

Trinity Lutheran Church & School
300 Broad Street
Menasha, WI 54952

May 2021 Newsletter

(920) 722-2662 Church
(920) 725-1715 School
www.trinitymenasha.com

Important Dates

- 5-4 Board Meetings
- 5-8 Food Pantry
- 5-11 Board of Directors Meeting
- 5-18 Ladies Aid
- 5-22 Food Pantry
- 5-23 Confirmation
- 5-28 Last day of School
- 5-29 Graduation
- 5-31 Memorial Day

Reminders:

- Services are open to the public by reservation only. Please contact the church office at (920) 722-2662 or bwohlrahe@trinitymenasha.com.
- Services will continue to be available for live-streaming on Trinity's Facebook page, and for later viewing on YouTube. Check the church website for more details.
- You may also check the church Facebook page for a Daily Devotion from Pastor Billings.



Senior Pastor:

Rev. Steven S. Billings



Assoc. Pastor/Principal:

Rev. Keith E. GeRue



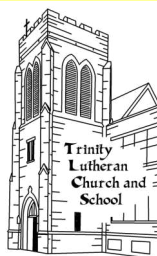
Choir Director:

Mr. Tim Reuning



Organist:

Mrs. Nancy Lephart



Our Mission Statement:

Trinity Lutheran Church & School, Menasha is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians being empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and His Sacraments to encourage, refresh, and strengthen both adults and children in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, while sharing His love with those who do not yet know their Lord and Savior.

Thank you to...

the congregation for all your support. It saddens me to say God has called me to another place. I pray you will all understand, and that God will comfort you. Much love, Beth Wohlrahe.

our Trinity Family and to all those who donated mother and baby care items for the Bella Medical Clinic. Our delivery bag was so huge and so heavy we could barely carry it. Your generosity, as always, is so evident of your love for your Lord, and the people He has put before us.

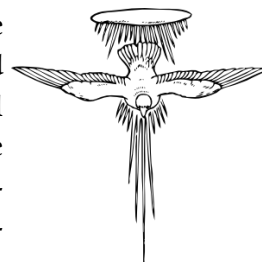
The National Day of Prayer—May 6, 2021

2 Corinthians 3:17 "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

America needs our prayers. We need to be praying for all people, every day, because people are still in need and the Church is still called to pray.

Pentecost in the Church Year

Red is the color of paraments you will see for Pentecost. The color red communicates the motif of strength-strength and power the Holy Spirit gives in order for God's people to call on the name of Jesus Christ and share that powerful name with others. On Pentecost, Christians commemorate the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit came to continue the Father's work on earth.



Wellness Plus Programs Winnebago County Public Health

Stepping On is a falls prevention class that has been proven to reduce falls by 30%. This interactive class will help you recognize your risk of falling and help you build the balance, strength, and practical skills needed to avoid a fall. This small group class is led by 2 trained facilitators and meets for 2 hours once a week for 7 weeks. It is geared towards adults over 60, adults who have fallen in the past year or have a fear of falling. During the class, you will meet with a physical therapist, vision specialist, pharmacist, and community safety specialist who help you gain confidence to stay active in your community and do the things you want to do.

There will be an in person Stepping On class at the Menasha Senior Center May 5-June 16.

The class will meet every Wednesday from 1-3pm.

The cost is only \$15 for the entire 7-week session. Reserve your spot now and get ready for summer!

Please call Winnebago County Health Dept @ 920-232-3000 to register.

May 2021

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Menasha, WI 54952

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 5pm Worship by Reservation & Online
2-5th Easter of Sunday 9am Worship by Reservation & Online 10:45am School Musical	3 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 9:00am Sewing Day 6:30pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Women's Bible	4 6:30am Ladies Bible 6:30pm Board Mtgs	5 8:45am Chapel 5pm Catechism 3:45pm Faculty Meeting 6:30pm Worship (Mask Required)	6 6:00am Men's Bible	7 2:45pm School Elec- tives	8 9am Food Pantry 5pm Worship by Reservation & Online
9-6th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 9am Worship by Reservation & Online 10:30am Ed Hour In Person & Online 7th-8th Grade Chicago Trip	10 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 9:00am Sewing Day 6:30pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Women's Bible 7th-8th Grade Chicago Trip	11 6:30am Ladies Bible 6:30pm Board of Dir. Mtg 7th-8th Grade Chicago Trip	12 8:45am Chapel 5pm Catechism No Worship	13 6:00am Men's Bible 7:00 pm Ascension Day Service at Peace Lutheran Church, Neenah	14 12 noon Dismissal PS3-2	15 5pm Worship by Reservation & Online
16- 7th Sunday of Easter 9am Worship by Reservation & Online 10:30am Ed Hour In Person & Online	17 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 9:00am Sewing Day 6:30pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Women's Bible	18 6:30am Ladies Bible 6:30pm Ladies Aid	19 8:45am Chapel 5pm Catechism 6:30pm Worship (Mask Required)	20 6:00am Men's Bible	21	22 9am Food Pantry 5pm Worship by Reservation & Online
23-Pentecost/Confirmation 9am Worship by Reservation & Online 10:30am Ed Hour In Person & Online	24 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> 9:00am Sewing Day 6:30pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Women's Bible	25 6:30am Ladies Bible	26 8:45am Chapel 5pm Catechism 6:30pm Worship (Mask Required)	27 6:00am Men's Bible	28 Last Day of School Noon Dismissal	29 10am 8th Grade Graduation 5pm Worship by Reservation & Online
30— Holy Trinity/Graduation 9am Worship by Reservation & Online 10:30am Ed Hour In Person & Online	31— Memorial Day <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i> <i>Church Office Closed</i> no Sewing Day 6:30pm Prayer Time 6:30pm Women's Bible					

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

5/1 CORRENTE, Nicholas & Margaret
 5/5 SCHULTZ, JoAnn & Dan
 5/8 KOHLER, Todd & Heather
 5/11 DEHNE, Jim & Valerie
 5/12 PUES, Vance & Michelle

5/15 SCHRAMPFER, Martin & Karen
 5/17 ROSIN, Jerry & Janet
 5/19 MLODIK, Mitchell & Sarah
 5/22 BRADLEY, Randy & LuAnn

BIRTHDAYS

5/2 CORRENTE, Allison
 5/2 REICHERT, Andrew
 5/3 BUKSYK, Bruce
 5/3 MEIER, Rev. Ronald
 5/3 SOKEL, Bryce
 5/4 AMOND, Douglas
 5/4 KAYE, Gary
 5/5 KOBS, Rachel
 5/7 BRICCO, Lucille
 5/7 SIEGEL, Emma
 5/7 UPCHURCH, Jaidyn
 5/7 WRAY, Joseph
 5/9 BIELEFED, Harvey
 5/9 DAHMS, Daniel
 5/9 HERTZIGER, Blake

5/10 BIELEFELD, Ronald
 5/12 MAHONEY, Brian
 5/12 WIECK, Devin
 5/12 WIECK, Kelsey
 5/13 BARTEL, LeRoy
 5/13 HARRMANN, Tom
 5/13 MEVERDEN, Betsy
 5/14 TUCKER, Richard
 5/15 SIEGEL, Oliver
 5/16 BRADLEY, LuAnn
 5/16 JOERNDT, Mae
 5/17 THOMAS, Rachel
 5/18 DRUM, Tom
 5/18 WEINIG, Elaine
 5/19 MARKO, Judith

5/19 WEINIG, Lee
 5/20 WRAY, Parker
 5/22 BIELEFELD, Patricia
 5/22 SICKLES, Ericka
 5/23 SICKLES, Ambrose
 5/24 COLLINGWOOD, Claire
 5/24 GEHRT, Edward
 5/24 STEUERARD, Madison
 5/28 RADTKE, Shannon
 5/28 REINKE, Joan
 5/29 KOLLMAN, Sandra
 5/30 BURSACK, Debra
 5/30 HOPFENSBERGER, Colyn

✠ *Trinity Membership Update* ✠

New Members/Transfers In: None

Released/Transfers Out: None

Baptisms: None

Weddings: None

Members Who Have Passed: Elizabeth Chick

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. Job 19:25-26

Memorial Day



This U.S. federal holiday is observed on the last Monday of May to honor the men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Memorial Day honors the men and women that died while serving in the military, particularly those who died in battle, or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. Because of their sacrifice, we have the luxury and freedom that we enjoy today.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FINANCIAL REPORT MAR 2021

	<u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u>	<u>DEPOSITS/INCOME</u>	<u>WITHDRAWALS/EXPENSES</u>	<u>ENDING BALANCE</u>
Nicolet General Fund	\$19,507.75	\$65,477.79	(\$71,426.61)	\$13,558.93
Nicolet Restricted Funds	\$132,296.85	\$9,970.98	(\$6,991.65)	\$135,276.18
LCMS Endowment Fund	\$113,225.95	\$10,138.83	(\$157.13)	\$123,207.65
LCEF Steward Fund	\$722.02	\$7,958.61	(\$7,414.10)	\$1,266.53
Nicolet Money Market	\$55,470.26	\$1.50	(\$2,000.00)	\$53,471.76
RBC Account	\$49,963.69	\$3,966.48	\$0.00	\$53,930.17
Nicolet Memorial Fund	\$8,363.57	\$300.63	\$0.00	\$8,664.20
Nicolet Office Acct	\$1,007.80	\$355.01	(\$105.50)	\$1,257.31
Nicolet Debts Repaid	\$5,388.44	\$0.40	\$0.00	\$5,388.84
Nicolet Think Tank	\$3,182.23	\$0.24	\$0.00	\$3,182.47
Nicolet Scrip	\$10,145.60	\$26,051.06	(\$26,960.55)	\$9,236.11
TOTAL	\$440,075.44	\$124,221.53	(\$115,055.54)	\$449,241.43
 LCEF Mortgage (BOTR)	 \$1,090,793.80			 \$1,046,036.94

CIRCUIT-WIDE ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

Thursday, May 13, 2021 • 7:00 PM

Peace Lutheran Church • 1228 S. Park Ave. • Neenah, WI

Thursday, May 13th the congregations of our Circuit will gather to celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord. The service will take place at 7:00 P.M. Peace Lutheran Church, 1228 S. Park Avenue, Neenah, WI; will serve as host. Pastor Phil Enderle, Pastor at Hope, Fond du Lac, will be our guest preacher. Pastors of our Circuit congregations will be participating in the service. There will **not** be a Mass Choir. A small choir of members of Peace will provide special music.

The offering will be presented to the Lord as a part of the service, and given to support the ministry of The Rev. Dr. Funghatou Lo, his wife Dr. Kalia Lo and their adopted son, Mercy, who serve as missionaries. Here is a brief description concerning the nature of their work:

The Rev. Dr. Funghatou Lo, his wife Dr. Kalia Lo and their adopted son, Mercy, serve as missionaries. Because of COVID they are back on an extended furlough living in the Twin Cities. They were able to leave Chaing Mai, Thailand just before Christmas 2020.

Online teaching has continued in 2021 and more sessions are being planned. Hundreds of baptisms and new members have resulted. In 2020 there were 310 baptisms. In the first four months of 2021 the pastors and churches have reported over 200 baptisms. COVID cannot stop God's Kingdom from expanding.

Your financial gifts and support along with your prayers will provide funding for more online training. The Hmong believers are hungry for solid Bible based teaching. Thank you.

In reference to Masks... Because of continuing concerns, though not mandated, they are highly encouraged to be worn. Social distancing is also in place. Hand sanitizer and masks for those who might not have one and prefer to wear one, will be provided as you enter the building.

Come and join fellow brothers and sisters in Christ of our Circuit in celebrating this great event of our Lord Jesus Christ and of His Church.

Stewardship Talk

I have been a member here all my life and been involved in a variety of activities over the years, but until I started helping out with our Food Pantry a few years ago, I didn't have any idea of how it really worked. I knew that many faithful members of our congregation and from Peace in Neenah regularly donated money & food, our family would be sure to bring food for the Holiday food collections, but I never thought about the logistics of how the food is distributed to the people that need it. I also had *no idea* how much of an impact this ministry would have on me and my faith walk.

Here are a few of the things I have learned:

The people who use Trinity's Food Pantry are people of all ages and backgrounds... some are members of either Trinity or Peace congregations, but the majority are people from our community. Whether they're working but can't make ends meet, unemployed or suffering from an illness or disability, our Food Pantry is here to help. We serve anyone who comes, we don't ask a lot of questions when they register, just their name so we can keep track of how many packages we need to prepare twice a month. It's a great feeling to know that I am part of the ministry that helps make life a little better for them. I'm reminded of the Bible verse from **Matt 25:35**... *For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink.*

Many times, people are embarrassed to be receiving a handout. Although we welcome anyone in need, there can be an underlying element of shame for those who come. I always try to keep in mind **1 Peter 3:8** ... *Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted and keep a humble attitude.* I make sure to greet each person with a smile and make them feel welcome, to reassure them that they are not a burden, and we are **happy** that we can help them. I remember one sin-

gle mother who had lost her job telling me, while holding back tears, how difficult it was to be accepting food because she and her kids had always *donated* to local Food Drives and the homeless shelter-- she never



thought that she would be in a situation where she would be **receiving** food from a Food Pantry. There are a

few people I've gotten to know pretty well, who stay in contact with me outside of Food Pantry distribution days, people that God has put in my life to love and encourage, and to teach me compassion and patience.

We also have a lot of helpers. From those who faithfully donate food, money, or bring in extra produce from their gardens, sort food and stock shelves, especially after a Food Drive like the Postal Workers Spring Food Collection—to the faithful crew that comes every 2nd & 4th Saturday morning to stuff the 40 or more boxes and bags full of goodies and then brave all kinds of weather to help with the "Drive-thru" distribution in our back parking lot. As it says in **Ephesians 4:16**...*He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.*

My favorite thing about working for the Food Pantry are the connections I've made with both our patrons and fellow workers and for the friendships that have grown while sharing God's love and provision in a tangible way. What a blessing it is to be a part of this ministry!

Thank You,
Juliet Colby

Serving Our Lord with Gladness - May 2021

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings, **Associate Pastor/Principal:** Rev. Keith E. GeRue.

Elders of the Month Robert Allen 5pm, Bruce Gast 9am

Altar Guild: Philip & Mary Conradt Saturday, Gail Burrows Sunday, Laurel Wirth Wednesday.

Worship Date/Time	Acolyte Serving	Elder on Duty	Greeters	Lectors	Ushering Crew
May 1 5:00pm 2 9:00am	N/A	Robert Allen Bruce Gast	Jane Stier & Betty Allen Brenda Kempf & Jean Zeinert	Pastor Pastor	Maynard Collingwood
May 5 6:30pm	NA	N/A	Karen Edwards	Pastor	Reinke
May 8 5:00pm 9 9:00am	NA	Robert Allen Bruce Gast	Betty Allen, JoAnn Schultz Brenda Kempf & Jean Zeinert	Pastor Pastor	Maynard Collingwood
May 15 5:00pm 16 9:00am	N/A	Robert Allen Bruce Gast	Thomas & Barbara Kester Joan Alliet & Brenda Kempf	Pastor Pastor	Maynard Collingwood
May 19 6:30pm	N/A	N/A	Karen Edwards	Pastor	Reinke
May 22 5:00pm 23 9:00am	N/A	Robert Allen Bruce Gast	Barb & Tom Kester Linda Ratzburg & Carol Evensen	Pastor Pastor	Maynard Collingwood
May 26 6:30pm	N/A	N/A	JoAnn Schultz	Pastor	Reinke
May 29 5:00pm 30 9:00am	N/A	Robert Allen Bruce Gast	Jane Stier & JoAnn Schultz Jane & Rebekah Nielsen	Pastor Pastor	Maynard Collingwood

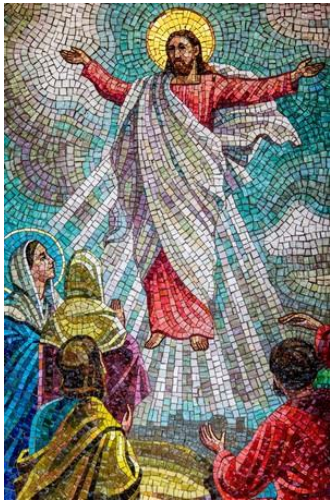
Note: Ushers - if you see your captain's name you are not obligated to usher. If you wish to help on any of the days but it is not your captain that will be fine.

Opportunities to Serve

Help Needed- The Altar Guild is looking for someone that would love to join our Altar Guild team. The tasks are to set up, reset and take down the communion; and on Sundays to deliver the Altar flowers to members after Worship. If this sounds like something you would like to do, contact Kari Lindner at (928) 279-7192.

Ushers- More ushers are needed to help on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. If you would like to help, please contact Elaine Weinig at (920)470-9090 so she can get you on the schedule.

Greeters- We are in need of people to take attendance, ask members if they wish to receive Communion, and if they want to join us for Worship the following week. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Jean Zeinert in the office at (920) 722-2662.



"The King, the Throne, and the Kingdom"

Text: Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24:44-53

Alleluia! Christ is ascended! [He is ascended indeed! Alleluia!] Alleluia!

The hymns that we sing for the Ascension of Our Lord are not only filled with joy, but also have a certain stately, royal quality to them. As is meet and right. As is befitting an inauguration or a coronation. Something significant is happening, and the music reflects that.

For the Ascension of Our Lord is the occasion of His enthronement, the coronation of Jesus on the throne of God in heaven. Notice, though, that I did not say the enthronement or coronation of the Son of God - that place on the throne, that place at the Father's right hand, was always and rightly the Son's. But the Son of God came down from heaven and was incarnate, or as we confess in the Creed, *He was made man*. And not just for a little while, using a human nature for a while and then throwing it away when He was done with it - but forever. The Son of God and our human nature have been permanently and inseparably united in the man Jesus. And so in His Ascension, it is not just Jesus' divinity but also His human nature - *our* human nature - that is *seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty*. What Adam gave up, Christ has restored. What Adam cast down in shame, Christ has lifted up in glory.

Which means that is our brother there, at the right hand of the Father, on the throne of God, ruling all things for our good. And that's definitely a reason to celebrate and rejoice this night.

And the disciples seem to get that. We hear in Luke, that after watching Jesus ascend, the disciples returned to Jerusalem *with great joy*! They weren't sad that their friend and Master left them, they were overjoyed that His rule and authority would continue.

So with that in mind, this royal enthronement and coronation, they ask Jesus: ***Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?*** I think we usually dismiss that question, thinking that the disciples *still* don't get it! They're *still* thinking wrongly and about an earthly kingdom. Maybe. But notice that Jesus doesn't scold them or disagree with them. He would have if He thought it necessary. He had before. But Jesus doesn't say *No! I'm not restoring the kingdom to Israel!* He says this instead: ***it is not for you to know the times or seasons***. Or in other words, He *is* restoring the kingdom to Israel, but the when - don't worry about that. Instead, He tells them the how. He says: ***But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.***

The disciples were anxious to see Jesus finish what He started. And they will! And we will. As Jesus continues His work from His throne through the Holy Spirit which He gives to His Church, the *new* Israel. The *old* Israel was an earthly nation and had its time and place and purpose. But that's not the Israel Jesus will restore. Jesus made all things new through His death and resurrection, so it is a *new* Israel that He is now restoring, a spiritual nation, not limited by time or geography, but including peoples of all times and places - past, present, and future.

And this restoring will now take place through them, these disciples now apostles. These followers turned sent ones. Sent out into the world. ***To the ends of the earth***. And through their preaching, the kingdom will be restored and grow, for the Spirit will work through that Word. And so just as when Jesus was with them, the preaching will go on, the forgiving will go on, the baptizing will go on, and the feeding will go on, but now through them. Their now-enthroned Lord working through them by His Spirit. When they speak, He speaks. When they forgive, He forgives. When they baptize, He baptizes. When they give Jesus' Body and Blood, Jesus is giving His own Body and Blood, just as He did on the night He was betrayed. And in this way, yes, the disciples were quite right - Jesus *is* ***restoring the kingdom to Israel***.

So while the disciples could see their Lord no longer - for when He ascended, we are told, ***a cloud hid Him from their sight*** - they *could* see Him working; they could see the results. It's like if I come home from work and see the table set and a wonderful dinner laid out on it - I didn't see my wife do all that work, but I see the results; I know she did. So, too, with Jesus' work now. We see people coming to faith and sustained in their faith. Little children, old folks, people from all walks of life, countries, cultures. I didn't see Jesus do it, but I know He did. Where His Word is preached, people hear. And where people hear, they are baptized. And where they are baptized, they are absolved. And where they are absolved, they are fed. And where all this happens, there is the church, the new Israel. Jesus promised it would be so.

And the apostles see this right away. Ten days after Jesus' Ascension He sends them the Holy Spirit, just as He promised, and Peter and the eleven preach, and people hear. And hearing, they are baptized. Over 3,000 souls that very first day! And the apostles see the kingdom being restored. A new Israel growing. And it wasn't *because* of them, but *through* them Jesus was still working. Same as He always was, only now even more, even greater.

And so it will be until we finally do see Jesus again, as the angels told the disciples: ***This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.*** *Then* we will see Him. Now, we do not. But we see the signs of His work; the results of His work. Maybe not 3,000 at a time now, but just one soul at a time. But that's enough. Remember what Jesus said: *there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents* (Luke 15:10).

It's easy to doubt though, when we see the Church persecuted, when we see her divided and struggling, when we see the Bride of Christ scorned and mocked, when we see the Church marginalized and her sons and daughters martyred. Enthronement, coronation, seem so very different from the reality we see. But that's how it is with life under the cross. For we have not yet ascended.

But as the Collect for the Ascension says, we *ascend in heart and mind*. We see the cross of Jesus and the cross now, but we also see through the cross to the reality that is, for now, unseen. And know that through the cross, the kingdom is being restored. The new Israel is growing. The kingdom is advancing. Led by Jesus, at the right hand of the Father, through His Spirit, by His Word and Sacraments given all over the world. Given here, to you. That you be and remain a part of this new Israel, until Jesus comes again to take you to His glory. And He will, for He didn't ascend for Himself, but for you. To rule for you, yes. But also this: that your human nature be where His human nature is, forever. That *just as He is risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity*, so shall you. With Him.

That's why the disciples returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and that's why our joy, too, this night. For *Christ is ascended!* [He is ascended indeed! Alleluia!] And we have been clothed with power from on high! The kingdom is being restored! Amen.

In Christ!

Rev. Keith E. GeRue Associate Pastor and Principal

Re-enrollment for 2021-2022



If you have not re-enrollment your child for the 2021-2022 school year please do so today. Thank you!

MAP Testing

May 3rd – 7th

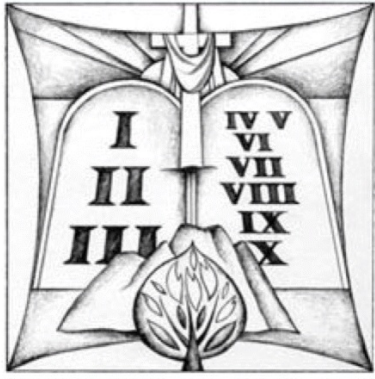
It is important that your child gets plenty of rest & eats a healthy breakfast on the days of testing.



Teacher Appreciation Week May 3rd–7th.

**Show your child's teacher
how much you appreciate
what they do!**





Catechetical Comments

A Series

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

This month we continue our look at The Close of the Commandments:

What does God say about all these commandments? He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” [Ex. 20: 5–6]

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

Question 77. *What purposes does the Law then serve?*

A. First, the Law helps to control violent outbursts of sin and keeps order in the world (a curb).

The *Catechism 1991* begins to answer the question: “What purposes does the Law then serve?” by saying: “What purposes does the Law then serve?” In support of this it lists the following Scripture passages:

1 Tim. 1:9 – Understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just [good people] but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers.

Rom. 2:14-15 – For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them.

The so-called “Three Uses of the Law” are, as we shall see, well founded in Scripture. In short, they are: a “curb,” a “mirror,” and a “guide.” This month we take up the first of these uses in looking at the law of God as a curb.

First of all, what is a curb and what does it do? A curb is a kind of boundary; it sets limits. A curb says, “Thus far you may go and no farther.”

This can easily be seen in our common use of the term. A curb on a street or roadway discourages the transgression of a boundary. It doesn’t entirely prevent such a transgression, but jumping the curb can only be done at risk to the vehicle in which you happen to be riding or driving, not to mention those on the other side of that curb.

The curb doesn’t really come into play unless you transgress it. As Paul writes to Timothy, “The law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient” (1 Tim. 1:9). If you drive within the boundaries, you never need concern yourself with the curb. Good drivers never worry about – or even spend energy thinking about – curbs. They simply stay within the lines and never even encounter the curb.

Driving instructors don’t spend a lot of time discussing curbs. They don’t need to. For the average driver it simply makes sense that the curb is there to prevent them going where their vehicle doesn’t belong. As Paul says to the Romans, “They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts” (Rom. 2:15).

To those whose consciences are vibrant and active, the curb of God’s law can be just as obvious as that one beside the road. Transgressing it is risky as well, damaging to both the transgressor and his/her victim. ✠

Humbly in His service,
Rev. Steven S. Billings
Senior Pastor

Ladies Aid/LWML Event

Tuesday, May 18 5:30 PM • Small Fellowship Hall

Ladies of the congregation are invited to our annual Ladies Aid/LWML salad and dessert supper, and an evening of fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Sign up on the spinner in the narthex if you will be attending, and if you intend to bring a salad or dessert. If you cannot



bring a dish; don't worry, there will be plenty for everyone. Measures will be taken to ensure your safety (gloves, masks). Betsy will lead us in Bible Study. For questions call or email Dottie Kraus at 920-991-2705, rkraus001@gmail.com.

✝ With Deepest Thanks... ✝

April 23, 2021

Dear Members of Trinity,

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. "Be still, and know that I am God." "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." Psalm 46:1, 10a & 11

As you may be aware, earlier this year I was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of the blood affecting the bones, kidneys, and immune system. Treatments began on March 1 and the halfway point was reached Monday, April 19.

This past week the doctor said that the numbers evaluated are headed in the right direction and the chance for success is 90% - I give thanks to the Lord our God!

Where the first part of the journey has been a challenge, I rejoice in the Spirit of Lord for His presence with me and for you, my dear friends in Christ—Prayer Warriors who have diligently petitioned the Lord on my behalf before His throne of grace. It is an awesome experience to receive the ministry of the Lord through you and your intercessory activity.

Permit me to express my deep thanks for all the well wishes, thoughts, shared Scripture verses, cards, prayers, and other support that has been shown to me. One friend told me, "there are people you do not even know who are praying for you!"

Blessings in Christ,
In Him--and together with Him,
+Timothy L. Kinne

Vacation Bible School

June 7-11, 2021, 9 -11:45AM

Peace Lutheran Church, 1228 S. Park Ave., Neenah, WI

We will be partnering with Peace Lutheran in Neenah for Vacation Bible School.

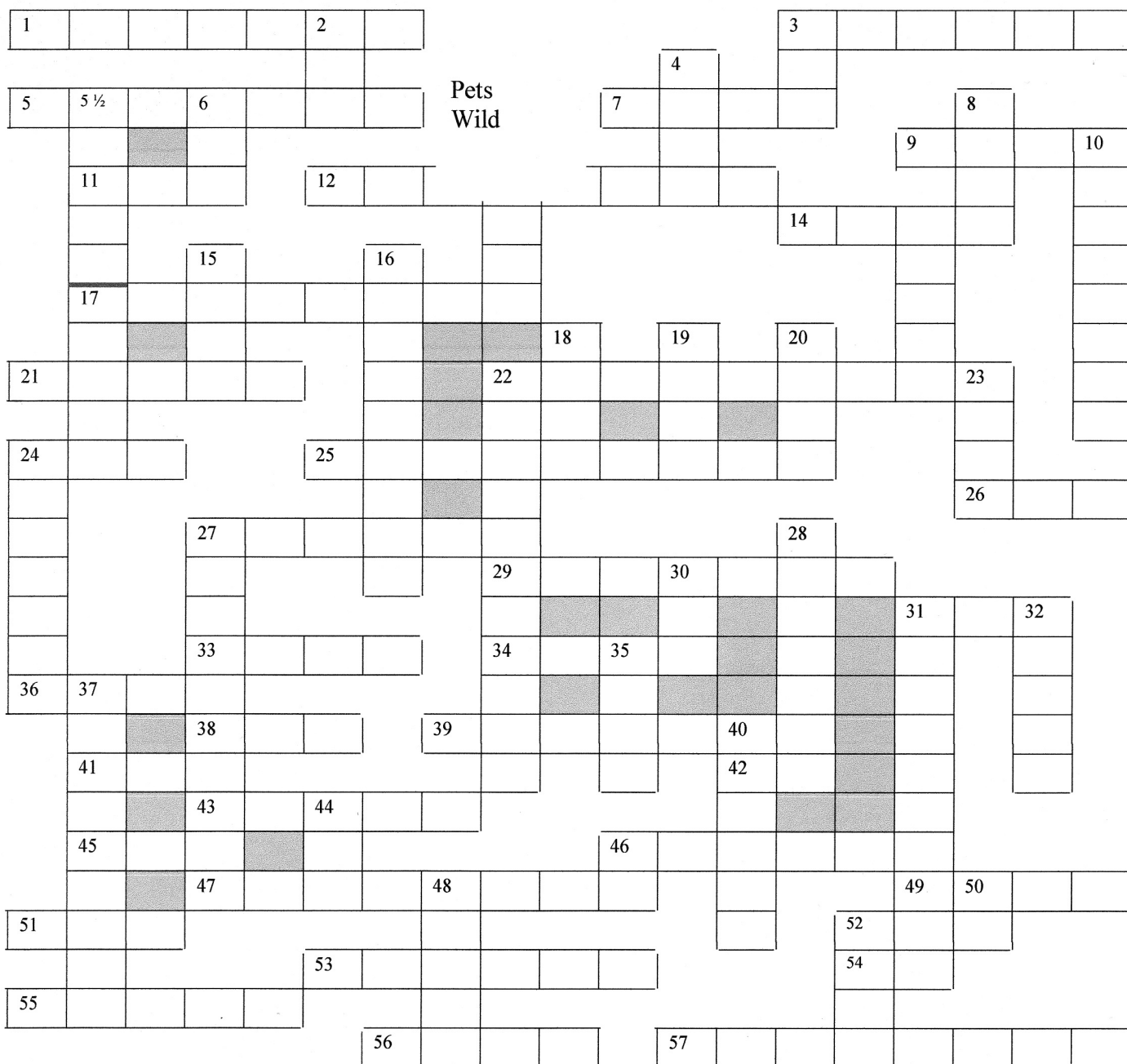
A science lab, full of fascinating things, will help explain how things are possible. In Jesus' ministry, He performed miracles, things that cannot be explained. He turned water into wine, walked on water, and His greatest miracle of all was dying on the cross and rising from the dead for our salvation.

Discover that Jesus does the impossible for us at 2021's VBS, "God's Wonder Lab!"



Help is needed for teachers and teacher helpers, snack servers, art and game activities, etc. (If you have questions or would like to help with VBS please talk with Pastor GeRue), More information to follow.

Animals Crossword



ACROSS

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| 1. a large, hefty, roaming bison | 9. a flying animal who quacks and has webbed feet | stripe down the back | 21. a large, brown bird with a white head |
| 3. a small, agile animal with a very long tail | 11. __, __, __ your boat, gently down the stream... | 17. a rather small, fast creature, either [brow] Rdwc 7/07 | 22. a flying insect, of various colors, large wings |
| 5. a poultry animal with feathers | 12. a very small creature that leaves in the woods; brown with a black | with a fluffy tail, who lives in the woods and collects acorns | 24. a female poultry |
| 7. a flying animal with feathers and a beak | | | 25. a cute, fat, large rodent |

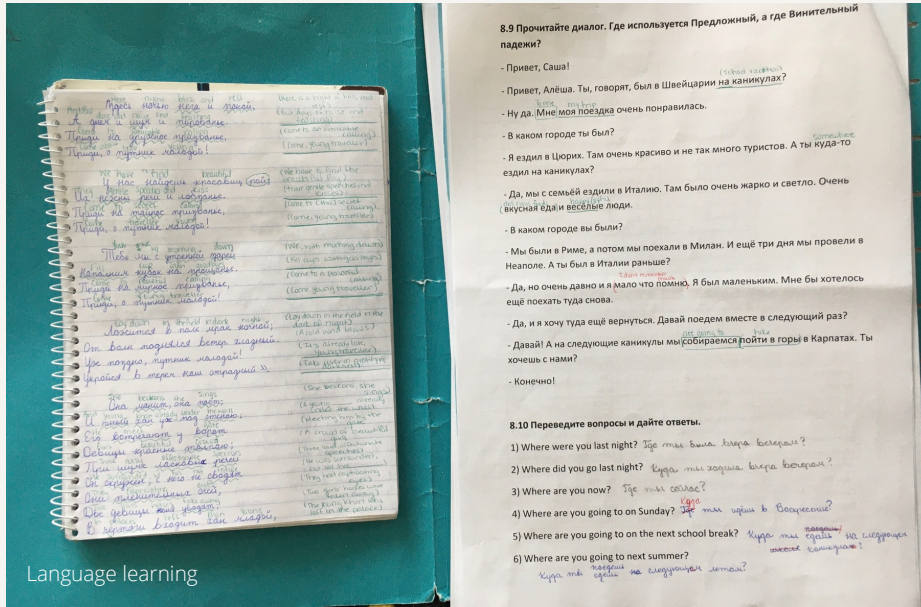
Animals Crossword,
page 2

26. "man's best friend"
27. yellow finch-like bird
29. ring-tailed bandit-looking pesty animal
31. a large rodent who lives in gutters and walls and abandoned buildings
33. see 18 down
34. a large, cozy animal that growls; grizzly, black or brown
36. an inclined board used to load animals from the ground to a truck
38. a black, tiny picnic pest
39. very tall, long-necked yellow African animal with brown spots
41. the kind of animal who hunts and kill many of those animals listed here
43. a black and white striped animal with four legs
45. a female of 56 down
46. a very slow, calm and short amphibian; kinds include box, painted, sea
47. a very large, gray, heavy animal with large white tusks
49. a beautiful flower with many petals
51. an annoying airborne insect we swat
52. a very quick, sly animal; can be red or gray
53. a bird you want to be careful what words you teach it
54. This ____ a very fun puzzle to do!
55. a very little, gray rodent who lives in our houses
56. a large, brown/white, long four-legged animal with a small white tail
57. a small curly-tailed, ocean-dwelling pony
- DOWN**
2. when an animal is not standing or sitting, it is going to ____ down
3. when it is hot out, many animals sit in the ____ to cool down
4. a light brown animal with a big mane around its head (the male)
- 5 ½. a large animal with four legs, a long head, long tail hairs long body, sometimes used in racing
6. a very heavy, four-legged grazer, sometimes with utters
8. a male version of 56 across
10. a bouncing marsupial who lives in Australia
13. a container in which we put animal food or water
15. a male cow
16. a larger monkey, usually rather orange in color
17. a long, thin reptile with no legs that slithers along the ground
18. a horse-like animal that is very stubborn
19. what one does when confronted by a snake
20. a green or brown, jumping and slimy amphibian
22. a long-eared, soft and furry hare
23. a place around the house where pets run around
24. a medium-sized, cute rodent, kept as a pet
27. a larger type of this type of animal
- with a very long tail
28. a male poultry with a crown on top
30. a vehicle often hit by animals as they are crossing roads
31. a one-horned, big and weighty mud-loving animal
32. an orange and black striped animal that growls; the king of the jungle
35. The most popular pet in America is ____.
37. a hard-shelled, pointed-nose, short animal
40. a foot-long, limber and very active furry pet (begins with F)
44. a flying insect that buzzes, is yellow and black stiped, and sometimes stings
46. initials for "tiny tots"
48. an animal humans put a saddle on and ride
50. a very large version of 6 down, usually used to pull plows and carts
52. a swimming animal; kinds include bass, carp, walleye & bluegill

YEAR 1, APRIL 2021

CALLED TO GO: KYIV, UKRAINE

*The newsletter of Amanda Groshek
(teaching English, sharing Jesus)*



STAY IN TOUCH:

Email:
amanda.groshek@missionofchrist.org

Blog:
[Called to Go](#)
[\(on Wordpress\)](#)

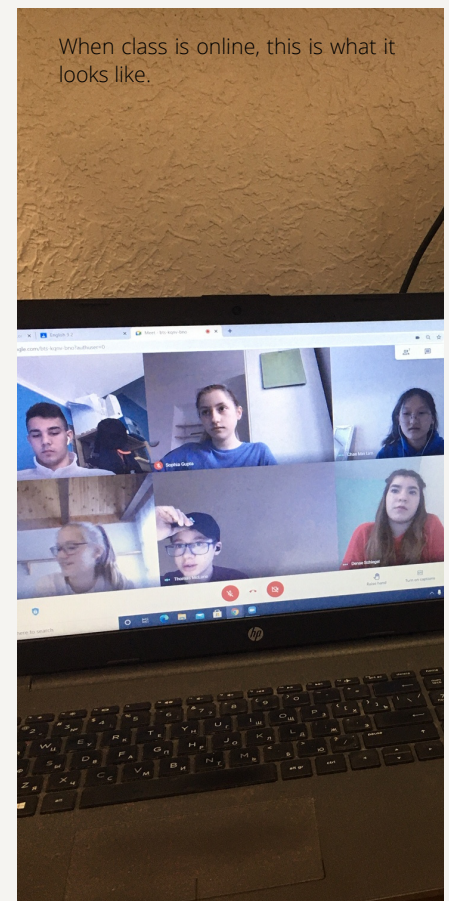
THE LENTEN JOURNEY

...and why we haven't celebrated Easter yet here in Ukraine...

You will probably notice a lack of Easter in this newsletter, which may come as a surprise to you. With Ukraine being a traditionally Orthodox country, and with the Orthodox church following the Julian calendar, we are still just under a month away from Easter here, which will be celebrated on May 2nd this year. The Julian calendar bases when Easter is off of when Passover is.

That means that here in Ukraine, we are still in the middle of Lent. Lent started with Forgiveness Sunday in March, where active members of the Orthodox church asked forgiveness from those around them for anything that they may have done this past year to hurt them. Interestingly, I found (or a friend shared? I can't quite remember) a little calendar/outline that not only shows the readings for each Sunday, but some activity related to the readings that can be done each day during that week to help remember the verses and/or focus on the Lenten journey. For example, this past Sunday's readings focused on how Jesus told his disciples that in order to follow Him they must "deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him" (Mark 8:34). The suggested activity then was to conscientiously put on your cross each morning, remembering Christ's words.

I am told that when Easter comes here though, it is a celebration like no other. Christmas is often downplayed because of the lingering effects of Communism; however the Communists couldn't take Easter away: the celebration of Christ's triumphant resurrection and defeat of sin and death! I'm told that last year there was a huge Easter Egg exhibit in one of the main squares in the city. I've heard that churches will be packed (although who knows if that will be the case with COVID or not). It is a time of much rejoicing, both as a Ukrainian community and also a Christian community! In fact, some churches here, even ones that aren't Orthodox, celebrate Easter on the same day as the Orthodox do. I am eagerly anticipating getting to celebrate!





An evening view from my kitchen window

SEEING GOD IN THE SMALL THINGS

Glimpses of God at work in conversations with students

This week has been a week of glimpsing God at work in students' lives in small ways. What a blessing and exciting thing to be able to witness and share in these moments though!

At the beginning of my language class with the ninth graders, they *almost* always have a journaling exercise. Sometimes we watch a short video and they have to write about that, other times it's quote, and sometimes it's just one word. On Monday this week, we watched a short video of Marianne Williamson's poem 'Our Deepest Fear.' As we were talking afterwards, one of the students was connecting ideas in the poem with something that they have been learning about in Bible class. Interdisciplinary connections are always fun to witness, when students draw the lines joining things they are learning in one class to things they are discussing in another, but this was all the more exciting to see because this student is not from a Christian home and I know that as a result Bible is a difficult subject for them to understand and keep up in sometimes as a result, even though they are a very good student.

On Tuesday, while waiting for their classmates to join the Google Meet classroom, one of my 4th/5th grade students said, "Miss

Groshek, can I ask you a question?" "Of course," I answered. "There's something I'm not quite sure about," the student started. "When praying, should we start 'Dear God' or 'Dear Jesus'?" pausing before adding, "I want to say thank you that Jesus came to Earth." This student also doesn't come from a Christian family, but said student certainly has a heart for God and believes and trusts in Him. "You can start either way," I said, "One isn't better than the other. It's up to you. And neither one is right or wrong." "Okay," the student replied.

It was also very encouraging to hear later this week that there *might* be a possibility for a sort of "Bible crash course" in the upcoming school year, for high school students that are starting at the school but don't come from Christian families (this has been a topic of discussion for awhile now). Bible is one of the required subjects for students at the school, but since not all of the students come from Christian families it can be a difficult subject for some students, as they don't have the background knowledge or familiarity with certain more faith related words. Having a class that could serve as an introduction would be such a blessing to these students!



Before school, the first graders (and sometimes the second graders) and I will read stories together.

Prayer Requests:

- *Kyiv is currently in it's third week of a four week lockdown. Prayers for health and healing.*
- *Prayers for my students as they are learning online. Some of them love it! But others really miss getting to interact in person or learning in person.*
- *Prayers of thanksgiving for sunnier days and slightly warmer weather*
- *Prayers that God would continue working in the hearts of all my students.*



Musings from MATONGO

NEWS FROM REV. DR. WALTER & ROBYN STEELE



April 2021

SteelesInAfrica.com



STEELES IN AFRICA

—COVID has struck again. Classes are on hold until this wave subsides.

—Walter & Robyn are using the break in classes to prepare for next semester.

—Robyn has been asked to teach two Home Economics courses: one next semester and one beginning in August.

—Walter participated in a PhD seminar (via Zoom, of course) on Luther and Lutheran Pastoral Theology.

—We have bid farewell to our good friend and coworker, Dr. Thomas Aadland, who has retired from the field. He will be missed.

—Perhaps the Lord is calling you to consider international missions. The need to train pastors, deaconesses and evangelists remains. If you ever have any questions about it, please do not hesitate to email us.



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email to walter.Steele@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

COVID Cannot Stop Gospel Preaching!



Preaching at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, in Nyamira County, Kenya

A beautiful day in April, the Third Sunday after Easter. COVID has closed the campus for a while. But no virus can stop the Gospel of our Lord Jesus from sounding forth. An invitation was given. “Professor, will you come and preach to us?” Such is the hunger for the Word of God in Kenya.

“Of course I will!” So, we made our way, about an hour from campus, where Walter preached to them. It was a Communion Sunday. So Walter and the parish pastor, Rev. Gordon Alex, served God’s people with the precious and life-giving Body and Blood of Christ Jesus our Lord. The choirs sang and the people rejoiced to hear how Christ comes to them in Word and Sacrament. We enjoyed the fellowship of those who say: “Christ is risen! Alleluia!”

We pray that soon the government of Kenya will allow schools to reopen. We certainly appreciate their caution. But in the meanwhile, the voice of the Gospel is not silenced. Our students are back home sharing the Word. And with your support, the work continues! Alleluia!



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- That the recent surge in COVID here may soon end.
- That our students will be able to return in May, so we can resume all classes.
- For Walter as he prepares to teach seven courses next semester.
- For Robyn as she prepares to teach Home Economics courses next semester and also in the following one.
- For the Office of International Mission as they seek a replacement for Dr. Aadland, who has retired from the field.
- Thanksgiving for continued support of international mission despite the challenges of these days.
- For our Kenyan coworkers, that they, too, remain healthy and safe.

HEBREW BIBLE PROJECT

Great news! The Hebrew Bibles (Reader's Edition) have arrived in Kenya. Yes, it took a while. After all, they traveled through Germany to get here. But they have made it in time for the next semester.

The pastoral students are excited to be able to study the Old Testament in Hebrew. They look forward to seeing Jesus on every page of Holy Scripture.

This ability—to learn how to see our Savior in the entire Bible—is a skill that we emphasize in all our work here at Matongo.

When they see Jesus, they then know how better to show Jesus to others, to tell the wonderful story of God's grace in Christ for all.

Remember:

You can support us at lcms.org/givenow/steele

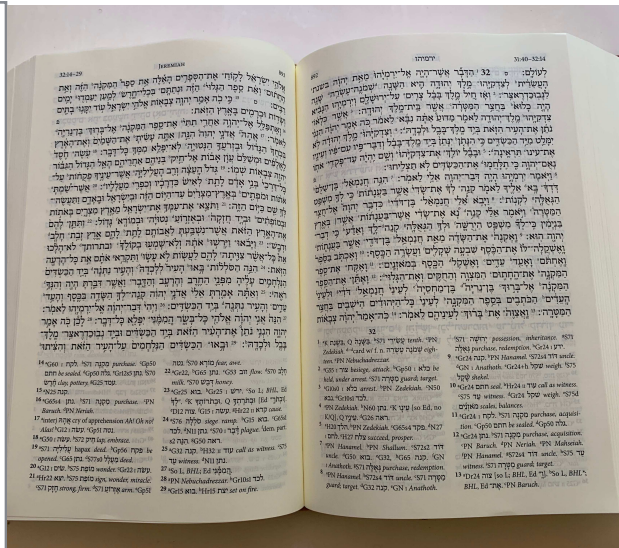
Or at the **world-famous Mission Central**

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Make the memo line: Steele/ Kenya



The Word of God in Hebrew: Hebrew Bible: Reader's Edition



**Grilled, Smoked Tilapia:
A Local Specialty of the Luo People!**

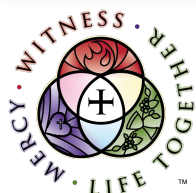
For more information on our work and our progress check out:

Our Website: SteelesInAfrica.com

LCMS page: lcms.org/steele

On Twitter: @WalterRSteele

Or Facebook: Walter Steele



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Walter and Robyn Steele, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Steele/Kenya." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/steele.