominations (whether more conservative or liberal in theology) that employed that vision and strategy has dwindled. And they continue to dwindle. There is clearly something wrong with that mission strategy.

In the NALC, we are embracing a different strategy for mission. Rather than the national church being responsible for planting congregations, it is critical to put mission in the hands of congregations. Mission funds need to be in the hands of congregations. Mission projects and strategy need to be in the hands of congregations. That is why we emphasize that the NALC is Mission Driven and Congregationally Focused.

Congregations are in the driver's seat when it comes to planting churches. Rather than making one office responsible for mission, we make thousands of congregations in the mission field responsible for the propagation of the Gospel — and for the planting of churches. That is why we say the NALC does not plant churches from the national office. If planting churches is not done by congregations — and specifically your congregation — it is not going to be done.

That's why responsible pastors and mission congregations work individually or collectively within their Mission Districts to make pastors, lay leaders and members responsible for the work of mission. To assist in this endeavor, we are mobilizing critical resources and systems:

1. An introductory packet and access to current resources are available to assist. Please contact Jenny Brockman in the NALC Mission Office at jbrockman@thenalc.org.
2. Pastor Brad Hales, Director of Domestic Mission, will lead a monthly webinar as an introduction and review of our resources and to answer questions. These webinars will be held on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. ET. To register, contact Pastor Brad Hales at bhales@thenalc.org.
3. After connecting through the introductory webinar, you can engage in monthly coaching through our New Starts Team. For more information, contact Pastor Trina Petersen at beholdanewthing@gmail.com.
4. We are continuing to develop strategic partnerships and pathways, as well as updating our website. More information will be forthcoming. As we engage in this work of mission together, it is my joy to remind you of the words of Jesus: "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18).

As we engage in mission — whether church planting, evangelization or discipleship — we can be certain we will be attacked right and left. Our relationship with God and relationships with each other will be attacked. But the good news is that nothing will overcome the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Confirmation Class of 2018

We confirmed two students on Sunday, Oct. 28. They are Rachael Gibbs and Ezra Johnson. Please congratulate and keep praying for these young people on this milestone!

First Communion

Each fall we offer a class to prepare students for receiving communion. Usually students take this class in the 5th grade, but we very much involve parents in the decision as to when they student should take the class. This year our class will be offered on Sundays Nov. 4, 11, and 18 immediately after worship.

Church Website – WOW!!!

Have you checked out our new church website? We hate to brag, but it is incredible! Thank you to Chris and Merry Burris for all their work in making this happen. Our website is to be found at www.oslctyler.org

By the way, the more hits we get on our website, the earlier it comes up on internet listings. So please, check it out a number of times!

Electronic Newsletters

One of our goals for this fall is to begin sending out our monthly newsletter electronically. The newsletter will continue to be sent out at the beginning of each month; we plan to begin sending an electronic version as an expanded version of the flocknotes that we are currently sending. Each week you will receive the flocknote as you presently are; but the first week of the month you will receive an expanded version that will include all the information found in our present newsletter.

We also know that some of our members would prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter in the mail. We will of course continue to send paper copies to those who would prefer that.

We have begun to work on this transition. We are excited to make this move forward!

Awarding Bibles to Students

On Sunday, October 14 we gave Bibles to 3 of our students – Karmen Fitzgerald, Ian Hollenbeck, and Jonah Rhodes. Please be sure to congratulate these young people and ask them how they are doing with reading their Bibles!

Exploring Hispanic Ministry

Pastor Pedro Portillo from Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Irving will begin helping us to explore the possibility of developing a Hispanic ministry here at Our Saviour's. We will begin by advertising that we are available to do weddings, baptisms and quinceaneras. Pastor Pedro will usually be with us once a month for a Friday/Saturday. We will keep the congregation apprised of how this is going. Please keep this new exploration in your prayers!

Sunday School – Best Year Ever!

Sunday School is going well this year; thank you to everyone who is sharing in this ministry. We offer youth classes for age 3 through Senior High. Please be inviting more and more children to participate!

Our Adult class meets at the same time, 9:00 on Sunday mornings, in the conference room. It is great fun and informative, do come and check this out!

Discipleship Opportunities

We have two "discipleship opportunities" to keep in front of you this fall. First, on Sunday mornings, when you come into the worship space and sit down, please take a few moments and pray. Pray for our service, pray for those leading worship, pray for God to fill us with His Spirit. Take a few seconds, or a few minutes, whatever works for you. Let's intentionally have all of our members supporting our worship with prayer! THANK YOU.

Second, we want all of our members to have a Bible and a good study bible. There is a table in the church gathering space; on it are bibles, study bibles, and brochures to help with Bible study. If you don't have one of these, please take one! We want all of our members reading the Word of God.

Social Ministry

The Social Ministry Committee follows the mandates of scripture to serve others, especially those who are ill, hungry, troubled, suffering injustice, or lacking basic needs. Each month, we will include a brief description of the organization (s) that our donations target.

October and November Contributions: Child Welfare Board and Azleway.

Annual Food Drive for Path: During the entire month of **November**, we are collecting nonperishable food items for Path. Please contribute items such as canned foods, sugar, flour, pasta, cereal and etc. These can be placed on the table in the Narthex or on the altar.

Shoe Box Drive: The Shoebox Drive was very successful again this year. The committee is so very grateful to members of the congregation who packed and returned boxes. This year we returned 96 boxes. These not only make Christmas a happy time but share the Good News of Jesus Christ to children around the world.

Christmas In The Neighborhood: Again this year we are adopting 4 seniors from Meals on Wheels. Sign up for gifts will start on November 25th. All gifts must be returned by December 9th.

Quilters: The Quilters are pleased to have quilted wall hangings. These are for sale. If you are interested in any of these, please contact Linda Tumino or Helen Siebert. The Quilters contributed a hand quilted Valentine quilt that was raffled at Oktoberfest.

The Quilters are always looking for new members. Anyone who is interested, please join us any Tuesday morning. We meet from 9:00 to 11:30 with a coffee break at 10:00. No experience is necessary. Only a desire to learn is required.

Primetimers

The busy holiday season is right around the corner. Start it off right with some great Christian fellowship and delicious food. Mark your calendars for November 8, 2019 at 12 noon at OSLC.

Carol & Ed Lattier are hosts for the luncheon. The menu includes baked sandwiches provided by the hosts. Attendees are to assist by bringing desserts.

The program is entitled "Changes in Medicare for 2019".

The offering will be donated to The East Texas Food Pantry. It is that time of year to concentrate on being thankful and sharing the best we can with those less fortunate.

Once again, remember November 8, 2018 at 12 noon at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and do plan to attend. Not only will the food be great, but the fellowship is "out of this world". Remember we are the "most caring Primetimers in the world". There is no one who will intimidate you or nothing to obligate you, just great folks to welcome you, so give us a try and **do bring friends.**

Please RSVP to Mary Ferguson via email or 903-565-6607, by Monday November 5th so the hosts know how many tables to set up & how much food to prepare.

Some Pictures from Oktoberfest! Looks like the Rain did not dampen the Enthusiasm!



November 2018 Worship Servers

2018	All Saints Sunday	Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost	Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost	Christ the King Sunday	First Sunday Of Advent
	1st Sunday November 4	2nd Sunday November 11	3rd Sunday November 18	4th Sunday November 25	1st Sunday/Next Mo. December 3
Altar Guild	Jan Moch Susan Buntz Audrey Cameron	Carol Lattier Sherry Towns Connie Lucas Ed Lucas Kathy Bauman	Joni LeBlanc Sandra Hawthorne Jennifer Videtto	Carol Lattier Virginia Coker Kimberly Butler Michelle Smith	Jan Moch Susan Buntz Audrey Cameron
		10:00 Worship Service			
LMC & Usher	Ryan Gibbs	Robert Henriksen	Bob Tardiff	Ed Lattier	Sally Dengerud
Usher	Milo Miles	Nicholas Henriksen	Ezrah Johnson	Jethro Jackson	Cliff Dengerud
Acolyte	Mackenzie Davis	Abby Gibbs	Grayson Sartor	Addie Sartor & McKenzie LeRoy	Ben Snyder
Reader	Donna Bowers	Travis Snyder	Kristen Blaise	Joan Fleck	Donna Bowers
Communion Assistants	Susan Buntz Dee Miles Audrey Cameron	Cheryl Pontious Ken Pontious Jana Snyder	Max Lewis Ed Lattier Jan Moch	Amy Norris Jana Coke Blaine Davis	Susan Buntz Dee Miles Audrey Cameron
Projectionist	Toby Fite	Toby Fite	Toby Fite	Toby Fite	Toby Fite

PLEASE NOTE: If you cannot serve in your scheduled worship service position, please find a substitute so that the position is filled. Then call the office at (903-561-1865) so that the right server can be shown on that week's bulletin.

WELCOME November



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship 	5 9:00 Quilters 12:00 AA Meeting	6 9:00 Quilters 12:00 AA Meeting	7 Embroiderer's Guild: 9-3	8 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 Primetimers 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	9 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 Primetimers 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	10 12:00 AA Meeting
11 Veterans Day 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship	12 6:30 Council	13 9:00 Quilters 12:00 AA Meeting	14 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES—NOON	15 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	16 Deadline at Noon for Newsletter Articles/Dates	17 Embroiderer's Guild: 9-3 12:00 AA Meeting
18 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship	19 9:00 Quilters 12:00 AA Meeting	20 9:00 Quilters 12:00 AA Meeting	21 GOBBLE TIL YOU WOBBLE logo with a turkey.	23 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	24 12:00 AA Meeting	24 12:00 AA Meeting
25 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Choir 10:00 Worship	26 9:00 Quilters 11:30 Social Ministry 12:00 AA Meeting	27 9:00 Quilters 11:30 Social Ministry 12:00 AA Meeting	28 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	29 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	30 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting	30 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 AA Meeting 6:00 CODA 6:00 ACA Meeting





NALC

North American Lutheran Church



OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Staff:

Senior Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Mark Braaten
 Parish Administrator.....Debbie Miller
 Financial Administrator.....Carol Lattier
 Organist/Keyboardist.....Dr. Jaeyong Lee

Mission Statement

*“ Bringing Christ
 To the people,
 And the people
 To Christ. ”*

Sunday Schedule

**9:00 Children's Sunday School
 & Adult Bible Study**
10:00 Worship Service

Address Service Requested

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
 4900 Kinsey Drive
 Tyler, TX 75703**

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