

Hello friends,

All new stuff below:

COVID and the School: Once it was far off in the Hunan province. Now it's within a couple of our school families at Good Shepherd in Watertown. Thankfully, our families have done everything right, and are being extremely careful and cautious, isolating at home. Our teachers are delivering homework assignments. Friends and family are delivering groceries. Let us deliver our prayers to God, asking for symptoms to remain mild and the virus be contained.

Confirmation: 6th, 7th and 8th grade confirmation begins today. Each class will be short and intense, from 3:15 to 4:00 pm. Each class will also be recorded and posted online for those who need or prefer learning from home. Pray for me. I'm not at home in this teaching environment. It feels like my feet are bound by a rope and I'm being dragged around by a horse on a fast, bruising ride. The horse's name is "Technology."

Youth Group: The Youth Group will resume their weekly meetings on Sunday, September 13th, from 4 to 5:30. The group will meet down below, outside in the grassy area in the back of school. Bring your own chair and beverage. The Youth Group is open to all youth, 7th-12th grades. Volunteers are needed! Please call Phil Zastrow.

Women of Good Shepherd: The Women of Good Shepherd have a full slate of service activities planned because, in their own words, "the ministry of Christ must go on" despite the current challenges. There will be a number of in-gatherings for Mary's Room, the Food Pantry, etc., and they are making them as easy and safe as possible for us all. For example, on Saturday, October 3, between 9 and 10 am, you can drive your car up to the front door of the church and simply pop open your trunk. Two of our ladies will be there to retrieve donated items. October 3 is for Mary's Room. Needed are Baby Wipes, Baby Shampoo, Body Wash, bathtubs, diapers, and bottles/brushes. See the attached for more information. Thank you, Women of Good Shepherd!

Memory Verse: The memory verse for this week is from 2 Corinthians 12:9, "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in your weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

Bible Study: Pastor Thompson will be leading a Bible Study at Church on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month beginning October 6, 2020 at 7pm. The study is based on the devotional booklet "Christ and Calamity (Grace & Gratitude in the Darkest Valley)." Calamities come in many different sizes and God addresses them all in his Word and by his Spirit. Even when we don't see or feel it, God is always faithful. When calamity strikes, you can count on God—not because you feel close to him but because he remains close to you. Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil, the author of the devotional book says, "We're living through a global calamity, but we all live through our own small calamities" and he reminds us, "In times of turmoil seek The Prince of Peace." We will read this little book together as we stop along the way to reflect on

and share our Lord's comforting and sustaining words with one another. The Bible Study is limited to 30 individuals, and about 20 have already signed up. To sign up, please call the church office. The books have already been ordered and cost \$10 a piece.

Engaging in Spiritual Conversations: How can we share God's love through spiritual conversations with our family, friends, and neighbors? Lutheran Hour Ministries and the Lutheran Laymen's League is holding their 2020 Virtual Fall Event on Saturday, September 26. You can participate at First Immanuel Lutheran Church in Cedarburg, WI or from home on your own internet device. This new online format includes presentations and training on information to share the Gospel with the unreached featuring LHM leaders:

Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, the Lutheran Hour® Speaker,

Kurt Buchholz, President & CEO,

Rev. Dr. Tony Cook, VP Global Ministries,

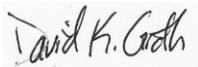
Rev. Dr. Jason Broge, Director of Design and Development

Community Development manager, Jennifer Prophete will be the host for the day.

The event begins at 8:30 a.m. with the online presentations beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude at 12:00 noon. For those in attendance at First Immanuel, a box lunch will be provided for a cost of \$10.00, collected at the door. Following lunch our annual SWD business meeting will be conducted (not more than half an hour is planned). We anticipate adjourning around 2:00 p.m. Register today at <https://www.lhm.org/LLL2020/>. If you have further questions or need more information contact Tom Beineke, LLL South Wisconsin District President at 414-610-9356, thomas.beineke@yahoo.com or Karl Rorske Director of Missions and Outreach at First Immanuel at 414-702-0070, kroeske@fils.org. Online registration is open through September 21, 2020.

If you worship with us online: We started attaching the weekend's bulletin to this email. It includes the hymn verses, responses, lessons, etc. You will see exactly what those who worship in the sanctuary are seeing, misprints and all!

That's all for now. God bless and keep you! "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1).



Pastor Groth