

FROM THE PASTOR

Will You Be My Valentine?

That's the question everyone is asking each other this Valentine's Day. Tradition has turned this day into a day for sweethearts. It's an opportunity for a young shy boy to let some girl know that he has a crush on her. It's a day for those dating to express their fondness for each other. Husbands may find themselves in deep trouble if they forget to do something for their wife on this special day and vice versa.

It's nice to express our love for each other. However, Husbands and wives may go days, weeks, or even months on end without expressing their love for one another. Friends may simply take their friendship for granted. They never let their friend know how much their friendship really means.

Telling someone that we love them, that we value their friendship is something that should be a regular part of our life. How much better off we would be if we regularly told others how much we cared for them. Wouldn't marriages be much healthier if spouses expressed their love every day? If candy, flowers, or cards were not given simply on anniversaries, birthdays, or on Valentine's Day?

We need to have more love for one another. After all, isn't that one of the marks of a child of God? Read the epistles of John. Read the Lord's words in the gospels and over and over again you will find the call to show love to everyone, even our enemies. Take note that the love of romance or friendship is not the type of love God calls for in his followers. It is a special love, divine love, love that comes from God and dwells in the hearts of those who believe in him. "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whosoever believes in him shall have eternal life." (John 3:16) That's the kind of love God is talking about. That's the kind of love that God wants to see among his people. That's the kind of love God wants to see among the members of Jerusalem Lutheran Church. That's the kind of love God wants you to show to those around you - to your family, your spiritual family at Jerusalem, your neighbors, and even to strangers.

Is that how you feel? Is that what you do? Look into your heart, deep inside, and explore your feelings. Think about the people around you. Do you love them or simply put up with them? Do you love all people, like Jesus asks, or are you selective? Do you find reasons or excuses for withholding your love from some?

Like his Father, Jesus showed us what our love is to be like. We see his love in the tears he shed for those who rejected him as he wept over the city of Jerusalem. We see his love as he reached out to Judas and sought to rescue him before it was too late. We see his love for the world as he laid down his life on the cross for us all.

Unconditional love - that's what Jesus showed us. It is love that has no strings attached. His love reaches out to you and me in spite of what we have done, thought, or said. He loves us even though we are sinners through and through. How can that be? I don't know. All I know is that he does. He loves because that is his nature. "God is love."

Let this Valentine's Day be a reminder of God's love for us and a reminder of God's call to love all people just as he loves each one of us.

- Pastor Kehren

MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Handling Conflict



Is conflict troubling your marriage? There is help for you in God's Word. Mark your calendar for "A Healthy Marriage" - a special marriage enrichment event for couples on Saturday, February 16th from 3:00 -5:00 pm. We will meet at church for a seminar focused on Christ-centered biblical principles on how to deal with conflict including time for couples to talk with each other so they can identify issues and plan to put the principles into practice.

After the seminar, we will all go out to a local restaurant for an evening of fellowship. No cost for the seminar and everyone will pay for their own meal at the restaurant. Child care will be provided from 3:00-8:00 pm. Sign up in the church entry.



WOLVES HOCKEY GAME

Invite family and friends and join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, hockey and singing! The 1st -8th grade students at Jerusalem School have been invited by the Chicago Wolves organization to sing during one of the breaks at their hockey game on Saturday, February 23rd, at 7:00 P.M. at the Allstate Arena, 6920 N. Mannheim Road, Rosemont. Cost is only \$11 per person. Please sign up in the church entryway and pay Deb Felsing or Linda Rosenblum in cash before the February 1st deadline to reserve tickets.

LWMS Notes

We have new *Befriend A Mission* assignments for the next year. Please keep these men, their families, and their mission churches in your prayers. Their email is included so you can send them a message to encourage them. What a privilege to be a part of the sharing of the gospel around the World!!



Gregory Bey in Indonesia gleoclea@gmail.com (When emailing, please avoid using terms and phrases like mission, missionary, church, gospel, etc. Also avoid references to governments or other religions. We want to keep our missionaries safe.)

Pastor Christopher Schroeder in Santa Ana, CA schroedcl1997@gmail.com Pastor Matthew Westra in Morristown, TN pastorwestra@gmail.com

Bible Studies at Jerusalem

Sunday Morning Bible Study

We continue a Bible Study on St. Paul called "To the Ends of the Earth". We meet at 9:15 am in the back of the sanctuary.

Sunday School

Sunday School for kids ages 3 through high school meets at 9:15 am. Parents, consider bringing your kids so they grow in the good news of Jesus. While the kids are in Sunday School, you could also attend adult Bible study.

Tuesday Morning Chapel

Everyone is invited to join the students of Jerusalem School for a 20-minute chapel service every Tuesday morning starting at 8:20 am.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday Bible study meets from 10:00 – 11:00 am in the downstairs auditorium. We are continuing a study of the book of 1 Peter. 1 Peter speaks of the hope that we have in Jesus even in hurtful times. Come and join us.

Women's Bible Study

St. Matthew's Women's Bible study group invites the women of Jerusalem to join them for a monthly Bible study. Our next meeting will be here at Jerusalem on Monday, February 25th. We will be continuing a Bible Study called, "Prepared to Answer" focusing on how to respond to questions or objections many people have to the Christian faith.



Pastor Sung Gyu (Samuel) Choi gave a presentation at Jerusalem during Sunday bible study in January. He is pastor of our sister church, Seoul Lutheran Church in Seoul, South Korea. He is here with his wife and four students from his English academy. They are spending three weeks with us at Jerusalem Church and School so the students can get a short English immersion program here in America. We are grateful for the bond of Christian fellowship that we share with our brothers and sisters in Christ from a country with a much different culture and language

Korean Ministry - Housing

Near term - Unfortunately we missed an opportunity to host another Korean student in the month of January due to lack of housing. These opportunities will continue to come our way in the near term. If you think you might be able to be a short-term host and have questions, please ask Pastor, Chiseon Kim, or Patrick Ruehrdanz.

Long term – In order for us to continue to grow our Korean ministry, we will need to develop a more stable housing solution. The church council is researching options for renting a house or a 3 bedroom apartment near church for next school year. If you are aware of any opportunity in the area, please contact Patrick Ruehrdanz at Patrick.ruehrdanz@gmail.com.

Highlights from the (WELS) Conference of Presidents 2019

The Conference of Presidents held its winter meeting last week. Topics for discussion and decisions made include:

- The COP will work with the Commission on Congregational Counseling to develop guidelines for congregations that are beginning the process of closing or merging. Guidelines will be made available upon request from the district president.
- The COP is developing a tool to assist congregations that are exploring alternative approaches to congregational structure and polity.
- The COP expressed support for the plans of Congregational Services to offer two programs to replace Mission and Ministry Sunday in fall 2019. One program, the 10 for 10 stewardship program, will offer a ten-week emphasis on whole life Christian stewardship. The work we do together as a synod will be highlighted as one part of the program. The other, the Welcome Home initiative featuring a "Welcome Home Sunday" on Oct. 27, will help congregations to seek to regain those who have strayed from active congregational membership.
- The COP expressed support for a WELS National Conference on Lutheran Leadership being planned by Congregational Services for Jan. 21-23, 2020, in Chicago, Ill. The conference will emphasize leadership that is rooted in the beliefs of confessional Lutheranism.
- The COP discussed the importance of encouraging congregations in their efforts to increase Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO). The continuation of vital synodical ministries depends on increasing CMO support from our congregations.
- The COP has begun an effort to review the synod's bylaws dealing with discipline of called workers and congregations, as well as the appeals process. The COP will complete its work in time for the revised process and bylaws to be reviewed by the 2020 district conventions.
- The COP Doctrine Committee will schedule regular meetings with the Doctrine Committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and with the faculty of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.
- The COP expressed support for plans to form an Institute of Lutheran Apologetics (defending the Christian faith and teachings).
- The COP reviewed the pastoral vacancies and noted that the overall vacancy rate has remained about the same since its last meeting.
- The COP expressed its support for an effort by Congregational Services to assemble a "Rural Ministry Task Force" that will provide ministry resources for rural and small-town congregations.

Serving in Christ,
President Mark Schroeder



YOU CAN HELP OUR KINDERGARTENERS!

The kindergarten students are starting to read full sentences and short books. They also read aloud better when they have an "audience" that gives them lots of praise. We would love it if you could come to school to listen to them read on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons from 2:00 - 2:30 pm. A sign-up sheet is available in the church entryway. Please check the available dates and see if you could help us out.

Jerusalem Preschool and Kindergarten Open House

Friday, February 1st 9:00-11:00 AM

Invite your friends and neighbors with young children to meet our teachers and learn about our program.



School News

Visitors from Korea

By student reporters Sarah Felsing, Isabela Iacob, Joonhwa Hong, Guofu Shao, Myles Waters, Sunjae Lee, and Xiaoqi Guo

After the Christmas break, our school was blessed with four new students. These four students are Sally, who is in sixth grade, Alice, who is in fifth grade, Ashley, who is in fifth grade, and Isabelle, who is in third grade. Ashley and Isabelle are sisters, and they are staying at Mr. Vance’s house. Sally and Alice are staying at Pastor Kehren’s house. We decided to interview them about their family, where they’re from, and some of their interests or hobbies.

All of our new students are from Seoul, the capital of South Korea. They mentioned that in Korea there are many more apartments and big buildings than there are in Morton Grove. They also noticed that there are a lot more houses in Morton Grove.

Here are some facts about each of our new students:

Ashley has two sisters and she enjoys playing piano.

Alice’s favorite activity is dancing. She likes playing outside at recess.

Isabelle has one older sister and one younger sister and she likes to play outside with friends.

In Sally’s free time, she likes to take naps. She likes to stay home instead of going outside and doing outdoor activities.

We hope they enjoy studying at our school, learning English and also learning about our Lord and Savior, Jesus!

Divine Call Returned

Principal Duane Vance has returned his call to Cross of Glory Lutheran School in Peoria, Arizona. He will continue to serve Jerusalem as principal. Thank you to all who reached out to him with kind words of encouragement.

Congratulations to the **Eagles of the Week** for the month of January. The following students were recognized for their Christ-like attitude and academic effort.

Elliott Sim
 Natalya Miner
 Aznef Esho
 Daniel Yoon
 Lydia Miner
 Jason Kehren

Lord and Savior vs. Jerusalem Eagles

By Student Reporters: Alyssa Iusco, Guofu Shao, Myles Waters, and Ya hao Zhou

You’re running down the court and you hear people cheering, as you shoot the ball in the net. What game is this? This is the first game of the 2018-2019 basketball season which our A team played against Crystal Lake. Most of our points were from layups and close shots. With tough, aggressive defense we limited the other team to 8 points.

After our victory the team headed out to the Golden Corral buffet where we ate dinner and dessert. We are so proud of the win and we hope to play great in the upcoming season!

Basketball Games

2/1	Resurrection-Away	5:00 pm
2/8	Lord and Savior-Home B Team Only	6:30 pm
2/15	Resurrection-Home	6:30 pm
2/19	Good Shepherd-Away	4:30 pm
3/2	CALAC Tournament Crystal Lake	
3/5	Parent/Alumni Game	6:15 pm
3/8-9	Luther Prep Tournament	



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6218 Capulina Ave
Morton Grove, IL 60053

Pastor Jonathan Kehren
Phone: 847-965-7340
Email: pastor@jerusalemlutheran.org

Fall-Spring Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Sunday School and Bible Study 9:15 am

*“Our purpose is to serve all people with
the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of
Holy Scripture”*

JERUSALEM SOCCER AND S.T.E.A.M CAMPS

Registration forms available!

Mark your summer calendar for soccer camp June 17th-20th and S.T.E.A.M.
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) camp from July 15th-18th.
Camps are open for children entering kindergarten through 8th grade.
Invite your friends and neighbors to join us.

