



St. Paul's Epistle ~ September 2021

People are looking for a little hope. We're tired of division, blame, and cancel culture. To be sure, there are any number of core issues among us which are causing these problems. But the way we are handling it just doesn't seem right, don't you agree? There is little forgiveness. There is way too much blame. There is far too little hope. There has to be a better way. We need a little hope in our lives. Read a couple things God's Word has to say about the power of hope:

You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word. ~ Psalm 119:114

The hope of the righteous brings joy, but the expectation of the wicked will perish. ~ Proverbs 10:28 Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. ~ Psalm 33:22

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. ~ 1 Peter 1:3

Our hope is built on Jesus Christ. His death on the cross paid for our sins. His resurrection from the dead stomped down the powers of sin, death and the devil forever. We can lay all our sins and division at the foot of the cross. No matter how uncertain life may become, Jesus brings us hope. He will never leave us. We can hide in the power of His love and strength. We no longer need to live in hopelessness - we have a sure and certain hope in Jesus! Here's a suggestion - give this hope to everyone you see. Let it flow from your words and actions like candy tossed in a parade. Bring God's mercy to your home, your work, your church, your relationships. Let's see what hope can do!

In Christ, **Rev. Monte Meyer** *Parish Life Facilitator for the Minnesota North District*

There is **NO** in person worship service on Sunday, September 5, 2021. In person worship services resume on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at **11 a.m.** (Note time change).



Lawn Care List—September 2021



Aug. 29– Sept. 4: Steve and Chad Bacon, Harry Batdorf and Ralph Johnson

September 5-11: Jed, Jordan and Dave Swenson, Bruce Schmidt

September 12-18: Ralph, Joe, Richard and Ryan Christie

September 19-25: Tony and Brett Lucek, Dave Wright

September 26-October 2: Randy, Rick and Ken Leerssen

PLEASE NOTE:

Our September Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 9th. The Elders will be meeting at 6 p.m. and Church Council at 7 p.m.



September Birthdays

A very happy birthday is wished to these members who are celebrating in September!

September 2: Wren Swenson

13th: Cortney Christie

3rd: Karen Hedtke

15th: Dolores Boquist, Iverne Kuryla

6th: John Hopkins

16th: Rick Leerssen

8th: Kristen Wold

20th: Linda Bacon

9th: Kyle Morrison

21st: Garrett Koenig

10th: Dan Andrade

26th: Brandon Bacon





"Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall, Where Jesus Christ is all in all! A home that is not wholly His—How sad and poor and dark it is!

"Then here will I and mine today, A solemn promise make and say: Though all the world forsake His Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!"

Joshua reviewed all that the Lord had done for Israel. God brought the descendants of Abraham from beyond the Euphrates River and set the Israelites free from slavery in Egypt. He settled them in the land He promised to them. Although the Lord had done so much for them, the people were tempted to worship false gods. If they did not want to worship the Lord who had chosen them, a challenge lay before them: "Choose this day whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15b). They had many choices available—the gods of the surrounding nations, the gods of Egypt, or even the idols worshiped in the region of the Euphrates.

We face a similar challenge, and as many choices. We are surrounded by other religions and other gods. Many people create their own personal religions. Some who claim to be Christians reshape the faith to match their own opinions. Others prefer to exalt science or a particular philosophy or worldview. Christian families are faced with raising children in a world that is as spiritually challenging as the culture of the ancient Israelites—if not more so!

A family may provide the best of everything to their children—food, shelter, clothing, education, entertainment, opportunities, and loving care. Yet if the Lord Jesus is not present in that home, the living foundation is missing. Our hymn describes the reality of that kind of household—"sad and poor and dark." A home can have no greater foundation than Jesus Christ. He is the solid bedrock and Cornerstone who will support parents and children alike through every storm of life.

Joshua reminded the Israelites of all that God had done for them. In the same way, Christian parents and grandparents have the privilege and responsibility to instruct children in the Word of God, to remind them of everything that God has done for them in Christ Jesus. Jesus' precious lambs need to know that their Good Shepherd laid down His life to save them and that He now lives and reigns as their King. They can be certain that Jesus will keep them in His care and that, by God's grace through faith, they will live in His presence forever.

Joshua challenged Israel to worship God alone and then confessed the firm foundation of his own household: "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15c). In the homes of families and individuals, in every Christian household, by the help of the Spirit of God the same foundation is confessed: "Though all the world forsake His Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!"

THE PRAYER: Lord Jesus, keep parents and children in Your care and help them to grow in faith. Amen.

This Daily Devotion was written by Dr. Carol Geisler. It is based on the hymn, "Oh, Blest the House," which is number 862 in the Lutheran Service Book.

Reflection Questions:

1. Can you name some "gods" we have in 21st-century America?
2. Do we face a similar imperative in our lives: "Choose this day whom you will serve"?
3. Do you have any kind of family devotional or group Bible study time in your house? Would you like to? Lutheran Hour Ministries has plenty of resources for you to use to choose from.





My Savior Lives—Northland

MSL Northland is a weekly, half hour televised ministry, produced in Duluth, Minnesota. We bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to you, wherever you're at. Services are led by pastors from the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod from throughout the Arrowhead region of northeastern Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin. Services are broadcast on KBJR Channel 6 on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

.....



Our next scheduled LWML meeting will be taking place on Sunday, September 12th at 9:30 a.m. in the church conference room. ALL ladies are encourage to attend! Our LWML group helps sponsor mission projects both at home and across the globe. The 2021-2023 National LWML Mission Goals include:

1. [Deaconess Ministry Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch](#) — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, \$81,680
 2. [Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses](#) — Spirit Warrior, Central Maine, \$95,000
 3. [Thirst to Learn: Bible Books for Africa's Children](#) — Lutheran Heritage Foundation, \$100,000
 4. [Making the Next Generation of Disciples for Life](#) — LCMS Life Ministry, \$92,000
 5. [Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach](#) — Lutheran Deaf Outreach, \$50,000
 6. [Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients](#) — Phil's Friends, \$70,000
 7. [Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia](#) — Lutheran Theological Seminary, Novosibirsk, Siberia, \$100,000
 8. [Light of Christ in Eastern Europe](#) — Mission Central, \$56,000
 9. [Propelling the Gospel](#) — LAMP Ministry, Inc., \$65,000
 10. [Educating Pastors in Africa](#) — Mission Central, \$100,000
 11. [Redeeming Life Maternity Home, Illinois Expansion](#) — Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, \$100,000
 12. [Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania](#) — Mwadui Lutheran School and Community, \$68,182
 13. [Gospel Outreach to Women and Children in Mongolia](#) — Lutheran Hour Ministries, \$100,000
 14. [Caring for and Sharing Christ with Hurting People](#) — Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, \$100,000
 15. [The Littlest and Least of These, Dallas, Texas](#) — St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy, \$42,000
 16. [Bring the Inner-City Children to Camp](#) — Lutheran Valley Retreat, Colorado, \$25,000
 17. [Spiritual and Physical Food for Children of Peru](#) — La Mision Luterana del Peru, \$56,750
 18. ["Ends of Earth" Scholarships](#) — Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries, \$50,000
 19. [Sharing Jesus' Love in India](#) — Lutheran Braille Workers, \$100,000
 20. [Mission & Outreach to the Least of These](#) — Victory Lutheran Church, K. I. Sawyer Community, \$51,356
 21. [Mercy House Belize Lutheran Campus](#) — Belize Mission Society, \$100,000
 22. [Ministry Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone](#) — Lutheran Bible Translators, \$70,000
 23. [Showing God's Love in the International District, Albuquerque, New Mexico](#) — God Cares About You Mission, \$98,000
 24. [Reaching the Homebound with God's Word](#) — Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. (DBA Worship Anew), \$100,000
 25. [Missionaries to America Project](#) — Mission Nation Publishing, \$88,000
 26. [Strengthening the Lutheran Mission to Kuna, Idaho](#) — Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church, \$100,000
 27. [Expanding God's Love in Uganda](#) — LCMS Office of International Mission, Africa Region, \$92,000
 28. [Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong Language School and Outreach](#) — St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries, \$70,208
-